

MYNYDD FFORCH DWM WIND FARM NEATH PORT TALBOT

Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment
Prepared for: REG Power Management Limited

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NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

In July 2022, SLR Consulting was commissioned by REG Power Management Limited to undertake a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment in respect of land north-east of Tonmawr, Neath Port Talbot. This report comments on the evolution of the historic environment both within the proposed Site and its wider surroundings and identifies historic assets within the Site or any historic assets beyond the Site boundary that may potentially be affected by the development proposals. Both physical and non-physical effects, as a result to changes in setting of designated assets, are then assessed.

This assessment has concluded that the footprint of the proposed development has the potential of directly impacting Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace Scheduled Monument, along with non-designated medieval remains, and non-designated post-medieval agricultural and industrial remains. There is also the potential of encountering further remains associated with the prehistoric, medieval, and post-medieval periods buried within the Site boundary.

Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace (GM458) is of national significance and is of the highest historic value. The proposed widening of Fforch-Dwm Road has the potential to physically affect the monument and encroach upon the scheduled area. Ideally, the section of the road which bisects the Scheduled Monument would not be the subject of widening. If this is not practicable, a meeting/site visit with Cadw's local Inspector of Ancient Monuments should be undertaken to discuss the proposals, and subsequently a detailed Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) application should be submitted through Cadw, including plans, levels, and construction methods for the road. It is also likely that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) would need to be produced and submitted alongside the SMC application.

The non-designated medieval platform site (00693w), situated within the western area of the Site, would be of some historic value, but not of the highest value. The current projection of the access tracks suggests that they would also bisect the historic asset. It is recommended that archaeological mitigation is undertaken to record and monitor any ground works associated with the construction of an access track in this area. The remaining post-medieval non-designated historic assets that have the potential to be directly affected (Fforch Dwm Uchaf Row (00862w) and Railway (02435.0w)) were removed in the 20th century and there is evidence to suggest these areas were cleared and levelled. As such, there is unlikely to be any remains surviving in these areas that would be considered heritage assets.

No other known archaeological remains will be physically affected by the proposals. There is, however, the potential of encountering previously unrecorded archaeological remains within the Site boundary, associated with the prehistoric, medieval, and post-medieval periods could be present. Nonetheless, unless particularly well-preserved, unique, or retaining a particular sense of stratigraphic coherence, such remains would not be anticipated to comprise assets of the highest value, and they would not be anticipated to warrant preservation in situ, or otherwise preclude development within the Site.

In the first instance, it is recommended that the Site should be the subject of a geophysical survey. The geophysical survey could be undertaken on suitable areas of the Site, i.e., away from the steep sided hills. All further archaeological work should be agreed with the Archaeological Planning Officer at GGAT via a Written Scheme of Investigation.

This assessment, undertaken in full accordance with the guidance provided by Cadw, has identified that Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace (GM458) and Ventilation Stack (22888) may experience some limited level of harm as a result of change within their setting. This change would primarily consist of the increased traffic and use of Fforch-Dwm Road as a main access route to the western area of the proposed development.

The proposals would be anticipated to result in no harm to the significance of any other historic assets within proximity to the Site as a result of changes to their setting.

CRYNODEB ANNHECHNEGOL

Welsh translation to be inserted following client review/comments

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1.0 Introduction

In July 2022, SLR Consulting was commissioned by REG Power Management Limited ('the Client') to prepare a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (HEDBA) in relation to a proposed windfarm development c. 6km to the east of Neath, c. 4km to the south of Resolven, and c. 1km to the north-east of the village of Tonmawr (NGR: 281843, 197645) (hereafter referred to as 'the Site'; **Fig. 1**).

1.1 The Site

The Site predominantly comprises pastoral agricultural land, c. 290 ha. in size. Elevations within the Site range from c. 300m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) to c. 200m aOD, the lower elevations within the Site being along the watercourses which sit in the localised valleys adjacent to the Site (**Fig. 2**). These include Nant Fforch Dwm and Nant Blaenpelenna which are present to the southern and north-western boundaries of the eastern-most land parcel and Cwm Blaenpelenna which is present to the west of the western-most land parcel.

There are two designated historic assets located within the Site boundary comprising the Grade II Listed Building, Cwm Pelenna Ventilation Stack (**Fig. 3, 22888**) and the Scheduled Monument, Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace (**Fig. 3, GM458**). These historic assets will be discussed in further detail below.

1.2 Scope of Report

This report presents the results of a HEDBA prepared in respect to historic assets of an archaeological and built heritage nature. It identifies known and anticipated historic assets within the Site, and its vicinity, and provides a level of assessment sufficient to allow a full understanding of the impact of the proposals upon the significance of known or potential historic assets, in accordance with the Planning Policy Wales (PPW) (2021), Paragraph 6.1.26 and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24 (2017), Paragraphs 4.7 and 4.8. The potential effects of development are discussed in accordance with terminology of PPW and TAN 24.

Planning & Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW) provided a Developments of National Significance (DNS) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Direction document in April 2022. Regrading issues relating to archaeology and cultural heritage, responses from Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) and Cadw were received as part of the scoping document.

GGAT stated that the:

"[...] production of a desk-based assessment is appropriate and should be compiled in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment (2020). It should also be noted that, depending on the results of the assessment, additional predetermination archaeological work, such as the indicated geophysical survey, may be required... Prior to the undertaking of the assessment, a methodology must be agreed between GGAT and the person undertaking the assessment, to comply with the ClfA Standard and guidance paragraph

This will include agreeing appropriate sources, content, an appropriate study area for both statutorily protected historic assets and non-statutorily protected historic assets. It will also ensure the assessment complies with the Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs) 2018, including bilingual content."

Cadw stated that designated historic assets located within 5km of the proposed development and within the Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) should be assessed in accordance with Cadw's Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (2017). Additionally, Cadw stated that:

"[...] a stage 1 assessment for all of these designated historic assets should be carried out and the results should be included... possibly as an appendix. Where listed buildings are located inside a settlement a stage 1 assessment for them as a group would be appropriate."

Following these responses, a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was submitted to Rob Dunning, Archaeological Planning Officer, GGAT, for review, comment, and approval prior to the assessment being undertaken. The WSI was approved by GGAT on 27th September 2022 and is included as **Appendix 4** of this assessment.

Additionally, email communications with Neil Maylan, Senior Historic Environment Planning Officer, Cadw on 27th September 2022 (**Appendix 5**) confirmed the scope and methodology that this assessment has employed in relation to the assessment of designated historic assets (see Section 6).

1.3 Standards

The assessment has been undertaken in accordance with all relevant statute, policy, and guidance, including PPW (2021), TAN 24 (2017), the Chartered Institute for Archaeology (CIfA) Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment (2020), Cadw's Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales (2011), and Cadw's Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (2017).

The assessment has been undertaken, and the report prepared, by James Evans ACIfA, Senior Archaeology and Heritage Consultant, SLR Consulting Ltd.

The assessment has been project managed and signed off by Chris Morley MCIfA, Technical Director – Archaeology and Heritage, SLR Consulting Ltd.

2.0 Methodology

2.1 Data procurement

2.1.1 Archaeology

For the purposes of baseline data collection, a 1km study area was utilised for historic assets of an archaeological nature to establish the archaeological potential within the Site.

2.1.2 Heritage

For the purposes of a settings assessment a search area of 5km was selected.

2.1.3 Sources consulted

The following sources were consulted:

- Cof Cymru – National Historic Assets of Wales website, for depictions and associated record descriptions of designated historic assets in Wales;
- the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) Historic Environment Record (HER), for sites and events data;
- the National Monuments Record Wales (NMRW), held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW), for any additional archival data about sites, buildings and monuments, accessed via the Historic Wales website;
- Natural Resources Wales (NRW) library of open access LiDAR data (DSM and DTM), accessed via the Lle: A Geo-Portal for Wales website;
- the Ordnance Survey open-source library, for topographic and cartographic data, including elevation point cloud, contour and hydrological data;
- historic cartographic sources, including large-scale county surveys, tithe mapping and early Ordnance Survey editions;
- the Welsh Government Aerial Photographs Officer for available aerial photographs;
- other online resources, including: the British Geological Survey; the Cranfield University Soilscape viewer; and the National Library of Scotland's online mapping database;
- Neath Port Talbot Council's online planning application portal, for relevant documentation submitted in relation to proximate applications;
- Glamorgan Archives/West Glamorgan Archives for any relevant material; and
- grey literature relating to excavations within, and within proximity to, the Site.

HER and RCAHMW data

A proportionate level of HER and RCAHMW data, sufficient to inform the assessment of archaeological potential, significance and potential impact presented in this report, was obtained. The HER and RCAHMW data was reconciled and analysed within the context of the objectives of the present assessment.

While all the HER and RCAHMW data received has been reviewed and considered, not all HER records (sites and events) are discussed further within this report, only those that are of relevance, to the determination of potential, significance, and potential impact.

The HER and RCAHMW data contained many duplicate asset entries, largely for Listed Buildings. These have been referenced using their Cadw reference number rather than their HER number within this report.

All data supplied by the HER and RCAHMW is presented in **Appendix 2**.

LiDAR data

Digital terrain model (DTM) and digital surface model (DSM) LiDAR data, at 1m resolution, was processed using GIS software. Multiple hill-shade and shaded-relief models were created, principally via adjustment of the following variables: azimuth, height, and 'z-factor' or exaggeration. The models created were then coloured using pre-defined ramps and classified attribute data, to reveal the micro-topography and allow for analysis. Identified features are discussed in the relevant places within this report.

Site visit

A Site inspection was undertaken on 12th October 2022 to assess the Site within its wider landscape context, identify any evidence for previous disturbance, and examine any known or suspected archaeological features. The Site inspection aspect of the settings assessment was also undertaken during the site visit. Photographs can be seen in **Appendix 3** of this report.

2.2 Assessment of Heritage Significance

Historic assets have been assessed in terms of their significance, following the requirement in TAN 24 (2017), and taking account of Cadw's guidance on Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales (2011) (hereafter referred to as 'Conservation Principles'). Significance, within the historic environment, is defined by Cadw simply as 'The sum of the cultural historic values of a place'.

Conservation Principles (2011) and the TAN 24 (2017) glossary provide that an asset's significance derives from its historic 'values', which are defined by the latter as follows:

- **Evidential Value:** value deriving from the potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity;
- **Historical Value:** value deriving from the ways in which past people, events, and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present;
- **Aesthetic Value:** value deriving from ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place; and
- **Communal Value:** value deriving from the meaning of a place for the people who relate to it, or from whom it figures in their collective experience or memory.

This approach allows for a detailed and justifiable determination of heritage significance and the values from which that significance derives.

Neither policy, however, provides a classification system for historic assets to determine their 'level' of significance. It is generally considered that designated historic assets, such as Scheduled Monuments and Listed Buildings, are of greater heritage significance than non-designated or unrecorded historic assets. Within this assessment, any hierarchy of significance within these categories has been determined by evaluating the available evidence and exercising professional judgement.

The significance of known and potential historic assets identified within the Site boundary is described where relevant in this report.

In respect of identifying the importance of setting to the identified significance of a historic asset, Cadw's Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (2017) will be utilised; specifically, the staged approach, as follows:

- **Stage 1:** identify the historic assets that might be affected by a proposed change or development;

- **Stage 2:** define and analyse the settings to understand how they contribute to the significance of the historic assets and, in particular, the ways in which the assets are understood, appreciated, and experienced;
- **Stage 3:** evaluate the potential impact of a proposed change or development on that significance; and
- **Stage 4 (if necessary):** consider options to mitigate or improve the potential impact of a proposed change or development on that significance.

2.3 Assessment of Effects

Welsh national policy does not specify how the degree of harm to historic assets (impact) should be articulated. Conservation Principles (2011) however provides the following guidance:

“Every reasonable effort should be made to eliminate or minimize adverse impacts on historic assets. Ultimately, however, it may be necessary to balance the benefit of the proposed change against the harm to the asset. If so, the weight given to heritage values should be proportionate to the importance of the assets and the impact of the change upon them.”¹

Paragraphs 6.1.25 of PPW (2021) also provide the following in relation to harm to non-designated historic assets specifically:

“In cases involving less significant (than designated) archaeological remains, planning authorities will need to weigh the relative importance of the archaeological remains and their settings against other factors, including the need for the proposed development.”²

The above is interpreted as weighing the significance of the historic assets in the balance with the impact of the change or ‘harm’. The level of harm is determined within this assessment by applying professional judgement.

As clarified in the High Court, preservation does not mean no change; it specifically means no harm³. This is echoed in Conservation Principles, which states *“Change to historic assets is inevitable... to ensure the long-term future of historic assets changes need to be managed to ensure that their significance is not diminished as a consequence.”⁴*

The assessment of anticipated development effects can thus be seen to have been undertaken in accordance with a robust methodology, formulated within the context of current best practice, the relevant policy provisions, and key professional guidance.

¹ Cadw, *Conservation Principles*, p. 15.

² Welsh Government, *PPW – Edition 11*, p. 129.

³ *R (Forge Field Society) v Sevenoaks District Council* [2014] EWHC 1895 (Admin).

⁴ Cadw, *Conservation Principles*, p. 18.

3.0 Statute, Policy & Guidance

Designated heritage assets protected by statutory legislation comprise Scheduled Monuments, Protected Wrecks, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas.

Nationally significant archaeological sites, monuments and structures are protected under the **Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979)**.

Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas are protected under the **Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act (1990)**. In relation to development proposals, the legislation states that:

"[...] in considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the local planning authority or, as the case may be, the secretary of state shall 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" (Section 66).

With regards to Conservation Areas, it states that:

"[...] with respect to any buildings or other land in a conservation area, of any [functions under or by virtue of] any of the provisions mentioned in subsection (2), special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of that area." (Section 72).

The **Historic Environment (Wales) Act (2016)** was introduced to give more effective protection to Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments, enhance existing mechanisms for the sustainable management of the historic environment, and introduce greater transparency and accountability into decisions taken on the historic environment. It also introduced several stand-alone provisions for Wales, e.g., the compilation and maintenance of a list of historic place names in Wales, HER for each local authority area in Wales, and the establishment of a panel of persons, to be known as the Advisory Panel for the Welsh Historic Environment.

3.1 Planning Policy

3.1.1 National Planning Policy Framework (Revised 2021)

Applicable national policy comprises of Planning Policy Wales (2021), and specifically the following paragraphs:

Paragraph 6.1.9, which states that:

"Any decisions made through the planning system must fully consider the impact on the historic environment and on the significance and historic values of individual historic assets and their contribution to the character of place."

Paragraph 6.1.24, which relates to highly significant archaeological remains, state that:

"Where nationally important archaeological remains and their settings are likely to be affected by proposed development, there should be a presumption in favour of their physical protection in situ. It will only be in exceptional circumstances that planning permission will be granted if development would result in an adverse impact on a scheduled monument (or an archaeological site shown to be of national importance) or has a demonstrably and unacceptably damaging effect upon its setting."

Paragraph 6.1.25 and **Paragraph 6.1.26**, which relate to non-designated historic assets, states that:

"In cases involving less significant archaeological remains, planning authorities will need to weigh the relative importance of the archaeological remains and their settings against other factors, including the need for the proposed development."

"Where archaeological remains are known to exist or there is a potential for them to survive, an application should be accompanied by sufficient information, through desk-based assessment and/or

field evaluation, to allow a full understanding of the impact of the proposal on the significance of the remains. The needs of archaeology and development may be reconciled, and potential conflict very much reduced, through early discussion and assessment."

3.1.2 Local Planning Policy

Local planning policy is provided in:

- Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council, Local Development Plan (2011-2026), adopted January 2016:
 - Strategic Policy SP2: Built Environment and Historic Heritage;
 - Policy BE1: Design;
 - Policy BE 2: Buildings of Local Importance; and
 - Policy BE 3: The Canal Network.

This Policy is quoted below:

Strategic Policy SP2: Built Environment and Historic Heritage

"The built environment and historic heritage will, where appropriate, be conserved and enhanced through the following measures:

1. *Encouraging high quality design standards in all development proposals;*
2. *Protecting arterial gateways from intrusive and inappropriate development;*
3. *Safeguarding features of historic and cultural importance;*
4. *The identification of the following designated sites to enable their protection and where appropriate enhancement:*
 - a) *Landscapes of Historic Interest;*
 - b) *Historic Parks and Gardens;*
 - c) *Conservation Areas;*
 - d) *Scheduled Ancient Monuments; and*
 - e) *Listed Buildings and their curtilage."*

Policy BE1: Design

"All development proposals will be expected to demonstrate high quality design which fully takes into account the natural, historic and built environmental context and contributes to the creation of attractive, sustainable places. Proposals will only be permitted where all of the following criteria, where relevant, are satisfied:

1. *It complements and enhances the character and appearance of the site, building or area in terms of siting, appearance, scale, height, massing and elevation treatment;*
2. *It respects the context of the site and its place within the local landscape, including its impact on the important arterial gateways into the County Borough, its effects on townscape and the local historic and cultural heritage and it takes account of the site topography and prominent skylines or ridges;*
3. *It utilises materials appropriate to its surroundings and incorporates hard and soft landscaping and screening where appropriate;*
4. *It would not have a significant adverse impact on highway safety, the amenity of occupiers of adjacent land or the community;*
5. *Important local features (including buildings, amenity areas, green spaces and green infrastructure, biodiversity and ecological connectivity) are retained and enhanced as far as possible;*
6. *It achieves and creates attractive, safe places and public spaces, taking account of 'Secured by Design' principles (including where appropriate natural surveillance, visibility, well lit environments and areas of public movement);*

7. *It plays a full role in achieving and enhancing an integrated transport and communications network promoting the interests of pedestrians, cyclists and public transport and ensures linkages with the existing surrounding community;*
8. *It uses resources, including land and energy, as efficiently as possible through:*
 - a) *Making the best and most efficient use of the land available through being of appropriate density taking into account the character and appearance of the area, normally a minimum of 35 dwellings per hectare in the Coastal Corridor Strategy Area or a minimum of 30 dwellings per hectare in the Valleys Strategy Area;*
 - b) *The layout and form of the development does not preclude the reasonable use of other adjacent land;*
 - c) *Developing brownfield land in preference to greenfield land where possible;*
 - d) *Minimising building exposure while maximising solar gain.*
9. *Its drainage systems are designed to limit surface water run-off and food risk and prevent pollution; and*
10. *The layout and design of the development achieves inclusive design by ensuring barrier free environments, allowing access by all and making full provision for people with disabilities."*

Policy BE 2: Buildings of Local Importance

"Development proposals that would affect buildings that are of local historic, architectural, or cultural importance will only be permitted where:

They conserve and where appropriate enhance the building and its setting; or

It is demonstrated that the development could not reasonably be accommodated without affecting or replacing the building and the reasons for the development outweigh the heritage importance of the site."

Policy BE 3: The Canal Network

1. *In order to protect and conserve the canal network, the following lengths of canal will be safeguarded:*
 - a) *The Swansea Canal at Trebanos from the County Borough boundary to the southern edge of the playing fields;*
 - b) *The Swansea Canal from Pontardawe Town Centre to Godre'r Graig;*
 - c) *The Tennant Canal;*
 - d) *The Neath Canal from Briton Ferry to Ysgwrfa Bridge, Aberpergwm.*

Proposals which would prejudice the conservation, restoration, and operation of these safeguarded lengths of canal will be resisted. Proposals will need to demonstrate that they would not adversely affect the setting of the canals or prevent or discourage the use of the canals for recreation and water supply.
2. *Developments affecting locations where lengths of canal have been drained, infilled, culverted, obstructed or cut off from the remainder of the network, but where there is the possibility of future reinstatement, will be expected to take into account the historic line of the canal and to avoid the introduction of buildings or structures that would prevent reinstatement.*

4.0 Archaeological Baseline

4.1 Designated historic assets

There is one designated historic asset of an archaeological nature within the Site. This consists of the Scheduled Monument of Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace (**Fig 3, GM458**). The Scheduled Monument is divided into two areas, to the east and west of Fforch-Dwm Road. The current road comprises a metalled surface track which is c. 3.5m wide. To allow heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) onto the Site, the proposed development seeks to upgrade this road. This would have the potential of encroaching the scheduled area, and this is discussed in more detail below in Section 5.

4.2 Geology & Topography

The underlying geology of the Site is comprised of sandstone belonging to the Hughes and Brithdir Member. This sedimentary bedrock formed c. 308 to 310 million years ago in the Carboniferous Period.⁵ No superficial deposits are recorded within the Site.

The soil in the higher elevations of the Site is acidic and loamy with a wet peaty surface. The soil in the lower elevations of the Site is also acidic, but it freely drains over the underlying rock.⁶ The lower elevation of the Site is located along watercourses which sit in the localised valleys adjacent to the Site. These include Nant Fforch Dwm and Nant Blaenpelenna which are present to the southern and north-western boundaries of the eastern-most land parcel and Cwm Blaenpelenna which is present to the west of the western-most land parcel.

4.3 Previous investigations

There have been no previous archaeological investigations within the Site, and limited investigations within the surrounding area (**Fig. 4**).

A partial excavation was undertaken c. 500m north of the Site between 1974 and 1976 (**Fig. 4, E000495**). The excavations revealed that this site was a domestic enclosure containing a building resembling a long house with attached byre. The building was crudely constructed with evidence of cruck construction with wattle and daub partitions. The finds included clay encrusted with iron wire, nails and spikes which could suggest at one time the site was used by a blacksmith.

To the south of the Site, c. 250m, two field visits were undertaken by GGAT. The first visit (**Fig. 4, E001428**) was undertaken as part of a project researching early medieval ecclesiastical sites in south-east Wales, and the second visit (**Fig. 4, E004084**) was a part of an assessment project in medieval and post-medieval wells in south-east Wales. The area is believed to have been the site of a medieval holy well; however, the area has been significantly remodelled due to mining activity and forestry plantation. The field visits failed to find any remains.⁷

In 2005 GGAT undertook a watching brief during the construction phase of Ffynnon Oer Wind Farm, c. 400m north-east of the Site (**Fig. 4, E005373**). During the archaeological monitoring, prehistoric flint flakes were recovered as well as the remains of post-medieval stone-built features were recorded.

⁵ British Geological Survey (BGS), https://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html?&_ga=2.43111013.1715363096.1657889143-959099665.1657889143 [accessed 15/07/2022].

⁶ Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute: Soilscales, <http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscales/> [accessed 15/07/2022].

⁷ Roberts, R. 2011. *GGAT 108: Medieval and Post-Medieval Holy Wells in Glamorgan and Gwent*. GGAT report no.2011/015., p. 16.

4.4 Chronological Background

4.4.1 Prehistoric (pre-43 AD)

No archaeological remains of prehistoric origin have been recorded within the Site or within 1km of the Site boundary. There is, however, an abundance of prehistoric sites in wider landscape.

In Wales, the Palaeolithic (c. 500,000 BC – 10,000 BC) and Mesolithic (c. 10,000 BC – 4,000 BC) periods covered a long period of time, which included the first record of early Neanderthals and the first appearance of anatomically modern humans. During these periods the human presence was influenced by the glacial-interglacial cycle and the accompanying climatic and environmental changes. However, there is a lack of evidence from this period because of the effects of the last glaciation.⁸ As such, there are no assets belonging to the Palaeolithic or Mesolithic periods within the Site or study area.

The introduction of farming in the Neolithic period (c. 4,000 BC – 2,400 BC) had a dramatic impact upon the landscape of Wales.⁹ Agriculture was accompanied by the construction of monuments within the landscape. These monuments consisted of large ceremonial, religious and burial monuments.¹⁰ In the Neolithic period, burial monuments consisted of communal burials in the form of chambered tombs and earthen long barrows, but in the late Neolithic period and Bronze Age (c. 2,400 BC – 700 BC) there was a shift from communal burials to single burial monuments.

Single burial monuments include cairns, which are a deliberately constructed pile of stones, or stone rubble, often forming a burial mound.¹¹ Several cairns have been recorded in the HER and by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) to the north and north-east of the Site (**Fig. 5, 00682w, 00683w, 00684w, 00685w, 00686w, 06245w, and 06246w**). There is no recorded evidence that these cairns have been archaeologically excavated, and many of the cairns display signs of damage.

During the Iron Age (c. 700 BC – AD 43) settlement evidence and the associated evidence for agricultural practices and land division becomes more visible in the archaeological record, alongside evidence for widespread woodland clearance and associated degradation of upland soils due to increased run-off and podsolisation.¹² Settlement in upland areas may also have retained a relatively high degree of mobility and seasonality, possibly associated with transhumance.

A typical later prehistoric settlement may include buried evidence for at least one roundhouse in the form of a hut circle or platform and associated features such as an enclosure ditch, ditched fields, paddocks, field clearance cairns/banks of stones, lynchets and trackways.¹³ Settlements of this period in Wales are often enclosed or defended, suggesting an increasingly hierarchical society. Such an enclosure is located c. 1.4km north-west of the Site (**Fig. 3, GM277**). The enclosure is a Scheduled Monument and comprises an earth and stone bank, measuring c. 9m wide and 1.5m high, with a ditch on the south-east side forming in plan the quadrant of a circle c. 50m radius.

Summary of prehistoric potential

There is no evidence for settlement or any other substantive prehistoric occupation within the Site. It is likely that the surrounding landscape was an area in which prehistoric communities existed; however, the upland location of the Site was likely to have belonged to a funerary landscape and in an area where transhumance movements was common.

⁸ Walker, E. 2010. *Review of the Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales: Palaeolithic and Mesolithic Periods.*, p. 1.

⁹ Burrow, S. 2010. *A Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales: Neolithic and Bronze Age.*, p. 1.

¹⁰ Aston, M. 1985. *Interpreting the Landscape: Landscape Archaeology and Local History.*, p. 23.

¹¹ Darvill, T. 2008. *The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Archaeology (2nd Edition).*, p. 67.

¹² Johnston, R. & Griffith Roberts, J. 2003. *Inhabiting the Landscapes of Later Prehistory.*

¹³ Bradley, R. 2000. *The Archaeology of Natural Places.*, pp. 147-161.

4.4.2 Roman (43 AD – 410 AD)

No archaeological remains from the Roman period have been recorded within the Site or within 1km of the Site boundary; however, there is evidence of Roman activity in wider landscape.

The Roman military arrived in Britain in AD 43, bringing large parts of lowland England under their control by the summer of AD 47. By the AD 50s and 60s attentions then turned to the conquest of Wales, and Roman forces were soon confronting the Iron Age tribes of Wales, finally brought under Roman control in c. AD 77.¹⁴ Evidence of the Roman military pushing westwards into Wales is evidenced by the survival of temporary camps/marching camps. Blaen-Cwmbach Camp (**Fig. 3, GM258**) is located c. 1.1km north of the Site and is attributed to the campaigns of Sextus Julius Frontinus during the final years of campaigning in Wales during the AD 70s. Interestingly, the camp incorporated an Iron Age enclosure (**Fig. 3, GM277**) suggesting that the Roman military reused an existing defensive/fortified position. Another camp, dating to the same period, is located c. 1.5km north-east of the Site (**Fig. 3, GM367**). The location of two camps in proximity to one another suggests that this area was strategic location for troop movements between forts.

Summary of prehistoric potential

There is no evidence for Roman settlement within the Site or the immediate surrounding area. The Roman camps, discussed above, were temporary camps that were used by the Roman military while moving through the landscape. The nearest known Roman settlement is the Roman fort and associated vicus near Neath, located over 5.5km to the west of the Site. As such, there is a limited potential for unrecorded remains of this period to survive buried within the Site.

4.4.3 Early Medieval (410 AD – 1066)

No archaeological remains of early medieval origin have been recorded within the Site or within 1km of the Site boundary.

The early medieval history of Wales is fragmented and poorly documented. Archaeological evidence for this period is also usually limited, typically comprising scant buried evidence for relatively simple post and wattle-built houses and enclosures forming a dispersed pattern of both enclosed and unenclosed farmsteads. As in the preceding Roman period, the Site was likely to be situated within a marginal upland zone outside of the area where arable farming may have been truly viable during the early medieval period,¹⁵ but firmly within an upland pastoral zone. Any settlement activity of the period is likely to be restricted to within the local valleys.

Summary of Early Medieval potential

There is no evidence for settlement or any other substantive early medieval occupation within the Site or the study area. As such, there is limited potential of for unrecorded remains of this period to survive buried within the Site. If remains from the early medieval period are encountered within the Site boundary then they would likely comprise of agricultural features, e.g., enclosures and boundaries.

4.4.4 Medieval (1066 – 1539)

Medieval remains have been recorded within the Site and the surrounding study area.

By the 11th century Wales was organised into four main kingdoms, Gwynedd in the north, Powys in the centre, Deheubarth in the south-west, and Morgannwg in the south-east,¹⁶ with the Site likely to have been situated within the borderland of Powys and Morgannwg. Due to its proximity to the English border, the Norman

¹⁴ Arnold, C.J. & Davies, J.L. 2000. *Roman and Early Medieval Wales.*, pp. 1-13.

¹⁵ Edwards, N. 1997. "Landscape and Settlement in Medieval Wales: An Introduction" in *Landscape and Settlement in Medieval Wales*, Edwards, N. (ed), pp. 1-11.

¹⁶ Carr, A.D. 1995. *Medieval Wales.*, p. 27.

Conquest had more impact on the south-east of Wales than on other Welsh regions.¹⁷ In 1080 Morgannwg was subjugated by the Anglo-Normans and became the Marcher lordship of Glamorgan.

Two medieval assets have been recorded within the Site: a long hut and platform (**Fig. 5, 00694w**) in the eastern area of the Site, and a platform, old field enclosures, and track complex (**Fig. 5, 00693w**) in the western area of the Site. Platforms are a 'classic' medieval type of site, with a rectangular platform built as a stance for a rectangular building, and such sites are found in both upland and lowland areas and are often found in agricultural contexts.¹⁸ The platform is an obvious response to the topography: set into a hillside, generally perpendicular to the contours, where material was dug from the back and thrown forward to project a level platform out above the natural slope. Few platform sites have been dated, although a 13th to 14th century date has been inferred from documentary sources for a group of platform sites on Resolven Mountain,¹⁹ c. 4km north of Site. With regards to long huts, the term is used to cover a range of building types, but usually appear to be unsophisticated, rectangular structures, with low foundation walls, simple entrances and occasional internal partitions, and which range in length from 5m to well over 20m.²⁰

The long hut site in the eastern area of the Site (**Fig. 5, 00694w**) measures 14m x 6m orientated east-west, has three internal partition walls, and the walls are 0.8m wide. There are also terraces to the south of the hut and a track to the north. The platform site in the western area of the Site (**Fig. 5, 00693w**) measures 10m x 5m orientated east-west, the old field boundaries and track complex are located to the west of the platform itself.²¹

These medieval sites are also evident in the LiDAR data. LiDAR DTM and DSM tiles were obtained from the Lle Geo-Portal, a partnership between the Welsh Government and Natural Resources Wales (NRW). The data was available at 1m resolution, surveyed in 2019, for the extent of the Site boundary and the surrounding area. The results of the LiDAR survey are illustrated in **Figures 6 – 10**. The long hut and platform (**Fig. 5, 00694w**) are clearly visible in **Figures 7** and **8**, and the platform, old field enclosures, and track complex (**Fig. 5, 00693w**) are visible in **Figures 9** and **10**. No other medieval features appear to be present within the Site, and there is a potential that further such remains have been removed by subsequent farming activities, or other activities within the Site boundary in the post-medieval and modern periods.

Summary of Medieval potential

Medieval remains are present within the Site boundary. These remains consist of platform sites which are likely of an agricultural nature and date to the later medieval period. These features are recorded in the HER and are illustrated in the LiDAR data, but no other medieval features are apparent. Nonetheless, there is some potential of further medieval remains to be present within the Site. Such features, if present, would likely consist of further agricultural features, e.g., field boundaries.

4.4.5 Post-Medieval (1539 – 1900) and modern (1900 – present)

Several post-medieval archaeological remains have been recorded within the Site, as well as in the wider surrounding area.

During most of the post-medieval period South Wales remained a predominantly agricultural area, characterised by scattered isolated farmsteads, and the upland areas were dominated by livestock rearing. Through various Acts of Parliament, between 1750 and 1850, much of the agricultural land in England and Wales was enclosed through Inclosure Acts.²² The Site is agricultural in nature and the regular field enclosures into which it is divided

¹⁷ Edwards, N. 1997. "Landscape and Settlement in Medieval Wales: An Introduction" in *Landscape and Settlement in Medieval Wales*, Edwards, N. (ed), pp. 1-11

¹⁸ Leighton, D.K. & Silvester, R. 2003. "Upland Archaeology in the Medieval and Post-medieval Periods" in *The Archaeology of the Welsh Uplands*, Browne, D. & Hughes, S. (Ed.) RCAHMW., pp. 31-40.

¹⁹ Silvester, R. & Kisson, J. 2012. "Wales: Medieval Settlements, Nucleated and Dispersed, Permanent and Seasonal" in *Medieval Rural Settlement: Britain and Ireland, AD 800-1600*, Christie, N. & Stamper, P., p. 153.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 154.

²¹ Locock, M. 2001. *GGAT 65: Deserted 65: Deserted Rural Settlements in Glamorgan and Gwent*.

²² Hoskins, W.G. 1981. *The Making of the English Landscape*, p. 185.

have the appearance of post-medieval enclosures. Most of the recorded post-medieval remains within the Site attest to its agricultural nature. In the north-eastern corner of the Site (**Fig. 5, 05992w**) a large earthwork enclosure is still existent. The enclosure measures c. 30m long and its earthen backs are c. 1m high. The enclosure has been interpreted as a stock pen, a stock sorting area for animals selected from the uplands for sale down in the lowlands. Also, in the eastern area of the Site, is a post-medieval milking shed (**Fig. 5, 05989w**) adjacent to several modern agricultural buildings. To the west of the milking shed is a 'creep hole' (**Fig. 5, 06756w**). This is a specifically constructed space within a drystone wall allowing access to sheep through the boundary from one field to another. The creep hole is characterised by a large lintel placed within the wall creating a space below (for access) and supporting the wall above.

Towards the end of the post-medieval period, i.e., 18th and 19th century, the surrounding low-lying areas experienced a radical change as heavy industry altered the character of the wider landscape. Heavy production industries, such as copper, iron, steel, and tinplate, were introduced to the area during this period, and associated development is visible in the Site and surrounding area. The most notable post-medieval industrial remains within the Site are the scheduled remains of Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace (**Fig. 3, GM458**). The furnace related to the Fforch-Dwm coal level which opened in the 1830s, the colliery subsequently changed name to Mercantile No 1, Blaenmawr Navigation Colliery, Garth Level, and finally Garth Tonmawr Colliery before it closed in 1964 (**Fig. 5, 80584** and **33466**). Associated with the colliery were a row of miner's cottages and a public house (**Fig. 5, 00862w**), which were located within the Site boundary. All buildings were removed in the 20th century and the site was levelled, and this can be seen in the LiDAR data (**Fig. 7** and **8**). A former railway line also passed through a small area of the Site (**Fig. 5, 02435.0w**). The railway comprised the Fforch-Dwm Railway which adjoined a sub-branch of the South Wales Mineral Railway to the south.

The remaining post-medieval historic assets are located beyond the Site boundary and within the study area. The majority of these relate to further industrial remains or 19th century chapels and dwellings which correlate with the growth of industry and population expansion. These assets are included in **Appendix 2**.

As discussed above, the Site is predominantly agricultural in nature and the regular post-medieval field enclosures divide it. This is shown in the tithe maps of the Site, which date to the 1840s (**Figure 11**). The Site is illustrated comprising of 55 plots of land, spread over three different parish tithe maps. These details have been reproduced in **Table 1** below.

Most of the fields within the Site are described as either pasture or meadowland, with some instances of arable land in the lower lying areas of the Site. Additionally, most of the fieldnames are self-explanatory and relate to the topography, e.g., *Cae Mynydd/Mountain field* and *Tyle/Hill or slope*, or the fieldnames describe the appearance of the fields, e.g., *Cae Gwyn Bach/Small white field*.

The First Edition Ordnance Survey map of 1884 (**Figure 12**) illustrates little change within the Site boundary, but it does show the area in greater detail. The map shows several instances where there are small areas within the Site labelled as 'quarry' or 'old quarry'. These areas are clearly visible in the LiDAR data (**Figs. 6 – 10**) and predominantly appear as small 'pockmarks' and are more frequent in number than those illustrated on the cartographic sources. These quarries likely consisted of small quarrying pits, particularly as they largely occur along the ridgelines within the Site where underlying rock would be closer to the surface at the break of the slope. The stone extracted from these quarrying pits would have been for local use, i.e., local buildings and walls. The First Edition Ordnance Survey map also illustrates a small post-medieval agricultural building within the western area of the Site and is labelled 'Isle of Wight'. The building is not recorded on the HER and is now in ruins, but it has been noted on the LiDAR data (**Fig. 10**).

Subsequent 20th century Ordnance Survey maps and aerial photography show little discernible changes within the Site boundary, apart from the occasional field boundary removal/alteration.

Summary of Post-Medieval and modern potential

The post-medieval and modern evidence suggests that the Site predominantly continued to be used for agricultural throughout these periods into the present day. There are instances of post-medieval industrial activities in the low-lying area in the eastern area of the Site, as demonstrated by the HER and LiDAR data (**Fig. 5** and **8**), as well as small-scale quarrying pits throughout the Site. Any further remains belonging to these periods within the Site would most likely relate to agriculture or industry.

Table 1: Tithe apportionment

Plot no.	Owner	Occupier	Field name (Welsh)	Field Name (English)	Land use
Plan of Clyne hamlet in the parish of Lantwit-juxta-Neath (1847)					
287	Grant Henry John	Rees William Young	Cae tan Morgan	Morgan’s field	Pasture
288			Coed ca Isha	Wood/tree [?]	Pasture
289			Wain yn Mynydd	Peat mountain	Meadow
Map of the parish of Baglan (1843)					
15	Grant Henry John & Rees William Young	Charles Strange, Robert Parsons & Rees William Young	N/A	Mountain	Pasture
16	Rees William Young	Charles Strange & Robert Parsons	Cae Mynydd	Mountain field	Pasture
17			Cae Bannel	Mountain [?]	Pasture
18					Pasture
19			N/A	N/A	Garden
20					Plantation
24			Cae Newydd	New field	Pasture
25	Grant Henry John	Charles Strange & Robert Parsons	Tyle	Hill/slope	Pasture
26			Cae Yntir	Field [?]	Meadow
27			N/A	Broken Ground	N/A
28			Cae Llether	Field [?]	Meadow
29			Y Tyle	The hill/slope	Pasture
30			Cae Uch Lawr Ty	Down house field [?]	Arable
33			Cae Main	Thin/slim field	Meadow

Plot no.	Owner	Occupier	Field name (Welsh)	Field Name (English)	Land use
34			Cae Ian Isha	Field [?]	Arable
35			Cae Ian Ucha	Field [?]	Arable
36			Yr Erw Ddu	The black acre	Pasture
37			Cae Gwyn Bach	Small white field	Arable
38			Cae Fald	Field [?]	Pasture
40			N/A	Mountain	Pasture
41			Cae Gwyn Mawr	Big white field	Pasture
50			Cae Bannel	Field [?]	Pasture
51			Cae Sgubor	Field [?]	Pasture
52			N/A	N/A	Pasture
53			Cae Ffwrndy	Field [?]	Pasture
Plan of the hamlet of Michaelstone Higher in the parish of Michaelstone super Avon (1841)					
227	John Houghton	Parsons & Strange	N/A	Pasture	Pasture
228				Wood	Wood
232				Pasture	Pasture
233				Pasture	Pasture
234				Garden	Garden
235				Pasture	Pasture
236				Meadow	Meadow
237				Pasture	Pasture
239				Pasture	Pasture

Plot no.	Owner	Occupier	Field name (Welsh)	Field Name (English)	Land use
240				Pasture	Pasture
241				Pasture	Pasture
242				Meadow	Meadow
243				Meadow	Meadow
244				Meadow	Meadow
245				Meadow	Meadow
246				Meadow	Meadow
247				Meadow	Meadow
249				Meadow	Meadow
250				Pasture	Pasture
251				House and Garden	N/A
252				Pasture	Pasture
253				Pasture	Pasture
254				Pasture	Pasture
255				Pasture	Pasture
256				Pasture	Pasture
257				Pasture	Pasture
258				Mountain	Pasture

5.0 Archaeology: Statement of Significance & Effects

This assessment has identified previously recorded, and potential, archaeological remains within the Site boundary that may be affected by the proposals. The proposed development plan along with the identified, and previously recorded, archaeological remains are illustrated on **Figure 13**.

5.1 Recorded Archaeological Remains

There are several recorded archaeological remains within the Site boundary, as follows:

- Scheduled Monument, Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace (**Fig. 13, GM458**);
- Medieval non-designated historic asset, long hut (**Fig. 13, 00694w**);
- Medieval non-designated historic asset, platform (**Fig. 13, 00693w**);
- Post-medieval non-designated historic asset, enclosure (**Fig. 13, 05992w**);
- Post-medieval non-designated historic asset, milking shed (**Fig. 13, 05989w**);
- Post-medieval non-designated historic asset, sheep crawl (**Fig. 13, 06756w**);
- Post-medieval non-designated historic asset, row of houses (**Fig. 13, 00862w**);
- Post-medieval non-designated historic asset, railway (**Fig. 13, 02435.0w**); and
- Post-medieval non-designated historic asset, house (**Fig. 13, 96094**).

5.2 Potential Archaeological Remains

The following archaeological remains may be affected by the proposals if they are present within the boundary of the Site:

- Prehistoric features, e.g., Bronze Age cairns on the higher ground within Site boundary;
- Medieval features, e.g., platform/long hut sites; and
- Historic agricultural remains, e.g., cultivation earthworks and former boundary ditches/drainage channels.

5.3 Significance

Scheduled Monuments are of the highest significance, and therefore, Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace (**Fig. 13, GM458**) is of the highest significance. The furnace has been scheduled due to its potential of enhancing our knowledge of the early 19th century coal mining industry. This potential relates to the likelihood of the monument containing archaeological information, and any associated remains would be of equivalent value to the Scheduled Monument.

Any unrecorded prehistoric remains within the Site boundary would be of evidential and historical value; however, none have been identified from the study of recorded archaeological remains, through the studies of LiDAR and aerial photographic sources, or from the Site visit. If such remains do survive as below-ground remains they would be unlikely to be considered historic assets of the highest significance and would be unlikely to require preservation *in situ*.

The recorded medieval platform sites within the Site (**Fig. 13, 00694w** and **00693w**) and any similar sites that could exist below-ground within the Site would be of evidential and historical value. The known sites are not of the highest significance, i.e., schedulable, but do comprise of non-designated historic assets. Any potential sites

within the Site boundary would also likely comprise non-designated historic assets. Such remains would not normally warrant preservation *in situ*, or otherwise preclude development, but would likely require further archaeological investigation/mitigation.

The recorded post-medieval remains would similarly hold some limited evidential and historical value; however, they would not warrant preservation *in situ*, or preclude development. Generally, such post-medieval remains are considered to be of low heritage significance.

Any other historic agricultural remains that may be present would retain little archaeological interest and would be of accordingly low heritage significance. The examination of such remains under archaeological conditions would contribute little further to our understanding of historic/modern agricultural practices. More recent examples of the latter, e.g., late-19th/early-20th-century boundary ditches, would be unlikely to be considered historic assets. Such remains would not warrant preservation *in situ* or preclude development.

5.4 Development Effects

The proposed development would comprise the construction of a new wind and solar farm and associated infrastructure. The development would consist of:

- 6 wind turbines within an indicative height of up to 200m to tip;
- an area of solar PV panels in the western area of Site, mounted on frames fixed to the ground with associated inverters, security fencing and CCTV system;
- wind turbine foundations;
- external transformer housing;
- crane pads / turbine laydown areas;
- access tracks, entrance and turning points;
- replacement bridge over Nant Blaen Pellenna;
- substation and control building;
- permanent met mast or LioDAR compound for wind monitoring;
- underground electricity cables between the turbines and solar array and on the onsite sub-station;
- temporary construction and storage compounds with ancillary infrastructure; and
- potential energy storage infrastructure, anticipated to be in the form of a containerised battery storage.

As discussed above, these proposals are illustrated on **Figure 13**, along with the recorded archaeological remains within the Site boundary. The proposals suggest that four archaeological remains have the potential to be directly impacted by the proposed development, as shown below in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Archaeological remains directly impacted by proposals

Reference Number	Name	Status
GM458	Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace	Scheduled Monument
00693w	Tonmawr medieval platform	Non-designated historic asset
00862w	Fforch Dwm Uchaf Row	Non-designated historic asset
02435.0w	Fforch Dwm Railway	Non-designated historic asset

As discussed above (Section 4.1), Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace's scheduled area is divided into two areas, either side of Fforch-Dwm Road (**Plate 1; Photo 1 and 2**). The proposed development includes proposals to upgrade the existing road to facilitate heavy goods vehicles. The road upgrade has the potential to encroach the scheduled area and have the potential to truncate/remove any archaeological remains of the highest significance.

Any works directly/physically affecting a Scheduled Monument require the prior consent of the Welsh Ministers, this is in the form of a Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) application submitted through Cadw. An SMC application needs to include details regarding the proposed works, in this case details of the road widening scheme, e.g., plans, levels, construction methods, etc. The application also needs to include a written explanation of the proposals, how they would affect the Scheduled Monument, and what will be done to ensure its significance is protected, retained, or enhanced. It is also likely that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) would need to be produced and submitted alongside the SMC application.

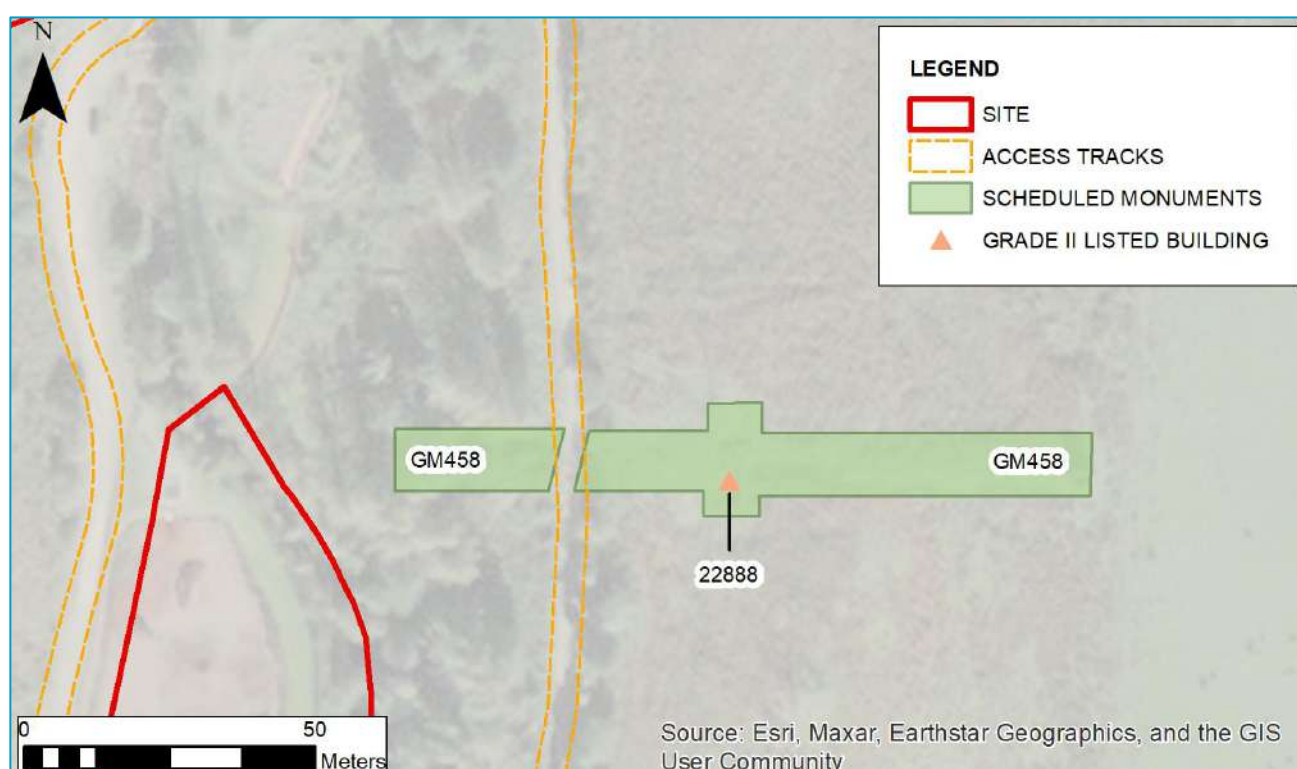


Plate 1: Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace (GM458) and proposed access tracks

The proposed route of the access tracks would also truncate/remove archaeological remains associated with a non-designated medieval historic asset (**Plate 2, 00693w**). The current proposed route of the access tracks appears to effectively cut through the center of the non-designated historic asset. The asset, however, appears to have been impacted by centuries of erosion as the result of it being used as access point between various fields (**Photo 3 and 4**).

The access tracks and proposed switchback location also appear to have the potential to truncate/remove archaeological remains associated with the former Fforch Dwm Uchaf Row (**Plate 3, 00862w**). However, as discussed above, these post-medieval buildings were demolished in the 20th century and the area was levelled. This has been confirmed in the LiDAR data (**Fig. 7 and 8**) that illustrates significant ground disturbance in this area, and as such, there is unlikely to be any archaeological remains within the former footprint of the former post-medieval buildings (**Photo 5**).

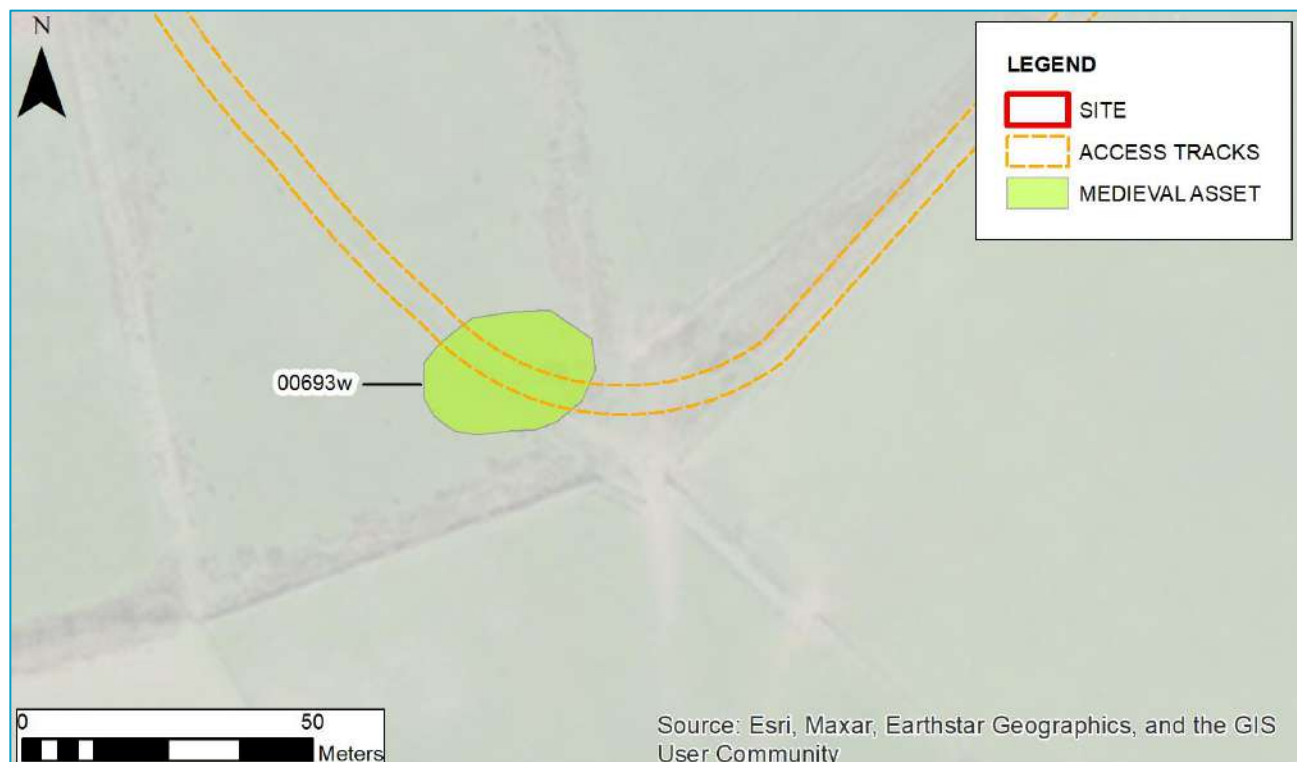


Plate 2: Medieval platform (00693w) and proposed access tracks

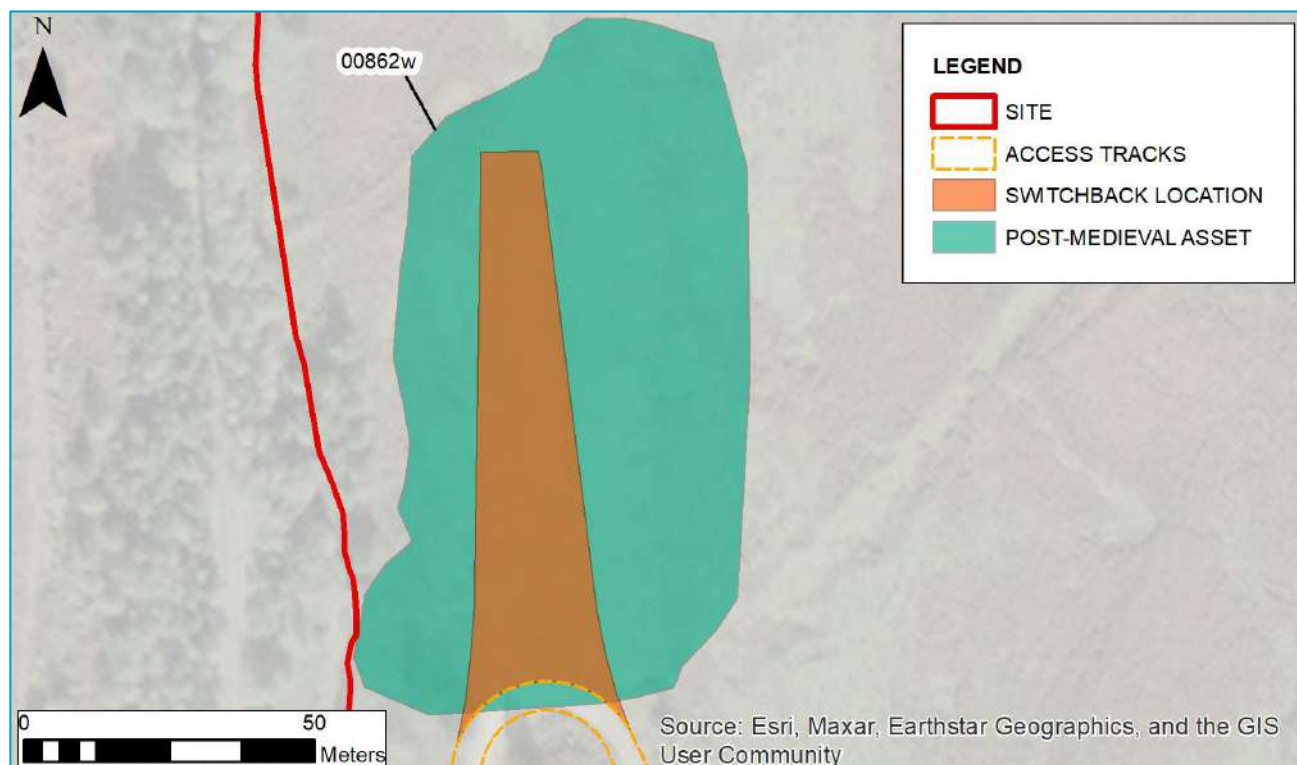


Plate 3: Fforch Dwm Uchaf Row (00862w) with proposed access tracks and switchback location

The former route of the Fforch-Dwm Railway is partially within the Site boundary (**Plate 4, 02435.0w**) and it crosses over a section of Fforch-Dwm Road. However, the railway was dismantled in the 20th century and the modern alignment of Fforch-Dwm Road was subsequently created following the dismantling process. As such, it is unlikely that any archaeological remains survive buried within the Site. Additionally, this section of Fforch-Dwm Road is comparatively wide compared to other sections of the proposed access track route, and it is likely that no/very limited road widening work will occur in this area of the Site (**Photo 6**).

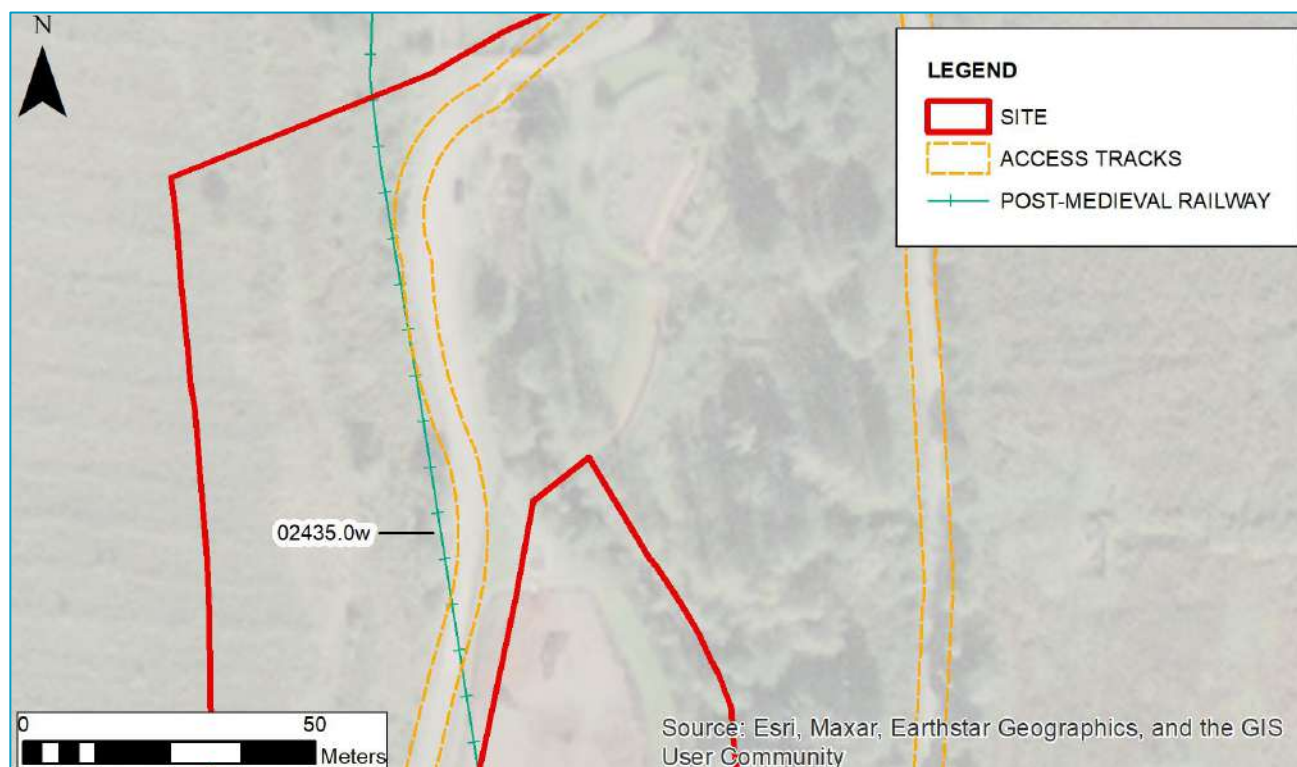


Plate 4: Fforch Dwm Railway (02435.0w) with proposed access tracks

6.0 Heritage Settings Assessment

This section assesses any potential effects of the proposed development on the significance of designated historic assets through the alteration of their setting. All designated historic assets located within 5km of the Site boundary were considered and included within a Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) model (**Fig. 14**). This initial appraisal was carried out in accordance with Stage 1 of Cadw's Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (2017). Those designated historic assets that were not within the ZTV, and therefore would not be affected by the proposed development have been scoped out at Stage 1. These designated historic assets have been included in **Appendix 1**.

The designated historic assets that are located within the ZTV have been progressed to the subsequent stages of Cadw's Setting of Historic Assets in Wales. Stage 2 considers the contribution that setting makes to the significance of potentially susceptible historic assets. Stage 3 then considers how, if at all, and to what extent any anticipated changes to the setting of those assets, as a result of the proposed development within the Site, might affect their significance. These stages are outlined below.

Several of the designated historic assets belong to the same period and site type, e.g., Bronze Aged cairns, Roman marching camps, and associated agricultural Listed Buildings, where appropriate these assets will be considered as a group in relation to their significance. However, any anticipated changes to the setting of those assets as a result of the proposed development will be considered on an individual basis.

6.1 Scheduled Monuments

6.1.1 Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace (**Fig. 14, GM458**)

Description and Significance

The Scheduled Monument has been discussed in some detail above in Section 4 and 5. The monument comprises the remains of a 19th century colliery ventilation furnace with a hillside flue. The head of the flue is a short stone stack, built on a rectangular plan with rounded corners. The flue is also stone built, with an arched roof and flat floor. It runs downhill to the ruins of a probable post-war fan house which seems to have re-used it in part. The lower part of the flue is underground but is discernible as a slight ridge at the surface (**Photo 7**).

The monument's national significance derives from its evidential and historic values. Further investigation of the furnace under archaeological conditions has the vast potential to provide further information on the early 19th century coal mining industry. It is likely that there are buried deposits and artefacts which could help understand the chronology, building techniques and functional detail of the furnace.

Setting

The monument sits on a hillside of a steep valley overlooking Fforch-Dwm Road within the eastern area of the Site. The monument is located outside of the ZTV model, but it has been included in this stage of the assessment due to its location within the Site boundary. The monument is aligned east to west and is clearly visible from Fforch-Dwm Road, but distant views are blocked due to the topography of the narrow valley (**Photo 8**).

The monument's setting is predominantly based on functionality and topography. The furnace was constructed in this location due to the proximity of the nearby colliery, and the steep sided hill provided an ideal location to allow smoke to be emitted above the base of the valley.

Today, the monument predominantly exists as below-ground remains, with occasional structures protruding the surface, i.e., the arched roof. The monument is located on a steep sided hill that is covered with bracken and vegetation, and indicators of its former use is largely obscured.

Contribution of setting to significance

The monument's significance derives primarily from its evidential and historic values (described previously) and especially from its archaeological potential. By comparison to those interests, the monument's setting makes a minor contribution to its significance, and this contribution can be seen to derive from the following aspects specifically:

- the topographical position of the monument ascending the steep-sided valley, which was a key consideration in the siting of the monument;
- the Nant Blaenpelenna, a stream which flows southwards into the Pelenna River, this water source was likely used by the nearby colliery, and could have been another consideration for the siting of the monument; and
- the location of Fforch-Dwm coal level and associated infrastructure, the monument would have been in convenient proximity to the level/colliery.

Development effects

As discussed above, the current proposals would directly/physically affect the monument. In terms of non-physical affects, only the associated infrastructure of the proposed development would be visible from the monument, i.e., access tracks. The access tracks would run along the current Fforch-Dwm Road and would be widened for HGVs, and visually would be similar to how the road appears in the present day. Nonetheless, the likelihood of increased traffic and activity, due to the proposed development, is likely to result in some **minor harm** to the significance of the monument.

6.1.2 Bronze Aged burial cairns: Pen-Rhiw-Angharad Round Cairns (GM276)

Description and Significance

Pen-Rhiw-Angharad Round Cairns (**GM276**) comprises the remains of eight prehistoric round cairns. The cairns vary in size but range between c. 2m – 10m in diameter. The cairns are located c. 1.5km north of the Site, on a ridge south-east of Tonna, with views north over the valley of the River Neath.

The monument is of national significance, which is derived from its evidential and historic values, and is an important element of the wider prehistoric funerary and ritual landscape. The monument has the potential of retaining intact burial or ritual deposits and environmental and structural evidence, including a buried prehistoric land surface. Such evidence also has the potential of enhancing our knowledge of prehistoric burial and ritual.

Setting

As noted above, the cairns are located on high ground, often occupying prominent positions on the summits of hills/mountains. They are a relatively common feature in upland landscapes such as this. The location of cairns in such places could suggest that they may have been important territorial markers, representing ownership, community, and identity. Today, the cairns are located within upland agricultural land.

Contribution of setting to significance

As highlighted above, the cairns' significance is derived from the evidential and historic values of their archaeological potential. Therefore, the buried archaeological potential is the main value which contributes to the significance of designated cairns. Although, the locational setting of Pen-Rhiw-Angharad Round Cairns does add some significance, and this contribution can be seen to derive from the following aspects specifically:

- the monument consists of a cairn field and therefore the intervisibility between individual cairns within this field would be of significance; and
- the cairn field is on high ground which would have prominence over the Neath Valley.

The position of cairns on the summits of hills/mountains would have been a key reason for their siting at these locations. It is believed that the location of cairns in such a position would allow them to have prominence over their valleys and to be seen from great distances and/or acting as marker points.

Today, however, the cairns retain little prominence in the wider landscape, and any long ranging views available in the Bronze Age and subsequent periods have been severely limited by mature vegetation, tree coverage and modern built form. The cairns are predominantly grass covered mounds in the present day which are located within agricultural fields that are surrounded by fences and hedgerows, or within forestry clearings. Therefore, the cairns are no longer prominent landmarks in the wider landscape.

Development effects

The ZTV used in this assessment is based on a 'bare earth' model of landform, such modelling does not consider any effects of screening from trees and vegetation. A study of the ZTV, along with a Site visit, has determined that there is likely to be very limited/no intervisibility between the Site and the monuments. Views towards the monument (**Photo 10**) from the Site are limited to views of forestry/woodland.

The proposals would therefore result in **no harm** to the significance of Pen-Rhiw-Angharad Round Cairns, nor would the proposals diminish the ability to appreciate that significance. It has also been determined that the Site does not form a key aspect of the assets' modern setting. The key contributing aspects of setting to the significance of the asset would be preserved, as would the evidential and historic values of the asset.

6.1.3 Iron Age hillforts/enclosures: Mynydd y Gaer (Lower) Camp (GM055), Buarth y Gaer (GM054), Pen-y-Castell (GM098), Blaen-Cwmbach Earthwork (GM277), and Camp 280m S of Melin Court Brook (GM366)

Description and Significance

Mynydd y Gaer (Lower) Camp (**GM055**) comprises the remains of a hillfort occupying a shelf on the northern slopes of Mynydd y Gaer, c. 4.1km south-west of the Site. The shelf is outlined on the north and west by the 240m contour, below which the ground falls away steeply, the ground rises gently to the east and south. The fort was probably roughly symmetrical originally; however, the northern outer banks have been destroyed by cultivation, but the remains are well-preserved elsewhere.

Buarth y Gaer (**GM054**) comprises the remains of a simple contour fort on the summit of Mynydd y Gaer, c. 4.5km south-west of the Site. It is oval in plan and measures c. 135m long from east to west by 107m wide enclosing 1.1ha, defended by a single bank with external ditch, of average overall width about 10m. The defences are best preserved on the east and north-east where the bank is about 0.7m high internally, and nearly 2m externally above the bottom of the ditch. At the west end is a simple entrance 12m wide. The defences have been partly destroyed on the south by modern quarrying.

Pen-y-Castell (**GM098**) occupies the summit of a small steep-sided hill, c. 4.7km south of the Site. The hillfort measures c. 65m long by 30m wide, and it is defended by a bank following the contours of the hill. The bank is c. 0.3m high internally but with an outer scarp almost 3m high. At the eastern end is a simple entrance c. 4.5m wide. Outside the bank is a berm 6-7m wide, followed by a second rampart. The entrance measures c. 14m wide and is located on the eastern side of the hillfort. There are also traces of an approach road winding around the hill.

Blaen-Cwmbach Earthwork (**GM277**) is an enclosure located on the ridge east of Tonna, with views north and west over the valley of the River Neath. It comprises an earth and stone bank c. 9m wide and 1.5m high with a ditch on the south-east side which forms, in plan, the quadrant of a circle c. 50m radius. There is a gap c. 7.5m wide with a corresponding causeway across the ditch c. 30m from the north end.

Camp 280m south of Melin Court Brook (**GM366**) is an enclosure located on the edge of the steep side of the valley of Melin Court Brook, c. 1.7km north-east of the Site. The enclosure is oval in plan and encompasses c.

0.1ha in area. The defences consist of an inner bank c. 3 – 3.5m wide, separated by a ditch from an outer bank c. 3 – 5m wide. The defences are best preserved on the north-west where the maximum height of the inner bank above the bottom of the ditch is nearly a metre. On the western side, the outer bank and ditch are interrupted by a causeway and the inner bank is in-turned sharply to form an entrance, c. 3m wide. On the south-west, the outer bank has been destroyed by a later hollow trail.

The monuments are of national significance which is derived from their evidential and historic values, and they are important elements of a wider late prehistoric context and landscape. The monuments have the potential to enhance our knowledge of later prehistoric defensive organisation and settlement through buried archaeological deposits and artefacts. There is also a strong probability that there is a presence of evidence relating to chronology, building techniques and functional detail of these hillforts/enclosures.

Setting

The hillforts/enclosures, as the name implies, sit on prominent ridges or on the summit of hills. Such sites are also accompanied by defences in the form of ditches and banks, and therefore are seen primarily as defended sites. However, hillforts had a varied range of other purposes in Iron Age society, and this has been the subject of much debate.

Today, the hillforts/enclosures occupy area of agricultural land located in upland areas and many of them are not accessible to the public.

Contribution of setting to significance

The hillforts/enclosures significance is derived from the evidential and historic values of their archaeological potential. Therefore, the buried archaeological potential is the main value which contributes to the significance of the designated hillforts/enclosures. However, their locational setting does add some significance, and this contribution can be seen to derive from the following aspects specifically:

- Mynydd y Gaer (Lower) Camp (**GM055**) and Buarth y Gaer (**GM054**):
 - located in proximity to each other and it is likely that these would have been associated with each other;
 - located close to watercourses that feed into the Crythan Brook, which itself feeds into the River Neath, and the nearby watercourses are likely to be a contributing factor to their siting; and
 - both monument are in defensible locations, overlooking the Neath Valley, suggesting that they were located here due to their defensibility and ability for it to administrate the surrounding area.
- Pen-y-Castell (**GM098**):
 - located close to the River Avan, which feeds into Swansea Bay to the south-west. The nearby river is likely to be a contributing factor to its siting; and
 - it is located on the summit of a steep-sided hill which provides it with a defensive location, and its location allowed it to defend/administrate the surrounding River Avan Valley area.
- Blaen-Cwmbach Earthwork (**GM277**):
 - located on a high ridge with views over the Neath Valley, this location would have been a key consideration for its siting. The location would have been a commanding position that would allow the defence and administration of the local area; and
 - there are also several watercourses immediately surrounding the monument which would have provided the occupiers with clean water.
- Camp 280m south of Melin Court Brook (**GM366**):

- located on high ground close to the summit of Carn Caca with views over the Neath Valley, this location would have been a key consideration for its siting. The location would have been a commanding position that would allow the defence and administration of the local area; and
- the nearby Melin Court Brook, which feeds into the River Neath, would have provided the occupiers with clean water.

Today, the hillforts'/enclosures' prominence in the landscape has been diminished and they now predominantly appear as earthworks with little dominance over the landscape. Additionally, any views over the landscape are interrupted by modern built form, vegetations and forestry/wooded areas.

Development effects

The ZTV used in this assessment is based on a 'bare earth' model of landform, such modelling does not consider any effects of screening from trees and vegetation. A study of the ZTV, along with a Site visit, has determined that there is likely to be very limited/no intervisibility between the Site and the monuments. Views south and south-westwards towards **GM055**, **GM054**, and **GM098** (**Photo 11** and **12**), north-west towards **GM277** (**Photo 13**), and north-east towards **GM366** (**Photo 14**) emphasises the surrounding vegetation and wooded areas that limit intervisibility between the Site and the monuments.

The proposals would therefore result in **no harm** to the significance of the scheduled Iron Age hillforts/enclosures discussed in this section, nor would the proposals diminish the ability to appreciate that significance. It has also been determined that the Site does not form a key aspect of the assets' modern setting. The key contributing aspects of setting to the significance of the assets would all be preserved, as would the evidential and historic values of the asset.

6.1.4 Roman marching camps: Blaen-Cwmbach Camp (GM258) and Roman Marching Camp south-west of Melin Court Brook (GM367)

Description and Significance

The Iron Age Blaen-Cwmbach Earthwork (**GM277**) was incorporated into Blaen-Cwmbach Camp (**GM258**) in the Roman period, and similarly, has views north and west over the valley of the River Neath. The camp has survived as extant sections of earthen bank forming part of its perimeter. There is a well-defined entrance on the west with associated tutulus, or entrance shielding bank and ditch. The camp is elongated in shape and measures 908m from west-south-west to east-north-east by c. 295m transversely. It is likely that this location was chosen by the Romans due to the Iron Age enclosure and its dominant position overlooking the valley of the River Neath.

The Roman Marching Camp south-west of Melin Court Brook (**GM367**) is almost square in shape, with sides varying in length from 203m to 239m. The camp encloses an area of c. 4.8ha, and the lies on boggy moorland.

The monuments are both of national significance and this significance is derived from their evidential and historic values. It is likely that there are buried deposits and artefacts which have the potential to enhance our knowledge of later prehistoric defensive organisation and settlement, and Roman military organisation within the context of the Roman occupation of Wales.

Setting

Roman marching camps are similarly positioned on prominent ridges or on the summit of hills like earlier Iron Age enclosures/hillforts. This is distinctly demonstrated by the presence of Blaen-Cwmbach Camp (**GM258**) within an Iron Age enclosure (**GM277**). Marching camps are temporary camps that likely related to Roman troop movements from one fort/location to another and were situated at defensible locations.

Today, the marching camps' views over the landscape are interrupted by modern built form, vegetations and forestry/wooded areas.

Contribution of setting to significance

The marching camps derive their significance from their evidential and historic values, and these values are associated with the buried archaeological potential that they hold. As such, the buried archaeological potential is the main value which contributes to the significance of the marching camps. Although, their locational setting does contribute to their significance to some degree, and this contribution can be seen to derive from the following aspects specifically:

- Blaen-Cwmbach Camp (**GM258**):
 - the monument incorporates the prehistoric monument, Blaen-Cwmbach Earthwork (**GM277**), and as outlined above, this is a good defensive location over the Neath Valley, and a place where the Roman military could administer the surrounding area; and
 - there are also several watercourses immediately surrounding the monument which would have provided the occupiers with clean water.
- Roman Marching Camp south-west of Melin Court Brook (**GM367**):
 - this monument also incorporates an earlier prehistoric monument, Camp 280m south of Melin Court Brook (GM366). This again highlights the location as a good defensive location where the Roman military believed would be a defensive and commanding position; and
 - Melin Court Brook would have provided a valuable water source.

Today, however, the marching camps retain little characteristics of their dominating presence in the landscape. The marching camps now predominantly appear as earthworks, with only hints of their previous position in the landscape. Additionally, any views that they retain over the landscape are interrupted by modern built form, vegetation, and forestry/wooded areas.

Development effects

The ZTV used in this assessment is based on a 'bare earth' model of landform, such modelling does not consider any effects of screening from trees and vegetation. A study of the ZTV, along with a Site visit, has determined that there is likely to be very limited/no intervisibility between the Site and the monuments. The monuments are located in proximity to earlier prehistoric hillforts/enclosures, and as such, **Photos 13** and **14** demonstrate the limited intervisibility between the monuments and the Site.

The proposals would therefore result in **no harm** to the significance of the scheduled Roman marching camps discussed in this section, nor would the proposals diminish the ability to appreciate that significance. It has also been determined that the Site does not form a key aspect of the assets' modern setting. The key contributing aspects of setting to the significance of the assets would all be preserved, as would the evidential and historic values of the asset.

6.1.5 Early medieval dyke: Cefn Morfydd Dyke & Earthwork (GM264)

Description and Significance

Cefn Morfydd Dyke & Earthwork (**GM264**) comprises the remains of a dyke, a defensive boundary or earthwork, dating to the early medieval period; however, no dating evidence is available for the dyke and has been suggested that it could belong to the late prehistoric period. The dyke is located c. 1.2km north-west of the Site. The ends of the dyke are c. 410m apart, the middle of the dyke curving in towards the south-west. The western section comprises of a bank and ditch. The dyke is broken through at various points by tracks and watercourses. The earthwork lies approximately 90m south-west of the western end of the dyke. It is oval, measuring c. 60m by 40m. The bank and ditch are best preserved on the eastern side and there is an entrance on the north-east.

The monument national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of early medieval, or potentially later prehistoric, defensive organisation and settlement. It retains significant archaeological potential, with a strong probability of the presence of associated archaeological features and deposits.

Setting

The dyke is situated on the north-east slop of Cefn Morfudd, c. 1.2km west of Site, facing low ground to the north-west and over the valley of the River Neath. Dykes situated in areas such as this are characterised as ‘cross ridge dykes’ and are believed to have been originally prehistoric routeways that were re-used in the early medieval period following the demise of centralised Roman government and the consequent lack of maintenance of Roman roads. Therefore, historically, the setting of the dyke would have comprised of an upland routeway linking prehistoric communities before being reused centuries later in the early medieval period for similar reasons.

Today, the dyke is located within an upland agricultural landscape with views predominantly to the north and north-west over the modern town of Neath.

Contribution of setting to significance

The dyke derives its significance from its evidential and historic values which is evidenced in its buried archaeological potential. Therefore, the buried archaeological potential is the main value which contributes to the significance of the dyke. Nonetheless, the upland setting of the dyke certainly contributes to its significance, and the ridge top position would have used a well-used and known trackway to connect both prehistoric and early medieval communities.

Although, the dyke has been impacted by developments in its proximity. There are signs that post-medieval and modern agricultural activity, e.g., tracks/roads, have crossed through the monument, and post-medieval mineral railway (**GM447** – see below) is located immediately adjacent to the dyke. These later developments have taken precedence in the landscape and the dyke only appears as small, and often interrupted, earthworks. There are no long ranging views of the dyke, and it can only be viewed in proximity to it.

Development effects

The proposed development will not directly affect the buried archaeological deposits of the monument and therefore will not have any impact on that value which contributes most to the monument’s significance. Views out of the monument towards the Site are secondary to an understanding of its significance and have been partially eroded by the modern forestry land immediately to its east. Additionally, the ZTV model used in this assessment is based on a ‘bare earth’ model of landform, which does not consider any effects of screening from trees. Therefore, the presence of intervening forestry between the monument and the Site is likely to block any views of the proposed development.

The proposals would therefore result in **no harm** to the significance of the monument, nor would the proposals diminish the ability to appreciate that significance. It has also been determined that the Site does not form a key aspect of the monument’s modern setting. The key contributing aspects of setting to the significance of the assets would all be preserved, as would the evidential and historic values of the asset.

6.1.6 Medieval: Deserted Rural Settlement North of Foel Fynyddau (GM551)

Description and Significance

The deserted rural settlement near Foel Fynyddau (**GM551**) comprises the remains of five circular/rectangular earthen building platforms. There are four platforms, set in pairs, which likely represent the earliest phase of occupation. The smallest measures c. 9m by 5m and the largest c. 13m by 5m, and all have been built at 90 degrees to the prevailing slope to provide flat bases for timber buildings. The fifth platform has been set along

the contour of the hill and retains the stone footings of a building apparently used as a barn during the 17th and 18th centuries. It is possible further platforms may be in the adjacent forest.

The monument is of national significance, and this is derived from its evidential and historic value. These values predominantly consist of the potential archaeological information that the scheduled area may hold, and this may include evidence relating to chronology, construction techniques, and agricultural methods.

Setting

The monument is located c. 1.6km south-west of the Site and is located predominantly on upland agricultural land; however, it is located immediately adjacent to forestry land, with some of the monument within the forestry itself.

Contribution of setting to significance

The buried archaeological potential is the main value which contributes to the significance of the monument. The only significance that can be related to its setting can be seen to derive from the following aspects specifically:

- its immediate topography, i.e., sloping topography to build the platforms into the hillside/along the hill contours; and
- more suitable local geology. The medieval settlement is located on freely draining acid loamy soils over rock, whereas soils closer the nearby valley floors tend to be wet/slowly permeable.

Today, the monument is located within modern agricultural land and in the shadows of forestry/woodland to its immediate east.

Development effects

The proposed development will not directly affect the buried archaeological deposits of the monument and therefore will not have any impact on that value which contributes most to the monument's significance. Views out of the monument towards the Site are secondary to an understanding of its significance and have been partially eroded by the modern forestry land immediately to its east. Additionally, the ZTV model used in this assessment is based on a 'bare earth' model of landform, which does not consider any effects of screening from trees. Therefore, the presence of the forestry immediately to the east of the monument is likely to block any views of the proposed development.

The proposals would therefore result in **no harm** to the significance of the monument, nor would the proposals diminish the ability to appreciate that significance. It has also been determined that the Site does not form a key aspect of the monument's modern setting. The key contributing aspects of setting to the significance of the assets would all be preserved, as would the evidential and historic values of the asset.

6.1.7 Post-medieval industrial sites: Glyncorrwg Mineral Railway (GM447) and Ynysmaerdy Railway Incline (GM489)

Description and Setting

Glyncorrwg Mineral Railway (**GM447**) comprises the remains of William Kirkhouse's horse-operated tramroad which was built between 1839 and 1841. The closest section of the monument to the Site is located c. 800m to the north-west. The main section of route crosses Cefn Morfudd and runs for c. 1.1km. The southern extent of the monument is located north of Blaenavon Terrace, Tonmawr and extends northwards to where a large surviving stone embankment is situated, just to the east of Old Castle Farm.

Ynysmaerdy Railway Incline (**GM489**) comprises the remains of a 19th century rope hauled railway system, which was designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel in the 1850s. The closest section of the monument to the Site is

located 4.3km to the west. It was constructed for the broad-gauge South Wales Mineral Railway to link the collieries of the upper Afan Valley with a new dock at Briton Ferry.

The monuments are of national significance which is derived from their evidential and historic values, and they are important elements of the wider post-medieval industrial landscape. The monuments have the potential of retaining intact archaeological deposits and structural remains, which have the potential of enhancing our knowledge of their construction techniques and functional details.

Setting

The monuments setting is predominantly based on functionality and topography. The mineral railway (**GM447**) and railway incline (**GM489**) were designed to transport raw materials, e.g., coal from the collieries in the area to the docks/copper and iron furnaces.

Today, the monuments predominantly exist as below-ground remains, with occasional standing structures appearing above ground. The monuments are in agricultural fields and below modern roads/trackways with limited indicators of their former use and are largely indistinguishable in the area surrounding the Site.

Contribution of setting to significance

The buried archaeological potential is the main value which contributes to the significance of the monuments. Although, their locational setting does contribute to their significance to some degree, and this contribution can be seen to derive from the following aspects specifically:

- Glyncorrwg Mineral Railway (**GM447**):
 - the railway carried coal from the Gwenffrwd, Pelenna, and Cregan valleys, and as such, has some historical association with the Fforch-Dwm coal level/colliery; and
 - the functionality of the monument.
- Ynysmaerdy Railway Incline (**GM489**):
 - the functionality of the monument.

Predominantly, the monuments' topographical location is the most significant, as this was the reason for their construction. However, the industrial landscape in which these monuments were constructed has largely disappeared from the landscape surrounding the Site. Today, the area consists of steep-sided valleys with residential properties, upland agricultural land, and areas of thick forestry.

Development effects

The proposed development will not directly affect the buried archaeological deposits of the monuments and therefore will not have any impact on the values which contribute most to the monuments' significance. Views out of the monuments towards the Site are secondary to an understanding of their significance and have been partially eroded by the decline of industry in the area. Any views are likely to be minimal.

The proposals would therefore result in **no harm** to the significance of the monuments, nor would the proposals diminish the ability to appreciate their significance. It has also been determined that the Site does not form a key aspect of the monuments' modern setting. The key contributing aspects of setting to the significance of the assets would all be preserved, as would the evidential and historic values of the asset.

6.2 Listed Buildings

6.2.1 Cwm Pelenna Ventilation Stack (Fig. 14, 22888)

Description and Significance

The building comprises a ventilation stack built in the 1830s, with a hillside flue for Fforch-Dwm coal level. The building consists of a square rubble stone ventilation stack with rounded angles, standing on a square base. The stack stands c. 5m high. On the western side of the base is a round arch at the upper end of a stone flue, which is visible in the hillside below. The building is associated with Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace (**GM458**) Scheduled Monument, which is discussed above.

As a Grade II Listed Building, Cwm Pelenna Ventilation Stack is a designated historic asset of less than the highest significance. This significance derives from its historic, architectural, and archaeological values. Historically and architecturally, the building is tied to the history of the development of Fforch-Dwm coal level and 19th century coal mining techniques and developments. The archaeological value of the building is embodied by its association with the industrial remains of Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace (**GM458**) Scheduled Monument.

Setting

The building is located close to the summit of the steep valley overlooking Fforch-Dwm Road within the eastern area of the Site (**Photo 15**). The building is located outside of the ZTV model, but it has been included in this stage of the assessment due to its location within the Site boundary. Similarly, to the Scheduled Monument, the building's location is predominantly based on functionality and topography. The ventilation stack was constructed in this location due to the proximity of the nearby colliery, and the steep sided hill provided an ideal location to allow smoke to be emitted above the base of the valley.

Contribution of setting to Significance

The building's significance, as laid out above, is derived primarily from its evidential and historic values (described previously) and especially from its archaeological potential. By comparison to those interests, the building's setting makes a minor contribution to its significance, and this contribution can be seen to derive from the following aspects specifically:

- the topographical position of the building atop the steep-sided valley, which was a key consideration in its siting;
- the Nant Blaenpelenna, a stream which flows southwards into the Pelenna River, this water source was likely used by the nearby colliery, and could have been another consideration for the siting of the building; and
- the location of Fforch-Dwm coal level and associated infrastructure, the monument would have been in convenient proximity to the level/colliery.

Additionally, its location within the scheduled area of Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace (**GM458**) also contributes to its significance and places the building within its post-medieval and industrial context.

Development effects

The only intervisibility between the building and the proposals is the proposed access tracks which pass the building to the south. However, the proposed access tracks comprise of the widening of the existing metalled surface road, there will be no new road. The remaining associated infrastructure with the proposals, i.e., wind turbines, etc. have no intervisibility with the building. This is demonstrated in the ZTV model (**Fig. 14**) prepared for this assessment.

The proposals would not detract from an appreciation of the building from Fforch-Dwm Road. The building is not visible from any other locations due to the steep sided nature of the valley in which it is located. As discussed

above, the proposals have the potential of directly impacting the associated Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace (**GM458**). The building is intrinsically linked to the ventilation furnace, and therefore, any direct impacts on the ventilation furnace would also have impact upon the archaeological value of the ventilation stack.

In terms of setting and non-physical affects, the proposals would likely result in some **minor harm** to the significance of the building. This harm would come from the likelihood of increased traffic and activity due to the proposed development; however, the harm would likely be minimal, and it would not detract from its overall appreciation.

6.2.2 Scotch Fald (11857)

Description and Significance

The Grade II Listed Building of Scotch Fald (**11857**) is located c. 150m north of the Site and stands in a forest clearing. The building comprises of a former animal fold which was built in the 18th or 19th century. It was believed to be a cattle fold, but due to the fact there is only one entrance, which is relatively small, it is now believed that it was used for gathering sheep for shearing. Additionally, the former drover's road lies less than 200m away.

The building consists of two concentric circular drystone rubble walls, of which the inner wall is c. 2 – 2.5m high. The outer wall is c. 1 – 1.2m high, which is partially breached, and has rubble stone walls attached that form three sides of a rectangular enclosure, open to the south, and with the circular fold at the north-west corner. The outer walls partly retain flat copings.

As a Grade II Listed Building, Scotch Fald is a designated historic asset of less than the highest significance. This significance derives from its historic, architectural, and archaeological values. Historically and architecturally, the building is tied to the agricultural nature of the area and the development of agriculture in the 18th/19th centuries, and it is listed due to it being an extremely rare and specialised example of an agricultural building. Archaeologically, the ground beneath the building and the surrounding land is likely to hold key structural data about the development, form, size, and dating of the building.

Setting

The building is located within managed forestry land, and currently it is located within an area that has been felled in recent years. To the north of the building, c. 120m, is a wind turbine associated with Ffynnon Oer Wind Farm.

Contribution of setting to Significance

There are some aspects of the setting of the building which make a positive contribution to its significance. This includes:

- location in which it was constructed, which was a mostly agricultural area from the medieval period up to the post-war period when the area was taken over for forestry. It appears that the building was a part of the former farm of Blaen-Pelena; and
- the location of the nearby former drovers' as this would have been a contributing factor to the siting of the building at this location.

Development effects

There is intervisibility between the building and the Site (**Photo 16**); however, the proposals are unlikely to detract from an appreciation of the building. The building is located within a forestry clearing and is also located within the shadow of an existing wind turbine associated with the Ffynnon Oer Wind Farm. The proposed development would not affect this setting. Therefore, the proposed development would be anticipated to result in **no harm** to the significance, appreciation, or intelligibility of the building in its current setting.

6.2.3 Railway bridge near Crythan Farm (11698)

Description and Significance

The Grade II Listed Building of the railway bridge near Crythan Farm (**11698**) comprises a bridge associated with the South Wales Mineral Railway, which delivered coal from the collieries at Glynccorrwg to the docks at Briton Ferry. The railway opened in 1861 from Briton Ferry to Tonmawr and to Glynccorrwg in 1863. In 1908 the line was taken over by the Great Western Railway, who closed the incline in 1910, while the remainder of the railway finally closed in 1970.

The bridge comprises a long, single-arched bridge crossing a rock cutting. The bridge is built of narrowly coursed sandstone with a stone arch that springs directly from the rock faces on either side. It is unusual in having a steep pitch from end to end and from side to side, the arch springing from a much higher position on the southern side than on the northern side. The coursing is parallel with the deck for most of its length but steepened at the south end to equalise the eccentric loading on the arch. There is a broad string course at deck level and curving stone parapets which was recently rebuilt, with round copings replacing previous flat stone copings.

As a Grade II Listed Building, the bridge is a designated historic asset of less than the highest significance. This significance derives from its historic and architectural values. Historically and architecturally, the bridge is noted for its remarkable and ingenious design, which suggests that it may have been designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel himself.

Setting

The bridge is located within a densely wooded area located c. 3.7km south-west of the Site. The bridge still carries a single-tracked unclassified road, and the former railway track now comprises a footpath which passes underneath the bridge.

Contribution of setting to Significance

The historic and architectural values are the predominant value which contributes to the significance of the building. The only significance that can be related to its setting the immediate topography surrounding the building, as this was the main reason for its construction.

Development effects

There is no intervisibility between the bridge and the Site. The bridge is recorded on the ZTV model as potentially having intervisibility with the proposals, but this is based on a 'bare earth' model of landform, where such modelling does not consider any effects of screening from trees. The dense tree coverage surrounding the bridge ensure that there would be no intervisibility. The proposals would not detract from an appreciation of the bridge in views from the footpath below it, or the road crossing it. The proposed development would be anticipated to result in **no harm** to the significance, appreciation, or intelligibility of the bridge in its current setting.

6.2.4 Church of St Michael (23018) and Penuel Chapel (23020)

Description and Significance

The Grade II Listed Building of the Church of St Michael (**23018**) dates to 1850-1, but the tower dates to 1660 and possibly replaced an earlier tower belonging to the medieval church. It is mainly constructed with roughly coursed stone. The tower is a three-stage tower with yellow brick battlemented parapets, and a three-staged yellow brick spire.

The Grade II Listed Building of Penuel Chapel (**23020**) dates to 1856, with the façade dating to 1908. It is constructed with coursed rock-faced Pennant sandstone, with narrow angle buttresses and plinth, and a slate covered roof.

As Grade II Listed Buildings, the church and chapel are designated historic assets of less than the highest significance. Their significance derives from their historic, architectural, and communal values. Historically, the church and chapel are tied to the development of the village of Cwmavon in the 19th century. Architecturally, both the church and chapel have been listed due to their architecture. The Church of St Michael (**23018**) is listed primarily for its unusual 17th century tower and as an early work the renowned 19th century architect, John Prichard. Penuel Chapel (**23020**) was listed for its 20th century façade and interior, with the woodwork and Art Nouveau glass being of particular architectural interest. The church and chapel both have communal value as they are places of religion and commemoration, where local communities gather for regular religious services along with celebrations and remembrance services.

Setting

The church and chapel are both located within the built-up village of Cwmavon, and both are located along London Row/Jersey Row, c. 200m apart. The Church of St Michael (**23018**) is surrounded by its large churchyard and churchyard walls on all sides. Penuel Chapel (**23020**) is set within its own plot of land with stone walls on its north, east, and west sides, with iron railings to the south. Residential housing is located to the east of the chapel, whereas a public house is located to the west.

Contribution of setting to Significance

The primary aspect of the church and chapel's setting which makes a positive contribution to their significance is their location within the historic core of Cwmavon. The current church and chapel were both constructed in the 19th century which, as outlined above, was a time when the population was growing due to the heavy industries present in the surrounding area. As such, both church and chapel were constructed at their locations for the needs of the growing population of Cwmavon.

Development effects

There is no intervisibility between the church and/or chapel and the Site. Both buildings are located within a built-up area and the ZTV model does not consider any effects of the built environment. As such, the built landscape of Cwmavon, along with any vegetation/tree coverage between the church and chapel and Site, would ensure that there would be no intervisibility. The proposals would not detract from an appreciation of the church and chapel from London Row/Jersey Row. The proposed development would be anticipated to result in **no harm** to the significance, appreciation, or intelligibility of the church and chapel in their current setting.

6.2.5 Old longhouse at Nantfyedw (23848) and Stable at Nantfyedw (23849)

Description and Significance

The Grade II Listed Building of the old longhouse at Nantfyedw (**23848**) dates to the early 17th century; however, a new farmhouse was built in the 19th century and the longhouse was subsequently used animal accommodation and storage. Additionally, the longhouse has been altered over the centuries with the most notable alteration being the roof where corrugated asbestos cement sheets have been placed on the original trusses.

The Grade II Listed Building of the stable at Nantfyedw (**23849**) post-dates the longhouse and is believed to have been constructed in the 18th century. The stable is constructed with rubble stone and the roof has been replaced with modern corrugated iron sheets.

As Grade II Listed Buildings, the longhouse and stable are designated historic assets of less than the highest significance. Their significance derives from their historic and architectural values. Historically, the longhouse and stable are tied to the agricultural development of the farm at Nantfyedw. The presence of the 17th century longhouse suggest that the farm has a long history, and it is possible that its origins were in the medieval period. Architecturally, the longhouse is a rare surviving example of a sub-medieval longhouse retaining its original plan form and detail. The stable has been listed due to its association and group value with the longhouse.

Setting

The longhouse and stable are located within the north-western corner of the historic Nantfyedw farmyard. The 19th century, and replacement farmhouse, is located on the south-western edge of the farmyard, with modern agricultural buildings located to the south-east of the longhouse and stable. Mature trees surround the farmyard to the north, south, and west. Views towards the Site are restricted by this tree coverage as well as the buoiti landscape of the nearby village of Cymmer.

Contribution of setting to Significance

The primary aspect of the longhouse and stable which makes a positive contribution to their significance is their historic farmyard setting. As discussed above, the farm has a long history and this likely due to its location. The farm is located just to the south of a water source, Cwm Nantfyedw, and which the farm is named after. A water source such as this would have been a key factor in the decision to locate the farm here in medieval/early post-medieval period. Additionally, the farm is located in an area where there is plentiful land suitable for pasture.

Development effects

There is no intervisibility between the longhouse and stable and the Site. The farmyard is surrounded by mature trees and woodland and the ZTV model does not consider any effects of treeline/vegetation. As such, the vegetation/tree coverage between the longhouse and stable and Site, along with the built environment of the nearby village of Cymmer, would ensure that there would be no intervisibility. The proposals would not detract from an appreciation of the longhouse and stable from their farmyard setting. The proposed development would be anticipated to result in **no harm** to the significance, appreciation, or intelligibility of the longhouse and stable in their current setting.

7.0 Conclusions and Recommendations

7.1 Archaeology

This assessment, undertaken in full accordance with the guidance provided by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists has found that there are known and potential archaeological remains within the Site, which have the potential to be affected by the proposals. These comprise:

- Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace, Scheduled Monument (**GM458**);
- Tonmawr medieval platform, non-designated historic asset (**00693w**);
- Fforch Dwm Uchaf Row, non-designated historic asset (**00862w**);
- Fforch Dwm Railway, non-designated historic asset (**02435.0w**); and
- potential unknown remains of prehistoric/medieval/post-medieval date.

Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace (**GM458**) is of national significance and is therefore of the highest historic value. The current proposals suggest that the monument has the potential to be physically affected, and this would be in the form of upgrading the current Fforch-Dwm Road which could encroach upon the scheduled area. Preferably, the section of Fforch-Dwm Road which bisects the Scheduled Monument (see **Plate 1**) would not be the subject of any upgrading work, this would avoid any physical affects upon a monument of national significance.

If this is not possible, due to HGV requirements and/or engineering considerations, then the proposed work in this area would require a detailed Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) application submitted through Cadw, including plans, levels, and construction methods for the road. The application also needs to include a written explanation of the proposals, how they would affect the Scheduled Monument, and what will be done to ensure its significance is protected, retained, or enhanced. It is also likely that a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) would need to be produced and submitted alongside the SMC application. It should be noted that ideally a meeting/site visit with Cadw's local Inspector of Ancient Monuments should also be undertaken prior to the submission of an SMC application.

The medieval platform site (**00693w**), situated within the western area of the Site, would be of some historic value, but not of the highest value. The proposals also suggest that this non-designated historic asset has the potential to be physically affected by the access tracks. The current projection of the access tracks infers that they would bisect the historic asset. It would be preferable to re-route the access tracks in this area to avoid the historic asset. If this is not possible, then it is recommended that archaeological mitigation is undertaken to record and monitor any ground works associated with the construction of an access track in this area.

The proposals also suggest that the access tracks/road would partially physically affect the post-medieval non-designated historic assets of Fforch Dwm Uchaf Row (**00862w**) and Railway (**02435.0w**). However, as outlined above, these historic assets were removed in the 20th century and there is evidence to suggest these areas were cleared and levelled. As such, there is unlikely to be any assets surviving in these areas that would be considered heritage assets.

No other known archaeological remains will be physically affected by the proposals. There is, however, the potential of encountering previously unrecorded archaeological remains within the Site boundary. If present, remains associated with the prehistoric, medieval, and post-medieval periods could be present. Nonetheless, unless particularly well-preserved, unique, or retaining a particular sense of stratigraphic coherence, such remains would not be anticipated to comprise assets of the highest value, and they would not be anticipated to warrant preservation *in situ*, or otherwise preclude development within the Site.

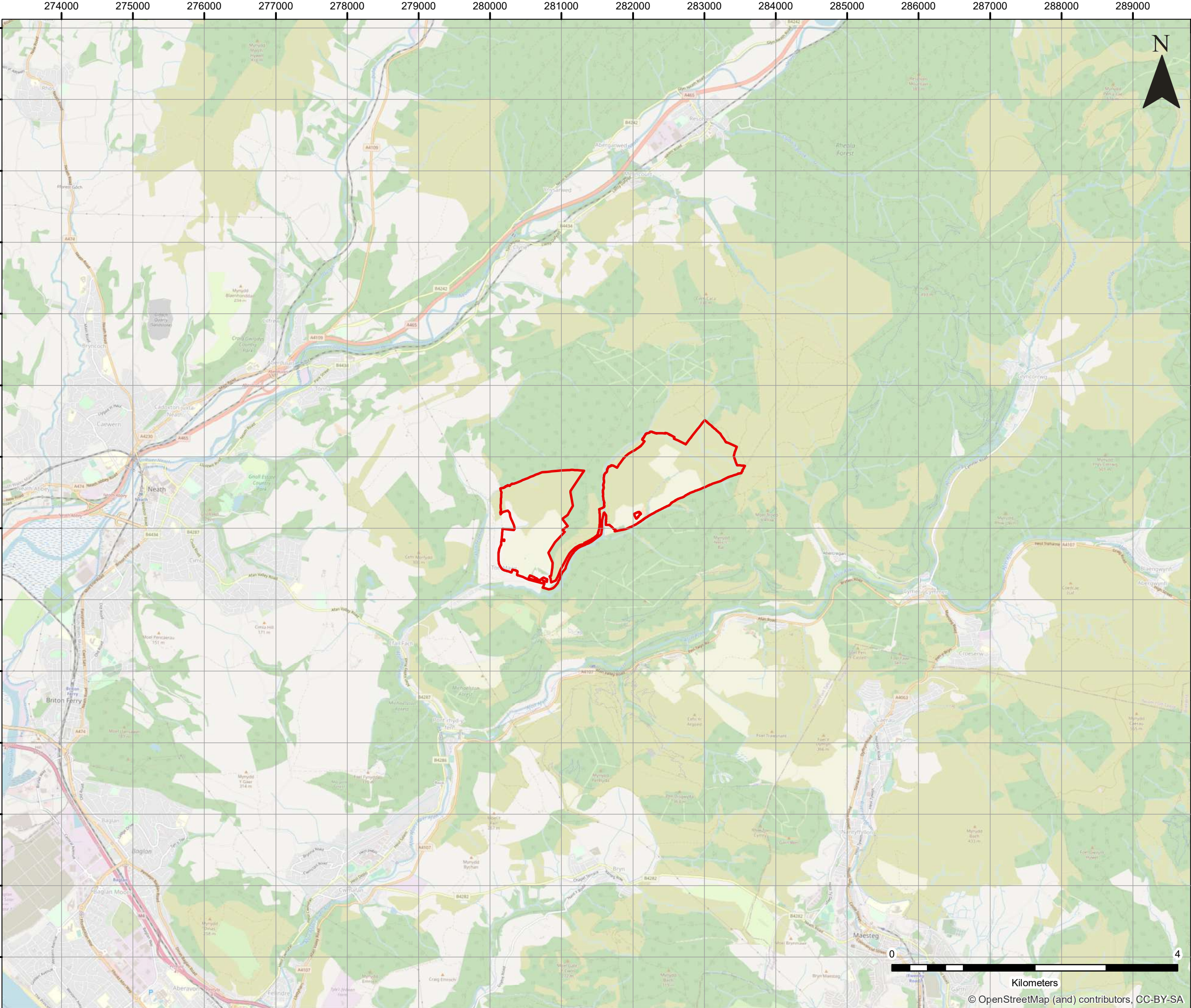
In the first instance, it is recommended that the Site should be the subject of a geophysical survey. The geophysical survey could be undertaken on suitable areas of the Site, i.e., away from the steep sided hills. All further archaeological work should be agreed with the Archaeological Planning Officer at GGAT via a Written Scheme of Investigation.

7.2 Heritage

This assessment, undertaken in full accordance with the guidance provided by Cadw, has identified that Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace (**GM458**) and Ventilation Stack (**22888**) may experience some limited level of harm as a result of change within their setting. This change would primarily consist of the increased traffic and use of Fforch-Dwm Road as a main access route to the western area of the proposed development.

The proposals would be anticipated to result in **no harm** to the significance of any other historic assets within proximity to the Site as a result of changes to their setting. With reference to the detailed settings assessments in Section 6 and the photographs in **Appendix 4**, in all cases the key contributing interests to the significance of those historic assets, and the key views towards and from them (including from 'third points'), would be preserved under the proposals. The ability to appreciate their significance would also be preserved.

FIGURES



LEGEND

SITE

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GROUND FLOOR
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MYNYDD FFORCH DWM

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DBA

SITE LOCATION

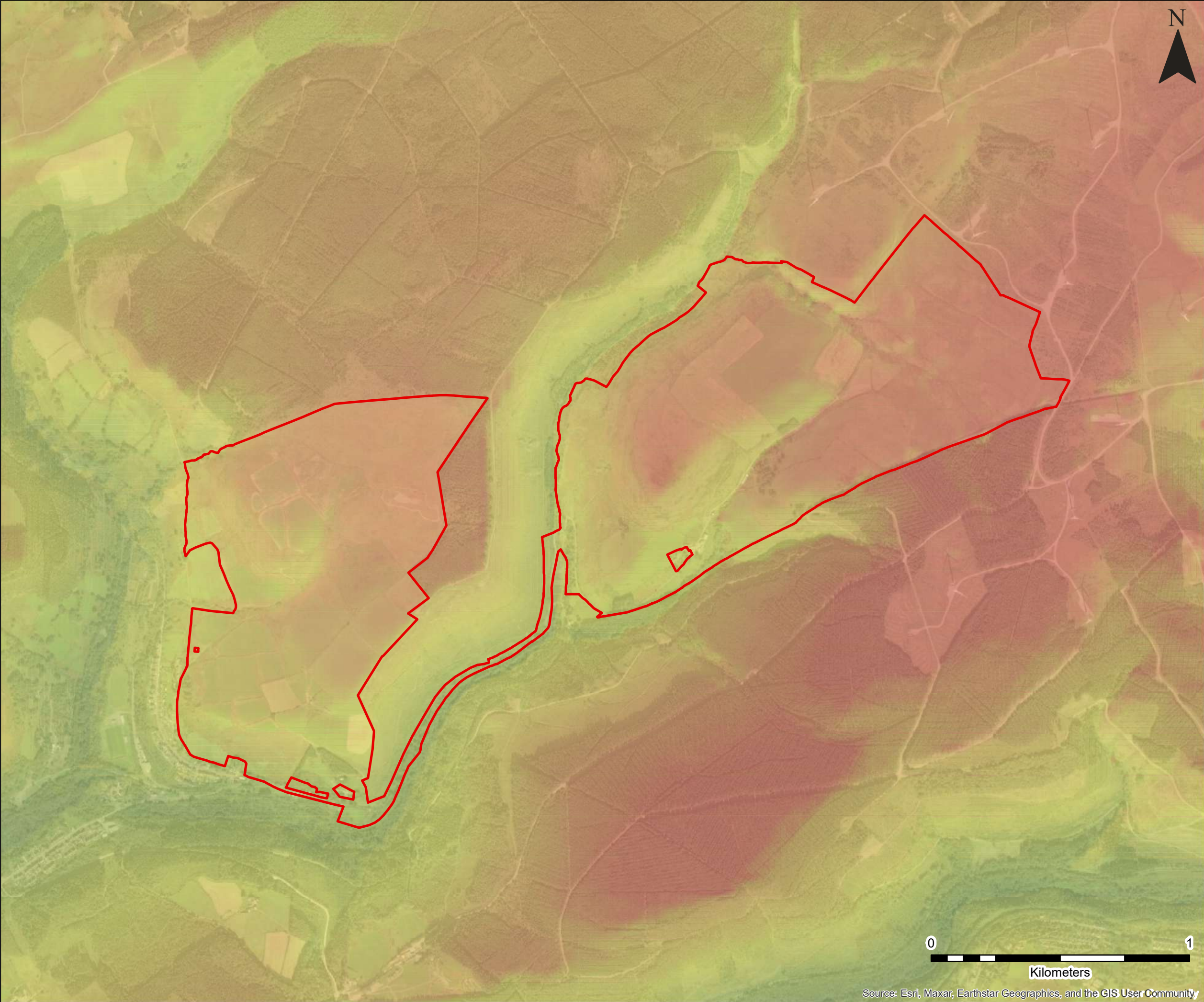
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Scale

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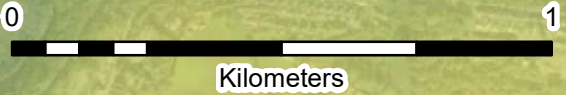
Date

APRIL 2023

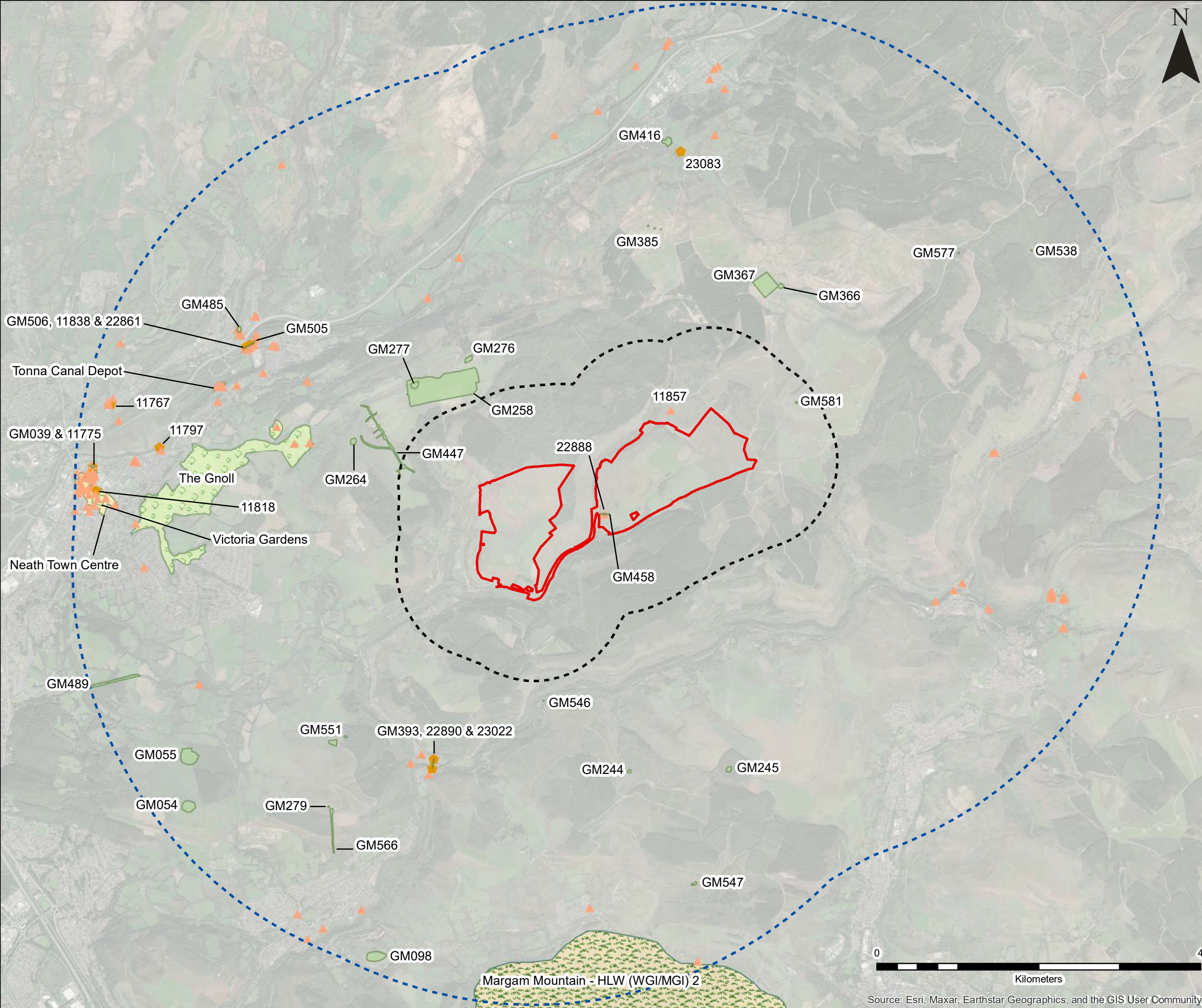


NOTE	
1. DATA © NATURAL RESOURCES WALES	
LEGEND	
	SITE
TOPOGRAPHY (M)	
Value	
	High : 574.2
	Low : -2.9

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MYNYDD FFORCH DWM	
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DBA	
SITE TOPOGRAPHY	
2	
Scale 1:14,000 @ A3	Date APRIL 2023



Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community



NOTE

1. DATA © CADW

LEGEND

SITE

STUDY AREA (1KM)

STUDY AREA (5KM)

GRADE II* LISTED BUILDING

GRADE II LISTED BUILDING

SCHEDULED MONUMENTS

REGISTERED PARK & GARDEN

CONSERVATION AREA

REGISTERED HISTORIC LANDSCAPE

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Mynydd Fforch DWM

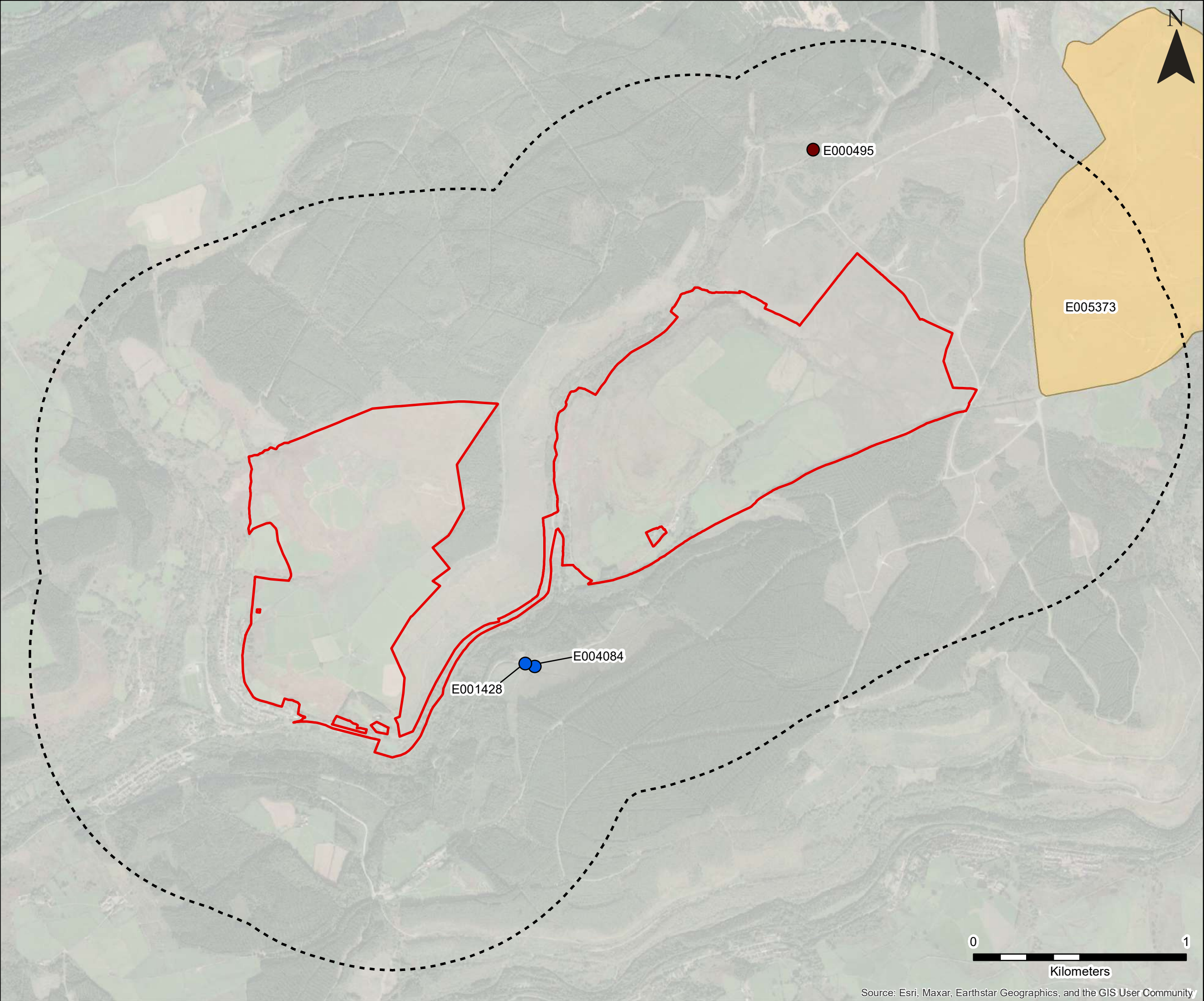
Historic Environment DBA

Designated Historic Assets

3

Scale1:45,000 @ A3

DateAPRIL 2023



NOTE

1. DATA © GGAT HER. ENQUIRY REF: 6921

LEGEND

SITE

STUDY AREA (1KM)

PREVIOUS INVESTIGATION

EXCAVATION

FIELD VISIT

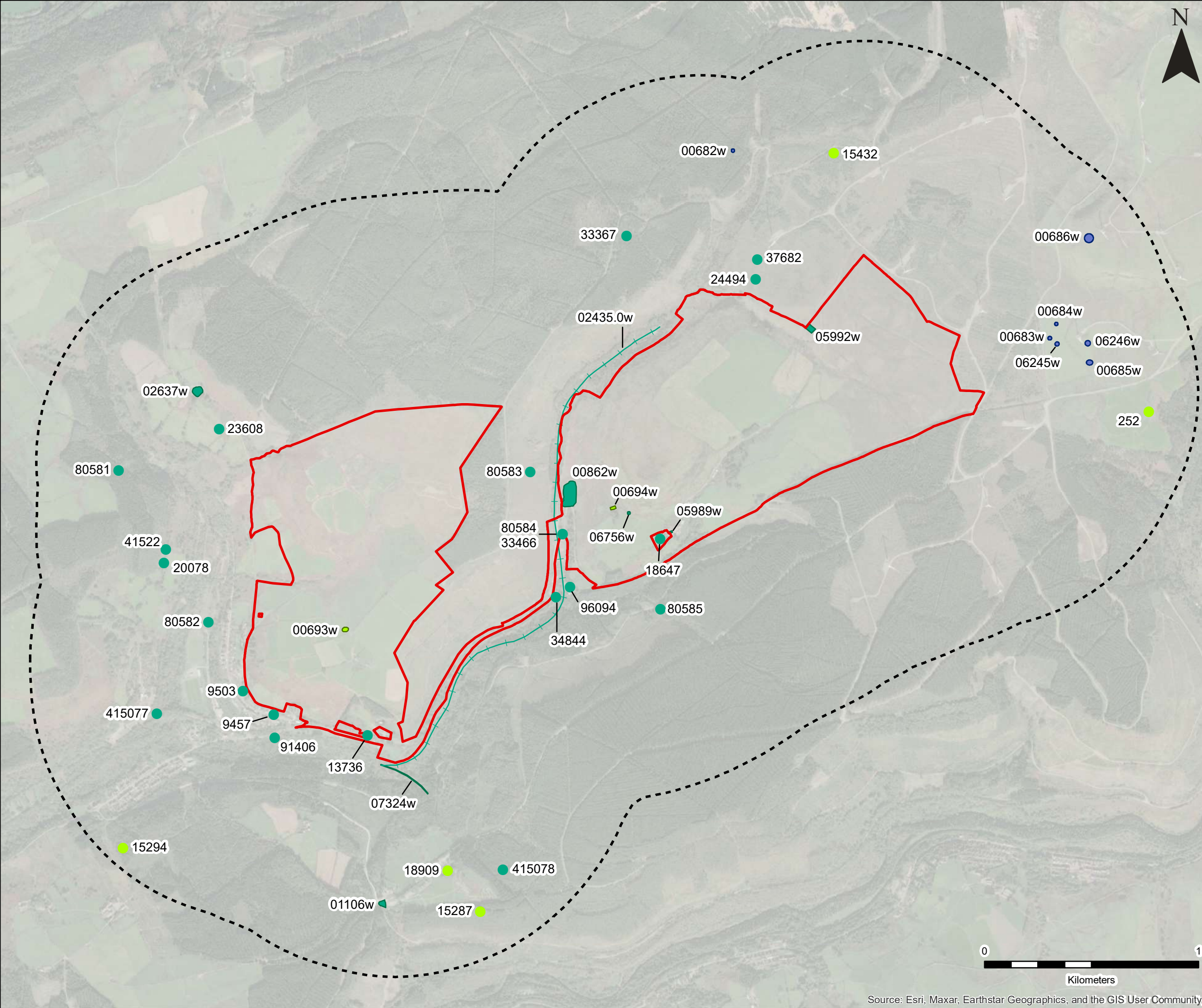
WATCHING BRIEF

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Historic Environment DBA
Previous Investigations

4

Scale1:17,000 @ A3DateAPRIL 2023



NOTE

1. DATA © GGAT HER. ENQUIRY REF: 6921 AND RCAHMW

LEGEND

- SITE
- STUDY AREA (1KM)
- PREHISTORIC
- MEDIEVAL
- POST-MEDIEVAL
- POST-MEDIEVAL RAILWAY

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MYNYDD FFORCH DWM

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DBA

NON-DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS

5

Scale1:17,000 @ A3

DateAPRIL 2023

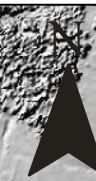


NOTE

1. DATA © NATURAL RESOURCES WALES

LEGEND

☐ SITE



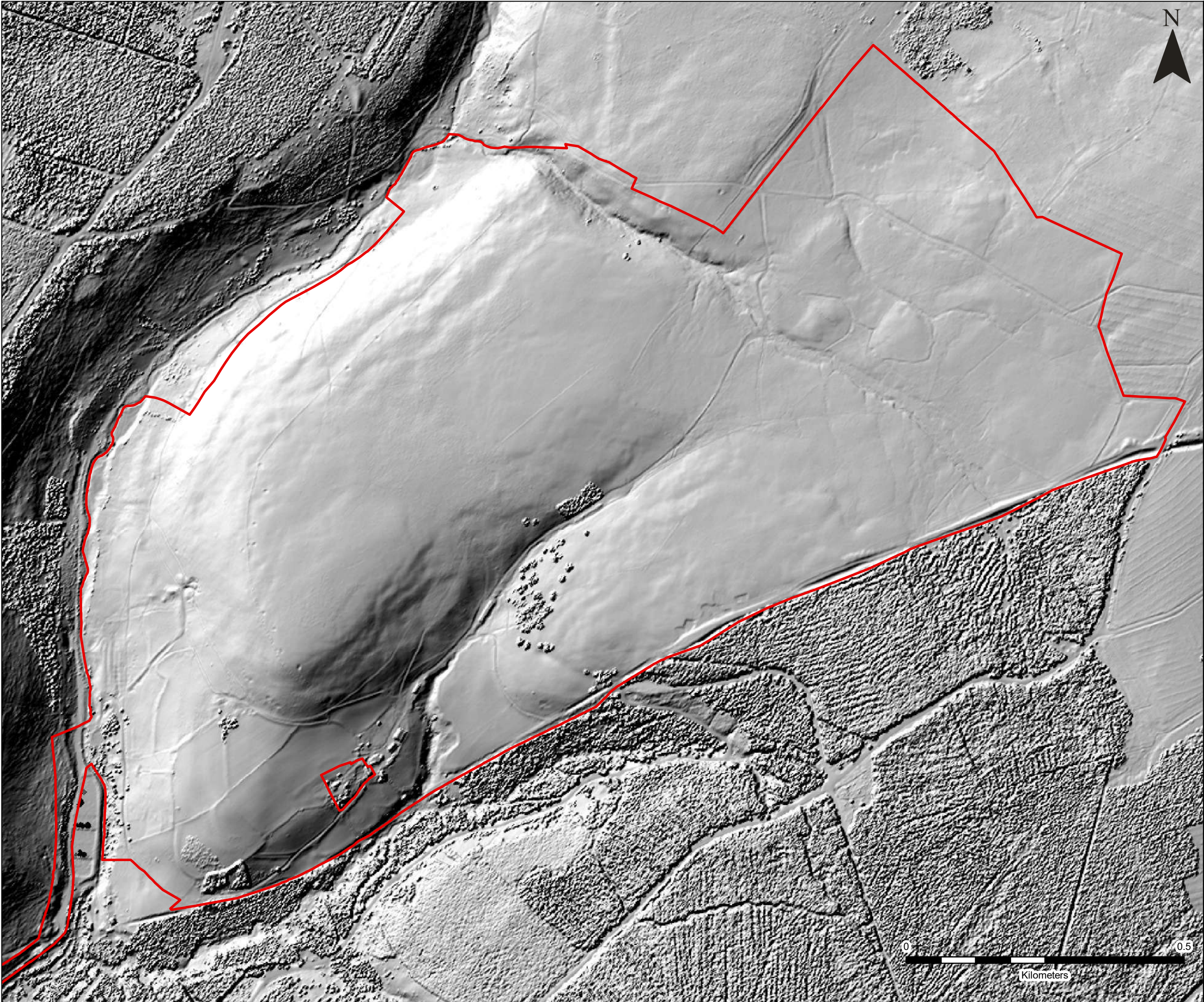
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Mynydd Fforch Dwm
Historic Environment DBA
LIDAR: 1M DSM WITH HILLSHADE

6

Scale
1:11,000 @ A3

Date	APRIL 2023
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NOTE	
1. DATA © NATURAL RESOURCES WALES	
LEGEND	
	SITE



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Mynydd Fforch Dwm
Historic Environment DBA
LIDAR: Eastern Area

7

Scale	1:6,500 @ A3	Date	APRIL 2023
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NOTE	
1. DATA © NATURAL RESOURCES WALES	
LEGEND	
	SITE
	RECORDED MEDIEVAL FEATURE
	RECORDED POST-MEDIEVAL FEATURE
	MODERN AGRICULTURAL FEATURE
	FORMER QUARRY
	ROAD/TRACK/FIELD BOUNDARY



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Historic Environment DBA
LIDAR: Eastern Area, Transcribed

8

Scale	Date
1:6,500 @ A3	APRIL 2023



NOTE	
1. DATA © NATURAL RESOURCES WALES	
LEGEND	
	SITE




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Mynydd Fforch Dwm
Historic Environment DBA
LIDAR: Western Area

9

Scale	1:6,500 @ A3	Date	APRIL 2023
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NOTE

1. DATA © NATURAL RESOURCES WALES

LEGEND

SITE

RECORDED MEDIEVAL FEATURE

RECORDED POST-MEDIEVAL FEATURE

POST-MED AGRICULTURAL FEATURE

MODERN AGRICULTURAL FEATURE

FORMER QUARRY

ROAD/TRACK/FIELD BOUNDARY

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HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DBA
LIDAR: WESTERN AREA, TRANSCRIBED

10

Scale 1:6,500 @ A3 Date APRIL 2023



 SITE

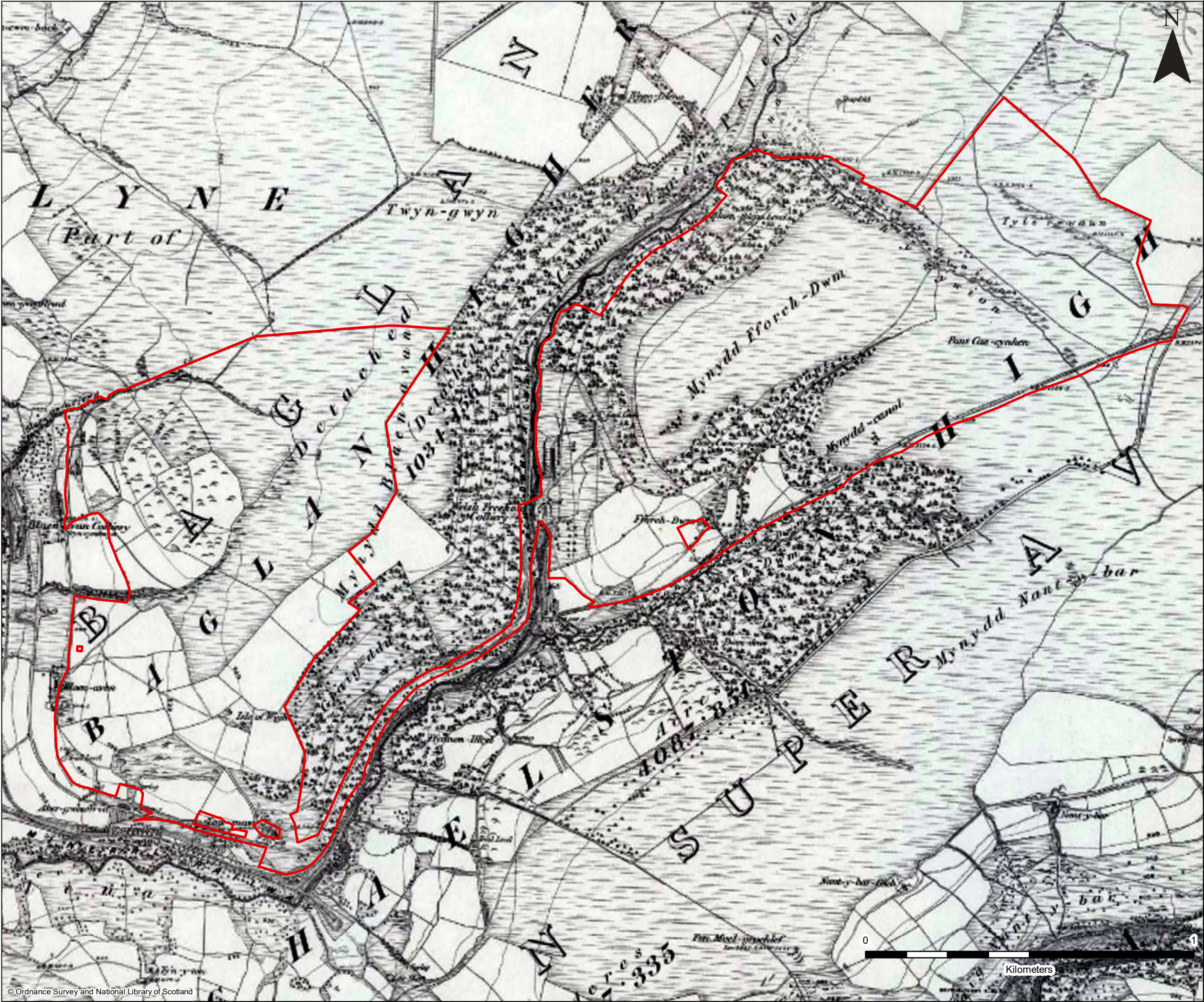


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TITHE MAPS

11

Scale	1:11,000 @ A3	Date	APRIL 2023
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NOTE

1. OS map © National Library of Scotland

LEGEND

SITE

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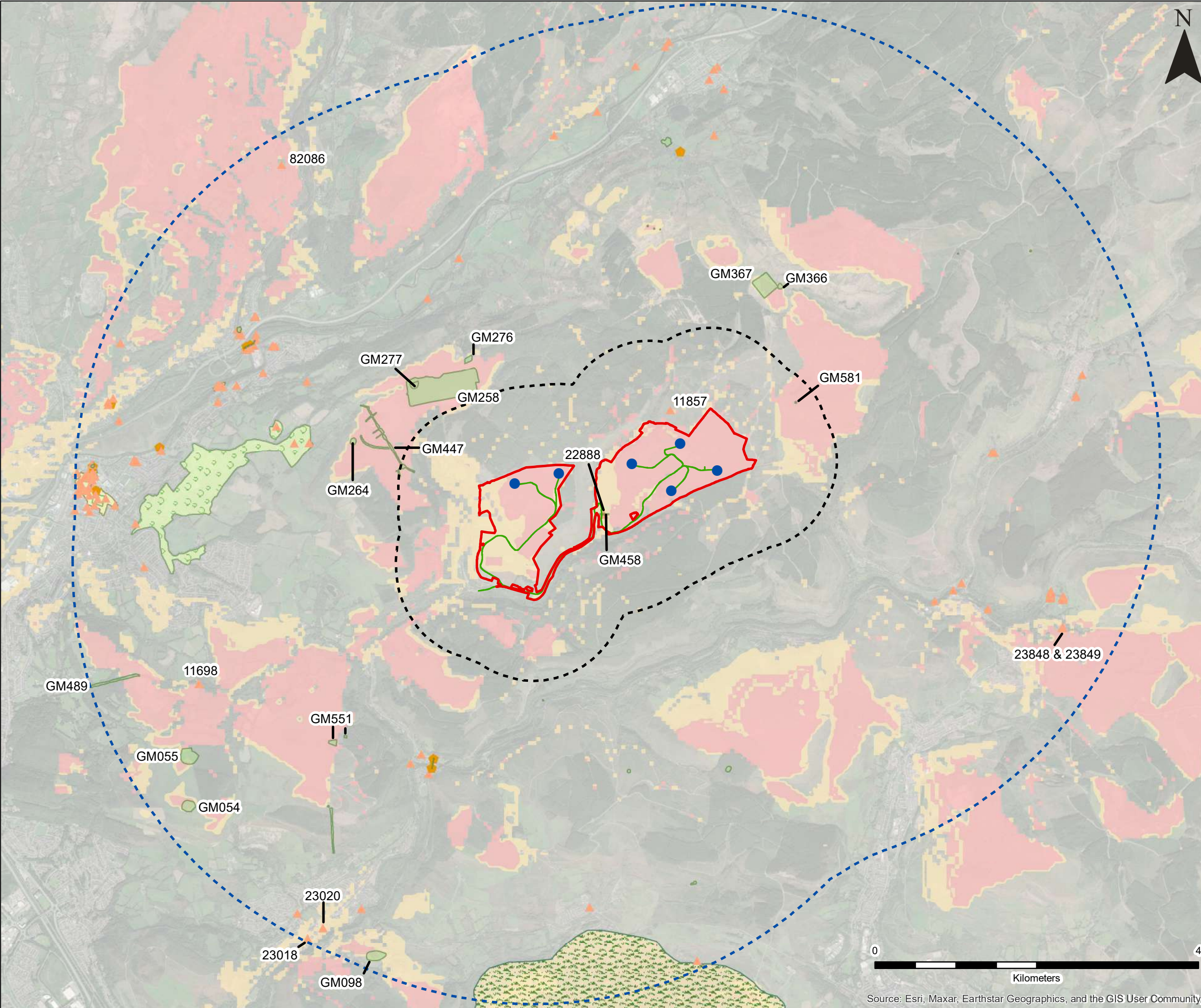
MYNYDD FFORCH DWM

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DBA

FIRST EDITION ORDNANCE SURVEY

12

Scale 1:11,000 @ A3 Date APRIL 2023



NOTE

1. DATA © CADW.
2. THE ZONE OF THEORETICAL VISIBILITY (ZTV) SHOWS THE MAXIMUM THEORETICAL VISIBILITY, TAKING TOPOGRAPHY INTO ACCOUNT.
3. THIS ZTV MAP IS BASED ON A 'BARE EARTH' MODEL OF THE LANDFORM AND DOES NOT SHOW ANY EFFECTS OF SCREENING FROM OBSTACLES SUCH AS BUILDINGS AND VEGETATION.
4. ZTV MAP IS BASED ON BLADE TIP HEIGHT OF 200M

- LEGEND
- SITE
 - PROPOSED TURBINE LOCATION
 - PROPOSED ACCESS TRACKS
 - STUDY AREA (1KM)
 - STUDY AREA (5KM)
 - ⬠ GRADE II* LISTED BUILDING
 - ▲ GRADE II LISTED BUILDING
 - SCHEDULED MONUMENTS
 - REGISTERED PARK & GARDEN
 - CONSERVATION AREA
 - REGISTERED HISTORIC LANDSCAPE
- ZTV TO BLADE TIP (200M)
- NO VISIBILITY
 - 1-3 TURBINES MAY BE VISIBLE
 - 4-6 TURBINES MAY BE VISIBLE





GROUND FLOOR
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MYNYDD FFORCH DWM

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DBA

ZTV WITH DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS

14

Scale 1:45,000 @ A3

Date APRIL 2023

Source: Esri, Maxar, Earthstar Geographics, and the GIS User Community

APPENDIX 1

Gazetteer of Designated Historic Assets assessed to Stage 1

The historic assets, listed in the table below, have been assessed to Step 1 of Cadw's Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (2017). Several historic assets were assessed in further detail (see Section 6 above); however, it was concluded that the historic assets listed below would not be affected by the proposals. In all instances, the historic assets were located beyond the Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) model. Additionally, there is great intervening distance(s) between the historic assets and the Site, a lack of any material inter-visibility between them and the Site, a lack of any relevant non-visual association(s) between them and the Site, and a lack of any 'third points' from which both would be visible to a material extent within the same viewshed. As such, this negates the potential for development within the Site to adversely affect their heritage significance. Similarly, the ability to appreciate their significance would be unaffected by development within the Site of the nature and on the scale proposed. The key contributing heritage values to the significance of these historic assets, the ability to appreciate their significance, and all key views towards, from and including them, would be preserved.

	Registered Historic Landscapes	
	Reference No.	Name
1	HLW (WGI/MGI) 2	Margam Mountain
	Registered Historic Park & Gardens	
	Reference No.	Name
2	GM64	Neath: Victoria Gardens
3	GM50	Neath: The Gnoll
	Conservation Areas	
	Reference No.	Name
4	WAL/NPT/2	Neath Town Centre
5	WAL/NPT/4	Tonna Canal Depot
	Scheduled Monuments	
	Reference No.	Name

6	GM039	Neath Castle	
7	GM244	Nant Herbert Camp	
8	GM245	Cefn yr Argoed Camp	
9	GM279	Foel Fynyddau Round Cairn	
10	GM385	Three Round Cairns on Carn Caca	
11	GM393	Pontrhydyfen Aqueduct / Viaduct	
12	GM416	Remains of Blast Furnace at Melin Court	
13	GM485	Tinplate works at Aberdulais Falls	
14	GM505	Canal Boat at Aberdulais Basin	
15	GM506	Aberdulais Aqueduct	
16	GM538	Bryn Llydan Round Barrow	
17	GM546	Cynon Corn-Drying Kiln	
18	GM547	Cae'r Mynydd Ventilation Furnace and Mine	
19	GM566	Cwmafan Copper Works Flue	
20	GM577	Carn Caglau Cairn	
21	GM581	Cefn Mawr Cairn	
	Listed Buildings		
	Reference No.	Name	Grade
22	11767	Church of Saint Cattwg	II*
23	11775	Neath Castle	II*
24	11776	Old Town Church of St.Thomas	II*
25	11797	Parish Church of St.Illtyd	II*
26	11818	Parish Church of St.David	II*

27	11838	Aberdulais Aqueduct (partly in Tonna community)	II*
28	22861	Aberdulais Aqueduct (partly in Blaenhonddan community)	II*
29	22890	Bont Fawr Aqueduct (partly in Cwmavon community)	II*
30	23022	Bont Fawr Aqueduct (partly in Pelenna Community)	II*
31	23083	Melincwrt Independent Chapel	II*
32	11768	Ivy Tower	II
33	11772	Great Western Chambers	II
34	11774	Moose Hall	II
35	11777	Gates, Gate Piers & Churchyard Wall of St. Thomas' Church	II
36	11778	Old Town Hall	II
37	11779	No.4 Church Place (Mechanics Institute)	II
38	11780	No.112 Cimla Road (Hugh Vaughan & Co. Ltd.)	II
39	11782	Former Gate & Lodges to Gnoll House	II
40	11783	Pillar Box	II
41	11784	War Memorial Gates	II
42	11785	General Market	II
43	11786	No.23 Green Street	II
44	11787	National Westminster Bank	II
45	11788	Friends Meeting House	II
46	11789	No.1 Llewellyn Almshouses, including Boundary Walls	II
47	11790	No.2 Llewellyn Almshouses, including Boundary Walls	II
48	11791	No.3 Llewellyn Almshouses, including Boundary Walls	II
49	11792	No.4 Llewellyn Almshouses, including Boundary Walls	II

50	11793	No.5 Llewellyn Almshouses, including Boundary Walls	II
51	11794	No.6 Llewellyn Almshouses, including Boundary Walls	II
52	11795	No.7 Llewellyn Almshouses, including Boundary Walls	II
53	11796	No.8 Llewellyn Almshouses, including Boundary Walls	II
54	11798	Gatepiers To St. Illtyd's Church	II
55	11799	Bethania Baptist Chapel	II
56	11800	Pillar Box	II
57	11803	No.6 New Street	II
58	11804	No.7 New Street	II
59	11805	No.1 Old Market Street	II
60	11806	No.2 Old Market Street	II
61	11807	No.3 Old Market Street	II
62	11808	No.6 Old Market Street	II
63	11809	No.7 Old Market Street	II
64	11810	No.7a Old Market Street	II
65	11811	The St. Ives Public House	II
66	11812	No.24 Church Street	II
67	11813	No.14 Old Market Street (Adrian Hicks & Son)	II
68	11814	No.15 Old Market Street	II
69	11815	No.16 Old Market Street	II
70	11817	Constitutional Club	II
71	11819	Barclay's Bank	II
72	11820	No.9 Queen Street (D.S.Morgan)	II

73	11821	Masonic Temple	II
74	11822	Bandstand, Victoria Gardens Park	II
75	11823	Pedestal & Bronze Statue of Howell Gwyn, Victoria Gardens Park	II
76	11824	No.8 Wind Street	II
77	11825	Midland Bank, Windsor Road	II
78	11826	Lloyd's Bank, Windsor Road	II
79	11828	No.52 Windsor Road	II
80	11829	Gwyn Hall, Orchard Street	II
81	11836	Aberdulais Lock on Tennant Canal	II
82	11837	Lock Keeper's and Toll Collector's Office at SW end of Aberdulais Aqueduct	II
83	11839	Aberdulais Basin at the head of the Tennant Canal	II
84	11840	Pont Gam	II
85	11841	Wood Seasoning Shed & Saw Pit at Neath Canal Depot	II
86	11852	Farmer's Arms Aqueduct over the Neath Canal	II
87	14159	Ynys Corrwg Farm	II
88	14175	Gelli Farm	II
89	15844	Tyn Yr Heol	II
90	15845	Ynysafan Tramroad Bridge	II
91	21967	Pant Y Gelli	II
92	22166	Jerusalem Baptist Chapel	II
93	22167	Kiln Block at Former Bryn Brickworks	II
94	22858	Church Of St Anne	II
95	22859	Penlan-Fach Bridge	II

96	22860	Grotto In Gnoll Estate	II
97	22862	Aberdulais Viaduct	II
98	22863	Railway Bridge on NE side of Railway Tavern	II
99	22864	Nazareth Chapel	II
100	22865	Stable At Neath Canal Depot	II
101	22866	Workshop, Store and Smithy at Neath Canal Depot	II
102	22867	Lock House	II
103	22868	Dulais Isaf House	II
104	22869	Railway Bridge Near Crythan Farm (partly in Neath Community)	II
105	22870	Ivy Tower	II
106	22871	Great Western Chambers, Bridge Street	II
107	22872	Moose Hall	II
108	22873	Gates, Gate piers & Churchyard Wall of St. Thomas' Church	II
109	22869	Dulais Fach	II
110	22870	Mosshouse Wood Cascade	II
111	22871	12 Dulais Fach Road, Aberdulais	II
112	22872	Lock and overbridge at Neath Canal Depot	II
113	22873	Bridge over Neath Canal SW of Ynys Nedd Farm	II
114	22889	Jerusalem Chapel	II
115	23019	Tabernacle Chapel	II
116	23021	Bethel Chapel	II
117	23024	Pontrhydyfen Viaduct	II
118	23079	Seion Fforest Calvinistic Methodist Chapel	II

119	23082	Jerusalem Independent Chapel	II
120	23089	Railings at Seion Fforest Calvinistic Methodist Chapel	II
121	23842	Cymmer Bridge	II
122	23843	Cymmer Viaduct	II
123	23844	Croeserw Viaduct	II
124	23845	Nantewlath including attached barn and stable	II
125	23846	The Hall (formerly Glyncorrwg Workmen's Institute and Memorial Hall)	II
126	23847	Gelli Farm Cottage	II
127	23850	Animal House at Nantewlath	II
128	23851	Former Brewhouse and Stable at Ynys Corrwg Farm	II
129	23852	Bakehouse at Gelli Farm	II
130	23853	Barn and Cow House at Gelli Farm	II
131	23854	1 Gelli Houses, Gelli	II
132	23855	2 Gelli Houses, Gelli	II
133	23856	3 Gelli Houses, Gelli	II
134	23857	4 Gelli Houses, Gelli	II
135	23858	5 Gelli Houses, Gelli	II
136	23859	6 Gelli Houses, Gelli	II
137	23860	7 Gelli Houses, Gelli	II
138	23861	8 Gelli Houses, Gelli	II
139	23862	9 Gelli Houses, Gelli	II
140	23863	10 Gelli Houses, Gelli	II
141	23864	11 Gelli Houses, Gelli	II

142	23865	12 Gelli Houses, Gelli	II
143	23866	Hebron Chapel	II
144	82076	Aberdulais Viaduct (partly in Tonna community)	II
145	82078	Bridge over Tennant Canal SE of the Church of Saint Cattwg	II
146	82080	Chimney at Aberdulais Falls Tinsplate Works	II
147	82082	Former Stables at Aberdulais Falls Tinsplate Works	II
148	82084	Old Works Library at Aberdulais Falls Tinsplate Works	II
149	82085	Gates, gate piers, walls and railings at Church of Saint Cattwg	II
150	82087	Limekiln near Neath Golf Course	II
151	82088	Milestone on A4230	II
152	82089	Monument in churchyard of St Cattwg	II
153	82093	Remains of tramroad bridge at Aberdulais Falls Tinsplate Works	II
154	82267	Bridge over former Vale of Neath Railway	II
155	82268	Bridge over Neath Canal at Abergarwed Lock	II
156	82269	Bridge over Neath Canal at Farmer's Arms Lock	II
157	82270	Clydach Brook aqueduct over former Vale of Neath Railway	II
158	82271	Llwyn-coedwr Farmhouse	II
159	82272	Milestone NE of Abergarwed on B4242	II
160	82273	Bridge over Neath Canal at Ynysarwed	II
161	82289	Twrch Brook culvert and overflow sluice on the Neath Canal	II
162	87652	Neath Library	II

APPENDIX 2

Gazetteer of Historic Assets

Reference No.	Name	Type	Period
Designated historic assets			
GM055	Mynydd y Gaer (Lower) Camp	Scheduled Monument	Prehistoric
GM098	Pen-y-Castell	Scheduled Monument	Prehistoric
GM244	Nant Herbert Camp	Scheduled Monument	Prehistoric
GM276	Pen-Rhiw-Angharad Round Cairns	Scheduled Monument	Prehistoric
GM277	Blaen-Cwmbach Earthwork	Scheduled Monument	Prehistoric
GM279	Foel Fynyddau Round Cairn	Scheduled Monument	Prehistoric
GM366	Camp 280m S of Melin Court Brook	Scheduled Monument	Prehistoric
GM577	Carn Caglau Cairn	Scheduled Monument	Prehistoric
GM581	Cefn Mawr Cairn	Scheduled Monument	Prehistoric
GM258	Blaen-Cwmbach Camp	Scheduled Monument	Roman
GM367	Roman Marching Camp south-west of Melin Court Brook	Scheduled Monument	Roman
GM264	Cefn Morfydd Dyke & Earthwork	Scheduled Monument	Early medieval
GM551	Deserted Rural Settlement North of Foel Fynyddau	Scheduled Monument	Medieval
GM447	Glyncorrwg Mineral Railway (Parsons Folly) Section on Cefn Morfudd	Scheduled Monument	Post-medieval/modern
GM458	Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace	Scheduled Monument	Post-medieval/modern
GM489	Ynysmaerdy Railway Incline	Scheduled Monument	Post-medieval/modern
GM566	Cwmafan Copper Works Flue	Scheduled Monument	Post-medieval/modern
11698	Railway bridge near Crythan Farm	Grade II Listed Building	Post-medieval
11857	Scotch Fold	Grade II Listed Building	Post-medieval
22888	Cwm Pelenna Ventilation Stack	Grade II Listed Building	Post-medieval
23018	Church of St Michael	Grade II Listed Building	Post-medieval
23020	Penuel Chapel	Grade II Listed Building	Post-medieval

Reference No.	Name	Type	Period
23848	Old longhouse at Nantfyedw	Grade II Listed Building	Post-medieval
23849	Stable at Nantfyedw	Grade II Listed Building	Post-medieval
82086	Goose rearing shelters and mounting block at Tan-y-rhiw	Grade II Listed Building	Post-medieval
Non-designated historic assets – GGAT HER			
00682w	Twyn Pumerw	Carin	Bronze Age
00683w	Nant Troed-y-Rhiw 1	Carin	Bronze Age
00684w	Nant Troed-y-Rhiw 2	Carin	Bronze Age
00685w	Nant Troed-y-Rhiw 3	Carin	Bronze Age
00686w	Cefn Mawr Cairn	Carin	Bronze Age
06245w	Nant Troed-y-Rhiw 4	Carin	Bronze Age
06246w	Nant Troed-y-Rhiw	Carin	Bronze Age
00693w	Ton Mawr (nr Isle of Wight)	Platform site	Medieval
00694w	Fforch Dwm longhouse	Platform/long hut site	Medieval
05989w	Fforch-dwm	Milking Shed	Post-medieval
05992w	Tyle'r Waun, near Fforch-dwm	Agricultural enclosure	Post-medieval
06756w	FForch-dwm, near Tonmawr	Sheep crawl	Post-medieval
00862w	Fforch Dwmuchaf Row	Former houses	Post-medieval
02435.0w	Fforch Dwm Railway	Railway line	Post-medieval
07324w	Tramroad	Tramroad	Post-medieval
01106w	Gyfylchi Chapel	Chapel	Post-medieval
02637w	Blaengwenffrwd	House	Post-medieval
Non-designated historic assets – RCAHMW			
252	Tonmawr	Platform site	Medieval
15287	Craig-y-Gyfylchi	Platform site	Medieval
15294	Cwm Pelena	Platform site	Medieval
15432	Pelenna Forest	Platform/settlement site	Medieval
18909	Gyfylchi	Platform site	Medieval
9457	Bryn Seion Independent Chapel	Church/chapel	Post-medieval
9503	Bethel Calvinistic Methodist Chapel	Church/chapel	Post-medieval
13736	St Teilo's Church Mission Hall	Church/chapel	Post-medieval

Reference No.	Name	Type	Period
18647	Fforch-Dwm	House	Post-medieval
20078	Ton-y-Grugos	House	Post-medieval
23608	Blaenwenffrwd	Trackway	Post-medieval
24494	Blaen Pelena Fold	Cattle fold/sheepfold	Post-medieval
33367	Blaen Pelena Fold	Cattle fold/sheepfold	Post-medieval
33466/80584	Cwm Pelena	Colliery and workings	Post-medieval
34844	Glyncorrwg Mineral Railway: Cwm Pelenna Bridge	Railway/bridge	Post-medieval
37682	Scotch Fald	Outbuilding	Post-medieval
41522	Ton-y-Grugos	Barn	Post-medieval
80581	Marine Colliery	Colliery	Post-medieval
80582	Whitworth Colliery	Colliery	Post-medieval
80583	Craigavon Colliery	Colliery	Post-medieval
80585	Garth No.3 Colliery	Colliery	Post-medieval
91406	Pont Abergwenffrwd	Limekiln	Post-medieval
96094	Pelenna House	House	Post-medieval
415077	Tonmawr Junction	Railway junction	Post-medieval
415078	Gylfylchi Tunnel	Railway tunnel	Post-medieval

APPENDIX 3

Photographs



Photo 1: Fforch-Dwm Road inside scheduled area (GM458), looking south-east



Photo 2: Fforch-Dwm Road inside scheduled area (GM458), looking north-west



Photo 3: Tonmawr medieval platform (00693w), looking north-east



Photo 4: Tonmawr medieval platform (00693w), looking south-east



Photo 5: View towards Fforch Dwm Uchaf Row (00862w), looking north



Photo 6: Route of former Fforch Dwm Railway (02435.0w), looking north-east



Photo 7: Cwm Pelenna Colliery Ventilation Furnace (GM458), looking east from Fforch-Dwm Road



Photo 8: Outward views from Fforch-Dwm Road, looking south-west



Photo 9: View from eastern area of the Site, looking north-east towards GM577 and GM581



Photo 10: View from eastern area of the Site, looking south and south-west towards GM276 and GM279



Photo 11: View from western area of Site, looking south towards GM244



Photo 12: View from western area of Site, looking south-west towards GM055 and GM098



Photo 13: View from western area of Site, looking north-west towards GM277

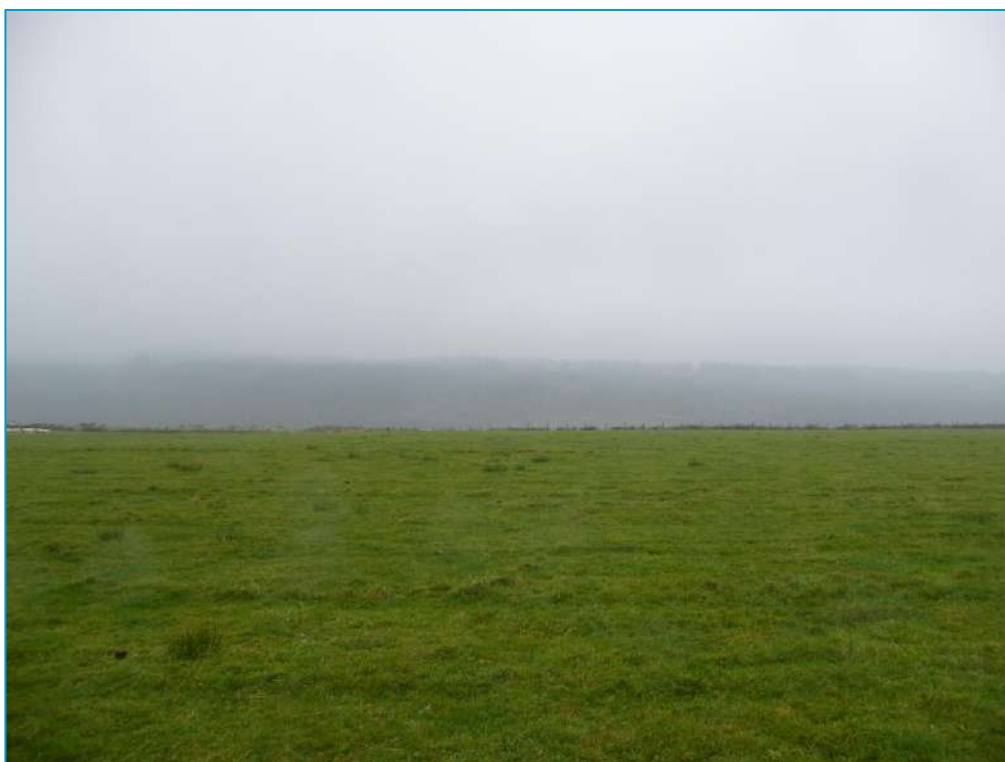


Photo 14: View from eastern area of Site, looking north-east towards GM366



Photo 15: Cwm Pelenna Ventilation Stack (22888), looking south-east from Fforch-Dwm Road



Photo 16: View of Scotch Fald (11857) from eastern boundary of Site, looking north-east

APPENDIX 4

Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)

MYNYDD FFORCH DWM WIND FARM NEATH PORT TALBOT

**Written Scheme of Investigation for Historic
Environment Desk Based Assessment**

Prepared for: Naturalis Energy Developments Ltd

SLR Ref: 410.V10909.00002
Version No: 1
September 2022



BASIS OF REPORT

This document has been prepared by SLR with reasonable skill, care, and diligence, and taking account of the manpower, timescales and resources devoted to it by agreement with Naturalis Energy Developments Ltd (the Client) as part or all of the services it has been appointed by the Client to carry out. It is subject to the terms and conditions of that appointment.

SLR shall not be liable for the use of or reliance on any information, advice, recommendations, and opinions in this document for any purpose by any person other than the Client. Reliance may be granted to a third party only in the event that SLR and the third party have executed a reliance agreement or collateral warranty.

Information reported herein may be based on the interpretation of public domain data collected by SLR, and/or information supplied by the Client and/or its other advisors and associates. These data have been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

The copyright and intellectual property in all drawings, reports, specifications, bills of quantities, calculations and other information set out in this report remain vested in SLR unless the terms of appointment state otherwise.

This document may contain information of a specialised and/or highly technical nature and the Client is advised to seek clarification on any elements which may be unclear to it.

Information, advice, recommendations, and opinions in this document should only be relied upon in the context of the whole document and any documents referenced explicitly herein and should then only be used within the context of the appointment.

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FIGURES

Figure 1: Site Location Plan

1.0 Introduction

SLR Consulting Limited (SLR) has been commissioned by Naturalis Energy Developments Ltd (the Client) to prepare a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) setting out the scope and methodology for a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (HEDBA) of land to the north-east of Tonmawr, c. 6km to the east of Neath in the county of Neath Port Talbot (centred around NGR: SS 80759 96756 and SS 82091 97572) (**Figure 1**; hereafter known as ‘the Site’).

This WSI has been guided in its composition by the ‘Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment’ (ClfA 2020a), Planning Policy Wales (Welsh Government 2021), and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment (Welsh Government 2017). The desk-based assessment will be subject to the approval of the WSI by the Planning Archaeologist at Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT), to seek agreement on the scope and methodology of the project, prior to undertaking the assessment. Upon completion a copy of the document will be sent to GGAT and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) for deposition.

2.0 Background

The Site largely comprises pastoral agricultural fields surrounded by commercial forestry. The Site is c. 6km to the east of Neath, c. 4km to the south of Resolven, and c. 1km to the north-east of the village of Tonmawr and is c. 290 ha. in size. Elevations within the Site range from 300m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) to 200m aOD, the lower elevations within the Site being along the watercourses which sit in the localised valleys adjacent to the Site. These include Nant Fforch Dwm and Nant Blaenpelenna which are present to the southern and north-western boundaries of the eastern-most land parcel and Cwm Blaenpelenna which is present to the west of the western-most land parcel.

The proposed development would comprise of the following main components:

- 7 wind turbines within an indicative height of up to 220m to tip;
- up to approximately 7.3 hectares of solar PV panels, mounted on frames fixed to the ground with associated inverters, security fencing and CCTV system;
- wind turbine foundations;
- external transformer housing;
- crane pads / turbine laydown areas;
- access tracks, entrance and turning points;
- replacement bridge over Nant Blaen Pellenna;
- substation and control building;
- permanent met mast or LioDAR compound for wind monitoring;
- underground electricity cables between the turbines and solar array and on the onsite sub-station;
- temporary construction and storage compounds with ancillary infrastructure; and
- potential energy storage infrastructure, anticipated to be in the form of a containerised battery storage.

It is proposed that the HEDBA will have **two** study areas; a 5km study area for the consideration of potential effects upon the ‘setting’ of historic assets, and a 1km study area that will consider non-designated historic assets. Within the wider 5km study area there are 29 Scheduled Monuments (SM), 145 Listed Buildings (LB), two Conservation Areas (CA), two Registered Historic Parks and Gardens (RHPG), and one Registered Historic Landscape (RHL).

3.0 Objectives

The assessment will fully assess the known and potential historic assets within the Site, their survival and significance. The objectives of the HEDBA will be:

- to identify designated heritage constraints within the Site and study area;
- to gather information on non-designated recorded historic assets through desk-based research, and through available archaeological survey information;
- to assess the above baseline information, and offer an analysis of the potential for currently unrecorded historic assets within the Site;
- to assess, as far as possible, the likely depth and extent of any below-ground archaeological deposits within the Site; and
- to assess the value of the historic assets affected by the proposed development and, where possible, the impact of the proposed development upon the value of these assets, including the setting of designated historic assets.

4.0 Methodology

Key Heritage Policy and Guidance

The content, aims and method set out in this WSI have been guided by the following key documents:

- Planning Policy Wales (Welsh Government Edition 11, 2021);
- Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment (Welsh Government 2017);
- Conservation Principles (Cadw 2011);
- Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment (CIfA 2020a);
- Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (Cadw 2017);
- Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales; and
- The 'Guidance for the Submission of data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records' produced by the Welsh Archaeological Trusts (2018).

Desk-Based Assessment

The desk-based research and sources will be based upon the *Standard and Guidance for historic environment assessments* produced by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2020a). The archaeological assessment will utilise a minimum study area of 1km around the boundary of the proposed Site. Data will be collated from published and archive sources of archaeological, historical, geographical, topographical, and environmental information relevant to the area of the development using the following sources:

- Cadw and RCAHMW for details of designated heritage assets including Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, etc;
- the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) Historic Environment Record (HER) for details of previously completed archaeological works in the vicinity and recorded historic assets;
- aerial photographs curated by the Central Register of Aerial Photographs for Wales;
- the Glamorgan Archives/West Glamorgan Archives, for documentary sources and historic mapping of relevance to the historical development of the site and its surroundings;

- remote sensing resources, i.e., LIDAR (provided by Natural Resources Wales);
- relevant national and local planning policy documentation; and
- a walkover survey of the proposed site and its environs to assess and document any extant evidence of heritage assets, any evidence of previous disturbance within the area of the Site and the setting of historic assets.

Value of Historic Assets

The value of historic assets is best defined by the Cadw guidance, *Conservation Principles* (2011), which describes value as a combination of evidential value, historical value, aesthetic value, and communal value.

Evidential value derives from those elements of an historic asset that can provide evidence about past human activity, including its physical remains or historic fabric.

Historical value may derive from aspects of past ways of life, or association with notable families, persons, events, or movements – it embodies the connection between past events and society with the present.

Aesthetic value derives from the sensory and intellectual stimulation drawn from an historic asset. It may include its physical form, and how it lies within its setting. It may also be the result of design, or an unplanned outcome of a process of events.

Communal value derives from the meanings that an historic asset has for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory. It may be commemorative or symbolic and relate to issues of identity or collective memory.

The Setting of Historic Assets

The assessment will be undertaken in accordance with the approach outlined in Cadw's *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (2017). This publication provides guidance on setting and development management, including the assessment of the implications of proposed development. It reiterates that 'the setting of a heritage asset is the surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral'. In accordance with the guidance, the extent of the setting of a heritage asset is not fixed and can evolve periodically.

All historic assets have a setting and features of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to significance and may affect the appreciation of the asset. They can remain neutral. The extent and importance of setting is often expressed by reference to visual considerations but can also comprise other elements which contribute to the ways in which a historic asset is experienced, including factors such as noise, vibrations, dust, or other pollutants; spatial associations; the rarity of comparable survivals of setting, and associative relationships between historic assets.

5.0 Staff and Timetable

The assessment will be carried out by James Evans ACIfA, Senior Archaeology and Heritage Consultant, SLR Consulting, and it will be technically coordinated by Chris Morley MCIfA, Technical Director – Archaeology and Heritage, SLR Consulting. The data collation, analysis and assessment report normally takes approximately five weeks.

6.0 Analysis and Reporting

The information collated will initially be assembled into a workable database, cross-referenced to the original sources. The assessment report will begin with a nontechnical summary both in English and Welsh, in accordance with *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records* (WAT 2018), outlining in

plain language the principal reasons for the work, its aims and main results. The introduction will then set out the circumstances leading to the commission of the report, any restrictions on reporting or access to relevant records, size, surface geology and topography of the study area. Any variation from the methodologies set out in this project specification will be detailed and explained within the methodology section of the report.

The report will set out the information base regarding the assessment objectives, as set out in Section 3 above. The known and potential historic assets will be outlined clearly and objectively in relation to the methods used, organised by archaeological period or type, and with reference to, or inclusion of, supporting evidence. The results will be interpreted and put into context in terms of significance. A comprehensive list of sources consulted, with full bibliographic details, will be provided at the back of the report.

The assessment will be supported with illustrative material, including at least one figure showing known or potential heritage assets within or affected by the proposed scheme. Where possible, areas of greater or lesser potential will be defined and the effects of previous construction, industrial and other intrusive activity will be considered.

Detailed Scope of Report Contents

The report will contain the following information:

- bilingual non-technical summary;
- introduction;
- planning background, including aims and objectives;
- description of proposed development;
- methodology;
- site topography and geology;
- archaeological and historic background and context (including information from cartographic and aerial photographic sources, and the site inspection);
- assessment of effects (physical and non-physical);
- preliminary recommendations for work;
- conclusions; and
- references and bibliography.

Archive Deposition

The final archive (site and research) will, whenever appropriate, be deposited with a suitable receiving institution, usually the relevant Local Authority museums service. Arrangements will be made with the receiving institution before work starts. A digital copy of the archive will also be sent to the RCAHMW following the guidance set out in the *RCAHMW Guidelines for Digital Archives* (2015).

Copies of the assessment report will be deposited with the National Monuments Record, RCAHMW, Aberystwyth. Wherever the archive is deposited, this information will be relayed to the HER. A summary of the contents of the archive will be supplied to GGAT. This will be in line with the guidance published by National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales (NPAAW), *National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales* (2017).

7.0 Health and Safety

Health and Safety will always take priority over work detail and archaeological issues. Prior to commencement of any Site visits, SLR will:

- complete a Risk Assessment detailing any project-specific Health and Safety considerations, measures and requirements, and submit a copy to the Client and, where necessary, the Principal Contractor.

Prior to preparation of the site-specific Risk Assessment by SLR, either the Client or the Principal Contractor will provide SLR with any and all information held in relation to known/anticipated hazardous on-site contaminants. This will include the most accurate information available on the nature and locations of those known contaminants.

During any Site visits, SLR will ensure:

- that all personnel engaged on the project are in possession of, and wear at all times (as required), the necessary Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), which, as a minimum, should include a hard hat, a hi-vis vest, safety gloves and site-appropriate footwear; and
- that Covid 19 safe working practices are implemented and observed as necessary, consistent with the most up-to-date Government legislation and guidance.

All health and safety measures will be administered in accordance with the following:

- The Health and Safety Work Act (1974) and related legislation;
- Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers Access to online advice provided by Quest; and
- the SLR Health and Safety Handbook.

8.0 Confidentiality and Publicity

All communications regarding the archaeological works will be directed to the Client.

SLR will not comment upon any aspect(s) of the project to members of the public or any other parties, unless specifically authorised to do so by the Client.

SLR will not disseminate images or information associated with the project, either for information or publicity purposes, without the prior written consent of the Client.

9.0 References

Cadw, 2011. *Conservation Principles: Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales*

Cadw, 2017. *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020a. *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020b. *Standard and Guidance for Commissioning Work or Providing Consultancy Advice on Archaeology and the Historic Environment*

National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales, 2017. *National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales*

Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, 2015. *RCAHMW Guidelines for Digital Archives*

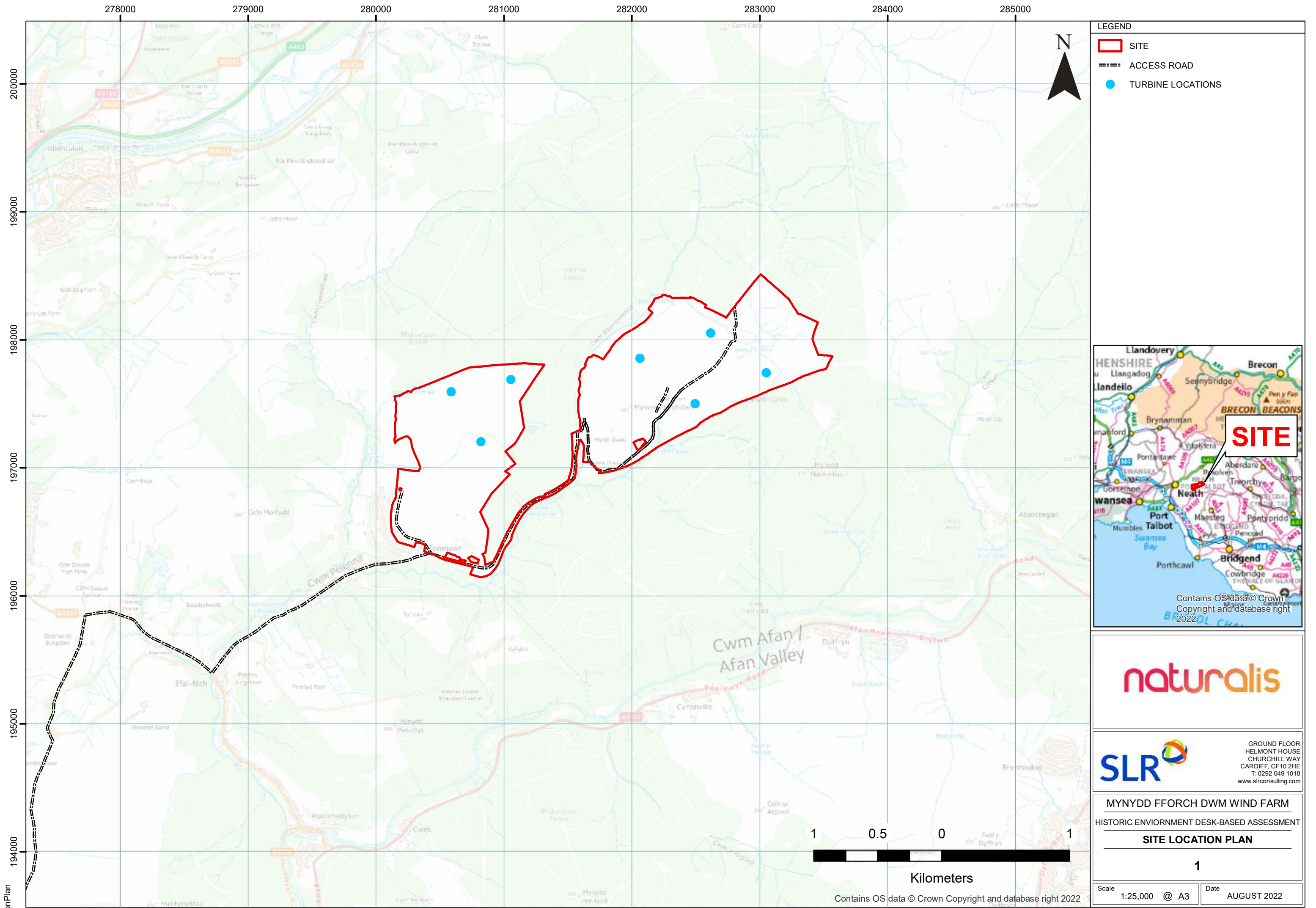
Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales, <https://www.archaeoleg.org.uk/intro.html> [accessed 08/07/2022]

Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2018. *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)*

Welsh Government, 2021. *Planning Policy Wales Edition 11*

Welsh Government, 2017. *Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment*

FIGURE 1



LEGEND

- SITE
- ACCESS ROAD
- TURBINE LOCATIONS





GROUND FLOOR
HELMONT HOUSE
CHURCHILL WAY
CARDIFF, CF10 2HE
T: 0292 049 1010
www.slrconsulting.com

MYNYDD FFORCH DWM WIND FARM
HISTORIC ENVIORNMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

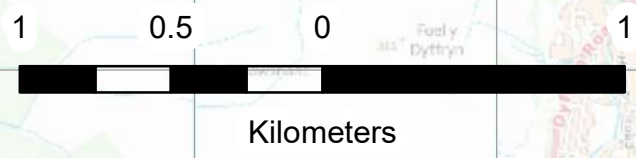
SITE LOCATION PLAN

Scale

1:25,000 @ A3

Date

AUGUST 2022



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EUROPEAN OFFICES

AYLESBURY

T: +44 (0)1844 337380

BELFAST

belfast@slrconsulting.com

BIRMINGHAM

T: +44 (0)121 2895610

BONN

T: +49 (0)176 60374618

BRADFORD-ON-AVON

T: +44 (0)1225 309400

BRISTOL

T: +44 (0)117 9064280

CARDIFF

T: +44 (0)2920 491010

CHELMSFORD

T: +44 (0)1245 392170

DUBLIN

T: +353 (0)1 296 4667

EDINBURGH

T: +44 (0)131 335 6830

EXETER

T: +44 (0)1392 490152

FRANKFURT

frankfurt@slrconsulting.com

GRENOBLE

T: +33 (0)6 23 37 14 14

LEEDS

T: +44 (0)113 5120293

LONDON

T: +44 (0)203 8056418

MAIDSTONE

T: +44 (0)1622 609242

MANCHESTER

T: +44 (0)161 8727564

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

T: +44 (0)1844 337380

NOTTINGHAM

T: +44 (0)115 9647280

SHEFFIELD

T: +44 (0)114 2455153

SHREWSBURY

T: +44 (0)1743 239250

STIRLING

T: +44 (0)1786 239900

WORCESTER

T: +44 (0)1905 751310

APPENDIX 5

Email communications with Cadw

James Evans

From: Neil.Maylan002@gov.wales
Sent: 27 September 2022 10:24
To: James Evans
Subject: RE: Stage 1 settings assessment

Hi James

Congratulations on your new position.

I can see nothing wrong with your approach and from the ZTV you have identified the designated historic assets that will require further study and those that do not further assessment. I look forward to see the detailed assessments in due course.

Best wishes

Neil

From: James Evans <jevans@slrconsulting.com>
Sent: 26 September 2022 17:11
To: Maylan, Neil (ETC - CST - Cadw - Historic Environment) <Neil.Maylan002@gov.wales>
Subject: Stage 1 settings assessment

Hi Neil,

I hope you're well. We have spoken a few times in the past, when I worked for Archaeology Wales and then when I was at Cotswold Archaeology – I have now moved to SLR Consulting!

I was wondering whether you may advise me with a project I'm working on?

I'm working on a desk-based assessment that will include a settings assessment for a proposed windfarm in the Neath Port Talbot area. Cadw has provided a scoping response (see attached pages 49-52) and requested that designated historic assets within 5km and ZTV of the proposed site are identified.

I have prepared a ZTV model (see attached) which shows all designated historic assets within 5km, and highlights those which will be visible/partially visible. I have also attached two tables in a Word document; one table lists the assets that I propose I consider in further detail in line with "The Setting of Historic Assets in Wales" document; the second table lists the assets that I propose to scope out at Stage 1 and include in an Appendix to the main report.

Does this sound sensible to you? And would you agree with what I have proposed?

I'm due to visit the site in the next few weeks, so will have a better understanding when I can see things with my own eyes, etc. Plus I will be working with the LVIA team who will share any viewpoints they create with me to aide my report.

I would greatly appreciate any advice/opinions that you may have. Thank you.

All the best,
James



James Evans

Heritage Consultant - Archaeology & Heritage

+44 29 2049 1010
+447935421606
jevans@slrconsulting.com

SLR Consulting Limited
Ground Floor, Belmont House, Churchill Way, Cardiff, CF10 2HE



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EUROPEAN OFFICES

AYLESBURY

T: +44 (0)1844 337380

BELFAST

belfast@slrconsulting.com

BIRMINGHAM

T: +44 (0)121 2895610

BONN

T: +49 (0)176 60374618

BRADFORD-ON-AVON

T: +44 (0)1225 309400

BRISTOL

T: +44 (0)117 9064280

CARDIFF

T: +44 (0)2920 491010

CHELMSFORD

T: +44 (0)1245 392170

DUBLIN

T: +353 (0)1 296 4667

EDINBURGH

T: +44 (0)131 335 6830

EXETER

T: +44 (0)1392 490152

FRANKFURT

frankfurt@slrconsulting.com

GRENOBLE

T: +33 (0)6 23 37 14 14

LEEDS

T: +44 (0)113 5120293

LONDON

T: +44 (0)203 8056418

MAIDSTONE

T: +44 (0)1622 609242

MANCHESTER

T: +44 (0)161 8727564

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE

T: +44 (0)1844 337380

NOTTINGHAM

T: +44 (0)115 9647280

SHEFFIELD

T: +44 (0)114 2455153

SHREWSBURY

T: +44 (0)1743 239250

STIRLING

T: +44 (0)1786 239900

WORCESTER

T: +44 (0)1905 751310