

Furzemill Pond, Margam Park, Neath Port Talbot

Heritage Impact Assessment

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A report for HR Wallingford
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Cover: View across Furzemill Pond, view to east (GGAT)

Summary

On behalf of HR Wallingford, the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust, Projects Division (GGAT Projects) has undertaken a heritage impact assessment and produced a heritage impact assessment and statement to accompany proposals for remedial work on two water management structures associated with Furzemill Pond, Margam Park, Neath Port Talbot. The works will be taking place within a Grade I Registered Park and Garden (PGW (Gm) 52 (NEP)), hence the requirement for heritage impact assessment.

The report sets out the historic background, context, development and descriptions of the heritage assets affected by the proposed works, although with the exception of the pond itself, no heritage assets identified during the course of the assessment will be affected.

The report examines the significance and capacity for change of the assets affected. The pond is significant as a feature that existed within the Great Park prior to 1814 and there is some slight evidence to suggest that it may have been in existence as a fishpond in 1738. However, the pond has been subjected to significant re-modelling including the addition of a concrete dam, as well as alterations to the actual size and shape of the feature. The pond has significance for its group value as part of the park, and whilst it lacks much in the way of direct evidential and historical evidence, it is valued today for high levels of aesthetic and communal value. The previous structural alterations to the pond indicate that it has a high capacity for change without significantly altering its group value; sensitive repair and maintenance of the structure is viewed as necessary to ensure its structural integrity, as well as medium and long-term preservation and survival.

The report sets out the need for the proposed works, investigations undertaken, and options considered and preferred options, whilst heritage impacts have been identified. Given the need for maintenance to ensure the continued structural integrity and survival of the pond, it is considered that the proposed repair and modification works, with suitable heritage conservation construction methodologies in place, would likely have a low direct heritage impact. Overall, however, these heritage impacts could be considered as moderate to potentially highly beneficial, as the works would help ensure the long term survival of the asset, whose value rests more in its group association in the landscape than its actual form. Any indirect visual impacts, in relation to key views are considered to be minimal to negligible due to screening by trees and vegetation. Mitigation has been recommended in the form the provision of a WSI to set out necessary recording of the assets affected; and provide for a watching brief on any works which disturb their fabric and on ground disturbance work. Archaeological works should be carried out to the professional standards laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

Crynodeb

Ar ran HR Wallingford, mae Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Morgannwg-Gwent, yr Is-adran Prosiectau (Prosiectau GGAT) wedi cynnal asesiad o'r effaith ar dreftadaeth ac wedi llunio asesiad o'r effaith ar dreftadaeth a datganiad i gyd-fynd â chynigion ar gyfer gwaith adfer ar ddau adeiladwaith rheoli dŵr sy'n gysylltiedig â Phwll Furzemill, Parc Margam, Castell-nedd Port Talbot. Bydd y gwaith yn cael ei gynnal mewn Parc a Gardd Gofrestredig Gradd I (PGW (Gm) 52 (NEP)), sy'n egluro'r gofyniad am asesiad o'r effaith ar dreftadaeth. Mae'r adroddiad yn amlinellu'r cefndir hanesyddol, y cyd-destun, y gwaith datblygu, a'r disgrifiadau o'r asedau treftadaeth y bydd y gwaith arfaethedig yn effeithio arnynt. Fodd bynnag, ac eithrio'r pwll ei hun, nid effeithir ar unrhyw asedau treftadaeth a nodwyd yn ystod yr asesiad.

Mae'r adroddiad yn archwilio arwyddocâd yr asedau yr effeithir arnynt, a'u gallu i newid. Mae'r pwll yn arwyddocaol fel nodwedd a oedd yn bodoli yn y Parc Mawr cyn 1814, ac mae yna fymryn o dystiolaeth ar gael sy'n awgrymu y gallai fod yn bodoli fel pwll pysgod yn 1738. Fodd bynnag, cafodd y pwll ei ailfodelu'n sylweddol, a oedd yn cynnwys ychwanegu argae concrit ato, ynghyd â gwneud addasiadau i faint a siâp go iawn y nodwedd. Mae i'r pwll arwyddocâd o ran ei werth yn y grŵp sy'n rhan o'r parc, ac er nad oes yna lawer o dystiolaeth hanesyddol uniongyrchol yn perthyn iddo, rhoddir gwerth arno heddiw oherwydd lefelau uchel ei werth esthetig a chymunedol. Mae'r newidiadau adeileddol blaenorol i'r pwll yn dangos ei fod yn meddu ar allu uchel i newid heb i'w werth yn y grŵp newid yn sylweddol; ystyri'r bod gwaith atgyweirio a chynnal a chadw sensitif yn angenrheidiol ar gyfer yr adeiladwaith er mwyn sicrhau ei gyfanrwydd adeileddol, yn ogystal ag i'w warchod a gofalu ei fod yn goroesi yn y tymor canolig a'r hirdymor.

Mae'r adroddiad yn nodi'r angen am y gwaith arfaethedig, yr ymchwiliadau a gynhaliwyd, a'r opsiynau a ystyriwyd, yn ogystal â'r opsiynau a ffeifrir, a nodwyd hefyd yr effeithiau ar dreftadaeth. O ystyried yr angen am waith cynnal a chadw i sicrhau cyfanrwydd adeileddol parhaus a goroesiad y pwll, ystyri'r y byddai'r gwaith atgyweirio ac addasu arfaethedig, a hynny gyda methodolegau adeiladu i ddiogelu treftadaeth ar waith, yn debygol o gael effaith uniongyrchol ddibwys i isel ar y dreftadaeth. Yn gyffredinol, fodd bynnag, gellid ystyried yr effeithiau hyn ar dreftadaeth yn rhai cymedrol fuddiol i fuddiol iawn, o bosibl, gan y byddai'r gwaith yn helpu i sicrhau goroesiad hirdymor yr ased, y mae ei werth yn fwy o ran ei gysylltiad â'r grŵp yn y dirwedd na'i ffurf wirioneddol. Ystyri'r bod unrhyw effeithiau gweledol anuniongyrchol o ran golygfeydd allweddol yn fach iawn i ddibwys oherwydd y sgrinio gan goed a llystyfiant. Mae lliniaru wedi cael ei argymhell ar ffurf darparu cynllun ymchwilio ysgrifenedig (WSI) i amlinellu'r gwaith cofnodi angenrheidiol ar gyfer yr asedau yr effeithir arnynt; ynghyd â darparu briff gwylio ar gyfer unrhyw waith sy'n tarfu ar eu hadeiladwaith neu ar y pridd. Dylid cynnal gwaith archaeolegol yn unol â'r safonau proffesiynol a bennir gan Sefydliad Siartredig yr Archaeolegwyr."

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Abbreviations

GGAT:	Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust
Gm:	A Scheduled Monument (SM) in Glamorgan e.g GM
HER:	Historic Environment Record (curated by GGAT Curatorial)
LB:	Listed Building e.g. LB 23279
NGR:	National Grid Reference
NMR:	National Monuments Record (curated by RCAHMW)
NMGW:	A find held by the National Museum and Galleries of Wales
NPRN:	National Primary Record Number (in NMR)
OS Map:	Ordnance Survey Map
PRN:	Primary Record Number (in HER - indicated by a letter suffix, in this case 'w' e.g. 04591w)
RC	Reinforced Concrete
RCAHMW:	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales
SAM:	Scheduled Ancient Monument (older term for a Scheduled Monument – no longer in use but is still referred to in some documents)

1. Introduction and Purpose

1.1 Background

This Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) has been prepared by the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust Ltd (GGAT) for HR Wallingford and accompanies an application for proposed remedial works at Furzemill Pond within the Margam Park Registered Park and Garden.

The proposed works consist of:

Structure 1

- Removal of the existing masonry overflow spillway,
- New Reinforced Concrete spillway to be constructed, replacing the existing spillway – RC to be clad with masonry facing on exposed faces (existing spillway masonry stone to be reused where possible)

Structure 2

- 12” overflow pipe to be removed and replaced with new RC (reinforced concrete) box culvert and RC headwalls – RC to be clad with masonry facing on exposed faces
- Ground to be reinstated to existing levels around both structures.

The replacement structures are required to ensure the integrity of the reservoir embankment and thus the safety of the structure is maintained.

This Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) sets out the heritage significance of the pond and its related features, briefly presents their history and provides a description of the structures. It considers the current proposals, establishes the need for the proposed works and evaluates the heritage impact that these would have and where appropriate identifies potential mitigation.

The works were completed in accordance with The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) Code of Conduct (2014), relevant CIfA standard (*e.g.* 2017 Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment), Cadw (2017) *Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales*, Cadw (2017) *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales*, Cadw (2011) *Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales* and Cadw *Managing Change to Listed Buildings in Wales* or *Managing Listed Buildings at Risk in Wales* and other relevant guidance.

1.2 Location

Furzemill Pond is located on a gentle southwest facing slope in the southern half of the Margam Park estate, with the centre of the pond being located at approximately NGR SS 81031 85676 (Figure 1). The pond is surrounded by a band of mature trees which are more established on the western and northern banks than the eastern. Part of the northern tree boundary has been pierced by a railway cutting for a narrow gauge railway that travels around a section of the park. In its wider setting, the pond is part of a heavily managed polite landscape forming the Grade 1 Registered Historic Park and Garden of Margam Park (Figure 2).

The solid geology of the area is formed by Lower Pennant Sandstones and Middle Coal Measures; predominantly Carboniferous sandstone of the Llynfi and Swansea

beds and the Lower Pennant Measures, which is characterised by thick massive feldspathic and micaceous sandstones and grits.

The drift geology of the general area is divided between stagnohumic gleys including peat soils on the upland core and brown earths elsewhere. The latter in particular are dominated by soils derived from Palaeozoic sandstone of the Withnel 1 type; well drained loamy soils over sandstone usually on steep slopes, including some fine loamy soils with slowly permeable subsoils subject to slight seasonal waterlogging, local areas of bare rock. These soils form acid grassland habitats with good grazing value in upland contexts. A limited area of drift from Palaeozoic and Mesozoic sandstone and shale (Brickfield 2) is also found in the general area; characterised by slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged to well drained fine loamy soils (BGS 2019).

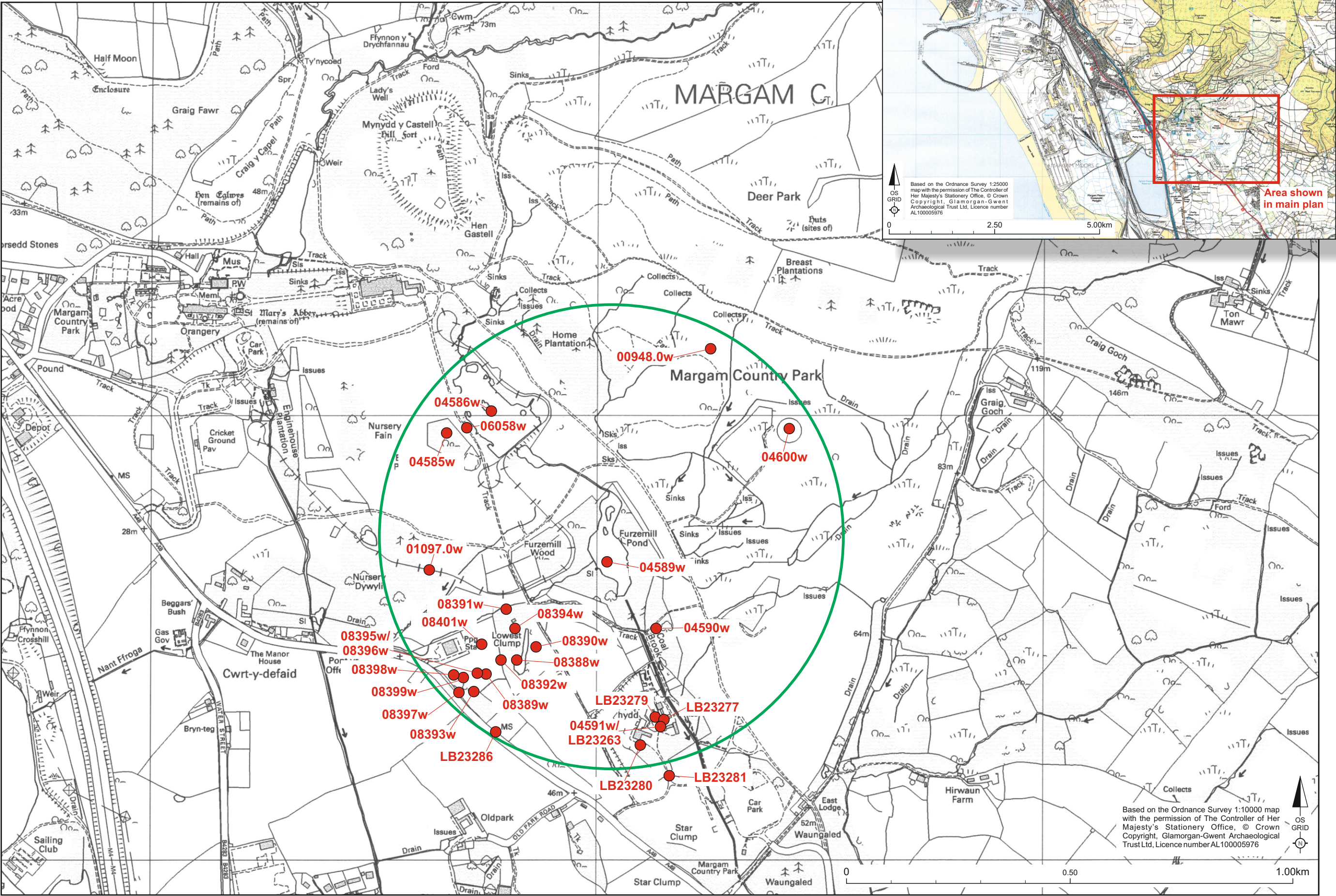


Figure 1. Location and extent of study area (green outline) showing relevant listed assets (red) and location of the relevant structures detailed in the report.

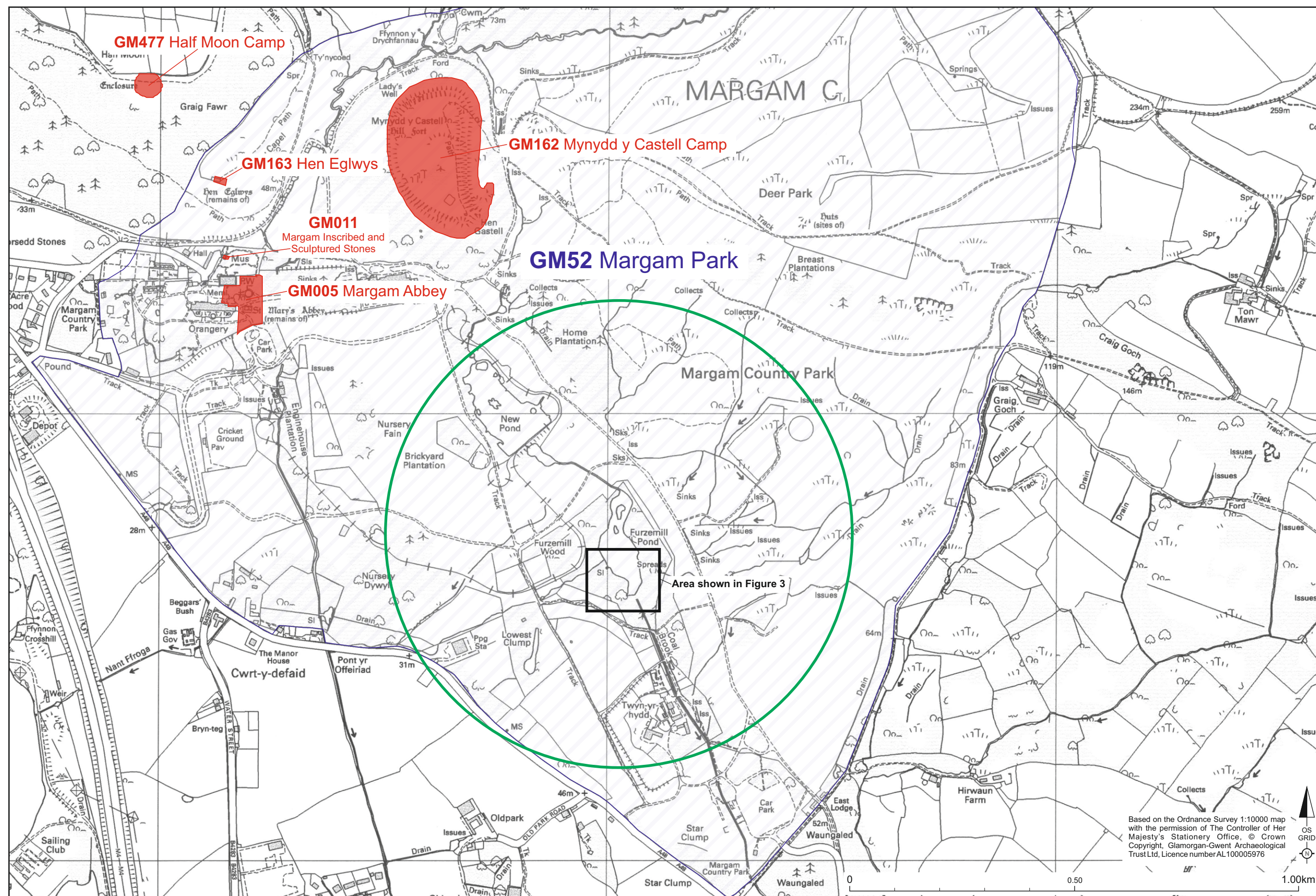


Figure 2. Plan showing study area (green), Historic Registered Parks and Gardens GM52 boundary (blue) and Scheduled Ancient Monuments GM162, GM477, GM163, GM011 and GM005 (red).

1.3 Methodology

The purpose of this Heritage Impact Assessment is to fully understand the heritage asset and to assess the likely impact on the heritage of the proposed works, taking in to account significance and vulnerability.

The process for writing a heritage report is broadly in line with the philosophy first set out in the Australia ICOMOS Burra Charter of 1979 (last updated in 2013), which set out a methodology adopted by ICOMOS and used throughout the world (*The Burra Charter: The Australia ICOMOS Charter for Places of Cultural Significance*, 2013.). The established objective is to identify the place and its associations, then assess its significance, identify obligations arising from this significance, gather information about other factors affecting the future of the place and develop a policy for its future. The assessment also follows the approach set out in Cadw's Conservation Principles document (Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales, March 2011) as well as that set out in the more recent best-practice guidance documents associated with the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016. In particular Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales (May 2017) sets out the general principles to consider when planning changes to historic assets and applying for listed building, conservation area and scheduled monument consent.

The heritage impact assessment and statement followed the guidance set out in the best-practice guidance published by Cadw *Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales*. The latter sets out the general principles to consider when planning changes to historic assets and applying for listed building, conservation area and scheduled monument consent.

The results of the heritage impact assessment are set out in a heritage impact statement submitted with the application for consent. The heritage impact statement accompanying the application for consent includes:

- summary description of the proposed work (which explains what the works intend to achieve and why the works are desirable or necessary).
- summary of significance (brief description of the special architectural or historic interest of the listed building affected and an assessment of its significance, with particular emphasis on those aspects that will be affected by the proposals)
 - summary of proposed works
 - access statement
 - general summary

On site survey and assessment is supplemented by research in the County Archives and the Historic Environment Record (HER). Information recorded on the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) and National Monuments Record (NMR) has been assessed. Cartographic and documentary sources have been consulted, along with relevant published information from the West Glamorgan Archives, Swansea, the Glamorgan Archives, Cardiff and the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth. Current Listed Building data and information on Scheduled Monuments has been obtained from Cadw. Where considered necessary, readily available aerial

photographic material (such as that held by the Central Register of Air Photography for Wales) was accessed.

The following bodies have been consulted, as necessary:

- Cadw: Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings and Registered Landscapes, Parks and Gardens
- RCAHMW: NMR, aerial photos, archive and upland survey
- Regional HER: HER information and further information files
- Local museums and societies
- Local and National Archive Service: Historic maps, plans and records

1.4 The site visit and description

A site visit was undertaken on Monday 7th October 2019 to the area of Furzemill Pond and to nearby identified interests to photograph the area of the proposed works, the heritage assets and also to assess extant lines of site, *i.e.* views from and to the heritage asset(s), to identify potential significant or key lines of site, and help assess direct and any potential indirect visual impact(s) caused by the proposed development. The visit informed potential design mitigation. The weather was poor, with fine drizzle falling for much of the day. However, sufficient breaks in the rain were experienced to allow an assessment of the key lines of sight to be carried out. The survey involved walkover survey of a 500m radius of the pond itself, and further afield when considering key lines of sight.

Furzemill Pond

The pond is an irregular oval in shape and is effectively hidden behind a screen of trees on all sides except the east. The trees are most established around the north bank of the pond, consisting of a mix of deciduous oak, elm and coniferous pines. The presence of the tall fir trees around the local area may have given the pond its name, although there is no information to support the presence of a mill in the vicinity. The north boundary has been pierced by a rail cutting to allow passage of a narrow gauge railway through part of the screened area but the majority of the pond and screen of trees is enclosed by a wire deer proof fence and associated gates. The pond appears to be fed primarily from a canalised channel from New Pond to the north, although a number of water courses also flow from the higher ground to the east towards Furzemill Pond; these streams disappear beneath the ground before reaching the pond's perimeter so whether they actually supply Furzemill Pond could not be ascertained during the visit; Furzemill pond is likely to have its origins as a natural water feature which has been harnessed.

A modern foot path runs into the pond area from north to south, skirting the western bank of the pond; this path crosses Structure 1 (the spillway) via a newly constructed timber and concrete foot bridge. The ground drops away sharply to the west in the area of the spillway, forming a small, winding valley to accommodate the watercourse that drains from the spillway channel. This elevation difference is likely the reason the majority of the western bank of the pond has been provided with a concrete dam that presumably helps support the weight of the water in the pond as well as acting as a mooring point for canoes or similar. A number of small timber

jetties project into the water from various points along the western and northern banks to permit fishing, which is the primary activity carried out near the pond. The eastern bank of the pond appears to be untouched by similar development as there was no visible access path and the bank was overgrown with reeds and scrub vegetation. Evidence for earlier features in the pond was noted in the form of two wrought iron posts which may once have supported a fence although it is unclear how this arrangement might actually have worked.

Structure 1 Spillway

A stone and concrete spillway located at approximately NGR SS 80985 85680 allows water to drain from the pond to the south west (Plate 1, Figure 3). The spillway is referred to as Structure 1 in both the development plans and this document.

The spillway consists of an opening in the concrete retaining wall which leads into a sloping channel and then down a set of steps. The eastern end of the channel was made of concrete, transitioning to stone at a point beneath the footbridge across the channel. Two grooves were noted at the pond end of the channel, presumably to allow the insertion of a sluice gate or similar; no such feature was present during the visit but a wire mesh helped to keep floating debris free of the channel mouth (Plate 2). The step arrangement at the western end of the spillway results in a waterfall effect which was fully evident at the time of the visit. Both channel walls are made from concrete pointed, rectangular masonry blocks but there are sufficient constructional differences to suggest that the north wall is a later re-build; comparison of the coursing indicates less care was taken in building the north wall and the distribution and appearance of the masonry blocks are different (Plates 3 and 4). Furthermore, the capstones on the north wall retain the remains of iron fence posts, which are not present on the south wall. Neither the base of the channel nor the steps to the south west were visible due to the flow of water.

Examination of the lower end of the spillway, close to the base of the steps revealed the presence of a modern concrete pipe immediately north of the north wall of the spillway (Plate 5). No water flowed from this pipe, which was presumably blocked but dislodged stones and voids suggested that water may have flowed around the pipe at some stage, washing away the surrounding material. It is possible that the insertion of this pipe at an earlier juncture resulted in destruction and re-building of the north wall of the spillway, as evidenced in the differences in masonry construction.

Structure 2

Furzemill Pond also drains through an outflow pipe located at the southern end of the pond, with this feature being known as Structure 2 (Plate 6, Figure 3). The feature was heavily clogged by leaves and other debris during the site visit, but was just visible as a modern looking ceramic pipe flanked by a funnel of masonry. One side of the masonry funnel had been removed and was noted on the ground some distance away (Plate 7). The outflow of Structure 2 was heavily overgrown with brambles but was just visible as a round pipe housed within a low, rectangular masonry culvert. An area of significant subsidence had developed in the ground between the inlet and outlet, revealing a modern circular concrete pipe and masonry debris (Plate 8). This

subsidence appears to be a new phenomenon as it was not visible on photographs of Structure 2 taken during the earlier part of 2019.

The outflow from Furzemill Pond follows a straight, canalised channel to the south, known as Coal Brook; this channel is heavily clogged by reeds and other vegetation (Plate 9). Structure 2 is overlooked by a large number of small leaved trees such as willow and debris from these trees, combined with the natural flow of the pond to the south appears to contribute to the obstruction of the channel for Structure 2.

Wider Landscape

Furzemill Pond is part of the wider landscape of the Margam Park and Garden and as such was almost certainly incorporated into the holistic plan for the park, for which visual lines of sight were an important part of the overall effect.

Key views included views from the main house itself, as well as views to and from the pond to other locations within the park. An assessment was made of these views by walking around the area surrounding the park, with the results being summarised below.

North

Furzemill Pond itself is invisible from the north, being screened by the well developed trees around the feature. It is possible to see the screen from Margam Castle but it is visible only as a tree line on the far horizon (Plate 10) with no possibility of being able to see the pond itself.

Conversely, no views of the wider landscape to the north are visible from Furzemill pond itself. The upper floors of Margam Castle were just visible in the distance when viewed from the trees screening the pond. Structures 1 and 2 are completely obscured from the north (Plate 11).

West

Furzemill Pond is largely invisible from the west, being screened by a combination of trees and a low ridge of pasture with the pond being located behind the slope (Plate 12). The only place where elements of the pond are visible is when looking north east up the small valley which drains the water from spillway Structure 1 (Plate 13). Even in this case, the view is largely obscured by tree cover, with the cutting for the narrow gauge railway being a much more obvious feature in the immediate area.

Views to the west from Furzemill Pond are obscured by the same tree cover and ridge mentioned above. It is possible to look down the small valley towards the Margam Discovery Centre but the view is largely obscured by trees (Plate 14). With the slight exception mentioned above, both Structures 1 and 2 are completely obscured from the west.

South

The view from the south towards the pond is similarly obscured by tree cover. It is possible to follow the course of the Coal Brook leading from Structure 2 when viewed from a roadway to the south of the pond (see Plate 9) but the structure and the pond itself are invisible. Views towards the south are similarly obscured by tree cover.

East

The ground to the east of Furzemill Pond rises in a gradually steeper fashion before climbing up to form a plateau that overlooks the entire coastal area. Additionally the tree cover is much thinner on the eastern bank of the pond and this means that the pond is more visible from the east than any other direction, and is the only direction from which the water itself is visible (Plate 15). Despite this, neither Structures 1 or 2 were obviously visible from any of the eastern vantage points visited during the walkover survey, with Structure 2 in particular being completely invisible. Only the general area of Structure 2 was visible, not the feature itself.

The view to the east from the pond could only be assessed from the perimeter of the sparse tree cover surrounding the pond but was dominated by views of the rising ground and looming plateau.

No additional sites of archaeological interest were noted during the course of the walkover survey, although a modern re-creation of a ruined classical temple was noted on the slope to the north east of Furzemill Pond (Plate 17).

It is not thought that changes in tree cover caused by seasonal variation would significantly affect views to and from the pond.

2. Initial Baseline Study

2.1 The HIA Study Area

An initial baseline study was undertaken to identify relevant historic assets in the area of the proposed works. Due to the limited nature of the proposed development, the study area was limited to a 500m radius of the centre of Furzemill Pond (NGR SS 81031 85676) , which, given the nature of the surrounding terrain, encompasses the visual field around the proposed developments, as well as relevant areas of the wider park itself.

2.2 Heritage assets within the HIA Study Area

A search of site data held at the HER, NMR and Cadw was undertaken to inform the study. This data, encompassing some 27 heritage interests was mapped (see Figure 1) and further refined, and cross-referenced extracting those interests relevant to the study, *i.e.* designated interests likely to be affected, directly or indirectly, by the proposed works. In so doing, site data relating to sites not extant above ground or not having a visual relationship (*i.e.* not inter-visible) with the area of the proposed works was scoped out and excluded from the following stage of the process; non-designated sites, find spots, and non-extant sites known through documentary reference were among those removed. A list of all known heritage assets within the study area is provided in Table 1 with the results of the initial filtering process shown.

2.3 Selected heritage assets with a visual relationship to the proposed works

As a result of initial filtering, with the exception of the pond itself (PRN04589w), none of the recorded assets share a direct visual relationship with either of the structures subject to development due to the presence of mature trees around Furzemill Pond or the topography of the local area.

Table 1: Interests identified as part of the HIA study

ID	NAME	Aboveground Site	Inter-visible	Listed Building
01097.0w	Trackway	Yes	No	No
04585w	Brickyard, Margam	No	No	No
08398w	Sunken Trackway, Margam Park	Yes	No	No
08397w	Outer Park Boundary, Margam Park	Yes	No	No
08399w	Trackway, Margam Park	Yes	No	No
06058w	Trackway, Margam Park	Yes	No	No
08393w	Inner Park Boundary, Great Park, Margam Park	Yes	No	No
08395w	Nursery Enclosure, Margam Park	Yes	No	No
08396w	Pond, Lowest Clump, Margam Park	Yes	No	
08401w	Tree Avenue (north), Nursery, Margam Park	Yes	No	No
08389w	Trackway, Nursery, Margam Park	Yes	No	No
04586w	New Pond and earthworks	Yes	No	No
08392w	Internal Park Boundary, Nursery, Margam Park	Yes		
08391w	Stream, west of Furzemill Pond, Margam Park	Yes	Yes	No
08394w	Upper Enclosure, Lowest Clump, Margam Park	Yes	No	No

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ID	NAME	Aboveground Site	Inter-visible	Listed Building
08388w	Lower Enclosure, Lowest Clump, Margam Park	Yes	No	No
08390w	Trackway, Lowest Clump, Margam Park	Yes	No	No
04589w	Furzemill Pond	Yes	Yes	No
04590w	Rifle Range	No	No	No
04591w/LBII 23263	Twyn-yr-hydd	No	No	Yes
04600w	Margam Circle	No	No	No
00948.0w	Deer park	Yes	No	No
LBII 23277	Farm building at Twyn-yr-hydd	Yes	No	Yes
LBII 23279	Kitchen garden wall and glass house Twyn-yr-hydd	Yes	No	Yes
LBII 23280	Garden wall at Twyn-yr-hydd	Yes	No	Yes
LBII 23281	Entrance to Twyn-yr-hydd and flanking wall	Yes	No	Yes
LBII 23286	Milepost near Old Park	Yes	No	Yes

2.4 Heritage Context

Furzemill Pond forms a feature within the Grade 1 Listed Park and Garden and is illustrated on an 1814 Estate Map. The pond therefore has group value as part of the Park as well as being an historic feature in its own right. No other heritage assets within the study area are affected by the proposed development. Topographically, there is virtually no alteration in the overall shape of the pond from the First Edition OS map of 1876 (Glamorgan 1:2500 edition) to the present day, although woodland surrounding the pond has undergone alteration.

2.5 Heritage Designations

The site is located within a nationally important Registered Park and Garden (PGW Gm 52 (NEP)). The following comprises the statutory listing entry for the park.

MARGAM PARK Ref number PGW (Gm) 52 (NEP) OS Map 170 Grid ref SS 802 861 Former county West Glamorgan Unitary authority Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Community Margam

Designations Listed buildings: Margam Castle Grade II; Orangery Grade I; Ruins of Chapter House Grade I; Ruins of Infirmary Grade I; St Mary's Abbey church Grade A; Churchyard walls and gate piers Grade II; Almshouses Grade II; Temple of the Four Seasons Grade II; Remains of monastic mill Grade II; Kitchen garden walls Grade II; Terrace walls and screen Grade II; Middle Lodge (West Lodge) Grade II; Gate piers and screen at East Lodge Grade II; Margam Park wall and gate piers along A48 Grade II; Ruins of Hen Eglwys Grade II. Scheduled Ancient Monuments: Hen Eglwys (Gm 163); Margam inscribed and sculptured stones (Gm 11); Margam Abbey (Gm 5); Mynydd y Castell Camp (Gm 162). Conservation Area (part)*

Site evaluation: Grade I

Primary reasons for grading: Margam Park is a multi-layered site of outstanding historical importance. It includes prehistoric and Cistercian abbey remains, and has Tudor, eighteenth-century and nineteenth-century garden and landscaping phases. Of particular importance are the very fine walled deer park, the banqueting house facade, the outstanding Georgian orangery, the Citrus House and the nineteenth-century gardens with their fine collection of trees and shrubs. The 1950s garden of Twyn-yr-hydd is a delightful and well preserved period piece within the park.

Type of site: Deer and landscape park; pleasure grounds; gardens; former kitchen garden Main phases of construction Twelfth-fifteenth century; 1540-late seventeenth century; 1786-90; 1830-40; 1920s; 1950s Site description Margam Castle is a huge, romantic, nineteenth-century mansion in Tudor and gothic style, set in a large park on the east side of Swansea Bay, to the south-east of Port Talbot. The spot was deliberately chosen for its historic associations and picturesque position at the foot of a wooded historic hill, with the ruins of Margam Abbey and the eighteenth-century orangery visible to the west. Twentieth-century development, in the form of the Port Talbot steelworks and the M4 motorway, have considerably affected the original picturesque setting.

The irregular plan and pinnacled, chimneyed and castellated skyline of the house give it a romantic appearance. It is built of local Pyle ashlar stone, arranged around three courtyards, one in the centre of the main block and two former service courts to the east. There are two main storeys, with a gabled third storey. The surfaces of the building are ornamented with carvings and sculpted heraldic panels. A dramatic octagonal tower with attached stair turret, situated in the centre of the building, rises two storeys above the main house. At its top is a viewing room. The house is aligned east-west, with the main entrance front on the north. The drive approaches from the south-east, dividing just before the house. The southern branch leads to the stable court on the east end of the house and the main drive runs through a short cutting between grass banks to the forecourt, with central grass circle, in front of the main entrance. This is a two-storey gabled porch, with a four-centred arched door and gothic traceried window over it. The long, irregular south front, with protruding bays, oriel windows and another arched door, overlooks the wide terrace, which also extends along the west front. Inside, there is a spectacular stone staircase rising up the first two storeys of the tower. To the east of the main block is a cobbled and flagged service court, with a screen wall on the north side topped with stepped crenellations. The entrance is through a massive, higher archway topped with a heraldic panel at the west end of the north side. Kitchens and domestic offices, including laundry, bakehouse and brewhouse, are ranged around all but the south side, which is bounded by a wall with a door in it leading through to a smaller yard of stores and larders. To the east is the boiler house, laundrymaids' sitting room and gun room, to the south of which is a long, single-storey gothic building with arched doorways in the end walls and small three-light windows with shallow buttresses between them. This is the present shop and interpretative centre, but had been a garage from the early twentieth century. Part was converted to a squash court in 1930. To the east, continuing the main axis of the house, is the stable court, an L-

shaped area with an entrance on the north side, stables and coach house ranged along the north side and a bounding wall on the south.

The history of settlement at Margam goes back to the prehistoric period. The hill behind Margam Castle, Mynydd y Castell, has an Iron Age hillfort on it and the fine early Christian stones found in and around Margam, now housed in the Margam museum, testify to settlement here in the late first millennium AD. The next phase was that of the Cistercian Abbey of Margam, founded in 1147 by Robert Consul, Earl of Gloucester. The remains of the abbey lie towards the western end of the park and consist of the nave of the monastic church, now St Mary's parish church, which was remodelled in the early nineteenth century, the ruined footings of the remainder of the church, the roofless twelve-sided chapter house, built in c. 1200, which stands to the south-east of the church, and a rib-vaulted vestibule to its west, which originally linked the cloisters, now gone, with the chapter house. The abbey was dissolved in 1536, by which time there were only nine monks left, and was bought in 1540 by Sir Rice Mansel of Oxwich Castle, on the Gower, and Old Beaupre, Vale of Glamorgan.

Sir Rice Mansel built a rambling Tudor mansion based on the former monastic ranges of the abbey. The house was probably remodelled in the late sixteenth century by Sir Thomas Mansel: by the 1590s it was a 'faire and sumptuous house', according to Rice Merrick. The house was extended northwards and westwards in the seventeenth century and is illustrated in a sketch by Thomas Dineley of 1684 and in two topographical oil paintings dating to the late seventeenth or early eighteenth century. The family rose to prominence during the sixteenth century and acquired a baronetcy in the seventeenth century and a peerage in 1711. However, in 1750 the title became extinct and Margam, along with Oxwich and Penrice, passed through marriage into the Talbot family of Lacock Abbey, Wiltshire. Between 1787 and 1793 Thomas Mansel Talbot demolished the dilapidated Tudor house, having taken up residence at his newly built villa at Penrice, on the Gower. From 1793 to 1835 there was no principal house at Margam and when the family visited the orangery and gardens they lodged at Margam Cottage, on the outskirts of the park. It was not until the 1820s that plans were made to build a new house at Margam. These were formulated by Christopher Rice Mansel Talbot (1803-90), Thomas Mansel Talbot's son, who had romantic ideas about the park, its history and the style of the house he wanted.

Margam Castle, a romantic extravaganza, was built in 1830-40 by Thomas Hopper for him. Edward Haycock of Shrewsbury was supervisory architect during this period and was responsible for work on the interior and exterior of the house, the stables, terraces and lodges. Talbot himself took a keen interest in the works and supervised the expenses carefully. Christopher R.M. Talbot's only son had died as a result of a riding accident in 1876, so in 1890 Margam was inherited by his daughter Emily Charlotte Talbot. Miss Talbot's particular interest was the gardens, but she made a few alterations to the house as well. On her death in 1918 Margam was left in trust to her great nephew, John Theodore Talbot Fletcher. His father, Captain Andrew Mansel Talbot Fletcher, of Saltoun Hall, East Lothian, was a frequent visitor until the outbreak of war. In 1941 the contents of the house were sold and in 1942 the estate was sold to Sir David Evans-Bevan, owner of the Vale of Neath Brewery.

The house was neglected and became derelict, Glamorgan County Council bought the park in 1973, and in 1977 a disastrous fire brought the roof down and ruined the interior. Restoration work has been put in hand; the house is once again roofed and parts are in use.

Margam Park is a large park of varying character situated between the ridge of Mynydd Margam, to the north and north-east, and the coastal plain to the west. The park is roughly triangular and is almost completely surrounded by a substantial rubble stone wall, parts of it, particularly along the A48 on the south side, rebuilt. The house, Margam Castle, lies towards the west side of the southern half of the park. The park can be divided into three main areas. First, there is the low-lying ground of the southern half of the park, bounded on the west by the grounds and gardens and on the north by the steep ridge of Craig y Lodge. Secondly, there is the area of the wooded valley, lake and hillfort at the west end of the park. Thirdly, there is the northern part of the park, which lies on a high, rolling plateau above the ridge, with a valley, Cwm Philip, along its north-west side. Each part is different in character and use. On Hall's estate map of 1814 the area to the south of the house is called the Little Park, that to the east the Great Park and that on the higher ground the Upper Park. "

Historic Landscape Character Areas

The study area includes sections of two Registered Historic Landscape Character Areas, HLCA001 (Margam Abbey and Castle) and HLCA006 (Eglwys Nunydd and Cwrt-y-defaid).

HLCA 001 Margam Abbey and Castle

Historic Background

This outstanding landscape, sheltered by wooded slopes to the east and located between the hills and the sea on the course of the former Roman communication route to West Wales, was an area of substantial religious importance during the early medieval period and subsequently during the medieval period when the great Cistercian Abbey of Margam was constructed.

The area is largely coterminous with the Margam Country Park, and is included on the Register of Parks and Gardens in Wales (Cadw Ref number PGW (Gm) 52 (NEP), where it is evaluated as being of grade I status (Cadw; ICOMOS UK, 2000, Glamorgan: Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales. Part 1 Parks & Gardens). Of particular importance within the area is the very fine walled deer park, the banqueting house façade, the outstanding Georgian Orangery and Citrus House and 19th century gardens with their fine collection of trees and shrubs, associated with famous plant hunters of the Victorian age such as Frank Kingdon Ward. The 1950s garden of Twyn-yr-hydd is a delightful and well-preserved period piece within the park (Cadw; ICOMOS UK, 2000).

The park can be divided into three main areas, two of which are within the current HLCA: the first is the low-lying ground to the south, bounded on the west by the

main grounds and gardens and on the north by the steep ridge of Craig-y-Lodge; secondly, the wooded valley, lake and hillfort at the west end of the park; and finally outside the current HLCA, the northern part of the park (HLCA 015 Upper Park and Ton-y-grugos), situated on a high, rolling plateau above the ridge, and bounded by the valley of Cwm Philip to its north-west. Each part differs slightly in character and use. Hall's estate map of 1814 shows these three varying areas and gives them Little Park, Great Park and Upper Park (HLCA 015), respectively.

The historic landscape area of Margam Abbey and Castle contains a nationally important and impressive collection of architecture and sculpture unparalleled elsewhere in Wales and spanning an entire millennium, from the 9th to the 19th centuries. The long-standing strategic and administrative importance, based on its prime location at the boundary between the uplands and the sea is demonstrated by the remains of all periods from the late prehistoric to the post-medieval. The importance of the area as an early medieval ecclesiastic focus is also evident from Early Christian Monuments (inscribed and decorated stones) found in the vicinity of the Cistercian Abbey (including the Conobelin, Pompeius, Ilqui, Bodvoc and Grutne stones, among others). The earlier existence of a polygonal or circular churchyard enclosure around the Abbey church at Margam is depicted in Hill's Estate Survey of 1814, an additional indication of the whereabouts of the early medieval church site. A further early medieval ecclesiastic site has also been tentatively identified at Cryke, Capel Mair (PRN 0765w; Hen Eglwys) based on churchyard morphology, with evidence of a circular or polygonal enclosure/church yard (Evans 2003). A find of imported Frankish glass indicates the site was open to wider patterns of exchange and trade during the early medieval period (cf Hen Gastell, Wilkinson 1995). The hillfort of Mynydd-y-castell (SAM Gm 162), in terms of morphology and location, is at variance with most of the other 'defended' enclosures within the historic landscape, being of a massively defended promontory or summit type (similar to but on a larger scale than the site at Hen Gastell), with a possible internal dwelling platform. While Mynydd-y-castell is considered to be of late prehistoric date (RCAHMW), the site may well prove to be a high status secular settlement and administrative focus for the region during the early medieval period.

In 1147 the lands at Margam were granted by Robert of Gloucester, lord of Glamorgan, to St Bernard's abbey of Clairvaux, for foundation of a new Cistercian house of Margam. The nave of the 12th century church survives, in use as the parish church. At the start of the 13th century the Abbey was re-constructed by Abbot Gilbert (1203-13) and the chapter house (standing but lacking its vault, which fell in 1799) and the eastern part of the church, presbytery, choir and transepts date from this time. Following the dissolution in 1536, Sir Rice Mansel of Oxwich and Old Beaupre acquired most of the ex-monastic estates. By the late 16th century a 'faire and sumptuous house' had been erected, incorporating some of the monastic buildings, and stables added during the late 17th century.

Under Thomas Mansel Talbot the mansion at Margam was abandoned in favour of Penrice Castle on Gower and developed as a pleasure garden, finalised by 1814, and

dominated by an imposing Orangery in the Palladian style the largest in Britain, built 1787 - 90 to designs by Anthony Keck. The present internal layout of the park is largely the work of C R M Talbot, who transformed it from 1828 onwards, after returning the family seat to Margam. He was also responsible for the construction of the new Tudor-style house (1830-5 by Thomas Hopper; site architect - Edward Haycock). The irregular plan and pinnacled, and castellated skyline of the house give it a Romantic appearance. It is built of local Pyle ashlar stone, arranged around three courtyards, one in the centre of the main block and two former service courts to the east. There are two main storeys, with a gabled third storey. The surfaces of the building are ornamented with carvings and sculpted heraldic panels. A dramatic two-storeyed octagonal tower with attached stair turret and surmounted by a viewing room is located at the centre of the building. The house is aligned east-west with its main entrance front on the north. Another interesting structure erected during the period is the 'temple of the four seasons', which incorporates the façade of the late 17th century Summer Banqueting House, re-erected in 1835.

The park contains a number of other typical estate buildings of the 1840s in Tudor style, also attributed to Haycock such as the west lodge near the church (gabled, tall chimneystacks).

The former village of Margam, a post-medieval foundation indicated on an estate map of 1813 and depicted on the Delamotte painting of Margam (NMW; early 19th century), was located near the surviving almshouses, a linear development leading from the Abbey gateway. This settlement appears to have been cleared away during the 1830s and 40s, its site incorporated into the kitchen gardens, and the inhabitants rehoused at a new settlement at Groes (RCAHMW Glamorgan, Adams, D J, 1986).

Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

Significant early medieval/medieval ecclesiastic and monastic centre with church and cemetery; important early medieval ecclesiastic/secular settlement and administrative focus; important and influential post-medieval gentry estate and deer park; registered parkland and gardens; post-medieval vernacular and other notable buildings; important relict multi-period/multi-functional archaeological landscape; buried archaeology includes cropmarks and find scatters; Ancient and other broadleaved woodland and plantation; important historic associations

Margam Abbey and Castle, an extensive valuable recreational/open space and tourism resource, lies partly within a Conservation Area, and is approximately coterminous with Margam Park registered garden; the park, roughly triangular and mostly bounded by a substantial rubble stonewall, is of varying character and situated between the ridge of Mynydd Margam, to the north and north-east, and the coastal plain to the west.

The area is characterised as a multi-period landscape of outstanding historical importance and includes significant remains from the prehistoric, early medieval, medieval and post-medieval periods, and has Tudor, eighteenth-century and nineteenth-century gardens and landscapes. The area formed a significant ecclesiastic/monastic estate with imposing medieval Cistercian Abbey church and cemetery, later converted to an important and influential post-medieval gentry estate and deer and Landscape Park with pleasure grounds, gardens and former kitchen

garden. The area has important examples of medieval ecclesiastic and post-medieval secular and vernacular architecture, many listed and some scheduled.

The area is an important relict archaeological landscape including pre-historic, medieval and post-medieval settlement/fields and pre-historic 'defensive' features, such as Mynydd-y-Castell hillfort (Gm 162), a dominant landscape feature in its self. The relict features are complimented by buried archaeology, which is evidenced by cropmarks and find scatters. The area contains a considerable wealth of medieval and post-medieval buildings and structures, most of which are listed, these are as follows: Margam Castle (grade II*); Orangery (grade I); Chapter House Ruins (grade 1); Infirmary Ruins (grade I); the Abbey church of St Mary's (grade A); the churchyard walls and gate piers (grade II); Almshouses (grade II); Temple of the Four Seasons (grade II); the remains of the monastic mill (grade II); Kitchen garden walls (grade II); Terrace walls and screen grade II); Middle Lodge (West Lodge) (grade II); Gate piers and screen at East Lodge (grade II); Margam Park wall and gate piers along A48 (grade II); Ruins of Hen Eglwys (grade II). The scheduled ancient monuments of the area are Hen Eglwys (Gm 163); Margam inscribed and sculptured stones (Gm 21); Margam Abbey (Gm 5).

Other characteristics include Ancient and other broadleaved woodland and 19th century plantation, important historic associations from the medieval and post-medieval period, and minor communication features such as the course of former old parish road between Taibach and Llangynwyd, diverted in 1829 to avoid crossing the park.

Conservation priorities and management

Key historic landscape area within the Mynydd Margam historic landscape. Historic landscape components in this area are generally in good or excellent condition and should be maintained as current.

The area would benefit from archaeological survey to inform the future management of the area's archaeological resource; this should include an in-depth condition survey of the archaeological resource and a general standing building survey.

HLCA 006 Eglwys Nunydd and Cwrt-y-defaid

Historic Background

The historic landscape area of Eglwys Nunydd and Cwrt-y-defaid is part of the Margam estate adjacent to the main transport corridor in the area, i.e. Water Street, a coastal route in use since the Roman period, between Neath (Nidum) and Cardiff and ultimately Caerleon. The area is an ecclesiastic landscape of some importance being the site of an early medieval monastic settlement associated with St Non, Mother of St David in the vicinity of the post-medieval farmstead of Eglwys Nunydd; many of the inscribed stones relocated to the Museum at Margam originated in the area. The ecclesiastic importance of the area continued under the Cistercian Abbey of Margam, when the area

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was farmed from the medieval monastic grange of Llanfugeilydd, Cwrt-y-defaid or Sheeps Grange with its medieval cemetery.

Post-medieval features are an important element in today's landscape, and comprise agricultural enclosure and settlement. Apart from the remains of Eglwys Nynydd farm, other notable post-medieval settlements include Old Park, a late 17th century L-plan two-storey house, with a kitchen at the outer end of each range and varied stone doorways, including one with an entablature on brackets. The house contains a late 17th century staircase said to have originated from the demolished Margam Abbey mansion

Key historic Landscape Characteristics

Agricultural and residential area with important historic associations; important ecclesiastic landscape with early origins; post-medieval fieldscape; relict archaeological landscape of early medieval/medieval/post-medieval settlement; interesting post-medieval vernacular buildings; buried archaeological remains in the form of finds (including medieval inscribed stones) and parch/crop marks; important communication corridor (Roman and later)

Eglwys Nunydd and Cwrt-y-defaid, set on the low-lying coastal fringe, is characterised as an agricultural and residential area with important historic associations. The area is an ecclesiastic landscape of some importance. The area of the post-medieval farmstead of Eglwys Nunydd is known to be the site of an early medieval monastic settlement associated with St Non, Mother of St David. The ecclesiastic importance of the area is reinforced by the existence of a medieval monastic grange belonging to the Cistercian Abbey of Margam.

The strongest characteristic of the area today lies in its varied post-medieval fieldscape of both irregular/evolved and regular large fields interspersed with occasional coppices or coverts of broad-leafed woodland. While the area's relict archaeological landscape of early medieval/medieval settlement is of interest, the standing post-medieval agricultural buildings are now the most characteristic visual element in the landscape. The area contains a number of post-medieval vernacular buildings including the Tithe barn, outbuildings and farmhouse at Eglwys Nunydd, the four-unit, central stair-passage house of Old Park (17th century, listed grade II), the barn at Kenfig House, and the 18th century Cwrt-y-defaid Cottages, for example.

Less visible but nonetheless important characteristics of the area are buried archaeological remains, ranging from finds (including medieval inscribed stones) to parch/crop marks. The area has also formed an important transport/communication corridor since the prehistoric period to the present day, and is bounded by the B4283, route of the medieval Water Street (also known as Heol y Sheet, Heol Las, etc), and the current A48 main road.

A recent addition to the built character of the area is the dense clustered or nucleated planned 'executive-style' settlement based around converted post-medieval farmstead of Eglwys Nunydd.

Conservation priorities and management

Historically the importance of the area lies in its early medieval origins, however the visible above ground landscape characteristics are chiefly post-medieval. Preserve identified characteristics as far as practicable. Any development affecting the area should require an appropriate archaeological impact assessment.

3. History of the study area and its wider context

Wider context

The earliest evidence from the surrounding area dates to the Mesolithic period, with finds of Mesolithic flint artefacts from west of Blaen Rhondda. More substantive evidence, dating to the Neolithic period, comes in the form of a chambered tombs, with the nearest example from Margam Moors, since lost to the construction of the Eglwys Nunydd reservoir (although its capstone is preserved at Margam Abbey). It is thought to have been similar to that surviving at Penmaen Burrows, Gower. Other finds of Neolithic date from the wider area include the particularly significant find of an axe from Aberavon beach with its wooden haft more or less intact. The Bronze Age period shows a considerable intensification of occupation in the surrounding area, in the form of burial cairns and ridgeway routes, the ‘cefn ffyrdd’.

Iron Age occupation is highly visible in the surrounding area in the form of the hillforts including Mynydd-y-Castell (SM Gm162), an impressive univallate enclosure, measuring 260m north-south and 2.7ha in area. The fort is D shaped with a straight east side; the defences comprising ‘massive bank or scarp accompanied by ditch with a counterscarp bank’ with no visible revetment and a single entrance to the southwest. The massively defended Mynydd-y-Castell within Margam Park is at variance with the general hillslope enclosure type for the area, which is generally considered to have a pastoral function. The latter include the scheduled camp to the east of Ton Mawr (SM Gm090), Cwm Phillip West, (SM Gm056) and Halfmoon Camp (SM Gm477). The substantial ramparts at Mynydd-y-Castell enclose an isolated hill and commands extensive views over the surrounding landscape and coastal zones, while the sites location at an established administrative focal point (with ecclesiastic, parochial, commotal and possibly cantrefal importance) hint at the area’s wider significance (Roberts 2007).

The main indicator of the Roman period within the area are roads, such as that thought to underlie the route of the present A48 (01016.14w), immediately west of Margam Park. A limited amount of buried remains and a number of Roman milestones mark the course of the main road west from Cardiff, which passes from Stormy Down, along the line of Water Street in Margam and probably along the line of the modern A48 to Neath. In addition, a definite Roman road with another potential Roman route was discovered to the northwest of Nursery Dywyll during works for the laying of a gas main between Port Talbot and Margam in 1990. The former is approximately aligned north-south between SS 80225 85529 and SS 80256 85857 (Marvell and Page 1994). The nearby focal points of Neath, with its fort and *vicus* slightly to the north, and Kenfig to the southwest with a settlement or conjectured fort, had considerable importance in the Roman period.

Documentary sources suggest that Glamorgan has its origins in an Early-medieval kingdom “Glywysing” named after a king Glywys. This later mutated to Morgannwg,

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from its ruler Morgan Hen (Pugh 1971). Putatively, the kingdom was divided into provinces or Cantrefi named for the sons of Glywys, but it is difficult to be precise as to their boundaries. Knight (1995) proposes a cantref of Margam (Afan), which extends from Merthyr Mawr to the River Tawe in the west.

Along with material from Hen Gastell and glass recovered from Mynydd-y-Castell, the principal archaeological evidence for pre-Norman activity derives from a large number of early Christian inscribed stones. Whilst some may represent burials alongside roads (following the Roman tradition), others seem to be associated with “monastic” ecclesiastical sites, suggesting that Margam Abbey was an ecclesiastical centre prior to the establishment of the medieval monastery (RCAHMW 1976; Pugh 1971 and Roberts 2003).

The Norman invasion of Morgannwg is thought to have taken place around 1093. Robert Fitzhamon, a favourite of William Rufus, and later Earl of Gloucester extended his existing territories in Gwent by the military destruction of the Kingdom of Morgannwg. It seems probable that he allocated parts of the conquered lands to his followers as grants of land for Neath Abbey was made by Richard de Granville. The conquest did not result in the complete removal of the Welsh elite. The upland areas to the east (and perhaps the west) of Neath were held as a lordship by Caradog ap Iestyn, son of the last Lord of Morgannwg, whilst the lands around Resolven (Rhys–solen) were held by Caradog’s brother Rhys. Moreover, in the 1180s, Caradog’s son Morgan led a rebellion against the Fitzhamons, which resulted in the destruction of a castle at Aberafan and the apparent reoccupation of Hen Gastell. This rebellion seems to have lasted for at least 40 years (Pugh 1971 and Roberts 2003).

Despite the periodic indigenous revolts, culminating in the Glyndwr rebellion, the medieval period marked the consolidation of power by the English lords. After the death of the last of the Fitzhamons in 1218, the Lordship of Glamorgan passed to the de Clare’s and then in 1317, to the Despenser family. A century later the Lordship passed to the Earl of Warwick. In practical terms the structures of Lordship may have had limited impact on most people and on the landscape. Two boroughs were founded, that of Neath, held directly by the Lords of Glamorgan, and that of Aberafan which seems to have been under the power of the Welsh Lords of Afan. The lords of Afan clearly became anglicised, and by the 13th century the Lord of Afan styled himself John d’Avene.

In 1147 the lands at Margam were granted by Robert of Gloucester Lord of Glamorgan, to St Bernards abbey of Clairvaux, for foundation of a new Cistercian house of Margam. The nave of the 12th century church survives, in use as the parish church. At the start of the 13th century the Abbey was re-constructed by Abbot Gilbert (1203-13) and the chapter house (standing but lacking its vault, which fell in 1799) and the eastern part of the church, presbytery, choir and transepts date from this time (Cowley 1986; Williams 2001; Roberts, 2003 and Lewis 2004).

Margam Abbey had a particularly distinctive impact on the surrounding landscape, when the area to the south (Margam Moors) was granted to the monastery. Excavations at the grange of Eglwys Nunnydd suggest that there was substantial investment in drainage and other water management systems possibly even water meadows. The low lying “Margam Moors” would have been highly productive if sufficient investment was put into drainage and the location of the grange at Eglwys Nunnydd and of Theoderics

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Grange (whose remains were uncovered during the construction of Port Talbot Steel Works) suggests that the abbey did indeed make this investment. At the dissolution, Margam had become a major prize and was rapidly appropriated by the crown (Williams 1974; Williams 2001 and Roberts 2003).

Following the dissolution in 1536, Sir Rice Mansel of Oxwich and Old Beaupre acquired most of the ex-monastic estates. By 1590 Rice Merrick recorded the house as a 'faire and sumptuous house,' incorporating some of the monastic buildings, and stables added during the late 17th century recorded in a sketch of Thomas Dingley dated to 1684. There are also two topographic paintings of the period, which depict the house and grounds at Margam, as they then appeared (Moore and Moore 1974). The Mansel family attained a baronetcy and then a peerage in the early 18th century; but by the mid 18th century the title became extinct and the family lands passed into the Talbot family of Wiltshire.

Under Thomas Mansel Talbot the mansion at Margam was abandoned in favour of Penrice Castle on Gower. From 1793 to 1835 there was no principal house at Margam and when the family visited the orangery and gardens they lodged at Margam cottage on the outskirts of the park.

Margam Park was developed as a pleasure garden from the late 18th century, being finalised by 1814, the design was dominated by an imposing Orangery in the Palladian style, the largest in Britain, built 1787-90 to designs by Anthony Keck. The present internal layout of the park is largely the work of C R M Talbot, who transformed it from 1828 onwards, after returning the family seat to Margam. He was also responsible for the construction of the new Tudor-style house (1830-5 by Thomas Hopper; site architect Edward Haycock). The irregular plan and the pinnacled and castellated skyline of the house give it a Romantic appearance. It is built of local Pyle ashlar stone, arranged around three courtyards, one in the centre of the main block and two former service courts to the east. There are two main storeys, with a gabled third storey. The surfaces of the building are ornamented with carvings and sculpted heraldic panels. A dramatic two-storeyed octagonal tower with attached stair turret and surmounted by a viewing room is located at the centre of the building. The house is aligned east-west with its main entrance front on the north. Another interesting structure erected during the period is the 'temple of the four seasons', which incorporates the façade of the late 17th century Summer Banqueting House, re-erected in 1835.

The fortunes of the estate waned after 1890 when the male line died out with the death of C R M Talbot's son. The family estate then passed to his daughter Emily Charlotte Talbot, later upon her own death in 1918, transferring to her great nephew John Theodore Talbot Fletcher. In 1941 the contents of the house were sold and by 1942 the estate was sold to the Vale of Neath brewery owner Sir David Evans-Bevan. During the Second World War the house was put to military use. In 1977, following its acquisition by Glamorgan County Council, the house was extensively gutted by fire. Under its successor, West Glamorgan County Council, the house was consolidated and restored and the estate subsequently established as a Country Park. The park was eventually bought by Glamorgan County Council in 1973, and is now administered by Neath Talbot County Borough Council (Cadw 2000, 103-113).

Historically the park at Margam was divided into three main areas, the low-lying ground to the south, bounded on the west by the main grounds and gardens and on the north by

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the steep ridge of Craig-y-Lodge; secondly the wooded valley, lake and hillfort at the west end of the park; and the northern part of the park, situated on a high, rolling plateau above the ridge, and bounded by the valley of Cwm Philip to its north-west. Each part differs slightly in character and use. Hall's estate map of 1814 shows these three varying areas and lists them as Little Park (the extent of the original pre 18th century grounds associated with Margam House), and the wider Great Park and Upper Park, respectively, with Furzemill Pond being situated within the Great Park.

4. Significance and Capacity for Change

4.1 Summary of Significance and Capacity for Change

4.1.1 Furzemill Pond

It has become necessary to carry out remedial work on two spillways associated with Furzemill Pond. These features are relatively minor and alterations to them will not affect the heritage value of the pond as an integral component of the Registered Park and garden.

Cadw, following Historic England, published Conservation Principles (Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales, March 2011) setting out how historic assets should be managed to sustain their values.

The preceding part of this report has described the heritage asset and explained its significance. The next stage is to test this understanding against the conservation principles adopted by Cadw on behalf of Welsh Government.

These principles start from the point of view that changes within the historic environment are inevitable and that conservation is often more about the careful management of that change rather than the prevention of it. The guidance set out by Cadw requires that:

“New work must respect the setting and significance of the historic assets affected. The quality of design and execution must add value to that site and its setting, both now and in the future.”

It sets out criteria for how significance can be evaluated, considering Evidential, Historical, Aesthetic and Communal values and says that:

“The significance of an historic asset embraces all of the cultural heritage values that people associate with it”.

4.1.2 Evidential Value

This derives from those elements of an historic asset that can provide evidence about past human activity.

Furzemill Pond exhibits a limited evidential value. The pond was certainly present before 1814 when it was recorded on the estate map by Hill but there is little tangible evidence of its use other than as a garden feature of the later Margam Park. The name of the feature, Furzemill Pond may relate either to the presence of coniferous trees but there is no evidence to suggest that a mill of any kind had once been located in the area. The main benefit of the proposed works will be to ensure the medium to long term survival of the pond as part of the wider landscape, and to ensure that it can continue to be used for the benefit of future generations.

4.1.3 Historical Value

This derives from how the historic asset might illustrate a particular aspect of past life or be associated with a notable family, person, event or movement. This can be less tangible than the evidential value but are nonetheless important.

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Furzemill Pond has very little known direct connection with individuals or events involving the park. Whilst William Fox Talbot took a number of early photographs in the grounds of Margam Park, none appear to show Furzemill Pond and the available documentary evidence for Furzemill Pond is extremely limited. The historical value of the pond rests with its origins as a feature predating the park but nevertheless, this value is again not as great as that of the New Pond for example. There is no evidence linking Furzemill Pond with the Monastic landscape surrounding the Abbey. A single reference in a survey of trees growing on the Margam estate in 1738 (West Glamorgan Archives D/D Z 25/90) mentions an area known as “the fishpond walk” as having 7 fir trees growing. It is unclear, however, whether this refers to Furzemill pond. The 1814 estate map (D/D Ma/E 1/1-2) shown no trees around the pond, whilst two square ponds located much closer to the core of Margam Abbey are depicted as having a stand of trees to the south west. The 1814 map also shows what is described as an “old fence” forming a boundary running essentially north/south through Furzemill Pond and which is quite likely to demarcate a much older boundary for an area of woodland for which, by 1814, only isolated groups of trees survived (Plate 16)

4.1.4 Aesthetic Value

This derives from the way in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from an historic asset.

Furzemill Pond is essentially hidden from view behind a screen of tall trees on all sides except the east; even here the tree coverage prevents the feature from being observed particularly clearly. That this was not always so is evident from the cartographic evidence which shows the screen of trees as being absent in 1814 and present only to the west of the pond in 1876. It is clear therefore that in its current form, Furzemill Pond has deviated from whatever the original intent had been *viz a viz* its location within the landscape and that the aesthetic value is currently derived from a modern sense of peace and tranquillity engendered by its use as a woodland walk and for fishing. The actual historical aesthetic value is therefore low.

4.1.5 Communal Value

This derives from the meanings that an historic asset has for people who relate to it or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory.

This value is difficult to assess but the fact that Furzemill Pond remains a popular destination for fishing and that the footpath traversing the west bank is apparently well used suggests that the communal value of the current pond is high.

4.2 Significance of all selected historic assets

Given the high level of group value, which is enhanced by inclusion within the Registered Park and Garden, the value of the resource, is necessarily assessed as of National significance and therefore Furzemill Pond is necessarily a National Asset. However, it is clear from the presence of the concrete dam forming the western bank of the pond, and the presence of modern concrete pipes adjacent to both structures 1 and 2 that the pond has been re-modelled from its original form. This does not detract from the heritage value of the pond and its place within the wider landscape overall but does

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reduce its inherent heritage value as a discrete feature and should be a material factor in determining the effect of any development of Structures 1 and 2.

5. Relevant Planning Policy and Guidance

5.1 Key Legislation

5.1.1 The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016

The statutory protection, under the terms of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, as amended by the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016, means that any works that may affect the character of a listed building, or any of its ancillary buildings, as one of special architectural or historic interest need listed building consent. There is a presumption in the Act that Welsh Ministers will have “special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.”

The spillways for Furzemill Pond are not listed but the legislative reference above has been included to indicate the direction of travel with regard to historically significant structures and their management.

5.2 National Planning Guidance

5.2.1 Planning Policy Wales Edition 10

Planning Policy Wales (PPW), as revised in December 2018, sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government. It is supplemented by a series of Technical Advice Notes (TANs), Welsh Government Circulars, and policy clarification letters, which together with PPW provide the national planning policy framework for Wales. PPW, the TANs, MTANs and policy clarification letters comprise national planning policy.

The primary objective of PPW is to ensure that the planning system contributes towards the delivery of sustainable development and improves the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, as required by the Planning (Wales) Act 2015, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and other key legislation. A well-functioning planning system is fundamental for sustainable development and achieving sustainable places.

Chapter 6 of PPW, ‘Distinctive and Natural Places’, outlines policies for the Historic Environment. Paragraph 6.1.10 of PPW states that for any development proposal affecting a listed building or its setting, the primary material consideration is the statutory requirement to have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building, its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.

5.2.2 TAN 24: The Historic Environment

Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24 seeks the protection of the historic environment in Wales. With reference to listed buildings it states that when considering any applications for listed building consent, the local planning authority or the Welsh Ministers must have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.

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5.2.3 Wales Spatial Plan

The Wales Spatial Plan sets out the planning agenda for Wales at the spatial level. It states that conserving and celebrating the unique cultural heritage of each area is important.

5.3 Local Planning Policies (UDP and LDP)

5.3.1 NPT CBC Local Development Plan

The development plan for the area is the Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Local Development Plan (LDP) adopted on 27th January 2016.

Whilst there is no statutory requirement to have regard to the provisions of the development plan, when considering sites under the Heritage Impact Assessment process a review has nonetheless been undertaken of LDP policies of relevance in light of the pond's significant historic setting.

Strategic Policy SP21 deals with conservation of the built and historic environment and states that development should conserve, preserve or enhance the built and historic environment of the County Borough and its setting.

Policy BE1 Design further states that developments will be expected to take into account the natural, historic and built environmental context to preserve, conserve or enhance the local distinctiveness of the County Borough and its setting.

5.4 Cadw Guidance

5.4.1 Heritage Impact Assessment and the Setting of Historic Assets

In May 2017 Cadw published two relevant guidance documents, one on Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales and the other on Setting of Historic Assets. They explain how vital it is to understand the implications of any proposed change before development is consented. It describes heritage impact assessment as a “structured process” to be summarised in the Heritage Impact Report.

This report accordingly sets out the required understanding of the historic character and significance of the listed assets, reviews the current proposals for change and assesses the potential heritage impact, whilst providing mitigation advice to minimise any such impact.

6. The Need for the Proposed Works

6.1 Background on the Need for the Proposed Works

The introduction of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and changes to the Reservoirs Act 1975 resulted in the potential re-classification of Furzemill Pond as a body of water qualifying as a reservoir and thereby coming under statutory regulation. Advice subsequently provided to Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council by HR Wallingford indicated that should Furzemill Pond be re-designated as a statutory reservoir, remedial works would be necessary in order to ensure safety compliance with the legal requirements (NPTCBC 2015). Whilst in actuality, Furzemill Pond is unlikely to be designated as a statutory reservoir, the process of assessment engendered by the legislative changes identified a requirement for remedial works to be progressed and a scheme for re-development of Structures 1 and 2 was devised (Figure 3).

The proposed works consist of:

- **Structure 1**
 - Removal of the existing masonry overflow spillway,
 - New Reinforced Concrete spillway to be constructed, replacing the existing spillway – RC to be clad with masonry facing on exposed faces (existing spillway masonry stone to be reused where possible)
- **Structure 2**
 - 12” overflow pipe to be removed and replaced with new RC box culvert and RC headwalls – RC to be clad with masonry facing on exposed faces
- Ground to be reinstated to existing levels around both structures.

The development objective is therefore to ensure the replacement structures are required to ensure the integrity of the reservoir embankment and thus safety of the structure is maintained.

Plan kindly supplied by HR Wallingford Howbery Park Wallingford Oxfordshire OX10 8BA on behalf of Neath Port Talbot Council

OS GRID

0 25.00 50.00m

Plan of Furzemill Pond and surrounding area, showing proposed structures and culvert works. The map includes a grid system (A-F, 1-6) and a scale bar (0 to 50.00m). Key features include:

- Structure 1:** A red dashed circle indicating the location of the spillway works, with a callout pointing to the "TOP OF SPILLWAY 51.25 mAOD".
- Structure 2:** A red dashed circle indicating the location of the culvert works, with a callout pointing to the "UPSTREAM INVERT LEVEL OF EXISTING PIPE 51.71 mAOD".
- Culvert Works:** A red dashed circle indicating the location of the culvert works, with a callout pointing to "CULVERT WORKS SEE DRAWINGS MCR6075/300/D001 TO MCR6075/300/D002".
- Topography:** Contour lines and spot heights are shown throughout the area.
- Vegetation:** Areas of "Overgrown Scrub" and "Trees, Overgrown Scrub and Undergrowth" are marked.
- Water Features:** Furzemill Pond is shown with a water level of 51.25 mAOD.

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7. Investigative Works Undertaken

The following investigative works/survey information is available for previous development projects within the study area.

E005624 A desk based assessment was undertaken in 2007 in advance of construction of the Margam Discovery Centre (Roberts 2007). The assessment considered an 1km square area and found twenty six relevant sites. Fourteen of these were previously unrecorded and lay within the area proposed for development. A walkover survey was also conducted to identify the current condition of these sites. They were found to be related to parkland development from the 18th-20th Centuries who would be majorly affected by the works. Mitigation was proposed for eight features, including surveying, preservation and retention within the development, and one case of Listed Building Consent for an outer park boundary wall. Watching briefs to take place during any ground disturbing works was also recommended. The majority of Heritage Assets identified for the current report were first identified through Robert's work.

E005731 comprised the walkover survey element for the above mentioned report (Roberts 2007). The survey identified 13 previously unrecorded sites, all of which were post medieval or later in date, and many of which were related to the development of the Margam Estate.

E000114 was an archaeological watching brief undertaken in the area of Lowest Clump by Northamptonshire Archaeology on the basis of recommendations made by Roberts (2007) for mitigation during construction of the Discovery Centre. The only significant remains discovered were those of a trackway depicted on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map 1876 (HER).

8. Options Considered

There are no alternative options under consideration for the proposed development.

9. Heritage Impact

9.1 Assessment of heritage impact during construction works

The possible heritage impact of the proposed development works at Furzemill Pond include:

Structure 1

- Removal of historic masonry overflow spillway,
- Ground disturbance of the bank of the historic pond
- Dissonant appearance of replacement structures
- Disturbance of ground caused by construction of site cabins, drainage or similar

Structure 2

- Removal of historic masonry mouth of water inlet pipe
- Ground disturbance in the vicinity of the structure
- Disturbance of ground caused by construction of site cabins, drainage or similar

Whilst acknowledging that the work requires replacement of the spillways, the construction methods employed should seek to minimise potential damage to the wider historic structure of the pond. The proposed works are assumed to take the form of minimal necessary intervention on the historic asset, and should pose minimal or negligible heritage impacts during construction.

It is crucial that the method statement for the works ensures that the works do not put heritage assets at risk and that the method statement is rigorously adhered to with methods employed regularly monitored during the course of the works to ensure continued efficacy. The method statement for the works should include details of how the works would be carried out in a manner that safeguards all assets affected and in the vicinity of the works from unnecessary or accidental damage during construction; this should include details of suitable access routes designed to be used by construction traffic. Care should be taken to avoid damage from construction vehicles and plant, including hoists/cranes, where these are employed.

9.2 Assessment of long-term heritage impact of the proposed works

The long-term heritage impacts have been divided into direct and indirect visual impacts to take into account not only the direct impacts to Furzemill Pond but also impacts on the other inter-visible listed assets that have a strong group value in conjunction with those assets directly impacted.

9.2.1 Direct impacts

It is considered that the repair work carried out to the spillways are intended to be carried out in a sensitive manner, but that using like-for-like replacement materials is not practicable in this case. Given the need for on-going maintenance to ensure structural integrity and continued survival of the Furzemill Pond feature, the proposed repair works arguably would likely have a moderate to highly beneficial impact on these assets over the long-term. This is especially true as it can be demonstrated that both Structure 1 and Structure 2 have been modified previously and that it is the pond itself which retains the higher heritage value.

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9.2.2 Indirect impacts and key views

Indirect impacts include any alterations caused by the proposed works on the setting of heritage assets and take into account key views between the pond and the surrounding landscape. The key view to and from the pond is from the east. However, Structure 1 is not really visible and Structure 2 is hidden from view, both by its construction and by intervening vegetation. Neither structures are visible from any other directions.

There is likely to be a minor negative indirect visual impact during the course of the remedial works. On completion of the project, the proposed repair works are likely to have negligible to no negative indirect heritage impacts or impacts on key views, given the nature and scale of the proposed intervention.

10. Potential Mitigation

Assessment of potential mitigation is an essential part of a Heritage Impact Assessment and the following recommendations are made:

To preserve historic integrity, historic form and character appropriate conservation construction methodologies should, where practicable, be designed, establishing suitable practical construction techniques and set out for undertaking the repair and modification works proposed for the structures. These construction methodologies should be adhered to during the works.

Given the previous ground disturbance in the area there is limited potential for uncovering buried archaeological remains associated with former land use within the Park in the areas of Structures 1 and 2. The limited archaeological potential presented could be sufficiently mitigated through archaeological monitoring of any ground disturbing activity associated with the proposed works through the use of an archaeological watching brief. An archaeological written scheme of investigation should be produced for the proposed works to set out necessary programme of archaeological work for the recording/investigation of the heritage assets affected during the proposed works; this should include as a minimum the provision of a watching brief on any works which disturb their fabric, as well as building recording of the spillways and any associated structures that will be removed.

Any mitigation work should be carried out to the professional standards laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, including their *Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (2014), *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (2014), among others. Building recording should be carried out to the guidance established in Historic England's *Understanding Historic Buildings, A guide to good recording practice* (2016).

11. Summary and Conclusion

Proposals for remedial work on spillways associated with a pond forming part of a Grade 1 Registered Park and Garden are being prepared by the client. It is considered that the nature and scale of the proposed works would ensure that the special architectural and historic interest of the pond and their historic setting would be preserved, in accordance with the relevant legislation and guidance. The proposed works are in accordance with relevant Historic Environment Acts and TAN 24, which state that there should be a general presumption in favour of the preservation of heritage assets, whether designated or not.

On behalf of H.R.Wallingford Ltd. the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust, Projects Division (GGAT Projects) has produced a heritage impact assessment and statement to accompany an application for proposed repair and modification works at Furzemill Pond, part of a Grade I Registered Park and Garden (PGW (Gm) 52 (NEP)). The heritage impact assessment is to be submitted to Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, as Local Planning Authority.

The report sets out the historic background, context, development and descriptions of the heritage assets affected by the proposed works. There are no Listed or Scheduled assets directly or indirectly affected by the works although the pond is an integral part of the Registered Park.

The significance and capacity for change of the assets affected has been examined. It has been concluded that the effect of the development upon the integrity of both the pond and wider park will be minimal and that construction activity will be transitory in nature. The works will ensure the long term integrity and safe operation of the water management features of the pond in the long term.

Given the need for maintenance to ensure the continued structural integrity and survival of the pond as a heritage asset, it is considered that the proposed repair and modification works, with suitable construction methodologies in place, would likely have a negligible to low direct heritage impact. Overall, however, these heritage impacts could be considered as moderate to potentially highly beneficial, as the works would help ensure the long term survival of the asset. Any indirect visual impacts of the proposed works, in relation to key views are considered to minimal and transitory in nature.

Mitigation has been recommended in the form of the provision of a WSI to set out necessary recording of the assets affected; and provide for a watching brief on any works which disturb their fabric and on ground disturbance work.

12. References

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Internet Resources

British Geological Survey mapping [Online] accessed October 2019. Available at <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>

West Glamorgan Archives documents examined but not necessarily used

D/D DRPT 8/44 Collection of old photographs including Margam Park

D/D Z 25/60 Papers relating to the re-building and restoration of Margam Estate 1845

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D/D Z 25/90 Survey of all the timber grown on Margam Estate dated 1738

D/D Ma/E 1/1-2 Estate map of Margam dated 1814

Documentary & Cartographic Sources

Ordnance Survey Plans:

Ordnance Survey 1:2500, 1876, First Edition

Ordnance Survey 1:2500, 1899, Second Edition

Ordnance Survey 1:2500, 1918, Third Edition

Ordnance Survey 1:2500, 1940, Fourth Edition

13. Access Statement

Where works to a non-residential building are proposed, (normally in the case of a Listed Building or similar) the guidance requires a consideration of Access to form part of the Heritage Impact Statement. As the Pond is within a Registered park that is open to the public, some consideration to access has been given, as outlined below.

It is expected that restrictions on public access will be appropriate to the works and in line with safety requirements. It is possible that the works may require sections of the pathway adjacent to the pond to be temporarily closed.

After the works have been completed no further access associated with the works would be required and the works would have no impact on the current arrangements for mobility impaired access to and on the pathway around the pond.

The Park can be very busy in the summer months so it is expected that works would be programmed accordingly to minimise public integration. Measures should also be taken to minimise access to the works by animals resident in the park, such as deer who were noted as being able to wander freely in the vicinity of Structures 1 and 2.

Appendix 1: Inventory of Plates



Plate 1. View of the newly constructed footbridge over spillway Structure 1. View to south east, scale divisions 0.5m

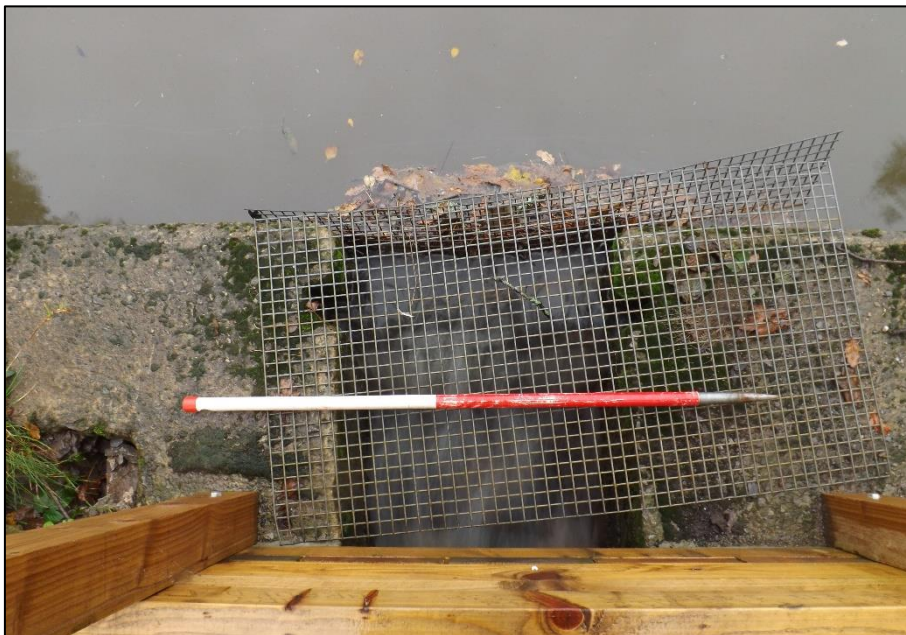


Plate 2. View of the opening in the dam allowing water into the spillway of Structure 1. Scale division 0.5m

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Plate 3. South wall of the spillway channel of Structure 1. This is the original appearance of the masonry in the feature. View to south east, scale division 0.5m.



Plate 4. North wall of the spillway channel of Structure 1. This appears to be a later re-build, possibly following insertion of a drainage pipe immediately north. View to north west, scale division 0.5m.

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Plate 5. View towards the stepped element of the spillway. A relatively modern drainage pipe is located to the left of the white length of the scale. View to north east, scale is 2m long.



Plate 6. General view of clogged Structure 2. View to west. Scale just visible within the red and white taped area is 1m.

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Plate 7. Section of masonry removed from the mouth of the water inlet of Structure 2. Scale divisions 0.5m.

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Plate 8. Area of subsidence immediately south of the water inlet of Structure 2. View to north, scale divisions 0.5m.



Plate 9. Course of the Coal Brook marked by the presence of reeds to the left of the scale. View to north, scale is 2m high.

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**Plate 10. Distant view of Furzemill Pond from the garden of Margam Castle (i.e. from the north.)
The visible water is New Pond, with Furzemill being completely obscured by the screen of trees
on the far horizon. Sale divisions 1m.**



**Plate 11. Closer view of Furzemill Pond from the north. The pond is completely obscured by the
screen of trees. View to south.**

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Plate 12. View towards Furzemill Pond from the south west. This image clearly shows both the screen of trees and ridge of pasture that obscures the feature from the west.



Plate 13. View up the small river valley to the west of Furzemill Pond towards Structure 1. Structure 1 is essentially invisible from this direction. View to north east.

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Plate 14. View to the west from Structure 1, looking down the small river valley towards the direction of the Margam Discovery Centre.



Plate 15. View towards Furzemill Pond from high ground to the east. This was the only location from whether the actual pond was visible although all detail was obscured by distance and tree cover. Neither Structures 1 or 2 were visible. View to west.

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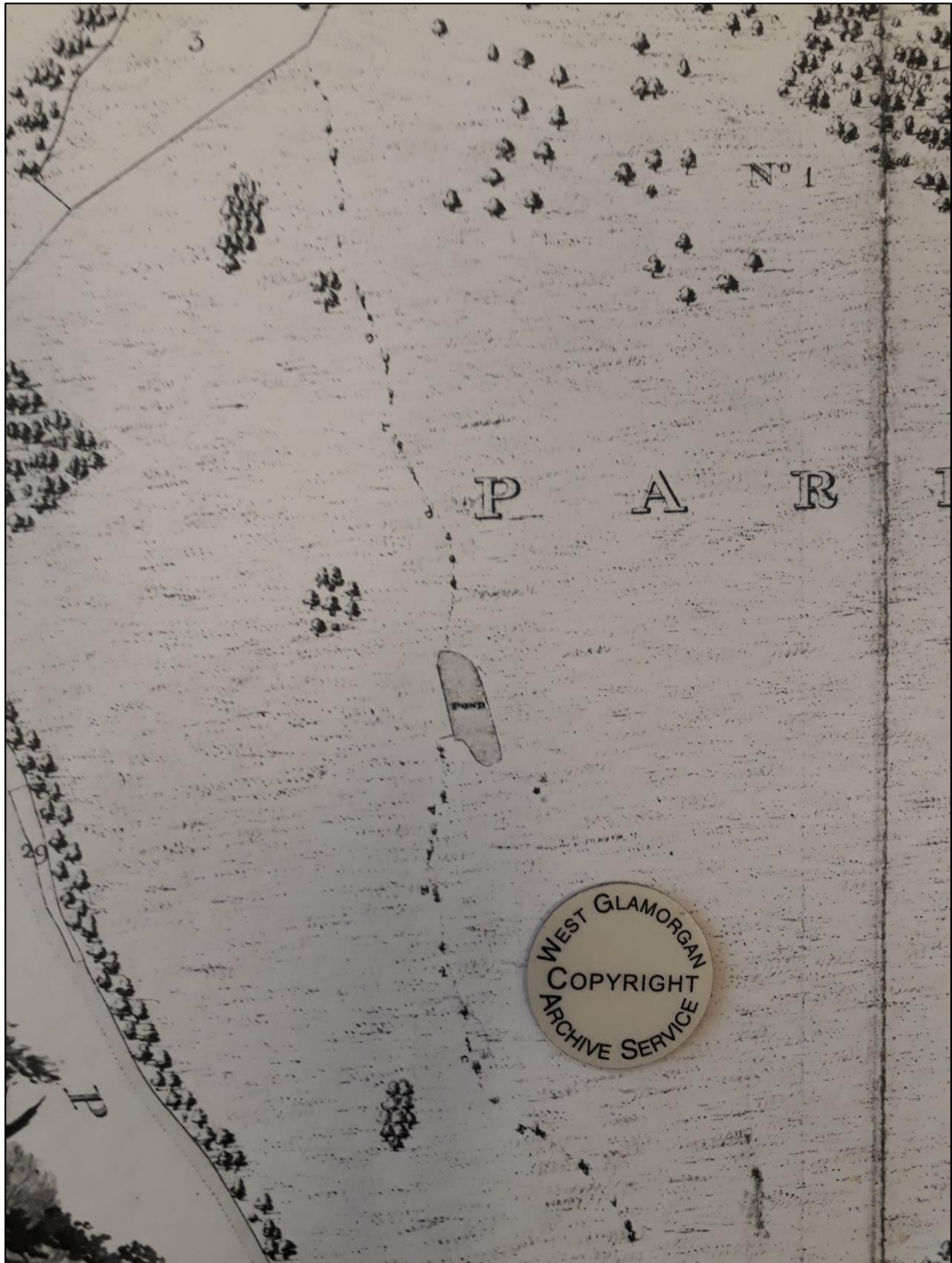


Plate 16. Furzemill Pond depicted on the 1814 estate map of Margam (D/D Ma/E/1/1-2). The boundary line shown running north/south through the pond is described as an “Old Fence”. No trace of this boundary survives in the modern landscape but it probably marked the eastern edge of a once much more extensive area of woodland prior to 1814.

Appendix 2 Gazetteer of Heritage interests within Study Area

GLAMORGAN GWENT ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD ENQUIRY REPORT - CORE RECORDS

Enquiry reference number: 6123

Prepared by: Sarahjayne Clements, Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust
Produced for: Johnny Crawford, Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT)

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Search criteria

An enquiry for an Environmental Impact Assessment at Furzemill Pond, Margam Park – a 500m radius of NGR SS 81031 85676

PRN NAME NGR - COMMUNITY -
TYPE , , RANK: -
SUMMARY

DESCRIPTION

CONDITION
CONDITION: DESCRIPTION: - RELATED EVENT: - RECORDED:

STATUS *None recorded*
CROSS REFERENCES - -

SOURCES

PRN 00948.0w NAME DEER PARK NGR SS815867 COMMUNITY Margam
TYPE Medieval, Deer park, RANK: 1
SUMMARY FORMER G22: Medieval Deer Park.

DESCRIPTION Medieval Deer Park.

CONDITION
CONDITION: Not known DESCRIPTION: - RELATED EVENT: - RECORDED: 1997

STATUS *None recorded*
CROSS REFERENCES - -

SOURCES

PRN 01097.0w **NAME** PORT TALBOT **NGR** SS80408580, SS80798571 **COMMUNITY** Margam
TYPE Unknown, Trackway, RANK: 1

SUMMARY Not entirely sure what this refers to probably some trackway running through a field identified through field work. The section is digitised in the MapInfo layer but there is no corresponding feature on any of the historical maps or modern mapping.

DESCRIPTION Not entirely sure what this refers to probably some trackway running through a field identified through field work. The section is digitised in the MapInfo layer but there is no corresponding feature on any of the historical maps or modern mapping.

CONDITION

CONDITION: Not known **DESCRIPTION:** - **RELATED EVENT:** - **RECORDED:** 1991

STATUS None recorded

CROSS REFERENCES - - GGATE005624

SOURCES

01/M Oral/Owen-John HS/28.4.80

02/MM Photo/GGAT/8.75

PRN 04585w **NAME** Brickyard, Margam **NGR** SS80668596 **COMMUNITY** Margam
TYPE Post-Medieval, Brickyard, RANK: 1

SUMMARY Brickyard copse, possible brickyard? source of brickearth? - this coheres with the fact that the whole area seems to be covered in pleistocene deposits.

DESCRIPTION brickyard copse, possible brickyard? source of brickearth? - this coheres with the fact that the whole area seems to be covered in pleistocene deposits.

CONDITION

CONDITION: Damaged **DESCRIPTION:** - **RELATED EVENT:** - **RECORDED:**

STATUS None recorded

CROSS REFERENCES - -

SOURCES

PRN 04586w **NAME** NEW POND **NGR** SS80768601 **COMMUNITY** Margam
TYPE Post-Medieval, Pond, RANK: 1

SUMMARY new pond, created post 1814 (estate map) associated with new abbey building?

DESCRIPTION new pond, created post 1814 (estate map) associated with new abbey building?

CONDITION

CONDITION: Intact **DESCRIPTION:** - **RELATED EVENT:** - **RECORDED:**

STATUS None recorded

CROSS REFERENCES - -

SOURCES

PRN 04589w **NAME** FURZEMILL POND **NGR** SS81028567 **COMMUNITY** Margam
TYPE Post-Medieval, Pond, RANK: 1

SUMMARY pond shown on 1814 estate map

DESCRIPTION pond shown on 1814 estate map

CONDITION

CONDITION: Intact DESCRIPTION: - RELATED EVENT: - RECORDED:

STATUS *None recorded*

CROSS REFERENCES - - GGATE005624

SOURCES

PRN 04590w **NAME** Rifle Range **NGR** SS81138552 **COMMUNITY** Margam

TYPE *Post-Medieval, Firing range, RANK: 1*

SUMMARY *rifle range shown on 1 ed OS map*

DESCRIPTION *rifle range shown on 1 ed OS map*

CONDITION

CONDITION: Not known DESCRIPTION: - RELATED EVENT: - RECORDED:

STATUS *None recorded*

CROSS REFERENCES - - GGATE005624

SOURCES

PRN 04591w **NAME** TWYN-YR-HYDD **NGR** SS81148530 **COMMUNITY** Margam

TYPE *Post-Medieval, Building, RANK: 1*

SUMMARY *buildings shown on 1814 estate map and 1ed OS map*

DESCRIPTION *buildings shown on 1814 estate map and 1ed OS map*

CONDITION

CONDITION: Intact DESCRIPTION: - RELATED EVENT: - RECORDED:

STATUS *listed building 23277 II*

CROSS REFERENCES - - GGATE005624

SOURCES

Online Resource The Handley Partnership HAAbase built heritage assessment system: Buildings at Risk database

PRN 04600w **NAME** MARGAM CIRCLE **NGR** SS81438597 **COMMUNITY** Margam

TYPE *Post-Medieval, Walled garden, RANK: 1*

SUMMARY *A circular ring ditch is located within Margam Park on a broad terrace on otherwise gently sloping SW-facing ground, a short distance from a steep scarp which rises to a deer park on the NE.*

DESCRIPTION *A circular ring ditch is located within Margam Park on a broad terrace on otherwise gently sloping SW-facing ground, a short distance from a steep scarp which rises to a deer park on the NE.*

CONDITION

CONDITION: Intact DESCRIPTION: - RELATED EVENT: - RECORDED:

STATUS *None recorded*

CROSS REFERENCES *Same as 54482*

SOURCES

PRN 06058w **NAME** Trackway, Margam Park **NGR** SS8070585971, SS8094885162 **COMMUNITY** Margam

TYPE *Post-Medieval, trackway, RANK: -*

SUMMARY *Trackway composed of a dump of stones and pebbles forming a cambered surface up to 3.8m wide and*

0.25m high. The trackway is depicted on the 1st Edition OS map (1876) and was in use until 1970s, thereafter, covered by turf soil.

DESCRIPTION Trackway composed of a dump of stones and pebbles forming a cambered surface up to 3.8m wide and 0.25m high. The trackway is depicted on the 1st Edition OS map (1876) and was in use until 1970s, thereafter, covered by turf soil. A pair of wheel ruts was discernable in the metalling.

CONDITION

CONDITION: Near Intact **DESCRIPTION:** - **RELATED EVENT:** E000114 **RECORDED:** 2008

STATUS None recorded

CROSS REFERENCES - - GGATE000114

SOURCES

Report Meadows, I. 2008 Archaeological Observations at Lowest Clump, Margam Park, Margam 2555 208/12

PRN 08388w **NAME** Lower Enclosure, Lowest Clump, Margam Park **NGR** SS8081885450 **COMMUNITY** Margam

TYPE POST MEDIEVAL, ENCLOSURE, RANK: -

SUMMARY Post-medieval enclosure Margam Park. Sub-rectangular enclosure first shown on 1st edition OSmap enclosing 1468 acres of mixed woodland including oak, beech and scots pine.

DESCRIPTION Post-medieval enclosure Margam Park Sub-rectangular enclosure first shown on 1st edition OSmap enclosing 1468 acres of mixed woodland including oak, beech and scots pine. On the surviving evidence of an iron corner post, the enclosure was originally fenced by post and wire fencing. By 2nd edition OS map only deciduous woodland is indicated and the area named Lowest Clump. A second enclosure (08394w) is attached to the north of the enclosure. The area is shown unfenced by the 3rd edition OS with the north fence of the enclosure left in situ and forming part of adjacent enclosure (08394w). The area contains mixed woodland. By 1940 4th edition OS the northern fence has been removed. The area has been altered during the later part of the 20th century with the creation of the lake/pond (08396w). (Roberts 2007)

CONDITION

CONDITION: NEAR DESTROYED **DESCRIPTION:** Post-medieval enclosure Margam Park Sub-rectangular enclosure first shown on 1st edition OS map enclosing 1468 acres of mixed woodland including oak, beech and scots pine. On the surviving evidence of an iron corner post, the enclosure was originally fenced by post and wire fencing. By 2nd edition OS map only deciduous woodland is indicated and the area named Lowest Clump. A second enclosure (08394w) is attached to the north of the enclosure. The area is shown unfenced by the 3rd edition OS with the north fence of the enclosure left in situ and forming part of adjacent enclosure (08394w). The area contains mixed woodland. By 1940 4th edition OS the northern fence has been removed. The area has been altered during the later part of the 20th century with the creation of the lake/pond (08396w). (Roberts 2007) **RELATED EVENT:** E005624 **RECORDED:** 2007

STATUS None recorded

CROSS REFERENCES Associated with E005731 GGATE005624, GGATE005731

SOURCES

Report Roberts, R 2007 Margam Park Discovery Centre, Margam, Neath-Port Talbot: archaeological assessment 2329 208/02

PRN 08389w **NAME** Trackway, Nursery, Margam Park **NGR** SS8074985418 **COMMUNITY** Margam

TYPE POST MEDIEVAL, TRACKWAY, RANK: -

SUMMARY Trackway Margam Park. Trackway leading from the Orangery to west entrance in the Estate Wall SS80947 85159.

DESCRIPTION Trackway Margam Park Trackway leading from the Orangery to west entrance in the Estate Wall SS80947 85159. Trackway is depicted on 1st edition OS map of 1876. Not recorded on later editions including 1899. The feature as shown on 1st edition is aligned north west-south east effectively bisecting the area later known as the Nursery: was not noted during the field visit. Presumed buried or partly destroyed by works for the pipeline (Roberts 2007).

CONDITION

CONDITION: NOT KNOWN **DESCRIPTION:** Trackway Margam Park Trackway leading from the Orangery to west entrance in the Estate Wall SS80947 85159.. Trackway is depicted on 1st edition OS map of 1876. Not recorded on

later editions including 1899. The feature as shown on 1st edition is aligned north west-south east effectively bisecting the area later known as the Nursery: was not noted during the field visit. Presumed buried or partly destroyed by works for the pipeline (Roberts 2007). RELATED EVENT: E005624 RECORDED: 2007

STATUS None recorded

CROSS REFERENCES Associated with E005731 GGATE005624

SOURCES

Report Roberts, R 2007 Margam Park Discovery Centre, Margam, Neath-Port Talbot: archaeological assessment 2329 208/02

PRN 08390w **NAME** Trackway, Lowest Clump, Margam Park **NGR** SS8086085480 **COMMUNITY** Margam
TYPE POST MEDIEVAL, TRACKWAY, RANK: -
SUMMARY Trackway Lowest Clump Margam Park. Trackway leading from Margam Castle to west entrance in the Estate Wall SS80947 85159.

DESCRIPTION Trackway Lowest Clump Margam Park Trackway leading from Margam Castle to west entrance in the Estate Wall SS80947 85159. Visible as grassed over scarp in gentle WSW facing slope, immediately east of Lowest Clump. Trackway is depicted as only partly constructed on 1st edition OS map of 1876, being driven north; ts uncompleted north limit being located at SS80703 85972, just east of the later Brickyard Plantation. The trackway is shown completed by OS 2nd edition map of 1899. The feature survives intact and unmodified. (Roberts 2007).

CONDITION

CONDITION: INTACT **DESCRIPTION:** Trackway Lowest Clump Margam Park Trackway leading from Margam Castle to west entrance in the Estate Wall SS80947 85159. Visible as grassed over scarp in gentle WSW facing slope, immediately east of Lowest Clump. Trackway is depicted as only partly constructed on 1st edition OS map of 1876, being driven north; ts uncompleted north limit being located at SS80703 85972, just east of the later Brickyard Plantation. The trackway is shown completed by OS 2nd edition map of 1899. The feature survives intact and unmodified. (Roberts 2007). RELATED EVENT: E005624 RECORDED: 2007

STATUS None recorded

CROSS REFERENCES Associated with E005731 GGATE005624

SOURCES

Report Roberts, R 2007 Margam Park Discovery Centre, Margam, Neath-Port Talbot: archaeological assessment 2329 208/02

PRN 08391w **NAME** Stream, west of Furzemill Pond, Margam Park **NGR** SS8079385564 **COMMUNITY** Margam
TYPE UNKNOWN, WATERCOURSE, RANK: -

SUMMARY Stream west of Furzemill Pond Margam Park. Natural watercourse aligned north north east - south south west.

DESCRIPTION Stream west of Furzemill Pond Margam Park Natural watercourse aligned north north east - south south west. Walercourse now provides the outflow from Furzemill Pond to the east. (Roberts 2007)

CONDITION

CONDITION: INTACT **DESCRIPTION:** Stream west of Furzemill Pond Margam Park Natural watercourse aligned north north east - south south west. Walercourse now provides the outflow from Furzemill Pond to the east. (Roberts 2007) RELATED EVENT: E005624 RECORDED: 2007

STATUS None recorded

CROSS REFERENCES Associated with E005731 GGATE005624

SOURCES

Report Roberts, R 2007 Margam Park Discovery Centre, Margam, Neath-Port Talbot: archaeological assessment 2329 208/02

PRN 08392w **NAME** Internal Park Boundary, Nursery, Margam Park **NGR** SS8078185449 **COMMUNITY** Margam

TYPE POST MEDIEVAL, PARK BOUNDARY, RANK: -

SUMMARY Internal Park Boundary Nursery Margam Park. Part of extensive linear boundary of post and wire fence

shown on the 1st edition OS map 1876 and subsequent mapping.

DESCRIPTION *Internal Park Boundary Nursery Margam Park Part of extensive linear boundary of post and wire fence shown on the 1st edition OS map 1876 and subsequent mapping. The boundary formerly extended on an almost direct alignment towards the east end of Margam Castle where it originally joined the service wing. The boundary therefore appears to relate to the 19th century reorganisation of the park associated with the construction of Margam Castle, dividing the former Great Park and defining the south vista from the newly constructed Castle. The boundary has been disturbed by pipeline works and renewed with a slight alternation of alignment Roberts 2007).*

CONDITION

CONDITION: *RESTORED DESCRIPTION: Internal Park Boundary Nursery Margam Park Part of extensive linear boundary of post and wire fence shown on the 1st edition OS map 1876 and subsequent mapping. The boundary formerly extended on an almost direct alignment towards the east end of Margam Castle where it originally joined the service wing. The boundary therefore appears to relate to the 19th century reorganisation of the park associated with the construction of Margam Castle, dividing the former Great Park and defining the south vista from the newly constructed Castle. The boundary has been disturbed by pipeline works and renewed with a slight alternation of alignment Roberts 2007).* **RELATED EVENT:** E005624 **RECORDED:** 2007

STATUS *None recorded*

CROSS REFERENCES *Associated with E005731 GGATE005624*

SOURCES

Report Roberts, R 2007 Margam Park Discovery Centre, Margam, Neath-Port Talbot: archaeological assessment 2329 208/02

PRN 08393w **NAME** *Inner Park Boundary, Great Park, Margam Park* **NGR** SS8072185379 **COMMUNITY** Margam

TYPE POST MEDIEVAL, BOUNDARY, RANK: -

SUMMARY *Inner Park Boundary Great Park Margam Park. A scarped boundary that defines the north east side of a winding linear area of mixed, predominantly deciduous, planting, oak, maple, beech, with Scots pine. The boundary is along the south west edge of the Great Park of Margam Park and the planting shelters the the park from the adjacent public highway.*

DESCRIPTION *Inner Park Boundary Great Park Margam Park A scarped boundary that defines the north east side of a winding linear area of mixed, predominantly deciduous, planting, oak, maple, beech, with Scots pine. The boundary is along the south west edge of the Great Park of Margam Park and the planting shelters the the park from the adjacent public highway. The wooded area does not appear on the late 17th century /early 18th century painting of Margam Park and first appears on Hall's estate map of 1841. The boundary is first shown on the 1st edition OS map of 1876, then on the 2nd edition OS map and subsequently defined by the edge of a path/track on the 3rd and 4th edition OS maps. It is likely that the boundary dates from the late 18th century remodeling of the park as a pleasure garden. The remodeling was completed in 1814, the work coinciding with the building of the Margam Orangery which was built between 1787 and 1790 (Roberts 2007)*

CONDITION

CONDITION: *NEAR INTACT DESCRIPTION: Inner Park Boundary Great Park Margam Park A scarped boundary that defines the north east side of a winding linear area of mixed, predominantly deciduous, planting, oak, maple, beech, with Scots pine. The boundary is along the south west edge of the Great Park of Margam Park and the planting shelters the the park from the adjacent public highway. The wooded area does not appear on the late 17th century /early 18th century painting of Margam Park and first appears on Hall's estate map of 1841. The boundary is first shown on the 1st edition OS map of 1876, then on the 2nd edition OS map and subsequently defined by the edge of a path/track on the 3rd and 4th edition OS maps. It is likely that the boundary dates from the late 18th century remodeling of the park as a pleasure garden. The remodeling was completed in 1814, the work coinciding with the building of the Margam Orangery which was built between 1787 and 1790 (Roberts 2007)* **RELATED EVENT:** E005624 **RECORDED:** 2007

STATUS *None recorded*

CROSS REFERENCES *Associated with E005731 GGATE005624*

SOURCES

Report Roberts, R 2007 Margam Park Discovery Centre, Margam, Neath-Port Talbot: archaeological assessment 2329 208/02

PRN 08394w **NAME** *Upper Enclosure, Lowest Clump, Margam*

Park NGR SS8081485521 **COMMUNITY** Margam

TYPE POST MEDIEVAL, ENCLOSURE, RANK: -

SUMMARY Upper Enclosure Lowest Clump Margam Park. Enclosure forming north part of Lowest Clump. The enclosure is now an open area of mature woodland.

DESCRIPTION Upper Enclosure Lowest Clump Margam Park Enclosure forming north part of Lowest Clump. The enclosure is now an open area of mature woodland. The enclosure is shown on 2nd edition OS map of 1899. The boundaries on the north east and south removed by the publication of the 4th edition OS map of 1940. 1st edition shows a smaller unenclosed D shape area of deciduous woodland adjacent to the north edge of 08388w within the area. This area was enclosed, probably by wire and metal post, for mixed plantation including pine and oak between 1876 and 1899. The wire and metal post fencing has been removed (Roberts 2007)

CONDITION

CONDITION: DESTROYED **DESCRIPTION:** Upper Enclosure Lowest Clump Margam Park Enclosure forming north part of Lowest Clump. The enclosure is now an open area of mature woodland. The enclosure is shown on 2nd edition OS map of 1899. The boundaries on the north east and south removed by the publication of the 4th edition OS map of 1940. 1st edition shows a smaller unenclosed D shape area of deciduous woodland adjacent to the north edge of 08388w within the area. This area was enclosed, probably by wire and metal post, for mixed plantation including pine and oak between 1876 and 1899. The wire and metal post fencing has been removed (Roberts 2007) **RELATED EVENT:** E005634 **RECORDED:** 2007

STATUS None recorded

CROSS REFERENCES Associated with E005731 GGATE005624

SOURCES

Report Roberts, R 2007 Margam Park Discovery Centre, Margam, Neath-Port Talbot: archaeological assessment 2329 208/02

PRN 08395w **NAME** Nursery Enclosure, Margam Park **NGR** SS8072985420 **COMMUNITY** Margam

TYPE POST MEDIEVAL, ENCLOSURE, RANK: -

SUMMARY Nursery Enclosure Margam Park. First identified on 3rd edition OS map of 1918.

DESCRIPTION Nursery Enclosure Margam Park The Nursery is first identified on 3rd edition OS map of 1918 when the formerly open area west of Lowest Clump is shown as divided into two tree avenues (08400w and 08401w). The layout of the area is unchanged in the 4th edition OS map of 1940.(Roberts 2007).

CONDITION

CONDITION: DAMAGED **DESCRIPTION:** Nursery Enclosure Margam Park The Nursery is first identified on 3rd edition OS map of 1918 when the formerly open area west of Lowest Clump is shown as divided into two tree avenues (08400w and 08401w). The layout of the area is unchanged in the 4th edition OS map of 1940.(Roberts 2007). **RELATED EVENT:** E005624 **RECORDED:**

STATUS None recorded

CROSS REFERENCES Associated with E005731 GGATE005624

SOURCES

Report Roberts, R 2007 Margam Park Discovery Centre, Margam, Neath-Port Talbot: archaeological assessment 2329 208/02

PRN 08396w **NAME** Pond, Lowest Clump, Margam Park **NGR** SS8072985420 **COMMUNITY** Margam

TYPE MODERN, POND, RANK: -

SUMMARY Pond Lowest Clump Margam Park. Found only on post 1940s mapping.

DESCRIPTION Pond Lowest Clump Margam Park Lake within Lowest Clump plantation. 105m length c11m wide, linear shape aligned North-west, widest part 25m wide at south end. Planting is naturalistic. Found only on post 1940s mapping (Roberts 2007)

CONDITION

CONDITION: INTACT **DESCRIPTION:** Pond Lowest Clump Margam Park Lake within Lowest Clump plantation. 105m length c11m wide, linear shape aligned North-west, widest part 25m wide at south end. Planting is naturalistic. Found only on post 1940s mapping (Roberts 2007) **RELATED EVENT:** E005624 **RECORDED:** 2007

STATUS None recorded

CROSS REFERENCES Associated with E005713 GGATE005624

SOURCES

Report Roberts, R 2007 Margam Park Discovery Centre, Margam, Neath-Port Talbot: archaeological assessment 2329 208/02

PRN 08397w **NAME** Outer Park Boundary, Margam Park **NGR** SS8068885377 **COMMUNITY** Margam
TYPE POST MEDIEVAL, BOUNDARY, RANK: -
SUMMARY Outer Park Boundary Margam Park. Wall forming western boundary of Margam Park and the Great Park, adjacent to Public Highway.

DESCRIPTION Outer Park Boundary Margam Park Wall forming western boundary of Margam Park and the Great Park, adjacent to Public Highway. Wall described by Cadw as a 'well built roughly coursed, dry-stone wall, standing up to 2.5m high with an uneven uncoped top'. (Cadw Register of Parks and Gardens 2001). Within the development area the feature is c 4.1m high of random drystone blocks and slabs, both angular and sub-angular, brought roughly to course c12 courses) with rough coping of on edge stone blocks and a slight batter to inner face. Uncertain if this wall is the same as the boundary depicted on the late 17th century/early 18th century painting of Margam Park. It is certainly on the same alignment as that depicted on Hall's Map of 1814 and all editions of OS mapping. Listed building consent should be sought from Cadw in respect of 08398w Outer Park Boundary which is protected under the listing for LB14168 Piers and gates at East Lodge and Flanking Walls. (Roberts 2007)

CONDITION

CONDITION: INTACT DESCRIPTION: Outer Park Boundary Margam Park Wall forming western boundary of Margam Park and the Great Park, adjacent to Public Highway. Wall described by Cadw as a 'well built roughly coursed, dry-stone wall, standing up to 2.5m high with an uneven uncoped top'. (Cadw Register of Parks and Gardens 2001). Within the development area the feature is c 4.1m high of random drystone blocks and slabs, both angular and sub-angular, brought roughly to course c12 courses) with rough coping of on edge stone blocks and a slight batter to inner face. Uncertain if this wall is the same as the boundary depicted on the late 17th century/early 18th century painting of Margam Park. It is certainly on the same alignment as that depicted on Hall's Map of 1814 and all editions of OS mapping (Roberts 2007) **RELATED EVENT: E005624 RECORDED: 2007**

STATUS Listed Building LB14168 2

CROSS REFERENCES Associated with E005731 GGATE005624

SOURCES

Report Roberts, R 2007 Margam Park Discovery Centre, Margam, Neath-Port Talbot: archaeological assessment 2329 208/02

Online Resource The Handley Partnership HAABase built heritage assessment system: Buildings at Risk database

PRN 08398w **NAME** Sunken Trackway, Nursery, Margam Park **NGR** SS8067585416 **COMMUNITY** Margam
TYPE POST MEDIEVAL, TRACKWAY, RANK: -
SUMMARY Sunken Trackway Nursery Margam Park. Sunken linear feature, depth c 0.50m and c 0.20m width. Considered to be a long disused hollow way.

DESCRIPTION Sunken Trackway Nursery Margam Park Sunken linear feature, depth c 0.50m and c 0.20m width. Considered to be a long disused hollow way. Aligned north west - south east, running north east and parallel to the outer Margam Park estate boundary wall (08397w). Within an area of mixed woodland including oak, field maple, beech and Scots pine. Feature appears to be part of an internal perimeter trackway, related to the adjacent park boundary. Based on its location and relationship to the perimeter or outer wall of the park, the feature could be associated with the re-organisation of Margam Park carried out during the late 18th/early 19th century and could date from the same period. Within the development area, the trackway appears intact (Roberts 2007).

CONDITION

CONDITION: INTACT DESCRIPTION: Sunken Trackway Nursery Margam Park Sunken linear feature, depth c 0.50m and c 0.20m width. Considered to be a long disused hollow way. Aligned north west - south east, running north east and parallel to the outer Margam Park estate boundary wall (08397w); within an area of mixed woodland including oak, field maple, beech and Scots pine. Feature appears to be part of an internal perimeter trackway, related to the adjacent park boundary. Based on its location and relationship to the perimeter or outer wall of the park, the feature could be associated with the re-organisation of Margam Park carried out during the late 18th/early 19th century and could date from the same period. Within the development area, the trackway appears intact (Roberts 2007). **RELATED EVENT: E005624 RECORDED: 2007**

STATUS None recorded

CROSS REFERENCES Associated with E005731 GGATE005624

SOURCES

Report Roberts, R 2007 Margam Park Discovery Centre, Margam, Neath-Port Talbot: archaeological assessment 2329 208/02

PRN 08399w **NAME** Trackway, Nursery, Margam Park **NGR** SS8069785410 **COMMUNITY** Margam
TYPE POST MEDIEVAL, TRACKWAY, RANK: -

SUMMARY Trackway Nursery Margam Park. Trackway system shown on 3rd and 4th edition OS maps, 1918 and 1940.

DESCRIPTION Trackway Nursery Margam Park Trackway system shown on 3rd and 4th edition OS maps, 1918 and 1940. The trackway crossed the development area in a northwest-south east alignment and provides access to the Nursery area from the south west edge of the area, apparently fenced along its northeast side, via tracks paralleling the tree venues (08400w and 08401w) and along the east extent of the area adjacent to the internal fenced boundary(08392w). The system has been partially destroyed by pipe line construction and was barely visible at the time of the field visit , surviving as an ephemeral grassed over linear feature (Roberts 2007)

CONDITION

CONDITION: DAMAGED DESCRIPTION: Trackway Nursery Margam Park Trackway system shown on 3rd and 4th edition OS maps, 1918 and 1940. The trackway crossed the development area in a northwest-south east alignment and provides access to the Nursery area from the south west edge of the area, apparently fenced along its northeast side, via tracks paralleling the tree venues (08400w and 08401w) and along the east extent of the area adjacent to the internal fenced boundary(08392w). The system has been partially destroyed by pipe line construction and was barely visible at the time of the field visit , surviving as an ephemeral grassed over linear feature (Roberts 2007) **RELATED EVENT:** E005624 **RECORDED:** 2007

STATUS None recorded

CROSS REFERENCES Associated with E005731 GGATE005624

SOURCES

Report Roberts, R 2007 Margam Park Discovery Centre, Margam, Neath-Port Talbot: archaeological assessment 2329 208/02

PRN 08401w **NAME** Tree Avenue (north), Nursery, Margam Park **NGR** SS8073985485 **COMMUNITY** Margam

TYPE MODERN, TREE AVENUE, RANK: -

SUMMARY Tree Avenue north Nursery Margam Park. Single straight line of trees aligned west south west - east north east.

DESCRIPTION Tree Avenue north Nursery Margam Park Single straight line of trees aligned west south west - east north east. Trees are mixed species including horse chestnut. The line of trees parallels spur of internal trackway (08399w) and almost similarly aligned treeline (08400w) which is approximately 78m to the south. The feature is shown on the 3rd and 4th edition OS maps, 1918 and 1940 and was originally c 75m in extent. The feature appears to have been truncated by the pipe works carries out in the 1990s and extends west beyond the development area into what is now the compound of the Water Pumping Station. Only 65.4m of the feature's original 114.5m extent now survive (Roberts 2007)

CONDITION

CONDITION: NEAR INTACT DESCRIPTION: Tree Avenue north Nursery Margam Park Single straight line of trees aligned west south west - east north east. Trees are mixed species including horse chestnut. The line of trees parallels spur of internal trackway (08399w) and almost similarly aligned treeline (08400w) which is approximately 78m to the south. The feature is shown on the 3rd and 4th edition OS maps, 1918 and 1940 and was originally c 75m in extent. The feature appears to have been truncated by the pipe works carries out in the 1990s and extends west beyond the development area into what is now the compound of the Water Pumping Station. Only 65.4m of the feature's original 114.5m extent now survive (Roberts 2007) **RELATED EVENT:** E005624 **RECORDED:** 2007

STATUS None recorded

CROSS REFERENCES Associated with E005731 GGATE005624

SOURCES

Report Roberts, R 2007 Margam Park Discovery Centre, Margam, Neath-Port Talbot: archaeological assessment 2329 208/02

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Archaeological data, from the Regional Historic Environment Record, supplied by The Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust in partnership with Local Authorities, Cadw and the partners of ENDEX GGAT, 2010.



**Glamorgan-Gwent
Archaeological Trust Ltd
(Projects Department)**



QUALITY CONTROL

Report Title: Furzemill Pond, Margam Park, Neath Port Talbot: Heritage Impact Assessment

Report Date: November 2019

Report Number: 2019/053

Report prepared by: Johnny Crawford

Position: Assistant Project Manager

Date: 05/11/2019

Illustrations prepared by: Paul Jones

Position: Senior Illustrator

Date: 05/11/2019

Report checked and authorised by: Martin Tuck

Position: Senior Project Manager

Date: 05/11/2019

As part of our desire to provide a quality service we would welcome any comments you may wish to make on the content or presentation of this report.



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