

# 1. Coed Garnllwyd

## Llancarfen, Vale of Glamorgan

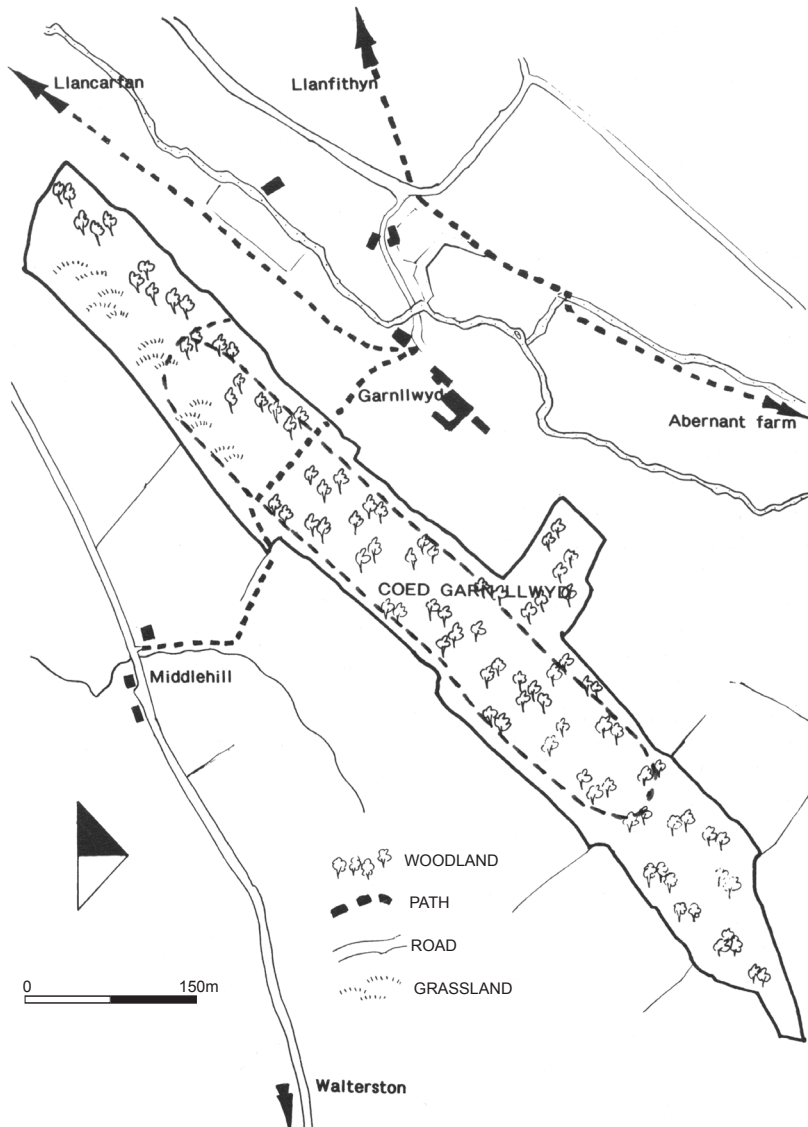
<b>Grid References</b>	O.S. Explorer map 151 Cardiff & Bridgend. Main entrance point: ST057711, Site centre: ST058712
<b>Status</b>	Part of the Nant Whitton Woods SSSI.
<b>Tenure</b>	Freehold purchased in 1983, with grant aid from NCC, the National Heritage Memorial Fund and WWF.
<b>Size</b>	13 ha (32 acres).
<b>Location and Access Notes</b>	0.7 km north-east of Llancarfen, approximately 5 km west of Barry. Access by public footpath either from the Llancarfen to Bonvilston road to the south of Garnllwyd House, or through the livery stables on the Walterston to Llancarfen road. Car parking is very limited, so we advise walking from Llancarfen village. A public footpath and circular permissive paths run through the woodland, which can be steep and muddy.
<b>Public transport</b>	Some journeys of the V5 Cowbridge-Barry bus service call at Llancarfen.

**Description:** Ancient broadleaved woodland with some scrub and a meadow.

Coed Garnllwyd forms part of a woodland complex which occupies the southern and eastern sides of the small Nant Whitton and Nant Llancarfen valleys. The whole reserve is underlain with Lias limestone. A spring-line runs through the reserve producing wet flushes within the wood.

The woodland is mixed Ash, primarily Ash/Oak coppice with standards, with Hazel, Field Maple, Holly, Smooth-leaved Elm, Crab Apple (5), Hawthorn, Spindle, and Wayfaring-tree making a rich shrub layer. Clear felling in 1921 appears to have been the last major management undertaken, although some of the standard Oaks are larger and appear to pre-date this operation.

The woodland flora contains species typical of lime-rich ancient woodlands: Herb Paris (4-5), and Early Purple Orchid (4-5) occur, together with Bluebell (4-6), Wood Anemone (3-5) and Goldilocks Buttercup (4-6). Part of the meadow is species-rich with Common Spotted Orchids (6-8) and Devil's-bit Scabious (8-9). The grassland and Bramble scrub attract a range of invertebrates including Brown Argus (5-6 + 8-9) and Common Blue (5-9) butterflies, Speckled Bush Cricket (5-11), Wasp Beetle, a hoverfly *Volucella inflata* (5-10, peaking 6-7) and a soldier fly *Stratiomys potamida*. Amongst the varied birdlife are Buzzard, Tawny Owl, woodpeckers, Nuthatch and Treecreeper. Migrants include Garden Warbler in summer and Woodcock in winter. Dead timber within the woodland supports invertebrates and fungi including Scarlet Elf cups.



**Management Objectives:** To enhance the structure and diversity of the woodland by coppicing, some replanting of Oak and maintenance of the boundary fencing to exclude grazing livestock. To enhance the diversity of the meadow by grazing and cutting and to enhance visitor access.

#### Good times to visit

Mar - Aug	Woodland flowers
Apr - Jul	Woodland birds and meadow flowers
Sept - Mar	Fungi