



Tirwedd Llechi Gogledd Orllewin Cymru  
The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales

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This Management Plan represents an agreed vision and commitment to action by partners supporting the World Heritage Site nomination for *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*. It has been produced by the Partnership Steering Group following extensive consultation, and covers the period 2020–2030, with a review in 2025.

**NOMINATION AS A WORLD HERITAGE SITE**  
Property Management Plan 2020–2030







# Tirwedd Llechi Gogledd Orllewin Cymru

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## The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales

**NOMINATION AS A WORLD HERITAGE SITE**  
Property Management Plan  
2020–2030

*The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Partnership Steering Group*  
This World Heritage Nomination is led by Gwynedd Council



Other organisations committed to *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* nomination for World Heritage Status are:





## Foreword

### Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn

Leader, Cyngor Gwynedd Council

Gwynedd Council is extremely proud to be the lead body for *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* World Heritage bid. For over a decade now, we have been working with several partners across the region on this exciting project.

The slate industry of this area was a hugely important part of the global economy in the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries, with the hard efforts of local workers being exported globally and whose labour is still visible on palace and terrace roofs across the world.

Today, the industry continues to make an important contribution to Gwynedd's economy, with quarries at work and secondary processing taking place adjacent to the area we hope UNESCO will inscribe as a World Heritage Site, and continuing to supply the world with the best quality products. They continue an important tradition and positively contribute to our understanding of the past.

Here in Gwynedd, the legacy of the quarries remains extremely evident around us, from the striking landscape, the industrial buildings and steam railways to our villages and towns. This is a living legacy where people can experience and learn about our story through museums, archives, interpretative tours, long-distance paths, volunteering, archaeology and adrenalin-fuelled activities such as zip-wires and down-hill biking.

Not only is the influence of the quarrying industry visible, but its heritage is still heard strongly in the language, traditions and rich histories of these areas.

Our aim is to celebrate this heritage and landscape and recognise their historic and industrial importance in the world. By celebrating our history, we want to regenerate our communities and create exciting opportunities for the benefit of our citizens.

This Management Plan outlines how Gwynedd Council and its partners will manage the World Heritage Site in the future, by protecting our heritage and by ensuring high-quality and appropriate development within the compelling landscape that we have inherited.

By implementing projects such as *LleCHI* we have engaged with communities and supported cultural events, renewing and reviving interest in our children, young people and adults for our outstanding local and international story.

With enthusiastic collaboration between local government, the Welsh Government, partners, stakeholders, quarry-operators, landowners and communities, we will be able to fulfil the ambitious but realistic aims and policies set out in this Management Plan. We look forward to working together in the future for the benefit of our slate valleys, for all the people of Gwynedd and for the wider world, and to create a legacy for the generations to come.

Mae Cyngor Gwynedd yn hynod falch o weithredu fel corff arweiniol ar gyfer enwebiad Safle Treftadaeth y Byd *Tirwedd Llechi Gogledd Orllewin Cymru*. Ers dros ddegawd bellach, rydym wedi bod yn cydweithio â sawl partner ledled y rhanbarth ar y prosiect cyffrous hwn.

Roedd diwydiant llechi'r ardal hon yn rhan hynod bwysig o economi byd-eang erbyn y ddeunawfed, y bedwaredd ganrif ar bymtheg a'r ugeinfed ganrif, gyda chynnyrch llafur caled y gweithwyr lleol yn cael ei allforio ar draws y byd ac mae ffrwyth eu hymdrechion yn dal i'w weld ar doeau palasau a thai teras ledled y byd.

Heddiw, mae'r diwydiant yn parhau i wneud cyfraniad pwysig i economi Gwynedd, gyda chwareli ar waith a phrosesu eilaidd yn digwydd gerllaw'r ardal yr ydym ni'n gobeithio y bydd UNESCO yn ei arysgrifio fel Safle Treftadaeth y Byd, ac mae'n parhau i gyflenwi'r byd â'r cynnyrch gorau. Maent yn parhau i fod yn draddodiad o bwys ac yn gwneud cyfraniad cadarnhaol at ein dealltwriaeth o'r gorffennol.

Yma yng Ngwynedd, mae etifeddiaeth y llechi yn parhau i fod yn hynod amlwg o'n cwrpas, o'r dirwedd trawiadol, i'r adeiladau diwydiannol a'r rheilffyrdd stêm i'n pentrefi a'n trefi. Dyma etifeddiaeth fyw lle gall pobl brofi a dysgu ynghylch amgueddfeydd, archifau, teithiau dehongli, llwybrau maith, gwirfoddoli, archeoleg a gweithgareddau llawn adrenalin megis gwifrau gwib a beicio i lawr bryniau.

Nid yn unig y mae dylanwad y diwydiant chwareli i'w weld, ond mae ei dreftadaeth yn dal i'w glywed yn gryf yn yr iaith, yn nhraddodiadau ac yn hanes cyfoethog yr ardaloedd hyn.

Ein nod yw dathlu'r dreftadaeth a'r dirwedd hon ac adnabod eu pwysigrwydd hanesyddol a diwydiannol yn y byd. Drwy ddathlu ein hanes, rydym am adfywio ein cymunedau a chreu cyfleoedd cyffrous er budd ein dinasyddion.

Mae'r Cynllun Rheoli hwn yn amlinellu sut fydd Cyngor Gwynedd a'i bartneriaid yn rheoli Safle Treftadaeth y Byd yn y dyfodol, drwy warchod ein treftadaeth a thrwy sicrhau datblygiad o ansawdd uchel a phriodol yn y dirwedd rymus hon yr ydym wedi'i hetifeddu.

Drwy weithredu prosiectau megis *LleCHI*, rydym wedi ymgysylltu â chymunedau a chefnogi digwyddiadau diwylliannol, adolygu ac adfywio diddordeb ymysg ein plant, pobl ifanc ac oedolion ar gyfer ein stori leol a rhyngwladol eithriadol.

Gan gydweithio'n frwd rhwng llywodraeth leol, Llywodraeth Cymru, partneriaid, budd-ddeiliaid, gweithredwyr chwarel, tirfeddianwyr a chymunedau, bydd modd i ni gyflawni'r nodau a'r polisiau uchelgeisiol, ond realistig, sydd wedi'u nodi yn y Cynllun Rheoli hwn. Edrychwn ymlaen i gydweithio yn y dyfodol er budd ein dyffrynnoedd llechi, ar gyfer holl bobl Gwynedd a'r byd yn ehangach, a chreu etifeddiaeth ar gyfer y cenedlaethau sydd i ddod.

### Y Cynghorydd Dyfrig Siencyn

Arweinydd Cyngor Gwynedd



## Preface

### Dafydd Wigley

The Rt Hon the Lord Wigley of Caernarfon,  
Privy Counsellor

As chair of the Partnership Steering Group promoting World Heritage status for *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*, it gives me great pleasure, to introduce this Management Plan on behalf of Gwynedd Council and its partners. The Management Plan provides a framework for how we will deal with change within the world heritage site. It also considers how we can use the status to protect, promote and to improve our region for the benefit of local communities, businesses and visitors to the area.

Slate, quarried from mountain-slope and valley-floor, or mined from the bowels of the earth, hewn by sweat, blood and silicotic lungs, was the all-purpose material of our community. It roofed our homes, and the off-cut waste provided ready-made walling blocks. Placed on end, slate slabs – *crawiau* – were the natural field dividers. Even water-troughs on farms were constructed from carefully mortised slate. The doorsteps of our homes were of slate, as were our gateposts, the slabs on which we walked and the name-plates by our doors, not to mention our gravestones.

In global terms, it was a major export, carried on small wooden schooners to Hamburg, Szczecin, Melbourne and New York, as well as to countless harbours and ports elsewhere. It was not only the slate itself that was exported; many quarrymen and their families went to Canada, to the United States and to Australia to open quarries. A rock-hard environment and the harsh climate made these people what they were – rock-solid, reliable and enduring; *Cadernid Gwynedd* ('the dependability of Gwynedd') is the motto of our county.

There is always a danger in a marginal area like Gwynedd, and wherever an ancient indigenous language remains strong, that we imagine these communities, rugged and hard-working as they undoubtedly were, to be lacking in both inventiveness and diligence. Our slate story tells us otherwise. New towns and villages came into being to house the workforce; these are excellent examples of industrial-era communities, but they also have their unique Welsh character. The slate railways of Northwest Wales, carved through rock cuttings or carried across mountain streams on high stone causeways, proved a model for similar systems in mountain environments across the world. Engineers, managers and technicians made informed choices about new handling systems, machinery for pumping or tunnelling, or saws for squaring slate blocks.

These are just some of the many good reasons why I believe that the world will want to know more about *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*, and will appreciate and enjoy its significance. It is also why this Management Plan is so important in collectively ensuring that we sustainably manage the site for future generations to promote a living landscape that sustains our language, culture, communities and economy.

Fel cadeirydd Grŵp Llywio'r Bartneriaeth sy'n hyrwyddo statws Treftadaeth y Byd ar gyfer *Tirwedd Llechi Gogledd Orllewin Cymru*, pleser o'r mwyaf yw cyflwyno'r Cynllun Rheoli hwn ar ran Cyngor Gwynedd a'i bartneriaid. Mae'r Cynllun Rheoli yn gosod fframwaith ar gyfer sut y byddwn yn ymdrin â newid yn y safle treftadaeth y byd. Yn ogystal, mae'n ystyried sut y gallwn ddefnyddio'r statws i warchod, hyrwyddo a gwella ein rhanbarth er budd cymunedau a busnesau lleol ac ymwelwyr i'r ardal.

Llechi wedi'u cloddio o lethrau'r mynyddoedd a lloriau'r dyffrynnoedd, neu o grombil y ddaear, wedi'u naddu gan chwys, gwaed ac ysgyfaint silicotig, oedd y deunydd ar gyfer bob dim yn ein cymuned. Rhoddodd y llechi do uwch ein pennau, ac roedd y gwastraff yn deunydd cyfleus i godi waliau. Gosodwyd slabiau llechi yn y ddaear i greu crawiau oedd yn waliau terfyn naturiol mewn caeau. Câl hyd yn oed cafnau dŵr ar ffermydd eu creu o lechen oedd wedi'i morteisio'n ofalus. Roedd carreg yr aelwyd, pyst giatiau, y slabiau o dan ein traed, placiau enwau ein tai, heb anghofio am ein cerrig beddi, oll wedi'u llunio o lechi.

O ran allforio byd-eang, roedd hwn yn gynnyrch o bwys mawr, ac fe gariwyd y llechi ar sgwneri pren bychan i Hamburg; Szczecin, Melbourne ac Efrog Newydd, yn ogystal â harbyrau a phorthladdoedd dirifedi eraill ledled y byd. Nid y llechi eu hunain gafodd eu hallforio cofiwch chi; bu i nifer o chwarelwyr a'u teuluoedd fynd draw i Ganada, yr Unol Daleithiau ac Awstralia i agor chwareli. Roedd yr amgylchedd galed a'r hinsawdd garw yn rhan o hunaniaeth y bobl hyn – pobl solet, dibynadwy a goddefgar; wedi'r cyfan, *Cadernid Gwynedd* yw arwyddair ein sir.

Mae perygl yn llechu bob amser mewn ardal ymylol fel Gwynedd, a lle bynnag y mae iaith frodorol hynafol yn parhau'n gryf – i rywun ddychmygu bod y cymunedau hyn - er mor arw a gweithgar yr oeddynt, yn wan o ran eu harloesedd a'u diwydrwydd. Ond, mae ein stori llechi ni yn wahanol. Cafodd trefi a phentrefi newydd eu creu i gartrefu'r gweithlu; dyma enghreifftiau gwych o gymunedau o'r oes ddiwydiannol, ond mae iddynt hefyd gymeriad Cymreig unigryw. Bu i reilffyrdd llechi Gogledd Orllewin Cymru, a naddwyd drwy greigiau neu a gludwyd dros nentydd mynyddig ar sarnau cerrig uchel, ddarparu model ar gyfer systemau tebyg mewn amgylcheddau mynyddig ledled y byd. Gwnaeth peirianwyr, rheolwyr a thechnegwyr benderfyniadau deallus ynghylch systemau trin newydd, peiriannau ar gyfer pwmpio neu dwnelu, neu lifiau i'w defnyddio i sgwaru blociau llechi.

Dyma flas ar rai o'r rhesymau eithriadol y credaf pam y bydd y byd am wybod rhagor am *Dirwedd Llechi Gogledd Orllewin Cymru*, ac y bydd yn gwerthfawrogi ac yn mwynhau ei arwyddocâd. Dyma pam fod y Cynllun Rheoli mor bwysig wrth sicrhau, gyda'n gilydd, ein bod yn rheoli'r safle'n gynaliadwy ar gyfer y cenedlaethau i ddod er mwyn hyrwyddo tirwedd fyw sy'n cynnal ein hiaith, ein diwylliant, ein cymunedau a'n heconomi.

**Dafydd Wigley**

Y Gwir Anrhydeddus Arglwydd Wigley o Gaernarfon, Cyfrin Gyngorydd



## Glossary

**Attributes:** the tangible and intangible expressions of the values of a World Heritage Site. They can include: form and design; materials and substance; use and function; traditions, techniques and management systems; location and setting; language and other forms of intangible heritage; spirit and feeling; and other internal and external factors.

**Authenticity:** the attributes and characteristics that most truthfully reflect and embody the cultural heritage values of a historic asset.

**Barracks:** a word used within the slate industry of Northwest Wales for a dedicated building to accommodate workers, which might sometimes also house their families.

**‘Blondin’ ropeway:** a ropeway system used for internal handling in quarries and other industrial sites, originally devised in Scotland (UK), in which a traveller carriage is propelled along a catenary skyline and from which a haulage rope is separately controlled; named after the tightrope walker Charles Blondin.

**Buffer Zone:** a geographically defined area around or attached to the boundary of a World Heritage Site which provides an added layer of protection to the site. The Buffer Zone itself is not of Outstanding Universal Value but includes the immediate setting of the World Heritage Site, important views and attributes that are functionally important as a support to the World Heritage Site and its protection. Buffer Zones can only be amended or altered by the World Heritage Committee. In *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*, a wider protected area serves the purpose of a Buffer Zone.

**Chain incline ropeway:** a ropeway system used for internal handling in quarries involving a steeply-angled skyline connecting the quarry floor to the processing area.

**Chamber:** an underground working area in a Ffestiniog slate mine (Component Part 5) or in the underground workings of Bryneglwys slate quarry (Component Part 6).

**Company village:** a settlement created to house the workforce by its operating company.

**Cornish beam engine:** a type of steam engine developed in Cornwall (UK) mainly for pumping water but which could also be applied to rotative motion and hence used to wind, and to power crushing machinery. It uses steam at a higher pressure than the earlier engines designed by James Watt.

**Edge-railway:** a form of railway in which the guidance is performed by flanges on the wheels, as distinct from a *tramroad*. Practically all railways now are ‘edge-railways’.

**Estate village:** a settlement created to house the workforce by its operating company.

**Field system:** A group or complex of fields which appear to form a coherent whole.

**Formation (of a railway):** the civil engineering of a railway – its cuttings, tunnels, embankments and causeways.

**Gallery:** a benched (stepped) working face in an open quarry.

**Gwal (pl. gwaliau):** an un-mechanised slate maker’s shelter.

**ICCROM:** the International Centre for the Study of the Preservation and Restoration of Cultural Property is an intergovernmental body which provides expert advice on how to conserve sites, as well as training in restoration techniques.

**ICOMOS:** the International Council on Monuments and Sites, a non-governmental organisation, was founded in 1965 after the adoption of the Charter of Venice, in order to promote the doctrine and the techniques of conservation. ICOMOS provides the World Heritage Committee with evaluations of properties with cultural values proposed for inscription on the World Heritage List, as well as with comparative studies, technical assistance and reports on the state of conservation of inscribed properties.

**ICOMOS-UK:** the UK National Committee of ICOMOS. It is an independent charity that advises on aspects of World Heritage and sites for nomination across the UK. It promotes and supports best practice in the conservation, care and understanding of the historic environment.

**Inclined plane:** a length of railway on a steep gradient in which vehicles are hauled by rope. Inclined planes may be counter-balance types in which the greater weight of descending wagons is sufficient to haul up the empties on an adjacent track, or they may be up-haulage, in which wagons are hauled against the gradient by a fixed prime-mover.

**Integrity:** a measure of the wholeness and intactness of the natural and/or cultural heritage and its attributes. Examining the conditions of integrity requires assessing the extent to which the property:

- includes all elements necessary to express its Outstanding Universal Value
- is of adequate size to ensure the complete representation of the features and processes which convey the property’s significance
- suffers from adverse effects of development and/or neglect.

**IUCN:** International Union for the Conservation of Nature; an international, non-governmental organisation that provides technical evaluations of natural heritage properties and, through its worldwide network of specialists, reports on the state of conservation of listed sites.

**Landform:** here used for the characteristic physical attributes of open quarrying.

**Level:** a tunnel which drains a working or provides access to chambers.

**Mill:** a structure within or associated with a quarry equipped with a prime mover to power mechanical processing of slate blocks. Most produced roofing slates and therefore retained an element of hand-processing. Some were *slate-slab mills*, producing architectural elements, gravestones etc., and might be completely mechanised.

**Narrow-gauge railway:** a railway system where the distance between the inside faces of the rail is less than ‘standard’ – 1,435mm in most of Europe and America. In practice most of the narrow gauge railways in the slate industry of Wales were to an approximate gauge of 0.6 metre.



**National railway network:** the system of public railways which enabled distribution of goods and the provision of services throughout the United Kingdom, and which reached the Gwynedd region between 1848 and 1881.

**Outstanding Universal Value:** defined as ‘cultural and/ or natural significance which is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity’.

**Pit (quarry):** a quarry worked as an open pit.

**Preserved railway:** a railway operated as a heritage/visitor attraction and not primarily as a transport link.

**Processing:** here used for the transformation of a raw slate block into a commercial product, by sawing and splitting.

**Public railway:** a railway run by a public company, with some element of public obligation and responsibility, and with parliamentary sanction, as distinct from railways which formed part of an industrial undertaking and only served its purposes.

**Pump-system:** a technology used for keeping a quarry or mine free of water, including as well as the pumps themselves the means of powering them and of transmitting power from the prime-mover to the point of use.

**Railroad:** here used following contemporary usage for an early form of *edge railway* in which the rails were formed of cast-iron rather than wrought-iron or steel.

**Second-level tipping:** an area within a quarry *landform* where pressure of space meant that *tips of waste rock* had to be created at a higher level than the main processing area.

**Smallholding:** A holding on a smaller-scale than an ordinary farm.

**Squatter:** one who constructs a dwelling and establishes a *smallholding* without the authority of the land-owner.

**Stakeholder:** a person, organisation or business with an interest or concern in the World Heritage Site.

**Statement of Outstanding Universal Value:** a Statement of Outstanding Universal Value provides a clear, shared understanding of the reasons for a site’s inscription on the World Heritage List. Statements of Outstanding Universal Value are prepared by States Parties and are approved by the World Heritage Committee; they can only be changed by decision of the committee. It is a key reference document for the protection, management and monitoring of each site.

**States Parties:** countries which have ratified the World Heritage Convention. They identify and nominate sites on their national territory to be considered for inscription on the World Heritage List. States Parties have the responsibility to protect the World Heritage values of the sites inscribed and report periodically on their condition. They also maintain a tentative list of potential World Heritage Sites.

**Sustainable:** able to be maintained at a certain rate or level. In the context of sustainable development and management, it can be described as meeting ‘the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.’

**Sustainable Development:** the process of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the well-being goals set out in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Acting in accordance with the sustainable development principle means that a body must act in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

**Tips of waste rock:** within a quarry or adjacent to a mill, dumps of rock which had no commercial value. This rock might be from a formation than slate but which needed to be removed to gain access to slate; poorly grained slate; or waste produced by processing such as sawn ends and trimmed fragments.

**Track-bed:** the part of a railway *formation* which immediately underlies where the rails, sleepers and ballast are laid.

**Tramroad:** a form of railway, long defunct, in which the guidance is performed by flanges on the rails, as distinct from an *edge-railway*.

**UNESCO:** the United Nations Organisation for Education, Science and Culture.

**Wider protected area:** an area surrounding the Nominated Property serving the purpose of a *Buffer Zone*.

**World Heritage List:** the World Heritage List was established through the 1972 UNESCO *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage* (World Heritage Convention). In general, the World Heritage Committee adds about 25–30 sites per year to the list.



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## Introduction

**The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales was formed by the quarrying, processing and transportation of slate to produce roofing materials and architectural materials for global markets, from the late eighteenth century to the twentieth. As well as the quarries and mines themselves, this landscape has also been shaped by the need to create huge tips of waste rock; to process and transport slate; to manage water to power machinery; to house quarrymen and their families, and to provide for their material, moral and intellectual well-being.**

The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales UNESCO World Heritage Site nomination celebrates the industrial and cultural influence of our region on the rest of the world, and the people, communities and landscape of Gwynedd. Our proposed World Heritage Site includes six separate areas, or 'Component Parts' as they are termed within this document. This Management Plan forms an important part of the nomination, and outlines how together we will deal with change in Gwynedd if the World Heritage nomination is successful, and how we can then build on this prestigious status to protect our heritage, and promote and improve the region for the benefit of local communities, businesses and visitors.

UNESCO is the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. Its mission is to build peace through international cooperation in Education, the Sciences and Culture. It defines World Heritage Sites as:

**places of Outstanding Universal Value to the whole of humanity. This means that their cultural and/or natural significance is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity.**

There is no higher recognition of heritage value.

Gwynedd Council and its partners – the Welsh Government, National Museum Wales, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, the Snowdonia National Park, the National Trust and Bangor University, in addition to key landowners and stakeholders across Gwynedd – have been developing the World Heritage nomination for ten years. *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* was included on the United Kingdom's Tentative List of World Heritage Nominated Properties in March 2011 and was formally announced in October 2018 as the next nomination to be presented to UNESCO's World Heritage Centre by the UK Government.

The publication of this Management Plan is the conclusion of many discussions with, and contributions from, all partners and key stakeholders across Gwynedd, Wales, the UK and internationally. It has also drawn on public consultation. The Management Plan accompanies the full Nomination Dossier which outlines how and why our Slate Landscape is so exceptional in world-wide terms. Both were presented to the UK Government for submission to the World Heritage Centre in Paris during the winter of 2019. The outcome of the nomination will be decided by UNESCO in 2021.

The production, adoption and regular review of agreed Management Plans for each inscribed World Heritage Site is required by UNESCO and is fundamental to the approach recommended by Welsh Ministers for the protection of these important sites. This Management Plan therefore provides an important link between the international requirements of UNESCO on the one hand, and the aspirations and requirements of local communities and regional authorities on the other.



The Nantlle Valley Slate Quarry Landscape © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.

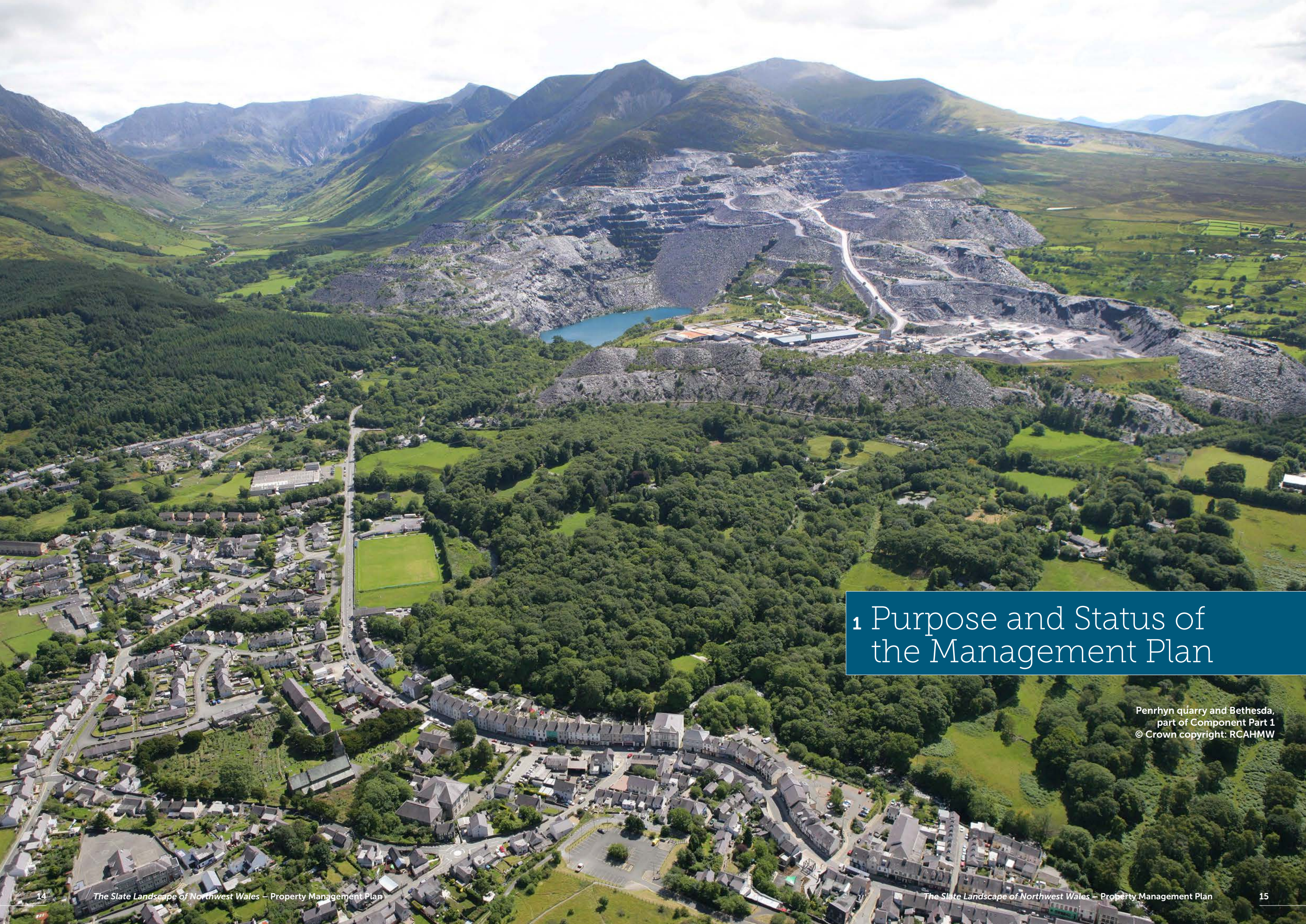
This Management Plan is a living stand-alone document. Five Themes lie at its heart, setting out how the World Heritage Site will be managed, cared for, developed and enjoyed. It is divided into eight sections:

- **Section 1** defines what is meant by a World Heritage Site and provides an introduction to *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* and the role of the Management Plan.
- **Section 2** provides the Justification for Inscription and also describes the values (attributes) of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*
- **Section 3** sets out the Partnership's vision for *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*.
- **Section 4** relates to Theme 1: Governance and Management, and explains how the Management Plan will be effectively, openly and transparently delivered.
- **Section 5** relates to Theme 2: Caring for *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*, and sets out how the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Site will be effectively protected, conserved and managed.
- **Section 6** relates to Theme 3: Sustainable Development of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* to ensure that the World heritage Site will help to sustain a living, thriving landscape.
- **Section 7** relates to Theme 4: Enjoying *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*, and illustrates how the World Heritage Site can be enjoyed, experienced and understood by both local residents and visitors.
- **Section 8** relates to Theme 5: Learning about *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*, and sets out options to ensure that the World Heritage Site becomes a focus for shared learning and research at all levels.

This Management Plan includes an Action Plan, which is geared towards developing management strategies and initiatives.

In the event of a successful inscription, this Management Plan will take full effect. It is dated 2020-2030 and will be reviewed in 2025.





# 1 Purpose and Status of the Management Plan

Penrhyn quarry and Bethesda,  
part of Component Part 1  
© Crown copyright: RCAHWW



## 1.1 What is a World Heritage Site?

The UNESCO World Heritage Committee defines World Heritage Sites as:

**places of Outstanding Universal Value to the whole of humanity. This means that their cultural and/or natural significance is so exceptional as to transcend national boundaries and to be of common importance for present and future generations of all humanity.**

There is no higher recognition of heritage value.



There are currently (2019) 1,121 World Heritage sites. Cultural sites can be of any date – from prehistory like Stonehenge or modern like Jodrell Bank. One of the most famous is the Taj Mahal, ‘the jewel of Muslim art in India and one of the universally admired masterpieces of the world’s heritage’ (UNESCO, photograph by John Roney).

## 1.2 Introduction to the Nominated Property – *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*

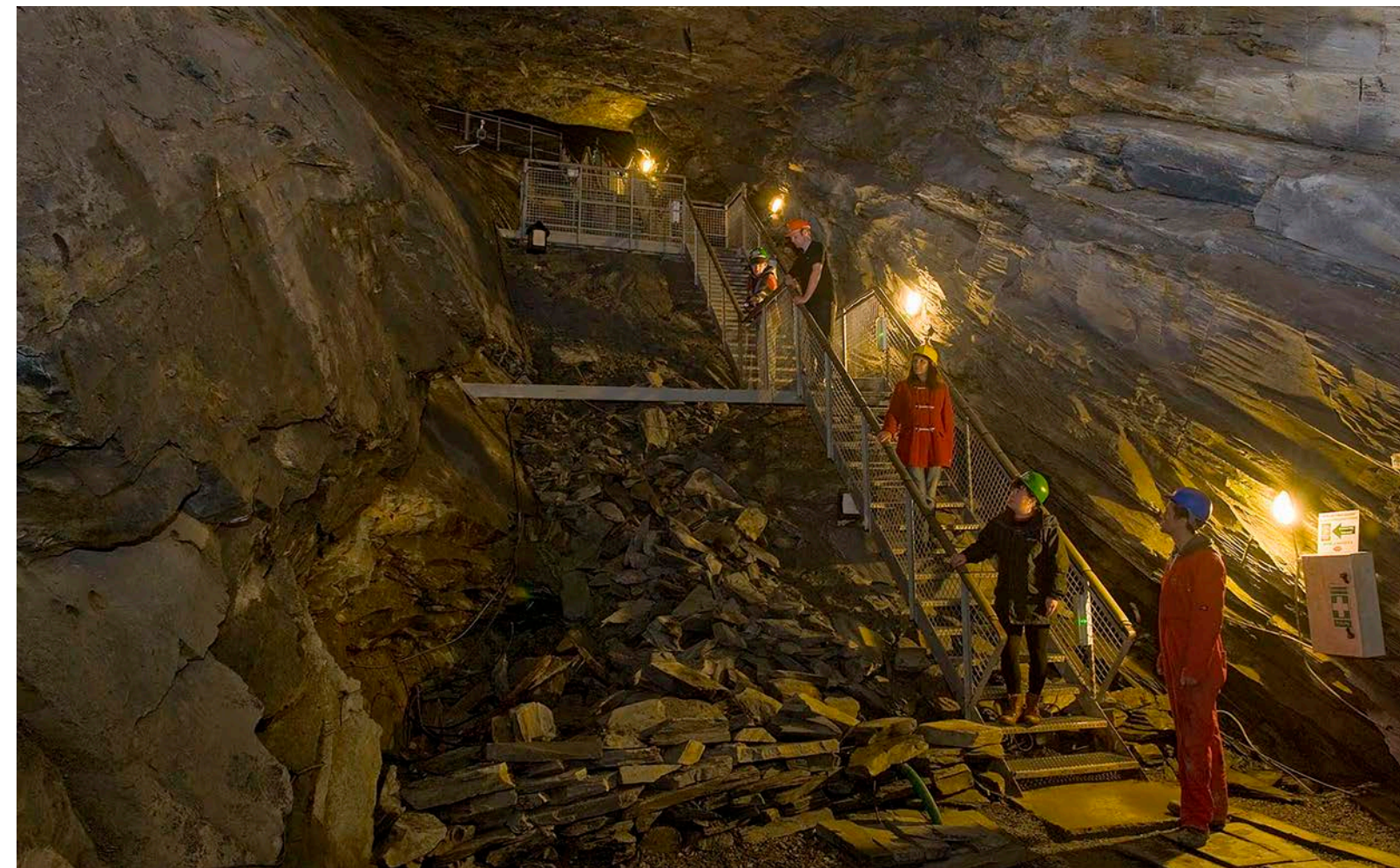
*The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* was formed by the extraction, processing and transport of slate to produce roofing materials and architectural materials for global markets, from the late eighteenth century to the twentieth. It is a cultural landscape – one where the works of nature and humankind combine to express a deep relationship between people and their natural environment. As well as the workings themselves, both on the surface and underground, this cultural landscape has also been shaped by the need to tip substantial quantities of waste rock; to process and transport slate; to manage water as both a threat and an asset; to house workers and their families; and to provide for their material, moral and intellectual well-being.

### Location

The proposed World Heritage Site is located within the county of Gwynedd and the Snowdonia National Park, historically the heartland of the Welsh slate industry, and comprises six separate Component Parts, chosen to reflect the full nature of this cultural landscape, in which quarrying once flourished in valley communities. Within each Component Part, significant Elements – physical features which embody the attributes of Outstanding Universal Value – have been identified.

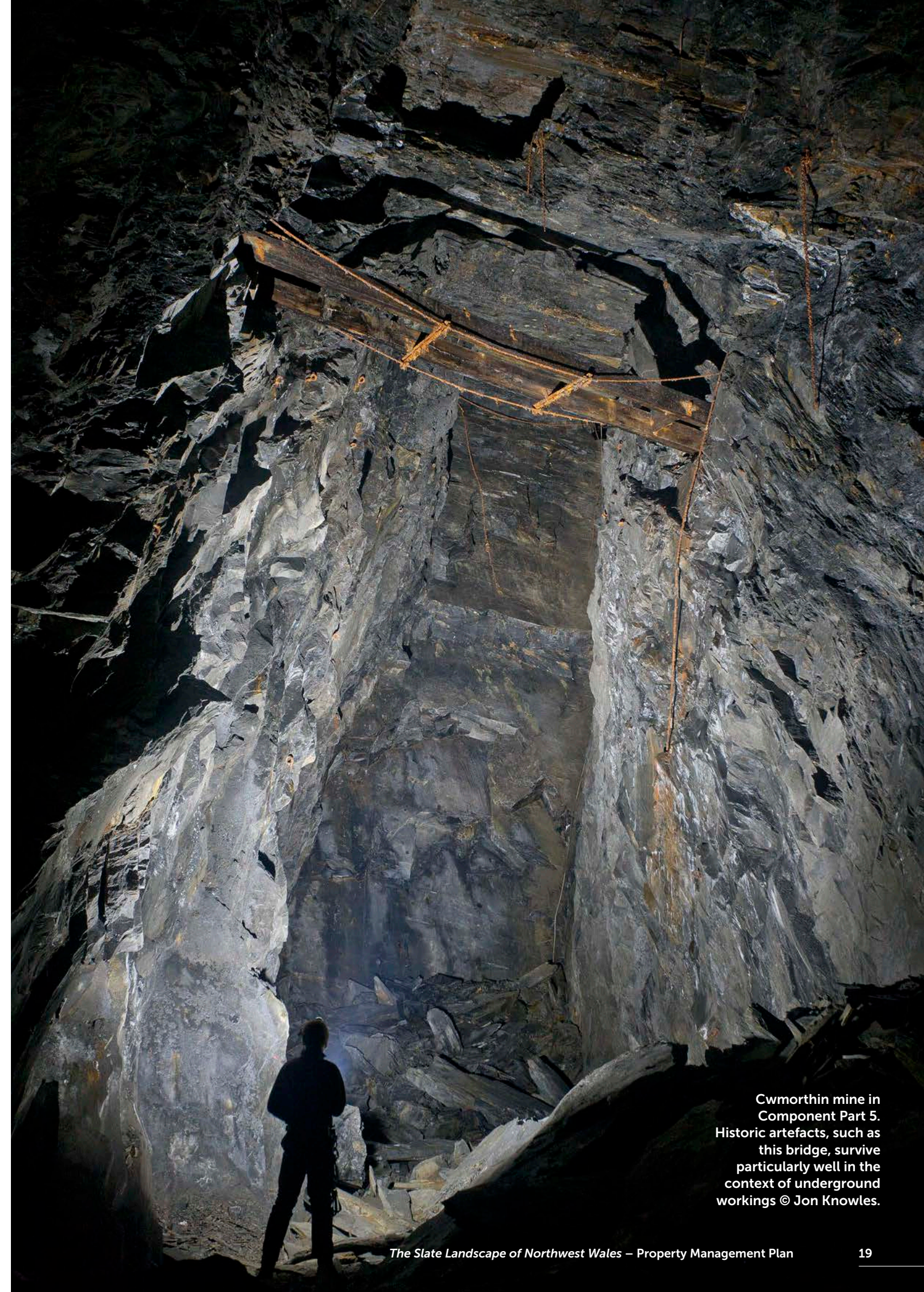
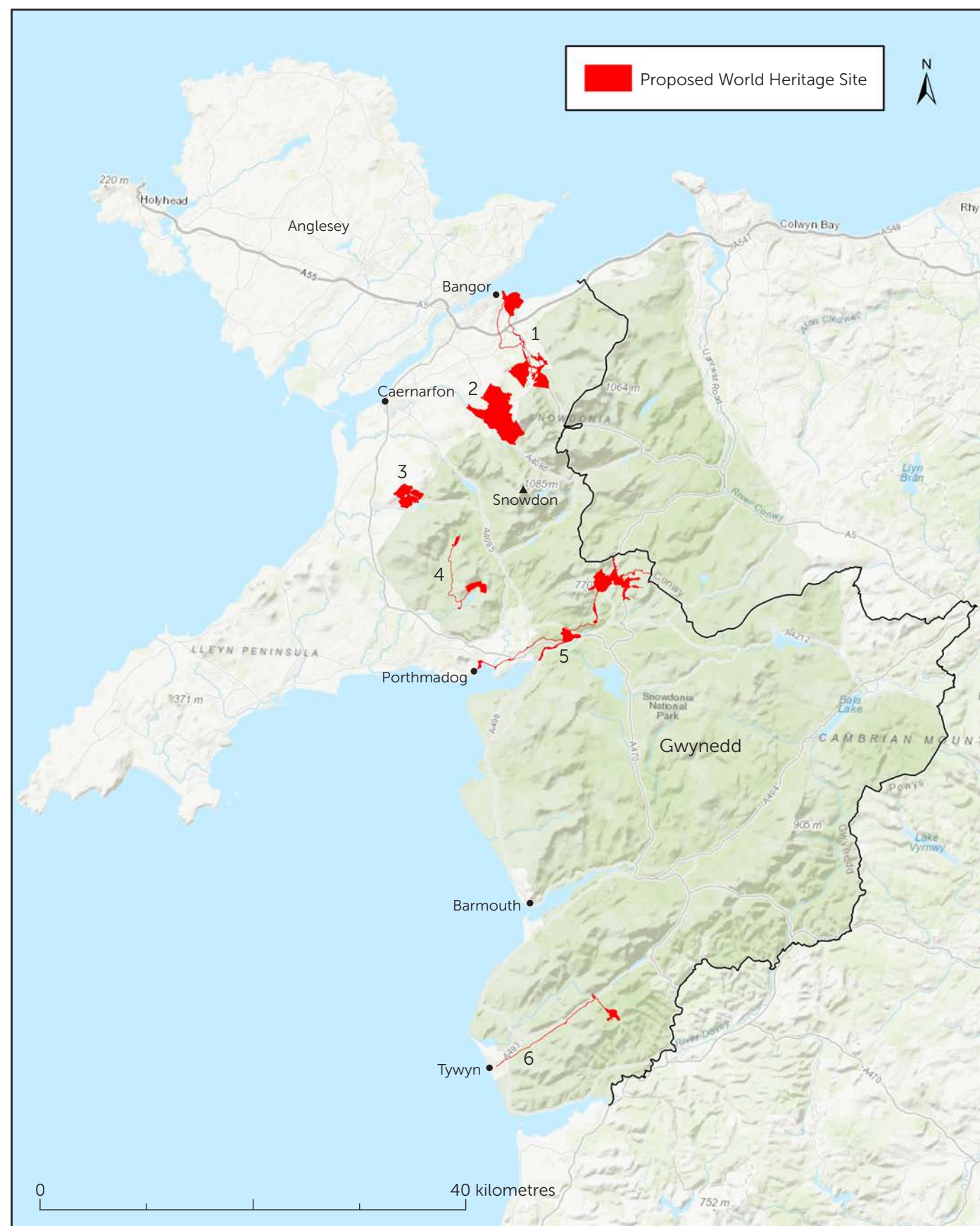
Each Component Part has its own unique character. They have been chosen for their scale (all of the largest relict quarries and quarrying areas are represented), for their significant landscape impact, for their integrity, and for the way in which they exemplify technology transfer and the transformation of a minority rural culture into a modern industrial society. Two historic operational railways built to carry slate, the Ffestiniog and the Talyllyn, form elements of the Nominated Property, as do a number of relict railway sites, several quarry settlements and two ports, Penrhyn and Porthmadog, from where roofing slates began their ocean journey to world markets.

Slate is still quarried within the region, immediately adjacent to the proposed World Heritage Site. Several of the relict quarries are finding a new lease of life as heritage attractions and as adventure tourism destinations.



Visitors discovering the story of slate on the Llechwedd Deep Mine Tour in Blaenau Ffestiniog  
© Llechwedd / JW Greaves & Sons.







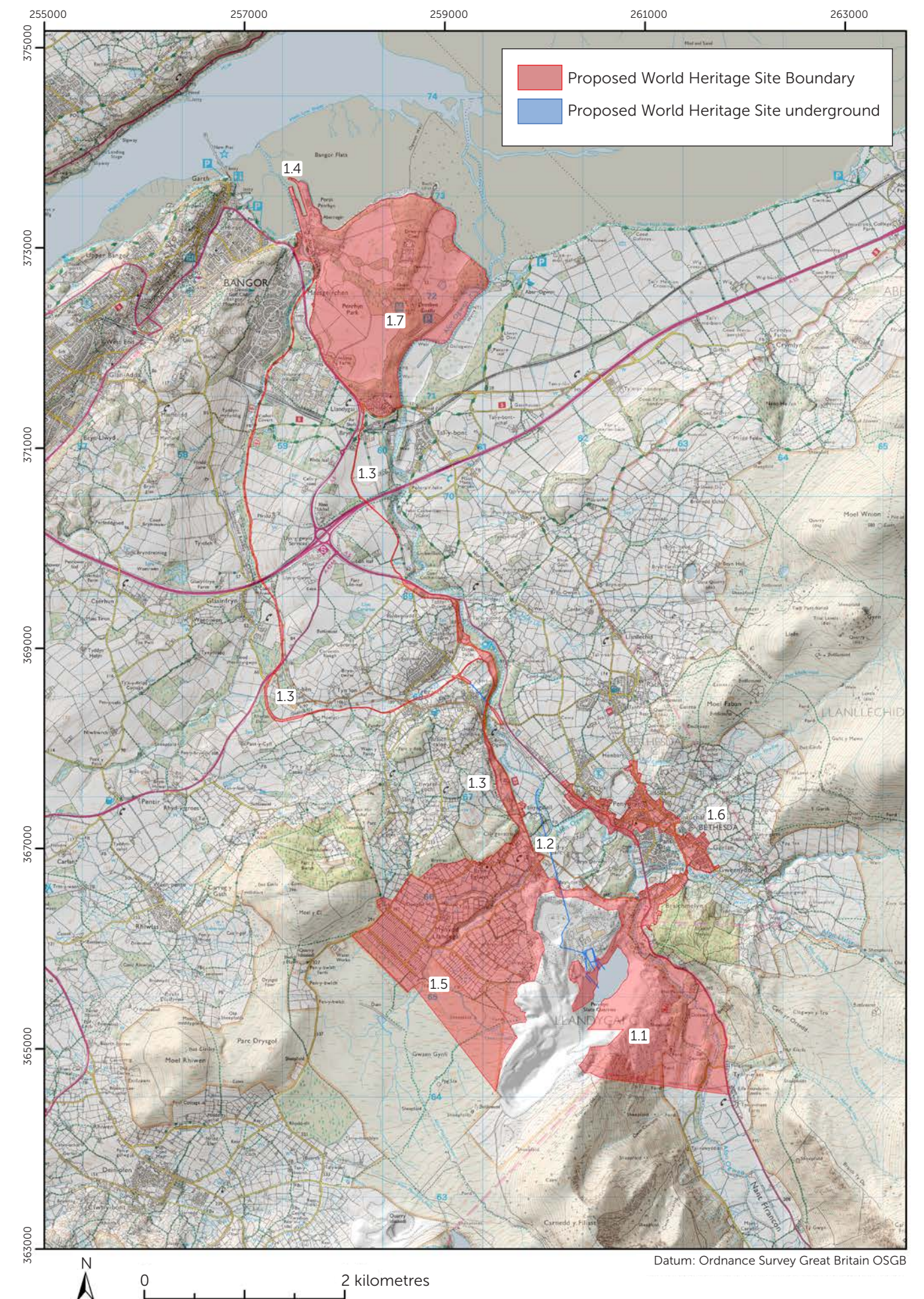
## COMPONENT PART 1

### Penrhyn Slate Quarry and Bethesda, and the Ogwen Valley to Port Penrhyn

An area that has been quarried for slate since the Medieval period but which was developed on an extensive scale from the late eighteenth century onwards by Richard Pennant, Lord Penrhyn, and his heirs. The Component Part includes the relict part of the great stepped Penrhyn Slate Quarry, worked continuously since the late eighteenth century, a water-powered mill complex at Felin Fawr, the railroad and railway that transported the slate to the private harbour at Port Penrhyn, the distinctive and contrasting workers' settlements at Bethesda and Mynydd Llandygai and the quarry-owning family's huge Penrhyn Castle and its vast Park.

#### Elements:

- 1.1 Penrhyn Slate Quarry**  
– relict stepped galleries with extensive areas of slate tipping to either side
- 1.2 Felin Fawr Slate-Slab Mills**  
– an historic processing and engineering complex
- 1.3 The Penrhyn Slate Quarry Railroad and Penrhyn Slate Quarry Railway**  
– two historic systems which exported slate from 1801 to 1962
- 1.4 Port Penrhyn**  
– the harbour for Penrhyn slates
- 1.5 Mynydd Llandygai Settlement**  
– planned housing for quarrymen and their families
- 1.6 Bethesda Village**  
– created by quarrymen who preferred not to live on the Penrhyn estate
- 1.7 Penrhyn Castle and Park**  
– the extravagant neo-Norman dwelling of the Penrhyn family



**Map 2. The boundaries and Elements of Component Part 1: Penrhyn Slate Quarry and Bethesda, and the Ogwen Valley to Port Penrhyn (Scale 1:50,000).**





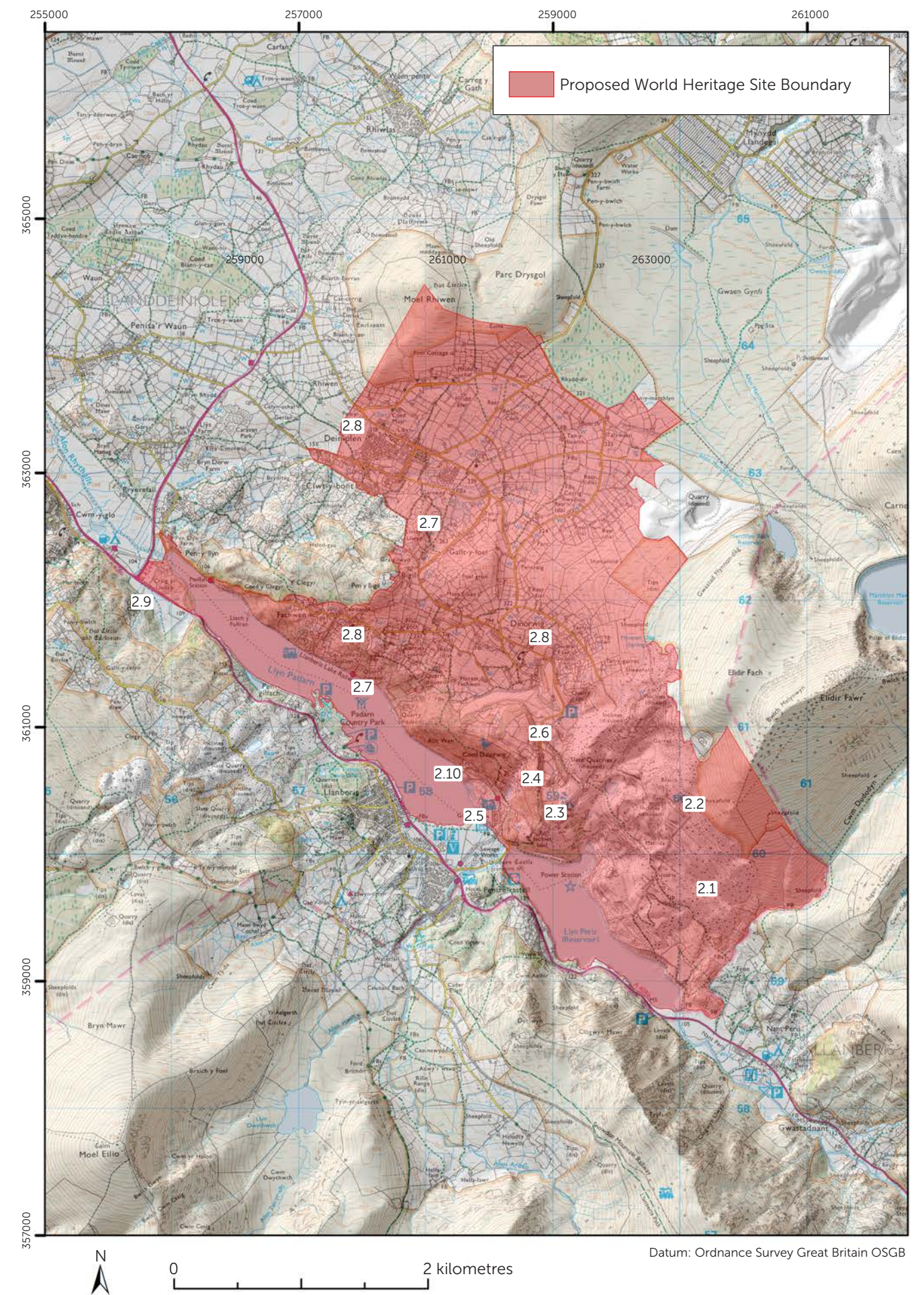


## COMPONENT PART 2 Dinorwig Slate Quarry Mountain Landscape

This Component Part is dominated by the huge relict Dinorwig Slate Quarry with its stepped galleries, tips of waste rock and processing areas rising 500m from the valley floor at the foot of Snowdon, the former engineering workshops and hospital, now open as museums, extensive worker settlements including barracks, dispersed cottages and the nucleated villages of Deiniolen and Clwt y Bont, and transport systems including the lake, road and railway by which slate was exported.

### Elements:

- 2.1 Dinorwig Slate Quarry**  
– an extensive relict slate quarry
- 2.2 ‘Australia’ Gallery**  
– mills and buildings in an area of the quarry too remote to be scrapped, retaining their machinery
- 2.3 Anglesey Barracks**  
– in Dinorwig Slate Quarry, accommodation for workmen who lived too far away to commute daily
- 2.4 V2 Inclined Plane / Vivian Slate Quarry**  
– a working counterbalanced inclined plane in a separate department of the Dinorwig Slate Quarry
- 2.5 Dinorwig Slate Quarry Engineering Complex**  
– now the National Slate Museum
- 2.6 Dinorwig Quarry Road Systems**  
– the ‘drag’, the Dinorwig quarry road and the Fachwen quarry road
- 2.7 The Dinorwig Slate Quarry Railroad and Railway**  
– which between them exported slate from 1825 to 1961
- 2.8 Deiniolen, Clwt y Bont, Dinorwig and Fachwen Settlements**  
– quarry villages and cottages
- 2.9 Craig yr Undeb [‘Union Rock’]**  
– a natural outcrop where the North Wales Quarrymen’s Union meetings were held
- 2.10 Dinorwig Slate Quarry Hospital**  
– now open as a museum

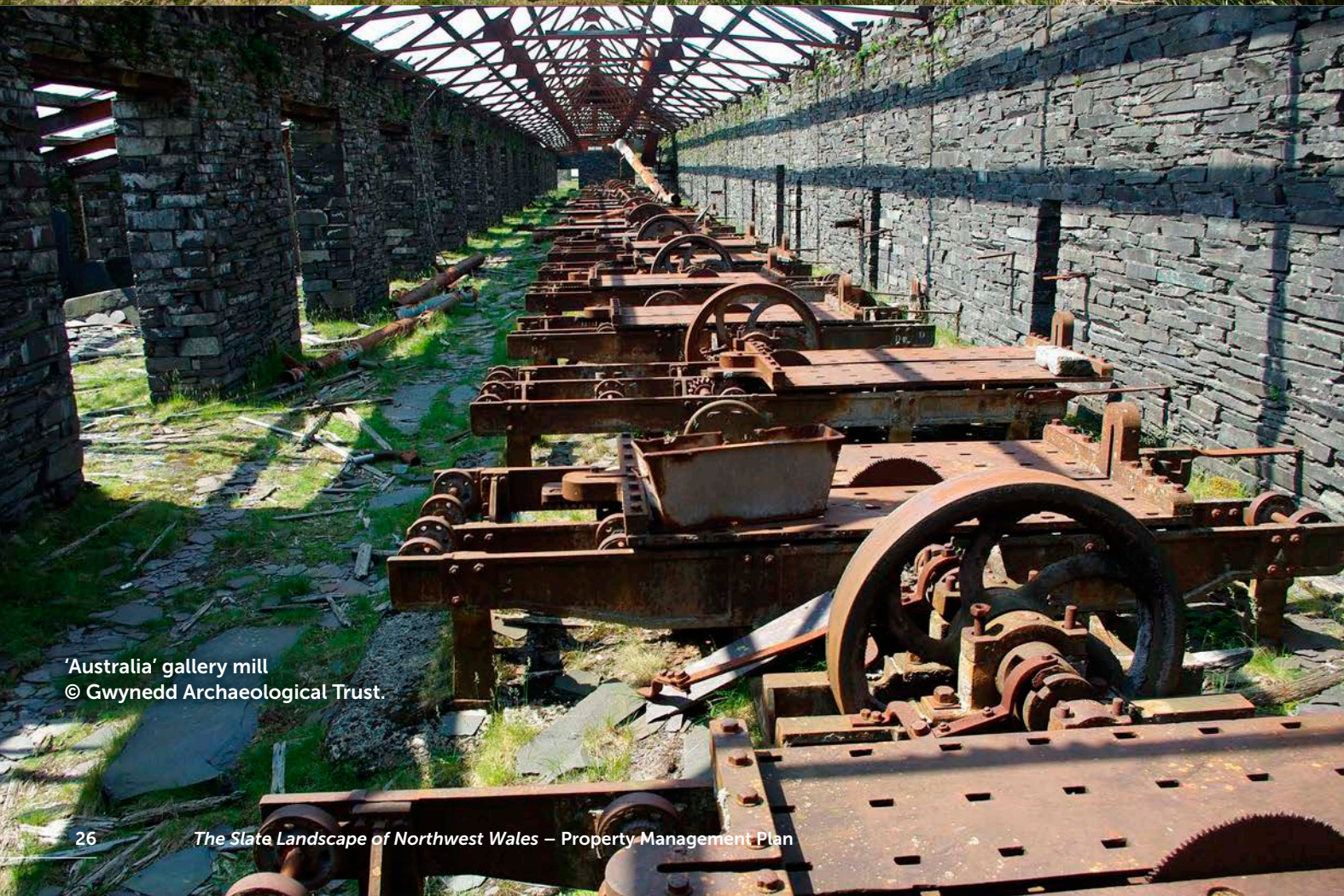


**Map 3. The boundary and Elements of Component Part 2: Dinorwig Slate Quarry Mountain Landscape (Scale 1:40,000).**





The Anglesey barracks  
© Crown copyright: RCAHMW.



'Australia' gallery mill  
© Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.



Dinorwig Quarry  
© Crown copyright: RCAHMW.



## COMPONENT PART 3

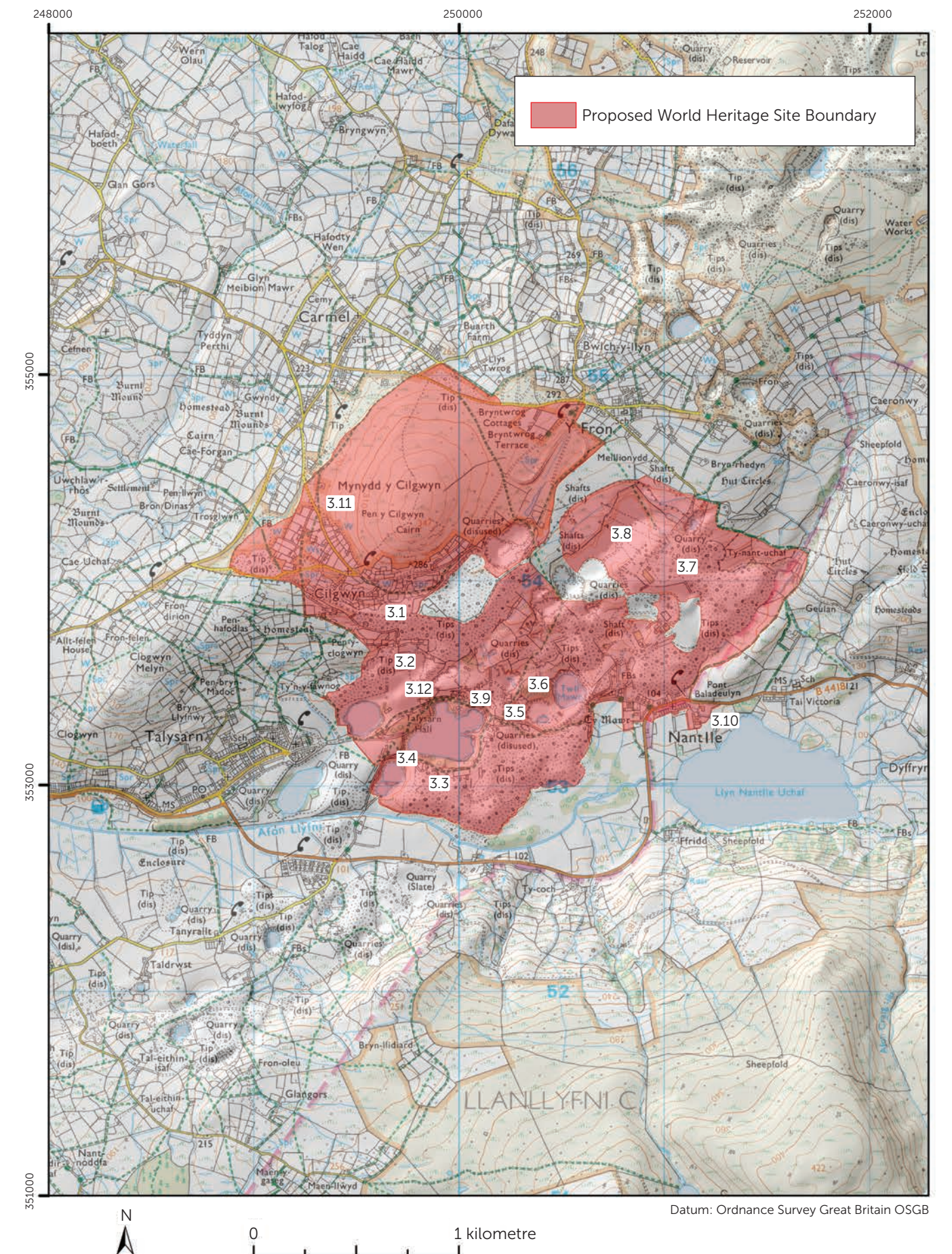
### Nantlle Valley

### Slate Quarry Landscape

Nantlle Component Part is a multi-period valley which sweeps from the foothills of the Snowdon massif to the Arfon plain and to the sea. It includes the open-pit slate quarries up to 150m deep, extensive tips, relict processing buildings, a monumental Cornish steam pumping engine in its original engine-house, associated worker settlements, including a village, squatters' cottages and adapted agricultural buildings, and the Stephenson-engineered railway by which slate was exported.

#### Elements:

- 3.1 Cilgwyn Slate Quarry Tips
- 3.2 Blaen y Cae Slate Quarry 'Blondin' Ropeway
- 3.3 Dorothea Slate Quarry
- 3.4 Dorothea Slate Quarry Cornish Beam Engine
- 3.5 Pen y Bryn / Cloddfa'r Lôn Slate Quarry Dwellings, Slate-Mill and Chain Incline Ropeway Bastions
- 3.6 Pen y Bryn / Cloddfa'r Lôn Slate Quarry Water-Driven Pump System
- 3.7 Pen yr Orsedd Slate Quarry
- 3.8 Pen yr Orsedd Slate Quarry 'Blondin' Ropeways
- 3.9 The Nantlle Railway
- 3.10 Nantlle Village
- 3.11 Settlements on Cilgwyn Mountain
- 3.12 Plas Tal y Sarn and Tal y Sarn Farmhouse



Map 4. The boundary and Elements of Component Part 3: Nantlle Valley Slate Quarry Landscape (Scale 1:25,000).



The Nantlle valley from the south-east, looking out to the Irish Sea  
© Crown copyright: RCAHMW.



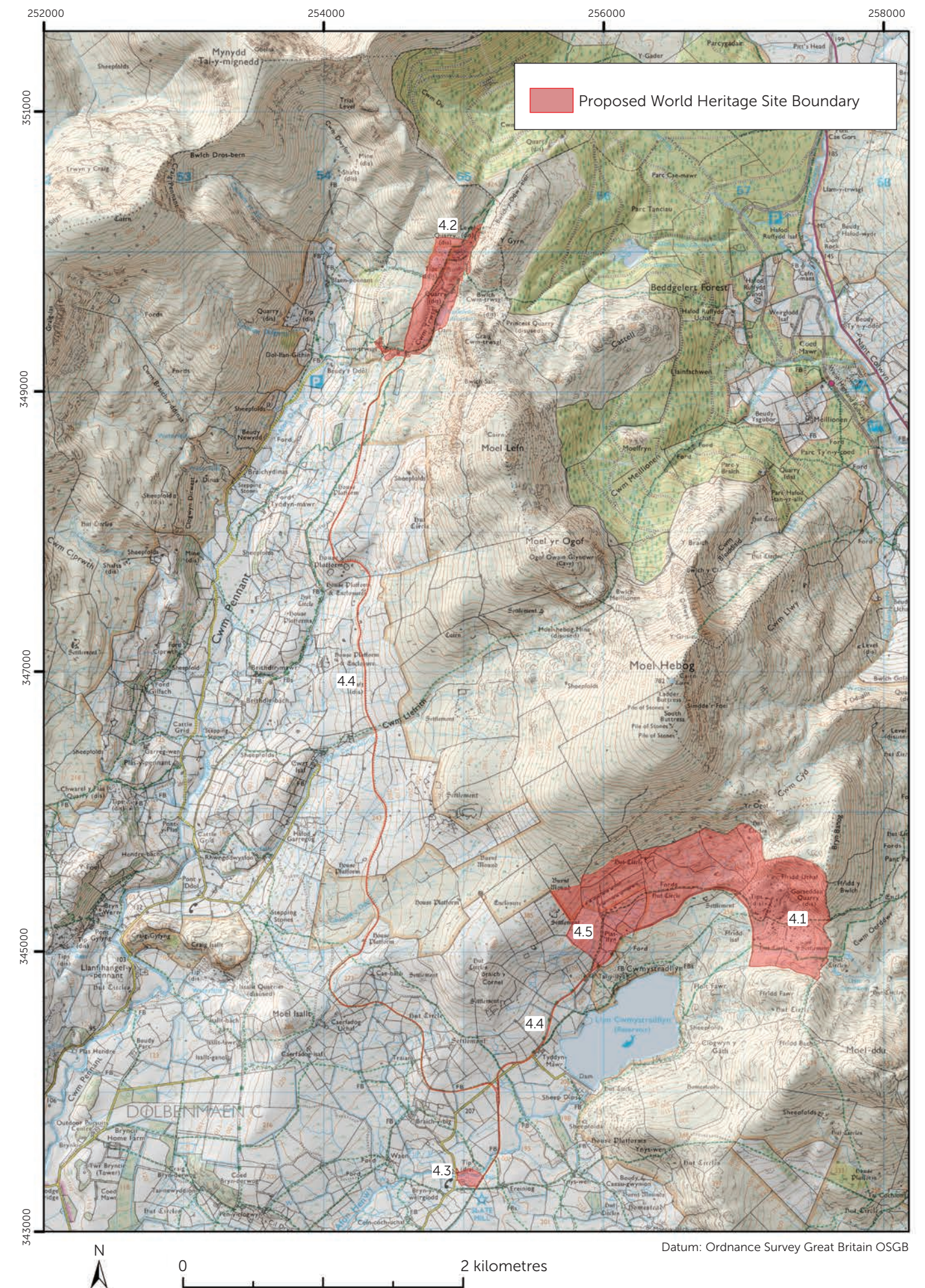


## COMPONENT PART 4 Gorseddau and Prince of Wales Slate Quarries, Railways and Mill

This short-lived quarrying area, operating in the mid nineteenth century, is notable for the survival of features often lost at more commercially successful operations. It includes the isolated Gorseddau Slate Quarry and Prince of Wales Slate Quarry both worked on a similar principle to Penrhyn Slate Quarry with stepped galleries with inclined plane access; the railways that served the two quarries, a deserted worker-settlement at Treforys and the dramatic Ynyspandy slate-slab mill.

### Elements:

- 4.1 Gorseddau Slate Quarry
- 4.2 Prince of Wales Slate Quarry
- 4.3 Ynyspandy Slate-Slab Mill
- 4.4 Gorseddau Railway and Gorseddau Junction & Portmadoc Railways
- 4.5 Treforys Village



Map 5. The boundary and Elements of Component Part 4: Gorseddau and Prince of Wales Slate Quarries, Railways and Mill (Scale 1:35,000).





Ynysypany slate-slab mill served the Gorseddau quarry and was linked to it by a railway system  
© Crown copyright: RCAHMW.

The Prince of Wales Quarry in Cwm Pennant  
clings to the mountain-side  
© Crown copyright: RCAHMW.



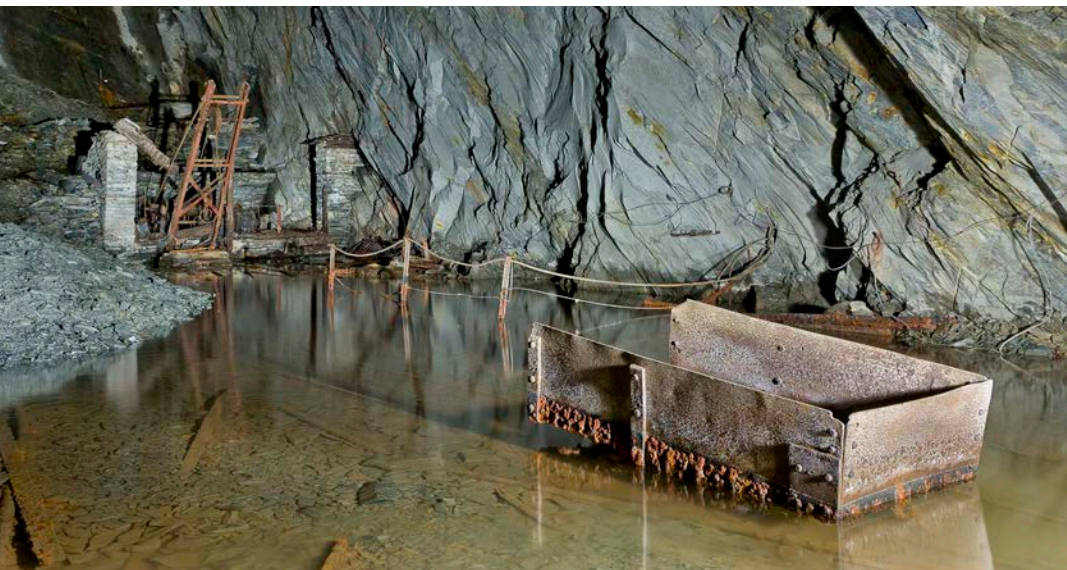
## COMPONENT PART 5

### **Ffestiniog: its Slate Mines and Quarries, 'city of slates' and Railway to Porthmadog**

This Component Part includes the quarries and underground mines, associated tips and mills overlooking the quarrymen's town of Blaenau Ffestiniog, with its formal urban organisation; also Plas Tan y Bwlch, formerly the home of a major quarry-owning family, slate-quays on the Dwyryd river, Porthmadog Harbour and the innovative slate-carrying Ffestiniog Railway.

#### **Elements:**

- 5.1 Ffestiniog Slate Quarries – Surface Landform**
- 5.2 Ffestiniog Slate Quarries – Underground Workings**
- 5.3 Pant yr Afon Hydro-Power Station**
- 5.4 Diffwys Slate Quarry Mill**
- 5.5 Maenofferen Slate Quarry Main Complex**
- 5.6 Blaenau Ffestiniog – Town**
- 5.7 Plas Tan y Bwlch**  
– now the Snowdonia National Park residential study centre
- 5.8 Slate-Quays on the Dwyryd River**
- 5.9 The Ffestiniog Railway**
- 5.10 Porthmadog Harbour**

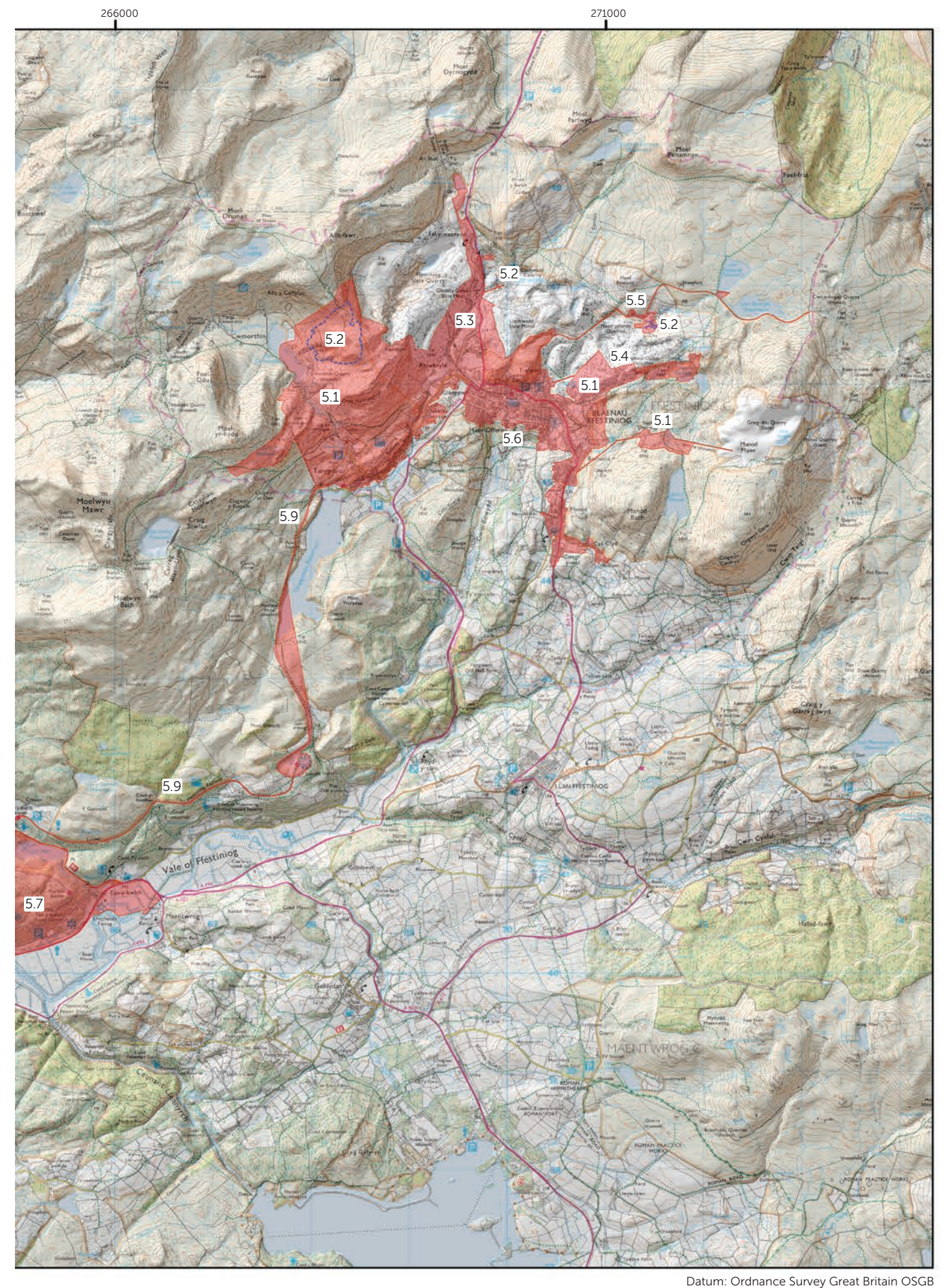


Chambers in the Cwmorthin slate mine preserve cranes, wagons and railway track  
© Jon Knowles.

The Ffestiniog slate landscape © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.







**Map 6. The boundaries and Elements of Component Part 5: Ffestiniog: its Slate Mines and Quarries, 'city of slates' and Railway to Porthmadog (Scale 1:50,000).**



## COMPONENT PART 6

### Bryneglwys Slate Quarry, Abergynolwyn Village and the Talyllyn Railway

Bryneglwys quarry and underground workings shows the influence of extractive techniques from Nantlle and Ffestiniog; this Component Part includes the company village of Abergynolwyn, its Lancashire-pattern reflecting Manchester capital, and the Talyllyn Railway, the first slate quarry railway built for steam traction and to connect with the main line rather than the sea – also a pioneering railway preservation project emulated worldwide.

#### Elements:

- 6.1 Bryneglwys Slate Quarry Surface Working and Chain Incline Ropeway Bastion**
- 6.2 Bryneglwys Slate Quarry – Underground Workings**
- 6.3 Abergynolwyn Village**
- 6.4 Talyllyn Railway**



**Map 7. The boundaries and Elements of Component Part 6: Bryneglwys Slate Quarry, Abergynolwyn Village and the Talyllyn Railway with associated Elements (Scale 1:70,000).**





*Dolgoch*, built in 1866, hauls a passenger train over the viaduct which is the main engineering feature of the Talylyn Railway  
© Talylyn Railway.



Preserved wagon underground at Bryneglwys quarry  
© Jon Knowles.



Abergynolwyn village lies in the foreground of this view; in the distance the tips of Bryneglwys quarry are evident in the forestry  
© Crown copyright: RCAHMW.

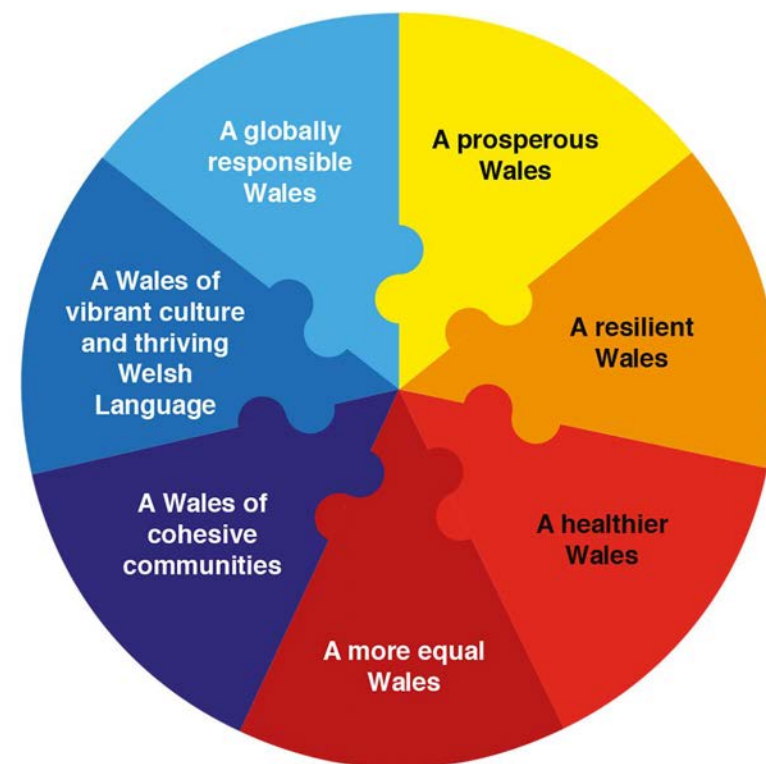


### 1.3 National context

Responsibility for the United Kingdom's compliance with the UNESCO World Heritage Convention lies with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). The DCMS liaises with the Welsh Government on the nomination, conservation and protection of World Heritage Sites in Wales. The management of inscribed World Heritage Sites in Wales is a devolved matter and Welsh Ministers are responsible for ensuring compliance with the Convention. The Welsh Government's approach to the protection and sustainable management of World Heritage Sites is based on three principles:

- the statutory designation of specific historic assets within World Heritage Sites and associated mechanisms to manage and control works
- the collaborative creation and implementation of World Heritage Site management plans to ensure the effective and active involvement of all key stakeholders
- the use of the planning system to guide appropriate development

*The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015* forms part of the broader distinctive and forward-thinking legislative programme within Wales and is also relevant to World Heritage Sites. It sets seven well-being goals that together provide a shared vision for the future of Wales. Policies developed to manage *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* as a World Heritage Site if the bid is successful will each contribute to one or more of these goals, which have the principle of sustainable development at their core. The 2015 Act requires public bodies in Wales to work towards the seven goals of: a prosperous Wales; a resilient Wales; a healthier Wales; a more equal Wales; a Wales of cohesive communities; a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language; a globally responsible Wales.



Goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

### 1.4 Ownership

The proposed World Heritage Site is under multiple ownership, including statutory and public companies, public bodies, local authorities and private individuals.

### 1.5 The role of the Management Plan

The production, adoption and regular review of agreed Management Plans for each inscribed World Heritage Site is required by UNESCO and is fundamental to the approach recommended by Welsh Ministers for the protection of these important sites. The management plan therefore provides an important link between the international requirements of UNESCO on the one hand, and the aspirations and requirements of local communities and regional authorities on the other.

The World Heritage Nomination sets out the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*. This Management Plan aims to provide a broad vision of the quality, significance, condition and potential of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* to ensure that this vision is widely accepted and acted upon to enhance the understanding and preservation of the Outstanding Universal Value and encourage its positive use to support sustainable regional regeneration. The process of developing the Plan has been led by Gwynedd Council but has involved all members of the Partnership Steering Group (see Section 4), wider stakeholders and drawn on a public consultation. It will be kept under review by the Partnership Steering Group and its members. The Plan is advisory in nature, aiming to set a framework for management to coordinate the actions of all involved. The Plan presents a set of management objectives based on a strategic view over the next 30 years, together with short and medium term actions for the next five years.

The Management Plan has been developed to support the nomination of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* and therefore the first five years of the plan are geared towards developing management strategies and initiatives which would follow a successful inscription.

To support delivery of the Plan, a series of Local Management Plans will be adopted for individual Elements, taking account of individual circumstances and ownership.

### 1.6 Implementing the Management Plan

#### Scope and Status of the Plan

This Management Plan offers an overall framework of objectives, but is not a statutory instrument. It introduces no new powers, nor does it diminish the responsibility of any agency or individual. In advising and informing, the Plan acts as a catalyst for various management initiatives to be implemented.

The success of a World Heritage Site, its protection, conservation and presentation, all depend on the commitment of partners to a shared vision which is in turn backed up by actions that are both achievable and deliverable. A key priority for UNESCO and ICOMOS is to encourage the social benefit of World Heritage status through increasing public awareness, community participation and international cooperation.



It is also important to transmit the significance of a World Heritage Site through a celebration of cultural distinctiveness. Developing civic pride in the unique communities that make up *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* is a critical starting point towards transforming social and economic circumstances, and towards becoming a driver for economic regeneration, sustainable tourism and social inclusion. Community and stakeholder engagement is integral to the continued protection, sustainable development and management of the World Heritage Site. A stakeholder and community engagement strategy will evolve over the course of the Management Plan period to ensure continued engagement and dialogue with local communities.



Rhos Fawr in Deiniolen, Component Part 2 © Gwynedd Council.



A 'Blondin' ropeway at Pen yr Orsedd slate quarry in Component Part 3  
© Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.



The Dorothea slate quarry Cornish beam engine in Component Part 3  
© Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.



An aerial photograph of a rugged mountainous landscape. In the foreground, a valley with green and brown fields is visible, with a small village (Treforys) nestled in it. In the background, a large, steep mountain slope is covered with a slate quarry, showing terraced levels and rocky outcrops. The sky is clear and blue.

## 2 The Cultural Landscape – Outstanding Universal Value and Attributes

Treforys village (Component Part 4) was built to house quarrymen working at Gorseddau Quarry (in the distance) and their families, but was deserted within ten years of being built  
© Crown copyright: RCAHMW.

### 2.1 One cultural landscape, six Component Parts

Though *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* was brought into being by large-scale quarrying, the nomination celebrates much more than just an industrial site. It is made up of places where men drawn from a rural hinterland mastered challenging skills to earn a harsh, precarious but good living, where women raised families in difficult circumstances, and where skilful engineers made ingenious use of the mountainous natural environment to work slate rock effectively, to harness water as a prime-mover, and to lay roads and railways which expeditiously moved the quarried slate to the sea, and on to global markets.

The six Component Parts which make up *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* have been selected to demonstrate the full range and variety of the slate industry in Northwest Wales. Each one includes a relict slate quarry or quarries with associated processing areas. Each one also includes a settlement or settlements, either deserted or living, either created by an industrialist or by the quarry population. All six include elements related to the transport of slate, including a railway, as well as roads, quays and harbours in some cases.

### 2.2 Proposed Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

The following is the proposed Statement of Outstanding Universal Value for adoption in the event of a successful inscription. UNESCO assess the Statement of Outstanding Universal Value against set criteria, and a proposed World Heritage site must meet at least one of these. *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* has been nominated against three criteria.

#### Brief synthesis

*The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* is a serial nomination of six Component Parts, located in Northwest Wales, UK. It represents an exceptional example of an industrial cultural landscape that was profoundly shaped by large-scale slate quarrying and underground mining, and by the working and transport of slate for national and international markets. This industry, particularly in the period from 1780 to 1940, dominated the world production of roofing slates, opened up new slate quarries and mines across the world through the cultural transfer of technology and skills, and transformed both the environment and the way of life of those who lived and worked in the mountains of Snowdonia.

The enduring and highly legible landscape, set in majestic mountainous terrain that falls to Liverpool Bay in the north and to the Irish Sea to the west, contains the best and most coherent landscapes that comprehensively represent a larger area of production that made the region the pre-eminent worldwide exporter of slate in the nineteenth century. It is first characterised by the monumental scale of the benched hillside workings, deep pits and cavernous underground chambers, landform cascading tips, ingenious water management systems, and a range of industrial buildings, together with some outstanding technical equipment and major features of engineering. These are complemented by dedicated and innovative transport systems that were constructed in highly challenging topography and that linked quarries with processing sites and purpose-built coastal harbours and main-line railways.



Wealthy industrialists built grand country houses, set out parks and gardens, and improved their estates, contrasting with the diverse pattern of workers' vernacular settlements, where the working practices and social customs of the rural hinterland were preserved, including the region's confident prevailing culture of Welsh language, and its traditions of religious dissent and political radicalism. Their characteristic social infrastructure – chapels and churches, band-rooms, schools, libraries and meeting-places – form a collective testimony to an outstanding process of adaptation from an agricultural to an industrial society, exemplifying how a traditional minority culture adapted to modernity in the Industrial period.



**The dome of the World Heritage Royal Exhibition Centre in Melbourne (Australia) is covered in slate from Northwest Wales © Department of Environment (Australia).**



**The Darjeeling Himalayan Railway in India was closely modelled on the Ffestiniog Railway and is now an element of the World Heritage Mountain Railways of India (Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported license).**

The Nominated Property developed in one of the world's largest high quality slate deposits: the industry that exploited them was the world's most significant during the Industrial Revolution. Its highly legible testimony survives on an unparalleled cultural landscape scale, distinguished by remarkable integrity and authenticity and with very little subsequent intrusion by modern development, in a mountainous setting that is protected by the Snowdonia National Park. Many generations of slate workers earned a living from this landscape and made Welsh slate internationally known. The special qualities of Welsh slate include its longevity and impermeable nature, light weight and cleavable thinness, and comparatively low cost, in deposits conveniently close to the sea for global export. By the late nineteenth century it represented about a third of world output, making possible the rapid urbanisation and architectural development of Africa, Australia, Eurasia, and North and South America. The sheer scale and exposure of the workings – on a regional landscape scale – together with discrete, functional, socio-technical ensembles enable the processes behind this extraordinary output to be easily understood.

Technology was diffused from Northwest Wales through exchange visits by specialists, and by emigration of quarrymen and managers. There is substantial evidence of these processes, both documentary and in terms of physical property in Wales and in receiving countries, and of outcomes in terms of influence and impact. Technological expertise in the Welsh slate industry took the form of industrial organisation, innovative technical solutions and the skilled craft-based understanding of the nature of the rock to be extracted and processed. Such technology transfer was fundamental to the progress of the slate industry of continental Europe and particularly the USA. Moreover, the locomotive railway is one of the most significant developments of the Industrial Revolution, and Snowdonia's narrow-gauge slate railways comprise a specific technological system that gained global influence as it was marketed and adopted in mountainous regions across continents from Asia and America to Africa and Australasia. The gauge and sinuous formation as well as the locomotives and rolling stock of the Darjeeling Himalayan Railway explicitly derive from the Ffestiniog Railway in *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*.



## Justification for Criteria

**Criterion (ii) definition: exhibit an important interchange of human values, over a span of time or within a cultural area of the world, on developments in architecture or technology, monumental arts, town-planning or landscape design.**

***The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* exhibits an important interchange of human values, particularly in the period from 1780 to 1940, on developments in architecture and technology.**

Slate has been quarried in the mountains of Northwest Wales since Roman times, but it was the organisation of sustained large-scale production from the late eighteenth century to the early twentieth that came to dominate the global market



The landform of the Vivian and Dinorwig slate quarries in Component Part 2 shows two hundred years of working the slopes of Elidir mountain © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.

as a roofing element, encouraging major transcontinental developments in building and architecture such as the low-pitched Regency roof, and terraced housing. Over 90 per cent of Welsh output came from the quarries which are now relict landforms within the proposed World Heritage Site. Other elements within the proposed World Heritage Site demonstrate the various uses of slate.

Technologies evolved in *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* were fundamental to the development of the slate industry of continental Europe and the USA, and to quarrying more generally. An interchange of human values is also strongly evident in the skills and technologies which were disseminated from one Component Part to another, in the different methods of extracting and processing the rock. Surviving machinery shows how the slate industry of Northwest Wales evaluated technologies that had been devised in other contexts and adopted them if they were fit for purpose.

Above all, its narrow-gauge slate railways exhibit an important interchange of human values in that: they reflect the very earliest iron railway systems developed in South Wales; make evident how the technology was improved within the Nominated Property; and served as the model for successive developments that contributed substantially to the social and economic development of remoter regions in many other parts of the world.

**Criterion (iv) definition: be an outstanding example of a type of building, architectural or technological ensemble or landscape which illustrates (a) significant stage(s) in human history.**

***The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* is an outstanding example of a type of landscape which illustrates, in a dramatic way, the 'combined works of nature and of man' through the large-scale exploitation of natural resources.**

The largest deposits of high-quality slate in the world lie in these mountainsides and valley floors. The lavish houses and parklands of quarry owners convey the levels of capital available to exploit and transport these natural resources successfully. The monumentality of the quarry landforms in their isolated and challenging mountain settings is intense and compelling including huge stepped 'galleries' (working benches), deep pits, vast tips of waste rock, and underground workings.

The impact of these quarries and mines on the natural environment, and their own landforms and organisation, are attributes of the generations of physical labour and skill invested in them. Within this mountainous environment both gravity and water-power were ingeniously harnessed to operate machinery. The technically-innovative railways make use of topography, in their use both of rope-worked inclined planes and of graded contour formations. The quarry towns and villages each have their own distinct character, and make best use of the natural environment to establish homes for a new workforce beyond the traditional margins of cultivation.

These 'combined works of nature and of man' are evident in the visual relationship between a quarry face and its tips of waste rock, a mill to saw slate slabs established adjacent to a water-supply, and a settlement for quarrymen and their families growing up alongside the railway which carried output to the sea.





The planned houses and garden plots of Mynydd Llandygai in Component Part 1 were laid out over an upland common by the Penrhyn quarry owner © Crown copyright: RCAHWW.

Criterion (v) definition: be an outstanding example of a traditional human settlement, land-use, or sea-use which is representative of a culture (or cultures), or human interaction with the environment especially when it has become vulnerable under the impact of irreversible change.

**The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales is an outstanding example of the industrial transformation of a traditional human settlement and marginal agrarian land-use pattern; it also exemplifies how a remarkably homogeneous minority culture adapted to modernity in the industrial era yet retained many of its traditional attributes.**

Elements within the proposed World Heritage Site demonstrate the investment of skills, labour and minimal level of capital by a traditional population. The persistence of rural settlement patterns alongside imported types of dwelling and the formal organisation of urban space indicate the strong continuity with the pre-industrial past. Contrasts between them and within them indicate the economic pressures and contestation between different social groups which is a feature of industrialisation. These settlements – close to the quarries yet associated with farms and smallholdings that predate industry – retain multiple aspects of the traditional way of life, particularly its strong minority language. They remain a palpable ‘living’ testimony; just like the diminished but proud slate-working tradition and the railways that once hauled the slate.



Cae'r Berllan in Bethesda, Component Part 1 © Gwynedd Council.

### Statement of Integrity

The proposed World Heritage Site contains all the essential interrelated and interdependent elements that convey attributes of proposed Outstanding Universal Value. Their visual integrity within intact entire landscapes which include settlements and extensive transport systems demonstrates the operation of a complete industry from original extraction to export of product, and from worker's welfare and housing to the cultural, educational and spiritual life they created. Economic slow-down in the twentieth century has substantially preserved the integrity of many of the key Elements, as have active preservation and conservation initiatives. Conditions of integrity also include social and cultural practices and values, economic processes and the intangible dimensions of heritage. Linkages between quarries and the sea are also particularly evident, and set *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* apart from historically significant slate landscapes on the European continent and in North America.

The boundaries of the proposed World Heritage Site capture the principal slate-producing areas in Northwest Wales. Each Component Part has been selected for its particular contribution to the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the overall Site. The survival and completeness of the range of attributes, elements and features that make the proposed World Heritage Site culturally significant is exceptional.





This aerial view of Dinorwig Slate Quarry in Component Part 2 shows how the inclined planes form impressive features  
© Crown copyright: RCAHMW.

### Statement of Authenticity

*The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* is an exceptionally well-preserved cultural landscape that retains an unusually high level of authenticity. Attributes of proposed Outstanding Universal Value are conveyed by physical property that is clearly identified and understood in terms of date, spatial distribution, use and function (including living communities and operational railways), form and design, materials and substance. This is equally true of their interrelationships and connectivity, and of the overall functional and compositional integrity of a series which includes historic industrial activity, transport and settlement. The proposed World heritage Site further embodies a vibrant cultural tradition, including slate-working skills and the continued widespread use of the Welsh language.

*The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* has experienced remarkably little intervention since the main period of industrial operation. The primary cultural character is unchanged and the dominant presence of the quarries, associated settlements and transport routes, remains strong and highly visible. The archaeological potential of quarries, transport routes and deserted settlements remains high. There have been no conjectural reconstructions, and restoration projects have been based on sound conservation principles. Settlements are integral to the cultural authenticity of the bid; they retain their cultural character.

### Requirements for protection and management

Responsibility for the United Kingdom's compliance with the UNESCO World Heritage Convention lies with the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). DCMS liaises with the Welsh Government on the nomination, conservation and protection of World Heritage sites in Wales. The management of inscribed World Heritage sites in Wales is a devolved matter. Wales has three existing World



The village of Deiniolen in Component Part 2 preserves its nineteenth-century street pattern  
© Crown copyright: RCAHMW.



Heritage sites and has developed mechanisms and guidance to ensure that these are appropriately protected and cared for, in line with UNESCO operating principles. The Welsh Government's approach to the protection and sustainable management of World Heritage sites is based on three principles:

- the statutory designation of specific historic assets within World Heritage sites and associated mechanisms to manage and control works
- the collaborative creation and implementation of World Heritage Site management plans to ensure the effective and active involvement of all key stakeholders
- the use of the spatial planning system including policies in local development plans to guide appropriate development.

The proposed World heritage Site and its setting will be afforded high levels of protection through the implementation of existing legislation. Specific historic assets are protected by statutory designation, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas. Works to designated assets are controlled by statutory consent procedures. Protection of the proposed World Heritage Site is also assured through the spatial planning system.

A wider protected area surrounding all Component Parts is further safeguarded and sustained by existing landscape protection through designation as a National Park and registration as Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest.



**A Ffestiniog Railway train makes its way along a rock-cut shelf about the village of Tan y Grisiau in Component Part 5 © Ffestiniog and Welsh Highland Railways.**



**These Welsh-language slate gravestones with their distinctive carved motifs demonstrate the linguistic revival made possible by the industry © Gwynedd Council.**

## 2.3 Attributes

The values of a World Heritage site are expressed by its attributes. These are the essential qualities which make it culturally significant. Attributes can be tangible (physical) or intangible. Retention of attributes is important in order to maintain the values that make the proposed World Heritage Site of international importance.

Examples of tangible attributes include historic assets such as quarries, mines, tips of waste rock, historic buildings and monuments. Attributes of relict quarries include their individual elements and the relationships between them, for example internal railway systems and inclined planes link working quarry faces, with waste tips and mills, and show the operation of the quarries.

Inhabited settlements preserve the historic street patterns, garden-plots and boundaries, which explain their location, ownership, and their relationship to pre-Industrial patterns of landownership. Tiny details are also important, such as traditional wrought-iron gates, slate-slab field boundaries, or the proportions of windows, chimneys and porches in nineteenth-century dwellings. A deserted settlement such as Treforys in Component Part 4 is ruinous but rich in archaeological potential. Owners' houses and parklands retain their nineteenth century form.

The transport routes preserve their eighteenth and nineteenth century engineering; the two active railways, the Ffestiniog and the Talylllyn, preserve the form and design of the routes, along with contemporary station and works buildings and their mechanical engineering. In Component Part 2, the engineering complex of the Dinorwig Slate Quarry is little changed from its 1870s condition and houses the National Slate Museum. At the adjacent Vivian workings, the (V2) inclined plane has been conserved and returned to operation.

The use of slate is widespread within all parts of the proposed World Heritage Site, both as roofing material and as architectural components, field boundaries and walling. Other building materials reflect related international and national trade patterns made possible by the slate trade (e.g. slate-ships returning with Canadian timber, bricks arriving by rail from Northeast Wales).

Equally important are the intangible attributes including the Welsh language, traditions, spirit, social values and feeling, all of which contribute to the character of a place.





This view of Component Part 5 shows the close relationship between the town of Blaenau Ffestiniog, the quarries, and the transport systems. Distinctive qualities of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* include the grandeur of the mountain environment, its stark remoteness, rocky ambience, field-walls, and its cottage dwellings, as well as the constant sense of human interaction with the environment, whether in the landform of quarries, the sinuous course of a railway, or in a settlement established on an upland common. The inter-visibility of these elements is central to effective management of this cultural landscape © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.



The following table identifies some of the key attributes by criteria along with illustrative examples.

2.3.1 Attributes of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*

Criterion (ii) – <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> exhibits an important interchange of human values, particularly in the period from 1780 to 1940, on developments in architecture and technology.		
<p>The organisation of sustained large-scale slate production from the late eighteenth century to the early twentieth came to dominate the global market as a roofing element, encouraging major transcontinental developments in building and architecture such as the low-pitched Regency roof, and terraced housing. Other elements within the proposed World Heritage Site demonstrate the various uses of slate.</p> <p>An interchange of human values is strongly evident in the skills and technologies which were disseminated from one Component Part, in the different methods of extracting and processing the rock.</p> <p>The narrow-gauge slate railways exhibit an important interchange of human values in that make evident how the technology was improved within the proposed World Heritage Site.</p>		
VALUES	ATTRIBUTES	EXAMPLES
Developments in building and architecture	Variety of structures and buildings evident in <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> which demonstrate the various uses of slate.	Slate block walling in Bethesda High Street. Patterned slates on former toll-house, Porthmadog.
Skills transfer	Craft skills of quarrying and processing slate originating within <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> and adopted by dispersal within it, evident in form and organisation of quarries and processing sites.	Gallery system at Penrhyn, adopted in Dinorwic, Gorseddau and Prince of Wales. Nantlle pit working adopted at Bryneglwys Quarry.
Technology transfer	Innovative technology originating within <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> and adopted elsewhere, evident in form and organisation of workings, mechanical processing.	Penrhyn Slate Quarry galleried working common in extractive industries.
	Innovative technology originating elsewhere and adopted within <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> , evident in tunnelling, handling, power generation, pumping, repair and maintenance.	Penrhyn Slate Quarry. Blaen y Cae and Pen yr Orsedd Slate Quarries ‘Blondin’ ropeways. Pen y Bryn/Cloddfa’r Lôn Slate Quarry water-driven pump system. National Slate Museum.
	Innovative technology originating within <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> and adopted by dispersal within it, evident in form and organisation of quarries, processing sites and handling systems.	Dorothea Slate Quarry. Bryneglwys Slate Quarry surface landform and chain-incline ropeway bastion.
	Innovative railway technology.	Ffestiniog and Tallyllyn railways.

Criterion (iv) – <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> is an outstanding example of a type of landscape which illustrates, in a dramatic way, the ‘combined works of nature and of man’ through the large-scale exploitation of natural resources.		
<p>The lavish houses and parklands of quarry owners convey the levels of capital available to exploit and transport these natural resources successfully. The monumentality of the quarry landforms in their isolated and challenging mountain settings is intense and compelling.</p> <p>The impact of these quarries and mines on the natural environment, and their own landforms and organisation, are attributes of the generations of physical labour and skill invested in them. Within this mountainous environment both gravity and water-power were ingeniously harnessed to operate machinery. The technically-innovative railways make use of topography, in their use both of rope-worked inclined planes and of graded contour formations. The quarry towns and villages make best use of the natural environment to establish homes for a new workforce beyond the traditional margins of cultivation.</p>		
VALUES	ATTRIBUTES	EXAMPLES
Industrial transformation through capital investment	Aristocratic investment evident in ‘improved’ landscapes including industrial-scale quarrying.	Penrhyn Slate Quarry. Penrhyn Castle and Park. Dinorwig Slate Quarry.
	Capital investment adopting mechanised solutions evident in tunnelling, mechanical processing, handling, power-generation, pumping, maintenance and repair.	Penrhyn Slate Quarry. ‘Australia’ Gallery. V2 Inclined Plane. Pant yr Afon hydro-power station. Dorothea Slate Quarry Cornish beam engine. National Slate Museum.
	Urgent need to house expanding work-force evident in new and varied forms of human settlement introducing and reflecting new forms of social organisation.	All settlements
	Establishment of money economy and working-class consumer choice, evident in shops, public houses and market halls.	Bethesda High Street. Blaenau Ffestiniog market hall.
Industrial transformation through exploitation of natural resources	Managerial awareness and control of workers’ healthcare, evident in hospitals.	Dinorwig Slate Quarry Hospital.
	Scale, form and organisation of workings, evident in human endeavour shaping relict quarry landforms and underground workings.	All quarries
	Use of topography and geology to work quarries and to tip waste rock, evident in relict quarry landforms and underground workings.	All quarries
	Use of hydrology to power mechanical processing, handling, pumping, maintenance and repair, evident in management of water-resources and structures and equipment.	Waterwheel and turbine in National Slate Museum. Pant yr Afon hydro-power station.
	Use of hydrography to move slate evident in river quays and tidal harbours.	Port Penrhyn. Porthmadog Harbour. Dwyrdd River quays.
	Use of topography to move slate evident in innovative railway systems and other transport technologies	Penrhyn Slate Quarry Railroad. Ffestiniog Railway.
Industrial landscape	Strong connectivity evident in the visual relationship between each element in each Component Part	Ffestiniog Component Part – strong sense of the quarries dominating town and wider environment; railway journey connecting quarries to the sea.
	Strong connectivity evident in the visual relationship between each component and the wider landscape of mountains and sea-coast	Nantlle Component Part – defined area of quarrying and settlement within wider setting which includes Snowdon and the sea.



**Criterion (v) – *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* is an outstanding example of the industrial transformation of a traditional human settlement and marginal agrarian land-use pattern; it also exemplifies how a remarkably homogeneous minority culture adapted to modernity in the industrial era yet retained many of its traditional attributes.**

Elements within the proposed World Heritage Site demonstrate the investment of skills, labour and minimal level of capital by a traditional population. The persistence of rural settlement patterns alongside imported types of dwelling and the formal organisation of urban space, indicate the strong continuity with the pre-industrial past. Contrasts between them and within them indicate the economic pressures and contestation between different social groups which is a feature of industrialisation. These settlements retain multiple aspects of the traditional way of life, particularly its strong minority language. They remain a palpable ‘living’ testimony; just like the diminished but proud slate-working tradition and the railways that once hauled the slate.

VALUES	ATTRIBUTES	EXAMPLES
Continuity within a changing landscape	Investment of skills, labour and minimal level of capital by local population, evident in relict quarry landforms and underground workings.	All quarries
	Persistence of low-tech and craft-based processes in quarries, evident in slate-makers’ shelters and barracks designed to house families / family members.	Cilgwyn Slate Quarry tips. Pen y Bryn/Cloddfa’r Lôn Slate Quarry dwellings.
	Reinforcement of traditional social identity and renewed cultural confidence, evident in varied forms of human settlement.	Deiniolen, Clwt y Bont, Dinorwig and Fachwen settlements.
	Renewed strength to Welsh language, evident in place-names, chapels, churches and reading rooms and literary references.	Bethesda, ‘Jerusalem’ chapel and schoolrooms. Deiniolen, Carnegie library. Blaenau Ffestiniog, Cwmorthin quarrymens’ reading room.
	Social tensions, evident in settlement, places of worship, and sites associated with trade unionism.	Bethesda and Deiniolen chapels and churches. Bethesda, ‘flashpoint’ locations from 1900-1903 strike. Craig yr Undeb.
Pre-industrial landscape – traditional human settlement	Persistence of rural forms, evident in dwellings and settlements.	Pen y Bryn / Cloddfa’r Lôn Slate Quarry barracks.
	Persistence of traditional language, evident in place-names and intangible form.	Deiniolen, Clwt y Bont, Dinorwig and Fachwen settlements, and at Mynydd Cilgwyn. Names of small-holdings. Penrhyn and Dinorwig quarries, names of stepped galleries such as Ponc Ffridd and Ponc Teiliwr.
Pre-industrial landscape - marginal agrarian land-use pattern	Persistence of rural forms, evident in squatter-settlements and field-scapes.	Settlements on Cilgwyn Mountain.

Summary of key attributes

- Monumental scale of quarries and mines – stepped hillside workings, deep pits, cavernous underground chambers, massive cascading tips, ingenious water systems, bulk handling systems, range of industrial buildings.
- Innovative narrow gauge railway systems leading to purpose-built coastal export harbours and main-line railways – some fully operational.
- Innovative processing systems – including first known use of circular saw for cutting stone.
- Slate craft skills and use of slate throughout the landscape.
- Grand country houses and estates.
- Workers’ vernacular settlements, showing variations in social context, pattern and scale.
- Chapels and churches, band-rooms, schools, libraries and meeting places, indicating cultural identity and linguistic identity, and aspirations for social justice.
- The Welsh language – place-names.
- Literary tradition associated with *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*.



Penrhyn Castle, Component Part 1 © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.



## 2.4 The setting of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*

### 2.4.1 Location and setting

The distinctive qualities of this spectacular environment, which extends from mountain-top to sea-coast, convey the challenges of working and living within it. The functional and social linkages within each Component Part show how these were overcome by an independent-minded and resourceful people, and by the investment of capital. These historic linkages remain strongly evident, and are important to exploring and understanding *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*. They include the quarries' visual relationship with workers' settlements established at the margins of cultivation, and which are often defined by the slate-carrying transport routes that run through them. The sea provides a context for the export of slate to global markets, and sets *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* apart from historically significant slate landscapes on the European continent and in North America.

The landscape aesthetics of mountain, valley-slope, woodland, enclosure and parkland, and the sea are also highly important to the proposed World Heritage Site, by bestowing a sense of place and by making it possible to understand how and why the region has come to be visited, settled and cherished by people inspired by its landscape.

### 2.4.2 What is setting?

Cadw's *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (2017)* outlines the method used to assess the potential impact of development proposals or land-management proposals on their settings.

The setting of any heritage asset includes the surroundings within which it is understood, experienced and appreciated, including its present and past relationships to both historic and natural features. Elements of a setting may make a positive, negative or neutral contribution to the significance of an asset. Setting is not itself a historic asset, though land within a setting may contain other historic assets. The importance of setting lies in what it contributes to the significance of a historic asset.

Setting is primarily a visual relationship, but can also include features like noise, activity, or smell associated with the historic asset, or tranquillity or remoteness. In some cases setting can also include functional relationships related to a historic asset such as the extent of a historic estate, a water-catchment area that served historic water-powered machinery, connections between different industrial elements or routes by which industrial materials were transported to markets.

Setting may include a range of factors:

- functional and physical relationships with other structures/historic assets, and how these have changed over time.
- topographic features that influenced its location.
- physical character of the surrounding landscape or townscape, including any formal design or land use.
- the original layout of the historic asset and how this has changed.

- potential buried or archaeological elements surrounding the historic asset.
- views to, from and across the historic asset or place.
- formal or planned vistas.
- the prominence of the historic asset in views throughout the surrounding area.
- views associated with the aesthetic, functional or ceremonial purpose of the asset; for example, defensive sites, beacons or designed landscapes.
- historical, artistic, literary, place-name, cultural or scenic associations might all contribute to the significance of a historic asset.
- other sensory elements — noise, activity, or smell associated with the historic asset.
- tranquillity, remoteness, 'wildness'.

In the mountainous Gwynedd region, the setting is powerful, and the key views are many and expressive; only some of the most significant are described here.

### Component Part 1:

#### Penrhyn Slate Quarry and Bethesda, and the Ogwen Valley to Port Penrhyn

##### Essential Setting

The essential setting of this Component Part is made up of the Ogwen and Cegin valleys, incorporating the entire landscape of slate production and distribution from the quarry northwards to the port for onward shipment. It extends from the quarrymen's town of Bethesda to the parkland and neo-Norman castle of the owning family; from the steep sided slopes of the Carneddau mountains which define the southern limit, to the Arfon coastal plain and to the Menai Straits adjacent to the castle.

##### Significant Views

Views within the quarry convey the immense size of the relict workings. Views from the southern part of the relict quarry take in the settlements associated with it, including Penrhyn Castle, as well as the Menai Straits and Liverpool Bay. The 'moving view' for travellers making their way north on the historic Telford post road (the A5) shows how the giant tips of slate rubble have encroached on the pre-existing farmland of Nant Ffrancon, and for those on the Chester-Holyhead railway and the A55, the Neo-Norman keep of Penrhyn Castle dominates the landscape around the northern, coastal end. Views towards the quarry from the castle are for the most part restricted by the trees in the parkland; however, notably the quarry is visible from the 'slate bedroom', a room with public access, in the castle.

##### Sense of arrival

Key arrival points include turning off the B4409 road into the main quarry landform where the vista of a vast industrial landscape opens up. Arriving at Penrhyn Castle through the park. Travelling through Bethesda along the A5 road – a linear industrial settlement built along a carefully-graded road; the spire of Glanogwen church aligns with the road.



## **Component Part 2: Dinorwig Slate Quarry Mountain Landscape**

### **Essential Setting**

This Component Part is aligned with the topography of the Elidir and Snowdon mountains and the valley floor between, with its two long, narrow lakes, extending north-west to Penllyn bridge. As well as the very evident impact of industry (hydro-power as well as slate-quarrying), the setting is picturesque, with Dolbadarn Castle dominating the spur between the lakes.

The upland quarry settlements of Deiniolen, Clwt y Bont and Dinorwic are located on a natural shelf overlooking the Arfon coastal plain. The settlements at Fachwen are wooded, but offer occasional views over Padarn Lake.

### **Significant Views**

The distinctive landform of the quarry is vividly demonstrated by the view across Peris lake from the A4086 road, as well as by the prospect afforded to people ascending Snowdon on foot or by train. A public viewpoint within the Council-owned part of the quarry offers views over the entire Component Part as well as of Snowdon and the Arfon coastal plain to the Menai Straits and to Anglesey. It also demonstrates the distinctive geology of the Cambrian slate vein. The view from Penllyn bridge, on the outflow from Padarn lake, towards to the south-east encompasses the Snowdon and Elidir peaks as well as Dolbadarn Castle, and illustrates Padarn lake's role as a transport axis. These can be seen more clearly, after a short climb, from Craig yr Undeb.

The industrial landscape is evident from the main station at Gilfach Ddu on the Llanberis Lake Railway; the lake-shore route takes in vistas of Snowdon.

The areas immediately upslope from Deiniolen, Clwt y Bont and Dinorwic offer views which illustrate the distinctive nature of these self-contained quarry villages and scattered small-holdings, set in a bowl on the hillside.

### **Sense of arrival**

Arriving on the A4086 road from Bangor, Caernarfon or Pen y Pass – an industrial landscape opens up within the natural environment of lake and mountain.

Arrival at the National Slate Museum – an impressive quadrangular building with echoes both of a stable-block on a country estate and a fort becomes apparent.

## **Component Part 3: Nantlle Valley Slate Quarry Landscape**

### **Essential Setting**

This Component Part is aligned with the east-west ridges of the Nantlle Valley, closed off at its eastern limit by the mountain pass of Drws y Coed, but opening out to the west into a lowland landscape. Some of the quarries are enclosed by tips of slate rubble and by woodland, others, particularly on the upper slopes, look out over the valley.

### **Significant Views**

The road running on the rubble tips of Cilgwyn Slate Quarry, near the northern limit of the Component Part, offers views which encompass the summit of Snowdon to the east, the Nantlle ridge to the south, and, to the west, the sea extending down the Llŷn Peninsula. On a clear day, Ireland is visible, the historic destination for much Cilgwyn slate. This also provides a vantage point for the quarries themselves, illustrating their characteristic geology and technology.

Locations on the lower valley sides and valley floor are more enclosed, and an important characteristic of this landscape is the way in which wooded areas and fields from before the period of quarrying survive, where it is occasionally possible to avoid views of industrial activity and experience an earlier period of the valley's history. The village of Nantlle is dominated by tips of waste rock. The vista along the course of the railway into Dorothea Quarry, with its distinctive double arches, is striking. The flooded pits themselves offer spectacular views.

Dorothea Quarry is an enclosed landscape-within-a-landscape, surrounded by tips of waste rock. Tree-growth since the closure of the quarry in 1970 partially obscures the way that the Cornish beam engine stands on a ridge between the two pits it once pumped.

The most famous view of the Nantlle valley, depicted by Richard Wilson in 1765-6, is much changed due to the development of quarrying, though the vista it depicts, looking eastwards towards the summit of Snowdon, can be enjoyed from where the B4418 road crosses the outlet of Nantlle lake.

### **Sense of arrival**

Arrival by road at either end of the Nantlle Valley, east or west presents a landscape in which tips of slate rubble dominate, contrasting strongly with the improved farmland to either side and with the picturesque mountain views. Arrival within Dorothea Quarry along the footpaths/Snowdonia Slate Trail is dominated by the sight of the huge flooded quarry pit and towering bastions.

## **Component Part 4: Gorseddau and Prince of Wales Slate Quarries, Railways and Mill**

### **Essential Setting**

This Component Part is defined by two remote valleys, Cwm Pennant and Cwmystradllyn, which unite near the Ynyspandy slate-slab mill. The quarries are located at the heads of their respective valleys; in the case of the Prince of Wales quarry its higher floors are at the level of the pathway from Rhyd Ddu that leads through the mountain pass Bwlch y Ddwy Elor into Cwm Pennant. This is a quiet and remote area with few farms or houses, given over to sheep-grazing, without any of the sense of continued activity that characterises the other Component Parts.

### **Significant Views**

A long-distance vista from the A487 road where it crosses the Cedron stream takes in both valleys; one line of sight from this point takes in Ynyspandy slate-slab mill with the quarry beyond. The mill is itself a spectacular and iconic skyline feature,



particularly when viewed from the minor roads to its west and south. The path through Bwlch y Ddwy Elor offers a magnificent vista of Cwm Pennant.

#### Sense of arrival

The approach to Ynysypandy Slate-Slab Mill along the minor road from the A487 road leads to a striking building resembling an abbey. Along the walk to Gorseddau Quarry along the railway and the revetted wall, an industrial site gradually unfolds. The climb to Prince of Wales Quarry reveals a hidden location.

### **Component Part 5: Ffestiniog: its Slate Mines and Quarries, 'city of slates' and Railway to Porthmadog**

#### Essential Setting

The essential setting of this Component Part extends from the mountainous landscapes above the quarries and town of Blaenau Ffestiniog along the part-wooded Dwyryd Valley with its vistas of Harlech Castle, to the Traeth Mawr, the spectacular mountain environment of Cnicht and the Moelwynion beyond, and the bowl of the Croesor Valley distantly apparent beneath them.

#### Significant Views

The extent and topography of this Component Part is such that significant views are many. In the region of Porthmadog, the view of the harbour, the bay, the Ffestiniog Railway and its workshops are striking. They can be appreciated from a train crossing the Cob embankment, which offers a vista to the north-east over the reclaimed land towards Cnicht mountain. Other significant moving views from the railway include: the vista from Tan y Bwlch over the Dwyryd river and its quays, with a distant prospect of Harlech Castle; the three railway routes, one active and two relict, over a spur of the Moelwyn mountains; and the unfolding vista of the quarries and the town of Blaenau Ffestiniog as the train reaches the upper terminus, and moves from a mountainous to an urban environment, threading its way through the houses of Tan y Grisiau. The circuitous formation of the railway itself is readily apparent to passengers who can observe the steam locomotive pulling their train on this popular visitor-attraction.

Passengers on the branch-line railway from Llandudno Junction arrive in this Component Part after a journey through a long tunnel which leaves behind a rural landscape and emerges into the powerful relict industrial environment of the Ffestiniog quarries, dominated by tips of waste rock.

For travellers arriving by road from the north, the sudden prospect of the entire landscape on reaching the summit of the A470 over the Crimea Pass is striking – quarries and slate tips in the foreground, wooded hills beyond and the sea in the distance. The A496 road approach to the town from the south offers striking skyline features in the vicinity of Tan y Grisiau. The town itself is dominated by the sharply-rising slopes and the spectacular tips of waste rock around it. The contrast between its winding roads with very different buildings and its formally-organised squares of large terraces is evident. The former course of the Ffestiniog Railway through Duffws (where the public conveniences are located in the former station) and the quarry incline on the same alignment is a significant axis.

The quarries offer striking views which encompassing the full extent of this Component Part, the surrounding mountains, the estuary and the sea.

#### Sense of arrival

Journeys by train – both the gradual sense of approaching an industrial landscape after the scenic beauties of the Ffestiniog Railway and the dramatic reveal of an industrial landscape upon emerging out of the tunnel on the national railway network from Llandudno.

The road journey over Crimea Pass – the scale of quarry workings suddenly becomes apparent, with the long vista over the rural environment and towards the distant prospect of the sea.

### **Component Part 6: Bryneglwys Slate Quarry, Abergynolwyn Village and the Talyllyn Railway**

#### Essential Setting

In some respects, this is the least immediately evident of the Component Parts. The quarry is located within a remote forested tributary valley where the setting is defined by the surrounding ridge-tops. The village of Abergynolwyn lies on the floor of the main valley. The upper part of the railway runs on a contour formation but as it approaches Tywyn, it makes its way between fields of lowland pasture and reaches its lower terminus in a cutting.

#### Significant Views

Part of Bryneglwys Quarry is afforested but its valley-slope location offers views over most of the industrial landform. The Talyllyn Railway runs through an environment that is mostly unchallenging in engineering terms but which has preserved its historic character since the 1860s. Views of the railway comprise the iconic mid-Victorian station buildings and infrastructure, including trains crossing Dolgoch viaduct.

#### Sense of arrival

Arriving by road offers visitors views of a steep-sided valley. Passengers on the Talyllyn Railway, whether they begin their journey at Tywyn or Abergynolwyn, immediately sense a complete nineteenth-century railway system. The quarry is not apparent from the upper railway terminus at Nant Gwernol but the adjacent inclined plane, visible from the platform, provides a context for the railway's purpose as a slate-carrier. The village of Abergynolwyn retains the feeling of a nineteenth-century industrial community created in a mountainous Welsh environment.





Archive images such as this convey quarrymen's skill in splitting and squaring slate rock  
© Gwynedd Council.

## 2.5 Social and cultural context

### 2.5.1 *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* and its wider cultural landscape

The setting of the proposed World Heritage Site within the wider cultural landscape of Gwynedd and the wider protected area provides the context to its proposed Outstanding Universal Value. The 'deep time' of the region before the Industrial period is rich in Prehistoric, Romano-British and Medieval archaeology. The view of Liverpool Bay from Component Part 1 and the distant prospect of Ireland and of Dublin from Component Part 3 show the sea-ways which were important in the remote past and again in the Industrial period. Component Part 3 is particularly associated with ancient myths and legends which found expression in the *Mabinogion*, the prose romances which are among the glories of Medieval Welsh, and European, literature.

The wider cultural landscape also embraces the inscribed World Heritage site of *The Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd*, at Conwy, Beaumaris, Caernarfon and Harlech. Beaumaris is visible from Component Part 1, Caernarfon from Component Part 3, and Harlech from Component Part 5. These imposing Medieval sites offer a comparison with *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* in that both represent the incorporation of Gwynedd into a broader world (the Angevin-Plantagenet state and the global economy respectively) and both represent a

significant phase of modernisation and adaptation in the history of Wales (urbanisation and industrialisation respectively). Together, the Castles and the environments of slate quarrying and transport have the potential to interpret the making of Wales and of the Gwynedd region.

Other connections which are intellectual or artistic rather than functional are the Romantic vistas of Snowdon and of Dolbadarn Castle which formed, and continue to form, the visitor experience of people visiting the Dinorwig Slate Quarry Mountain Landscape (Component Part 2).

The slate-quarryman is an iconic figure for many people in Wales and beyond – faithful to his language, to his workmates and his people, religious in his outlook and also progressive in his politics, well-read, cheerful and given to humour, despite the sickness which his work very often inflicted on him. His values are celebrated in the Welsh-language fiction of Thomas Rowland Hughes (1903-1949), whose novel *Chwalfa* ['Upheaval' – 1946] is a fictional account of the bitter Penrhyn Slate Quarry strike of 1900 to 1903 in Component Part 1, one of the longest industrial disputes in the United Kingdom. The novels and short stories of Kate Roberts (1891-1985), most memorably *Traed Mewn Cyffion* ['Feet in Chains' – 1936], celebrate the lives of women in the slate communities of Component Part 3. Caradog Prichard (1904-1980) depicts a child's view of a quarry community in his magical-realist novel *Un Nos Ola Leuad* ['One Moonlit Night' – 1961] set in a mythologically subversive version of his native Bethesda in Component Part 1. These novels have been translated into English, French, German, Spanish, Czech, Dutch and Polish.

It is for these reasons that *language, spirit and feeling* are also important attributes of the proposed World heritage Site. At least 65% of the population of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* speaks Welsh (with higher proportions in some communities) and participate in a thriving Welsh-language literature, arts and craft and musical scene which has nurtured many internationally-recognised contemporary artists such as 9bach, the Super Furry Animals, Bryn Terfel and the Brythoniaid Male Voice Choir. However, although they are culturally rich and located in spectacular natural landscape, there remain significant areas of need within the Nominated Property – with low income, high employment inactivity rates and unemployment causing socio-economic challenges.

#### Key documents:

Gwyn, D: *Welsh Slate* (Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, 2015)

Gwynedd Council: *Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* World Heritage nomination dossier





A regional arts scene has been profoundly influenced by the slate landscape, including artists such as Mary Elizabeth Thompson, Falcon Hildred, David Nash and Gwynedd-born Wales International goalkeeper Owain Fôn Williams, whose painting *Injan Fawr* ['Great Engine'] shows the Cornish beam engine in Dorothea Quarry (Component Part 3) © Owain Fôn Williams.

## 2.6 Active quarrying and mining

No mineral extraction, processing or tipping takes place within the proposed World Heritage Site.

Mineral extraction, processing and tipping takes place near Component Parts 1, 3 and 5, in the wider protected area. These processes are considered an associative value, as they sustain traditional skills. Active slate-quarrying is a vitally important sector within global heritage conservation, enabling damaged or life-expired slate roofs to be replaced with historically authentic materials. This continued intervention in the natural environment, which is subject to strict planning controls by Gwynedd Council officers in terms of noise, movement, traffic and dust, strengthens the character of the relict industrial archaeological elements within the proposed World Heritage Site. Quarry-workers still live in the historic settlements within the proposed World Heritage Site; their employment provides a context for the relict industry, and ensures community identification with it. Some sites in the wider protected area with active mineral permissions have diversified by offering adventure tourism and historical tours.

No mineral extraction, processing or tipping takes place adjacent to Component Parts 2, 4 and 6.



Active slate quarrying makes a contribution to landscape character and to a living cultural tradition. Penrhyn Quarry is one of several quarries adjacent to the proposed World Heritage Site which continues to produce high-quality slate © Gwynedd Council.

## 2.7 Summary

*The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* demonstrates criteria 2, 4 and 5 of Outstanding Universal Value as defined by UNESCO, and meet the levels of integrity, authenticity and completeness which are crucial to a World Heritage nomination.



## 3 Vision for *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*

The 'Quarry Explorer' tours in Ffestiniog (Component Part 5) bring a new generation of visitors to *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* © Llechwedd / JW Greaves & Sons.

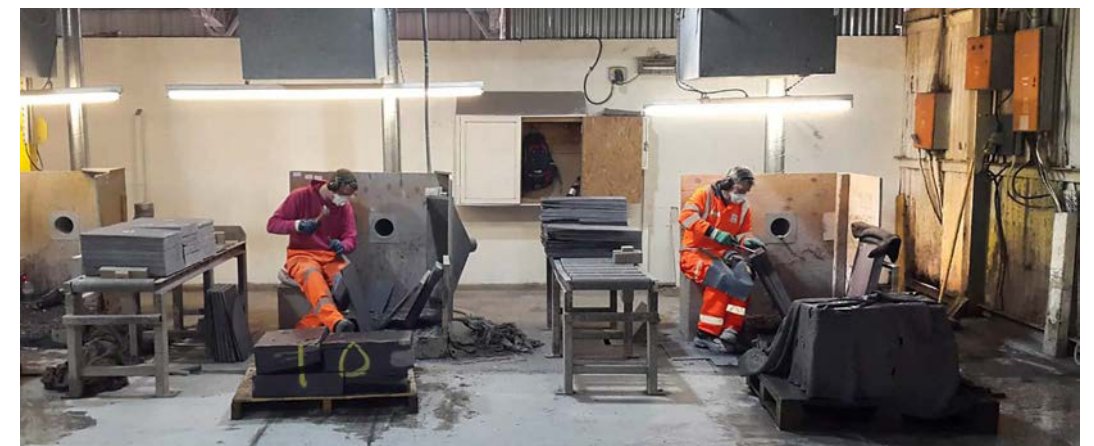


### 3.1 Vision and objectives

The Partnership's vision for *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* proposed World Heritage Site is:

**To protect, conserve, enhance and transmit the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* to reinforce cultural distinctiveness and strengthen the Welsh language, and become a significant driver for economic regeneration and social inclusion.**

- A thriving regional economy with high quality skilled all-year employment opportunities across all sectors, including the tourism sector, and within that acknowledging the critical importance of heritage and adventure tourism.
- Harnessing the heritage of slate to create skilled jobs.
- The continuation of the slate extraction industry and associated activities as a significant contributor to the economy of Northwest Wales, and ensuring the continued supply of slate materials for the future.
- Ensuring a sustainable, evolving landscape which will support the economic development of the area.
- Ensuring that the communities within and around *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* remain viable and vibrant places to live, both now and in the future.
- Celebrating the heritage of slate and its role in the development of the landscapes, towns and communities of today.
- Utilising existing legislation and planning policy to form the foundations of the Nomination.
- Promoting the cultural heritage of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* to the world.
- Linking individuals and communities to their past.
- Conserving and enhancing the physical heritage of the landscape by adhering to the vision and objectives of the Management Plan and any thematic or Local Management Plans.



**Ensuring the continued supply of slate materials for the future. Active slate quarrying sustains traditional skills, and is a vitally important sector within global heritage conservation**  
© Gwynedd Council.



3.2 Themes for the management of The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales

**Theme 1. Governance and Management** to ensure these will be effective, open and transparent.

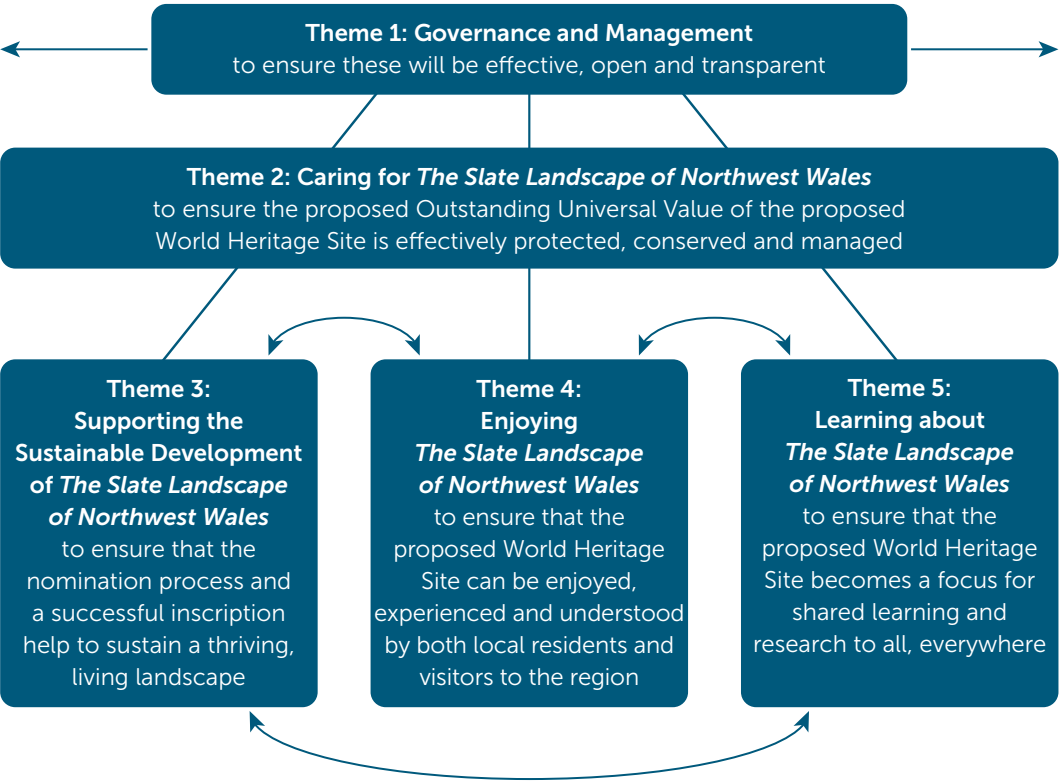
**Theme 2. Caring for The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales** to ensure that the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site is effectively protected, conserved and managed.

**Theme 3. Supporting the Sustainable Development of The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales** to ensure that the nomination process and a successful inscription help to sustain a living, thriving landscape.

**Theme 4. Enjoying The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales** to ensure that the proposed World Heritage Site can be enjoyed, experienced and understood by both local residents and visitors to the region.

**Theme 5. Learning about The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales** to ensure that the proposed World Heritage Site becomes a focus for shared learning and research to all, everywhere.

These themes reinforce each other, so that conservation and sustainable development contribute to, and are informed by, interpretation and research, thereby establishing a ‘virtuous circle’ which promotes a vibrant regional economy while at the same time safeguarding the proposed Outstanding Universal of The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales for the benefit of future generations.

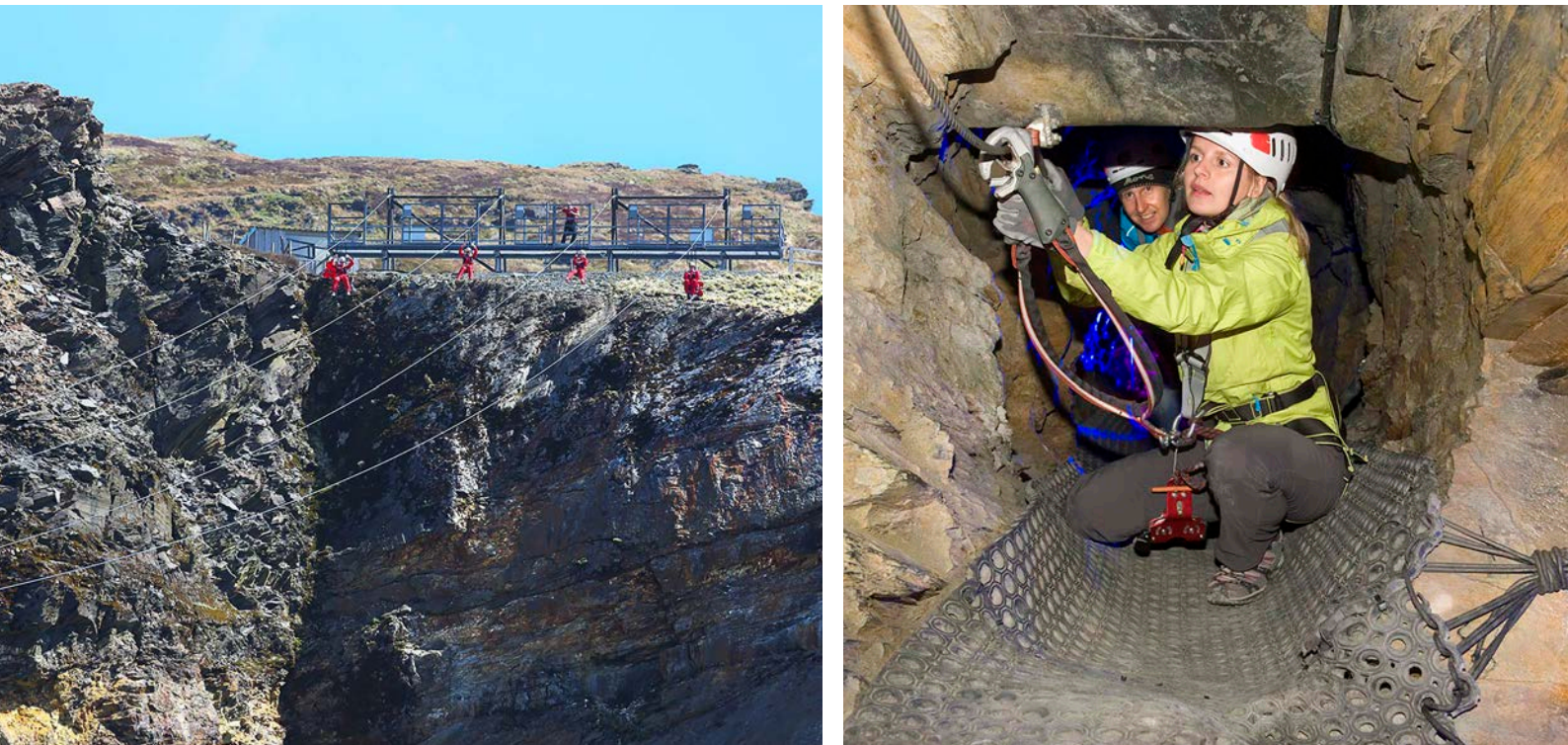


3.3 Contribution to well-being

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 forms part of a distinctive and forward-thinking legislative programme within Wales. It sets seven well-being goals that together provide a shared vision for the future. Policies developed to manage the proposed World Heritage Site will each contribute to one or more of these goals, which have the principle of sustainable development at their core. The 2015 Act requires public bodies in Wales to work towards the seven well-being goals.

Each of the Management Plan themes considers the needs of residents and businesses in the region, and identifies opportunities to support the goals of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Contribution of the Management Plan to the seven well-being goals	
Well-being goal	Management Plan
Goal 1: a prosperous Wales	Themes 3, 4 and 5
Goal 2: a resilient Wales	Themes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
Goal 3: a healthier Wales	Themes 2, 4 and 5
Goal 4: a more equal Wales	Themes 1, 2, 3 and 5
Goal 5: a Wales of cohesive communities	Themes 2, 3, 4 and 5
Goal 6: a Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language	Themes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
Goal 7: a globally responsible Wales	Themes 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5



Visitors enjoying ‘Zip World’ activities above and below ground at Llechwedd Quarry in Blaenau Ffestiniog © Zip World.



## 4 Theme 1: Governance and Management

### 4.1 Governance

**Objective 1:** The Partnership will work together to lead actions to protect, conserve, present and transmit the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* to future generations.

**Principle 1.1:** The vision and aims of the Management Plan for *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* will be delivered through partnership working.

**Principle 1.2:** The Partnership Steering Group will operate an open and transparent system of governance and management for *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*.

**Principle 1.3:** The Partnership will be proactive in ensuring community and private sector representation at all levels of the governance structure.

The nomination process has been led by a multi-organisational Partnership headed by the lead organisation, Gwynedd Council, and chaired by Lord Dafydd Wigley. The Partnership Steering Group comprises officials and elected members from Gwynedd Council and Snowdonia National Park Authority, representatives from Cadw, the National Museum of Wales, Bangor University, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, the National Trust, and representatives from the private sector. Elected members provide community representation. Business interests are represented by quarry owners and managers of key sites within the proposed World Heritage Site.

The Partnership Steering Group is the strategic lead for a series of working groups and the Partnership as whole through which it receives specialist advice from dedicated experts in heritage conservation, global heritage, economic regeneration, and cultural tourism. In the event of a successful inscription, this governance model will continue to operate. Membership at all levels will be reviewed regularly to ensure appropriate representation and expertise, and in the event of a successful inscription, the appointed World Heritage Site Coordinator for *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* will become a core member of the coordination team and will report to the Partnership Steering Group.

The Welsh language and culture is a core theme running through all actions and work associated with the Nomination. It is of vital importance that the Welsh language and culture is recognised, celebrated and strengthened through activities

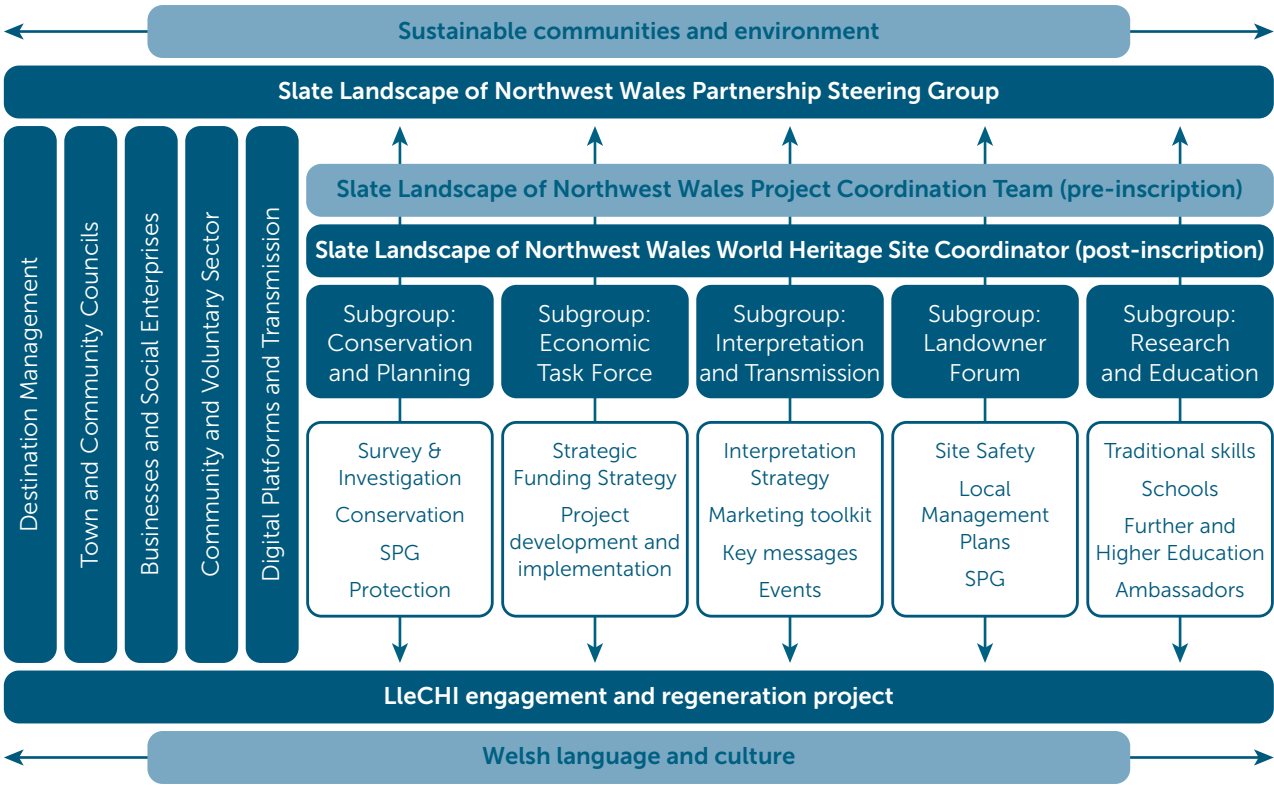
Artwork has been produced by school children from Ysgol y Felinheli primary school as part of the National Lottery Heritage Fund Great Place Scheme *LleCHI* in conjunction with local artist Eleri Jones and the Gwynedd Archive Service © Gwynedd Council



associated with the Nomination, and is a golden thread throughout all levels of governance, communication and activities undertaken now and in the future.

In considering the Global Goals for Sustainable Development, Sustainable Communities and Environment is also identified as a crosscutting theme throughout all levels of governance and activities undertaken.

The governance structure of the proposed World Heritage Site is outlined in the diagram below:



#### 4.1.1 The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Partnership

Management of a complex multiple-site proposed World Heritage Site in multiple ownership, and the development of a World Heritage nomination, requires close and effective partnership between the lead organisation and stakeholders, particularly the site owners, the communities and businesses of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*.

The partnership approach confers significant benefit as it enables activity to be driven forward through cooperation, enabling collective resources to be directed to where they will have the greatest impact, and also provides a mechanism for monitoring and evaluating progress.



The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Partnership Steering Group © Gwynedd Council.

#### 4.1.2 The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Partnership Steering Group

The Partnership Steering Group began meeting in 2009, and operates according to principles agreed in a Memorandum of Understanding agreement (MOU) which was signed by all parties in 2016. The principles include:

- Work to promote good working relations for the mutual benefit of all parties and other stakeholders who will assist in the development of a full World Heritage Site Nomination.
- Proactively collaborate to agree the strategic and operational direction of the Nomination.
- Work in an open and transparent Partnership to share expertise and to undertake the key tasks.
- Commit to working in Partnership on the identification, development, implementation and closure of collaborative projects relating to the Nomination.
- Share relevant information and intelligence relating to the Nomination, which might impact on the partner organisations and on the Nomination itself; including lessons to be learnt and best practice.



As well as having overall responsibility for implementing the Management Plan, the Partnership Steering Group will monitor progress against the actions set out in the plan, and ensure all necessary documentation is submitted to UNESCO. All members of the Partnership Steering Group have invested resources into developing the Nomination and each remains committed to providing support for the implementation of *the Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* Management Plan following a successful inscription.

In the event of a successful inscription, Gwynedd Council will remain the organisation responsible for leading the Partnership. The Steering Group will retain its leadership role supported by specialist subgroups, as defined in the Management and Governance Chart. It is anticipated that these groups will be supported by the appointment of a World Heritage Site Coordinator with the necessary range of skills to coordinate the implementation and monitoring of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* Management Plan. Resources and skills required to implement joint initiatives within the plan will be identified by a financial need assessment.

#### 4.1.3 Roles of Partner organisations

Gwynedd Council is the lead body in delivering the Nomination. It has financial and administrative responsibility for the development of the Nomination, and has secured external funding for additional activities associated with the Nomination (namely community and business engagement). Gwynedd Council is the statutory planning authority, and the mineral planning authority. Gwynedd Council is also responsible for the regional Destination Management Partnership.

Snowdonia National Park Authority is a statutory planning authority and is responsible for the management of key historic assets within the nomination including Plas Tan y Bwlch (the National Park study centre) and Ynyspandy slate-slab mill.

Cadw is the Welsh Government's historic environment service. It provides specialist heritage advice, undertakes designation of historic assets of national importance and manages consent regimes for works affecting scheduled monuments. Cadw also provides financial support to assist owners to care for historic assets.

The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales is sponsored by Welsh Government. It has the leading national role in developing and promoting understanding of the archaeological, built and maritime heritage of Wales. It also curates the National Monuments Record of Wales, a National Archive with Archive Service Accreditation and the national home for digital archaeological archives. In 2015 it published *Welsh Slate. Archaeology and History of an Industry*, an authoritative study of slate quarrying throughout the country.

The National Museum of Wales is responsible for the operation of The National Slate Museum. It provides support and advice on the Nomination, as well as with interpretation and community engagement activities.

The National Trust owns and manages Penrhyn Castle and Gardens. It is one of the largest charities in the UK and works to protect historic places and spaces for ever, for everyone. It provides support with community engagement activities and events, particularly within Component Part 1.

Bangor University provides teaching at undergraduate, masters and doctoral level. It is ranked in the top 40 in the UK for research, according to the *Research Excellence Framework* (REF) 2014.

#### 4.1.4 Project Coordination Team

The Partnership Steering Group oversees a Project Coordination Team that reports on a quarterly basis. The Project Coordination Team comprises officers from bodies in the Partnership Steering Group, including Gwynedd Council, Cadw and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, along with specialist consultants and external advisors. The Project Coordination Team has been responsible for the preparation and delivery of the Nomination dossier and the Management Plan, landowner liaison, public engagement and other measures. Post-inscription, it is envisaged that much of this work will become the responsibility of the World Heritage Site Coordinator.

#### 4.1.5 Subgroups

A series of themed subgroups have been established, comprising representatives from relevant stakeholder organisations and specialist individuals to take forward the delivery of specific actions and tasks set out in *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* Management Plan. All subgroups make use of expert advice from consultants and/or critical friends as required. The function of the subgroups will remain post inscription with the option to create additional subgroups should opportunities arise.

The Conservation and Planning subgroup has responsibility for advising the Partnership Steering Group on all matters concerning planning policy, conservation and protection. Members include officers from both local planning authorities, representatives from Cadw, Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, Gwynedd Council Biodiversity Officer, Snowdonia National Park Archaeologist, Conservation Officers, the National Slate Museum, and the Mineral Planning Service. This subgroup has been responsible for identifying and commissioning the necessary reports and survey work in order to inform the Nomination, along with deciding on site boundaries and areas to be protected, and on the most appropriate method of protection. The Conservation and Planning subgroup in partnership with the Landowner Forum will be responsible for undertaking the Supplementary Planning Guidance as part of the Nomination, along with managing the creation of Local Management Plans. The subgroup will retain its advisory function to the Partnership Steering Group post inscription and will provide ongoing monitoring for the relevant actions in *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* Management Plan.

The Economic Task Force was established to identify the economic priorities of the Nomination. The work of the group is underpinned by the report commissioned in 2015 *An assessment of the current and potential economic impact of heritage* (Prepared by TBR's Economic Research Team and Rebanks Consulting). From this report, the group wrote the *Landscape of Northwest Wales Economic Plan* which adopted the following mission statement:

**to ensure the potential economic and social benefits of developing the Wales Slate World Heritage Site nomination are realised and maximised across all communities and businesses in Gwynedd.**



In order to achieve the mission statement, the plan focuses on:

- Contributing to the skills and education of our young people and lifelong learning.
- Creation of sustainable and high-value employment opportunities.
- Improving destinations.
- Ensuring a unified story and narrative.
- Improving our communities and sense of pride in our communities.
- Promoting and safeguarding our unique industrial heritage, culture, language and local landscapes for all.

The Economic Task Force has various business stakeholders including quarry owners, tourism operators and landowners, officers from Gwynedd Council Economy and Community Service, Destination Management representation, and Visit Wales officers as members. The Economic Task Force has been successful in securing grant funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Snowdonia Partnership Fund, and the Regional Development Fund in order to implement community regeneration projects. This group will be responsible for monitoring the Strategic Funding Strategy that will be used to co-ordinate funding applications from within the proposed World Heritage Site to public funding bodies such as the National Lottery and Welsh Government. This subgroup will also be responsible for identifying, developing, supporting and implementing economic projects relating to the Nomination post-inscription, and monitoring the relevant actions in *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* Management Plan.

The Interpretation and Transmission subgroup has responsibility for the communication of the Nomination with partners and stakeholders. This includes arranging events, and promoting the Nomination and associated activities to as wide an audience as possible. This subgroup has been responsible for the creation of the *Interpretation Strategy, Marketing Toolkit and Key Messages*. The subgroup consists of marketing and communication officers from Gwynedd Council, Snowdonia National Park Authority, Cadw, the National Trust and other stakeholders, including attractions such as Llechwedd, Zip World, the Talyllyn and Ffestiniog railways. There are also representatives of landowners such as First Hydro (Engie) and the Penrhyn Estate, and also businesses associated with the slate landscape who lie outside the proposed World Heritage Site who contribute to the story of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* such as Corris Mine Explorers, Inigo Jones and the Maritime Museum at Porthmadog. Post-inscription this subgroup will continue to be responsible for the transmission of the Nomination principles and messages, and will work to encourage as many organisations, attractions and individuals to adopt the communication principles of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*.

Landowners are key stakeholders in the Nomination. Each landowner will sign up to a Statement of Principles with Gwynedd Council outlining their commitment to the Nomination and any site-specific requirements that need consideration. Landowners are responsible for identifying, implementing and delivering priorities and projects, which will be identified within the Local Management Plans. The Landowner Forum in partnership with the Planning and Conservation subgroup will be responsible for developing the Supplementary Planning Guidance as part of the Nomination. There has been a good working relationship between the Partnership Steering Group and landowners/businesses throughout the development of the Nomination. The

process of ensuring landowner buy-in for the Nomination has been an iterative process with many discussions held in order to ensure that landowners are comfortable with proposals, and understand the risks, benefits and responsibilities associated with the World Heritage Status. Landowners and the Partnership Steering Group are working together to identify interventions and projects that will protect and conserve our most important assets whilst also providing a platform for socio-economic regeneration for the region.

The Research and Education subgroup has been established to ensure that the educational values of the Nomination are central to all activities. The educational benefit is evident from primary school age through to post graduate level, and includes academic, vocational and informal educational channels. Work to date has included sessions in primary schools and secondary schools, and cross-faculty discussions with Bangor University regarding possible PhD topics. The implementation of a Traditional Skills project is also a priority for this subgroup and that of the Economic Task Force, to meet the gap in training provision for construction and conservation work on traditional buildings, including slate work, traditional plastering, woodwork and ironmongery. The various ambassador programmes also form part of the educational offer of the proposed World Heritage Site, by offering informal learning opportunities to a wide-ranging audience.



Youth Ambassadors have come forward to tell the slate story to a new generation © Gwynedd Council.



4.1.6 Governance Action Plan

**Objective 1:** The Partnership will work together to lead actions to protect, conserve, present and transmit the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* to future generations.

<b>Principle 1.1:</b> The vision and aims of the Management Plan for <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> will be delivered through partnership working.			
Action 1	The Partnerships Steering Group will continue to operate according to the terms of an MOU signed by all partners and reviewed regularly.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group
Action 2	Any new members of the Partnership Steering Group will sign up to the MOU.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group
Action 3	The activities of the Partnership will be developed around the priorities of the World Heritage Convention and ensure that conservation, protection, presentation and transmission are central.	Short-term	Partnership Steering Group
Action 4	Establish an appropriate coordination model to manage the proposed World Heritage Site.	Short-term	Partnership Steering Group
<b>Principle 1.2:</b> The Partnership Steering Group will operate an open and transparent system of governance and management for <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> .			
Action 1	Hold regular Partnership Steering Group and Subgroup meetings to oversee implementation of the Management Plan.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group / Subgroups
<b>Principle 1.3:</b> The Partnership will be proactive in ensuring community and private sector representation at all levels of the governance structure.			
Action 1	Hold regular meetings with community and private sector representation.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partnership Steering Group
Action 2	Communities and the Private Sector will be encouraged to participate in the Partnership Steering Group and working subgroups.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator and/or Subgroup Chairs
Action 3	Landowners will sign up to the agreed Statement of Principles.	Short-term	Partnership Steering Group

4.2 Management

**Objective 2:** *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Property Management Plan* will be adopted and embedded into regional strategies.

**Principle 2.1:** The Partnership Steering Group will ensure that all relevant strategic documents and programmes within the individual partner organisations have regard for the proposed World Heritage Site, and its Vision and Aims.

**Principle 2.2:** The Partnership Steering Group will develop and maintain a Risk Management Plan to support the management of the inscribed World Heritage Site.

The objectives set out in *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* Management Plan will be achieved by embedding the Management Plan within regional strategies and implementing a series of projects led by members of the Partnership, its subgroups and individual land owners and businesses. Some will require collective action, while others will fall to a single body to implement. Although projects may stand alone, each will contribute to the primary aims of the conservation of the proposed World Heritage Site and the economic regeneration of the area. Projects will be monitored and where appropriate, managed by the Partnership Steering Group to ensure consistency with the objectives of the Management Plan.

There is no current intention to establish a combined overall budget for resourcing the action plan. Instead resources will be obtained from a range of different sources. Some individual projects will be financed privately by stakeholders, others will operate as collective initiatives. Some actions will also involve entering into agreements with organisations outside the Partnership Steering Group, such as tourism agencies and education authorities, in pursuit of shared objectives. It is recognised that the resources for wider strategic actions will in many cases require funding to be sought from multiple organisations and sources. The Partnership Steering Group will establish a preferred priority order for implementation of these actions, recognising that delivery will inevitably depend to some extent on the provision of resources by outside organisations.

The successful implementation of the Management Plan will require a partnership approach for both financing and delivering priorities. Given the ever-present threat of reducing public sector funding, a partnership approach is vital in order to deliver priorities successfully and this may mean a combination of public, private, community and voluntary sector finances.

4.2.1 Management measures

UNESCO recommends that World Heritage Site Management Plans should identify potential risks that might present a threat to the World Heritage Site, and identify mitigation measures for dealing with them. Risks to World Heritage Sites include not only physical risks such as damage, vandalism and the impacts of climate change but also organisational risks such as poor management, loss of key staff or changes to funding regimes. In order to mitigate against risks, a risk management strategy and accompanying risk register are in development.



With risks, there also come opportunities; these can be in the form of social benefits such as increased pride, awareness and understanding; economic benefits such as employment opportunities, regeneration projects, visitor experiences, and skills projects and conservation benefits such as bringing historic buildings back into appropriate reuse, community conservation projects and archaeological recording.

Existing projects such as National Lottery Heritage-funded *Unloved Heritage?* and LleCHI [‘YOUR place’ which also translates into Welsh as ‘Slate’], and the Gwynedd Arts Plan (see Section 7) have created vital opportunities to engage local communities and in particular young people in the management of the proposed World Heritage Site. These projects create ownership within the communities involved in the nomination and promotes a better understanding of the heritage that forms part of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*.



The National Lottery Heritage-funded *Unloved Heritage?* Group in Nantlle © Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.

4.2.2 Management Action Plan

**Objective 2:** *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Property Management Plan* will be adopted and embedded into regional strategies.

**Principle 2.1:** The Partnership Steering Group will ensure that all relevant strategic documents and programmes within individual partner organisations have regard for the proposed World Heritage Site, and its Vision and Aims.

Action 1	The Partnership Steering Group will ensure that all relevant strategic documents and programmes within the individual partner organisations have regard for the proposed World Heritage Site, and its Vision and Aims.	Short-term	Partnership Steering Group
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**Principle 2.2:** The Partnership Steering Group will develop and maintain a Risk Management Plan to support the management of the inscribed World Heritage Site.

Action 1	Develop the Risk Management Plan and Risk Register.	Ongoing	Project Coordination Team
Action 2	The Risk Management Plan and Risk Register will be reviewed regularly by the Partnership Steering Group and mitigation actions taken where required.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group





## 5 Theme 2: Caring for *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*

### 5.1 Introduction

The historic slate landscape of Northwest Wales roofed the world. It is a physical legacy we must protect to hand on to future generations. They are also a living landscape which contribute to our economic well-being today. This Management Plan shows how conservation and economic use can be balanced to meet both requirements.

Modern historic environment conservation practice recognises the need to strike a balance between preservation, access and use. It is by enjoying, using and adaptively reusing our historic assets – our buildings, monuments and landscapes – that we can manage, maintain and retain them for the benefit of communities today and for future generations. This is the basis of sustainable heritage management. The nomination of *The Slate Landscapes of Northwest Wales* as a World Heritage Site celebrates our history and will facilitate community benefits. It is not intended that the nomination will prevent change but that it will support and manage positive change, and where appropriate, considered adaptation and re-use.

Management actions will be led by adoption of the approach presented in *The Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales* (Cadw, 2011), and in particular, its core principle that all decisions must be reasonable, transparent and consistent.

### 5.2 Protecting the proposed World Heritage Site

**Objective 3:** Protect and sustain the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* for the benefit of people today and in the future.

**Principle 3.1:** Promote awareness and understanding of the reasons why *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* needs to be protected and actively managed to sustain its proposed Outstanding Universal Value.

**Principle 3.2:** Protect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value, integrity and authenticity of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* by employing statutory designation of historic assets that meet the national criteria.

**Principle 3.3:** Protect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value, integrity and authenticity of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* by effective use of the spatial planning system.



A recent project has been the conservation of the Dinorwig Quarry hospital (Component Part 2) as a museum © Crown copyright: RCAHMW / © Gwynedd Council.





A Cadw official carrying out a monitoring and assessment visit at Gorseddau Quarry in Component Part 4 © Crown copyright: Cadw.

The Welsh Government’s approach to the protection and sustainable management of World Heritage Sites is presented in *Managing Change in World Heritage sites in Wales* (Cadw, 2017) which sets out general principles for understanding and managing World Heritage Sites in Wales, and how they are protected through the planning system. This approach is based on three principles:

- the statutory designation of specific historic assets within World Heritage Sites and associated mechanisms to manage and control works.
- the collaborative creation and implementation of World Heritage Site management plans to ensure the effective and active involvement of all key stakeholders.
- the use of the planning system to guide compatible and appropriate development.

The Welsh Government is responsible for statutory designation of historic assets. Planning strategy and decision-making are the responsibility of local planning authorities under the *Town and Country Planning Act 1990*. National Infrastructure Planning is decided through the Development Consent Order process in accordance with the *Planning Act 2008*. The Planning Inspectorate is the UK Government Agency responsible for operating the process for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects.

### 5.2.1 Legislation

The proposed World Heritage Site and its setting will be afforded appropriate levels of protection through existing legislation: *The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979*, *The Town and Country Planning Act 1990*, *The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990* and *The Historic Environment Act (Wales) 2016* and through the implementation of policies within the *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan 2011-2026* and *Snowdonia National Park Authority Eryri Local Development Plan 2016-2031*.

### Scheduling

*The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979* provides the legislative framework for the statutory protection of historic monuments of national importance through Scheduling. Scheduling is the means of protection applied to relict historic structures and archaeological sites which are no longer in or capable of being in active use. Scheduling is the most appropriate protection to apply to structures in the

form of earthworks, ruinous or semi-ruinous buildings and archaeological remains. Many historic assets within the proposed World Heritage Site have already been scheduled and a programme of scheduling the remaining historic assets meeting the criteria for national importance is underway. These are listed in Table 5.1.

Information including the location and descriptions of all scheduled monuments can be accessed online from Cadw using *Cof Cymru* <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/cof-cymru/search-cadw-records>.

**Table 5.1 Scheduled Monuments within the proposed World Heritage Site and those which meet the criteria for scheduling.**

1 Penrhyn Slate Quarry and Bethesda, and the Ogwen Valley to Port Penrhyn			
	Component Parts and Elements	Scheduled Monuments	
		Designated	Proposed
1.1	Penrhyn Slate Quarry		Quarry Galleries East Slate Tips Twllyndwr and Agor Boni Inclined Plane Quarry Hospital Princess May Water Balance Sebastopol Water Balance
1.2	Felin Fawr Slate-Slab Mills	CN297 Slate <i>Gwaliau</i>	
1.3	Penrhyn Slate Quarry Railroad	CN380 Cegin Viaduct	Relict Railroad Sections
1.3	Penrhyn Slate Quarry Railway		Relict Railway Sections

2 Dinorwig Slate Quarry Mountain Landscape			
	Component Parts and elements	Scheduled Monuments	
		Designated	Proposed
2.1	Dinorwig Slate Quarry	CN337 Dinorwig Slate Quarry	Dinorwig East Slate Tips
2.2	'Australia' Gallery		Dinorwig West Slate Tips
2.3	Anglesey Barracks	CN177 Dinorwig Quarry Barracks / A Incline	
2.4	V2 Inclined Plane/Vivian Slate Quarry	CN198 Vivian Slate Quarry, Inclines, <i>gwaliau</i> and associated Structures	
2.5	Dinorwig Slate Quarry Engineering Complex. The National Slate Museum	CN163 Hafod Owen Winding Engine, Locomotive Shed, Main Water Wheel and Housing	



3 Nantlle Valley Slate Quarry Landscape			
	Component Parts and elements	Scheduled Monuments Designated                      Proposed	
3.2	Blaen y Cae Slate Quarry 'Blondin' Aerial Ropeway System	CN301 Blaen Y Cae Slate Quarry	
3.3	Dorothea Slate Quarry	CN199 Dorothea Slate Quarry, Pyramids, Inclines, Mill and Winding Houses	Revision to include tips and the Nantlle Railway
3.4	Dorothea Slate Quarry Cornish Beam Engine	CN165 Dorothea Quarry beam Engine	
3.5	Pen y Bryn/Cloddfa'r Lôn Slate Quarry, Aerial Ropeway Systems, Slate Mill, Barracks and Dwellings	CN302 Cloddfa'r Lôn Slate Quarry	Pen Y Bryn Slate Quarry and tips
3.7	Pen yr Orsedd Slate Quarry		Pen yr Orsedd Slate Quarry structures, incline and tips
3.8	Pen yr Orsedd Slate Quarry 'Blondin' Ropeway	CN208 Pen yr Orsedd Quarry, 'Blondins' and associated structures	
3.9	The Nantlle Railway		The Nantlle Railway
3.12	Plas Tal y Sarn and Tal y Sarn Farmhouse		Plas Tal y Sarn

4 Gorseddau and Prince of Wales Slate Quarries, Railways and Mill			
	Component Parts and elements	Scheduled Monuments Designated                      Proposed	
4.1	Gorseddau Slate Quarry	CN303 Gorseddau Slate Quarry	
4.2	Prince of Wales Slate Quarry		Prince of Wales Slate Quarry
4.3	Ynyspandy Slate-Slab Mill	CN160 Ynyspandy Slate-Slab Mill	
4.4	Gorseddau Railway and Gorseddau Junction & Portmadoc Railways		Gorseddau Railway and the Gorseddau Junction & Portmadoc Railways
4.5	Treforys Village	CN321 Treforys Deserted Quarry Settlement	

5 Ffestiniog: its Slate Mines and Quarries, 'city of slates' and Railway to Porthmadog			
	Component Parts and elements	Scheduled Monuments Designated                      Proposed	
5.1	Ffestiniog Slate Quarries – Surface Landform		Rhiwbach Quarry Railway and Inclined Planes Llechwedd Slate Tips West Oakley Quarry Tip Oakley Quarry West Cwmorthin North Wrysgan Slate Mine
5.4	Diffwys Slate Quarry Mill		Diffwys Slate Quarry West complex
5.8	Slate-quays on the Dwyrdd River	ME108 Tyddyn Isa quay	
5.9	The Ffestiniog Railway		Pant yr Afon sidings and Ffestiniog Railway formation

6 Bryneglwys Slate Quarry, Abergynolwyn Village and the Talyllyn Railway			
	Component Parts and elements	Scheduled Monuments Designated                      Proposed	
6.1	Bryneglwys Slate Quarry – Surface Landform and Chain Incline Ropeway Bastion	ME186 Water Powered Chain Incline at Bryneglwys Slate Quarry ME205 Alltwyllt Quarry Inclined Plane	Revision to include tips and railway
6.2	Bryneglwys Slate Quarry Underground Workings		Revision to ME186 to include underground workings
6.4	Talyllyn Railway		Talyllyn Railway formation

### Listed Buildings

The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 provides the legislative framework for the protection of buildings of special architectural or historic interest through listing. Significant buildings within the proposed World Heritage Site were listed during the course of the survey completed in 2005, which included comprehensive designations within all six Component Parts. There have been subsequent additions through spot-listing. Some buildings within the quarries were listed. Structures that remain in use in settlements and on the active transport systems have also been listed.



Information including the location and descriptions of all listed buildings within the proposed World Heritage can be accessed online from Cadw using *Cof Cymru* <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/cof-cymru/search-cadw-records>.

*Conservation Areas*

Conservation Areas are designated by local planning authorities in accordance with Section 69 of *The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990*. Local Authorities have a duty to identify areas of special architectural and historic interest ‘the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance’. Quality of place is therefore one of the prime considerations in their identification.

Conservation areas have been designated at nine different locations in *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*: within Component Part 1 (four in Bethesda, others at Llandygai, Tanysgafell, St Anne’s church and Mynydd Llandygai) and Component Part 5 (Porthmadog Harbour). Consideration is being given for additional conservation areas at Blaenau Ffestiniog (Component Part 5) and Abergynolwyn (Component Part 6).

*Registered Parks and Gardens*

*The Historic Environment (Wales) Act* will from 2019 confer a statutory role on the *Register of Historic Parks and Gardens in Wales*, a comprehensive list of ornamental and designed landscapes of special historic interest.

*Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (2017)* states:

whilst inclusion in the register does not introduce any new consent regimes, registered historic parks and gardens, and their settings, may be protected through the planning system. Proposals affecting a registered park and garden will require the relevant consent and it is for the applicant to ensure that these consents are in place before work commences.

*Planning Policy Wales edition 10* states:

Planning authorities should value, protect, conserve and enhance the special interest of parks and gardens and their settings included on the register of historic parks and gardens in Wales. The register should be taken into account in planning authority decision making.

This requirement has been embedded in the Local Development Plans of both local planning authorities:

- *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan* Policies AMG 3: Protecting and enhancing features and qualities that are distinctive to the local landscape character; PS 20: Preserving and where appropriate enhancing heritage assets; and AT 1: Conservation Areas, World Heritage Sites and Registered Historic Landscapes, Parks and Gardens.
- *Eryri Local Development Plan* Policy Ff: Historic environment.

In preparation for the introduction of the statutory register, Cadw undertook a thorough review of the boundaries of all registered historic parks and gardens

including the two parks and gardens within the Proposed World Heritage Site at Penrhyn Castle (Grade II\*) and Plas Tan y Bwlch (Grade II\*).

Information on each of these assets including their location and descriptions can be accessed online from Cadw using *Cof Cymru* <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/cof-cymru/search-cadw-records>.

*Registered Historic Landscapes*

The *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales*, compiled by Cadw, by the former Countryside Council for Wales (now part of Natural Resources Wales) and by ICOMOS-UK, identifies the most important and best-surviving historic landscapes in Wales. The *Register* is a non-statutory instrument but is a material consideration in the planning process. The *Register* provides information to decision-makers and landscape managers, to help ensure that the historic character of the landscape is sustained, and that where change is considered, proposals are well-informed. Five of the Component Parts of the proposed World Heritage Site lie within six registered historic landscapes as outlined in Table 5.2.

Information on these landscapes, including descriptions can be accessed online from Cadw using *Cof Cymru* <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/cof-cymru/search-cadw-records>.

Table 5.2 Registered Historic Landscapes within the proposed World Heritage Site.		
	Component Part	Registered Historic Landscape
1	Penrhyn Slate Quarry and Bethesda, and the Ogwen Valley to Port Penrhyn	HLW (Gw) 10 – Ogwen Valley
2	Dinorwig Slate Quarry Mountain Landscape	HLW (Gw) 6 – Dinorwig
3	Nantlle Valley Slate Quarry Landscape	HLW (Gw) 9 – Nantlle Valley
5	Ffestiniog: its Slate Mines and Quarries, ‘city of slates’ and Railway to Porthmadog	HLW (Gw) 3 – Blaenau Ffestiniog HLW (Gw) 7 – Aberglaslyn
6	Bryneglwys Slate Quarry, Abergynolwyn Village and the Talyllyn Railway	HLW (Gw) 17 – Dysynni Valley

Best-practice guidance has been developed to assist local planning authorities and the Planning Inspectorate in their consideration of planning proposals affecting areas on the *Register of Historic Landscapes*. Proposed developments within a registered historic landscape requiring an Environmental Impact Assessment are likely also to require assessment of their impact on the historic environment as part of the Environmental Statement. This is undertaken using the ASIDOHL formula (Assessment of the Significance of Development on Historic Landscape), which objectively evaluates probable effect on the wider landscape. A published *Guide to Good Practice* (Cadw, 2007) explains how the *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales* should be used in the planning process and how the ASIDOHL system operates.

*The Registered Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest* and the areas adjacent have all been subject to detailed Landscape Character Assessments which define



discrete geographical areas which demonstrate broadly consistent historic character and setting out recommendations to inform conservation and management.

Information on these landscapes, including descriptions can be accessed online from Gwynedd Archaeological Trust <http://www.heneb.co.uk/hlc/hlc.html>

### Environmental designations

Each Component Part of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* includes areas with natural environmental designations reflecting the importance of the natural fauna and flora they contain. Designations include Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), National Nature Reserve (NNRs), Local Wildlife Sites, Local Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites and Ancient woodlands.

Slate workings have biodiversity value as habitats demonstrating natural regeneration. There is evidence of birch trees, heather vegetation and parsley ferns in Dorothea and Dinorwig quarries. In addition to their environmental importance, the juxtaposition of the green growth against the blue slate creates a special aesthetic to this part of the world.

Slate workings and underground features are important hibernation sites for some species of bat, in particular the lesser horseshoe bat *Rhinolophus hipposideros* which has its stronghold in North Wales. Lesser horseshoe bats are a European Protected Species (EPS) under the *EU Habitats Directive and Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010*. Given the many underground features within the proposed World Heritage Site, there is potential for bat-roosts within many of the Component Parts, particularly Component Part 5, which is adjacent to the Meirionydd Oakwoods and Bat SAC, a site designated for lesser horseshoe bats. Additionally, Component Part 3 lies within 2km of Glynllifon SAC site, a maternity and hibernation site for a large population of lesser horseshoe bats, comprising about 6% of the UK population.

Some iconic birds species are associated with quarries and surrounding areas including chough *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*, a Schedule 1 species protected under the *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981*, whose numbers are in serious decline. These birds often nest in quarries, mine shafts and even abandoned quarry buildings. Other species associated with quarry landscapes and which sometimes breed in quarries include peregrine falcon *Falco peregrinus*, raven *Corvus corax* and ring ouzel *Turdus torquatus*.

Protection of the natural environment is the statutory responsibility of public sector organisations including Gwynedd Council, Snowdonia National Park, Natural Resources Wales and Dŵr Cymru–Welsh Water.

### 5.2.2 Spatial Planning System

*The Planning (Wales) Act 2015* puts in place delivery structures, processes and procedures to enable the planning system to support the delivery of national, local and community aspirations by creating sustainable places where citizens have improved access to quality homes, jobs and built and natural environments, and to support use of the Welsh language.

*Planning Policy Wales 10 (2018)* provides guidance on inscribed World Heritage Sites (paragraphs 6.1.6 and 6.1.22), specifying that the Outstanding Universal Value of

World Heritage Sites must be conserved. *Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment* (May 2017) states that Outstanding Universal Value must be preserved by: the statutory designation of specific historic assets; by collaborative creation and implementation of World Heritage Site management plans; and guidance as to what constitutes appropriate development through the town and country planning system.

### Gwynedd Council

Gwynedd Council has prepared a joint local development plan *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan* which was adopted in July 2017. Relevant policies are:

#### POLICY PS 20

##### Preserving and where appropriate enhancing heritage assets

In seeking to support the wider economic and social needs of the Plan area, the Local Planning Authorities will preserve and where appropriate, enhance its unique heritage assets.

Proposals that will preserve and where appropriate enhance the following heritage assets, their setting and significant views into and out of the building/ area will be granted:

1. Scheduled Monuments and other areas of archaeological importance (in line with Policy AT 4).
2. Listed Buildings and their curtilages.
3. Conservation Areas (in line with Policy AT 1).
4. Beaumaris Castle and Caernarfon Castle and Town Walls World Heritage Sites (in line with Policy AT 1).
5. Candidate World Heritage sites.
6. Registered Historic Landscapes, Parks and Gardens (in line with Policy AT 1).
7. Buildings of architectural/historic/cultural merit that are not designated or protected (in line with Policy AT 3).

#### POLICY AT 1

##### Conservation Areas, World Heritage Sites and Registered Historic Landscapes, Parks and Gardens

Proposals within or affecting the setting and/ or significant views into and out of Conservation Areas, World Heritage Sites and Registered Historic Landscapes, Parks and Gardens shown on the Constraints Map must, where appropriate, have regard to:

1. Adopted Conservation Area Character Appraisals, Conservation Area Plans and Delivery Strategies.
2. World Heritage Site Management Plans.
3. The Register of Landscape, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales.

Proposals should be supported by a Heritage Impact Assessment, where appropriate.



Snowdonia National Park

The Environment Act 1995 sets out the Snowdonia National Park Authority’s responsibilities:

- To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park
- To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the ‘Special Qualities’ of the National Park, by the public

In addition to these purposes, Snowdonia National Park Authority also has a duty ‘to seek to foster the social and economic well-being of the local communities within the National Park’.

The Snowdonia National Park Authority’s Eryri Local Development Plan (2016-2031), was formally adopted in February 2019. It sets out the Snowdonia National Park Authority’s purposes and duties in terms of land use, planning and development policies. Relevant policies are:

**POLICY FF**  
**Historic Environment**

The historic landscape, heritage assets and cultural heritage of Snowdonia National Park will be conserved and enhanced, due to their contribution to the character and ‘Special Qualities’ of the National Park. Particular protection will be given to the following archaeological, architectural, historic or cultural assets and where appropriate, their settings.

Development will not be permitted that will adversely affect in any way the following Heritage Assets, or where appropriate their settings and significant views:

- i Conservation Areas
- ii World Heritage Sites
- iii Candidate World Heritage Sites
- iv Scheduled Monuments and other sites of archaeological importance
- v Historic landscapes, parks and gardens
- vi Listed Buildings
- vii Traditional Buildings

Three of the six Component Parts (Component Parts 4, 5 and 6) lie wholly or partly within the National Park; the other three Component Parts are situated adjacent to its boundary and fall within a protected view from the Park.

5.2.3 Action Plan for protecting the proposed World Heritage Site

**Objective 3:** Protect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* for the benefit of people today and in the future.

**Principle 3.1:** Promote awareness and understanding of the reasons why *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* needs to be protected and actively managed to sustain its proposed Outstanding Universal Value.

Action 1	Caring for the Slate Landscape guidance will be updated and re-published to reflect the priorities identified in <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> Management Plan.	Short-term	Cadw
Action 2	Supplementary Planning Guidance will be prepared to provide additional guidance to developers and interested parties.	Short-term	Local Planning Authorities / Landowner Forum / Planning and Conservation Subgroup
Action 3	Training will be provided for decision makers including planning officers and local planning committee members.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities

**Principle 3.2:** Protect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value, integrity and authenticity of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* by employing statutory designation of historic assets that meet the national criteria.

Action 1	Complete designation programme for historic assets meeting the criteria for scheduling or listing within the World Heritage Site boundaries.	Short-term	Cadw
Action 2	Undertake review necessary to establish Conservation Areas in Blaenau Ffestiniog and Abergynolwyn.	Medium-term	Local Planning Authorities / Cadw

**Principle 3.3:** Protect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value, integrity and authenticity of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* by effective use of the spatial planning system.

Action 1	Pre-planning application advice will encourage development of an appropriate scale, and encourage good design sensitive to the character and values of the proposed World Heritage Site.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities / Cadw
Action 2	Planning decisions will take account of the need to sustain the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities



### 5.3 Conservation and management in practice

**Objective 4:** The proposed World Heritage Site will be managed to sustain and enhance its proposed Outstanding Universal Value, integrity and authenticity.

**Principle 4.1:** Support will be given to site-owners to develop and implement Local Management Plans.

**Principle 4.2:** Where required, action will be taken to improve the condition of key historic assets within the proposed World Heritage Site.

**Principle 4.3:** Sympathetic adaptive re-use of historic assets will be encouraged.

**Principle 4.4:** Sustainable conservation of the proposed World Heritage Site and public participation in conservation programmes will be encouraged.

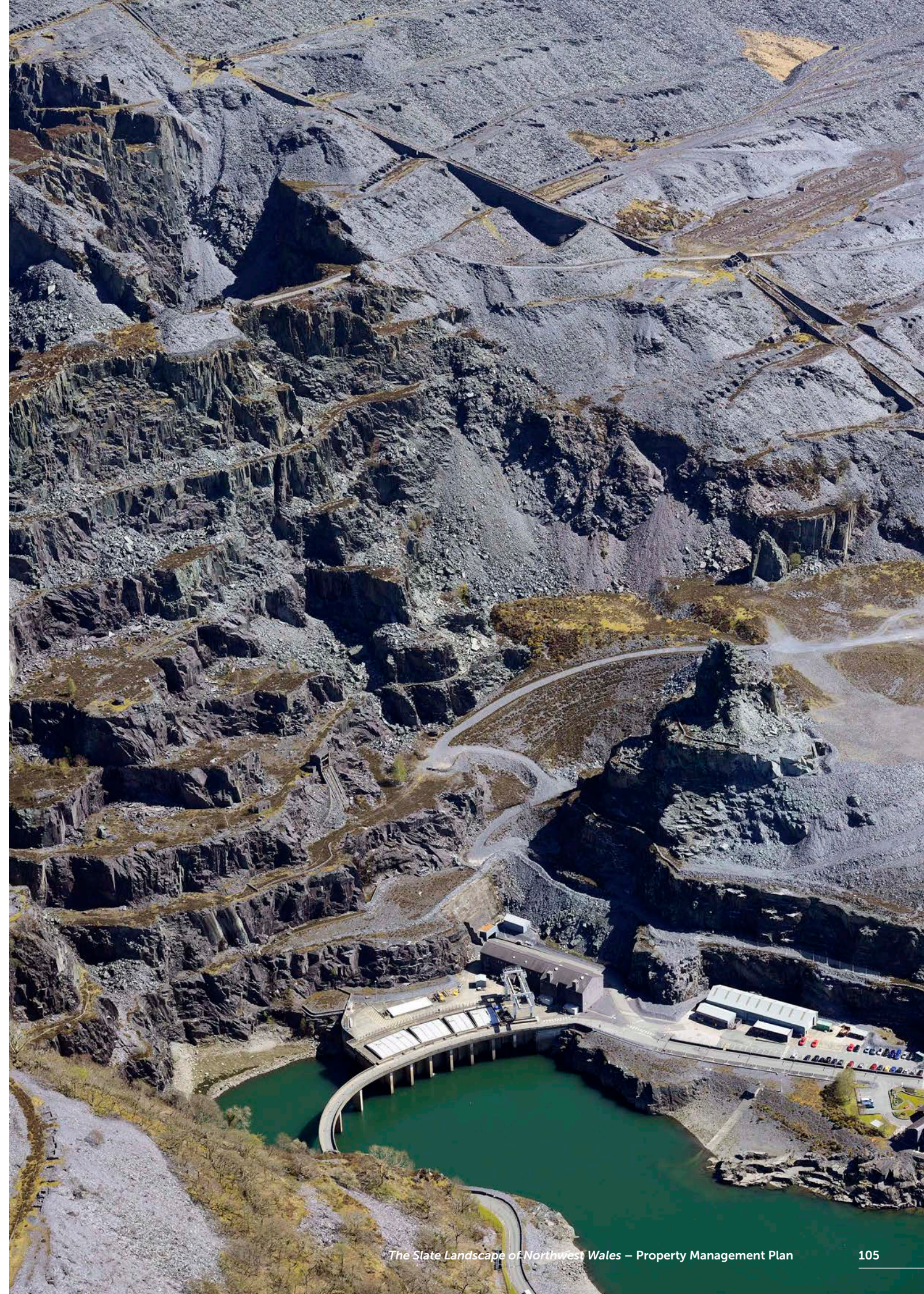
Historic assets relevant to the heritage of the slate industry include buildings, structures, machinery, underground features, landscape features and transport routes. The historic assets that comprise the proposed World Heritage Site are in multiple varied ownership, including areas in the ownership of Gwynedd Council and Snowdonia National Park Authority, through to land owned by individual farmers, many of whom have managed their land for generations, dating back to the period when the Welsh slate industry was at its height.

Many of the key assets such as Penrhyn Castle and Park, the buildings of the National Slate Museum at Llanberis, and the Ffestiniog and Talylyn railways are operated by charitable organisations with long histories and expertise in managing heritage properties. Much of the Ffestiniog quarry landform and the structures within it have benefited from long-term management by a company that combines heritage and tourism interests with a successful continued slate operation. Elsewhere the proposed World Heritage Site includes landscapes that have been brought into adaptive re-use for energy production alongside land managed as upland grazing.

First Hydro (Engie)'s power-generation facilities in Dinorwig Slate Quarry in Component Part 2, commissioned in 1982, demonstrate the potential to adapt relict quarry landforms to supply electricity from renewable water-sources without adversely affecting the conservation of historic structures or causing attrition of historic character. At the time of commissioning, Dinorwig Power Station was considered one of the world's most imaginative engineering and environmental projects, and its operational characteristics and dynamic response capability are still acknowledged the world over. Dinorwig is the largest scheme of its kind in Europe, and the visitor centre and guided tours of the power station, along with direct employment, contribute to the tourism economy of the area. As an important part of the UK's energy infrastructure, public access to Dinorwig is tightly controlled for public safety reasons; however these restrictions have led to exceptional levels of preservation.

Conservation and management in the proposed World Heritage Site requires a partnership approach. The scale of the proposed World Heritage Site and the

**The historic use of water-power within the proposed World Heritage Site is continued in the pumped-storage scheme in Dinorwig Slate Quarry (Component Part 2), one of the largest in the world when it was commissioned in 1982**  
© Crown copyright: RCAHWW.





importance of both landforms and individual features mean that management of landscape change is equally as important as conservation of individual historic assets. In this context, effective conservation management can only be achieved by a holistic approach where national and local government works with communities, landowners and other partners to deliver outcomes against the shared objectives set out in this Management Plan.

Conservation activities have been carried out within the proposed World Heritage Site since at least the 1950s by individuals, voluntary organisations and institutions and corporations. As part of the process of developing the nomination, the Partnership Steering Group has established links with stakeholders including quarry-owners, the National Museum of Wales, railway operating companies, individuals and education-providers in order to share best practice and to offer advice and support. Efforts are under way to develop traditional skills training with partners, to create an informed workforce with the capacity to respond to the needs of the proposed World Heritage Site, and to raise awareness amongst communities of the importance of appropriate and sensitive maintenance and conservation of traditional buildings.



National Lottery Heritage Fund trainees learn new skills on the Ffestiniog Railway © Ffestiniog and Welsh Highland Railways.

### Managing Scheduled Monuments

Many of the scheduled monuments within the proposed World Heritage Site are cared for by private owners. Some are accessible to the public, others are not. All scheduled monuments are legally protected under the *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979)* and Scheduled Monument Consent is required when undertaking works.

Scheduled monuments are subject to a programme of inspections by Cadw to assess condition and identify any risks to which they may be subject. Cadw also provides advice and support to assist owners to manage their assets to prevent deterioration. This can include financial support in the form of Ancient Monument Grants. Good conservation practice often requires owners simply to avoid activities that might cause damage to the monument. In other cases, intervention may be necessary to prevent deterioration. Cadw's *Managing Scheduled Monuments in Wales* (2018) guidance provides an overview of Scheduling and is supported by a series of booklets and guidance explaining how different types of historic monuments can be cared for. These booklets are available for free from the Cadw website <https://cadw.gov.wales>.

### Managing Listed Buildings

Many of the key listed buildings within the proposed World Heritage Site are cared for by public bodies and charities including the main buildings at Penrhyn Castle, Dinorwig quarry hospital, the National Slate Museum and Plas Tan y Bwlch. Others are managed by private organisations with a heritage remit including the buildings associated with the Ffestiniog and Talyllyn railways. Maintaining these buildings and keeping them in a good state of conservation is integral to the functioning of these organisations whilst finding new uses for redundant buildings is important to the vision and commercial potential of the organisations. However, most listed buildings within the proposed World Heritage Site are in private ownership and within existing settlements. Private owners keep listed structures well maintained when in use for domestic or commercial purposes but redundant buildings can often fall into neglect.

The condition of Listed Buildings is monitored on a five-year cycle through Cadw's All-Wales Condition Survey programme. The most recent surveys were carried out in 2013 (Snowdonia National Park) and 2014 (Gwynedd). A new survey round commenced in 2019. Both planning authorities have Conservation Officers and maintain a register of listed buildings at risk within the proposed World Heritage Site. The *Buildings at Risk Register* hosts the data collected during the survey and is used to identify and monitor listed buildings within the planning area that are assessed at risk.

Published guidance on good conservation practice is available in the form of Cadw's *Caring For* guides which are aimed at owners and householders looking for advice on how to look after their listed structures. Currently published relevant guides include: *Chapels in Wales – Conservation and Conversion*, *Industrial Workers Housing – Care and Conservation* and *Managing Change to Listed Buildings in Wales*.





An imaginative and unusual transformation of a listed building is evident at the Ffestiniog Railway's former upper passenger terminus at Duffws in Blaenau Ffestiniog (Component Part 5). This has been a public convenience since the 1930s but has recently been adapted to include an interpretation space as part of a wider public realm project, inspired by the slate industry. The form of the building has been retained, with its decorative slate roof, slate gable plaques with Prince of Wales feathers, and booking window © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.

#### Local Management Plans

This *Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Property Management Plan* establishes the over-arching strategies and mechanisms by which the proposed World Heritage Site will be managed to sustain its Outstanding Universal Value. At a local level these are implemented through Local Management Plans developed in collaboration with individual landowners which include practical recommendations designed to provide owners and land managers with the information they require to help them manage their historic assets.

The Local Management Plans are based on areas reflecting different ownership and/or management responsibilities. They include information on the different historic assets within the plan area and explain how those assets contribute to the Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage site. Each plan includes an assessment of the current condition of historic assets and identifies the management actions needed to ensure their long-term survival. The Plans also consider opportunities for enhancement based around the specific circumstances of the different assets and areas.

Work is currently underway to prepare these plans, each being developed through a process of collaborative discussion between the Local Authorities, members of the Partnership Steering Group and site owners. Taken as a group, the Local Management Plans underpin the *Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Property Management Plan* and set out how relevant actions might be delivered in each area. All plans will be completed and operational within the timeline for completion of the inscription process.



Tips of waste rock are impressive landform features, as at Penrhyn quarry in Component Part 1 © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.

#### 5.3.1 Current state of conservation

Different types of historic assets are affected by different issues and threats and require specific management actions. These are considered below:

##### *Quarries, tips and workings (surface landforms)*

Each of the Component Parts of the proposed World Heritage Site include the remains of quarries with their associated waste tips and internal infrastructure. The quarries are all relict. In every case, these impressive landform features are generally



robust and in good or fair condition, and fully display their values and attributes. Pit quarries are now generally flooded. Former working-faces can be liable to infrequent and localised rock-falls. Tips are stable, though in some cases vegetation growth can obscure their form. Table 5.3 lists the quarries, tips and workings within the proposed World Heritage Site:

Table 5.3 Quarries, tips and workings within the proposed World Heritage Site.		
Component Part	Element	Name
1 Penrhyn Slate Quarry and Bethesda, and the Ogwen Valley to Port Penrhyn	1.1	Penrhyn Slate Quarry
2 Dinorwig Slate Quarry Mountain Landscape	2.1	Dinorwig Slate Quarry
	2.2	'Australia' Gallery
3 Nantlle Valley Slate Quarry Landscape	3.1	Cilgwyn Slate Quarry Tips
	3.3	Dorothea Slate Quarry
	3.7	Pen yr Orsedd Slate Quarry
4 Gorseddau and Prince of Wales Slate Quarries, Railways and Mill	4.1	Gorseddau Slate Quarry
	4.2	Prince of Wales Slate Quarry
5 Ffestiniog: its Slate Mines and Quarries, 'city of slates' and Railway to Porthmadog	5.1	Ffestiniog Slate Quarries – Surface Landform
6 Bryneglwys Slate Quarry, Abergynolwyn Village and the Tallylyn Railway	6.1	Bryneglwys Slate Quarry – Surface Landform and Chain Incline Ropeway Bastion

Although quarries are robust environments, some deterioration of exposed features is inevitable. Rock-faces become weathered, and buildings constructed of coarse material become dilapidated. Tips of slate rubble achieve a natural angle of repose as they are created, and remain stable long after the quarry has ceased to be used unless actively disturbed. No mineral extraction, processing or tipping takes place within the boundary of the proposed World Heritage Site, therefore the main changes affecting quarry landforms are loss of visual coherence through increasing natural re-vegetation which masks the form and structure of tips, and ongoing natural deterioration.

An issue affecting many areas of upland Gwynedd is Rhododendron encroachment. Rhododendron can withstand wide climatic variation and a tolerance to a range of substrates means it can grow almost anywhere where there is sufficient moisture. On the whole, invasive species are not a particular issue within the proposed World Heritage Site, but action would be beneficial in Ffestiniog, Component Part 5. There has been a significant community effort started in this area through the local environmental social enterprise *Y Dref Werdd* to manage rhododendron growth.

Industrial landforms are also potentially at risk from the introduction of activities linked to new developments including tourism and green energy and consequent loss or attrition of historic features, although this can be avoided through appropriate siting, scale and sensitive design.



Management of Rhododendron by *Y Dref Werdd* [The Green Town] volunteers in Blaenau Ffestiniog, Component Part 5 © *Y Dref Werdd*.



Rhododendron growth being cleared from slate tips in Ffestiniog (Component Part 5) © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.

Underground features

Historic underground elements include access-tunnels and the chambers where slate was extracted, drainage levels, and inclined planes, machinery, and evidence for welfare provision such as eating places and privies. Artefact survival is often greater than on the surface, and includes significant machinery remains. Graffiti also are evident, a direct link with individual quarrymen. Table 5.4 lists the historic underground workings within the proposed World Heritage Site.

Table 5.4 Historic underground workings within the proposed World Heritage Site.		
Component Part	Element	Name
1 Penrhyn Slate Quarry and Bethesda, and the Ogwen Valley to Port Penrhyn	1.1	Penrhyn Slate Quarry – access and drainage tunnels
5 Ffestiniog: its Slate Mines and Quarries, 'city of slates' and Railway to Porthmadog	5.2	Ffestiniog Slate Quarries – Underground Workings
6 Bryneglwys Slate Quarry, Abergynolwyn Village and the Tallylyn Railway	6.2	Bryneglwys Slate Quarry – Underground Workings





Historic assets survive underground. This hydraulic engine at Penrhyn Quarry (Component Part 1) was preserved when it fell out of use in the 1930s © Jon Knowles.

Underground elements can be prone to geological slides and falls, as well as to water-ingress, and machinery can be vulnerable to vandalism and theft. Whilst little can be done to arrest natural geological processes, a risk management approach can be adopted with respect to the more vulnerable heritage features. Major landowners already undertake monitoring of their underground assets and where appropriate these will be extended to include inspection of heritage features. Specialist advice will be sought on any required mitigation measures and where appropriate, consideration will be given to the removal of artefacts to safe storage to prevent theft. These issues will be addressed at a site level within the individual Local Management Plans.

*Historic industrial buildings, structures and machinery*

Groups of historic industrial buildings and fixed machines form important assets of the proposed World Heritage Site in their own right, and require informed management. Their functional purpose and visual relationship with other elements within a formerly active quarry environment is crucial to understanding the proposed Outstanding Universal Value.

It is inevitable that abandoned historic industrial buildings, particularly those within quarries and built out of rough stone, will over time become dilapidated and collapse. In support of the nomination, a programme of historic asset inspections has been carried out. This has demonstrated that structures and buildings within the quarries are currently in varying states of transition from relatively recently abandoned, to fully-relict. Recently abandoned historic buildings may lend themselves to adaptation

Table 5.5 Examples of historic industrial buildings, structures and machinery within the proposed World Heritage Site.		
Component Part	Element	Name
1 Penrhyn Slate Quarry and Bethesda, and the Ogwen Valley to Port Penrhyn	1.2	Felin Fawr Slate-Slab Mills
	1.4	Port Penrhyn
2 Dinorwig Slate Quarry Mountain Landscape	2.2	'Australia' Gallery
	2.3	Anglesey Barracks
	2.4	V2 Inclined Plane / Vivian Slate Quarry
	2.5	National Slate Museum
	2.10	Dinorwig Slate Quarry Hospital
3 Nantlle Valley Slate Quarry Landscape	3.2	Blaen y Cae Slate Quarry 'Blondin' Ropeway
	3.4	Dorothea Slate Quarry Cornish Beam Engine
	3.5	Pen y Bryn / Cloddfa'r Lôn Slate Quarry
	3.6	Pen y Bryn / Cloddfa'r Lôn Slate Quarry Water-Driven Pump System
	3.8	Pen yr Orsedd Slate Quarry 'Blondin' Ropeways
	3.12	Plas Tal y Sarn and Tal y Sarn Farmhouse
4 Gorseddau and Prince of Wales Slate Quarries, Railways and Mill	4.3	Ynysypanyd Slate-Slab Mill
5 Ffestiniog: its Slate Mines and Quarries, 'city of slates' and Railway to Porthmadog	5.3	Pant yr Afon Hydro-Power Station
	5.4	Diffwys Slate Quarry Mill
	5.5	Maenofferen Slate Quarry Main Complex

and re-use as a good means to ensure their continued maintenance and economic benefit. This is less likely to be appropriate for long abandoned relict structures where such approaches may require a disproportionate level of intervention that might be considered to adversely affect their authenticity. Prince of Wales and Gorseddau quarries in Component Part 4 represent an end-point of archaeological stability and will be conserved in this state, whereas Diffwys, Ffestiniog and Dorothea quarries are still demonstrating active change. Where appropriate, recommendations for interventions to arrest change will be identified in the Local Management Plans.

Industrial complexes that have been conserved for public benefit include the relict Ynysypanyd slate-slab mill and buildings of the former Dinorwig slate quarry





**The Felin Fawr complex of industrial buildings in the Ogwen valley (Component Part 1) served Penrhyn quarry until the 1960s. Here slabs were sawn. Waterwheels powered by the Galedffrwd stream turned the machinery © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.**

engineering complex – now in active re-use as the National Slate Museum. Here, historic fixed machinery is also maintained in excellent, fully-operable, condition.

Recent successful projects to conserve historic industrial buildings and fixed machines have included Gwynedd Council's conservation of the Dinorwig Slate Quarry hospital and its medical equipment to serve as a museum and a voluntary group's conservation of abandoned dwellings near Cwmorthin Slate Quarry. Current projects include the stabilisation of the winding engine house on the inclined plane in Maenofferen slate quarry, while long term re-use options are being explored. Such projects are beneficial not only in conserving buildings and machines but also in developing skills and promoting enthusiasm and awareness. There is considered to be potential for adaptive re-use of some other historic industrial buildings, in particular at Dorothea, Pen yr Orsedd and Maenofferen quarries.

Fixed machines are a particular issue since they are prone to rust and decay, particularly if they are left exposed to the elements. There may be some circumstances where historic machinery can be brought back into operation for demonstration purposes such as has been achieved with the V2 inclined plane at Vivian slate quarry; where this is not possible, priority needs to be given conserving such machines as static monuments. Removing machinery for display in museums is not a preferred approach, although there can be circumstances where the benefits of relocation as a means of protection and enabling public appreciation and education can justify this action.

The construction of new structures or buildings within quarries can potentially affect the visual relationship between functional elements, reducing understanding of the processes of quarrying and thereby diminishing their contribution to proposed



**The V2 inclined plane at Vivian quarry (Component Part 2) has been conserved and returned to working order as part of the National Museum © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.**

Outstanding Universal Value. In every case, this will be determined in accordance with the Local Development Plan and other relevant planning considerations.

#### *Relict transport routes*

The various means by which slate was transported from its mountain source to markets form key elements of the proposed World Heritage Site. Technological advancements brought into being by the industry resulted in the creation and abandonment of different transport methods including by water, road and rail. Table 5.6 lists the relict transport routes and sites within the proposed World Heritage Site.

Many of the transport routes survive as relict routes retaining landscape coherence and original features including bridges, buildings and even sleepers. In recent decades, some have been converted into public cycle and walk-ways, most notably the 133km Snowdonia Slate Trail, which provides an excellent means of public access to these landscapes. There may be opportunities to establish further networks of paths connecting elements, controlling public access, and facilitating interpretation of the movement of slate from mountain to market. A recent conservation project established by Gwynedd Council has stabilised the viaduct carrying the Penrhyn Quarry Railroad over the Cegin River as part of a footpath and cycle scheme. Voluntary initiatives have also stabilised historic features and tackled vegetation encroachment. Other relict transport routes survive as archaeological monuments and need to be preserved without impacting on their integrity as earthworks and fragile structures. Such un-used sections may become overgrown, and un-managed features such as cuttings, embankments, causeways and bridges could be





Relict transport routes can form footpaths through *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*, such as this stretch of the formation of the Gorseddau Junction & Portmadoc Railways through Cwm Pennant in Component Part 4 © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.

Table 5.6 Relict transport routes and sites within the proposed World Heritage Site.		
Component Part	Element	Name
1 Penrhyn Slate Quarry and Bethesda, and the Ogwen Valley to Port Penrhyn	1.3	Penrhyn Slate Quarry Railroad and Penrhyn Slate Quarry Railway
2 Dinorwig Slate Quarry Mountain Landscape	2.6	Dinorwig Slate Quarry Road Systems – ‘the drag’
	2.7	Dinorwig Slate Quarry Railroad
3 Nantlle Valley Slate Quarry Landscape	3.9	Nantlle Railway
4 Gorseddau and Prince of Wales Slate Quarries, Railways and Mill	4.4	Gorseddau Railway and Gorseddau Junction & Portmadoc Railways
	5.9	Ffestiniog Railway (relict section)
6 Bryneglwys Slate Quarry, Abergynolwyn Village and the Talyllyn Railway	6.4	Talyllyn Railway (relict section)

de-stabilised. The current designation programme aims to protect all well-preserved relict transport features through their designation as Scheduled Monuments. As such, they will be subject to long term monitoring by Cadw.



The Cegin viaduct (Component Part 1) was built to carry horse-drawn slate trains over the river and is one of the oldest surviving multi-arched railway bridges in the world © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.

*Operational Heritage Railways*

Two historic railways, the Ffestiniog and the Talyllyn, are fully operational and run throughout the year. These retain, and make use of their historic infrastructure. The main formations and significant buildings of both railways are original and intact. Track, sleepers and ballast are replaced as necessary, and redundant examples are retained for historical examination. Both railways also maintain in everyday use historic steam locomotives, passenger carriages, and wagons built to carry slate. These are managed and operated as part of the unique mechanical signature of the two systems. Demonstration slate trains are operated on both railways. In addition, the Llanberis Lake Railway operates on the formation of the Dinorwig Slate Quarry Railway.

Table 5.7 Operational heritage railways within the proposed World Heritage Site.		
Component Part	Element	Name
2 Dinorwig Slate Quarry Mountain Landscape	2.7	Dinorwig Slate Quarry Railway (as Llanberis Lake Railway)
5 Ffestiniog: its Slate Mines and Quarries, ‘city of slates’ and Railway to Porthmadog	5.9	Ffestiniog Railway
6 Bryneglwys Slate Quarry, Abergynolwyn Village and the Talyllyn Railway	6.4	Talyllyn Railway





The Ffestiniog Railway runs demonstration gravity trains with its fleet of restored slate wagons, recreating the railway's operation from 1836 to 1940 © Ffestiniog and Welsh Highland Railways.



The Llanberis Lake Railway © Gwynedd Council.

The operational railways cater for very high numbers of visitors; historic ambience needs to be balanced against the need to provide passenger facilities on a much larger scale than in the nineteenth century. Retaining specialist skills for the maintenance and operation of the railways is critical.

The railway operating companies will embed the requirement to sustain the Outstanding Universal Value, integrity and authenticity of the proposed World Heritage Site in their operational programmes and inspections, guided by their individual Local Management Plans. Historic buildings and features will continue to be conserved, and where possible brought back into beneficial use. Any new passenger facilities required to maintain the railway in active use will be designed to respect historic character. Railway operating companies will consult with Cadw and Local Authority conservation specialists on all permitted development proposals.

There will be a presumption in favour of appropriate development within the immediate vicinity of these railways, and in favour of maintaining inter-visibility between trains and the wider cultural landscape. Well-preserved sections of railway that meet national criteria will be designated as scheduled monuments.

### Harbours

There are two operational harbours Port Penrhyn and Porthmadog, and two relict quays on the River Dwyryd within the proposed World Heritage Site. Port Penrhyn is a busy industrial and fishing harbour, handling general cargo and supporting mussel-dredging vessels. Porthmadog Harbour is sustained by yachting.



Porthmadog (Component Part 5) remains an active harbour © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.



**Table 5.8 Harbours and quays within the proposed World Heritage Site.**

Component Part	Element	Name
1 Penrhyn Slate Quarry and Bethesda, and the Ogwen Valley to Port Penrhyn	1.4	Port Penrhyn
5 Ffestiniog: its Slate Mines and Quarries, 'city of slates' and Railway to Porthmadog	5.8	Slate-quays on the Dwyryd river
	5.10	Porthmadog Harbour

The Maritime Museum at Porthmadog Harbour and the Lôn Las Ogwen footpath and cycle track at Port Penrhyn are actively managed assets in a good state of conservation. The river quays on the River Dwyryd are largely robust and stable structures but could potentially be at future risk from dilapidation should climate-change lead to significant increased storm and tidal activity.

These two quays are both protected, one as a Scheduled Monument, the other by designation as a listed building. Port Penrhyn and Porthmadog harbour retain numerous listed buildings including the wharfs, bridges and other historic structures. Local Management Plans will be developed for the working harbours.

*Historic Planned Landscapes, Parks and gardens*

The natural environment, parks and gardens of the proposed World Heritage Site range in scale and form from large scale designed landscapes associated with the patrician landholdings of the large estates to tiny individual worker's smallholdings and potato-plots illustrative of the mixed economy operated by many workers and their wives and families to supplement their income from the slate quarries.

**Table 5.9 Notable Parks and Gardens within the proposed World Heritage Site.**

Component Part	Element	Name
1 Penrhyn Slate Quarry and Bethesda, and the Ogwen Valley to Port Penrhyn	1.7	Penrhyn Castle and Park (Park and Garden)
2 Dinorwig Slate Quarry Mountain Landscape	2.10	Dinorwig Slate Quarry Hospital (Garden)
3 Nantlle Valley Slate Quarry Landscape	3.12	Plas Tal y Sarn (Garden)
5 Ffestiniog: its Slate Mines and Quarries, 'city of slates' and Railway to Porthmadog	5.7	Plas Tan y Bwlch (Park and Garden)

The designed parks and gardens associated with Penrhyn Castle and Plas Tan y Bwlch are established visitor-attractions, and education centres. The relict historic garden at Plas Tal y Sarn has not had active management for many decades and is in poor condition but offers considerable research potential to learn more about a 'forgotten' garden of the period. The establishment of a Biodiversity subgroup



Plas Tan y Bwlch (Component Part 5) was the historic home of the Oakeley family, quarry-owners in Ffestiniog. Planting in the grounds reflects their links with India, the initial source of their fortune © Snowdonia National Park Authority.



Monkey puzzle trees (*araucaria araucana*) were a feature of the gardens associated with managers' houses. This one is at Cwmorthin (Component Part 5) where the white-washed house has been conserved © Evan Davies.

reporting to the Partnership Steering Group provides a body of advice on the natural environment and on cultivated areas within the proposed World Heritage Site, including garden plots and smallholdings associated with quarrymen, quarry-managers and their families.



Historic settlements

The main urban settlements associated with the industry are inhabited and retain a full range of key historic buildings including houses, chapels, churches, public houses, shops and schools.



The settlements on Cilgwyn Mountain in the Nantlle (Component Part 3) were created in the early nineteenth century and were largely abandoned in the 1930s © Gwynedd Council.

With the exception of Treforys Village, which is relict and a scheduled monument, and the partly abandoned settlements on Cilgwyn Mountain, these are all living towns and villages. There are nine designated Conservation Areas within the proposed World Heritage Site. The purpose of designating a Conservation Area is to conserve and enhance its special historic or architectural value. This does not mean that development proposals cannot take place, or that works to a property will be automatically refused. It means however that the Local Planning Authority will have regard to the effect of proposals on the designation in addition to their normal assessment.

Conservation Area consent is required to:

- Demolish a building with a volume of more than 115 cubic metres. There are a few exceptions.
- Demolish a gate, fence, wall or railing more than one metre high next to a highway (including a public footpath or bridleway) or public open space; or more than two metres high elsewhere.

Table 5.10 Settlements within the proposed World Heritage Site.		
Component Part	Element	Name
1 Penrhyn Slate Quarry and Bethesda, and the Ogwen Valley to Port Penrhyn	1.5	Mynydd Llandygai Settlement
	1.6	Bethesda Village
2 Dinorwig Slate Quarry Mountain Landscape	2.8	Deiniolen, Clwt y Bont, Dinorwig and Fachwen Settlements
3 Nantlle Valley Slate Quarry Landscape	3.10	Nantlle Village
	3.11	Settlements on Cilgwyn Mountain
4 Gorseddau and Prince of Wales Slate Quarries, Railways and Mill	4.5	Treforys Village
5 Ffestiniog: its Slate Mines and Quarries, 'city of slates' and Railway to Porthmadog	5.6	Blaenau Ffestiniog Town
6 Bryneglwys Slate Quarry, Abergynolwyn Village and the Talyllyn Railway	6.3	Abergynolwyn Village

Challenges to the character of historic settlement include failure to maintain properties in good condition leading to loss of characteristic features such as wrought-ironwork, porches, chimneys and fenestration; the visual impact of new housing on existing street patterns, and potential abandonment and dereliction of redundant historic buildings, in particular churches and chapels.



Detailed character contributes the distinctiveness of these historic communities. Slate-built porches such as these in Bethesda (Component Part 1) remain common © Gwynedd Council.



Local Planning Authorities are responsible for designating and managing Conservation Areas but require support and resourcing to ensure their long-term sustainability. The Local Authorities will seek resources to develop conservation area appraisals and designation where appropriate, with a view to protecting and enhancing the historic character of settlement pattern in terms of streetscape and topography. In particular, the Local Authorities will pursue the designation of a Conservation Area within Blaenau Ffestiniog and Abergynolwyn.

Outside Conservation Areas developments will respect the historic character of settlements as outlined in Urban Character Studies undertaken on all the settlements in the proposed World Heritage Site. *Gwynedd Planning Policy* (AT3) states that:

**POLICY AT 3**  
**Locally or Regionally Significant Non-designated Heritage Assets**

Proposals will be required to conserve and seek opportunities to enhance buildings, structures and areas of locally or regionally significant non-designated heritage assets, which create a sense of local character, identity and variation across the Plan area, by:

1. The sympathetic re-use of redundant and under-used historic buildings and areas that are consistent with their conservation;
2. Ensuring that all development within the Plan area's historic public realm, including transport and infrastructure work, is sympathetic to the historic environment;
3. Appropriate siting, massing, form, height, scale, detail and use of local materials.

A significant town centre infrastructure improvement project was undertaken in Blaenau Ffestiniog in 2013, part funded through ERDF funding.

A town centre initiative in Blaenau Ffestiniog (Component Part 5) led to the creation of an imaginative paving scheme referencing the slate industry © Gwynedd Council.





5.3.2 Action Plan for conservation and management in practice

<b>Objective 4:</b> The proposed World Heritage Site will be managed to sustain and enhance its proposed Outstanding Universal Value, its integrity and its authenticity.			
<b>Principle 4.1:</b> Support will be given to site-owners to develop and implement Local Management Plans.			
Action 1	Local Management Plans will be prepared for all key Elements.	Short-term	Gwynedd Council / Site Owners
Action 2	Historic assets will be subject to a structured programme of condition monitoring.	Ongoing	Cadw / Local Planning Authorities / Site Owners
<b>Principle 4.2:</b> Where required, action will be taken to improve the condition of key historic assets within the proposed World Heritage Site.			
Action 1	Conservation priorities will be identified and prioritised.	Short-term	Cadw / Local Conservation Officers / Site Owners
Action 2	Conservation projects will be developed and implemented to address priorities.	Short / Medium-term	Gwynedd Council / Cadw / Site Owners
Action 3	Funding opportunities will be sought to develop conservation projects.	Medium term	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partnership Steering Group
<b>Principle 4.3:</b> Sympathetic adaptive reuse of historic assets will be encouraged.			
Action 1	Work will continue to find new uses for key historic assets including Maenofferen Mill.	Medium-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Site Owners
<b>Principle 4.4:</b> Sustainable conservation of the proposed World Heritage Site and public participation in conservation programmes will be encouraged.			
Action 1	Community Design Guides and information sharing resources will be developed.	Short-term	Local Planning Authorities
Action 2	Volunteer groups will be encouraged to 'adopt a monument' and participate in monitoring, vegetation clearance and conserving key assets.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Community Groups

5.4 Managing the setting of the proposed World Heritage Site

<b>Objective 5:</b> The setting and views into and out of the proposed World Heritage Site will be managed to sustain the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the property for the benefit of future generations.
<b>Principle 5.1:</b> Existing landscape protection measures and the land-use planning framework will be utilised as a management tool to protect the setting and key views into and out of the proposed World Heritage Site.
<b>Principle 5.2:</b> New development is to be of a design, scale and mass that preserves and enhances the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the property, respects significant views and reinforces a sense of arrival.

*Planning Policy Wales 10 (2018)* recognises the need to protect the Outstanding Universal Value of World Heritage sites in Wales. The impacts of proposed developments on a World Heritage Site and its setting is a material consideration in the determination of any planning application.

All of the Component Parts of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* proposed World Heritage Site lie within areas of Wales that are already subject to strong levels of landscape protection (see Map 8) through designation as a National Park and registration as Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest. Detailed Landscape Character Studies have been undertaken within all areas to inform planning policy and decisions.

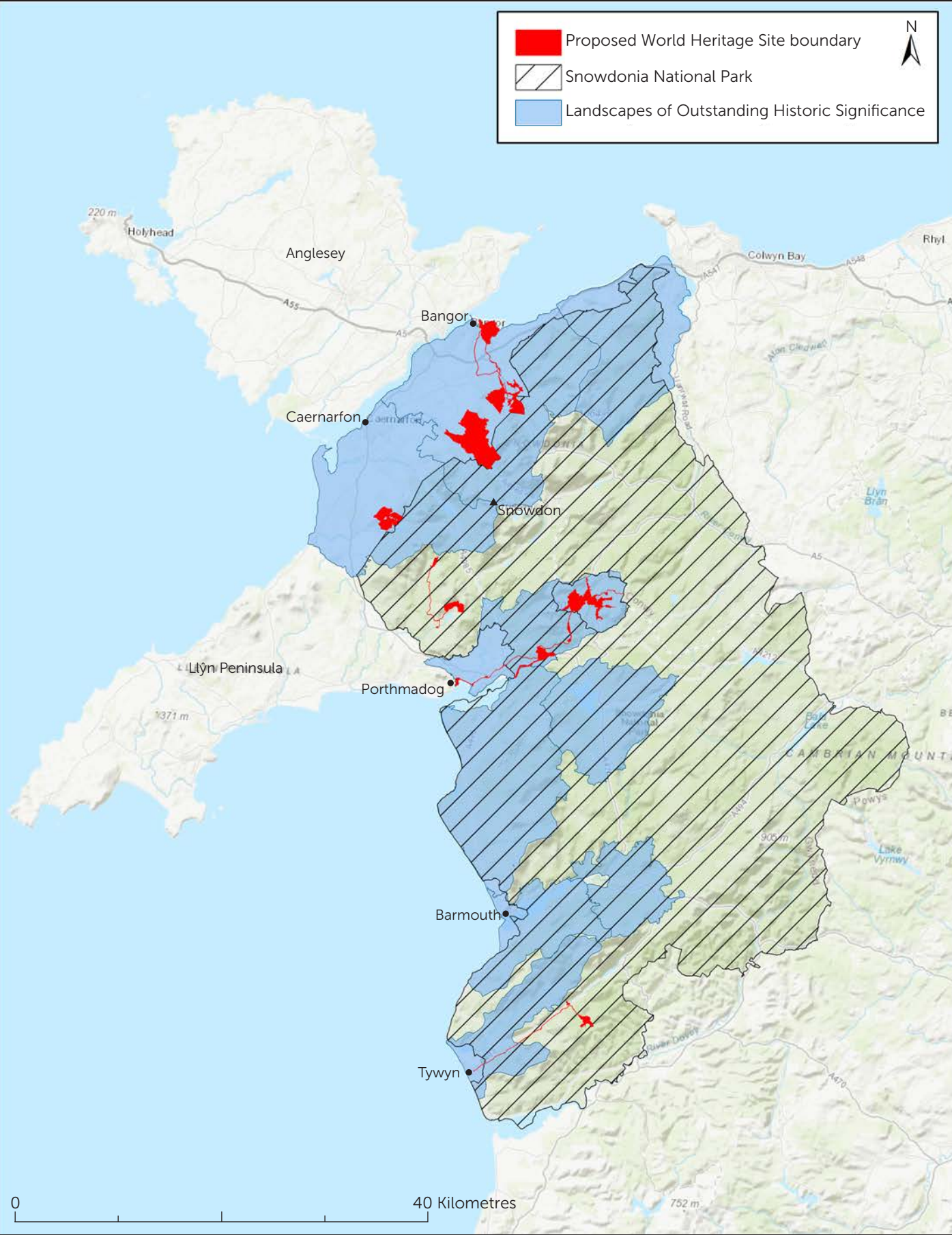
The *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan* and the *Eryri Local Development Plan* are recently adopted plans which include specific policies relating to World Heritage Sites. The area is therefore covered by robust and up-to-date planning policies that will be used to manage the Outstanding Universal Value, setting, key views and sense of arrival to the World Heritage site.

*Snowdonia National Park*

National Parks are the highest level of landscape protection within the UK planning system. Component Parts 4 and 6 are located within the Snowdonia National Park. The transport element of Component Part 5 runs through the National Park, and Component Parts 1, 2 and 3 are located immediately adjacent to the National Park and thus benefit from protection through their proximity to the National Park boundary, as stated in the *Eryri Local Development Plan (2016-2031)* – Policy Ff: Historic Environment (see above)

Gwynedd Planning Authority takes the setting of the National Park into account in the determination of planning applications outside the National Park boundary. If development proposals are likely to have a significant adverse impact on the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the National Park (together encompassing the attributes of proposed Outstanding Universal Value) then they should be refused.





**Map 8. The boundaries of the proposed World Heritage Site and the surrounding landscape protection of the Snowdonia National Park and Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Significance (Scale 1:500,000).**

### Registered Historic Landscapes

Component Parts 1, 2, 3, 5 and 6 lie within *Registered Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest*. The *Register* is a non-statutory instrument but is a material consideration in the planning process and provides information to decision-makers and landscape managers to help ensure that the historic character of the landscape is sustained, and that where change is considered, proposals are well-informed. Existing policies relating to these designations, provide the necessary mechanisms to enable the setting of the proposed World Heritage Site to be managed by Local Authorities through the statutory planning system.

The Historic Landscapes have been subject to detailed Historic Landscape Characterisation as evidence to inform planning policy and decisions. Where developments are of a scale that an Environmental Impact Assessment is required, an Assessment of Significance of Impact on Historic Landscapes (ASIDOHL) is required in accordance with *Technical Advice Note TAN24, The Historic Environment*.

The *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan* Policy AMG 3 states that:

#### **POLICY AMG 3 Protecting and Enhancing Features and Qualities that are Distinctive to the Local Landscape Character**

Proposals that would have significant adverse impact upon landscape character as defined by the Landscape Character Areas included within the current Landscape Strategy for the relevant authority, must demonstrate through a landscape assessment how landscape character has influenced the design, scale, nature and site selection of the development.

A proposal will be granted provided it doesn't have significant adverse impact upon features and qualities which are unique to the local landscape in terms of visual, historic, geological, ecological or cultural aspects. Measures should be taken to ensure that the development does not:

1. Cause significant adverse impact to the character of the built or natural landscape;
2. Fail to harmonise with, or enhance the landform and landscape;
3. Lose or fails to incorporate traditional features, patterns, structures and layout of settlements and landscape of both the built and natural environment.

Particular emphasis will be given to the landscapes identified by the Landscape Character Areas as being of high and outstanding quality because of a certain landscape quality or a combination of qualities. Additional consideration will also be given to development that directly affect the landscape character and setting of the AONBs or the National Park.

Policy PS20 *Preserving and where appropriate enhancing heritage assets* and Policy AT 1 *Conservation Areas, World Heritage Sites and Registered Historic Landscapes, Parks and Gardens*, described above, are also relevant here.



5.4.1 Managing change

Landscapes are dynamic and subject to change. Heritage conservation is the management of change to protect the significance of historic assets.

The setting of an historic asset is not fixed and may change through time as the asset and its surroundings evolve. These changes may have a negative impact on the significance of an asset, such as the loss of the surrounding physical elements that allow an asset to be understood or the introduction of an adjacent new development that has a major visual impact. But changes can also have a positive impact that may enhance the setting, such as the opening up of historic views or reinstating lost connections between related assets.

Most small-scale local development is unlikely to have a significant impact on the Outstanding Universal Value or setting of the proposed World Heritage site. However, where developments are likely to have more than a local impact, it is important that consideration is given to the effect they would have on the Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage site.

Gwynedd and Snowdonia National Park provide comprehensive pre-application advisory services. Developers are encouraged to take advice from the Local Planning Authorities at an early design stage to help them to develop schemes that will achieve their objectives without adverse effects on the proposed World Heritage site.

Supplementary Planning Guidance will provide more detailed guidance on the relevant planning policies in Gwynedd and the National Park for development within and outside the proposed World Heritage Site.



The new railway station at Caernarfon, opened in 2019, shows how an imaginative contemporary design can take its place within the curtilage of an inscribed World Heritage Site, the *Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd* © Festiniog and Welsh Highland Railways.

5.4.2 Action Plan for managing the setting of the proposed World Heritage Site

**Objective 5:** The setting and views into and out of the proposed World Heritage Site will be managed to sustain the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the property for the benefit of future generations.

**Principle 5.1:** Existing landscape protection measures and the land use planning framework will be used as a management tool to protect the essential setting and key views into and out of the proposed World Heritage Site.

Action 1	Produce Supplementary Planning Guidance to provide detailed guidance.	Short-term	Local Planning Authorities / Landowner Forum / Planning and Conservation Subgroup
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**Principle 5.2:** New development is to be of a design, scale and mass that preserves and enhances the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the property, respects significant views and reinforces a sense of arrival.

Action 1	Produce best practice design guidance for developers.	Short-term	Local Planning, Authorities / Planning and Conservation Subgroup
Action 2	Continue to provide pre-application advice service where proposals may impact on the proposed Outstanding Universal Value (the setting and view into and out of the proposed World Heritage Site).	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities
Action 3	Action 2 (above) will ensure that planning applications include the appropriate detail and assessment which will be proportionate to the nature and scale of development.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities



## 6 Theme 3: Sustainable Development of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*

### 6.1 Sustainable development and the well-being of future generations

**Objective 6:** Protect and enhance the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site by sustaining a living landscape and thriving communities.

**Principle 6.1:** Communities will be supported to identify and implement local regeneration opportunities that sustain the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site.

**Principle 6.2:** A successful inscription as a World Heritage Site will instil a sense of pride and ambition within local communities.

**Principle 6.3:** Slate heritage will be a priority within the Gwynedd Council strategic plan for economic regeneration.

**Principle 6.4:** Businesses, third sector organisations and individuals will identify and implement a vision for sustainable business that protects and enhances the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site.



The former barracks in Nantlle village (Component Part 3), have been conserved and returned to use as retail outlets and a community centre  
© Crown copyright: RCAHMW.



The *Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* World Heritage nomination celebrates the legacy of slate and the generations of slate workers who created our landscapes and settlements. It is a cultural landscape subject to the processes of evolution, growth, decline and regeneration which are common to all living places. Together we will meet the needs of the slate communities today and in the future, by applying the principles of sustainable development. This is a core principle of the Welsh Government's *Well-being of Future Generations Act (2015)* – and recognised as the means for achieving the *well-being goals* (see sections 1.3 and 3.3) that will ensure the future of living communities in Wales.

Sustainable development meets the needs of the present without compromising the aspirations of future generations. It is at the core of our planning system in Wales as implemented by both Gwynedd Council and Snowdonia National Park Authority. For this reason, no new statutory controls are needed to manage the proposed World Heritage Site. Existing mechanisms enable the proposed Outstanding Universal Value to be balanced with the need to sustain communities, now and in

the future. Development that is sensitive to the slate landscape and to the local character of our settlements will be encouraged, as will proposals that respect and enhance the values of the proposed World Heritage Site. The fundamental ambition of Gwynedd Council and its partners is the development of sustainable and viable communities that provide housing and employment as foundations to safeguard a thriving and living Welsh language and culture.

*The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future. At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries – developed and developing – in a global partnership. They recognise that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth – all the while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests. The World Heritage nomination is key to delivering the aims of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals within *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*.

### 6.1.1 Priorities

The Partnership Steering Group has identified the creation of quality employment opportunities and attractive destinations, towns and attractions as a means to ensure strong and resilient communities. Promoting and safeguarding the region's unique industrial heritage, culture, landscapes and language are all priorities within the *Wales Slate Economic Plan*. In addition to its own resources, Gwynedd Council and its partners have already secured funding from various sources including the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Welsh Government, Snowdonia National Park Authority and the European Union to develop a series of heritage-based regeneration strategies and activities for key destinations within the proposed World Heritage Site. Efforts are ongoing and will continue into the future to secure funding to develop regeneration opportunities.

The proposed World Heritage Site will inevitably witness changes during the period covered by this *Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Property Management Plan* as the area continues to evolve and new development takes place. This document is intended to help guide these changes to ensure that they meet local needs, and that they are consistent with the objectives of UNESCO and the Welsh Government's focus on sustainable development as expressed through *The Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015*.

Local Planning Authorities will manage development through the implementation of the *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan (2017)* and the *Eryri Local Development Plan (2016)*. These are statutory development plans providing strategic and detailed policies to manage issues such as landscape change and visual impact, deterioration or loss of habitats, addressing housing and employment needs, and (coupled with national planning policy and legislation) protection of important sites, structures and buildings. The principle of avoiding adverse impacts on World Heritage Sites and their settings, and on the National Park and its settings, is already firmly established in these Local Development Plans.



This pattern of shops and public houses is characteristic of Bethesda High Street in Component Part 1. World Heritage inscription will bring economic and social benefits to communities within the proposed World Heritage Site © Gwynedd Council.



6.1.2 Action Plan for sustainable development and the well-being of future generations

<b>Objective 6:</b> Sustain the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site by ensuring that we sustain a living landscape and thriving communities.			
<b>Principle 6.1:</b> Communities will be supported to identify and implement local regeneration opportunities that sustain the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site and promote the Welsh Language.			
Action 1	Funding will be sought to develop regeneration activities that conserve or enhance proposed Outstanding Universal Value.	Medium-term	Site Owners / Community Groups / Partnership Steering Group
Action 2	<i>Cynlluniau Cynefin</i> (place-based regeneration strategies) will be developed for key communities, with heritage-led regeneration and promoting the Welsh Language and culture at their core.	Short-term	<i>LleCHI</i> / Community Groups
<b>Principle 6.2:</b> A successful inscription as a World Heritage Site will instil a sense of pride and ambition within local communities.			
Action 1	Ambassador schemes will be developed for a range of ages / sectors.	Short-term	<i>LleCHI</i> / Partners / Community Groups / Schools
<b>Principle 6.3:</b> Slate heritage will be a priority within the Gwynedd Council strategic plan for economic regeneration			
Action 1	In the event of a successful inscription, <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> will continue to be identified as a priority within the economic regeneration priorities of the Gwynedd Council Strategic Plan.	Medium-term	Gwynedd Council Elected Members

6.2 Extractive industries (quarrying and mining)

<b>Objective 7:</b> Maintaining a sustainable mineral industry.
<b>Principle 7.1:</b> Primary mineral extraction does not take place within the boundary of the proposed World Heritage Site or within the boundary of the Snowdonia National Park Authority.
<b>Principle 7.2:</b> Primary mineral extraction and secondary working outside the proposed World Heritage Site will be managed through the existing mineral planning process.
<b>Principle 7.3:</b> Slate craft and conservation skills will be promoted together with skills-support for the modern slate quarrying industry.
<b>Principle 7.4:</b> A sustainable supply of conservation materials, secondary materials and aggregates will be maintained.

*The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* is shaped and dominated by the extraction and working of slate, and by its transport from source to international markets. The continued operation of the slate industry in Wales is testimony to the quality and desirability of Welsh slate, and the industry plays an important role in the culture and economy of the region and in maintaining historic properties and local character throughout Wales and across the world. The proposed World Heritage Site will be managed to assist this important regional industry to flourish and develop.

By their nature, quarrying and mining cause their environments to change, and can lead to the loss of historic features. For this reason, and in order to safeguard the future economic viability of the sector, the boundaries of the proposed World Heritage Site have been drawn in agreement with landowners and the planning authority to include only historic workings where mineral operations no longer take place, and to exclude existing mineral permissions and areas where landowners foresee possible future mineral extraction. No mineral working therefore takes place within the boundary of the proposed World Heritage Site.

Active mineral extraction, tipping, processing and secondary reworking takes place outside the proposed World Heritage Site. All operations are managed under existing mineral planning legislation and do not impact on the attributes of proposed Outstanding Universal Value. They contribute positively to the local economy, and support proposed World Heritage values in several different ways:

- They sustain the intangible heritage of craft skill in quarrying and processing slate, and thereby inform interpretation and demonstrations.
- They ensure the continued supply of slate for future conservation requirements within the proposed World Heritage Site, and across the world.
- They address the economic and social needs of the region by providing continued employment to local people, therefore ensuring that the settlements within and adjacent to *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* remain inhabited and vibrant places in which to live, both now and in the future and where the Welsh language and culture continue to thrive.





- They contribute to understanding of the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* in that these evolving quarry landforms create and sustain a dramatic environment which strengthens the character of the relict industrial archaeological elements in the proposed World Heritage Site itself, and thereby form an important associative attribute.
- They sustain an existing industry that meets the priority of *Planning Policy Wales Edition 10* and *Mineral Technical Advice Note 1 (MTAN1)* of the importance of the secondary aggregates sector as a source of materials for the construction industry.

All such operations are managed through Gwynedd Council's current mineral permission process. Decisions are made in accordance with the Local Development Plans unless material planning considerations indicate otherwise. *Policy MWYN 3: Mineral developments in the Anglesey and Gwynedd Local Planning Authority* includes a criterion which avoids significant adverse impact to sites of international, national, regional or local environmental, nature conservation, landscape and / or heritage importance. *Policy PS 20: Preserving and where appropriate enhancing heritage assets* and *Policy AT 1: Conservation areas, World Heritage Sites and Registered Landscapes, Parks and Gardens* are also relevant in the assessment of proposals within the proposed World Heritage Site.

#### 6.2.1 Action plan for extractive industries (quarrying and mining)

##### Objective 7: A sustainable mineral industry.

**Principle 7.1:** Primary mineral extraction does not take place within the boundary of the proposed World Heritage Site or within the boundary of the Snowdonia National Park Authority.

Action 1	No action is required.
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**Principle 7.2:** Primary mineral extraction outside of the proposed World Heritage Site will be managed through the existing mineral planning process.

Action 1	All permissions will be subject to periodic reviews and be required to adhere to the conditions of their permission.	Ongoing	North Wales Minerals and Waste Planning Service
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**Principle 7.3:** Slate craft and conservation skills will be actively promoted together with skills-support for the modern slate quarrying industry.

Action 1	Traditional skills training / provision / promotion will be undertaken in partnership with businesses, community organisations and education/ training providers.	Medium-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners
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**Principle 7.4:** A sustainable supply of conservation materials and aggregates will be maintained and the use of secondary aggregates should be optimised wherever possible.

Action 1	Ensure that existing slate quarrying industry is supported in order to ensure continued supply of materials.	Ongoing	North Wales Minerals and Waste Planning Service
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Penrhyn slate has been used to re-roof the World Heritage Buda castle in Hungary © Breedon Group plc.



6.3 Sustainable development and renewable energy

**Objective 8:** Ensure renewable energy ambitions are developed in harmony with the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site.

**Principle 8.1:** Proposals that make use of natural resources without impacting on proposed Outstanding Universal Value will be supported subject to the requirements of the *Eryri Local Development Plan 2016-2031: Development Policy 3* and where relevant, Strategic Policy B (February 2019), and the *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan*.

**Principle 8.2:** Renewable energy proposals that do not impact on proposed Outstanding Universal Value, and comply with existing planning policy, will be supported.

UNESCO’s Sustainable Development Goals, specifically *Goal 7, Affordable Clean Energy*, highlight the importance of renewables in achieving a sustainable future. It is envisaged that support for renewable energy schemes will have greater public benefit by enabling wider economic and employment opportunities, thereby ensuring that communities originally established as quarry-workers’ settlements remain viable and that community identification with the historic environment endures. It is also assumed that the development of local sustainable revenue streams will support future repair, maintenance and conservation works within the proposed World Heritage Site (see *Conservation Principles in Action: Integrating Conservation with Other Interests and Enabling Development*).

All renewable energy proposals require infrastructure and access that can potentially have more impact than the proposed development itself. These will be assessed against relevant local planning policies.

Hydro-power

Pit quarries in Dorothea Quarry (Component Part 3) in particular lend themselves to the development of large-scale pumped hydro energy storage and generation – a proven technology which facilitates a renewables-based energy network.. Examples in and adjacent to Component Part 2 have demonstrated that such schemes can be developed even on a very substantial scale with minimal visual intrusion, and in a manner sympathetic with the long-term protection and enhancement of proposed Outstanding Universal Value, by locating pipes and turbines underground. Large scale schemes provide economic benefit through direct employment and tourism as is the case at Dinorwig Power Station.

Solar and wind energy

Some micro-generation proposals might be adapted to meet the requirement of Principle 8.1. However, in general large-scale solar and wind energy proposals introduce obtrusive visual elements into the landscape and are unlikely to be supported due to existing landscape designations and existing planning policies within both Local Development Plans.



Pit quarries in Dorothea Quarry (Component Part 3) are particularly suitable for storage of water required for pumped hydro energy storage and generation © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.

6.3.1 Action plan for sustainable development and renewable energy

**Objective 8:** Ensure renewable energy ambitions are developed in harmony with the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site.

**Principle 8.1:** Proposals that make use of natural resources without impacting on proposed Outstanding Universal Value will be supported subject to the requirements of the *Eryri Local Development Plan 2016-2031: Development Policy 3* and where relevant, Strategic Policy B (February 2019), and the *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan*.

Action 1	Encourage pre-application meetings for all proposed developments within, or adjacent to the boundary.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities
Action 2	Follow ICOMOS guidance for heritage impact assessment for significant development proposals.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities
Action 3	Consult ICOMOS-UK over large developments with the potential to affect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities / Partnership Steering Group



<b>Principle 8.2:</b> Renewable energy proposals that do not impact on proposed Outstanding Universal Value, and comply with existing planning policy, will be supported.			
Action 1	Encourage pre-application meetings for all developments within or adjacent to the boundary.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities
Action 2	Follow ICOMOS guidance for heritage impact assessment for significant development proposals.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities
Action 3	Consult ICOMOS-UK over large developments with the potential to affect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities / Partnership Steering Group

6.4 Regeneration and economic development

**Objective 9:** The Partnership Steering Group will promote *The Slate Landscapes of Northwest Wales* to support economic diversity and heritage-led regeneration.

**Principle 9.1:** In the event of a successful inscription, regeneration opportunities that complement or enhance the World Heritage Site and comply with the policies of the Local Development Plans will be encouraged.

**Principle 9.2:** Conservation of historic assets will be used as a catalyst to encourage the development and continuation of traditional skills and specialist conservation work.

**Principle 9.3:** Collaborative working with other relevant initiatives will enhance economic opportunities (e.g. *The Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd* World Heritage Site, Snowdonia National Park Authority Management Plan).

Heritage-led regeneration through the re-use of historic buildings or other historic assets can ensure the sustainability of a local community (see *Conservation Principles in Action: Integrating Conservation with Other Interests*). It can be a positive catalyst to achieve economic change in an area, creating jobs, initiating wider improvements and furthering the development of community pride, identity and supporting the Welsh language. This is of particular relevance for areas within the proposed World Heritage Site that suffer from relatively high levels of deprivation, lack of highly skilled jobs but are Welsh language heartlands.

Relict quarry landforms in Component Parts 1 and 5 have benefitted from the introduction of adventure tourism facilities including mountain biking, underground exploration and zip wires which have drawn new audiences to these dramatic



‘Go Below’ underground tour at Cwmorthin Quarry in Component Part 5. Briefing for participants includes a history of the site and instructions to avoid damage to heritage © Go Below.



Antur ‘Stiniog. Mountain Biking in Blaenau Ffestiniog © Gwynedd Council.

landscapes and provided access opportunities that would otherwise not exist. Such activities have minimal impact on the Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site, and in many cases, such as the zip wires, recreate the industrial aesthetic of the quarry landscape, and improve visitor-access and understanding of the industrial landscape. Adventure tourism facilities across the proposed World





Glamping pods at Llechwedd quarry in Ffestiniog © Greaves Welsh Slate Company Ltd.

Heritage Site are carefully planned under existing policy to prevent undue erosion or damage to the landscape, and any plans for opening routes for motorised vehicles (e.g. 4x4 off-road or motorbikes) are discouraged.

Heritage-led regeneration opportunities that may come forward during the lifetime of the Management Plan include developments within Dorothea and Llechwedd Quarries, in Blaenau Ffestiniog and Bethesda, and as a direct result of the LleCHI project. The LleCHI project will create a *Cynllun Cynefin* community regeneration plan for each of the major settlements associated with the proposed World Heritage Site, outlining ideas for regeneration projects centred on heritage.

Apart from the potential hydro development at Component Part 3, there are no foreseen significant pressures for major commercial development within or adjacent to the proposed World Heritage Site. Redevelopment or informed reconstruction of existing quarry buildings or the construction of appropriate new buildings for commercial use such as accommodation, restaurants, offices, cottage industries, economic activities or infrastructure for low-impact tourism will be welcomed in accordance with relevant planning policies.

### Sustainable Tourism

The Partnership Steering Group recognises the importance of responsible and sustainable tourism and acknowledges that inscription can have an effect on areas and communities. Gwynedd Council is currently reviewing its tourism and destination management strategy with a view to publishing a new *Tourism and Destination Management Plan* during 2020. The new plan will take account of the United Nations



Built in the 1870s, Plas Tal y Weunydd in Component Part 5 is the former home of one of the owning families in Llechwedd Slate Quarry. It has been converted into a hotel by the locally-based operating company, retaining its historic character © Greaves Welsh Slate Company Ltd.

World Tourism Organisation's aim of seeing tourism as a driver for economic growth, inclusive development and environmental sustainability. Emerging principles in Gwynedd currently include: celebrating uniqueness and the Welsh Language, Living and Sustainable Communities, Improved value from the sector to communities and people, Partnership working, Wellbeing and Sustainability.

### 6.4.1 Action plan for regeneration and economic development

**Objective 9:** The Partnership Steering Group will promote *The Slate Landscapes of Northwest Wales* to support economic diversity and heritage-led regeneration.

**Principle 9.1:** In the event of a successful inscription, regeneration opportunities that complement or enhance the World Heritage Site and comply with the policies of the Local Development Plans will be encouraged.

Action 1	Regeneration opportunities will be identified and prioritised within the <i>Cynlluniau Cynefin</i> (heritage-led regeneration strategies).	Ongoing	<i>LleCHI</i> / Partners / Partnership Steering Group
Action 2	Wider economic development opportunities which correspond to local spatial planning policies and contribute to proposed Outstanding Universal Value or setting and support the Welsh Language will be identified and prioritised.	Ongoing	Partners / Site Owners / Investors

**Principle 9.2:** Conservation of historic assets will be used as a catalyst to encourage the development and continuation of traditional skills and specialist conservation work.

Action 1	Use practical training to deliver elements of Traditional Skills provision.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners
Action 2	Support existing private and voluntary conservation efforts.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners



**Principle 9.3:** Collaborative working with other relevant initiatives will enhance economic opportunities (e.g. *The Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd* World Heritage Site, Snowdonia National Park Authority Management Plan).

Action 1	Coordinated approach to developing regeneration plans / projects.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners
Action 2	Take forward individual regeneration opportunities through delivery of collaborative projects.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners

### 6.5 Housing and communities

**Objective 10:** Sustainable communities.

**Principle 10.1:** All new housing within or adjacent to the proposed World Heritage Site will take account of the need to protect and enhance proposed Outstanding Universal Value.

**Principle 10.2:** The Partnership Steering Group will encourage informed conservation of distinctive elements of the built environment that contribute to historic character, considering the recommendations of the Urban Character Studies as guidance for best practice.

**Principle 10.3:** The Partnership will seek solutions and actively encourage appropriate adaptive re-use of redundant historic buildings including places of worship in a way that will not compromise the historic and archaeological integrity of these assets.

Historic settlements within the proposed World Heritage Site have been subject to detailed Urban Character Studies which have identified overall street-patterns, architectural style and ambition, and small-scale but characteristic detailing, and have made recommendations for appropriate conservation. Key buildings have been listed.

The *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan* aims to create sustainable mixed communities for current and future residents by ensuring that appropriate types of housing are provided. The *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan* foreseen level of growth is based on the level of anticipated housing need, balanced against deliverability, environmental and landscape constraint, economic and demographic prospects and the potential demographic profile. The level of growth is distributed in accordance with Strategic Policy PS 17 and Policies TAI 1 to TAI 6. Proposed housing development would have to comply with all of the policies contained within the Joint Local Development Plan, including those relating to design, landscaping and historical assets (where applicable).

The *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan* has identified a housing allocation within Component Part 1 in Bangor and within Component Part 2 in



**Inhabited settlements preserve the historic street patterns, garden-plots and boundaries, which explain their location, ownership, and their relationship to pre-Industrial patterns of landownership. Tiny details are also important such as this slate-slab field boundary near Abergynolwyn, Component Part 6 © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.**

Deiniolen, and in Blaenau Ffestiniog adjacent to Component Part 5. LDP policy *TAI 6: Housing in Clusters* requires proposals for new housing units to conform to criteria of which the following are relevant: Local need affordable housing units will be permitted on infill or extension plots in acceptable and sustainable locations. There are no development boundaries for the Clusters, and only sites adjacent to a coloured dwelling on the relevant maps will be considered.

The increasing likelihood of places of worship, public houses and other community facilities falling out of use endangers historic character, and a high level of second home ownership is an identified risk to the sustainability of local communities. Gwynedd Council has introduced a Council Tax Premium on Second Homes and long-term empty homes, stating that a 50 per cent premium will be raised on properties that have been empty and substantially unfurnished for 12 months or more, from 1 April 2018 onwards.

The *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan* has identified sites that are allocated for housing in Policies TAI 1 and TAI 3 within Component Part 1 in Bangor and within Component Part 2 in Deiniolen, and in Blaenau Ffestiniog adjacent to Component Part 5. These allocations mean that housing development on these sites are acceptable in principle subject to consideration of relevant material planning consideration which will include appropriate consideration of the proposed World Heritage Site.

Joint Local Development Plan policy *TAI 6: Housing in Clusters* requires proposals for new housing units to conform to criteria of which the following are relevant: Local need affordable housing units will be permitted on infill or extension plots in acceptable and sustainable locations. There are no development boundaries for the





Interiors of chapels in Wales are lavish and magnificent, as ‘Jerusalem’ chapel in Bethesda (Component Part 1) demonstrates, but pose a long-term conservation challenge © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.

Clusters and only sites adjacent to a coloured dwelling on the relevant maps will be considered. These will again be assessed against relevant planning policies and any other material planning considerations including, where appropriate, the proposed World Heritage Site.

6.5.1 Action plan for housing and communities

Objective 10: Sustainable communities.			
Principle 10.1: All new housing within or adjacent to the proposed World Heritage Site will take account of the need to protect and enhance proposed Outstanding Universal Value.			
Action 1	Use existing planning policy to ensure all development is appropriate and takes account of proposed Outstanding Universal Value.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities
Principle 10.2: The Partnership Steering Group will encourage informed conservation of distinctive elements of the built environment that contribute to historic character, considering the recommendations of the Urban Character Studies as guidance for best practice.			
Action 1	Encourage the conservation of built assets within and adjacent to the proposed World Heritage Site.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners
Action 2	Encourage community groups and social enterprises to consider historic character when developing projects involving the built historic environment.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners

Principle 10.3: The Partnership Steering Group will seek solutions and actively encourage appropriate adaptive reuse of redundant historic buildings including places of worship in a way that will not compromise the historic and archaeological integrity of these assets.			
Action 1	Work with local community and private owners to identify and deliver sustainable re-use projects for redundant historic buildings.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners
Action 2	Work with partners to identify and deliver sustainable re-uses for redundant places of worship within the proposed World Heritage Site.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners

6.6 Agriculture and forestry

Objective 11: Sustainable agriculture and forestry.	
Principle 11.1: The Partnership Steering Group will welcome agricultural diversification in ways that contribute to access and conservation of the proposed World Heritage Site.	
Principle 11.2: The Partnership Steering Group will advocate for future sustainable land management schemes to apply to World Heritage Sites.	

Agriculture and forestry are the main land-uses within the region. Farms are mostly small and family-run, though the decline in the number of people employed on the land has led to an amalgamation of holdings and paradoxically to agriculture becoming a part-time activity in many cases.

Diversification has already led to farmhouses and outbuildings being used for bed-and-breakfast or converted into self-catering accommodation, and farmers increasingly embrace tourism-related and other commercial activities. Component Part 4 in particular, a remote area, offers opportunities for farmers to develop industrial heritage tourism.

Agriculture in Wales may be affected by the withdrawal of European subsidies, though the Welsh Government has introduced several schemes designed to encourage farming communities to co-operate in caring for their land in an environmentally sustainable way. Well-considered schemes can provide benefits to both farming practice and historic environment conservation. Field boundary restoration, gate repairs and footpath maintenance can both assist good land management and also confer visitor and conservation benefits.

Commercial forestry is well established within the region, particularly in Component Parts 5 and 6, where it is critical to the long-term protection and enhancement of proposed Outstanding Universal Value. Natural Resources Wales employs a felling regime that respects historic elements and a maintenance programme which manages new growth within scheduled areas in their landholdings. Good forestry





As Bryneglwys Slate Quarry (Component Part 6) declined in the twentieth century, many of its employees went to work for the Forestry Commission, and the quarry itself became overgrown until recent felling programmes © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.

management can help to strengthen historic landscape character. Component Parts 1 to 4 retain little forestry and as such the introduction of new plantations could erode historic landscape character. Reference to Historic Landscape Characterisation and to the *Register of Historic Landscapes* should inform all future planting proposals to ensure that any such conflicts are minimised.

6.6.1 Action plan for agriculture and forestry

Objective 11: Sustainable agriculture and forestry.			
Principle 11.1: The Partnership Steering Group will welcome agricultural diversification in ways that contribute to access and conservation of the proposed World Heritage Site.			
Action 1	Encourage landowners to incorporate interpretation and access to the proposed World Heritage Site into developments where appropriate.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners
Principle 11.2: The Partnership Steering Group will advocate for future sustainable land management schemes to apply to World Heritage Sites.			
Action 1	Maintain dialogue with political representatives who have a voice in future sustainable land management arrangements.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group

6.7 Sustainable transport

Objective 12: The Partnership Steering Group will encourage and promote sustainable modes of travel as a means of visiting destinations within the proposed World Heritage Site.	
Principle 12.1: The use of sustainable methods of travel to visit the Component Parts of the proposed World Heritage Site will be encouraged.	
Principle 12.2: The Partnership Steering Group will actively encourage integration of sustainable modes of transport.	
Principle 12.3: The Partnership Steering Group will seek to integrate heritage interest with sustainable transport within the proposed World Heritage Site and the region.	

The region is served by a network of trunk and other A roads adjacent to, or within, each of the Component Parts. These provide direct access to a number of elements within the proposed World Heritage Site which function as visitor attractions or are otherwise open to the public, and further improvements to the road infrastructure are expected within a sustainable framework. However, the mountainous environment of the region does not make it suitable for more intensive use of road





Historic railways have minimised car-use within a fragile natural environment. Two Ffestiniog trains cross at Tan y Bwlch station in Component Part 5 © Ffestiniog and Welsh Highland Railways.

transport; existing Gwynedd Council and Snowdonia National Park policy is to reduce the need for travel by private car.

The region is connected to the national United Kingdom railway network by the London to Holyhead main line which passes through Component Part 1, and by an operational branch line which extends from Llandudno Junction to Blaenau Ffestiniog in Component Part 5, as well as by the Cambrian Coast railway, a single-track system which operates from Shrewsbury and from Birmingham International and which passes through Component Parts 5 and 6. This connects with the two operational steam heritage railways within the proposed World Heritage Site, the Ffestiniog which also connects with the branch from Llandudno Junction, and the Talylyn. The Welsh Highland Railway provides a link from Component Part 5 to Caernarfon and its World Heritage Site. Bus services are integrated as much as possible with railway timetables and directly serve each Component Part except 4.

Cycle routes administered by Sustrans, a non-profit organization sponsored by the United Kingdom government, pass through Component Parts 1, 5, and 6 and adjacent to Component Part 3.

Complementing the sustainable transport modes are footpaths, including the 133km Snowdonia Slate Trail, which connects Component Parts 1, 2, 3 and 5, and the Slate Valleys Paths, which are circular routes within Component Parts 1, 2, 3 and 5. Gwynedd Council policy is to improve inter-modal transport links and to encourage the use of public transport, cycling and walking. *The Active Wales Travel Act (2013)* notes the responsibility of the Local Authority continuously to improve facilities and routes for walkers and cyclists. Gwynedd has been one of the foremost counties in the UK to develop cycle tracks whose high standards and accessibility have received significant commendation.



The Snowdonia Slate Trail enables visitors to explore the slate heritage of the proposed World Heritage Site © Gwynedd Council.

### 6.7.1 Action plan for sustainable transport

**Objective 12:** The Partnership Steering Group will encourage and promote sustainable modes of travel as a means of visiting destinations within the proposed World Heritage Site.

Principle 12.1: The use of sustainable methods of travel to visit the component parts of the proposed World Heritage Site will be encouraged.			
Action 1	Develop itineraries to enable people to travel around the region sustainably.	Medium-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator
Action 2	Work with partners to promote existing sustainable methods of travel within and around the proposed World Heritage Site, including Transport for Wales.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator
Action 3	Promote sustainable transport with destination management partners.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Site Owners
Principle 12.2: The Partnership Steering Group will actively encourage integration of sustainable modes of transport and will seek to integrate heritage interest with sustainable transport within the proposed World Heritage Site, and the region.			
Action 1	Maintain dialogue with transport-providers, including Transport for Wales.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Transport-providers





## 7 Theme 4: Enjoying *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*

### 7.1 Key aim

**Objective 13:** To ensure that the proposed World Heritage Site can be enjoyed, experienced and understood.

**Principle 13.1:** The Partnership Steering Group safeguards the tangible and intangible values of the proposed World Heritage Site in their natural and cultural contexts.

**Principle 13.2:** The Partnership Steering Group facilitates understanding and appreciation of the proposed World Heritage Site and fosters public / stakeholder engagement in protection, conservation and interpretation.

**Principle 13.3:** The Partnership Steering Group protects the proposed World Heritage Site from intrusive interpretive infrastructure, visitor-pressure, inaccurate or inappropriate interpretation.

**Principle 13.4:** The Partnership Steering Group follows evolving best practice in heritage interpretation.

**Principle 13.5:** The Partnership Steering Group will assess and monitor the impact of tourism on the Welsh language and the communities of the proposed World Heritage Site and work to mitigate any negative effects.

#### 7.1.1 Context

Gwynedd residents and visitors alike have traditionally found recreation and pleasure in *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*. The ambition of Gwynedd Council and of the Partnership Steering Group is that in the event of inscription, it can also be enjoyed, experienced and understood as a World Heritage site.

The region has always been a source of pride for its people, as their own environment and milieu. Walking and exploration have been popular activities for many years, often prompted by an interest in natural surroundings or in the historic past. Within Gwynedd, the Welsh language is cherished not only by those who speak it, but also by those who do not, or who are early-stage learners, as a badge of identity, a symbol of belonging and as a link with the past, but above all as an expressive means of communication.

Visitors have explored and enjoyed the region since the eighteenth century. Many of these early travellers came for mountaineering or to explore the region's rich botanical and geological heritage. Others came to see its magnificent castles, to



experience a traditional way of life at first hand or to be inspired by its 'sublime' scenery and its upland environments. The slate quarries, their innovative transport systems and the quarry settlements themselves came to be of great interest to well-off travellers, and to engineers and entrepreneurs. Mass tourism and the national railway network made the region a holiday destination in the Victorian period, and in the twentieth century 'industrial tourism' became popular, with the opportunity to travel on historic railways and to visit the quarries themselves. Organised groups such as Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme participants and outdoor education centre explorers frequently visit the region. This landscape has also inspired world-famous artists and architects such as Kyffin Williams, J W M Turner, Clough Williams-Elis, Peter Prendergast and Frank Lloyd Wright.

In 2017 Gwynedd was voted the fourth-best region in the world to visit by the travel-guide publisher Lonely Planet:

**Once upon a time the mountains and valleys of North Wales gave up a bounty of slate, copper and even gold; now this landscape, ringed with hills and rich with mythology, is a playground for hikers, mountain bikers and rock climbers.**

In order to ensure that *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* can be enjoyed, experienced and appreciated both by local communities and by visitors from a wide range of cultural backgrounds and with different needs, and that it does not become purely a 'playground' but remains an authentic cultural environment, the Partnership Steering Group, guided by the *Gwynedd Destination Management Plan 2013-2020*, has commissioned an *Interpretive Strategy*, and has addressed health and safety issues. These are all considered below.



Walking in the mountain landscape of Snowdonia is a popular activity © Gwynedd Council.

### 7.1.2 Communities of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*

Local communities lie at the heart of decision-making and capacity-building within the World Heritage framework, creating an environment which can be enjoyed by residents, and also enabling them to develop a vigorous and welcoming tourism sector. This approach aligns with UNESCO's *Sustainable Tourism Toolkit*, which emphasises 'local solutions in communities through capacity-building in best practice.'



*Merched Chwarel Canu Chwarel* ['Quarry Women Singing Quarry'] at Llechwedd. This group has been holding singing sessions in various locations across the proposed World Heritage Site © Lindsay Colbourne

The Partnership Steering Group has supported community-led events throughout the region, including presentations, business meetings, carnivals and school activities, to raise awareness of the nomination, to improve understanding and to encourage a sense of connection with their past.

In addition to its own resources, Gwynedd Council and its partners have already secured funding from various sources including the National Lottery Heritage Fund, Welsh Government, Snowdonia National Park Authority, the private sector and the European Union to develop a series of heritage-based regeneration strategies and activities for key destinations and Component Parts within the proposed World Heritage Site.



### Implementing decision-making and capacity-building

Community engagement and capacity-building will be sustained by several inter-related current projects supported by Gwynedd Council.

The *Gwynedd Arts Plan* builds on cultural opportunities within the region to promote health and well-being, education and socio-economic regeneration through the arts. The World Heritage nomination is a key driver in achieving these aims.

The National Lottery Heritage Fund *Unloved Heritage?* project empowers communities by inspiring young people throughout Wales to discover their past. In Gwynedd, this project is currently based in Component Part 3 and focuses on its slate industry, working in close partnership with quarry landowners, primary and secondary schools, local businesses and third sector regeneration groups. It has offered young people a voice in developing the World Heritage nomination, and will enable their voices to feed into the interpretive strategy.

It runs in conjunction with the National Lottery Heritage Fund Great Places Scheme project *LleCHI* ['YOUR place' which also translates in Welsh as 'Slate'].



The National Lottery Heritage-funded *Unloved Heritage?* group filming in a Nantlle slate quarry © Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.

The *LleCHI* project has various strands which all work towards regenerating slate communities through heritage. Its main elements include the creation of ambassador schemes, support for community projects, the development of interpretive strategy, and hosting of events. The project also facilitates and funds *Cynlluniau Cynefin* [place-based regeneration strategies] for each of the principal towns and villages in the proposed World Heritage Site in partnership with each community as well as with agencies, businesses and social enterprises, making use of the Urban Character Studies undertaken as part of the nomination process as well as other sources of information. By exploring concerns, risks and threats, identifying aspirations and opportunities, and establishing potential funding opportunities, the agreed regeneration strategies will be incorporated into the emerging *Gwynedd Tourism and Destination Management Plan*. *Cynlluniau Cynefin* are underway in Blaenau Ffestiniog (Component Part 5) and Bethesda (Component Part 1), with other strategies scheduled for the remaining settlements by April 2020.

The *Unloved Heritage?* and the *LleCHI* projects will promote business, community and youth ambassadors for *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*. These ambassadors will be provided with training information and resources in order for them to provide a hands-on, authentic approach and information to visitors. These projects connect local communities to their unique heritage in order to promote and protect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site.

### The Welsh language

The communities of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* form the heartland for the Welsh language, which is an important attribute of the proposed World Heritage Site. Welsh is identified as an indigenous language by UNESCO and formed part of the UNESCO Year of Indigenous Languages celebrations in 2019. UNESCO promotes indigenous languages through the following five key areas:

1. Increasing understanding, reconciliation and international cooperation
2. Creation of favorable conditions for knowledge-sharing and dissemination of good practices with regards to indigenous languages
3. Integration of indigenous languages into standard setting
4. Empowerment through capacity building
5. Growth and development through elaboration of new knowledge

The Welsh Government plan *Cymraeg 2050* was announced in 2017 to boost the number of Welsh speakers in the country. Its vision is that by 2050, Welsh will be used in all aspects of life, and that everyone in Wales can identify with the language and be supportive of it, whether they speak it or not. The proposed World Heritage Site can contribute significantly to this vision by transmitting the importance of the language, not only in a historical sense, but also in contemporary terms to non-Welsh speakers. The strength of the Welsh language in the region also ensures that visitors to the area are immersed in an authentic visitor experience. Interpretation of the proposed World Heritage Site will also help visitors to the area from a wide variety of cultural backgrounds understand the significant role of the language in the everyday life of our communities and the important role that the slate industry has had in its survival.

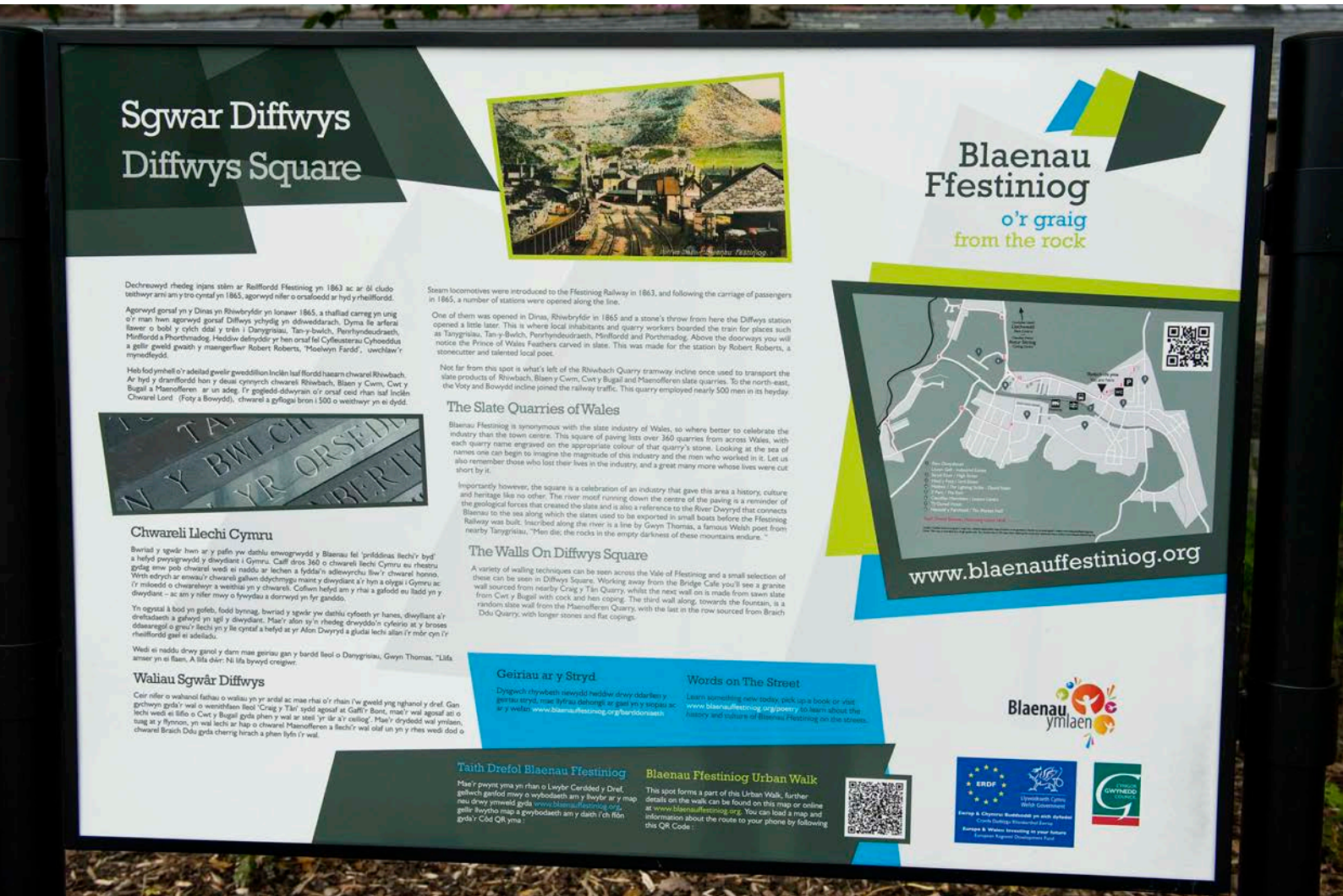


7.1.3 Visitors to *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*

Provision for visitors to the proposed World Heritage Site is closely aligned with the Partnership Steering Group’s work with local communities to ensure that a consistent shared story can be told and shared.

The Welsh Government, through its tourism body, Croeso Cymru / Visit Wales, seeks to grow a stronger and more defined brand for tourism in Wales. To this end, Croeso Cymru / Visit Wales has promoted Wales’ Thematic Years, a programme identifying successive annual themes, which so far have been ‘adventure’, ‘legends’, ‘the sea’ and ‘discovery’, and will be ‘outdoors’ in 2020.

In 2015 Gwynedd Council commissioned an *Assessment of the current and potential economic impact of heritage*. This concluded that if the status is promoted effectively, an inscribed World Heritage Site will attract new visitors to the region, and that they will tend to come to the area during the shoulder season, stay longer and spend more money than traditional visitors to the area. The *Interpretive Strategy* therefore encourages visitors away from traditional ‘honey-pot’ tourist sites, and towards less-visited sites, spreading tourism benefits over the region.



The Blaenau town trail in Component Part 5 interprets the history of this historic industrial community © Gwynedd Council.

7.1.4 Action plan for enjoying *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*

**Objective 13:** To ensure that the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site can be enjoyed, experienced and understood.

**Principle 13.1:** The Partnership Steering Group safeguards the tangible and intangible values of the proposed World Heritage Site in their natural and cultural contexts.

Action 1	The <i>Interpretation Strategy</i> for the proposed World Heritage Site will inform visitors of the significance of setting within the proposed World Heritage Site whilst conveying tangible and intangible heritage assets.	Medium-term	<i>LleCHI</i>
Action 2	Explore funding opportunities for safeguarding / promoting assets and traditions.	Medium-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator

**Principle 13.2:** The Partnership Steering Group facilitates understanding and appreciation of the proposed World Heritage Site and fosters public / stakeholder engagement in protection, conservation and interpretation.

Action 1	Host events in order to transmit information and also to encourage sharing of experiences between Stakeholders.	Medium-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator
Action 2	Ambassadors will be spokespeople for the slate landscape and communicate key messages.	Short-term	<i>LleCHI</i>

**Principle 13.3:** The Partnership Steering Group protects the proposed World Heritage Site from intrusive interpretive infrastructure, visitor-pressure, inaccurate or inappropriate interpretation.

Action 1	Working with communities to create <i>Cynlluniau Cynefin</i> which will set out significance and also identify interventions for safeguarding historic, linguistic and cultural values.	Short-term	<i>LleCHI</i>
Action 2	Encourage local ownership through community engagement activities.	Ongoing	<i>LleCHI</i> / World Heritage Site Coordinator
Action 3	Create local design guidelines in order to raise awareness and protect historic fabric.	Medium-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator



<b>Principle 13.4:</b> The Partnership Steering Group follows evolving best practice in heritage interpretation.			
Action 1	Cynlluniau Cynefin based on community aspirations will identify interpretation projects.	Short-term	LleCHI
Action 2	Sustain and develop links with heritage organisations in order to share best practice.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group / World Heritage Site Coordinator
<b>Principle 13.5:</b> The Partnership Steering Group will assess and monitor the impact of tourism on the Welsh language and the communities of the proposed World Heritage Site and work to mitigate any negative effects.			
Action 1	Establish a baseline and robust monitoring methods for assessing the impact of the proposed World Heritage Site designation on the Welsh language.	Short-term	Partnership Steering Group
Action 2	Continual monitoring of the impact of the proposed World Heritage Site designation on the Welsh language and undertake any agreed mitigation.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group / World Heritage Site Coordinator



Visitors enjoying a locomotive cavalcade on the Talyllyn Railway © Talyllyn Railway.

7.2 Destination management

**Objective 14:** To create a visitor experience that is unique and of the highest quality.

**Principle 14.1:** The Partnership encourages inclusiveness, by facilitating the involvement of stakeholders in the development and implementation of the interpretive strategy, communication plan and marketing toolkit.

**Principle 14.2:** The Partnership will develop technical and professional guidance for heritage interpretation and transmission.

**Principle 14.3:** The Partnership will develop clear and consistent signage and information provision across the proposed World Heritage Site.

**Principle 14.4:** The Partnership will ensure a unique sense of place and high-quality authentic experiences for visitors.

**Principle 14.5:** The six Component Parts of the proposed World Heritage Site will be marketed and communicated as one Property.

Tourism is an important sector for the regional economy. 2018 statistics (STEAM survey [Scarborough Tourism Economic Assessment Monitor]) indicate:

- £1.118 billion value to the local economy
- Over 15,500 jobs supported
- Over 7.37 million visits per annum
- 18.73 million overnight stays
- 22.53 million annual tourist days to Gwynedd



Regional business leaders meet regularly to discuss the commercial potential of the World Heritage Site Nomination © Gwynedd Council.



Heritage is central to a number of businesses within the proposed World Heritage Site – the operational railways, Llechwedd Caverns and Cwmorthin tours. Zip World in Component Part 1 has become a world-leader in providing adventure tourism experiences within slate quarry environments, attracting visitors from across the world, and also celebrates the region’s rich slate heritage.

Some businesses located within the proposed World Heritage Site have no specific heritage focus but own important historic assets, some of which have considerable heritage potential, such as at Felin Fawr (Component Part 1) and Dorothea and Pen yr Orsedd quarries (Component Part 3). Other businesses located within the proposed World Heritage Site use heritage as a unique selling point for their product. These include gin distilleries, cheese maturing and craft ale production, along with a number of artisan crafts such as jewellery makers and artists.

The Gwynedd *Destination Management Plan 2013-2020*, currently under review, including the area of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*, identified the following strengths, weaknesses opportunities and threats that are relevant to the proposed World Heritage Site:

Strengths	Weaknesses
World class beautiful landscapes and coastline Spectacular built environment and historic features Unique and accessible culture A destination for activity or peace and quiet	Seasonality of tourism activity Needs better tourism and public facilities Dependence on lower cost self-catering sector Lack of high quality serviced accommodation Few major all-weather visitor attractions Relative weakness of the retail offer Limited spend per head
Opportunities	Threats
Better partnership working between sectors Further development of year-round outdoor tourism Development of quality serviced accommodation Tourism development linked to centres of excellence Heritage and cultural tourism growth Quality shopping based on local products A wider range of events for visitors and residents More coordinated marketing	Other rural and outdoor tourism destinations More aggressive and effective marketing by other areas Economic decline of rural areas and market towns Decline in relevant skills and quality of visitor welcome Decline in quality of the public realm

To address these identified weaknesses, the Gwynedd *Destination Management Plan 2013-2020* recommended the following aims which are also relevant to the proposed World Heritage Site:

- Extend the tourism season
- Increase visitor spend
- Improve the quality of the visitor experience
- Improve integration of tourism with other aspects of life
- Enhance the natural, built and cultural environment
- Build and maintain quality public infrastructure and amenities
- Provide well-paid, year-round quality jobs and skills development

Enjoying the proposed World Heritage Site involves a mixture of physical access where possible; virtual access and intellectual access through interpretation. Interpretation will be closely integrated with the strategies and policies put in place to promote learning about *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* set out in Theme 5.

Transport links offer the possibility of developing links between *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* and other UNESCO designated sites:

- *Castles and Town Walls of Edward 1 in Gwynedd* (World Heritage Site)
- *Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal* (World Heritage Site)
- Dyfi Biosphere (Biosphere)
- GeoMôn (Geopark)

Skills development is a key aim of the Wales Slate Economic Plan, concentrating in particular on traditional skills, and hospitality skills in the tourism sector. Job creation and safeguarding is also a key aim, with quarrying and associated industries a priority within this field. Another significant opportunity is the support and development of the food and drink sector with many artisanal products being developed, produced and sold in the region including gin, ale, cheese, jam and coffee.

Gwynedd Council and its Partners are currently reviewing the Gwynedd *Destination Management Plan 2013-2020* and creating a new *Tourism and Destination Management Plan* to be published during 2020. Initial consultations are focused on developing a set of principles for the tourism sector in the future and the requirements of the proposed World Heritage Site will be integrated within the new Plan. Emerging principles in Gwynedd currently include: Celebrating uniqueness and the Welsh Language, Living and Sustainable Communities, Improved value from the sector to communities and people, Quality, Partnership working, Well-being and Sustainability.

7.2.1 Interpretive strategy for *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*

Interpretation of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* is guided by the ICOMOS *Ename Charter* (2008) for interpretation and presentation, and is based on its first, fifth and sixth principles:

- access and understanding
- planning for sustainability
- concern for inclusivity



The nomination also aligns with national best practice. The Welsh Government’s *Sustainable Tourism: A Framework for Wales* and *Historic Environment Strategy* prioritises:

- a voice to local communities and locally-based businesses
- sustainable destination management
- principles for informed interpretation

The *Interpretive Strategy* for the proposed World Heritage Site has been drawn up in consultation with both communities and tourism-providers. It focuses on the stories that the region has to tell about the slate industry – the ‘real’ stories that local people want to tell each other and the rest of the world – and unifies the sites and attractions across the proposed World Heritage Site with an identifiable brand and story. Residents and visitors will gain a high quality, compelling, factually accurate and informative insight into *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*, the region and their links with the wider world. The *Interpretive Strategy* identifies themes under which individual stories can be told:

- The rock and processing
- Transport and export
- People and communities
- Workers
- Making money
- Rediscovery and inspiration
- Ingenuity, skills and craft
- Landscape and biodiversity
- Worldwide export of ideas and slate

Coherent interpretation of the proposed World Heritage Site is challenging due to its geographical spread, range and size of sites, attractions and communities, and the variety in the story to be told in various locations. To overcome this, the strategy has been developed around a model whereby larger sites (‘hubs’) draw visitors to the area and encouraging visitors to visit the smaller sites and attractions (‘spokes’). In between are intermediate places (‘sprockets’), which either already have significant heritage offer or tell an important part of the slate story but are not located within the proposed World Heritage Site. This model will support understanding, integration and transmission of proposed Outstanding Universal Value to visitors, and will also disperse visitors across the region. Visitors will be encouraged to ‘follow the story’ of slate in order learn about these identified themes. Off-line and on-line information will form part of the offer, and central tools will be available to support partners and stakeholders to transmit information to visitors through the availability of standard text and an image library in order to ensure historical accuracy and quality standards.

Each hub, sprocket and spoke will reference the World Heritage inscription, outlining their contribution to the site, what makes them individually outstanding within the broader story and how they relate to the proposed World Heritage Site. This ensures a consistent approach to communicating how each Component Part and each Element contribute to proposed Outstanding Universal Value, as well as a shared approach to marketing. Some sites (mostly ‘spokes’) are not physically accessible either because they are dangerous, or because they are operational, and will therefore be interpreted by virtual reality or digital platforms and using accessible sites to tell the story of inaccessible sites.

The model is as follows:



The proposed World Heritage Site visitor experience model © Gwynedd Council.

7.2.2 Action plan for destination management

**Objective 14:** To create a visitor experience that is unique and of the highest quality.

**Principle 14.1:** The Partnership Steering Group encourages inclusiveness, by facilitating the involvement of stakeholders in the development and implementation of the interpretive strategy.

Action 1	Ambassadors will undertake the role of front-line information for visitors providing authentic experiences.	Ongoing	LleCHI / World Heritage Site Coordinator
Action 2	<i>The Interpretation Strategy</i> for the proposed World Heritage Site will convey local stories alongside the global story in order to ensure community ownership and authentic interpretation.	Short-term	LleCHI
Action 3	Establish an Interpretation Group to include tourism industry representatives, communities and businesses to steer interpretation priorities.	Ongoing	LleCHI / World Heritage Site Coordinator



<b>Principle 14.2:</b> The Partnership Steering Group will develop technical and professional guidance for heritage interpretation and transmission.			
Action 1	Develop a Marketing toolkit and associated training sessions to inform and empower businesses and communities.	Short-term	LleCHI
Action 2	Develop central tools for partners and stakeholders to include standard text and photographic library.	Short-term	LleCHI
<b>Principle 14.3:</b> The Partnership Steering Group will develop clear and consistent signage and information provision across the proposed World Heritage Site.			
Action 1	Develop a <i>Sustainable Visitor Management Plan</i> .	Short-term	LleCHI
Action 2	Develop a <i>Gateway Signage Strategy</i> .	Medium-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator
<b>Principle 14.4:</b> The Partnership Steering Group will ensure an unique sense of place and high-quality authentic experiences for visitors.			
Action 1	Support existing high quality attractions, infrastructure and experiences, and encourage new provision.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group
Action 2	Ambassadors will be encouraged to tell their own story in order to provide unique and authentic experiences.	Ongoing	LleCHI / World Heritage Site Coordinator
Action 3	Support and encourage community tourism projects.	Ongoing	LleCHI / World Heritage Site Coordinator / Gwynedd Destination Management Partnership
Action 4	The Partnership Steering Group will embed the nomination within the emerging <i>Tourism and Destination Management Plan</i> for Gwynedd.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group / Gwynedd Destination Management Partnership
<b>Principle 14.5:</b> The six Component Parts of the proposed World Heritage Site will be marketed and communicated as one Property.			
Action 1	Ensure synergy with the marketing efforts of the destination brand (Snowdonia Mountains and Coast).	Ongoing	Gwynedd Destination Management Partnership / World Heritage Site Coordinator / Gwynedd Council

Action 2	Work with Visit Wales on Thematic Years, Wales Way and any other national strategic tourism projects.	Long-term	Gwynedd Destination Management Partnership / World Heritage Site Coordinator / Gwynedd Council
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Competitors on the Snowdonia Slate Trail Ultra cover the 133km Snowdonia Slate Trail © Evan Davies.



7.3 Health and safety

**Objective 15:** To endeavour to create a safe environment for the enjoyment of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*.

**Principle 15.1:** The Partnership Steering Group will develop clear and robust slate landscape safety policies.

**Principle 15.2:** The Partnership Steering Group will ensure that safety is a core theme within interpretation and transmission efforts.

**Principle 15.3:** Public access to the proposed World Heritage Site will be encouraged where possible.

Ensuring the safety of visitors is paramount, whether they are local residents, independent tourists or organised groups. *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* by its very nature includes quarry landforms, mines and shafts that are inherently dangerous, as well as other locations that are safety-critical such as the active railways. World Heritage inscription does not confer any right of public access to private property.

Some locations within the proposed World Heritage Site have individual health and safety requirements including relict quarries and active railways. These are addressed by site owners through their own protocols and corporate responsibilities. Regular maintenance regimes in quarry sites, and periodic reporting, will identify and address risks.

The Partnership Steering Group will promote and support a culture of health and safety awareness by working with site owners and communities to ensure that robust and consistent messages become central to all interpretation associated with the proposed World Heritage Site. A slate landscape safety campaign is being developed with key stakeholders to feed into the UK-wide ‘Adventure Smart’ campaign where health and safety messages are integrated with the promotion and interpretation of outdoor activities and adventure tourism. The Partnership Steering Group works with Adventure Smart UK to develop these key messages.

Public access

Industrial landforms exert a strong appeal, particularly in a quiet and beautiful mountainous region with a rich cultural heritage. Industrial tourism is already well established within the proposed World Heritage Site. Many areas in the proposed World Heritage Site have footpaths and trails providing public access, some of which are publicised as a heritage offer in their own right (the Snowdonia Slate Trail, and the Slate Route); other sites are serviced by public rights of way, bridle paths and cycle paths. Use of such trails is beneficial to both public health and regional prosperity and will be encouraged where appropriate. It is particularly imperative to ensure that any promoted routes have the appropriate infrastructure in place to meet visitor demands (e.g. car parking, public conveniences), that the information available to users regarding promoted routes is correct, and that way-marking and signage on the ground is standardised and easy to follow.

Public access is not mandatory and is not appropriate for areas of the proposed World Heritage Site where fragile historic assets are at risk, where public safety is a concern, or commercial operations take place. A significant proportion of the proposed World Heritage Site lies within private ownership and a small amount of this is on land where no public access is permitted due to the nature of the business and/or landscape. Some locations are inaccessible as they are operational commercial businesses (such as the parts of Dinorwig Quarry operated by Engie as a hydro power station) and other locations are inaccessible due to their dangerous nature (such as underground workings, abandoned buildings or flooded quarry-pits). In such circumstances, controlled access can be facilitated through guided visits and tours, but unregulated access and trespass will also need to be addressed.

7.3.1 Action plan for health and safety

**Objective 15:** To endeavour to create a safe environment for the enjoyment of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*.

**Principle 15.1:** The Partnership Steering Group will develop clear and robust slate landscape safety policies.

Action 1	Develop a safety campaign for the slate landscape.	Short-term	Landowner Forum
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**Principle 15.2:** The Partnership Steering Group will ensure that safety is a core theme within interpretation and transmission efforts.

Action 1	Ensure safety message is included in all interpretation projects developed/supported by the Partnership.	Ongoing	LleCHI / World Heritage Site Coordinator
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**Principle 15.3:** Public access to the proposed World Heritage Site is encouraged (where appropriate) in order to facilitate understanding of the proposed Outstanding Universal Value.

Action 1	Develop and promote strategic routes exploring the proposed World Heritage Site and wider region.	Ongoing	Landowner Forum / World Heritage Site Coordinator
Action 2	Where public access is not possible or to be prohibited, undertake virtual or satellite interpretation of those sites.	Ongoing	Landowner Forum / World Heritage Site Coordinator





## 8 Theme 5: Learning about *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*

### 8.1 Key aim

**Objective 16:** The proposed World Heritage Site is a focus for shared learning and research, for fostering understanding and appreciation of its values and attributes.

**Principle 16.1:** Links will be established with education-providers to foster opportunities for inclusive learning programmes relevant to the proposed World Heritage Site.

**Principle 16.2:** Links will be established with international bodies to promote academic research, educational programmes and professional exchanges relevant to the proposed World Heritage Site.

**Principle 16.3:** Visitors will be encouraged to explore and learn about the physical, social and cultural aspects of the Slate Landscapes of Northwest Wales.

**Principle 16.4:** Researchers will be encouraged to share their knowledge and research findings.

### 8.2 Context

Considerable research, both formal and informal, has taken place in support of the Nomination. This will be continued, and future research disseminated. Learning about the proposed World Heritage Site is guided by the ICOMOS *Ename Charter* (2008) for interpretation and presentation, and is based on its seventh cardinal principle: importance of research, training, and evaluation.

#### Historical and archaeological understanding

The historic archive of the slate industry of Northwest Wales and of its transport systems, settlements and communities is detailed and voluminous. These documents are preserved and made available to the public at the county record offices managed by Gwynedd Council, at Bangor University and the National Library of Wales, as well as in other research collections such as the National Archives in Kew. Some of this information is already available digitally.

Historical research informed by this archive resource and by archaeological investigation has been carried out by volunteers under the sponsorship of the Snowdonia National Park Authority since 1972. Documentation and reports are curated at the Park's study centre, Plas Tan y Bwlch. Authoritative studies of the industry and of its transport systems have been published.

Excavation, clearance and recording work at Pen y Bryn barracks (Component Part 3) in July 2019. The work was funded by Cadw and undertaken by Gwynedd Archaeological Trust and community volunteers © Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.





Since 1970, archaeological volunteers have been recording *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* © Plas Tan y Bwlch.

Extensive recording and investigation programmes have been carried out by archaeologists from the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust (GAT) and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) exploring the historic quarries, transport features, ports and harbours resulting in a comprehensive gazetteer. These records form part of the Historic Environment Record curated by GAT, and the National Monuments Record curated by RCAHMW. Both these records are accessible to the public and are used to inform a wide variety



Staff of the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales carry out a digital survey at Maenofferen quarry in Component Part 5 © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.

of functions including advancing knowledge and understanding of the historic environment; supporting the conservation, management and protection of historic assets; informing strategic policies and development plans; supporting heritage-led regeneration, cultural tourism and environmental improvement; contributing to education and learning and promoting public participation in the exploration, appreciation and enjoyment of local heritage.

In addition, historic landscape characterisation studies and Urban Character Studies of the proposed World Heritage Site have been undertaken, funded by Cadw, Gwynedd Council and Snowdonia National Park Authority. The history of the Ffestiniog and Talylyn railways is actively researched; the Ffestiniog Railway's Heritage Group publishes its own quarterly journal.

#### Existing learning provision

The Slate Museum's education programme contributes to: the Foundation Phase (age 3–7 years); Key Stage 2 (age 7–11 years); Key Stage 3 (age 11–14 years), Key Stage 4 (age 14–16 years) and Welsh Baccalaureate (age 14–19 years); Post-16 Education; Adult Learners; Teachers; a programme of exhibitions; and to the Museum's learning blog.

The Snowdonia National Park study centre at Plas Tan y Bwlch has been running practical courses in industrial archaeology for adult learners since 1972. Several publications have resulted from this, and the archive generated by successive courses is one of the major sources of knowledge of the industry. These are now





Pupils from Craig y Deryn School during a ‘takeover day’, learning about the slate industry at Gwynedd Council’s Dolgellau Record Office © Gwynedd Council.

among the very few professionally-led courses in the field of Post-Medieval archaeology in the United Kingdom.

Gwynedd Archives employs an education officer to assist schools visiting the Caernarfon and Dolgellau Record Offices, and to undertake curriculum based activities within schools across Gwynedd. Wales is currently in the process of redefining its educational curriculum to encourage schools to work closely with organisations and businesses to provide enhanced learning opportunities. This will enable children and young people to identify with World Heritage and appreciate the challenges of heritage management.

Current projects include *Unloved Heritage?*, a programme of community archaeology activities designed to engage, enthuse and inspire young people throughout Wales to become involved with their local heritage. This currently includes projects in Nantlle Component Part 3.

### 8.3 Encouraging learning

#### Importance of research, training, and evaluation

The Partnership Steering Group will establish and promote a research strategy based on existing best practice with community groups, stakeholders and education-providers in order to develop and refine technical and professional guidelines for heritage interpretation and presentation, and to identify and fill gaps in academic understanding.

A programme of formal research and learning will contribute to the ‘virtuous circle’ of management by furthering historical and archaeological understanding in order

both to inform conservation and management projects and to complement interpretation of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*. It will also contribute to understanding the global dimension of the proposed World Heritage Site through evolving links with the Slate Valley Museum, Granville, New York State (USA), le Musée de l’Ardoise à Haut-Martelange/Schiefermuseum Uerwermaartel (Luxembourg), and the European Quarry Landscapes Network. Wider themes include World Heritage Site and industrial landscape management, climate change, tourism impact.

A successful inscription offers the possibility of sharing best practice with other World Heritage Sites in Wales and the UK including the *Blaenavon Industrial Landscape*, the *Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal* and *Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd*.

Established formal links between Indian Railways and the Ffestiniog Railway can facilitate the sharing of best practice with the *Mountain Railways of India* World Heritage site and should be strengthened.

#### Academic research strategy

Co-operation grows between Bangor University and the slate communities from which it drew its original inspiration and support. Table 8.1 lists research questions have been discussed, and their suitability as PhD topics provisionally confirmed.

Table 8.1 Research questions for <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i>	
Criterion (ii) – an important interchange of human values, particularly in the heyday period from 1780 to 1940, on developments in architecture and technology.	
VALUES	RESEARCH QUESTIONS
Developments in building and architecture.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What further evidence can be found for the ways in which the slate industry of Northwest Wales influenced developments in building and architecture worldwide?</li> <li>In what way did the slate industry of Northwest Wales compete in a global market-place with other slate-producing areas, and with other forms of roofing material?</li> </ul>
Skills transfer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What further evidence can be identified on a global scale for skills transfer (quarrying and processing slate) to, from and within <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i>?</li> </ul>
Technology transfer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What further evidence can be identified on a global scale for technology transfer to, from and within <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i>?</li> <li>What further evidence can be identified on a global scale for the transfer of railway technology to, from and within <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i>?</li> <li>What impact did the development of narrow-gauge railway technology have on European colonialism/ warfare?</li> </ul>



**Criterion (iv) – *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* is an outstanding example of a type of landscape that illustrates, in a dramatic way, the ‘combined works of nature and of man’ through the large-scale exploitation of natural resources.**

VALUES	RESEARCH QUESTIONS
Industrial transformation through capital investment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent and in what ways was patrician/landed capital crucial to developing industrial-scale slate quarrying?</li><li>• To what extent and in what ways was fluid/banking capital crucial to <i>developing</i> industrial-scale slate quarrying?</li><li>• In what ways did investment in slate quarrying resemble/differ from other British models of capital investment?</li><li>• In what ways did investment in Welsh slate quarrying resemble/differ from slate industries in other parts of the world?</li><li>• How were slate quarries in Northwest Wales managed as businesses? Were they different from other major extractive industries? Were technical decisions the province of the engineer or of the accountant?</li><li>• In what ways did the evolution of a money economy change the lives of working people within <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i>?</li><li>• What changes can be discerned in the health and welfare of the slate quarryman during the major industrial period? How do these compare with other forms of industrial employment?</li></ul>
Industrial transformation through exploitation of natural resources.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How and in what ways did the slate industry make use of natural resources including water and gravity to handle, process and transport slate? In what ways did it differ from/resemble other significant quarrying environments in this respect?</li></ul>

**Criterion (v) – *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* is an outstanding example of the industrial transformation of a traditional human settlement and marginal agrarian land-use pattern; it also exemplifies how a remarkably homogeneous minority culture adapted to modernity in the industrial era.**

VALUES	RESEARCH QUESTIONS
Continuity within a changing landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• In what ways did industrialisation of <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> affect the position of the Welsh language?</li><li>• What was the extent of women’s economic involvement in the slate industry? Is it the case that women never had any significant industrial role? If so, why were the slate quarries of Anjou and the Ardennes significant employers of women?</li><li>• Is it the case the immigration to the slate-quarrying areas mainly came from within the Gwynedd-Anglesey region?</li></ul>

Pre-industrial landscape and the industrial landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To what extent and in what ways do pre-industrial settlement forms persist within <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i>?</li><li>• How and in what ways did contemporary ideas about working-class housing influence the evolution of slate quarry settlements?</li></ul>
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**Community opportunities**

There is considerable potential for encouraging community engagement and volunteering. By fostering and developing heritage-related skills and training amongst a volunteer base, the Partnership Steering Group can help to support employment prospects including qualification-based training. Courses in care/repair skills related to the conservation of the built environment, such as stone masonry and slate roofing, would not only benefit volunteers but could also support the on-going maintenance and conservation of the proposed World Heritage Site.

There is also scope to work with partners such as the Snowdonia National Park Authority to develop environmental conservation learning programmes focussed on the proposed World Heritage Site, and with the National Museum of Wales to establish opportunities for learning focussed on heritage interpretation and presentation.



**A National Lottery Heritage Fund trainee learns new skills on the Ffestiniog Railway**  
© Ffestiniog and Welsh Highland Railways.



## Action Plan for learning about *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*

**Objective 16:** The proposed World Heritage Site is a focus for shared learning and research, for fostering understanding and appreciation of its values and attributes.

**Principle 16.1:** Links will be established with education-providers to foster opportunities for inclusive learning programmes relevant to the proposed World Heritage Site.

Action 1	Develop links with School of History, Philosophy and Social Sciences, Bangor University.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers
Action 2	Share expertise to develop Heritage and Climate Change BA course at Bangor University.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers
Action 3	Share expertise to develop World Heritage and Heritage Management MA at Bangor University.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers
Action 4	Share expertise to develop PhD research grants with Universities.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers
Action 5	Sustain links with industrial archaeology courses run by the Snowdonia National Park study centre.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Snowdonia National Park
Action 6	Ensure integration of Nomination with curriculum developments across Wales	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers

**Principle 16.2:** Links will be established with international bodies to promote academic research, educational programmes and professional exchanges relevant to the proposed World Heritage Site.

Action 1	Develop stronger links with TICCIH.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers
Action 2	Build on links with Association Ardenne Wallonne and other interested parties.	Short-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator
Action 3	Build on links between Ffestiniog Railway and Indian Railways ( <i>Mountain Railways of India</i> World Heritage Site).	Short-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Ffestiniog Railway
Action 4	Work with European Quarry Landscape Project.	Short-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator

**Principle 16.3:** Visitors will be encouraged to explore and learn about the physical, social and cultural aspects of *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*

Action 1	Sharing of best practice in tourism.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers
Action 2	Encourage visitors to return for courses relating to <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> or to participate in voluntary programmes.	Short-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers / Tourism-providers

**Principle 16.4:** Researchers will be encouraged to share their knowledge and research findings.

Action 1	Promote conferences and publication of research findings.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers
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# Action Plan 2020–2030

## Introduction

The objectives set out in the Management Plan will be achieved by the implementation of a wide range of actions carried out by a variety of agencies, as presented in this Action Plan. It is geared towards developing management strategies and initiatives which will take full effect in the event of a successful inscription, and is a ten-year Plan which will be reviewed in 2025.

Although actions may stand alone, each will contribute to underpinning the primary aims of the conservation of the proposed World Heritage Site, and the economic regeneration of the area. Projects will be monitored and where appropriate managed by *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales* Partnership Steering Group to ensure consistency with the Management Plan.

Delivery of this Action Plan will include individual projects run by stakeholders and collective initiatives. Some actions will also involve entering into agreements with organisations outside the Partnership Steering Group, such as tourism agencies and education authorities. It is recognised that the resources for wider strategic actions will in many cases require funding from multiple sources and organisations. The Partnership Steering Group will establish a preferred priority order for implementation of these actions. Annual and medium-term budget plans will be drawn up to guide fundraising efforts.

This aerial view, looking southeast up the narrow and steep-sided Llanberis Pass, shows the Dinowrig Slate Quarry in its mountain landscape, between the Snowdon massif on the right and the Glyderau mountain range on the left.  
© Crown copyright. RCAHMW.



THEME 1: Governance and Management

Objective 1: The Partnership will work together to lead actions to protect, conserve, present and transmit the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> to future generations.				
ACTION	TIMESCALE short-term 1-2 years medium-term 3-5 years long-term 5 years +	RESPONSIBILITY (resources are within existing budgets of organisations unless otherwise stated)	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS
Principle 1.1: The vision and aims of the Management Plan for <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> will be delivered through partnership working.				
The Partnership Steering Group will continue to operate according to the terms of an MOU signed by all partners and reviewed regularly.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group	Annual review of MOU.	Transparent, clear and open management of the proposed World Heritage Site.
Any new members of the Partnership Steering Group will sign up to the MOU.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group	Number of new signatories on MOU.	Transparent, clear and open management of the proposed World Heritage Site.
The activities of the Partnership will be developed around the priorities of the World Heritage Convention and ensure that conservation, protection, presentation and transmission are central.	Short-term	Partnership Steering Group	Number of projects developed by the Partnership Steering Group and/or subgroups.	The proposed World Heritage Site contributes to the World Heritage Convention priorities.
Establish an appropriate coordination model to manage the proposed World Heritage Site.	Short-term	Partnership Steering Group	Co-ordinator in place.	Professional management of the proposed World Heritage Site.
Principle 1.2: The Partnership Steering Group will operate an open and transparent system of governance and management for <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> .				
Hold regular Partnership Steering Group and Subgroup meetings to oversee implementation of the Management Plan.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group / Subgroups	Number of meetings held and minutes of meetings on record.	Transparent, clear and open management of the proposed World Heritage Site.

Principle 1.3: The Partnership will be proactive in ensuring community and private sector representation at all levels of the governance structure.				
Hold regular meetings with community and private sector representation.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partnership Steering Group	Number of meetings held and minutes of meetings on record.	Ensure community and private sector ownership of the proposed World Heritage Site.
Communities and the Private Sector will be encouraged to participate in working Subgroups.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator and/or Subgroup Chairs	Number of individuals, organisations and businesses taking part in Subgroups.	Ensure community and private sector ownership of the proposed World Heritage Site.
Landowners will sign up to the agreed Statement of Principles	Short-term	Partnership Steering Group	Number of signed Statements of Principles.	Ensure partnership working to achieve the aims of the Management Plan.

Objective 2: <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> Management Plan will be adopted and embedded into regional strategies.				
ACTION	TIMESCALE short-term 1-2 years medium-term 3-5 years long-term 5 years +	RESPONSIBILITY (resources are within existing budgets of organisations unless otherwise stated)	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS
Principle 2.1: The Partnership Steering Group will ensure that all relevant strategic documents and programmes within individual partner organisations have regard for the proposed World Heritage Site and its Vision and Aims.				
The Partnership Steering Group will ensure that all relevant strategic documents and programmes within the individual partner organisations have regard for the proposed World Heritage Site and its Vision and Aims.	Short-term	Partnership Steering Group	Number of partners organisations who have formally agreed to regard the proposed World Heritage Site in their strategic aims.	Consistent approach to implementation of management principles across the proposed World Heritage Site.



**Principle 2.2:** The Partnership Steering Group will develop and maintain a Risk Management Plan to support the management of the inscribed World Heritage Site.

Develop Risk Management Plan and Risk Register.	Ongoing	Project Coordination Team	Risk Management Plan and Risk Register developed.	Mitigation of identified risks in order to reduce potential impacts.
The Risk Management Plan and Risk Register will be reviewed regularly by the Partnership Steering Group and mitigation actions taken where required.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group	Minutes of meetings.	Coordinated approach to risk management with responsibility shared amongst partners.

**THEME 2: Caring for *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales***

Objective 3: Protect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> for the benefit of people today and in the future.				
ACTION	TIMESCALE <i>short-term 1-2 years medium-term 3-5 years long-term 5 years +</i>	RESPONSIBILITY <i>(resources are within existing budgets of organisations unless otherwise stated)</i>	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS
<b>Principle 3.1:</b> Promote awareness and understanding of the reasons why <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> needs to be protected and actively managed to sustain its proposed Outstanding Universal Value.				
<i>Caring for the Slate Landscape</i> guidance will be updated and re-published to reflect the priorities identified in <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> Management Plan.	Short-term	Cadw	Guidance booklet published	Improved awareness of management principles associated with the proposed World Heritage Site.
Supplementary Planning Guidance will be prepared to provide additional guidance to developers and interested parties.	Short-term	Local Planning Authorities / Landowner Forum / Planning and Conservation Subgroup	Supplementary Planning Guidance published.	Increased awareness amongst developers and decision makers of the important features of the proposed World Heritage Site.
Training will be provided for decision makers including planning officers and local planning committee members.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities	Number of training sessions held.	Increased awareness amongst developers and decision makers of the important features of the proposed World Heritage Site.



<b>Principle 3.2:</b> Protect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value, integrity and authenticity of <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> by employing statutory designation of historic assets that meet the national criteria.				
Complete designation programme for historic assets meeting the criteria for scheduling or listing within the proposed World Heritage Site boundaries.	Short-term	Cadw	Number of designated assets.	Protection of key assets within the proposed World Heritage Site.
Undertake review necessary to establish Conservation Areas in Blaenau Ffestiniog and Abergynolwyn.	Medium-term	Local Planning Authorities / Cadw	Number of reviews completed.	Protection of key settlements within the proposed World Heritage Site.
<b>Principle 3.3:</b> Protect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value, integrity and authenticity of <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> by effective use of the spatial planning system.				
Pre-planning application advice will encourage development of an appropriate scale, and encourage good design sensitive to the character and values of the proposed World Heritage Site.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities / Cadw	Number of pre-application planning advice meetings held.	Ensure developments are of an appropriate scale, and encourage good design sensitive to the character and values of the proposed World Heritage Site.
Planning decisions will take account of the need to sustain the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities	Number of planning applications where World Heritage Site designation is a consideration.	Ensure developments are of an appropriate scale, and encourage good design sensitive to the character and values of the proposed World Heritage Site.

<b>Objective 4: The proposed World Heritage Site will be managed to sustain and enhance its proposed Outstanding Universal Value, its integrity and its authenticity.</b>				
<i>ACTION</i>	<i>TIMESCALE</i> short-term 1-2 years medium-term 3-5 years long-term 5 years +	<i>RESPONSIBILITY</i> (resources are within existing budgets of organisations unless otherwise stated)	<i>MEASURABLE OUTCOMES</i>	<i>OUTPUTS</i>
<b>Principle 4.1:</b> Support will be given to site-owners to develop and implement Local Management Plans.				
Local Management Plans will be prepared for all key Elements.	Short-term	Gwynedd Council / Site Owners	Number of Local Management Plans completed.	Accepted management of Elements will ensure protection of proposed Outstanding Universal Value.
Historic assets will be subject to a structured programme of condition monitoring.	Ongoing	Cadw / Local Planning Authorities / Site Owners	Number of assessments undertaken.	Regular assessments will inform management and identify any risks.
<b>Principle 4.2:</b> Where required, action will be taken to improve the condition of key historic assets within the proposed World Heritage Site.				
Conservation priorities will be identified and prioritised.	Short-term	Cadw / Local Conservation Officers / Site Owners	Number of conservation priorities identified.	Coordinated approach to conservation will make better use of resources.
Conservation projects will be developed and implemented to address priorities.	Short / Medium-term	Gwynedd Council / Cadw / Site Owners	Number of conservation projects completed / Number of historic assets conserved.	Conservation of assets will ensure protection of proposed Outstanding Universal Value.
Funding opportunities will be sought to develop conservation projects.	Medium-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partnership Steering Group	Funding secured.	Coordinated approach to conservation will make better use of resources.



**Principle 4.3:** Sympathetic adaptive reuse of historic assets will be encouraged.

Work will continue to find new uses for key historic assets including Maenofferen Mill.	Medium-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Site Owners	Number of key historic assets with new uses.	Re-use of historic assets will ensure their long-term viability and will in turn protect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value.
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**Principle 4.4:** Sustainable conservation of the proposed World Heritage Site and public participation in conservation programmes will be encouraged.

Community Design Guides and information sharing resources will be developed.	Short-term	Local Planning Authorities	Number of Community Design Guides developed.	Community ownership of the management of the proposed World Heritage Site.
Volunteer groups will be encouraged to 'adopt a monument' and participate in monitoring, vegetation clearance and conserving key assets.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Community Groups	Number of volunteer projects undertaken.	Community ownership of the management of the proposed World Heritage Site.

**Objective 5: The setting and views into and out of the proposed World Heritage Site will be managed to sustain the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the property for the benefit of future generations.**

ACTION	TIMESCALE <i>short-term 1-2 years medium-term 3-5 years long-term 5 years +</i>	RESPONSIBILITY <i>(resources are within existing budgets of organisations unless otherwise stated)</i>	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS
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**Principle 5.1:** Existing landscape protection measures and the land use planning framework will be used as a management tool to protect the essential setting and key views into and out of the proposed World Heritage Site.

Produce Supplementary Planning Guidance to provide detailed guidance.	Short-term	Local Planning Authorities / Landowner Forum / Planning and Conservation Subgroup	Supplementary Planning Guidance produced.	Increased awareness amongst developers and decision makers of the important features of the proposed World Heritage Site.
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**Principle 5.2:** New development is to be of a design, scale and mass that preserves and enhances the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the property, respects significant views and reinforces a sense of arrival.

Produce best practice design guidance for developers.	Short-term	Local Planning Authorities / Planning and Conservation Subgroup	Design guidance produced.	Developments are of an appropriate scale, and encourage good design sensitive to the character and values of the proposed World Heritage Site.
Continue to provide pre-application advice service where proposals may impact on the proposed Outstanding Universal Value (the setting and view into and out of the proposed World Heritage Site).	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities	Number of pre-application planning advice meetings held.	Developments are of an appropriate scale, and encourage good design sensitive to the character and values of the proposed World Heritage Site
Action 2 (above) will ensure that planning applications include the appropriate detail and assessment which will be proportionate to the nature and scale of development.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities	Number of pre-application planning advice meetings held.	Developments are of an appropriate scale, and encourage good design sensitive to the character and values of the proposed World Heritage Site.



THEME 3: Sustainable Development of  
The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales

Objective 6: Sustain the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site by ensuring that we sustain a living landscape and thriving communities.				
ACTION	TIMESCALE short-term 1-2 years medium-term 3-5 years long-term 5 years +	RESPONSIBILITY (resources are within existing budgets of organisations unless otherwise stated)	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS
<b>Principle 6.1:</b> Communities will be supported to identify and implement local regeneration opportunities that sustain the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site and promote the Welsh Language.				
Funding will be sought to develop regeneration activities that conserve or enhance proposed Outstanding Universal Value.	Medium-term	Site owners / Community Groups / Partnership Steering Group	Number of funding applications submitted.	Community regeneration leads to increase ownership and pride locally.
Cynlluniau Cynefin (place-based regeneration strategies) will be developed for key communities, with heritage-led regeneration and promoting the Welsh Language and culture at their core.	Short-term	LleCHI / Community Groups	Number of Cynlluniau Cynefin strategies completed.	Community regeneration leads to increased ownership and pride locally.
<b>Principle 6.2:</b> A successful inscription as a World Heritage Site will instil a sense of pride and ambition within local communities.				
Ambassador schemes will be developed for a range of ages / sectors.	Short-term	LleCHI / Partners / Community Groups / Schools	Number of Ambassadors created.	Greater understanding, pride and ambition locally.
<b>Principle 6.3:</b> Slate heritage will be a priority within the Gwynedd Council strategic plan for economic regeneration.				
In the event of a successful inscription, The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales will continue to be identified as a priority within the economic regeneration priorities of the Gwynedd Council Strategic Plan.	Medium-term	Gwynedd Council Elected Members	The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales is a priority in Strategic Plans post 2023.	Heritage is identified as a core principle in the prosperity of Gwynedd in the future.

Objective 7: A sustainable mineral industry				
ACTION	TIMESCALE short-term 1-2 years medium-term 3-5 years long-term 5 years +	RESPONSIBILITY (resources are within existing budgets of organisations unless otherwise stated)	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS
<b>Principle 7.1:</b> Primary mineral extraction does not take place within the boundary of the proposed World Heritage Site or within the boundary of the Snowdonia National Park Authority.				
No action is required.	–	–	–	–
<b>Principle 7.2:</b> Primary mineral extraction outside of the proposed World Heritage Site will be managed through the existing mineral planning process.				
All permissions will be subject to periodic reviews and be required to adhere to the conditions of their permission.	Ongoing	North Wales Minerals and Waste Planning Service	Number of periodic reviews undertaken.	Management of primary mineral extraction in order to sustain a key industry in Gwynedd and strengthen proposed Outstanding Universal Value.
<b>Principle 7.3:</b> Slate craft and conservation skills will be actively promoted together with skills-support for the modern slate quarrying industry.				
Traditional skills training / provision / promotion will be undertaken in partnership with businesses, community organisations and education/training providers.	Medium-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners	Number of interventions undertaken.	Ensuring traditional skills are preserved for the future and appropriate skills are available to conserve and maintain historic assets.
<b>Principle 7.4:</b> A sustainable supply of conservation materials and aggregates will be maintained and the use of secondary aggregates should be optimised wherever possible.				
Ensure that existing slate quarrying industry is supported in order to ensure continued supply of materials.	Ongoing	North Wales Minerals and Waste Planning Service	Total annual production in tonnes of roofing and architectural slate.	Supply of materials for conservation work and new developments in order to ensure local character is retained.



**Objective 8: Ensure renewable energy ambitions are developed in harmony with the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site.**

ACTION	TIMESCALE short-term 1-2 years medium-term 3-5 years long-term 5 years +	RESPONSIBILITY (resources are within existing budgets of organisations unless otherwise stated)	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS
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**Principle 8.1:** Proposals that make use of natural resources without impacting on proposed Outstanding Universal Value will be supported subject to the requirements of the *Eryri Local Development Plan 2016-2031*: Development Policy 3 and where relevant, Strategic Policy B (February 2019), and the *Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan*.

Encourage pre-application meetings for all proposed developments within, or adjacent to the boundary.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities	Number of pre-application meetings held between Local Planning Authorities and developers, and their outcome.	The proposed World Heritage Site and its setting are protected and new development is sensitive and appropriate.
Follow ICOMOS guidance for heritage impact assessment for significant development proposals.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities	Number of heritage impact assessments received by Local Planning Authorities following ICOMOS guidance.	The proposed World Heritage Site and its setting are protected and new development is sensitive and appropriate.
Consult ICOMOS-UK over large developments with the potential to affect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities / Partnership Steering Group	Documented consultations with ICOMOS-UK.	The proposed World Heritage Site and its setting are protected and new development is sensitive and appropriate.

**Principle 8.2:** Renewable energy proposals that do not impact on proposed Outstanding Universal Value, and comply with existing planning policy, will be supported.

Encourage pre-application meetings for all developments within or adjacent to the boundary.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities	Number of pre-application meetings held between Local Planning Authorities and developers, and their outcome.	The proposed World Heritage Site and its setting are protected and new development is sensitive and appropriate.
Follow ICOMOS guidance for heritage impact assessment for significant development proposals.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities	Number of Heritage Impact Assessments received by Local Planning Authorities following ICOMOS guidance.	The proposed World Heritage Site and its setting are protected and new development is sensitive and appropriate.
Consult ICOMOS-UK over large developments with the potential to affect the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities / Partnership Steering Group	Documented consultations with ICOMOS-UK.	The proposed World Heritage Site and its setting are protected and new development is sensitive and appropriate.



**Objective 9: The Partnership Steering Group will promote *The Slate Landscapes of Northwest Wales* to support economic diversity and heritage-led regeneration.**

ACTION	TIMESCALE short-term 1-2 years medium-term 3-5 years long-term 5 years +	RESPONSIBILITY (resources are within existing budgets of organisations unless otherwise stated)	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS
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**Principle 9.1:** In the event of a successful inscription, regeneration opportunities that complement or enhance the World Heritage Site and comply with the policies of the Local Development Plans will be encouraged.

Regeneration opportunities will be identified and prioritised within the <i>Cynlluniau Cynefin</i> (heritage-led regeneration strategies).	Ongoing	LleCHI / partners / Partnership Steering Group	Number of regeneration projects developed.	Regeneration projects lead to improved communities.
Wider economic development opportunities which correspond to local spatial planning policies and contribute to proposed Outstanding Universal Value or setting and support the Welsh Language will be identified and prioritised.	Ongoing	Partners / Landowners / Investors	Number of wider economic projects developed.	Wider economic development will create employment and improve communities.

**Principle 9.2:** Conservation of historic assets will be used as a catalyst to encourage the development and continuation of traditional skills and specialist conservation work.

Use practical training to deliver elements of Traditional Skills provision.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners	Number of historic assets conserved.	Conservation of historic assets will protect proposed Outstanding Universal Value.
Support existing private and voluntary conservation efforts.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners	Number of conservation projects undertaken.	Conservation projects will protect proposed Outstanding Universal Value.

**Principle 9.3:** Collaborative working with other relevant initiatives will enhance economic opportunities (e.g. *The Castles and Town Walls of King Edward in Gwynedd* World Heritage Site, Snowdonia National Park Authority Management Plan).

Coordinated approach to developing regeneration plans / projects.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners	Number of collaborative projects undertaken.	Coordinated approach to regeneration will lead to better use of resources and improved visitor experience.
Take forward individual regeneration opportunities through delivery of collaborative projects.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners	Total investment value	New regeneration opportunities are identified and key heritage projects are delivered.

**Objective 10: Sustainable communities.**

ACTION	TIMESCALE short-term 1-2 years medium-term 3-5 years long-term 5 years +	RESPONSIBILITY (resources are within existing budgets of organisations unless otherwise stated)	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS
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**Principle 10.1:** All new housing within or adjacent to the proposed World Heritage Site will take account of the need to protect and enhance proposed Outstanding Universal Value.

Use existing planning policy to ensure all development is appropriate and takes account of proposed Outstanding Universal Value.	Ongoing	Local Planning Authorities	Number of housing developments.	Historic character will be maintained and protected.
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**Principle 10.2:** The Partnership Steering Group will encourage informed conservation of distinctive elements of the built environment that contribute to historic character, considering the recommendations of the Urban Character Studies as guidance for best practice.

Encourage the conservation of built assets within and adjacent to the proposed World Heritage Site.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners	Number of projects undertaken.	Conservation of assets will protect proposed Outstanding Universal Value.
Encourage community groups and social enterprises to consider historic character when developing projects involving the built historic environment.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners	Number of projects undertaken.	Conservation of assets will protect proposed Outstanding Universal Value.



**Principle 10.3:** The Partnership Steering Group will seek solutions and actively encourage appropriate adaptive reuse of redundant historic buildings including places of worship in a way that will not compromise the historic and archaeological integrity of these assets.

Work with local community and private owners to identify and deliver sustainable re-use projects for redundant historic buildings.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners	Number of buildings identified.	Conservation of assets will protect proposed Outstanding Universal Value.
Work with partners to identify and deliver sustainable re-uses for redundant places of worship within the proposed World Heritage Site.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners	Number of projects undertaken.	Conservation of assets will protect proposed Outstanding Universal Value.

**Objective 11: Sustainable agriculture and forestry.**

ACTION	TIMESCALE <i>short-term 1-2 years medium-term 3-5 years long-term 5 years +</i>	RESPONSIBILITY <i>(resources are within existing budgets of organisations unless otherwise stated)</i>	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS
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**Principle 11.1:** The Partnership Steering Group will welcome agricultural diversification in ways that contribute to access and conservation of the proposed World Heritage Site.

Encourage landowners to incorporate interpretation and access to the proposed World Heritage Site into developments where appropriate.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Partners	Number of projects undertaken.	Facilitate a better understanding of the proposed World Heritage Site.
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**Principle 11.2:** The Partnership Steering Group will advocate for future sustainable land management schemes to apply to World Heritage Sites.

Maintain dialogue with political representatives who have a voice in future sustainable land management arrangements.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group	Number of discussions held.	Ensure sustainable land management arrangements remain compatible with protecting the proposed Outstanding Universal Value.
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**Objective 12: The Partnership Steering Group will encourage and promote sustainable modes of travel as a means of visiting destinations within the proposed World Heritage Site.**

ACTION	TIMESCALE <i>short-term 1-2 years medium-term 3-5 years long-term 5 years +</i>	RESPONSIBILITY <i>(resources are within existing budgets of organisations unless otherwise stated)</i>	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS
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**Principle 12.1:** The use of sustainable methods of travel to visit the component parts of the proposed World Heritage Site will be encouraged.

Develop itineraries to enable people to travel around the region sustainably.	Medium-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator	Number of itineraries developed.	Encourage sustainable visitation of the proposed World Heritage Site.
Work with partners to promote existing sustainable methods of travel within and around the proposed World Heritage Site, including Transport for Wales.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator	Number of projects supported.	Encourage sustainable visitation of the proposed World Heritage Site.
Promote sustainable transport with destination management partners.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Site Owners	Number of projects undertaken.	Encourage sustainable visitation of the proposed World Heritage Site.

**Principle 12.2:** The Partnership Steering Group will actively encourage integration of sustainable modes of transport and will seek to integrate heritage interest with sustainable transport within the proposed World Heritage Site, and the region.

Maintain dialogue with transport-providers, including Transport for Wales.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Transport-providers	Number of partners working together.	Partnership working will ensure reaching a wider audience.
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THEME 4: Enjoying *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*

Objective 13: To ensure that the proposed Outstanding Universal Value of the proposed World Heritage Site can be enjoyed, experienced and understood.				
ACTION	TIMESCALE short-term 1-2 years medium-term 3-5 years long-term 5 years +	RESPONSIBILITY (resources are within existing budgets of organisations unless otherwise stated)	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS
Principle 13.1: The Partnership Steering Group safeguards the tangible and intangible values of the proposed World Heritage Site in their natural and cultural contexts.				
The <i>Interpretation Strategy</i> for the proposed World Heritage Site will inform visitors of the significance of setting within the proposed World Heritage Site whilst conveying tangible and intangible heritage assets.	Medium-term	LleCHI	Number of interpretation projects developed.	Different methods of interpretation will ensure that key messages are transmitted to a wide audience.
Explore funding opportunities for safeguarding / promoting assets and traditions.	Medium-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator	Amount of funding secured.	Projects promoting the tangible and intangible heritage of the proposed World Heritage Site will strengthen understanding.
Principle 13.2: The Partnership Steering Group facilitates understanding and appreciation of the proposed World Heritage Site and fosters public / stakeholder engagement in protection, conservation and interpretation.				
Host events in order to transmit information and also to encourage sharing of experiences between Stakeholders.	Medium-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator	Number of events held.	Information events based on the proposed World Heritage Site will improve understanding.
Ambassadors will be spokespeople for the slate landscape and communicate key messages.	Short-term	LleCHI	Number of Ambassadors created.	Greater sense of pride and understanding locally.

Principle 13.3: The Partnership Steering Group protects the proposed World Heritage Site from intrusive interpretive infrastructure, visitor-pressure, inaccurate or inappropriate interpretation.				
Working with communities to create <i>Cynlluniau Cynefin</i> which will inform local people of significance and also identify interventions for safeguarding historic, linguistic and cultural values.	Short-term	LleCHI	Number of <i>Cynlluniau Cynefin</i> strategies created.	Community ownership will ensure longevity of strategies and that strategies are integral to community regeneration across the proposed World Heritage Site.
Encourage local ownership through community engagement activities.	Ongoing	LleCHI / World Heritage Site Coordinator	Number of community engagement activities held.	Improved community understanding and ownership.
Create local design guidelines in order to raise awareness and protect historic fabric.	Medium-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator	Number of design guides created.	Community ownership of the management of the proposed World Heritage Site.
Principle 13.4: The Partnership Steering Group follows evolving best practice in heritage interpretation.				
<i>Cynlluniau Cynefin</i> based on community aspirations will identify interpretation projects.	Short-term	LleCHI	Number of interpretation projects developed.	Community ownership of the interpretation of the proposed World Heritage Site.
Sustain and develop links with heritage organisations in order to share best practice.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group / World Heritage Site Coordinator	Number of heritage organisations with whom links are established.	Sharing best practice will lead to more effective management of the proposed World Heritage Site.



**Principle 13.5:** The Partnership Steering Group will assess and monitor the impact of tourism on the Welsh language and the communities of the proposed World Heritage Site and work to mitigate any negative effects.

Establish a baseline and robust monitoring methods for assessing the impact of the proposed World Heritage Site designation on the Welsh language.	Short-term	Partnership Steering Group	Baseline established.	Ability to monitor impact on the Welsh language.
Continual monitoring of the impact of the proposed World Heritage Site designation on the Welsh language and undertake any agreed mitigation.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group / World Heritage Site Coordinator	Monitoring measures in place.	Ability to monitor impact on the Welsh language.

**Objective 14: To create a visitor experience that is unique and of the highest quality.**

ACTION	TIMESCALE short-term 1-2 years medium-term 3-5 years long-term 5 years +	RESPONSIBILITY (resources are within existing budgets of organisations unless otherwise stated)	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS
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**Principle 14.1:** The Partnership Steering Group encourages inclusiveness, by facilitating the involvement of stakeholders in the development and implementation of the interpretation strategy.

Ambassadors will undertake the role of front-line information for visitors providing authentic experiences.	Ongoing	LleCHI / World Heritage Site Coordinator	Number of Ambassadors created.	Greater sense of pride and understanding locally.
The <i>Interpretation Strategy</i> for the proposed World Heritage Site will convey local stories alongside the global story in order to ensure community ownership and authentic interpretation.	Short-term	LleCHI	Creation of <i>The Interpretation Strategy for the Wales Slate World Heritage Site Nomination Area</i> .	Coordinated approach to interpretation will ensure a coherent and authentic experience for visitors.
Establish an Interpretation Group to include tourism industry representatives, communities and businesses to steer interpretation priorities.	Ongoing	LleCHI / World Heritage Site Coordinator	Interpretation group established.	Partnership working will ensure a coordinated approach to interpretation.

**Principle 14.2:** The Partnership Steering Group will develop technical and professional guidance for heritage interpretation and transmission.

Develop a Marketing toolkit and associated training sessions to inform and empower businesses and communities.	Short-term	LleCHI	Toolkit completed, and number of business sessions held.	Practical tools for businesses to play a role in the interpretation of the proposed World Heritage Site.
Develop central tools for partners and stakeholders to include standard text and photographic library.	Short-term	LleCHI	Number of different tools available.	Practical tools for businesses to play a role in the interpretation of the proposed World Heritage Site.

**Principle 14.3:** The Partnership Steering Group will develop clear and consistent signage and information provision across the proposed World Heritage Site.

Develop a <i>Sustainable Visitor Management Plan</i> .	Short-term	LleCHI	Creation of <i>Sustainable Visitor Management Plan</i> .	Ensure the sustainable management of visitors within and around the proposed World Heritage Site in order to protect key assets.
Develop a <i>Gateway Signage Strategy</i> .	Medium-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator	Creation of a <i>Gateway Signage Strategy</i>	Encourage visitors around the proposed World Heritage Site in order to experience the full story.



Principle 14.4: The Partnership Steering Group will ensure an unique sense of place and high-quality authentic experiences for visitors.				
Support existing high quality attractions, infrastructure and experiences, and encourage new provision.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group	Number of businesses and organisations supported.	Coordinated approach to visitor enjoyment through providing high quality attractions.
Ambassadors will be encouraged to tell their own story in order to provide unique and authentic experiences.	Ongoing	LleCHI / World Heritage Site Coordinator	Number of Ambassadors in place.	Visitors will receive authentic experiences.
Support and encourage community tourism projects.	Ongoing	LleCHI / World Heritage Site Coordinator / Gwynedd Destination Management Partnership	Number of community tourism initiatives supported.	Visitors will receive authentic experiences.
The Partnership Steering Group will embed the nomination within the emerging <i>Tourism and Destination Management Plan</i> for Gwynedd.	Ongoing	Partnership Steering Group / Gwynedd Destination Management Partnership	<i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> is included in the revised <i>Tourism and Destination Management Plan</i> .	Partnership working will ensure a coordinated approach to visitor experiences.
Principle 14.5: The six Component Parts of the proposed World Heritage Site will be marketed and communicated as one Property.				
Ensure synergy with the marketing efforts of the destination brand (Snowdonia Mountains and Coast).	Ongoing	Gwynedd Destination Management Partnership / World Heritage Site Coordinator / Gwynedd Council	Proposed World Heritage Site information on the destination brand website and in publications.	Proposed World Heritage Site placed on a national and international marketing platform.
Work with Visit Wales on Thematic Years, Wales Way and any other national strategic tourism projects.	Long-term	Gwynedd Destination Management Partnership / World Heritage Site Coordinator / Gwynedd Council	Number of projects developed to coordinate with Visit Wales priorities.	Proposed World Heritage Site placed on a national and international marketing platform.

Objective 15: To endeavour to create a safe environment for the enjoyment of <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> .				
ACTION	TIMESCALE <i>short-term 1-2 years medium-term 3-5 years long-term 5 years +</i>	RESPONSIBILITY <i>(resources are within existing budgets of organisations unless otherwise stated)</i>	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS
Principle 15.1: The Partnership Steering Group will develop clear and robust slate landscape safety policies.				
Develop a safety campaign for the slate landscape.	Short-term	Landowner Forum	Campaign developed.	Ensure safety of visitors to proposed World Heritage Site and ensure privacy of inaccessible sites.
Principle 15.2: The Partnership Steering Group will ensure that safety is a core theme within interpretation and transmission efforts.				
Ensure safety message is included in all interpretation projects developed / supported by the Partnership.	Ongoing	LleCHI / World Heritage Site Coordinator	Number of interpretation projects including safety message.	Ensure safety of visitors to proposed World Heritage Site and ensure privacy of inaccessible sites.
Principle 15.3: Public access to the proposed World Heritage Site is encouraged (where appropriate) in order to facilitate understanding of the proposed Outstanding Universal Value.				
Develop and promote strategic routes exploring the proposed World Heritage Site and wider region.	Ongoing	Landowner Forum / World Heritage Site Coordinator	Number of routes developed.	Encourage visitors around the proposed World Heritage Site in order to experience the full story.
Where public access is not possible or to be prohibited, undertake virtual or satellite interpretation of those sites.	Ongoing	Landowner Forum / World Heritage Site Coordinator	Number of virtual or satellites interpretation projects.	Encourage visitors around the proposed World Heritage Site in order to experience the full story.



THEME 5: Learning about *The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales*

Objective 16: The proposed World Heritage Site is a focus for shared learning and research, for fostering understanding and appreciation of its values and attributes.				
ACTION	TIMESCALE short-term 1-2 years medium-term 3-5 years long-term 5 years +	RESPONSIBILITY (resources are within existing budgets of organisations unless otherwise stated)	MEASURABLE OUTCOMES	OUTPUTS
Principle 16.1: Links will be established with education-providers to foster opportunities for inclusive learning programmes relevant to the proposed World Heritage Site.				
Develop links with School of History, Philosophy and Social Sciences, Bangor University.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers	Number of seminars, PhDs undertaken.	Increased understanding at academic level of slate industry and industrial history.
Share expertise to develop Heritage and Climate Change BA course at Bangor University.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers	BA course in place.	Increased understanding at academic level of heritage and climate change.
Share expertise to develop World Heritage and Heritage Management MA at Bangor University.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers	MA course in place.	Increased understanding at academic level of heritage management.
Share expertise to develop PhD research grants with Universities.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers	Number of PhDs undertaken.	Increased understanding at academic level of slate industry and industrial history.
Sustain links with industrial archaeology courses run by the Snowdonia National Park study centre.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Snowdonia National Park	Number of attendees on courses.	Increased skills level in practical industrial archaeology techniques.
Ensure integration of Nomination with curriculum developments across Wales	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers	Number of schools and organisations briefed.	Increased awareness by schools and organisations of educational potential of World Heritage.

Principle 16.2: Links will be established with international bodies to promote academic research, educational programmes and professional exchanges relevant to the proposed World Heritage Site.				
Develop stronger links with TICCIH.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers	Number of conferences and exchange visits.	Increased understanding of context of stone working and industrialisation world-wide.
Build on links with Association Ardenne Wallonne and other interested parties.	Short-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator	Number of meetings and exchanges held.	Increased understanding of context of stone working and industrialisation world-wide.
Build on links between Ffestiniog Railway and Indian Railways ( <i>Mountain Railways of India</i> World Heritage Site).	Short-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Ffestiniog Railway	Number of meetings and exchanges held.	Opportunity to share best practice and information.
Work with European Quarry Landscape Project.	Short-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator	Number of meetings and exchanges held.	Increased understanding of context of stone-working world-wide.
Principle 16.3: Visitors will be encouraged to explore and learn about the physical, social and cultural aspects of <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> .				
Sharing of best practice in tourism.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers	Number of meetings and conferences held.	Opportunity to share best practice and information.
Encouragement to visitors to return for courses relating to <i>The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales</i> or to participate in voluntary programmes.	Short-term	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers / Tourism providers	Number of course attendees from outside Gwynedd.	Increased understanding of the proposed World Heritage Site and its proposed Outstanding Universal Value.
Principle 16.4: Researchers will be encouraged to share their knowledge and research findings.				
Promote conferences and publication of research findings.	Ongoing	World Heritage Site Coordinator / Education-providers	Number of conferences held, and research published.	Increased understanding at academic level.





**The steam mill at Diffwys Slate Quarry which overlooks Blaenau Ffestiniog in Component Part 5  
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**Blaenau Ffestiniog and the Ffestiniog Slate Quarries, Component Part 5 © Crown copyright: RCAHMW.**

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