
Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales (United Kingdom) No 1633

Official name as proposed by the State Party

The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales

Location

County of Gwynedd, Wales

United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

Brief description

The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales illustrates the transformation that industrial slate quarrying and mining brought about in the traditional rural environment of the mountains and valleys of the Snowdon massif. The territory, extending from mountain-top to sea-coast, presented opportunities and constraints that were used and challenged by the large-scale industrial processes undertaken by landowners and capital investors, which reshaped the agricultural landscape into an industrial centre for slate production during the Industrial Revolution (1780-1914).

The nominated serial property is composed of six serial components each encompassing relict quarries and mines, archaeological sites related to slate industrial processing, historical settlements, both living and relict, historic gardens and grand country houses, ports, harbours and quays, and railway and road systems illustrating the functional and social linkages of the relict slate industrial landscape.

Category of property

In terms of categories of cultural property set out in Article I of the 1972 World Heritage Convention, this is a serial nomination of six *sites*.

In terms of the *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* (2019) paragraph 47, it has also been nominated as a *cultural landscape*.

1 Basic data

Included in the Tentative List

27 January 2012

Background

This is a new nomination.

Consultations and Technical Evaluation Mission

Desk reviews have been provided by ICOMOS International Scientific Committees, members and independent experts.

Comments on the natural attributes of this property, and their conservation and management, were received from IUCN on 16 November 2020, and on 22 February 2021, and have been incorporated into the relevant sections of this report.

An ICOMOS technical evaluation mission visited the property from 27 September to 3 October 2020.

Additional information received by ICOMOS

A letter was sent to the State Party on 22 September 2020 requesting further information about the rationale for selection of the serial components, the protection and management of the nominated property, current quarrying, mining and renewable energy activities, and potential developments within and adjacent to the nominated property.

An Interim Report was provided to the State Party on 17 December 2020 summarising the issues identified by the ICOMOS World Heritage Panel. Further information was requested in the Interim Report including: specific measures for the protection of the setting and key views of the serial components, and management documents completed by the time of submission (Local Management Plans, Supplementary Planning Guidance, Risk Strategy, Tourism Strategy).

Additional information was received from the State Party on 13 November 2020 and on 25 February 2021, and has been incorporated into the relevant sections of this evaluation report.

Date of ICOMOS approval of this report

18 March 2021

2 Description of the property

Note: The nomination dossier and additional information contain detailed descriptions of this property, its history and its state of conservation. Due to limitations on the length of evaluation reports, this report only provides a short summary of the most relevant aspects.

Description and history

The nominated serial property is located in the County of Gwynedd, Wales, at the heart of the mountains and valleys of the Snowdon range. In this region, the geological structure is composed of several outcropping belts which form a rich deposit of high-grade slate. The area was first settled by farming communities, and there is evidence of slate quarrying since Roman times. In the Middle Ages, quarrying became a part-time occupation alongside agricultural activities. From the end of the 18th century and throughout the 19th century, capital investment and the strategic access to the bay of Liverpool in the north and the Irish Sea in the west enabled the expansion of Welsh slate production and export to England, Ireland, and France. In this period, the extraction of slate went through a profound transformation, from small-scale, dispersed exploitations

to an industrialised organization that changed the traditional system of slate quarrying by small partnerships and independent groups of workers. This process dramatically impacted the agricultural society and the landscape, resulting in the creation and growth of planned and organically-evolved settlements for quarry workers and managers. Engineering complexes, cutting-edge technology and innovative transportation systems were developed at this time, as well as associated social infrastructure, such as hospitals, community facilities, churches and chapels, and businesses serving the growing quarrying population. The end-use of slate is still visible in the historical settlements and traditional slate-pillar fencing known as *crawiau*.

The nominated property is composed of six separate serial components spread over one Cambrian slate vein (Component Parts 1, 2 and 3) and three Ordovician slate veins (Component Parts 4, 5, and 6). Each serial component has been proposed as a cultural landscape unit with a nucleus in a relict quarry or quarries and mines with associated processing areas connected to a settlement or settlements, either deserted or still inhabited; elements related to the transport of slate, including parts of the railway system, as well as roads, and, in some cases, quays and harbours. Together, the six serial components provide a comprehensive picture of the scale of slate exploitation and impacts of the slate industry in this region, and the technology that was developed and exchanged throughout the Industrial Revolution in these quarries.

Component Part 1: Penrhyn Slate Quarry and Bethesda, and the Ogwen Valley to Port Penrhyn. This serial component illustrates the industrial functionality of the slate landscape, from quarry to sea, including physical and visual relationships to workers' settlements and the quarry owner's estate.

Component Part 2: Dinorwig Slate Quarry Mountain Landscape. Located in the Nant Peris Valley, at the foot of Mount Snowdon, this serial component covers one large area including the Dinorwig Slate Quarry, its associated processing areas and transport system, the Dinorwig Slate Quarry Hospital where quarry workers were treated, and four workers' settlements. They are testimonies of the daily life and struggles of the emergent working class.

Component Part 3: Nantlle Valley Slate Quarry Landscape. This serial component with technology used to extract and process the slate remaining in situ, also illustrates the diversity of dwellings of workers and the transformation of the rural environment.

Component Part 4: Gorseddau and Prince of Wales Slate Quarries, Railways and Mill. This serial component represents the expansion of the slate industry in the mid-19th century through the replication, in a remote location, of the technology developed in Penrhyn Slate Quarry. Remains of barracks and the relict Treforys village are

testimonies to the challenges of inhabiting this remote upland environment.

Component Part 5: Ffestiniog: its Slate Mines and Quarries, 'city of slates' and Railway to Porthmadog. This serial component illustrates the expansion of the slate industry and the further development of technology for slate working both on the surface and underground, and the different means used to transport it.

Component Part 6: Bryneglwys Slate Quarry, Abergynolwyn Village and the Tallylyn Railway. This component illustrates the maturity of the slate industry, displaying the influence of the technology developed in the Nantlle Valley and Ffestiniog quarries, as well as the evolution in the planning of workers' settlements.

As an industrial landscape, the nominated property depicts the tensions between the English landowners and aristocrats and the newly-formed Welsh working class. Anglican churches and Nonconformist chapels in the various historical settlements of the nominated property reflect the different religious faiths reflecting identity and class differences. This is further illustrated by the diverse settlements' typologies, whether created by a quarry-owner, an industrialist or by the quarry population, contrasting with the quarry owners' residences. Welsh quarrymen, who were seen as cultured, artistic, political and religious, came to symbolize Welsh culture with their precise use of the language in relation to their craftsmanship, including a detailed understanding of geology and the use of hand-splitting tools. Welsh, a Celtic language recognized as an Indigenous Language, is spoken by 70% of the population of the nominated property and is continuously being advanced.

Internal (Penrhyn Slate Quarry strike 1900-1903) and external (World War I and Great Depression) socio-economic and political factors contributed to the decline of the slate industry in North Wales, leading to a reduction in investment, whilst the USA and France increased their productivity and competitiveness. During and after World War II, the decline continued until all quarries within the nominated property were closed by 1970, leading to the adaptation of some of the industrial and residential infrastructure into museums (Penrhyn Castle 1951, National Slate Museum 1972, Plas Tan y Bwlch/Snowdonia National Park Study Centre 1975, Dinorwig Slate Quarry Hospital Museum 1979), tourist attractions (Tallylyn Railway 1951, Ffestiniog Railway 1982) or re-use for community and commercial purposes (barracks in Nantlle Village 1999, Felin Fawr Slate-Slab Mill 1990s.)

Boundaries

The area of the six serial components totals 3,259.01 ha. Their boundaries have been drawn based on archaeological research and an inventory of the historic assets related to slate quarrying and mining, in addition to geographical and historical features, and landscape and management designations based on national and local register and listing systems. In the nomination dossier, the State Party notes that all boundaries have been defined in agreement with landowners and the planning authority

to include only historical areas where mineral operations have ceased, and to exclude areas with current mineral permissions or where landowners foresee possible mineral extraction in the future. Component Parts 4 and 6 are located in their entirety within the Snowdonia National Park. Component Parts 1, 2, 3 and 5 are adjacent to the boundaries of the National Park, and located within Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest, a non-statutory designation the objective of which is to retain the landscape's historic character by guiding planning and development. Component Part 5 is also partially located within the National Park. These designations represent high-level landscape protection and recognise slate cultural heritage as a significant element.

The State Party has not proposed a buffer zone, arguing that the above mentioned mechanisms will function as an added layer of protection for the setting and key views into and out of the nominated property in an area totalling 250,400 ha. surrounding and between the six serial components. In the proposed Management Plan, the State Party mentions that Landscape Character Studies have been undertaken within all the serial components to inform planning policy and decisions. ICOMOS requested in September 2020 additional information on the identification, description and illustration of key views in order to understand how these would be protected by the landscape designations. The State Party replied in November 2020 that no individual key views have been identified as it highlights the need to protect the cultural landscape as a whole.

ICOMOS notes that the proposed serial components represent small and irregularly-shaped areas within the totality of the slate industrial landscape of the North Wales region. However, ICOMOS understands that the design of the serial components reflects the inclusion of the most complete remaining evidence of the functional and social systems of the cultural landscape of the Industrial Revolution, and the exclusion of areas with current or potential mineral activity. In this regard, ICOMOS considers that the serial components are clearly delineated and that the boundaries are adequate.

In the Interim Report, ICOMOS requested illustrations of the key views, and information on specific measures to protect them, especially for the highly vulnerable coastal areas and linear elements of the nominated property. ICOMOS also requested clarification regarding the decision to not use the existing landscape designations as a formal buffer zone for the nominated property. In February 2021, the State Party provided illustrations of examples of key viewpoints, detailed explanations on mechanisms protecting the coastal and marine protected areas, and the rationale for not proposing a buffer zone. In addition, the State Party submitted the draft of the Supplementary Planning Guidance which states the considerations for assessing development proposals that may have an impact on the nominated property and its setting.

In relation to the absence of a proposed buffer zone, ICOMOS recognizes that according to the *Operational Guidelines*, the creation of a buffer zone is not mandatory. The Operational Guidelines further states that “clear explanation of how the buffer zone protects the property should also be provided” to underline that designing a buffer area implies providing it with adequate legal, planning or customary mechanisms to protect the nominated property. The International Expert Meeting on World Heritage and Buffer Zones (Davos, Switzerland, 11-14 March 2008) found that “while every World Heritage property needed protection and management arrangements, not every property would have a buffer zone, as buffer zones are only one means to achieve protection and management. As outlined in the Operational Guidelines, there are also legal, regulatory and other methods available” (World Heritage and Buffer Zones – Paper Series 25, p. 187). However, the meeting further “recognized that actions may take place well beyond the boundaries of a property and any buffer zone that might nonetheless have a significant influence upon the outstanding universal value and integrity of a property. The concept of an area of influence may also be useful to describe a wider zone in which activities may take place that could have an impact upon the outstanding universal value and integrity of a property” (ibid., p. 190). Nevertheless, as factors affecting the property highlighted below suggest, ICOMOS considers that forms of regulatory protection of the immediate setting and key views of the nominated property should be set up, considering the necessity to protect the nominated property and its immediate settings.

ICOMOS recommends that further study of the settings and key views are undertaken following a landscape and historical analysis in order to strengthen the protection of the setting of the nominated property. ICOMOS considers that the protection mechanisms in place are comprehensive, and recommends to thoroughly enforce them in the absence of a formal buffer zone.

State of conservation

Each serial component and the heritage resources included in the nominated property have different conservation histories as quarries and engineering complexes have ceased functioning at different periods in time and are under differing ownerships, while most historical settlements are still inhabited. According to the State Party, the cultural landscape has experienced little change since the end of the heyday of the slate industry, and all successive industries are not visually intrusive.

The nomination dossier informs that Component Part 1 is in a good to fair state of conservation, with the relict hospital and other industrial structures covered by vegetation and in need of conservation action. Penrhyn Castle and Park are in a very good state of conservation and have become tourist attractions, while Port Penrhyn is in active industrial use for commercial fishing and associated uses. Mynydd Llandygai and Bethesda are inhabited and preserve their original layouts, with some areas and buildings having been designated.

Component Part 2 is generally in a good to very good state of conservation with some historical buildings in need of conservation. Recent renovations have been carried out in the Dinorwig Quarry Hospital which included both building improvements and interpretation work. The refurbishment of the National Slate Museum is being planned. The historical settlements of Deiniolen, Clwt y Bont, Dinorwig and Fachwen are all still inhabited and retain their early 19th-century layout.

Component Part 3 is in a good state of conservation. Some structures, like the eastern bastion of the Dorothea Slate Quarry, are in very poor condition and in need of conservation. The Dorothea Slate Quarry Cornish Beam Engine is in fair condition and preserves its original machinery. Nantlle Village is still inhabited and retains its historic character, while some individual buildings' historic character has been affected. The settlements in Cilgwyn Mountain retain their historic layout with some properties inhabited and some having been abandoned after quarrying ceased.

Component Part 4 is managed for grazing. The state of conservation is generally good and Treforys Village is deserted and in good condition. Minor conservation of the Ynyspandy Slate-Slab Mill and associated structures is required.

Component Part 5 is in a generally good state of conservation with the underground structures prone to rock falls and water-ingress. Maenofferen Slate Quarry Main Complex has suffered deterioration and works have been initiated to stabilise some of the structures. Potential re-use of part of the complex is currently under discussion. The town of Blaenau Ffestiniog is inhabited and retains its 19th-century urban layout and historical character. Plas Tan y Bwlch is in very good condition and managed by the Snowdonia National Park Authority as their residential study centre. Major renovations were undertaken in 2004-2005 supported by the Heritage Lottery Fund and Cadw, the Welsh Government's Historic Environment Service. The slate quays on the Dwyryd River are relict and conserved. Portmadog Harbour is well conserved and in active use.

Component Part 6 is in a good state of conservation. The underground workings of the quarry are in a stable condition and preserve historical artefacts. The village of Abergynolwyn retains its mid-19th-century character and layout.

Ffestiniog (Component Part 5) and Tallylyn (Component Part 6) Railways remain operational, while relict railways and routes are under multiple ownership and overgrown, with the Cegin railroad viaduct (Component Part 1) having benefited from recent conservation. Community initiatives are undertaking vegetation removal.

Based on the information provided by the State Party and the observations of the ICOMOS technical evaluation mission, ICOMOS considers that the state of conservation of the nominated property as a whole is good, while some

relict elements need conservation action. Furthermore, ICOMOS notes that the historic character of the living settlements is vulnerable and requires regular monitoring.

Factors affecting the property

Based on the information provided by the State Party and the observations of the ICOMOS technical evaluation mission, ICOMOS considers that the main factor affecting the property is natural decay, especially in some of the remote archaeological sites, threatening the structural integrity of historic industrial buildings. The nomination dossier notes that pit quarries are now generally flooded, former working-faces can be prone to infrequent and localized rock-falls, and vegetation growth is affecting quarry tips and relict roads and paths.

ICOMOS requested information in September 2020 about the operations of the Dinorwig Power Station located within the nominated property (Component Part 2) and its potential impact on the proposed Outstanding Universal Value. In additional information received in November 2020, the State Party indicated that the hydropower station, built between 1975 and 1984, operates in underground installations to preserve the natural beauty of the Snowdonia National Park. The State Party further states that all future upgrades to technology will be developed within the current installations with no visual impact or effect on the relict quarry. ICOMOS considers that the Dinorwig Power Station does not represent a threat as only some small-scale visual impacts exist from certain viewpoints opposite to the lake.

The State Party further assured in additional information that any potential renewable energy infrastructure proposals within the nominated property or wider protected area will be carefully analysed and assessed according to the planning policies set out in the Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan, the Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Supplementary Planning Guidance, and the Snowdonia National Park Authority Eryri Local Development Plan, potentially requiring a Development Consent Order. The State Party guarantees that all mineral extraction, tipping, processing and secondary reworking is conducted outside of the nominated property, with all operations planned to cease and site restoration works to be undertaken within the next 8 to 22 years. ICOMOS considers that currently, the mineral activity in the wider protected area has no impact on the integrity of the nominated property, and restoration measures should be coordinated with the management authorities in order to avoid negative impacts on its integrity and authenticity after the cessation of operations. Furthermore, ICOMOS considers that in the event that future mineral works are intended to be undertaken adjacent to the nominated property, Environmental Impact Assessments and Heritage Impact Assessments should be carried out prior to consent, especially given the lack of a formal buffer zone.

Adventure tourism is very popular in the area with potential to grow if the nominated property is inscribed on the World Heritage List. Currently, related infrastructure is reversible and mostly located outside of the nominated property, having no impacts on the heritage values to date. ICOMOS considers that new adventure tourism developments should be carefully assessed guided by a Heritage Impact Assessment and preferably take place outside of the nominated property.

An increase in tourism in a potential inscription scenario could eventually impact on the character of the historical settlements. Existing Urban Character Studies in conjunction with Conservation Area designation and Local Management Plans under elaboration are set to manage and avoid any potential negative impacts. In additional information, the State Party informed that Community Design Guides under elaboration will provide guiding principles on developments, renovations and investments to properties within the settlements located within the nominated property. In its Interim Report, ICOMOS requested an update on the status of potential housing projects mentioned in the proposed Management Plan. The State Party replied in February 2021 that planning applications are not yet approved or not yet submitted, and that to be considered, planning applications have to include relevant impact assessments and will be determined in accordance with the Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan.

Socio-economic factors could potentially affect the nominated property, such as demographic change, with an outflux of young people and an influx of retired people and the potential loss of Welsh language and related cultural activities and events. ICOMOS notes that these concerns are addressed by the State Party in the proposed Management Plan. However, these factors need constant monitoring and careful corrective actions to redress potential negative processes that might emerge despite the measures proposed in the Management Plan.

Climate change presents potential challenges. Instruments created at national level for strategic action are the basis for the nominated property's proposed Management Plan and Risk Management Strategy. ICOMOS requested the State Party, in its Interim Report, to submit the completed Risk Management Strategy, as a necessary document to coordinate and communicate measures across the nominated property. The State Party submitted in February 2021 the draft of the Risk Management Strategy where hazards, both natural and human-made, as well as potential climate change impacts and potential visitor pressure to the nominated property, have been identified and policy frameworks addressing them referred to. ICOMOS considers that climate change threats are imminent but not yet significantly impacting the nominated property. ICOMOS further notes that the State Party is taking proactive adaptation and mitigation measures against potential negative impacts of climate change.

3 Proposed justification for inscription

Proposed justification

The nominated property is considered by the State Party to be of Outstanding Universal Value as a cultural property for the following reasons:

- It represents an outstanding interaction between humans and their natural environment which resulted in the creation of a large-scale industrial quarrying and mining landscape of global historical value;
- The slate quarried within the nominated property influenced architectural development internationally and can be found as an important material in World Heritage properties as well as in other historical buildings, from castles to vernacular architecture, around the world;
- The technological developments within the nominated property had influence at a regional and global scale through workers' knowledge, skills and technology transfers during the Industrial Revolution, both inward and outward, as well as within the nominated property;
- It is an outstanding testimony of a major industrial transformation of the landscape from an agrarian to an industrial land-use pattern, undertaken through capital investment and intelligent use of the natural environment and resources, with a partial transition from craft-skill to machine-based;
- The maintenance of Welsh language and quarrying culture represents the adaptation of a traditional minority culture to modernity.

Comparative analysis

The comparative analysis is presented in 3 parts: the comparison to properties already inscribed on the World Heritage List, including those located in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which represent a similar typology (mining landscapes of the Industrial Revolution) with a comparable combination of values and proposed attributes; the comparison to properties on Tentative Lists; and a thematic comparison to quarrying and mining landscapes throughout the world which are neither inscribed on the World Heritage List nor included in Tentative Lists. In addition, the nomination dossier presents a justification for the selection of the six components of this serial nomination, including a comparison within the region of Wales, and the justification for the selection of the elements included in the six serial components.

The rationale of the comparison is based on seven parameters: the type of the property; the size of the property; the typology (quarrying and mining landscape); the period (Industrial Revolution); the geo-cultural region (global); the integrity, authenticity, protection and management; and the selection of comparable landscapes. The State Party examined comparable slate quarrying and mining sites at global and national level. From this comparison, the nominated property stands out

by its scale of influence and development, the diverse application of technology, of transport infrastructure, the high levels of authenticity and integrity, and the good state of conservation. Furthermore, it is indicated that many of the comparable sites were influenced by technology and knowledge developed in the nominated property.

The serial nomination approach is justified based on the need to reflect the territorial scale, the uneven geological distribution, and the diversity of the wider industrial landscape, including functional and social linkages that are essential to understand the significance of the cultural landscape. Sites within Gwynedd were selected for inclusion on the basis of their surviving archaeology, their authenticity and integrity as a cultural landscape and their potential to contribute to the proposed Outstanding Universal Value, as well as their means of legal protection. Other locations in Wales were considered in detail but not recommended for inclusion due to their small size and because significant elements lacked authenticity and integrity. In additional information provided in November 2020, the State Party clarified that a seventh location was identified as desirable but was eventually excluded on the basis of the extent of active mineral extraction, processing and tipping, and the wide areas of extant mineral permissions within it.

ICOMOS considers that the comparative analysis is rigorous and comprehensive and justifies consideration of this property for the World Heritage List.

Criteria under which inscription is proposed

The property is nominated on the basis of cultural criteria (ii), (iv) and (v).

Criterion (ii): *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;*

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the grounds that the nominated property exhibits an important interchange of human values, particularly in the period from 1780 to 1940, on developments in architecture and technology related to the slate quarrying and mining industry.

ICOMOS considers that the nominated property was internationally significant for the export of slates, but also in the export of technology and skilled workers from the 1780s to the early 20th century. It played a leading role in the field and constituted a model for other slate quarries in different parts of the world. It offers an important and remarkable example of interchange of materials, technology and human values.

ICOMOS considers that criterion (ii) is justified.

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

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the grounds that the nominated property 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.

ICOMOS considers that the nominated property represents an outstanding example of a stone quarrying and mining landscape which illustrates the extent of transformation of an agricultural environment during the Industrial Revolution. The existing evidence of quarries, mines, engineering complexes, processing sites, as well as settlements and transport routes, convey the functionality of the relict slate industrial cultural landscape in an exceptional manner.

ICOMOS considers that criterion (iv) is justified.

Criterion (v): *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;*

This criterion is justified by the State Party on the grounds that the nominated property is an outstanding example of the industrial transformation of a traditional human settlement and marginal agrarian land-use pattern, exemplifying how a remarkably homogenous minority culture, the Welsh, adapted to modernity in the industrial era.

ICOMOS considers that elements of the justification for this criterion are relevant for the justification of criterion (iv) since the change in land-use patterns from agrarian to industrial is part of the landscape typology proposed. ICOMOS notes that the nominated property has been proposed by the State Party as illustrative of a cultural landscape of the Industrial Revolution, which is not primarily representative of Welsh culture, since Welsh communities occupy a larger territory and not primarily as a slate quarrying culture. Furthermore, the argument of vulnerability proposed by the State Party refers to Welsh communities adapting to change during the Industrial Revolution and not to present vulnerabilities to irreversible change.

ICOMOS considers that criterion (v) has not been justified.

ICOMOS considers that the serial approach is justified and that the nominated property meets criteria (ii) and (iv) but that criterion (v) has not been demonstrated.

Integrity and authenticity

Integrity

All elements which composed the slate industrial landscape, including the quarries and mines, the processing areas and other related infrastructure, the transport systems and the settlements where workers, managers and land-owners established themselves, as well as their interconnections, are present. The preservation of these elements allows the understanding of the relationships and functions occurring at the nominated property during the industrial period, when the mineral works were active, and when major changes were undertaken in the landscape organization. The existence of continuing extraction of slate within the wider protected area enables the continuation of cultural practices related to the values of the nominated property.

ICOMOS considers that even though the six serial components are small, these adequately represent the totality of the cultural landscape that they illustrate and that the level of integrity of the six serial components individually and the nominated property as a whole is high. However, noting the irregular and linear shape of some of the serial components, ICOMOS considers that the integrity of the nominated property and its setting is vulnerable and requires careful monitoring. ICOMOS therefore recommends to consistently utilize the protective mechanisms in place to strengthen the integrity of the nominated property and its setting.

Authenticity

The authenticity of the nominated property is based on the presence of archaeological, technological, architectural and anthropological evidence of the life and functions of the cultural landscape during the Industrial Revolution until the beginning of World War II. The retainment of the relict quarries' landforms and locations as they ceased to be worked, the physical fabric of the associated settlements whose buildings conserve original materials, and the spatial distribution of the elements of the cultural landscape, including the railway and road systems which in some cases are still in use, provide testimony of the interactions between landowners, industrialists and quarry workers with their environment, at different scales, narrating how this cultural landscape evolved from an agriculture-based society into an industrial centre. Some of the cutting-edge technologies developed in the nominated property are being maintained and displayed in their original locations, as well as the railways and the use of these for educational and touristic purposes. Ports retain their original function as they continue to be used, though the emphasis is nowadays on different commercial and recreational activities rather than on the export of slate, which is less extensive.

The workers' settlements, towns and villages present different levels of authenticity. In general, they provide a mixture of buildings from different time periods, from the early quarrying period in the 18th century to the last quarrying period in the 20th century, reflecting the dynamic

process of an evolving quarrying and mining cultural landscape. Traditions and quarrying techniques are maintained by the working quarry population living in the nominated property and surroundings, as well as the Indigenous language, Welsh, in a variety of dialects across the nominated property.

ICOMOS considers that the location and setting of the six serial components and their elements as well as the wider setting are remarkably authentic. However, ICOMOS notes that the historical settlements present different yet acceptable levels of authenticity, which need to be closely monitored and controlled by the management system and respective Local Management Plans.

In conclusion, ICOMOS considers that the conditions of integrity and authenticity have been met. However, ICOMOS notes that due to the configuration of the serial components and the lack of formal buffer zones, the integrity of the nominated property could be vulnerable, requiring strict compliance to statutory protection mechanisms. Furthermore, ICOMOS considers that regular monitoring and effectively-coordinated management are required for retaining the integrity and authenticity of the historical settlements.

Evaluation of the proposed justification for inscription

ICOMOS considers that the comparative analysis justifies the consideration of the nominated serial property for the World Heritage List. The nominated serial property justifies criteria (ii) and (iv), but ICOMOS considers that criterion (v) has not been demonstrated. It meets the requirements of integrity and authenticity. However, ICOMOS considers that the integrity of the serial components and their setting could be vulnerable due to their configuration and the lack of formal buffer zones. ICOMOS recommends an in-depth study of the setting and key views of the nominated property to support the planning framework in the protection of the setting of the six serial components. Moreover, ICOMOS considers that the integrity and authenticity of the living historical settlements, including their intangible attributes, are vulnerable to potential tourism development. These vulnerabilities need to be further addressed and carefully monitored by the management system, particularly by the Local Management Plans, the Supplementary Guidance, the Risk Management Strategy and the Tourism Strategy.

ICOMOS considers that the state of conservation of the nominated property as a whole is good, while some relict elements require conservation works, as natural decay represents the main factor currently affecting the nominated property. Furthermore, potential factors that may affect the nominated property in the future are the development of tourism and its potential impact on the character of the historical villages and settlements, as well as on the language and local culture; the development of adventure tourism; and the initiation of new mineral activities or development of renewable energy infrastructure, for which ICOMOS recommends Environmental Impact Assessments and Heritage Impact

Assessments prior to consent. In addition, climate change represents an imminent threat, especially for the coastal areas of the nominated property. Specific potential threats for each Component Part have been identified in the draft Risk Management Strategy, with reference to preventative measures and policy frameworks addressing them.

Attributes

The original location and overall setting of the nominated property are attributes which convey its historical value. The geological characteristics of the Snowdon massif and its valleys, as well as the landscape views, natural and human-made landforms (slate pits and tips), surface and underground workings, are important attributes for the understanding of the nominated property and its historical significance as a cultural landscape. The industrial process and its impacts on the environment and the society are illustrated by the interconnections between the diversity of elements included in the six serial components: the quarries, their associated industrial infrastructure, the settlements, quarry owners' residences, road and railway systems, quays and ports are tangible attributes that demonstrate the process of slate quarrying and mining from the source of the mineral raw stone to its end-use and transport as a finished product. The original form and design, and in most cases, material and substance and the interrelationships between these different elements are also relevant attributes, even though the continuity of use and function is only present in the inhabited settlements. In addition, the persistence of Indigenous Welsh language, traditional cultural practices and festivities originating in the quarrying activities of the industrialisation period, as well as the continuous intergenerational transmission of traditional quarrying techniques, are intangible attributes of the nominated property.

ICOMOS considers that the identification of attributes is comprehensive and supports the justification for inscription.

4 Conservation measures and monitoring

Conservation measures

Conservation activities have been carried out within the nominated property since the 1950s by individuals, voluntary organisations and institutions and corporations, depending on the ownership of each historical asset. As part of the process of developing the nomination, the Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Partnership Steering Group, the lead of the multi-stakeholders partnership working on the nomination, created 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. The State Party maintains that efforts are under way to develop traditional skills' training to create an informed workforce with the capacity to respond to the needs of the nominated property, and to raise awareness amongst communities of the importance of appropriate and

sensitive maintenance and conservation of traditional buildings.

Each designation (Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and Registered Landscapes) involves specific conservation guidelines developed by the respective authority or entity in charge that programs their actions in different cycles which have been referred to in the nomination dossier and proposed Management Plan. A programme of inspections for historic assets has been carried out in order to determine the state of conservation and conservation needs of non-designated heritage resources, as well as the potential to be designated in the short-term.

Local Management Plans under development are set to define conservation measures adapted for each type of heritage in coordination with owners, the heritage conservation and planning authorities and respective legislation and policies.

Monitoring

Monitoring is proposed for the state of conservation and the sustainable use of the nominated property. In the event of a successful inscription, the overall responsibility for monitoring the nominated property lies with the Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Partnership Steering Group. Key indicators for the nominated property as a whole have been proposed based on existing monitoring programmes developed by the institutions in charge of the different heritage assets. The management effectiveness will be monitored based on the measurable outcomes of the implementation of the proposed Management Plan; however, key indicators have not been specified. ICOMOS recommends the development of key indicators for monitoring the management effectiveness which would include the monitoring of the measures in place and the effectiveness of the planning system to protect the nominated property and its setting. Streamlining of the monitoring system with the Periodic Reporting questionnaire would also be useful.

ICOMOS considers that conservation measures and monitoring arrangements are adequate, while actions by different owners and authorities in charge of the diverse heritage resources must remain coordinated in the nominated property as a whole. ICOMOS recommends the development of key indicators to assess the management effectiveness of the nominated property. Streamlining of the monitoring system with the Periodic Reporting questionnaire would also be useful.

5 Protection and management

Documentation

An Inventory of the Nominated Property has been attached to the nomination dossier, as well as Urban Character Studies, Register of Historic Landscapes and Historic Landscape Characterisation reports. The inventory is based on a series of archaeological assessments that were undertaken between 2015 and 2019. Other sources of this

inventory and photographic archive of the nominated property are held by relevant institutions such as the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust, Cadw's records on designated historic assets in Wales and Gwynedd's archives, among others, and are accessible online and/or open to the public. ICOMOS considers that the existing digital databases provide a comprehensive baseline for the future monitoring and management of the nominated property.

Legal protection

The protection and management of the nominated property is set out by Cadw (the Welsh Government's Historic Environment Service) based on the Planning Guidance on inscribed World Heritage sites of the Welsh Government's national policy guidance Planning Policy Wales 10 (2018) following three principles: the statutory designation of specific historic assets within the nominated property; the use of the Spatial Planning system, including policies that guide appropriate development; and the collaborative creation and implementation of a Management Plan involving all key stakeholders.

The nominated property and its setting are afforded legal protection through a diversity of instruments according to the type of heritage. The different elements within each of the serial components are under various ownerships and are subject to different legal arrangements. Some areas are under the ownership of Gwynedd Council and Snowdonia National Park Authority, others under individual farmers, many of whom have managed their land for generations. Many of the key assets, such as Penrhyn Castle and Park, the National Slate Museum at Llanberis, and the Ffestiniog and Talylyn Railways, are operated by charitable organizations.

There are 17 designated Scheduled Monuments, protected under The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 as amended by The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016, which correspond to the relict quarries and other archaeological sites; and 13 proposed Scheduled Monuments to be designated in the short-term in the event of an inscription.

Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas within the six serial components have been listed since 1949 under The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as amended by the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016. These include workers' dwellings, vernacular buildings, places of worship and other social infrastructure, as well as industrial and transport elements.

Conservation Areas have been designated in nine locations which correspond to the historical settlements associated with the slate industrial development. Additional Conservation Areas are expected to be designated in the short-term.

Historic parks and gardens like Penrhyn Castle and Plas Tan y Bwlch are recognized in the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016, as Registered Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest which are afforded protection through the Planning system.

The National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 grants the highest level of landscape protection within the national planning system to the Snowdonia National Park (Parc Cenedlaethol Eryri) where three of the serial components are totally or partially located. Five of the serial components are located totally or partially within areas recognized in the Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales. This is not a statutory designation but provides information to decision makers and landscape managers to help ensure that the historic character of the landscape is sustained. These landscape designations correspond to the surrounding areas of the six serial components and have been proposed to be used as added layers of protection to the nominated property and its setting in the absence of a formal buffer zone.

Parts of the nominated property are located within or adjacent to various environmental designations including: Statutory sites designated at international/European level as Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Special Protection Areas (SPAs); at national level as Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and National Nature Reserves (NNRs); at local level as Local Wildlife Sites, Local Nature Reserves and Ancient woodlands. Some of these designations and Special Landscape Areas protect the coastal strips and areas of Component Parts 1 and 5. National Marine Character Areas protect the seascapes of the Menai Straits, Tremadog Bay and Cardigan Bay. Existing protection is the responsibility of public and private sector organizations including Gwynedd Council, Natural Resources Wales and Dŵr Cymru - Welsh Water. Some rare or endangered bird species associated with the quarries and surrounding areas are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. In its report, IUCN noted that the nominated property falls within, adjacent to or in the surroundings of, important protected areas, notably, the Snowdonia National Park, an IUCN Protected Area Category V (Protected Landscape/Seascape), and which represent habitats for endangered, vulnerable or near threatened species according to the IUCN Red List. ICOMOS considers that these designations will contribute to the conservation of the natural values and the setting of the nominated property.

Management system

Gwynedd Council has established The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Partnership Steering Group involving all relevant stakeholders in the nominated property in order to coordinate its overall management. This includes the Snowdonia National Park Authority, in charge of the legal protection and management of the Snowdonia National Park and its historic assets, enforcing the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949, and Cadw, the Welsh Government's Historic Environment Service, which is in charge of the legal protection and management of the historical assets in the nominated property (Scheduled

Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Historic Gardens and Parks) as well as all Welsh World Heritage properties, enforcing the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning Act 1990 as amended by the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 jointly with local planning authorities. Since ownership within the nominated property is varied, land-owners, private sector and local administrations are involved in the management system as being responsible for their heritage assets, including research institutions, charities and organizations in charge of specific historical buildings. Individual owners and other organizations receive guidance and support from Cadw and Gwynedd Council, who supervise monitoring at site level.

The Partnership is led by the Partnership Steering Group which is responsible for the strategic direction. It comprises officials and elected members from Gwynedd Council and the 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 (RCAHMW), the National Trust, ICOMOS-UK, and representatives from the private sector. It receives specialist advice from experts in heritage conservation, economic regeneration, and tourism. The Partnership Steering Group has led the drafting of a Management Plan that in the event of an inscription will be adopted as the overarching strategic document complemented by The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Joint Supplementary Planning Guidance which will provide detailed guidance in relation to the established planning policies (Town and Country Planning Act 1990, Planning (Wales) Act 2015, Eryri Local Development Plan 2016-2031, Anglesey and Gwynedd Joint Local Development Plan 2011-2022). A World Heritage Coordinator will be appointed to be in charge of the implementation of the management plan and respective action plan.

The Management Plan has been prepared for the period 2020-2030, and set to be reviewed in 2025. It will be supported by a series of Local Management Plans for heritage resources within each serial component, which are still under elaboration. ICOMOS requested the State Party in its Interim Report to provide the completed Local Management Plans in order to understand better the management at local level and for the individual serial components and elements within. The State Party submitted in February 2021 four of the 22 proposed Local Management Plans. ICOMOS considers that these instruments provide further information on the management of serial components and their elements, and that the completion of all the Local Management Plans is essential for an effective management of the nominated property.

The Management Plan is set to bring under one umbrella the diverse designations and respective stakeholders stating common objectives for conservation and sustainable development, visitors, interpretation and research strategies for the nominated property following the Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management

of the Historic Environment in Wales (Cadw 2011). It is accompanied by an Action Plan that sets the timetable for each of the objectives.

The spatial planning system guides compatible and appropriate development, informed by the Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales (Cadw 2011); Managing Change in World Heritage sites in Wales (Cadw 2017); and the Town and Country Planning Act 1990. Certain applications for developments within World Heritage properties require Design and Access Statements. Large-scale developments require an Environmental Impact Assessment, and an Assessment of the Significance of the Impact of Development on Historic Landscapes (ASIDOHL) in accordance with Technical Advice Note 24, The Historic Environment. Applications for Scheduled Monument Consent and for Listed Building and Conservation Area consent must be accompanied by Heritage Impact Statements according to the Planning Regulations.

Visitor management

Gwynedd Council is currently reviewing its Tourism Strategy. An Interpretation Strategy has been presented in the nomination dossier, providing a basis for the future interpretation and presentation of the six serial components as World Heritage in the event of an inscription. The model proposed is intended to support the understanding of the industrial landscape and to disperse visitors across the region and the nominated property. Existing visitor infrastructure consisting of tourism attractions and interpretation centres will be used and no new visitor infrastructure is being planned.

ICOMOS notes that existing interpretative sites and visitor centres are currently not connected and the nominated property as a whole is not presented in any of the serial components. ICOMOS considers that the Interpretation Strategy needs to be implemented for the appropriate presentation of the nominated property as a whole.

Community involvement

Socio-economic regeneration across the region has been a key motivation for the nomination and the Partnership Steering Group has developed a Community Engagement Strategy to inform and involve local communities and businesses in the process. Local Management Plans and Community Destination Plans are being collaboratively prepared. Community initiatives and non-profit organisations provide platforms for participation in the interpretation strategy, especially involving youth. Community events have been held throughout the nomination process to raise awareness. The development of the nomination has included a seven-week public consultation on the proposed Management Plan, the results of which are available on the Gwynedd Council website.

Evaluation of the effectiveness of the protection and management of nominated property

Legal designations of landscapes and historical assets in conjunction with the Spatial Planning system have granted an adequate protection to the nominated serial property. However, ICOMOS notes the vulnerability of the setting due to the configuration of the serial components and the absence of a formal buffer zone. ICOMOS further notes the vulnerability of the historic character of the living settlements and its intangible attributes due to socio-economic factors and a potential tourism development scenario. Constant monitoring is recommended to address these vulnerabilities. ICOMOS considers that the setting up of the Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Partnership Steering Group provides an inclusive governance basis and a good foundation for a coordinated management. ICOMOS considers that the coordination between the nominated property's proposed Management Plan and Local Management Plans needs to be ensured. ICOMOS considers therefore that the completion of all Local Management Plans is essential. ICOMOS further recommends setting key indicators to monitor the management effectiveness of the nominated property as a whole.

ICOMOS considers that the protection of the nominated serial property is adequate; however, ICOMOS notes that the setting and living historical settlements are vulnerable and need careful monitoring and enforcement of protective mechanisms. ICOMOS considers that the proposed management system is adequate, and that the completion of the Local Management Plans is needed to ensure the effective protection and management of the nominated serial property. ICOMOS also recommends the development of key indicators to monitor the management effectiveness.

6 Conclusion

The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales represents an outstanding testimony of the transformation of an agricultural environment into an industrial landscape, through a large capital investment in technological innovation for resource extraction and transportation during the Industrial Revolution. The nominated property preserves relict quarries and mines, relict industrial complexes, buildings and machinery, quays, ports, harbours in active use, living settlements and railway and road networks which convey the relict functionality of the industrial system. Festivities and Welsh cultural practices associated with the quarrying traditions are part of the intangible attributes of the nominated property.

The state of conservation of the serial property as a whole is good, while some relict industrial elements are in need of conservation action. Several historical industrial buildings have been adapted to new uses which have allowed their continuous maintenance, without compromising their integrity and authenticity.

The State Party has proposed a serial nomination of six components located within landscape designations that afford protection to the nominated property as a cultural landscape. ICOMOS considers that the serial nomination approach has been justified and that the boundaries of each serial component are adequate. However, ICOMOS considers that due to the configuration of the serial components and the lack of a formal buffer zone, a careful enforcement of the legal and planning mechanisms in place to ensure the integrity of the nominated property's proposed Outstanding Universal Value and its setting is needed.

The comparative analysis is thorough and justifies the consideration of the nominated property for the World Heritage List. ICOMOS considers that the nominated property has justified criteria (ii) and (iv) as a centre of technological innovation in Europe which radiated out across the world and as an outstanding example of a landscape that illustrates the Industrial Revolution. ICOMOS considers that the nominated property meets the conditions of integrity and authenticity. However, ICOMOS notes the vulnerability of the integrity of the nominated property, its setting and the historic character of the living historical settlements, including intangible attributes, for which it recommends constant monitoring in order to ensure the integrity and authenticity of the cultural landscape.

The protection and management based on the statutory designation of historical assets, landscape designations, a comprehensive spatial planning system, the setting up of the Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Partnership to coordinate the management system and implement the proposed Management Plan are adequate. Furthermore, Environmental and Heritage Impact Assessments are an integral part of the planning system. ICOMOS notes that the Supplementary Guidance, Local Management Plans, Risk Management Strategy and Tourism Strategy are important instruments providing fundamental guidance for the management of the serial components and for addressing their vulnerabilities. Finally, ICOMOS recommends that the common Interpretation Strategy for the whole series be implemented for the presentation of the nominated property as a whole.

7 Recommendations

Recommendations with respect to inscription

ICOMOS recommends that the Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, be inscribed on the World Heritage List as a cultural landscape on the basis of **criteria (ii) and (iv)**.

Recommended Statement of Outstanding Universal Value

Brief synthesis

The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales is located in the United Kingdom, in the mountains of Snowdon massif. Six areas together represent an exceptional example of an industrial landscape which was profoundly shaped by quarrying and mining slate, and transporting it for national and international markets. From 1780 to 1940 this industry dominated world production of roofing slates, transforming both the environment and the communities who lived and worked here. The quarries and mines are monumental in scale, comprising stepped hillside workings, deep pits and cavernous underground chambers, massive cascading tips, ingenious water systems, and a range of industrial buildings. Outstanding technical equipment and major engineering features survive. Innovative transport systems linked quarries and processing sites with purpose-built coastal export harbours and with main-line railways. Grand country houses and estates built by leading industrialists contrast with workers' vernacular settlements, with their characteristic chapels and churches, band-rooms, schools, libraries and meeting-places.

By the late 19th century the region produced about a third of the world output of roofing slates and architectural slabs. Its use in terraced houses, factories, warehouses and elite architecture contributed to rapid global urbanization. It influenced building styles, encouraging the shallow-pitched roofs of the Georgian order. Technologies that were innovated, adopted and adapted in the property include the ingenious application of waterpower, the development of bulk handling systems and the first known application of the circular saw for cutting stone. These were diffused by specialists and by emigration of skilled Welsh quarrymen to the developing slate industries of the United States, continental Europe and Ireland. The Snowdon massif's narrow-gauge railway systems gained global influence and were adopted from Asia and America to Africa and Australasia.

Criterion (ii): The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales exhibits an important interchange, 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 sustained large-scale production from the late 18th to the early 20th centuries dominated the global market as a roofing element. This led to major transcontinental developments in building and architecture. Technology, skilled workers and knowledge transfer from this cultural landscape was fundamental to the development of the slate industry of continental Europe and the United States. Moreover, its narrow-gauge railways – which remain in operation under steam today – served as the model for successive systems which contributed substantially to the social and economic development of regions in many other parts of the world.

Criterion (iv): The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales is an outstanding example of a stone quarrying and mining landscape which illustrates the extent of transformation of an agricultural environment during the Industrial Revolution. Massive deposits of high-quality slate defined the principal geological resource of the challenging mountainous terrain of the Snowdon massif. Their dispersed locations represent concentrated nodes of exploitation and settlement, of sustainable power generated by prolific volumes of water that was harnessed in ingenious ways, and brought into being several innovative and technically advanced railways that made their way to new coastal ports built to serve this transcontinental export trade. The property comprises the most exceptional distinct landscapes that, together, illustrate the diverse heritage of a much wider landscape that was created during the era of British industrialisation.

Integrity

The property contains all of the essential elements that convey attributes of Outstanding Universal Value. Its boundaries capture the principal non-active slate-producing areas in Northwest Wales, together with their associated industrial heritage that includes the most significant processing facilities, settlements and transport routes. The protective mechanisms in place should be consistently used to strengthen the integrity of the property and its setting.

Authenticity

The well-preserved cultural landscape retains a high level of authenticity, and has experienced little intervention since the main period of industrial operation. Attributes of Outstanding Universal Value are conveyed by physical elements that are 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, and their interrelationships including connectivity and overall functional and compositional integrity of the series. The serial property further embodies a vibrant cultural tradition, including slate-working skills and the continued widespread use of the Welsh language. Key attributes are reflected in landscape qualities and features of quarrying including the relict working areas, tips and transport routes, together with associated settlements and social infrastructure. The historical settlements present different yet acceptable levels of authenticity, which need to be closely monitored and controlled by the management system and respective Local Management Plans.

Management and protection requirements

The serial property and its setting are afforded the highest levels of protection through the implementation of 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, The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and through implementation of policies within the Gwynedd and Anglesey Joint Local Development Plan

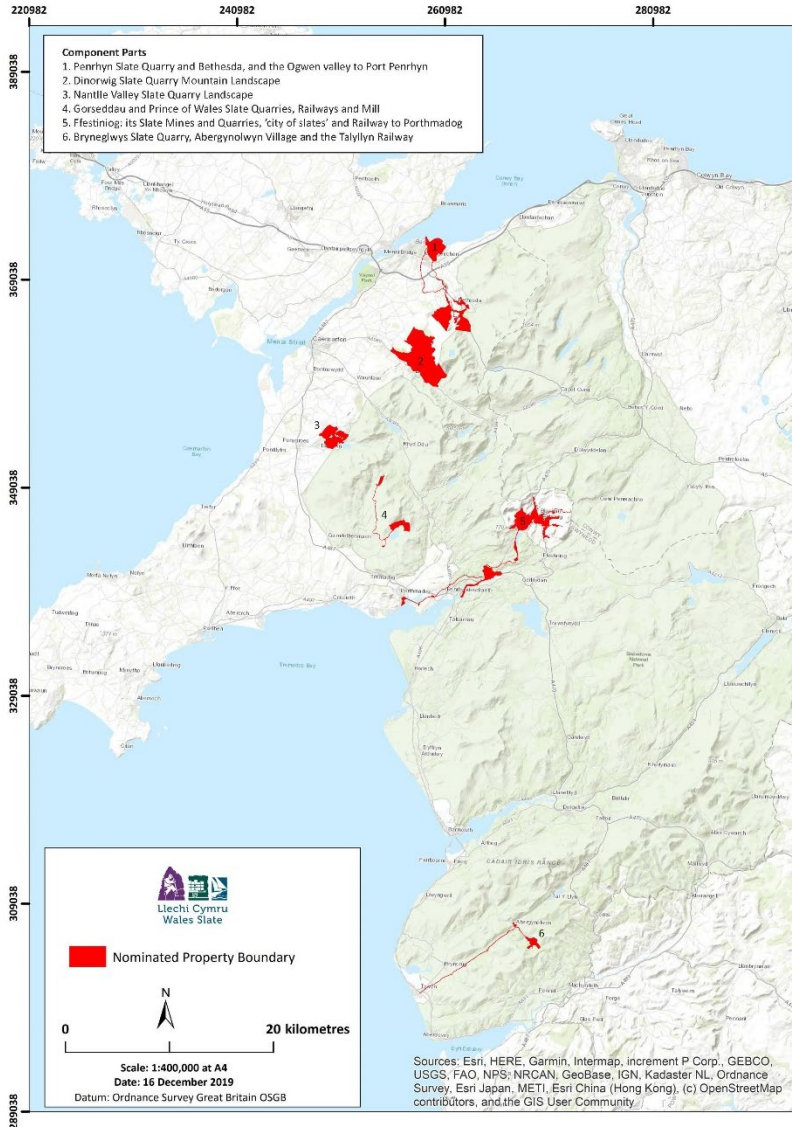
and Snowdonia National Park Authority Local Development Plan.

Attributes of Outstanding Universal Value have been defined and articulated in The Slate Landscape of Northwest Wales Property Management Plan which establishes the over-arching strategies and mechanisms by which the serial property will be managed. This is complemented at local level by a series of Local Management Plans, developed in collaboration with landowners, which include site-specific information and practical recommendations. Responsibility for the implementation of the Management Plan will sit with a multi-organisational Partnership Steering Group established by the lead organization, to which an appointed World Heritage Coordinator will report. All of the serial components of the property lie within areas of Wales that are already subject to strong levels of landscape protection through designation as a National Park and registration as Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest. These will serve as an added layer of protection to the setting and key views into and out of the serial property, through a strict enforcement of the statutory mechanisms in place. There is no active quarrying or mining within the serial property; mineral activity takes place in the wider protected area outside the boundaries of the serial property. The application of existing statutory management procedures will ensure this does not negatively impact upon the Outstanding Universal Value of the serial property.

Additional recommendations

ICOMOS further recommends that the State Party give consideration to the following:

- a) Developing an in-depth analysis and inventory of the key views of the serial property to serve as a basis for the conservation of the setting,
- b) Addressing the conservation issues in the relict quarries, industrial buildings and relict roads,
- c) Completing the scheduling and listing of the proposed Scheduled Monuments and Conservation Areas,
- d) Completing the Local Management Plans,
- e) Completing the Tourism Strategy and implementing the Interpretation Strategy and visitor Management Plan in order to present the World Heritage values at serial component level,
- f) Monitoring the effectiveness of the planning system to protect the living urban areas, and considering extending the Conservation Areas in the historical settlements within the serial property,
- g) Setting up a monitoring framework and key indicators to assess the management effectiveness of the property,
- h) Integrating the World Heritage attributes in the existing online databases and documentation to inform at an early stage about the World Heritage property, ensuring the consideration of these in all planning processes,
- i) Agreeing with the companies undertaking mineral operations in the wider protected area at an early stage on the restoration measures to be undertaken after the cessation of the activity to avoid negative impacts on the integrity and authenticity of the property;



Map showing the boundaries of the nominated components