

**CYNGOR CEFN GWLAD CYMRU
COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES**

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

MONMOUTHSHIRE

GAER HOUSE WOODS

Date of Notification: 1971, 1985

National Grid Reference: SO 370340

O.S. Maps: 1:50,000 Sheet number: 161
1:25,000 Sheet number: SO 32

Site Area: 42.1 ha

Description:

The largest area of ancient semi-natural alder *Alnus glutinosa* woodland of this type in the county, situated alongside tributary streams of the River Monnow. Other abundant canopy species include ash *Fraxinus excelsior* and elm *Ulmus glabra*. Understorey species include hawthorn *Crataegus monogyna*, holly *Ilex aquifolium*, goat-willow *Salix caprea* and hazel *Corylus avellana* which is co-dominant with alder in some areas.

The ground flora is characteristic of this plateau type alder woodland with meadow-sweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, opposite-leaved golden saxifrage *Chrysosplenium oppositifolium* and wood-sorrel *Oxalis acetosella*.

*This document is **NOT** a definitive legal version and has been formatted, updated and partially edited for use on the CCW Web site. This document should not be used in any legal proceedings, public enquiry or any other hearing or appeal. If you require a full legal copy of the document please contact CCW in writing.*