

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

**SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION**

**POWYS**

**COED BYRWYDD**

<b><u>Date of Notification:</u></b>	1985
<b><u>National Grid Reference:</u></b>	SJ 162042
<b><u>O.S. Maps:</u></b>	1:50,000 Sheet number: 136 1:25,000 Sheet number: SJ 10
<b><u>Site Area:</u></b>	9.6 ha

**Description:**

The site is a good example of oak-ash woodland with a well developed shrub layer and a good diversity of flowering plant species.

The site occupies part of the valley bottom and side of the Luggy Brook. There are moderate slopes of northern and southern aspect. The land is fenced off from stock. Coppice within the site appears to be managed.

The wood is a mixture of fairly discrete stand types of canopy species. The eastern end is the more typical acid sessile oak woodland type with birch and rowan also represented. However, a small, more base-rich area occurs by the stream and in this area and in the larger western part of the wood, ash is a major component of the canopy. Wych elm is also present in these areas, together with sycamore. Alder is locally dominant by the stream. Trees are predominantly of mature age, but younger trees and saplings are well represented. The shrub-layer is very well developed, with abundant hazel and hawthorn. A notable feature of the site is the presence of a coppice of sweet chestnut throughout the main part of the wood. Although this is a non-native species, its management as coppice probably contributes to the wood's natural history interest. The ground layer is grass-dominated, but herbs are a significant feature. Species which occur frequently include enchanter's-nightshade *Circaea lutetiana*, bluebell *Endymion non-scriptus*, yellow archangel *Galeobdolon luteum*, dog's mercury *Mercurialis perennis*, wood avens *Geum urbanum*, and common dog-violet *Viola riviniana*. Other species of interest include alternate-leaved golden-saxifrage *Chrysosplenium alternifolium*, wood melick *Melica uniflora* and broad-leaved helleborine *Epipactis helleborine* - all three relatively uncommon in Montgomery.

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