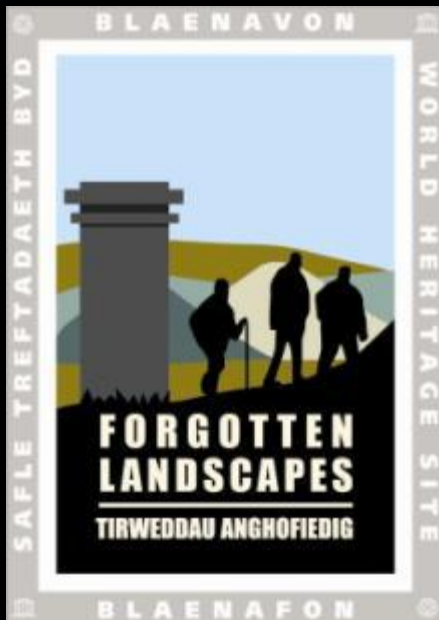




Looking Back and Moving Forward: Celebrating the Success of Forgotten Landscapes



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PRESENTATION THEMES



Internationally recognised visitor attraction

Access and involvement in the landscape

Enhancing understanding

Importance of people

Interpretation of the industrial heritage

Collaboration and partnerships

Community engagement

Volunteers

Forgotten Landscapes legacy

Rethinking authenticity

AN INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED VISITOR ATTRACTION

FLP's role in establishing Blaenavon as an internationally recognised visitor attraction:

- Increased access and awareness
- Bolstering appeal and enjoyment
- Enhancing understanding
- Encouraging involvement



REVITALISING COLLABORATIONS AND SPARKING FURTHER PARTNERSHIPS

Establishing a volunteer workforce – acting as guardians and ambassadors for the Blaenavon World Heritage Site.

Engaging the community – enabling the community to contribute and reap the rewards of the industrial landscape.



Protecting and promoting the Commons – through giving a voice to the Commoners.

Refocused and entrenched collaborative partnerships – strengthening and refocusing the existing structures and enhancing communication channels.

RETHINKING AUTHENTICITY?!



- Authenticity and integrity as qualifying conditions for World Heritage status.
- Authenticity seen by *UNESCO* as based on attributes that the site possesses – this can include buildings, artefacts, monuments, as well as local traditions and folklore.
- **My research focus** - Authenticity as a **process** created and altered by stakeholders, as opposed to a literal and static concept. The attributes are just one layer, the people behind the attributes and their roles are also pivotal.
- **People, partnerships, and collaborations at the core** – further strengthened by the successes of FLP





Significant links between the aims and successes of the FLP and the factors shaping authenticity at the Blaenavon World Heritage Site.

REFLECTIONS

Forgotten Landscapes Legacy:

Volunteer based
constituted group

Setting the agenda for the future

Ongoing connection to
hearts and minds of local
people

Demonstrated the fundamental benefits of
collaborative and partnership workings

Augmenting the
construction of
authenticity

Industrial heritage made
fun and accessible

Continued protection and
recognition of commoners'
pivotal role

FINAL THOUGHTS...



- Blaenavon's industrial landscape is recognised, celebrated, and enjoyed by visitors and the local people.
- No longer a forgotten landscape?!

