

22. Kilvrough Manor Woods and Redden Hill

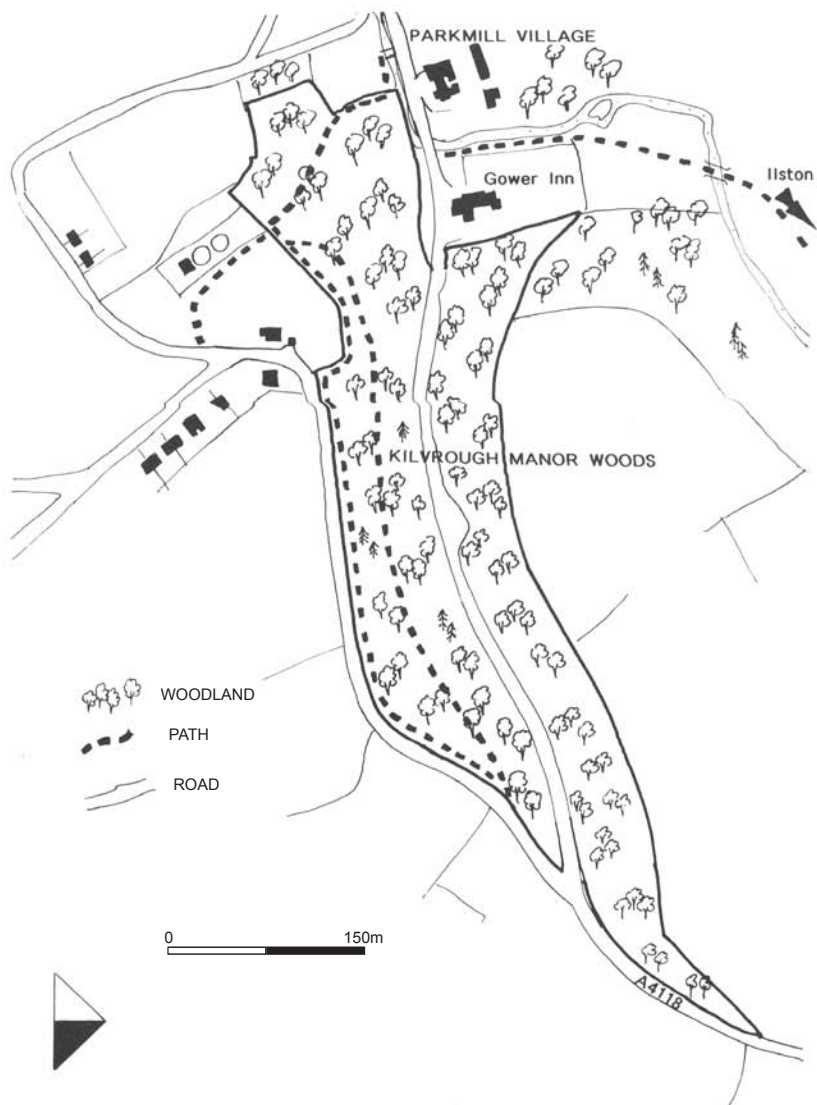
Parkmill, Gower, Swansea

Grid References	O.S. Explorer map 164 Gower. Main entrance: SS556891, Site centre: SS555892
Status	Both sites are SSSI, and form part of the much larger European Natura 2000 site, Gower Ashwoods SAC.
Tenure	Area was given to the Trust by Messrs. J.C. and D.W. Isaac of Swansea in July 1979. A 999 year lease on Kilvrough Manor Woods (8.5 ha) was purchased by the Trust in March 1988 with grant aid from the Countryside Commission and sponsorship from Office Cleaning Supplies Ltd through WWF's Corporate Fundraising Department.
Size	Kilvrough 8.6 ha (21.2 acres), Redden Hill 1.1 ha (2.7 acres).
Location and Access Notes	Kilvrough Manor Woods is on either side of the A4118 before entering Parkmill village from the east. There is roadside parking along Pennard Drive. Public footpaths cross the south western part of the wood, and along the southern boundary of the reserve. There are no public rights of way in the northern wood. Inaccessible for wheelchairs. Redden Hill is 0.5 km north-west of Parkmill. Access is via the A4118 and the Parc-le-Breos woods.
Public transport	Services 14, 14a, 14b, 114 (Sundays) from Swansea Quadrant Bus Station to Pennard Linkside Estate.

Description: Ancient Ash woodland and Beech plantation. Kilvrough Manor Woods comprises two areas of woodland, on either side of the A4118, south Gower road in the Parkmill Valley. The woods are mostly ancient semi-natural and broadleaved, made up of a canopy of Ash, Oak, Beech, and Elm, with a Beech plantation making up a large part of the southern woodland. There is also a small amount of Larch planted in some areas. There is an understorey of Hazel, with Bramble, Bluebells (4-6), Herb Paris (5-8), Wild Garlic (4-6), Twayblade (5-8), and Hart's Tongue Fern in abundance.

Redden Hill was originally a planted ancient woodland, with a conifer plantation when the Trust first acquired it. The conifers have been cleared and mixed deciduous woodland dominated by Ash has been allowed to regenerate naturally.

The woodlands provide suitable nesting habitat for a range of woodland birds such as Chiffchaff, Robin, Great Tit, Treecreeper, and Willow Warbler with other species such as Buzzard, Great Spotted Woodpecker, and Woodcock regularly seen in winter.



Management Objectives: To enhance the woodland by thinning of the Beech plantation, and removal of Cherry Laurel. Some Hazel coppicing is planned to benefit the spring ground flora.

Good times to visit

- Mar - Jun Woodland flowers

- Apr - Jul Breeding birds

- Sept - Nov Fungi