

Plas yn Rhiw Access Statement

Rhiw, Pwllheli, Gwynedd, LL53 8AB

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Introduction

1. Plas yn Rhiw, a small manor house dating in parts from the 17th century is nestled on a hillside overlooking Cardigan Bay. The 1 acre garden is on a slight gradient and is divided into beds framed by box hedges and paths and sheltered from the west by woodland.
2. Mobile phone reception is generally poor across most of the site. Visitors are advised to call 01758 780219 if they have a problem whilst at the property.
3. Assistance dogs are welcome throughout the property. Other dogs, which must be kept on leads are only allowed on the path from the lower car park to the upper car park and on the woodland path from the far end of the upper carpark. There is a water bowl by the tap at the side of the visitor reception building in the top car park and a dog waste bin at the start of the woodland path from the upper car park
4. Light levels in the house are kept low to maintain and protect the collection.
5. As there are no safe areas to leave them, rucksacks and large bags are not allowed in the house and it is advised that they are left in vehicles.
6. If you have any queries or require any assistance please telephone 01758 780 219 or email plasynrhiw@nationaltrust.org.uk

Arrival & Parking Facilities

1. Brown tourist signs direct you to Plas yn Rhiw from the B4413. The main car park is on the left side of the road, just before the corner at the bottom of a steep hill and is signposted.



Main car park entrance

2. This parking area is approximately 250m away from the visitor reception. Further along the road turning right at the junction just past the red post box and up the lane is another smaller car park which is closer to the house and garden. It is reserved for visitors who may find it difficult to walk from the lower car park.



Junction of lane to upper carpark

3. The main car park surface is gravelled and not marked. The path from here is on the other side of the road, through the small wooden gate, up a slope and 100m along the woodland edge and out onto a grassed area. The path, which is gravelled, continues for another 130m entering the upper carpark by the visitor reception/toilet building



Path from car park along woodland edge



Surface of path from main car park to visitor reception



Path entrance to upper car park and visitor reception with toilets at the back.

4. There are two plank benches by the side of the path in the woodland area.
5. The upper car park surface is compacted gravel with some loose stones, not marked and located 80m from the house and garden. It is reserved for visitors who may find it difficult to walk from the lower carpark.
6. Access to the house and garden is out of the upper car park onto the metalled road then 40m downhill and through the garden gate on the right



Road from upper car park to house and garden entrance

The first 4m approach to the gate consists of compacted gravel with some loose gravel, leading to a 2m long, 110cm wide stone ramp with 2 stone steps to the side. There is no handrail to the ramp.



House and garden entrance

7. The 2.5m double garden gate opens outwards. Staff/volunteers can assist with opening the gate if required.
8. The 25m long path from the garden gate to the veranda at the front of the house is gravelled.

WCs

1. There are toilets at the back of the visitor reception building and in the wooden cabin at the far end of the upper carpark.
2. The largest of the cubicles is in the wooden cabin and measures 1.5m x 2m. It has an outward opening door which is 78cm wide.
3. This cubicle has left-hand transfer WC, and 4 other grab rails.
4. There are no adult changing facilities but baby changing facilities are available in the second cubicle of the visitor reception building toilets.
5. All WCs have automatic hand driers, tiled or concrete floors, painted wall surfaces and LED lighting with sensors.
6. There are no public toilets in the house.

Visitor Reception

1. The stone walled visitor reception building is located in the upper car park. Its floor is ceramic tiled throughout with painted plastered walls.
2. There is a stone tiled level entrance into the building from the car park.
3. The single entrance door is 105cm wide, with an internal 102cm wide glass door. The external door is a manually operated wooden stable door and opens outward to 90 degrees while the internal manually operated glass door opens 90 degrees inward. Both are left open during opening times but staff/volunteers can assist with opening the door if required.
4. The reception desk is 90cm high. Staff will come around to talk to someone who cannot see over or reach up to the desk and there are clipboards available to use to write on if they cannot reach the desk.
5. The open door and large glazed window provide some natural light which is supplemented with LED spot lighting.
6. Wooden seats are provided.
7. There are no induction loops, wheelchairs or PMVs provided at the property.

House

1. The house is 115m from the visitor reception in the top car park.
2. From the garden gate to the veranda at the front of the house the 20m path is gravelled. The veranda extends along the whole front of the house and has a slate slab floor.
3. There is a level entrance to the house from the veranda through the front door to the hall which has a slate floor and carpet rug. The hall is on two levels with a step to the right just inside the front door. To the left is the small parlour which has a wooden floor with a carpet rug. Mobility vehicles and wheelchairs can't be accommodated on the carpets due to their fragility and there is no space to turn a large wheelchair or PMV easily in each room. Due to the small size of the property the whole of the parlour and hall can be seen from just inside the front door.



**House entrance door under veranda
at front of house**

4. The front door is 95cm wide, manually opens inward to 90 degrees and staff/volunteers will assist with opening the door if required.
5. The kitchen is on the ground floor at the back of the house and is accessed from the hall through two doors that are 75cm and 85cm wide.
6. All the rooms apart from the kitchen have soft furnishings, therefore avoiding any sound echoes.
7. The lighting is mostly LED and kept to a low level to protect the collection.
8. Access to the upper floors is by stairs only. The main staircase which is 85cm wide has a handrail on the internal side and leads to the first and second floors. The first 6 steps up to the first half landing are stone while the remainder (6 steps to the first floor, with two further flights of 7 and 6 steps each up to the second floor and 2 steps down, with no handrail, to the bedroom on this floor) are wood covered in thick carpet.
9. All rooms on the upper floors are small and have wood floors covered with rugs.
10. Seating is available if required - there is a chair on each floor for visitors to use, please ask the room guides for assistance.
11. There are no public WCs in house.
12. Guided tours are offered but need to be arranged beforehand.
13. A virtual tour of the house is available on an ipad and a history book of the house is available in Braille.
14. There are no induction loops at the property.
15. People can sit just outside the front door on the veranda if they don't want to do the same amount of the visit as other members of their group.

Grounds and Garden

1. Entrance to the garden is through the main house and garden gate.
2. The paths are mostly gravelled with two short sections through the parterre grassed, and the path immediately behind the house and into the yard and stable cobbled. There is a 180m circular route around the lower part of the garden that avoids any steps, steep slopes and uneven cobbled areas. The path varies in width from 50cm to 1.5m between the hedges.



Cobbled yard leading to stable at side of house.



Example of gravelled garden path

4. There are 8 flights of steps throughout the garden, varying from two to 30 steps in number.
5. There is a wooden handrail on one side of the steps leading from the summer house to the parterre.
6. Apart from the main garden gates, all the other 4 small gates are left permanently open.
7. There are six seats and benches throughout the garden, and a table and two chairs in the open fronted summerhouse, which is accessed up one stone step from the gravelled path.
8. There are three picnic tables with benches in the meadow on a slope on higher ground behind the house. This is reached by an 85m long grass and compacted stone path from the road entrance to the upper carpark. The first 15m of the path from the road is uphill.
9. The orchard and upper woodland is uphill along a 125m compacted stone track to the left of the path to the picnic area.



Start of path to picnic area and track to orchard and upper woodland



Path to picnic area

Contact details for more information

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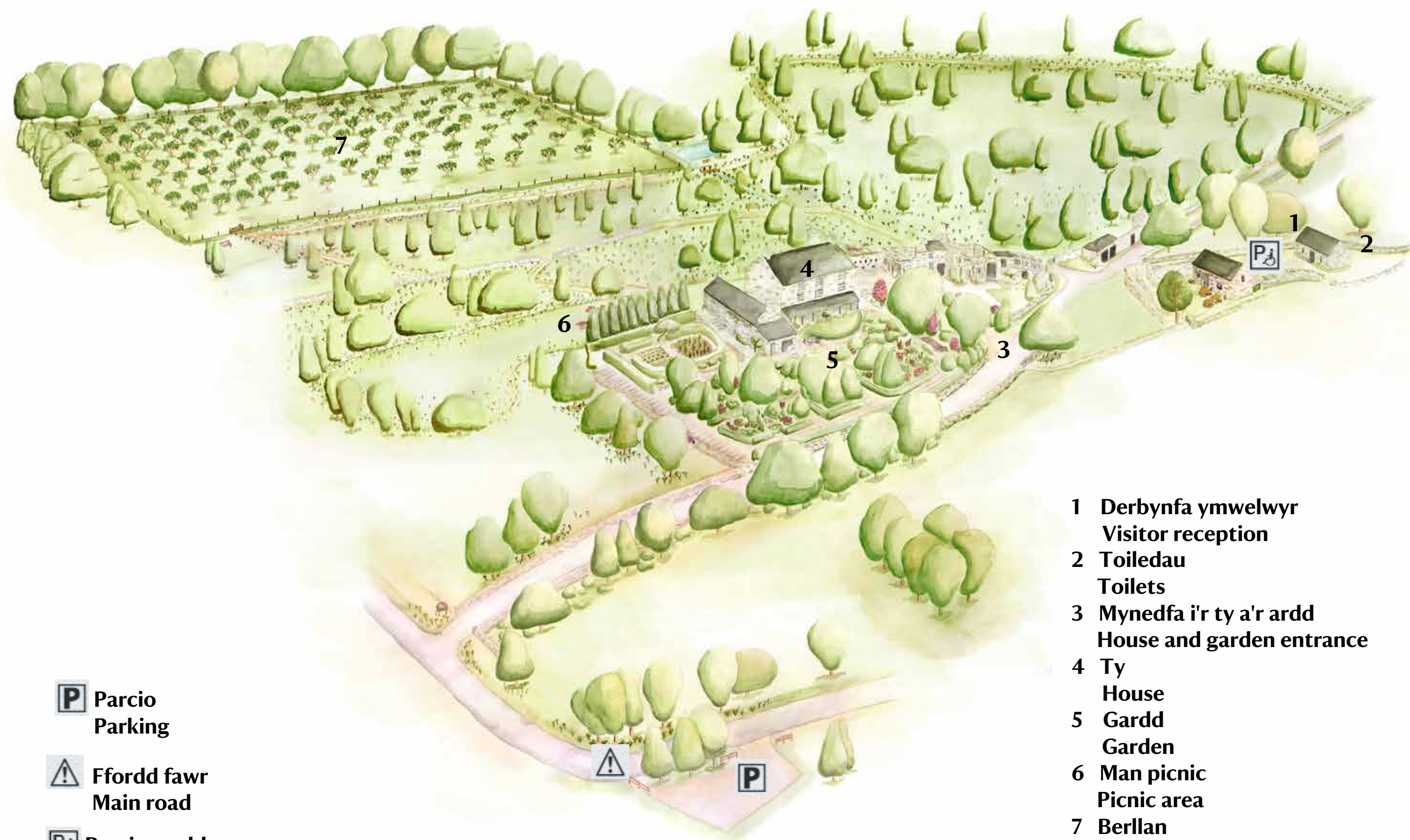
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Map

An illustrated map of the garden





P Parcio
Parking

! Ffordd fawr
Main road

P Parcio anabl
Disabled parking

- 1 Derbynfya ymwelwyr
Visitor reception
- 2 Toiledau
Toilets
- 3 Mynedfa i'r ty a'r ardd
House and garden entrance
- 4 Ty
House
- 5 Gardd
Garden
- 6 Man picnic
Picnic area
- 7 Berllan
Orchard