

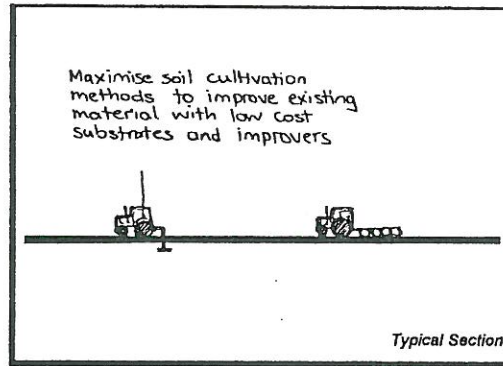
VEGETATION MAINTENANCE AND MANAGEMENT FOR RESOURCE CONSERVATION.

General Principles

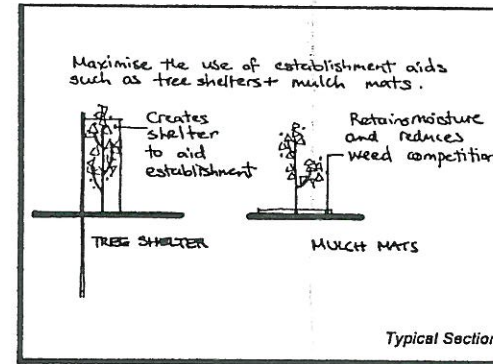
- Adoption of low-input vegetation maintenance and management principles for resource conservation purposes wherever possible.
- Ensure cost effective landscape solutions.
- Ensure best practice in provision of substrates and ground preparation, vegetation establishment and vegetation management.
- Maximise use and reuse of materials available on site for planting substrates.
- Use non peat based organic soil ameliorates for soil conditioning in landscaping.
- Use green mulches for soil conditioning and provision of nutrient capital in place of inorganic additives.

Vegetation Establishment

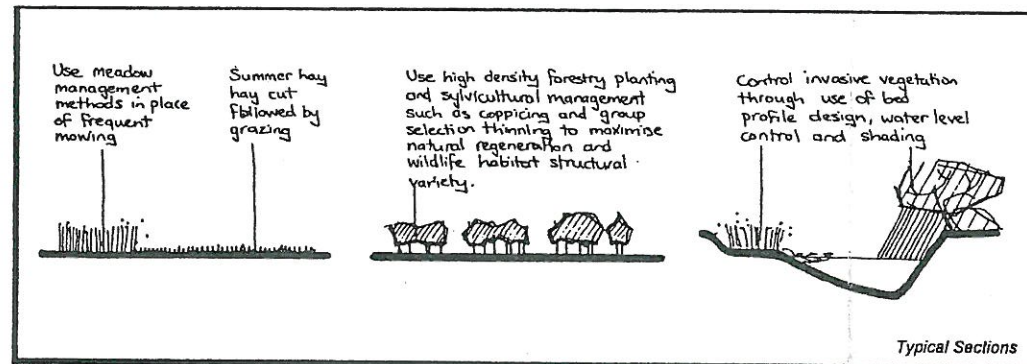
- Maximise the use of mulching within tree and shrub planting areas to minimise requirements for mechanical and chemical weed control methods, and supplementary watering requirements.
- Maximise the use of direct seeding methods for establishment of tree and shrub vegetation.
- Maximise the reuse of inert waste materials for mulching, ideally from local sources.
- Use well-established ground cover vegetation to maximise weed suppression and soil moisture conservation.



A) GROUND PREPARATION



B) VEGETATION ESTABLISHMENT



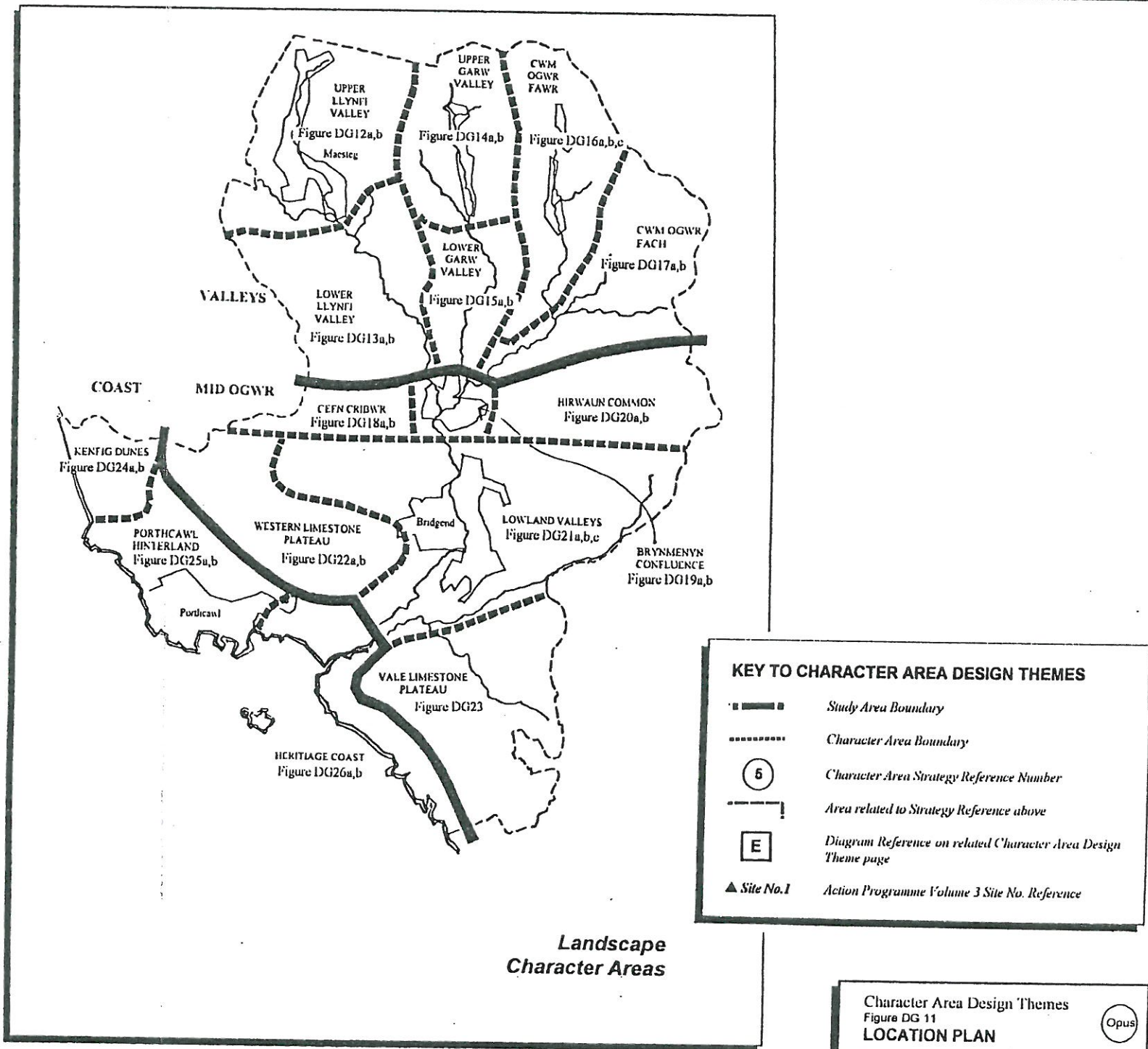
C) VEGETATION MANAGEMENT

REFERENCES

- Main Strategy Report Volume 1: 3.3, 4, and, LS8
 Related Design Guidelines Volume 2: DG6, DB2, DB4, DB7, DB8 and DB14
 Technical Annex Volume 4: 3.0
 Bibliography:
 Helliwell (1985)

*C*haracter Area Design Themes

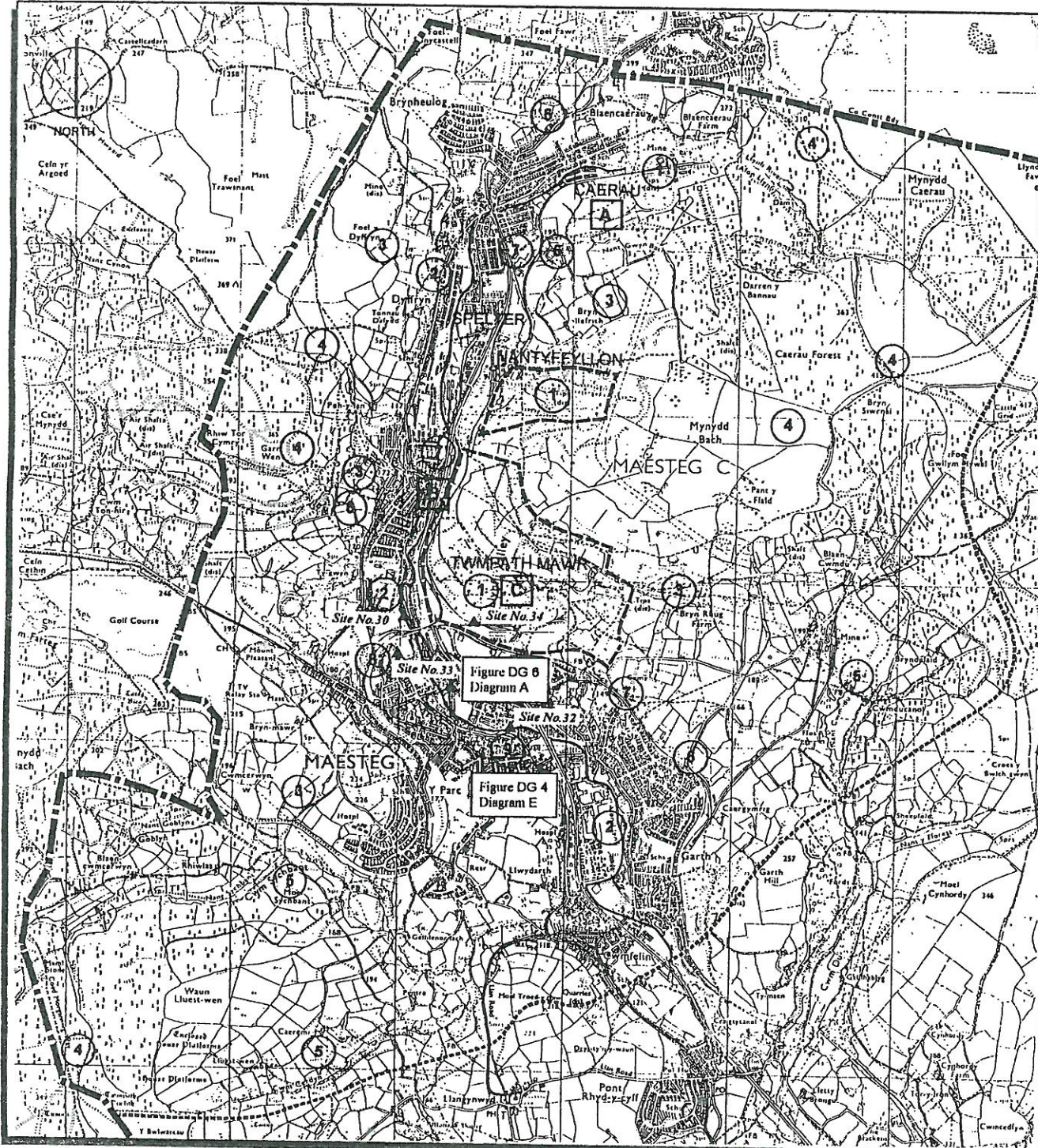
SECTION 3.0



**Landscape
Character Areas**

Character Area Design Themes
Figure DG 11
LOCATION PLAN



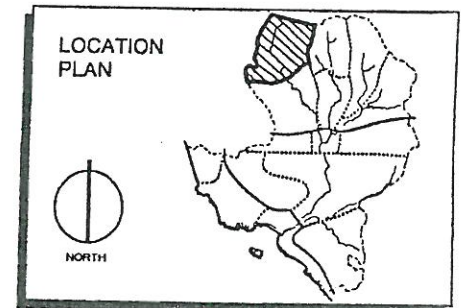


VISION

The strategy seeks to create a new valley floor landscape and into the valley sides on areas of disturbed land such as Twmpath Mawr. It seeks to optimise their nature conservation value by retention of existing vegetation where appropriate, and balance this with recreation needs and economic potential of woodland management. It seeks to visually and physically integrate the settlements of Caerau, Nant-y-fyllon, Maesteg and Garth into the valley landscape. The nature conservation value of present fragments of landscape both in the valley and tops within forestry will be enhanced by proposed planting, seeding and appropriate management and linkage of patches.

STRATEGY

1. Create positive use on areas of disturbed land optimising nature conservation value including creation of broadleaf woodland for cropping and habitat creation.[e.g. Twmpath Mawr, Caerau].
2. Implement river course improvements on length of River Llynfi improving riparian habitat and access along and to river edge [in conjunction with water quality improvements and major rubbish clearance], linking open space and undertaking knotweed control.
3. Improve nature conservation value and continuity of habitats on valley sides including woodland planting on marginal agricultural land.
4. Soften coniferous woodland edges by management and replanting with hardwoods. Optimise value of habitat fragments within forestry glades and rides.
5. Enhance landscape character of side valleys and nature conservation value especially relating to watercourses and woodland. e.g. Cwm Cerdyn.
6. Integrate settlements into valley landscape by tree planting on valley sides, by the river, on community routes and on roads.
7. Implement all proposed community routes and undertake subsidiary route improvement into settlement and as cross valley links.
8. Support Iron Works conservation, interpretation and signage.
9. Improve A4063 road approaches.



Character Area I Design Themes
Figure DG 12a
UPPER LLYNFI VALLEY 1 of 2



HARD MATERIALS PALETTE

Distinctive materials.

- See Typical Hardworks Details for suitable walling style.
- Local pennant stone (encourage reopening of local quarries).
- Iron work in the form of bollards, bench seats, railings and street lamps.
- Encourage the continued use of traditional yellow brick in association with stone work.

Distinctive Colours.

Greys, browns, muted highlight colours, yellow brickwork.

SOFT LANDSCAPE PALETTE

Woodland - valley sides

- Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*
- Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*
- Holly *Ilex aquifolium*
- Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*
- Gorse *Ulex europaeus*

Woodland - riparian

- Common Alder *Alnus glutinosa*
- Downy Birch *Betula pubescens*
- Goat Willow *Salix caprea*
- Holly *Ilex aquifolium*
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*

Grassland - high level acidic

- Matgrass *Nardus stricta*
- Sheep's-fescue *Festuca ovina*
- Common Bent *Agrostis tenuis*
- Creeping Tormentil *Potentilla reptans*
- Heather *Calluna vulgaris*
- Crested Dogs-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*
- Bell Heather *Erica cinerea*
- Sweet Vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*

Grassland, low-level/damp

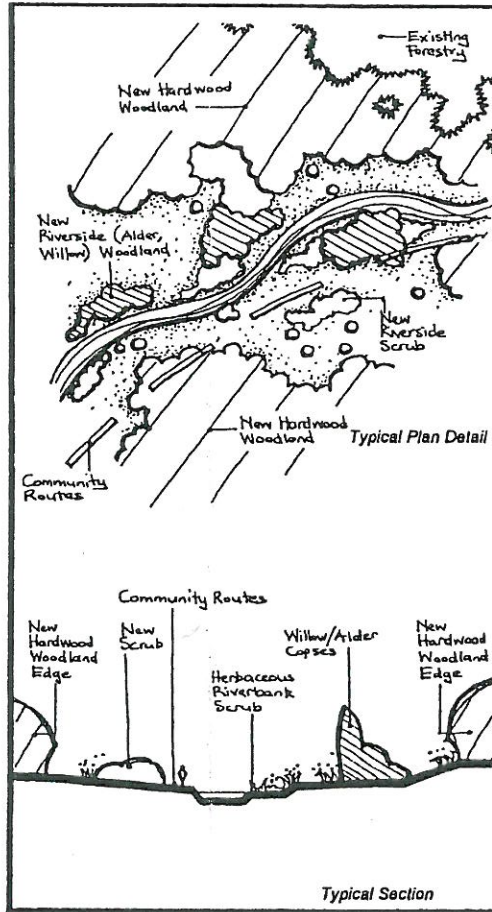
- Rough Meadow-grass *Poa trivialis*
- Soft Rush *Juncus effusus*
- Purple Moor-grass *Molinia caerulea*
- Crested Dogs-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*
- Black Knapweed *Centaurea nigra*

Riparian - emergent/aquatic

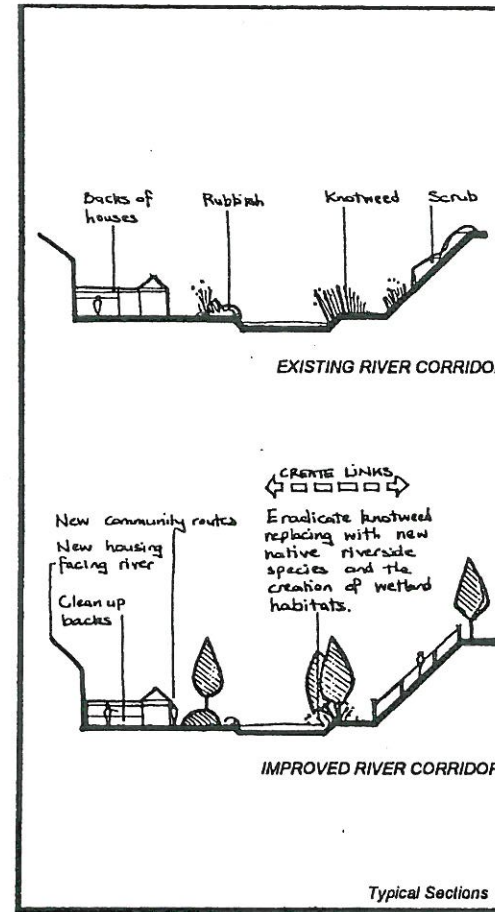
- Common Reed *Phragmites communis*
- Flag Iris *Iris pseudacorus*
- Marsh Marigold *Caltha palustris*
- Reed Canary-grass *Phalaris arundinacea*
- Tufted Hair-grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*
- Rough Meadow-grass *Poa trivialis*
- Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*
- Angelica *Angelica sylvestris*
- Marsh Thistle *Cirsium palustre*

Field boundaries - hedges

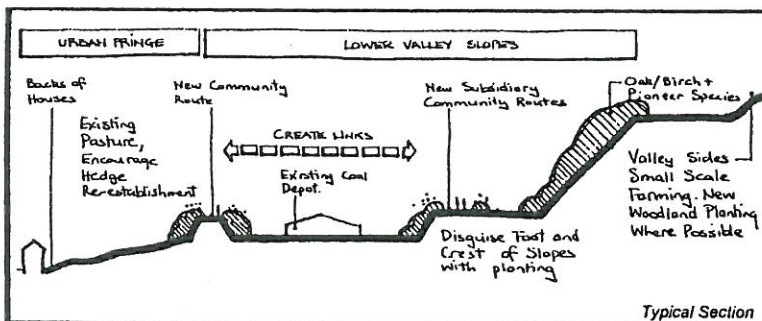
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*
- Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*
- Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*
- Gorse *Ulex europaeus*
- Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*



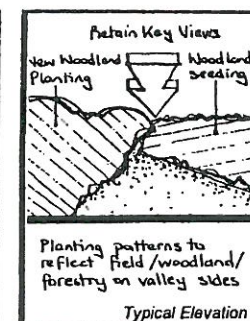
A) CAERAU PROPOSALS



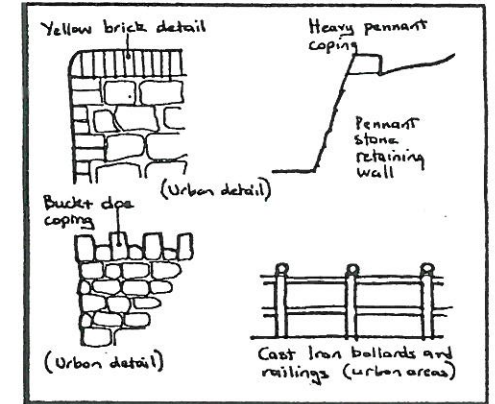
B) RIVER CORRIDOR PROPOSALS



C) TWMPATH MAWR PROPOSALS



Typical Elevation



D) TYPICAL HARDWORKS DETAILS

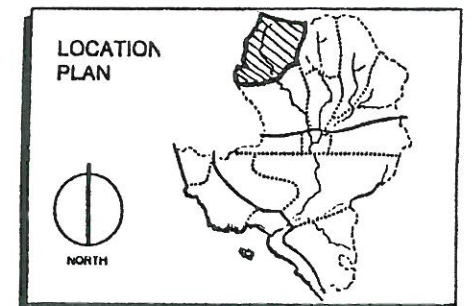
REFERENCES

Main Strategy Report Volume 1: LS10

Design Guidelines Volume 2: DG2, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10

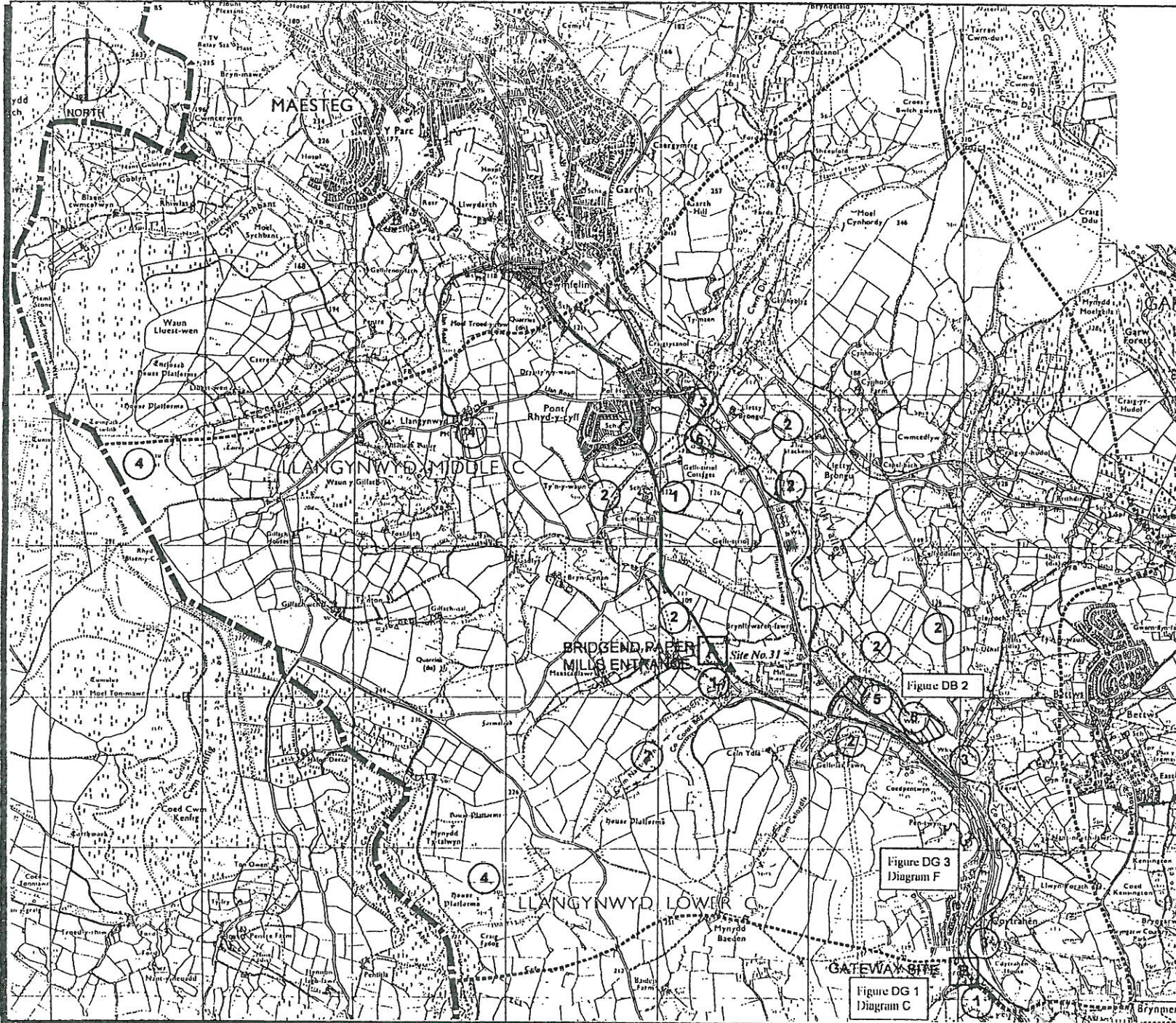
Bibliography:

- Forestry Authority and Forestry Commission [1995]
- Forestry Commission [1992]
- Forestry Commission [1994]
- Hibberd [1989]
- Moffat [1994]
- WDA [1987]



Character Area 1 Design Themes
Figure DG 12b
UPPER LLYNFI VALLEY 2 of 2





VISION

The strategy seeks to enhance the pleasant rural landscape character of the valley by promoting positive rural land management to conserve hedges, woodlands and optimise their nature conservation value. Watercourses will be harnessed as key wildlife corridors and habitat diversity maximised. Sites on the A4063 will be improved to fit within the landscape. Access along the watercourses (where there is not a conflict of interest) and to the uplands will be supported. Interpretation of the rich cultural and historical significance of the Llangynwyd area will be harnessed.

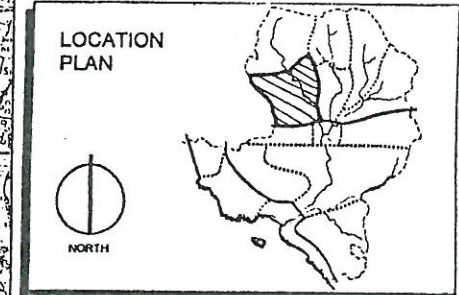
STRATEGY

General

Encourage farm management for nature conservation in partnership with WOAD, Coed Cymru, CCW and other relevant bodies. Measures to include hedgerow planting and management, grassland diversification and bracken control, woodland management and planting. Maximise linkage and consolidation of wildlife corridors.

Specific sites/areas

- 1 Improve road approaches in key locations such as Bridgend Paper Mills, by school at Pont Rhyd-y-Cyff and improve signage (e.g. layby at Tondy) to aid sense of identity. Encourage highway authority and adjacent farmers to lay hedging on roadsides and discontinue flail cutting.
- 2 Access for walkers and cyclists (on community and subsidiary routes) along river corridors and to uplands to be improved by agreement and management.
- 3 Opportunities for canoeing to be investigated on lower reaches of Llynfi.
- 4 Exploit the valley's cultural and historic identity with interpretation and signage centred on Llangynwyd.
- 5 Llynfi Power Station site to be allowed to regenerate with minimum disturbance until a positive use is found.
- 6 Clean up River Llynfi removing knotweed and litter once similar initiatives upstream are nearing completion.



Character Area 2 Design Themes
 Figure DG 13a
LOWER LLYNFI VALLEY 1 of 2



HARD MATERIALS PALETTE

Distinctive materials.

- See Typical Hardworks Details for suitable walling, fencing and Hedge bank styles.
- Local pennant stone (encourage reopening of local quarries).
- Native hardwood fences should be used to replace concrete post and wire boundaries.
- Iron work in the form of bollards, bench seats, railings and street lamps.

Distinctive Colours.

Greys, browns, muted highlight colours (Yellow and red brick detailing).

SOFT LANDSCAPE PALETTE

Woodland - riparian

- Common Alder *Alnus glutinosa*
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*
- Gelder Rose *Viburnum opulus*
- Downy Birch *Betula pubescens*
- Holly *Ilex aquifolium*
- Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*
- Goat Willow *Salix caprea*

Woodland - lower valley side

- Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*
- Common Alder *Alnus glutinosa*
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*
- Holly *Ilex aquifolium*
- Downy Birch *Betula pubescens*
- Field Maple *Acer campestre*
- Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*

Grassland - high level acidic

- Sheep's-fescue *Festuca ovina*
- Matgrass *Nardus stricta*
- Common Bent *Agrostis tenuis*
- Velvet Bent *Agrostis vinealis*
- Heather *Calluna vulgaris*
- Heath Bedstraw *Galium saxatile*
- Crested Dogs-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*

Grassland - low-level, damp

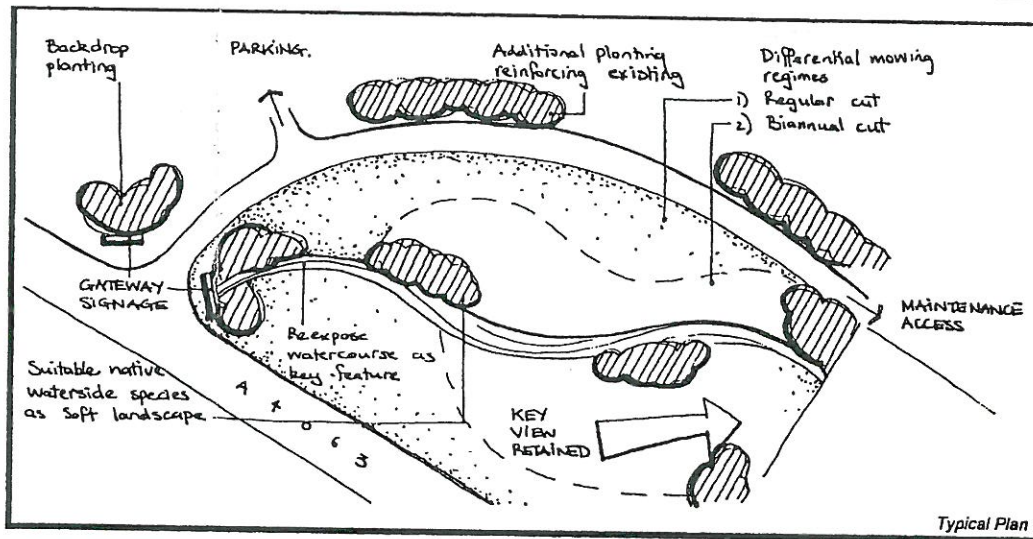
- Yorkshire Fog *Holcus lanatus*
- Tufted Hair-grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*
- Rough Meadow-grass *Poa trivialis*
- Soft Rush *Juncus effusus*
- Crested Dogs-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*
- Purple Moor-grass *Molinia caerulea*
- Sharp-flowered Rush *Juncus acutiflorus*

Riparian - emergent/marginal

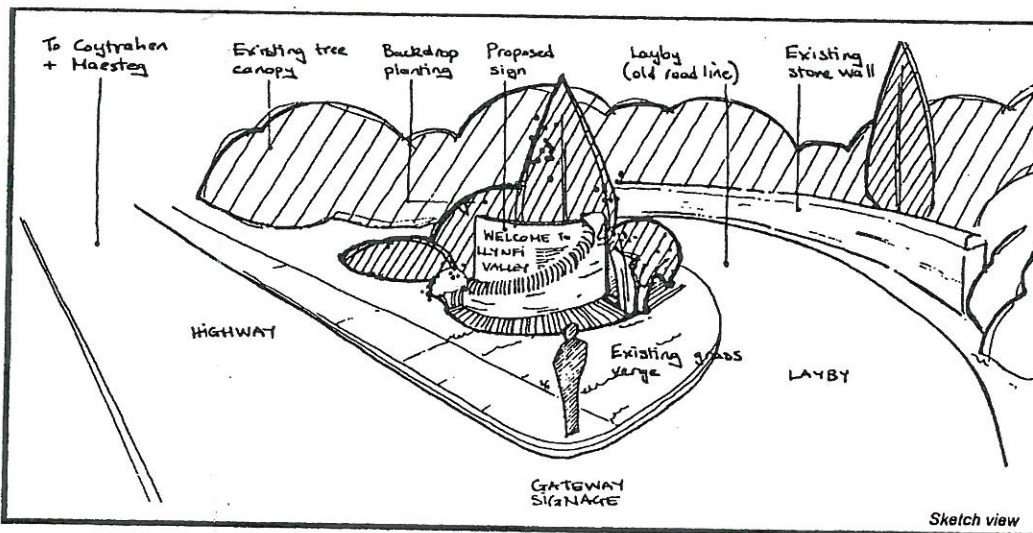
- Common Reed *Phragmites communis*
- Reed Canary-grass *Phalaris arundinacea*
- Tufted Hair-grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*
- Rough Meadow-grass *Poa trivialis*
- Flag Iris *Iris pseudacorus*
- Purple Moor-grass *Molinia caerulea*
- Crested Dogs-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*
- Black Knapweed *Centaurea nigra*

Riparian - emergent/aquatic

- Common Reed *Phragmites communis*
- Flag Iris *Iris pseudacorus*
- Reed Canary-grass *Phalaris arundinacea*



A) BRIDGEND PAPER MILLS GATEWAY IMPROVEMENT



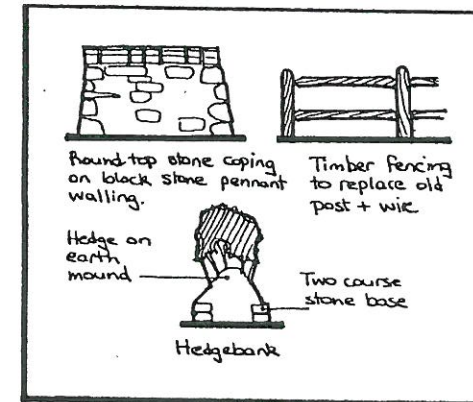
B) GATEWAY SITE (North of Tondy)

SOFT LANDSCAPE PALETTE continued

- Riparian - emergent/aquatic continued
- Marsh Marigold *Caltha palustris*
- Tufted Hair-grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*
- Rough Meadow-grass *Poa trivialis*
- Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*
- Angelica *Angelica sylvestris*
- Marsh Thistle *Cirsium palustre*

SOFT LANDSCAPE PALETTE continued.

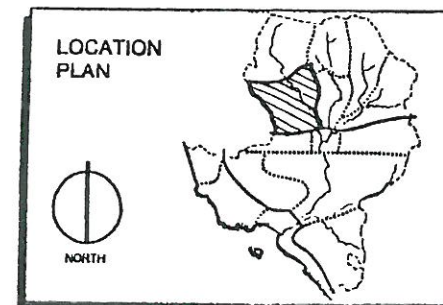
- Field boundaries - hedges
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*
- Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*
- Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*
- Gorse *Ulex europaeus*
- Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*



C) TYPICAL HARDWORKS DETAILS

REFERENCES

- Main Strategy Report Volume 1: LS11
- Design Guidelines Volume 2: DG 1, 2, 9, 10
- Technical Annex Volume 4: 3.0



Character Area 2 Design Themes
Figure DG 13b
LOWER LLYNFI VALLEY 2 of 2



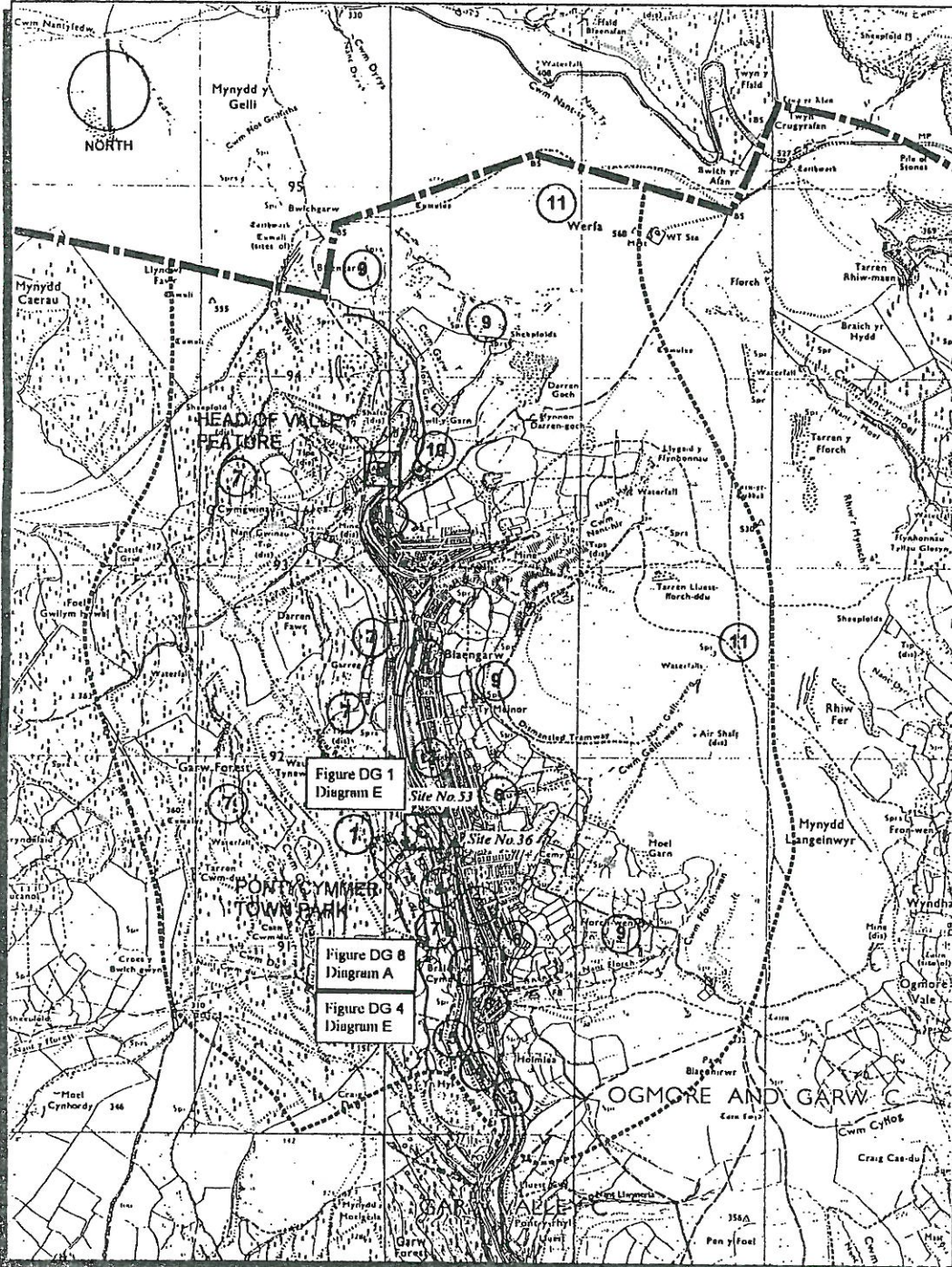


Figure DG 1
Diagram E

Figure DG 8
Diagram A

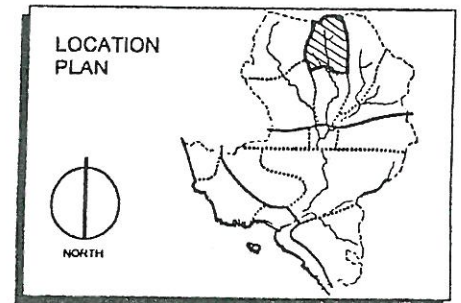
Figure DG 4
Diagram E

VISION

The strategy seeks to create a new valley floor landscape which will help transform the area from a post industrial area in decline to a positive place to live and to visit. The Upper Garw reclamation scheme needs to be sufficiently resourced to create a town park in Pontycymer near the proposed rail head, create positive valley floor open space around an exciting river course and establish forestry with recreation on the valley sides. The strategy seeks to visually and physically integrate the settlements of Pontycymer and Blaengarw into the valley landscape by planting on the lower valley sides, by the river, on the community route/railway and on roads. Once this has been achieved the recreational potential of the area will be able to be exploited. The nature conservation value of present fragments of landscape both in the valley and uplands, both afforested and grasslands, will be enhanced by appropriate management and linkage of patches.

STRATEGY

- 1 Resource the Upper Garw reclamation scheme to provide an exciting town park at Pontycymer and upgrade the townspace, particularly at the northern end of the settlement to create a square. The river should be treated to optimise recreational value.
- 2 Support and resource associated landscape works with proposed community route and railway
- 3 Improve the A4065 with planting on roadside and localised improvements such as in Oxford Street, Pontycymer. (T2 (31)).
- 4 Improve the western secondary route up the valley for visitors by providing signage and visitor facilities, such as upgraded laybys.
- 5 Enhance access and interpretation of forestry areas and signage from A4065 to encourage visitor use.
- 6 Integrate settlement into the valley landscape and with the valley side broadleaf woodland. (See Figure DG 8, Volume 2).
- 7 Soften forest edges with broadleaf planting. Optimise value of habitat fragments within forestry glades and rides.
- 8 Implement river course improvements improving riparian habitat diversity and access along and to river edge [in conjunction with water quality improvements and major rubbish clearance], linking open space and undertaking knotweed control.
- 9 Improve nature conservation value and continuity of habitats on uplands and valley sides by protection, improved management, control of bracken on marginal agricultural land, control of grazing in woodland and planting where appropriate.
- 10 Celebrate the blind head of the valley with a feature and information of how to reach upland of Werfa and Mynydd y Gelli.
- 11 Retain open moorland vegetation cover.



Character Area 3 Design Themes
Figure DG 14a
UPPER GARW VALLEY 1 OF 2

HARD MATERIALS PALETTE

Distinctive materials.

- See Typical Hardworks Details for suitable walling style.
- Local pennant stone (encourage reopening of local quarries).
- Large squared stone copings commonly used with half worked pointed pier copings. Yellow, red and blue brick wall edging to stone work appropriate.
- Iron work in the form of railings and steel fences, bollards, bench seats and street lamps suitable for urban areas.

Distinctive Colours.

Greys, browns, muted highlight colours (Yellow, red and blue brick).

SOFT LANDSCAPE PALETTE

Woodland - valley sides

- Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*
- Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*
- Holly *Ilex aquifolium*
- Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*
- Gorse *Ulex europaeus*

Grassland - high level acidic

- Matgrass *Nardus stricta*
- Sheep's-fescue *Festuca ovina*
- Common Bent *Agrostis tenuis*
- Creeping Tormentil *Potentilla reptans*
- Heather *Calluna vulgaris*
- Crested Dogs-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*
- Bell Heather *Erica cinerea*
- Sweet Vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*

Grassland, low-level/damp

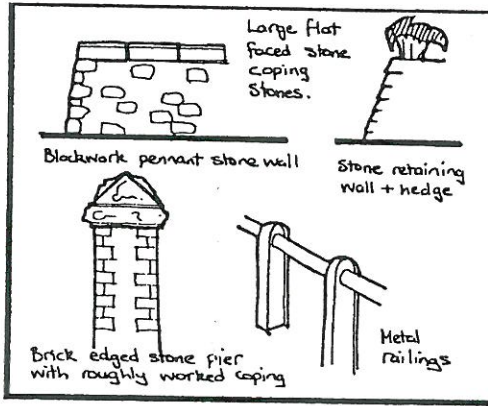
- Rough Meadow-grass *Poa trivialis*
- Soft Rush *Juncus effusus*
- Purple Moor-grass *Molinia caerulea*
- Crested Dogs-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*
- Black Knapweed *Centaurea nigra*

Riparian - emergent/aquatic

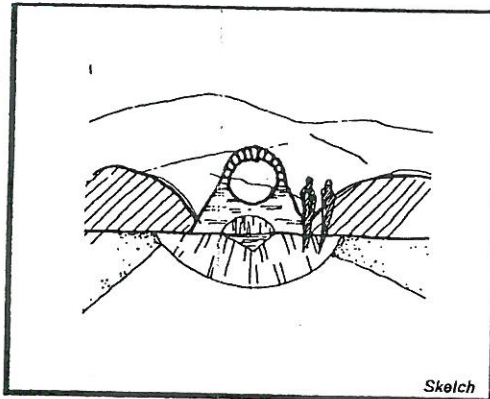
- Common Reed *Phragmites communis*
- Flag Iris *Iris pseudacorus*
- Marsh Marigold *Caltha palustris*
- Reed Canary-grass *Phalaris arundinacea*
- Tufted Hair-grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*
- Rough Meadow-grass *Poa trivialis*
- Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*
- Angelica *Angelica sylvestris*
- Marsh Thistle *Cirsium palustre*

Field boundaries - hedges

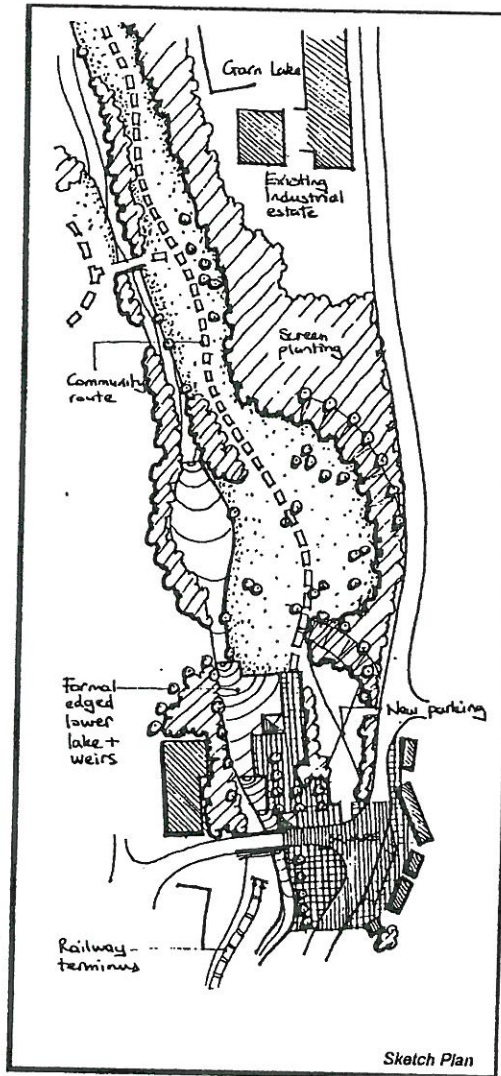
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*
- Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*
- Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*
- Gorse *Ulex europaeus*
- Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*



A) TYPICAL HARDWORKS DETAILS



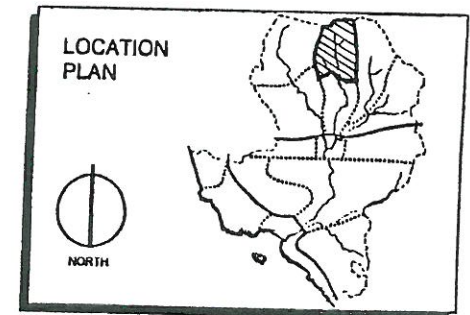
B) SCULPTURAL END FEATURE




C) PONTCYMMER PARK

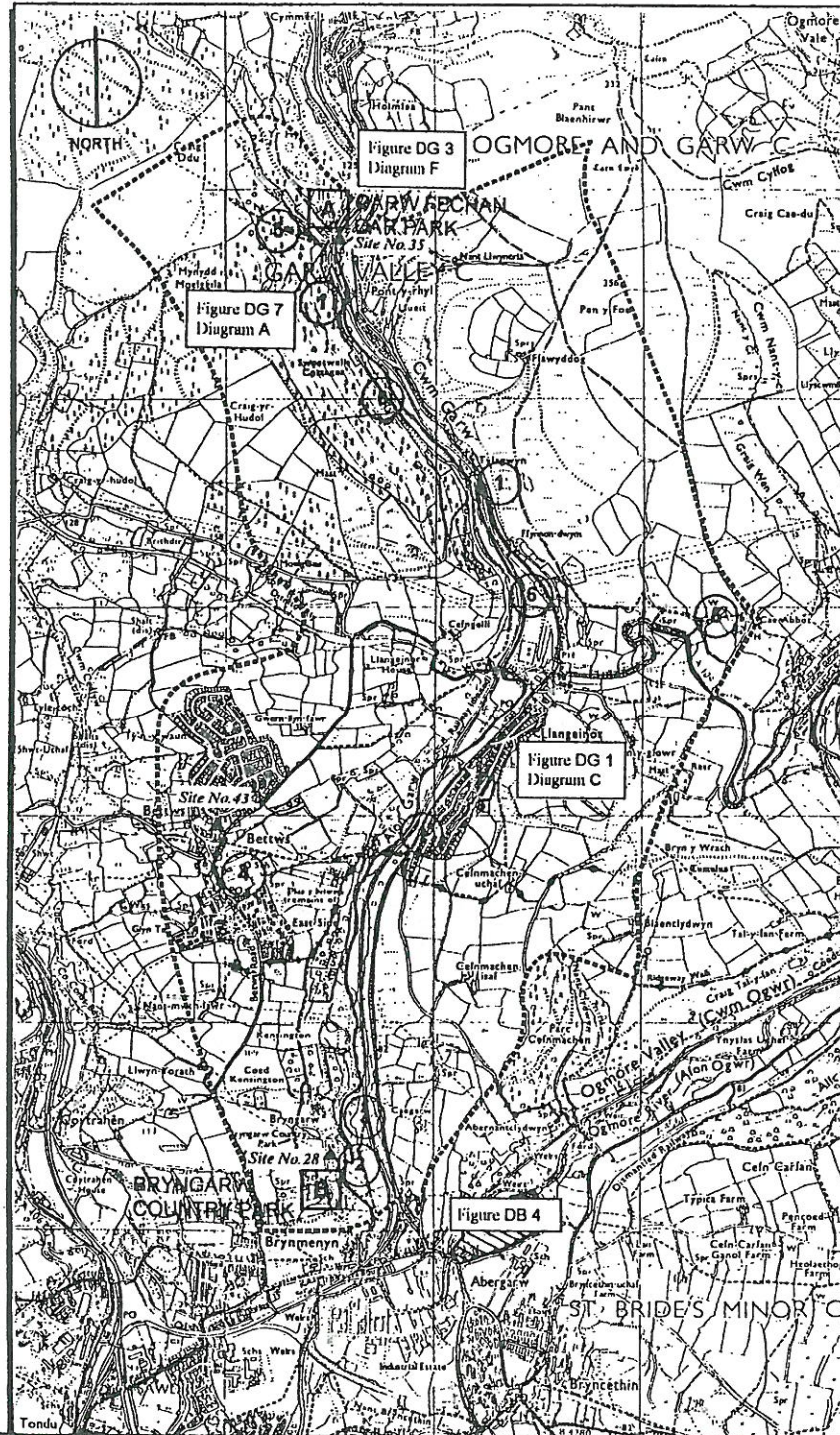
REFERENCES

- Main Strategy Report Volume 1: 4.7, LS12
- Related Design Guidelines Volume 2: DG 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10.
- Technical Annex Volume 4: 3.0
- Bibliography: Groundwork Ogwr: Garw Valley Green Strategy



Character Area 3 Design Themes
Figure DG 14b
UPPER GARW VALLEY 20F2





VISION

The strategy seeks to conserve and enhance the positive landscape character and nature conservation value of the area. It will focus on the river courses of the Garw and Garw Fechan and seek to unlock their recreational potential. Coniferous woodland edges will be ameliorated. The recreational potential of Bryngarw Country Park as hub of the recreational access wheel in the valleys will be enhanced by upgrading and better connections. The strategy seeks to visually and physically integrate the settlements of Bettws and Llangeinor into the landscape by planting on edges and within the settlements and on roads. The nature conservation value of present fragments of landscape both in the valley and tops within forestry will be enhanced by appropriate management, planting and linkage of patches.

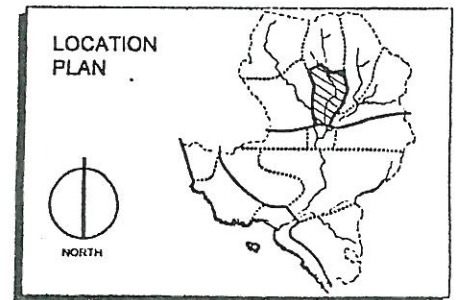
STRATEGY

General

Encourage farm management for nature conservation in partnership with WOAD, Coed Cymru, CCW & other relevant bodies. Measures to include woodland management and planting, hedgerow planting and management, grassland diversification and bracken control. Maximise linkage and consolidation of wildlife corridors.

Specific sites/areas

- 1 Improve road approaches in key locations such as Llangeinor and improve signage to Garw Fechan to exploit positive recreational potential of valley.
- 2 Bryngarw Country Park to be improved to become recreational node for countryside access and gateway to the valley. Signage to the park to be improved and direct access to A4064 to be implemented.
- 3 Support and resource associated landscape works with proposed community route and railway. Ensure there is a halt at Bryngarw Country Park.
- 4 Implement improvement strategy of Bettws with community initiatives.
- 5 Access to uplands [such as from Garw Fechan] to be improved by agreement and management.
- 6 Clean up river removing knotweed and litter once similar initiatives upstream are nearing completion.



Character Area 4 Design Themes
Figure DG 15a
LOWER GARW VALLEY 1 of 2



HARD MATERIALS PALETTE

Distinctive materials.

- See Typical Hardworks Details for suitable walling and fencing styles.
- Local pennant stone commonly used with large regular stone copings. Stone work often edged with red brick.
- Native hardwood timber fencing should be used to replace existing dated post and wire fencing.

Distinctive Colours.

Greys, browns, muted highlight colours.

SOFT LANDSCAPE PALETTE

Woodland - riparian

- Common Alder *Alnus glutinosa*
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*
- Guelder Rose *Viburnum opulus*
- Downy Birch *Betula pubescens*
- Holly *Ilex aquifolium*
- Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*
- Goat Willow *Salix caprea*

Woodland - lower valley side

- Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*
- Common Alder *Alnus glutinosa*
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*
- Holly *Ilex aquifolium*
- Downy Birch *Betula pubescens*
- Field Maple *Acer campestre*
- Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*

Grassland - high level acidic

- Sheep's-fescue *Festuca ovina*
- Matgrass *Nardus stricta*
- Common Bent *Agrostis tenuis*
- Velvet Bent *Agrostis vinealis*
- Heather *Calluna vulgaris*
- Heath Bedstraw *Galium saxatile*
- Crested Dogs-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*

Grassland - low-level, damp

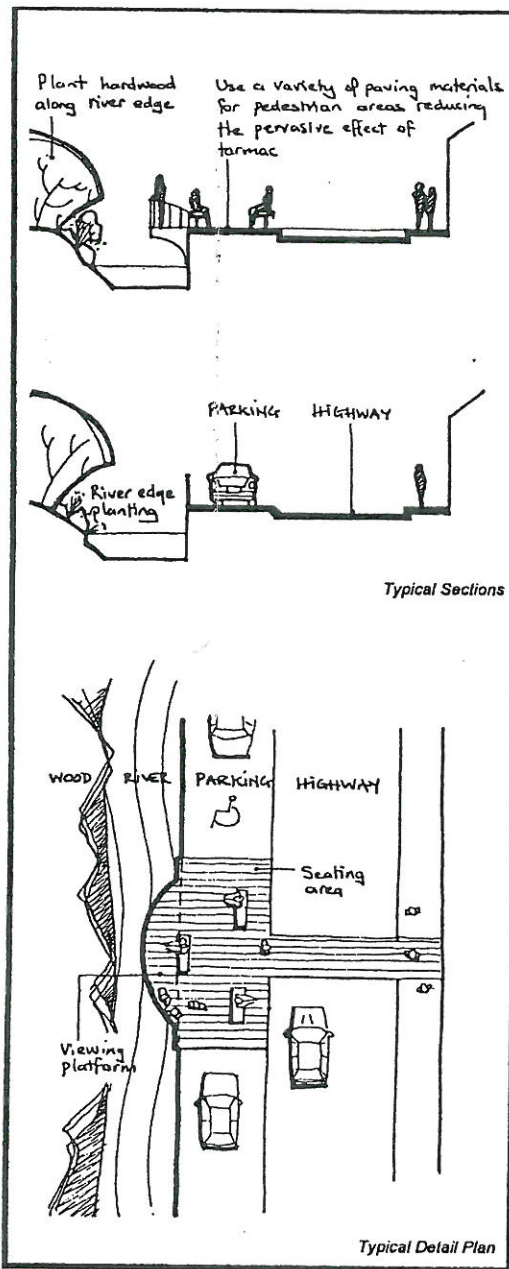
- Yorkshire Fog *Holcus lanatus*
- Tufted Hair-grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*
- Rough Meadow-grass *Poa trivialis*
- Soft Rush *Juncus effusus*
- Crested Dogs-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*
- Purple Moor-grass *Molinia caerulea*
- Sharp-flowered Rush *Juncus acutiflorus*

Riparian - emergent/marginal

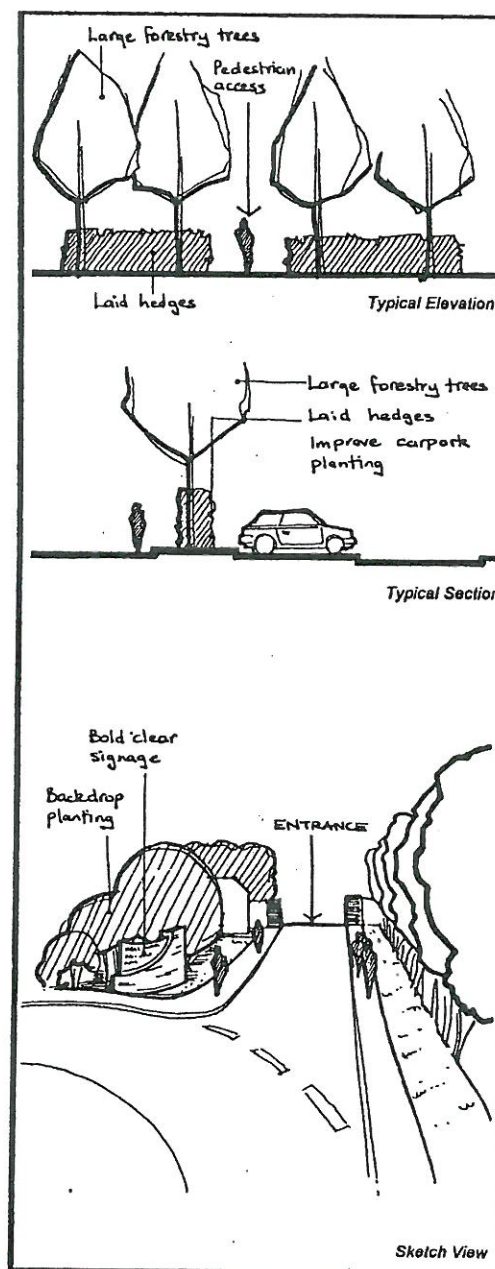
- Common Reed *Phragmites communis*
- Reed Canary-grass *Phalaris arundinacea*
- Tufted Hair-grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*
- Rough Meadow-grass *Poa trivialis*
- Flag Iris *Iris pseudacorus*
- Marsh Marigold *Caltha palustris*
- Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*
- Angelica *Angelica sylvestris*
- Marsh Thistle *Cirsium palustre*

Field boundaries - hedges

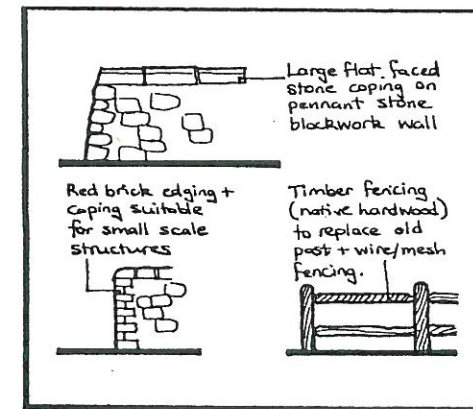
- Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*
- Holly *Ilex aquifolium*
- Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*
- Field Maple *Acer campestre*



A) GARW FECHAN (Carpark / Access)



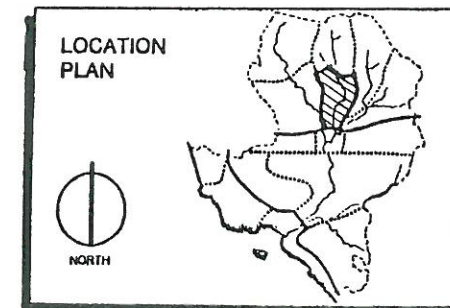
B) BRYNGARW COUNTRY PARK



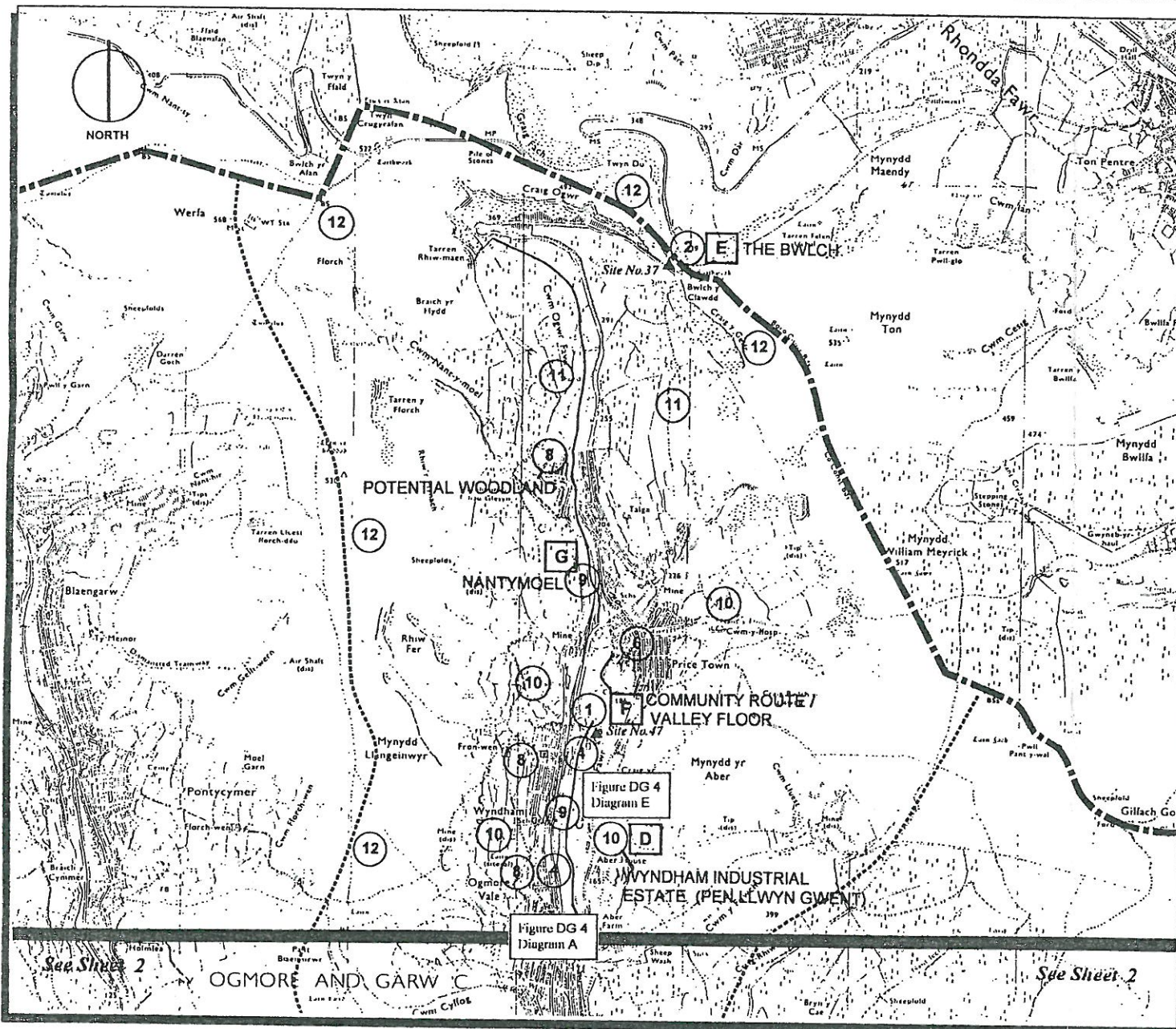
C) TYPICAL HARDWORKS DETAILS

REFERENCES

- Main Strategy Report Volume 1: 4.7, LS13
- Related Design Guidelines Volume 2: DG 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10
- Technical Annex Volume 4: 3.0
- Bibliography:
 - Groundwork Ogwr: Garw Valley Green Strategy
 - Groundwork Ogwr: Green Strategy for Beltnws
 - Countryside Council for Wales [1994]: Good Practice for Country Parks



Character Area 4 Design Themes
Figure DG 15b
LOWER GARW VALLEY 2 of 2

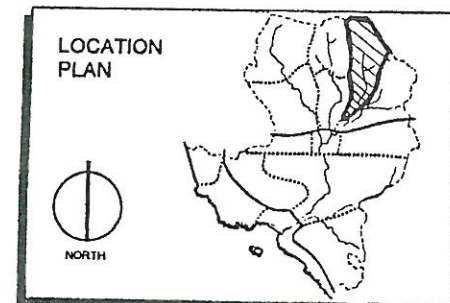


VISION

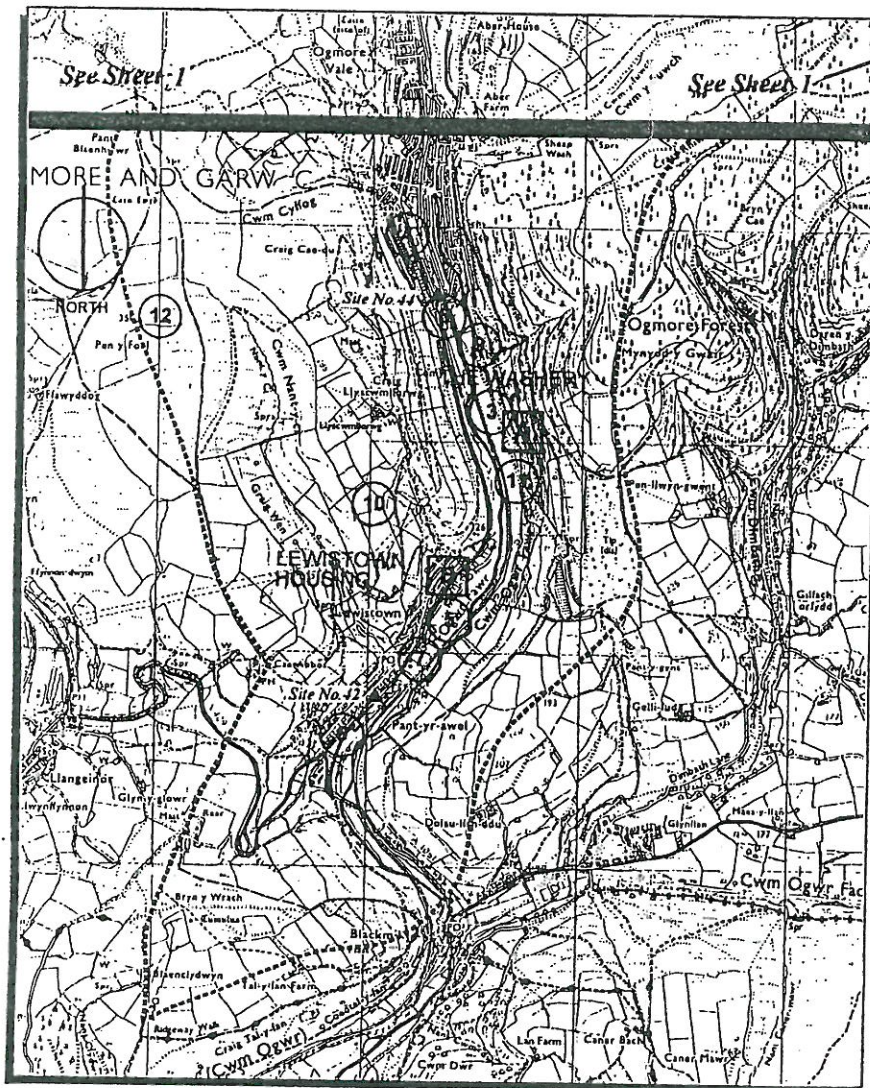
The strategy seeks to create an improved valley floor landscape which will build on existing initiatives to transform the valley from a post industrial area in decline to a positive place to live. The core of the valley needs an integrated plan including the open space at Pricetown, Wyndham Industrial Estate and the Washeries to create a bold, visually exciting series of spaces sub-dividing the valley floor with strong lines of vegetation to create variety and screen detractors. The spaces will be linked by the spires of the river and community route. This will build on the Ogwr Groundwork masterplan. The strategy seeks to visually and physically integrate the valley settlements into the valley landscape by planting on valley sides, by the river, on the community route and on roads. The natural asset of the Bwlch will be utilised to create a viewpoint to observe the continuing transformation of the valley. The nature conservation value of present fragments of landscape both in the valley and tops within forestry will be enhanced by proposed planting and appropriate management and linkage of patches.

STRATEGY

- 1 Build on Groundwork Ogwr masterplan for core valley spaces to create vision of linked spaces in grand design visible from the Bwlch.
- 2 Develop a viewing platform and bridge at the Bwlch with interpretation.
- 3 Modify the Washeries reclamation scheme to create a naturalistic valley floor open space using the extensive regeneration and developing an accessible yet ecologically valuable river course. Soften conifer plantation edges with broadleaves in places.
- 4 Carry out improvements to properties and smallholding boundaries visible from the community route footpath/cycleway.
- 5 Improve access to the community route with footpath/cycleways and bridges where necessary.
- 6 Improve signage, interpretation and street furniture on road approaches.
- 7 Implement environmental improvements to Lewistown and Pant-yr-awel housing and community facilities as part of a community initiative and improving the roadside image.
- 8 Integrate settlement into the valley landscape and with the valley side forestry.
- 9 Implement river course improvements improving riparian habitat and access along and to river edge [in conjunction with water quality improvements and major rubbish clearance], linking open space and undertaking knotweed control.
- 10 Improve nature conservation value and continuity of habitats on valley sides in conjunction with CCW, WOAD and Coed Cymru including improved management of grassland and hedgerows, control of bracken on marginal agricultural land, control of grazing in woodland and planting where appropriate.
- 11 Soften forest edges with broadleaf planting. Optimise value of habitat fragments within coniferous woodland glades and rides.
- 12 Retain open moorland vegetation cover.



Character Area 5 Design Themes
Figure DG 16a
OGWR FAWR VALLEY 1 of 3



HARD MATERIALS PALETTE

Distinctive materials.

- See Typical Hardworks Details for suitable walling style.
- Local pennant stone used as main walling material with 'buck and doc', round topped, and random wall copings all commonly occurring. 'buck and doc' style most suitable for urban areas and random for rural situations.

Iron work in the form of bollards, bench seats, railings and street lamps suitable for urban areas.

Distinctive Colours.

Greys, browns, muted highlight colours.

SOFT LANDSCAPE PALETTE

Woodland - valley sides

- Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*
- Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*
- Holly *Ilex aquifolium*
- Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*
- Gorse *Ulex europaeus*

Woodland - riparian

- Common Alder *Alnus glutinosa*
- Downy Birch *Betula pubescens*
- Goat Willow *Salix caprea*
- Holly *Ilex aquifolium*
- Hazel *Corylus avellana*

Grassland - high level acidic

- Matgrass *Nardus stricta*
- Sheep's-fescue *Festuca ovina*
- Common Bent *Agrostis tenuis*
- Creeping Tormentil *Potentilla reptans*
- Heather *Calluna vulgaris*
- Crested Dogs-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*
- Bell Heather *Erica cinerea*
- Sweet Vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*

Grassland, low-level/damp

- Rough Meadow-grass *Poa trivialis*
- Soft Rush *Juncus effusus*
- Purple Moor-grass *Molinia caerulea*
- Crested Dogs-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*
- Black Knapweed *Centaurea nigra*

Riparian - emergent/aquatic

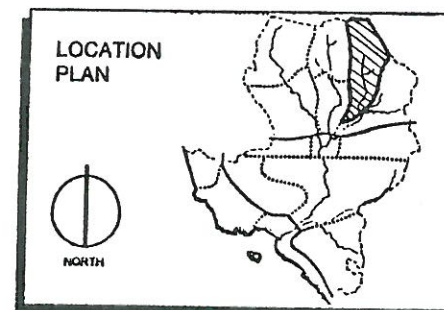
- Common Reed *Phragmites communis*
- Flag Iris *Iris pseudacorus*
- Marsh Marigold *Caltha palustris*
- Reed Canary-grass *Phalaris arundinacea*
- Tufted Hair-grass *Deschampsia cespitosa*
- Rough Meadow-grass *Poa trivialis*
- Meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*
- Angelica *Angelica sylvestris*
- Marsh Thistle *Cirsium palustre*

Field boundaries - hedges

- Hazel *Corylus avellana*
- Hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*
- Sessile Oak *Quercus petraea*
- Gorse *Ulex europaeus*
- Rowan *Sorbus aucuparia*

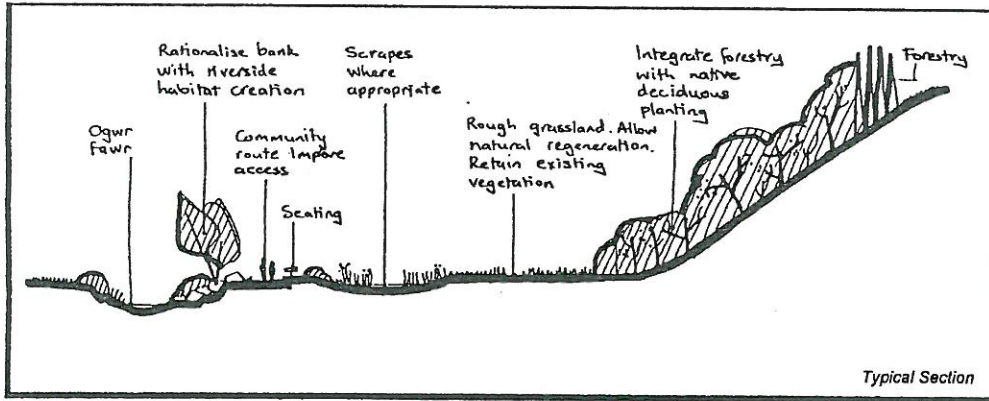
REFERENCES

- Main Strategy Report Volume 1: LS14
- Related Design Guidelines Volume 2: DG1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10
- Technical Annex Volume 4: 3.0
- Bibliography:
 - Groundwork Ogwr: Ogmore Valley Community Parkway

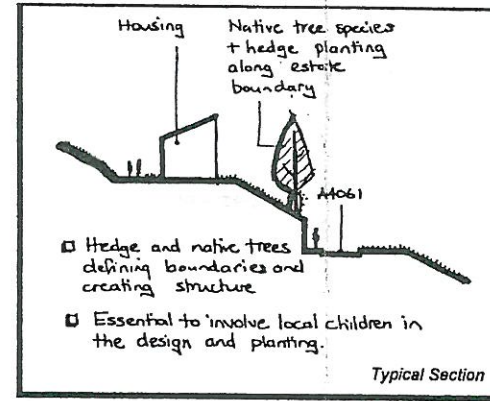


Character Area 5 Design Themes
Figure DG 16b
OGWR FAWR VALLEY 2 of 3

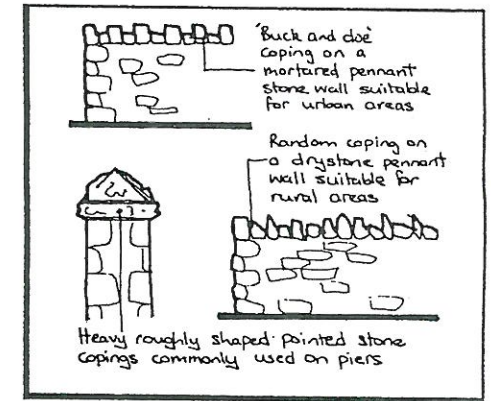




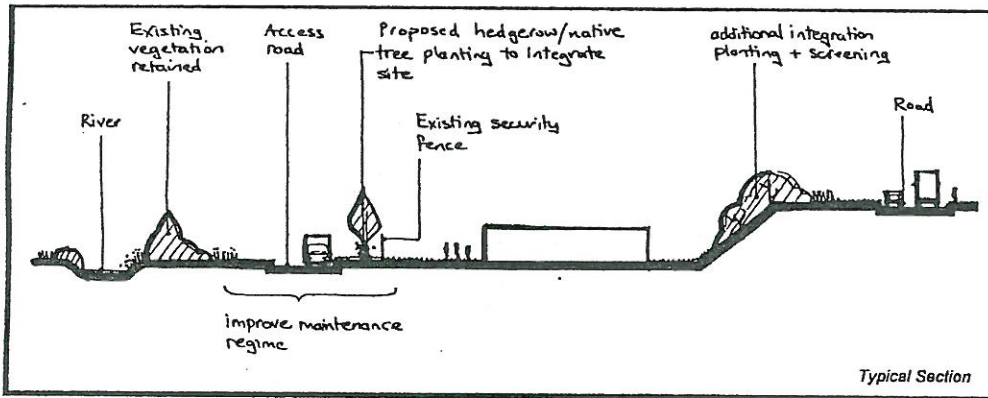
A) WASHERY RECLAMATION SCHEME



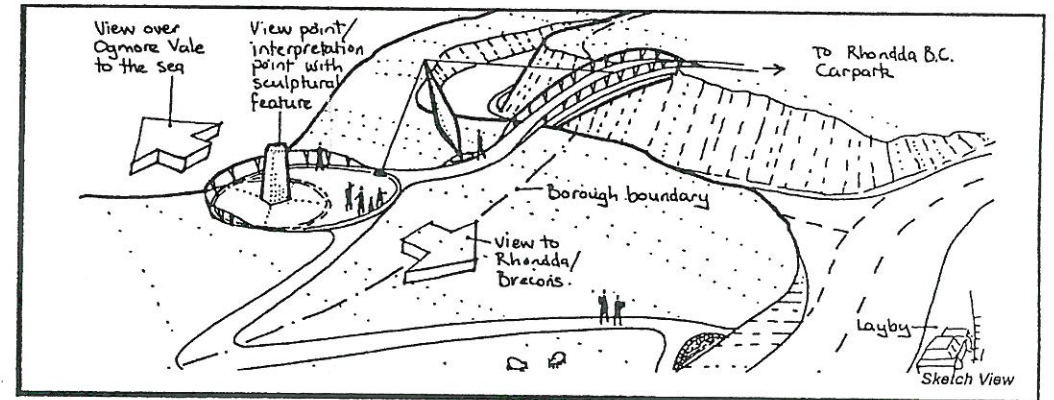
B) LEWISTOWN/PANT YR AWEL



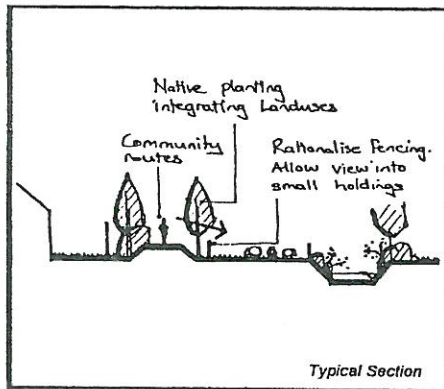
C) TYPICAL HARDWORKS DETAILS



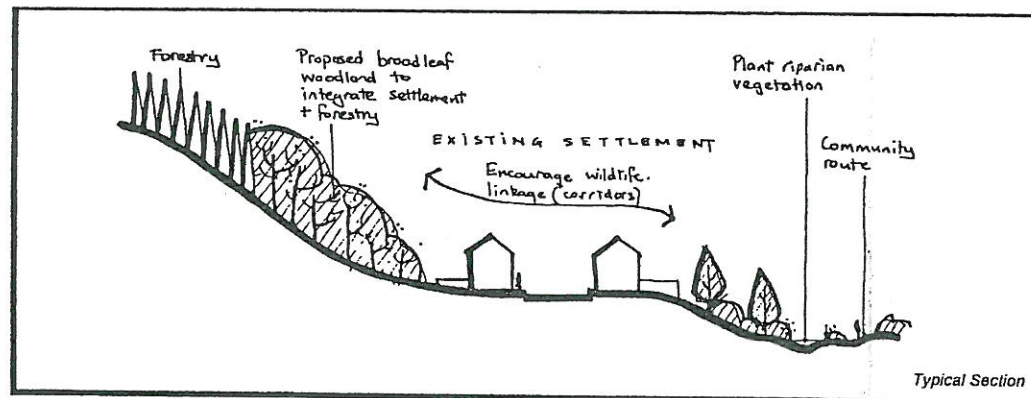
D) WYNDHAM INDUSTRIAL ESTATE (PEN LLWYN GWENT)



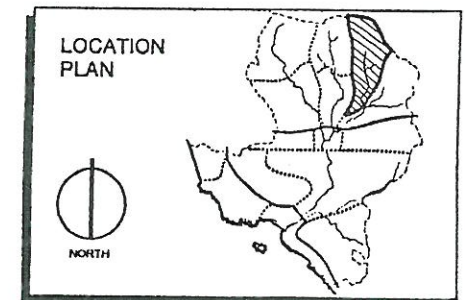
E) THE BWLCH



F) COMMUNITY ROUTE / VALLEY

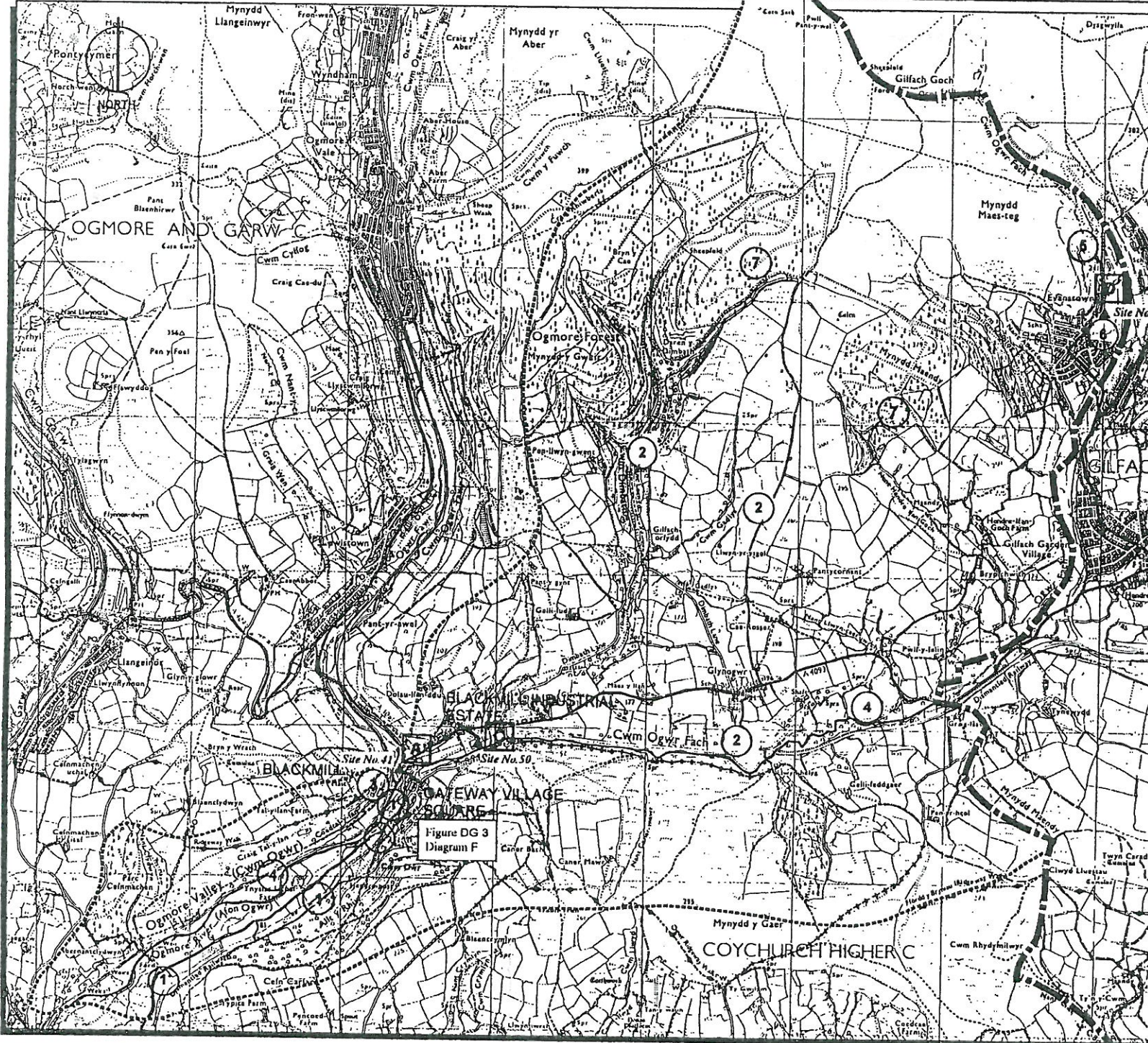


G) NANTYMOEL



Character Area 5 Design Themes
Figure DG 16c
OGWR FAWR VALLEY 3 of 3





VISION

The strategy seeks to conserve and enhance the landscape quality of the area and promote positive rural land management in woodlands and enhancing field boundaries. It seeks to optimise the nature conservation value of the river valleys and upland forestry and acid grassland areas. Recreational access along the watercourses (where there is not a conflict of interest) and to the uplands will be supported. Blackmill will be improved as gateway to the valley and a recreational node for countryside access. Evanstown will be improved through treatment of its setting and spaces.

STRATEGY

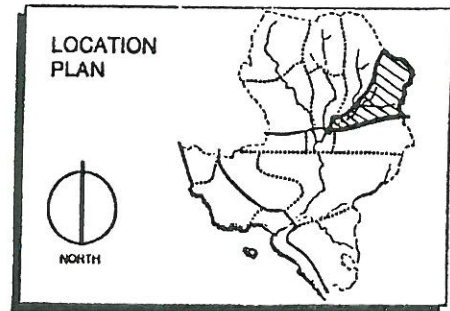
General

Conserve the enclosed landscape character of the area through woodland and hedgerow management and planting in partnership with Bridgend County Borough, farmers and landowners.

Encourage farm management for nature conservation. Measures to include hedgerow planting and management, positive woodland management and enclosure, grassland diversification and bracken control. Maximise linkage and consolidation of wildlife corridors.

Specific sites/areas

- 1 Improve road approaches in key locations such as Blackmill and improve signage to aid sense of identity.
- 2 Access for walkers and cyclists (on community and subsidiary routes) along river corridors and to uplands to be improved by agreement and management. Opportunities for canoeing to be investigated.
- 3 Blackmill to be improved to become recreational node for countryside access and gateway to the valleys.
- 4 Clean up rivers removing knotweed and litter once similar initiatives upstream are nearing completion.
- 5 Consider hardwood and softwood forestry on the slopes of Mynydd Maesteg to improve the landscape setting of Evanstown.
- 6 Implement improvement strategy of Evanstown with community initiatives.
- 7 Diversify conifer plantation structure and accommodate broadleaves to improve visual appearance and enhance nature conservation value.



Character Area 6 Design Themes
Figure DG 17a
OGWR FACH VALLEY 1 of 2