



Pennant Walters Ltd

Trecelyn Wind Farm

Draft Environmental Statement

Appendix 7A: Historic Environment Desk-Based
Assessment



November 2023

Report for

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1	Draft	01/11/23
2	Final	02/11/23

Executive summary

Purpose of this report

This Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment has been produced by WSP UK Ltd¹ for the purpose of establishing the archaeological baseline within the site of a Proposed Development of a wind farm on land known as Trecelyn, Caerphilly. This report has been prepared as part of an Environmental Impact Assessment. The wind farm would comprise four turbines with a maximum 145m turbine height (blade tips). As the Proposed Development would generate more than 10MW it is defined as a Development of National Significance (DNS) and will be considered by Planning and Environmental Decisions Wales (PEDW) before being determined by Welsh Ministers. The Site comprises a mix of semi-improved and unimproved grassland, located on the upper slopes of Mynydd Maen.

The Site has a history of pastoral use, with areas of open ground. An assessment of the available data has concluded that there is no known archaeology from the prehistoric, Roman or medieval periods at the Site, and that the archaeological potential from these periods is low.

Outside of the known post-medieval farmsteads recorded within the HER that have high archaeological potential, the Site has a limited potential for post-medieval archaeology. There are remains of post-medieval agricultural land divisions, a sheep fold and a pool (Pwllgwinae GGAT04981g) in localised areas of the Site. These remains are of low significance. The farmsteads and post-medieval remains will be avoided by the Proposed Development infrastructure.

A boundary stone for mineral rights, dated 1839, is located just outside of the eastern corner of the northern parcel of the Site. There is a low potential for unknown modern remains of the mining industry in localised areas of the Site.

Whilst there are no designated historic assets located within the Site boundary, there are two nationally designated historic assets within the 1km Study Area.

Pwrpas yr adroddiad hwn

Mae'r Asesiad Desg Amgylchedd Hanesyddol hwn wedi'i gynhyrchu gan WSP UK Ltd at ddiben sefydlu'r llinell sylfaen archeolegol o fewn safle Datblygiad Arfaethedig fferm wynt ar dir a elwir Trecelyn, Caerffili. Paratowyd hwn fel rhan o Asesiad Effaith Amgylcheddol. Byddai'r fferm wynt yn cynnwys pedwar tyrbîn gydag uchder tyrbîn o 145m ar y mwyaf (tomennydd llafn). Gan y byddai'r Datblygiad Arfaethedig yn cynhyrchu mwy na 10MW fe'i diffinnir fel Datblygiad o Arwyddocâd Cenedlaethol (DAC) a bydd yn cael ei ystyried gan Benderfyniadau Cynllunio ac Amgylcheddol Cymru (PCAC) cyn cael ei benderfynu gan Weinidogion Cymru. Mae'r Safle yn cynnwys cymysgedd o laswelltir wedi'i led-wella a heb ei wella, wedi'i leoli ar lethrau uchaf Mynydd Maen.

Mae gan y Safle hanes o ddefnydd bugeiliol, gydag ardaloedd o dir agored. Mae asesiad o'r data sydd ar gael wedi dod i'r casgliad nad oes unrhyw archeoleg hysbys o'r cyfnodau cynhanesyddol, Rhufeinig na chanoloesol ar y Safle, a bod y potensial archeolegol o'r cyfnodau hyn yn isel.

Y tu allan i'r ffermydd ôl-ganoloesol hysbys a gofnodwyd yn y CAH sydd â photensial archeolegol uchel, mae gan y Safle botensial cyfyngedig ar gyfer archeoleg ôl-ganoloesol. Ceir olion rhaniadau tir amaethyddol ôl-ganoloesol, corlan ddefaid a phwll (Pwllgwinae GGAT04981g) mewn ardaloedd

¹ Formerly Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions UK Limited

Ileol o'r Safle. Mae'r olion hyn o arwyddocâd isel. Bydd seilwaith y Datblygiad Arfaethedig yn osgoi'r ffermydd a'r olion ôl-ganoloesol.

Mae carreg derfyn ar gyfer hawliau mwynau, dyddiedig 1839, wedi'i lleoli ychydig y tu allan i gornel ddwyreiniol parcel gogleddol y Safle. Mae potensial isel ar gyfer olion modern anhysbys o'r diwydiant mwyngloddio mewn ardaloedd Ileol o'r Safle.

Er nad oes unrhyw asedau hanesyddol dynodedig o fewn ffin y Safle, mae dau ased hanesyddol a ddynodwyd yn genedlaethol o fewn Ardal yr Astudiaeth 1km.

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To be read with the other ES Appendices:

Appendix 7B: Historic environment gazetteer

Appendix 7C: Desk-based assessment Written Scheme of Investigation

Appendix 7D: Stage 1 Settings Assessment

1. Introduction

1.1 Project Background

1.1.1 WSP UK Ltd has been commissioned by Pennant Walters Ltd to prepare a Historic Environment Desk Based Assessment (DBA) to inform a proposed wind farm development on land at Trecelyn, Caerphilly ('the Site'). This DBA has been completed as part of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). The Proposed Development includes:

- four wind turbines;
- substation and transformer housing;
- temporary construction compound;
- temporary site offices;
- crane pads and cabling; and
- access track construction.

1.2 Scope of the Assessment

1.2.1 This report details the known archaeological and historical baseline of the Study Area, extending 1km from the Site boundary.

1.2.2 The report has been carried out to identify all known historic assets within the Site and known archaeological assets within the Study Area that may extend into, or have associations with, the Site. The assessment also describes the current settings of historic assets beyond the Site boundary whose settings may be affected by the Proposed Development.

2. Methodology

2.1 General

- 2.1.1 The Site comprises three parcels of land located within the Caerphilly County Borough Council administrative area. All of the land is comprised of a mix of semi-improved and unimproved grassland (**Figure 7A.1**).
- 2.1.2 The location of the three parcels of land is identified below:
- Northern Parcel – Grid Reference ST 23440 98116;
 - Central Parcel – Grid Reference ST 23193 96915;
 - Southern Parcel – Grid Reference ST 22902 96117.
- 2.1.3 A search of the Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record (GGAT HER) for non-designated assets was undertaken covering a study area of 1km from the Site boundary. A search specific to designated historic assets from Cadw was extended to 5km from the Site boundary (**Figure 7A.1**). The designated and non-designated records of the 1km Study Area are set out within **Appendix 7B** of the Environmental Statement (ES).
- 2.1.4 Information about previous archaeological investigations/events was obtained from the GGAT HER. These are detailed in this report and are presented in the Archaeological Events Gazetteer (**Appendix 7B**). Details of findspots recorded as part of the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) were checked. However, due to the confidential nature of these records only generalisations can be included within this report.
- 2.1.5 Searches of relevant archaeological and cartographic material as well as secondary historical sources were undertaken.
- 2.1.6 This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with guidelines set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) “*Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment*”². The methodology has followed that set out in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) which has been submitted to and agreed with the Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) (**Appendix 7C** of the ES).

2.2 Aim and Objectives

- 2.2.1 The aim of this report is to identify and characterise the historic environment (archaeological, historic and built heritage) resource within the Site and surrounding Study Area.
- 2.2.2 The objectives are to:
- review all designated and undesignated built historic assets within the Site and Study Area, and to identify their value and sensitivity to change;
 - assess the setting of historic environment assets;

² Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014. Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment (Online) Available at https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS%26GDBA_4.pdf (Accessed July 2023).

- identify and describe historic landscape features within the Site;
- assess the potential for previously unrecorded archaeological remains within the Site; and
- identify areas of previous disturbance that may have removed archaeological remains from the Site.

2.3 Data Gathering

- 2.3.1 A WSI for archaeological desk-based assessment has been agreed with GGAT and Cadw. This is the methodology that has been followed for data gathering; it is included as **Appendix 7C**.

2.4 Site Visit

- 2.4.1 A site walk-over was undertaken on 19 July 2023. This comprised a visual inspection of the current Site including its topography and land use, as well as designated historic assets within a 5km Study Area. Non-designated historic assets within the Site were visited.

2.5 Limitations and Assumptions

- 2.5.1 The data in the records supplied by GGAT HER is drawn from a variety of sources, which have variable precision and accuracy. Some records are based on recent professional archaeological investigations, which adhere to ClfA standards, whilst others are based on older records or are reliant on reporting by members of the public; the precision of these records cannot always be reliably assessed. Information on individual records is provided by the detailed description sheets provided by GGAT HER, supplemented by information gathered during the research for the report as appropriate.
- 2.5.2 Each of the consulted data sources represents a collection of existing knowledge and is unlikely to be a complete record of all surviving heritage features. The data held by GGAT HER is constantly updated to include new survey results. It should also be noted that both national and local records of the historic environment relate to known heritage sites and archaeological finds. Limited available data may reflect a lack of research, especially if there has been little or no previous development activity, or methodological limitations (as in the case of aerial survey) rather than an absence of archaeological evidence itself.

3. Legislation, Policy and Guidance

3.1 Statutory Framework

Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 ³

- 3.1.1 *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979)* sets out that sites considered to be of national importance are required to be compiled in a Schedule of Monuments. Scheduled monuments may include any above or below ground building, structure or work which fulfils the criteria for scheduling set out by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. These sites are accorded statutory protection and scheduled monument consent is required before any works are carried out which would have the effect of demolishing, destroying, damaging, removing, repairing, altering, adding to, flooding or covering up a scheduled monument. Scheduled monument protection is offered not only to the known structures and remains of a site but also to the soil under and around them to protect any archaeological interest. This act also provided for the designation of Areas of Archaeological Interest in which statutory provisions for access to construction sites for carrying out archaeological works apply.

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 ⁴

- 3.1.2 *The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990* covers the registration of listed buildings (buildings that are seen to be of special architectural or historic interest) and designation of conservation areas (areas of special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance).
- 3.1.3 A listed building may not be demolished, altered or extended in any manner which would affect its character as a building of special architectural or historic interest without listed building consent being granted. There are three grades of listing (in descending order):
- Grade I: buildings of exceptional interest;
 - Grade II*: particularly important buildings of more than special interest; and
 - Grade II: buildings of special interest, warranting every effort to preserve them.
- 3.1.4 The 1990 Act requires local planning authorities to draw up and publish proposals for the preservation and enhancement of conservation areas and sets out a duty to consider the desirability of preserving the character of a conservation area in planning decisions. The act also gives local planning authorities the ability to control demolition and other works in conservation areas which would not normally require planning permission.

³ UK Public General Act (1979) Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (Online). Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1979/46/contents/2006-10-01> (Accessed July 2023).

⁴ UK Public General Act (1990) Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (Online). Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/9/contents> (Accessed July 2023).

The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 ⁵

- 3.1.5 The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 made a number of amendments to the 1979 and 1990 Acts to address the needs of the Welsh historic environment. It also introduced several stand-alone provisions for Wales.
- 3.1.6 The 2016 Act gave more effective protection to listed buildings and scheduled monuments, enhanced existing mechanisms for the sustainable management of the historic environment, and introduced greater transparency and accountability into decisions taken on the historic environment.

The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023⁶

- 3.1.7 The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023 made provision to consolidate legislation relating to the historic environment in Wales in a fully bilingual and accessible format. It provides for the protection of monuments, buildings and conservation areas by bringing together and restating already-existing legislation (both primary and secondary) in one place.
- 3.1.8 Although the legislation is now an Act of Senedd Cymru, it will not be brought into force until the latter part of 2024.

3.2 National Planning Policy and Guidance

Planning Policy Wales (Edition 11, February 2021)⁷

- 3.2.1 Planning Policy Wales sets out the Welsh Government's land use planning policies. Its primary objective is to ensure that the planning system contributes towards the delivery of sustainable development and improves the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, as required by the *Planning (Wales) Act 2015*, the *Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015* and other key legislation.
- 3.2.2 Chapter 6, 'Distinctive and Natural Places', explains how the planning system must take into account the Welsh Government's objectives to protect, conserve, promote and enhance the historic environment as a resource for the general well-being of present and future generations. It also sets out the planning policies for the sustainable management of specific categories of historic assets.

Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 (February 2021) ⁸

- 3.2.3 The National Development Framework 'Future Wales – the National Plan 2040' sets out the Welsh Government's land use priorities and provides a national land use framework. The development plan for Wales influences all levels of the planning system in Wales and helps to shape Strategic and Local Development Plans prepared by councils and national park authorities.

⁵ National Assembly for Wales (2016) Historic Environment (Wales) Act. (Online). Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2016/4/contents> (Accessed July 2023).

⁶ National Assembly for Wales (2023) Historic Environment (Wales) Act. (Online). Available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asc/2023/3/contents/enacted> (Accessed July 2023).

⁷ Welsh Government (2021). Planning Policy Wales, Edition 11 (Online). Available at: <https://gov.wales/planning-policy-wales> (Accessed July 2023).

⁸ Welsh Government (2021). Future Wales: the national plan 2040 (Online). Available at: <https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/future-wales-the-national-plan-2040.pdf> (Accessed July 2023).

- 3.2.4 Policy 35 – ‘Valleys Regional Park’ is relevant to south-east Wales. *“The Welsh Government supports the establishment of the Valleys Regional Park. Strategic and Local Development Plans should embed its principles into their planning frameworks. The Welsh Government will work with local authorities, the third sector and key partners to support the Valleys Regional Park and maximise opportunities for new development.”*
- 3.2.5 *“The Welsh Government, communities and partners have developed a positive framework through ‘Our Valleys, Our Future’ to drive change and regeneration. The Valleys Regional Park seeks to maximise the social, economic and environmental potential of the Valleys’ natural and cultural historic assets and it is important the planning system supports its delivery.”*

Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (2017)⁹

- 3.2.6 This technical advice note provides guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan preparation and decision making on planning and listed building consent applications. It also provides specific guidance on how the following historic assets should be considered:
- scheduled monuments;
 - archaeological remains;
 - listed buildings;
 - conservation areas;
 - historic parks and gardens;
 - historic landscapes;
 - historic assets of special local interest; and
 - world heritage sites.

3.3 Local Planning Policy

Caerphilly County Borough Council Local Development Plan¹⁰

- 3.3.1 The current Local Development Plan was adopted on 23 November 2010. The Local Development Plan identifies where new developments such as housing, employment, community facilities and roads, will go.
- 3.3.2 The historic environment is considered in Strategy Policy 6 of the Local Development Plan, Placemaking. *‘Development proposals should contribute to creating sustainable places by having full regard to the context of the local, natural, historic and built environment and its special features through:*
- A An appropriate mix of uses that reflect the role and function of settlements*
- B A high standard of design that reinforces attractive qualities of local distinctiveness*

⁹ Cadw, Welsh Government (2017). Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment. (Online) Available at: <https://gov.wales/technical-advice-note-tan-24-historic-environment> (Accessed July 2023).

¹⁰ Caerphilly County Borough Council (2010). Local Development Plan up to 2021 (Adopted November 2010). (Online). Available at: <https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/caerphillydocs/ldp/written-statement.aspx> (Accessed July 2023).

C Design in accordance with best practice in terms of designing out crime

D A location and layout that reflects sustainable transport and accessibility principles and provides full, easy and safe access for all

E The incorporation of resource efficiency and passive solar gain through layout, materials, construction techniques, water conservation, and where appropriate the use of sustainable drainage systems

F The efficient use of land, including higher densities where development is close to key transport nodes

G The incorporation and enhancement of existing natural heritage features

H The incorporation of mitigation measures that improve and maintain air quality.'

3.4 Technical Guidance

- 3.4.1 Guidance documents which are relevant to the baseline data collection and assessment of the effects on historic assets are listed in **Table 3.1**.

Table 3.1 Guidance documents

Guidance	Relevance
Cadw	
<i>Setting of Historic Assets in Wales</i> 2017 ¹¹	Sets out the principles used to assess the potential impact of development or land management proposals within the settings of World Heritage Sites, ancient monuments (scheduled and unscheduled), listed buildings, registered historic parks and gardens, and conservation areas.
<i>Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales</i> 2011 ¹²	Set out six guiding principles for the conservation of the historic environment.
Professional Guidance	
Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) <i>Standard and guidance for archaeological desk-based assessment</i> 2020 ¹³	Sets out standards for the production of archaeological desk-based assessments.
Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) <i>Standard and guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment</i> 2014 ¹⁴	Sets out standards for the provision of consultancy advice in the historic environment.

Wales Archaeological Research Framework

- 3.4.2 This resource provides the relevant archaeological research agenda for Wales. The series of publications is organised by chronological period from the Palaeolithic to the modern period, and provides a viable, realistic and effective academic basis for undertaking archaeological intervention. This framework was consulted during the production of this assessment.

¹¹ Cadw, Welsh Government 2017. *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales*. (Online) Available at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/placemaking/heritage-impact-assessment/setting-historic-assets> (Accessed July 2023).

¹² Cadw, Welsh Government 2011. *Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales*. (Online) Available at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/conservation-principles/conservation-principles> (Accessed July 2023).

¹³ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014 (Revised 2020). *Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment* (Online) Available at: <https://www.archaeologists.net/codes/cifa> (Accessed July 2023).

¹⁴ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014. *Standard and guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment* (Online) Available at: <https://www.archaeologists.net/codes/cifa> (Accessed July 2023).

4. Assessment Methodology

4.1 General

- 4.1.1 Effects on heritage significance are assessed in terms of the extent to which that significance, as the sum of its heritage values, will be changed (whether degraded or enhanced) by development proposals as they affect any historic assets themselves. Effects may be direct or indirect.
- 4.1.2 Direct effects can occur due to the loss of, or disturbance to, historic assets. The effect and its scale will be determined by the significance of the affected assets and the character of the proposed development. Any such potential effects will need to be considered with reference to relevant national and local policy and guidance.
- 4.1.3 Indirect effects can occur because of changes that do not result in direct physical loss or damage to an asset, but affect them in other, often less tangible ways, for example by altering the setting of a historic asset or from effects on the preservation of remains which would not otherwise be physically affected (e.g., through changes to drainage). These can be short term (e.g., resulting from construction activities) or long term (e.g., resulting from new structures).

4.2 Assessment of Archaeological Potential

- 4.2.1 Professional judgement has been used to assign a level of potential for the site to contain yet unknown below ground archaeological remains according to the system described below.
- **High** – There is recorded evidence that archaeological features and finds of this period are likely to be represented on the Site;
 - **Medium** – Recovery of material, or observations of activity near the Site, suggests that archaeological features and finds of this period may be represented on the Site; and
 - **Low** – There is no evidence which suggests that archaeological features and finds of this period are likely to be represented on the Site.
- 4.2.2 Where the potential for the presence of historic assets is rated as medium or high, an assessment of the heritage significance of these assets has been undertaken. This assessment considers the potential heritage interests of the assets in addition to their likely preservation and distribution and is based on professional judgement as informed by relevant guidance.
- 4.2.3 Heritage significance is rated on the scale below:
- **High** – Asset has significance for an outstanding level of archaeological, architectural, historic and/or artistic interest;
 - **Medium** – Asset has significance for a high level of archaeological, architectural, historic and/or artistic interest;
 - **Low** – Asset has significance for elements of archaeological, architectural, historic or artistic interest; and
 - **Negligible** – Due to its nature of form/condition/survival, cannot be considered as an asset in its own right.

- 4.2.4 Where a general potential for the presence of archaeological features is identified, but there is insufficient information available to make an informed judgement on the likely significance of any features which may be present, a rating of **Unknown** has been used.
- 4.2.5 The results of this exercise are presented within the relevant chronological subsections in **Section 6**.

4.3 Effect on Setting

- 4.3.1 Cadw outlines setting as *"The setting of a historic asset includes the surroundings in which it is understood, experienced and appreciated, embracing present and past relationships to the surrounding landscape. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive, negative or neutral contribution to the significance of an asset."*¹⁵.
- 4.3.2 Cadw guidance outlines the general principles that both assessors and decision makers should consider when assessing the impact of a proposed change or development within the setting of historic assets (Cadw, 2017). Essentially, there are four stages:
- **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.
- 4.3.3 Discussion of setting within the ES, in **Chapter 7: Historic Environment**, identifies those historic assets where changes to their setting as a result of the Proposed Development have the potential to give rise to harm to their heritage significance.

¹⁵ Cadw 2017. *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales*. (Online) Available at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/placemaking/heritage-impact-assessment/setting-historic-assets> (Accessed July 2023).

5. Location, Geology and Land Use

5.1 Location and Topography

- 5.1.1 The Site is located approximately 450m to the south-east of the settlement of Hafodyrynys and 1.2km to the east of Newbridge. The Central and Southern Parcels border Abercarn Forest. The Site comprises a mix of semi-improved and unimproved grassland, located on the upper slopes (between approximately 340m and 400m AOD) of ridges that extend to the west and south-west of the massif formed by Mynydd Llwyd, Mynydd Twyn-glas and Mynydd Maen (**Figure 7A.1**).
- 5.1.2 The site measures approximately 86ha and is directly adjacent to another DNS site, the Mynydd Maen Wind Farm (DNS 3276725).
- 5.1.3 The three parts of the Site are connected by a single minor road that runs in an arc from Abercarn in the south to its junction with the minor road between Newbridge and Hafodyrynys in the north.
- 5.1.4 The Site's land-use almost entirely consists of a mosaic of small and medium-sized fields that appear to generally be given over to pasture, although aerial photography indicates that some fields may occasionally be used for arable cultivation. Field boundaries, particularly in the southern part of the site, appear to consist of hedgerows that have been allowed to grow out so that they now take the form of rows of mature hawthorn. Remnant stone walls reinforced by post and wire fencing are apparent along the edge of the minor road within the Site.

5.2 Geology and Soils

- 5.2.1 The bedrock geology is The South Wales Upper Coal Measures Formation, Hughes Member (sandstones with small, localised areas of mudstone and siltstone). The superficial (drift) geology is not recorded (British Geological Survey, 2023).

6. Archaeological and Historical Baseline

6.1 Designated Historic assets

- 6.1.1 There are no designated historic assets located within the Site boundary. Two listed building lies on the periphery of the 1km study area to the north-west of the Site. No scheduled monuments, conservation areas, World Heritage Sites or registered historic landscapes are located within the 1km study area. All designated historic assets within the 1km Study Area are listed in **Table 6.1** and shown in **Figures 7A.1-2**.

Table 6.1 Designated historic assets within the 1km Study Area

List Entry	Grade	Name	Location relative to site boundary
Listed Buildings			
Cadw 22673-4	II	Swffryd-ganol including front garden wall Barn Range including cow-house at Swffryd-ganol	c.987m NW

6.2 Non-Designated Historic assets

- 6.2.1 There are three records of non-designated historic assets located within the Site boundary, shown in the **Table 6.2**. There are 75 non-designated HER records and 9 events within the 1km Study Area, which are included in **Appendix 7B** and shown on **Figure 7A.2**.

Table 6.2 Non-designated assets within the Site (GGAT HER)

HER Ref	Name	Easting	Northing	Period	Type
GGAT11121g	Bee Bole, Penycacau Farm, Crumlin	323200	198300	Post medieval	Bee bole
GGAT04981g	Pwllgwinae	323100	196400	Post medieval	Pool
GGAT04973g	Glan-shon	322450	196000	Post medieval	Farmhouse

The Site Area

- 6.2.2 Bee Bole, Penycacau Farm, (GGAT11121g) is located within the garden of the farm, in the northern parcel of the Site. It is located immediately adjacent to the dry-stone boundary wall of the farm, in an enclosed area, which was not accessible (**Plate 1**). The asset would be of local significance, although its condition is unknown.

Plate 1. Stone wall to the immediate north of the Bee Bole location, Penycacau Farm, (GGAT11121g) view east



- 6.2.3 In the northern parcel of the Site there are a number of dry-stone walls lining the road, (**Plate 2**). The assets make up the layout of Penycacau Farm and are of local significance.

Plate 2. Dry stone walls lining the road in the northern Site parcel, view west from Penycacau Farm



- 6.2.4 During the walkover, a dry-stone sheepfold was recorded within the northern parcel of the Site, located to the east of the main Penycacau Farm buildings. The sheepfold was attached to the dry-stone farm boundary wall (road frontage) at NGR 323594,198076 (**Plate 3**). The asset is part of Penycacau Farm and is of local significance.

Plate 3. Dry stone sheepfold on the Penycacau Farm boundary wall (road frontage), view east



- 6.2.5 To the east of the sheepfold, within the northern parcel of the Site, further well-maintained dry-stone walls line the farm track and field boundary (**Plates 4, 5**). The assets make up the layout of Penycacau Farm and are of local significance.

Plate 4. Dry-stone walls to the east of the sheepfold along the farm track (NGR 323641,198046), view west



Plate 5. Dry-stone walls to the east of the sheepfold along the field boundary (NGR 323809,198013), view west



- 6.2.6 A mining boundary stone was located just outside of the Site boundary, on the eastern corner of the northern parcel of the Site at NGR 324243,198121 (**Plates 6,7**). On its north-eastern face it was engraved 'CHL Boundary of Minerals Settled by Act of Parliament 1839', and on its south-western face it was engraved 'BH Boundary of Minerals Settled by Act of Parliament 1839'. The asset is of local significance.

Plate 6. Mining boundary stone (NGR 324243,198121), north-eastern face, view south-west



Plate 7. Mining boundary stone (NGR 324243,198121), south-western face, view north-east



- 6.2.7 Pwllgwinae pool (GGAT04981g) was located in the southern parcel of the Site. The asset is an agricultural feature of local significance.

Plate 8. Pwllgwinae (GGAT04981g) pool, view east



6.3 Previous Archaeological Interventions

- 6.3.1 The GGAT HER records nine previous archaeological investigations within the Study Area (refer to **Appendix 7B** and **Figure 7A.2**). The results of these investigations have been reviewed and incorporated into the baseline at **Section 6.4**.

6.4 Site Chronology

Palaeolithic (500,000 BC-10,001 BC) and Mesolithic (10,000-4,001 BC)

- 6.4.1 The Palaeolithic in Britain comprised the period from the first known 'human' occupation to the end of the last glacial period (known as the Devensian) approximately 12,500 to 10,500 years ago. Until about 12,000 years ago, Britain was still connected to the continental landmass and humans migrated with the onset of warmer and colder interstadial periods within the ice age. It is thought that much of Britain remained uninhabited for a large part of the Middle – Upper Palaeolithic period (between approximately 22,000 to 14,000 BP) as conditions were harsh. Most Palaeolithic occupation seems to have occurred in the south of Britain, but evidence is often restricted to cave systems, gravel beds and occasional flint artefacts. Human groups returned to Britain at the beginning of the Mesolithic as the climate became warmer, the ice sheets permanently retreated, and the habitat changed. Britain became an island covered with forests populated by groups of sophisticated hunter-gatherers who used spears, harpoons and arrows that incorporated very small sharp blades known as microliths.
- 6.4.2 There are no known Palaeolithic or Mesolithic sites within the Site or Study Area.

- 6.4.3 The archaeological potential for the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods can be considered as **low**.

Neolithic (4,000 - 2,401 BC) and Bronze Age (2,400 - 801 BC)

- 6.4.4 During the Neolithic, people began to settle and develop horticulture and agriculture. With this increasing sedentism many innovations were introduced including monument building, new stone tool-making technologies, the use of pottery and, most importantly, the domestication of plants and animals. This changing way of life led to a remodelling of the landscape as people cleared woodland to create farms and fields. The Bronze Age was the period when metal, particularly copper, gold and later bronze, began to be widely used in Britain, possibly because of increased contact with Europe and the arrival of Beaker culture. Scattered farming communities formed chiefdoms based around a largely pastoral agricultural economy, metalworking and house building (round houses).
- 6.4.5 There are no known Neolithic finds or features recorded within the Site or Study Area in the HER. Therefore, the archaeological potential from this period is **low**.
- 6.4.6 There is one known Bronze Age find recorded within the Study Area in the HER, a socketed axe (GGAT00091g) recorded over 800m to the west of the Site, near Newbridge. Therefore, with the evidence of very low-density isolated finds in the Study Area, the archaeological potential at the Site from this period is **low**.

Iron Age (700 BC–43 AD) and Romano-British (43 AD – 450 AD)

- 6.4.7 The Iron Age was a period of great change, most of which is thought to have been the result of the increasing trade and other contact between Britain and the Roman world. Generally, harvests improved with the use of new varieties of barley and wheat, and the increased farming of peas, beans, flax and other crops. Groups lived in relatively varied types of settlements, such as hill forts, and open and enclosed settlements. The Romans introduced a range of innovations and changes in culture that are far more visible in the archaeological record than for those periods immediately preceding and succeeding it. There was a greater variety of pottery, coins and metal goods, as well as new building materials among communities which embraced Romanisation.
- 6.4.8 There are no known Iron Age or Roman historic assets within the Site or Study Area.
- 6.4.9 Evidence for the Iron Age and Roman periods from across the wider region indicates activity within a rural hinterland and the Site appears to have been located away from any known settlement foci. This suggests the Site has a **low** potential for buried Iron Age and Roman remains.

Early Medieval (AD 450 - AD 1066) and Medieval (AD 1066 - AD 1540)

- 6.4.10 There are no known early medieval assets within the Site or Study Area.
- 6.4.11 There are no known medieval assets within the Site. Within the Study Area there are eight medieval assets in the HER, in three groups:
- Rhyswg Grange of Llantarnam Abbey (GGAT08326g), Cil-lonydd/Cilonydd Grange of Llantarnam Abbey (GGAT08327g), Cae Eglwys, Cil-lonydd Grange Chapel and associated enclosure (GGAT00094g, GGAT00095g, GGAT03289g), located c.200m to the north-west of the central Site parcel;
 - Trackway (GGAT07201g) located c.500m to the south-east of the northern Site parcel; and

- Hafodyrynys Grange and mill (GGAT12299g, GGAT12300g), located 550m to the north-west of the northern Site parcel.

6.4.12 Being open upland pasture, the medieval activity across the Site is likely to have been limited to grazing stock and establishing or maintaining low-density field boundaries. Therefore, the Site has a general **low** potential for buried medieval settlement remains.

Post-Medieval (AD 1540 - AD 1900) and Modern

6.4.13 This section incorporates a historic map regression exercise with mapping dating from the 19th century (see **Table 6.3**).

Table 6.3 Historic maps

Date	Map Title	Source	Figure
1846	Plan of the Parish of Mynyddislwyn in the County of Monmouth, 1846	https://places.library.wales/	Figure 7A.3
1879	Ordnance Survey County Series Monmouthshire 1:2,500	Envirocheck	-
1881	Ordnance Survey 6" to the mile		Figure 7A.4a
1901	Ordnance Survey County Series Glamorganshire 1:2,500	Envirocheck	
1920	Ordnance Survey County Series Monmouthshire 1:2,500	Envirocheck	-
1947	Ordnance Survey 1:25,000		Figure 7A.4b
1962	Ordnance Survey Plan 1:2,500	Envirocheck	-
1987	Ordnance Survey Plan 1:2,500	Envirocheck	-
1989	Ordnance Survey Plan 1:2,500	Envirocheck	-
1993	Large-scale National Grid Data	Envirocheck	-

6.4.14 The predominately agricultural character of the Site persisted into the post-medieval period and is represented by the field systems identified, as well as open high ground. The field systems within areas of the Site represent piecemeal enclosure, medieval open fields enclosed incrementally by means of informal, verbal agreements.

6.4.15 The Tithe Map of 1846, 'Plan of the Parish of Mynyddislwyn in the County of Monmouth', records the Site as open ground and fields of pasture in a similar layout as today (Figure 7A.3). Lands occupying the Site in the south are recorded as pasture being owned by Benjamin Jones, with the north of the Site being pasture under the ownership of David Lawrence and by Sir Benjamin Baronet Hall, and a mix of arable and pasture under the ownership of Mary Edwards (https://places.library.wales).

Table 6.4 Non-designated historic assets located within the Site boundary

HER Ref	Name	Easting	Northing	Period	Type
GGAT11121g	Bee Bole, Penycacau Farm, Crumlin	323200	198300	Post medieval	Bee bole
GGAT04981g	Pwllgwinae	323100	196400	Post medieval	Pool
GGAT04973g	Glan-shon	322450	196000	Post medieval	Farmhouse

- 6.4.16 Ordnance Survey maps from the late 19th and 20th century record the Site in detail. The field boundaries remain generally the same as those recorded on the tithe map (**Figures 7A.3-7A.4**).
- 6.4.17 Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) data was acquired and studied for the Site. LiDAR coverage of 1m DTM imagery included only a small part of the Site¹⁶, however coverage of almost the whole Site was available in 2m DTM imagery. No further features other than those recorded on the Ordnance Survey maps were visible on the LiDAR data (**Figure 7A.5**).
- 6.4.18 A review of historic aerial photographs was undertaken at the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW). A review of these did not lead to the identification of any further features not depicted on historic mapping. In 1951 a RAF aerial photograph at the RCAHMW records a path or trackway crossing the most north-eastern field of the Site (1172; 58/676; 4248; 12/5/51).
- 6.4.19 The site has a history of pastoral and agricultural use. The available evidence indicates the site has post-medieval settlement and agricultural activity remains in localised areas (**Table 6.4**). These remains are anticipated to be of local interest (low significance).
- 6.4.20 Outside of the known post-medieval farmsteads recorded within the HER that have high archaeological potential, the Site has a **limited** potential for post-medieval archaeology. Such remains would be largely limited to buried features and finds relating to farmsteads and agricultural activity, as recorded on the historic OS maps and in the HER.
- 6.4.21 From the mid-19th century, the Study Area became an area of major coal mining industry. The GGAT HER includes several historic asset records for colliery, quarry and rail structures in the 1km study area, highlighting the industrial history of the area.
- 6.4.22 Collieries in the Study Area include the Celyn South Colliery and Cwmcarn Colliery, which are recorded on cartographic sources and in the HER. A number of quarries are also recorded in the Study Area.
- 6.4.23 A boundary stone for mineral rights, dated 1839, was located just outside of the eastern corner of the northern parcel of the Site. The OS map of 1881 records a line of marker stones running from the eastern corner to the south-east of this land parcel (**Figure 7A.4**).
- 6.4.24 There is a **low** potential for unknown modern remains of the mining industry in localised areas of the Site.

¹⁶ DatamapWales 2023. (Online) Available at: <https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/lidar-viewer/> (Accessed October 2023).

6.5 The Setting of Historic assets

- 6.5.1 As previously described, a Stage 1 Assessment has been carried out for all the designated historic assets within 5km from the Site, in accordance with The Setting of Historic Assets in Wales. Five scheduled monuments, eight listed buildings (or groups), and two conservation areas were identified as requiring assessment for effects on their settings, which will be undertaken within **Chapter 7** of the ES.

7. Discussion

7.1 General

- 7.1.1 This section discusses the potential for the presence and heritage significance of historic assets which could be impacted by the Proposed Development either through direct effects, or through changes to their setting.

7.2 Buried Archaeological Remains

Prehistoric, Roman and Medieval buried remains

- 7.2.1 There is evidence of very low-density isolated Bronze Age finds from the Study Area, but not from the Site itself. There are no known Neolithic or Iron Age finds or features recorded within the Site or Study Area in the HER. Therefore, the archaeological potential from the prehistoric period is **low**.
- 7.2.2 There is no Roman evidence within the Study Area to indicate the presence of previously unknown archaeological remains dating to these periods within the Site boundary, and therefore the potential for Roman remains is **low**.
- 7.2.3 During the Medieval period, the Site is likely to have been upland pasture between known settlement foci and therefore the potential for substantial remains of this date within the Site boundary is considered to be **low**.
- 7.2.4 The significance of previously unknown archaeological remains will depend on the nature, extent and condition of their survival. In undisturbed pasture the survival of any potential archaeological remains, if present, is likely to be high.

Post-Medieval buried remains

- 7.2.5 The Site was located, much as it is today, within the agricultural periphery of known centres of settlement, with isolated farmsteads. If archaeological remains are present on the Site, they are likely related to land division and pastoral activity, which would be of **low** heritage significance.

Archaeological impacts

- 7.2.6 The Proposed Development is expected to impact any below ground archaeological deposits that may be present within the Site boundary through the cutting of groundworks in localised areas.

7.3 Built Heritage within the Site

- 7.3.1 The available information confirms there are no designated historic assets within the Site boundary. There is built heritage within the Site in the form of Glan-shon post medieval farmhouse (GGAT04973g) and Bee Bole, Penycacau Farm (GGAT11121g), listed within the HER, of local significance.

8. Conclusions

- 8.1.1 The Site has a history of pastoral use, with areas of open ground. An assessment of the available data has concluded that the general archaeological potential of the Site from the prehistoric, Roman and medieval periods is **low**.
- 8.1.2 Outside of the known post-medieval farmsteads recorded within the HER that have **high** archaeological potential (Glan-shon post medieval farmhouse (GGAT04973g) and Bee Bole, Penycacau Farm (GGAT11121g)), the Site has a **limited** potential for post-medieval archaeology. There are remains of post-medieval agricultural land divisions, a sheep fold and a pool (Pwllgwinae GGAT04981g) in localised areas of the Site. These remains are of **low** (local) significance. The farmsteads and post-medieval remains will be avoided by the Proposed Development infrastructure.
- 8.1.3 A boundary stone for mineral rights, dated 1839, was located just outside of the eastern corner of the northern parcel of the Site. There is a **low** potential for unknown modern remains of the mining industry in localised areas of the Site.

Bibliography

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Wales Archaeological Research Framework (<https://www.archaeoleg.org.uk/areasoutheast.html>). Accessed July 2023.

Figures

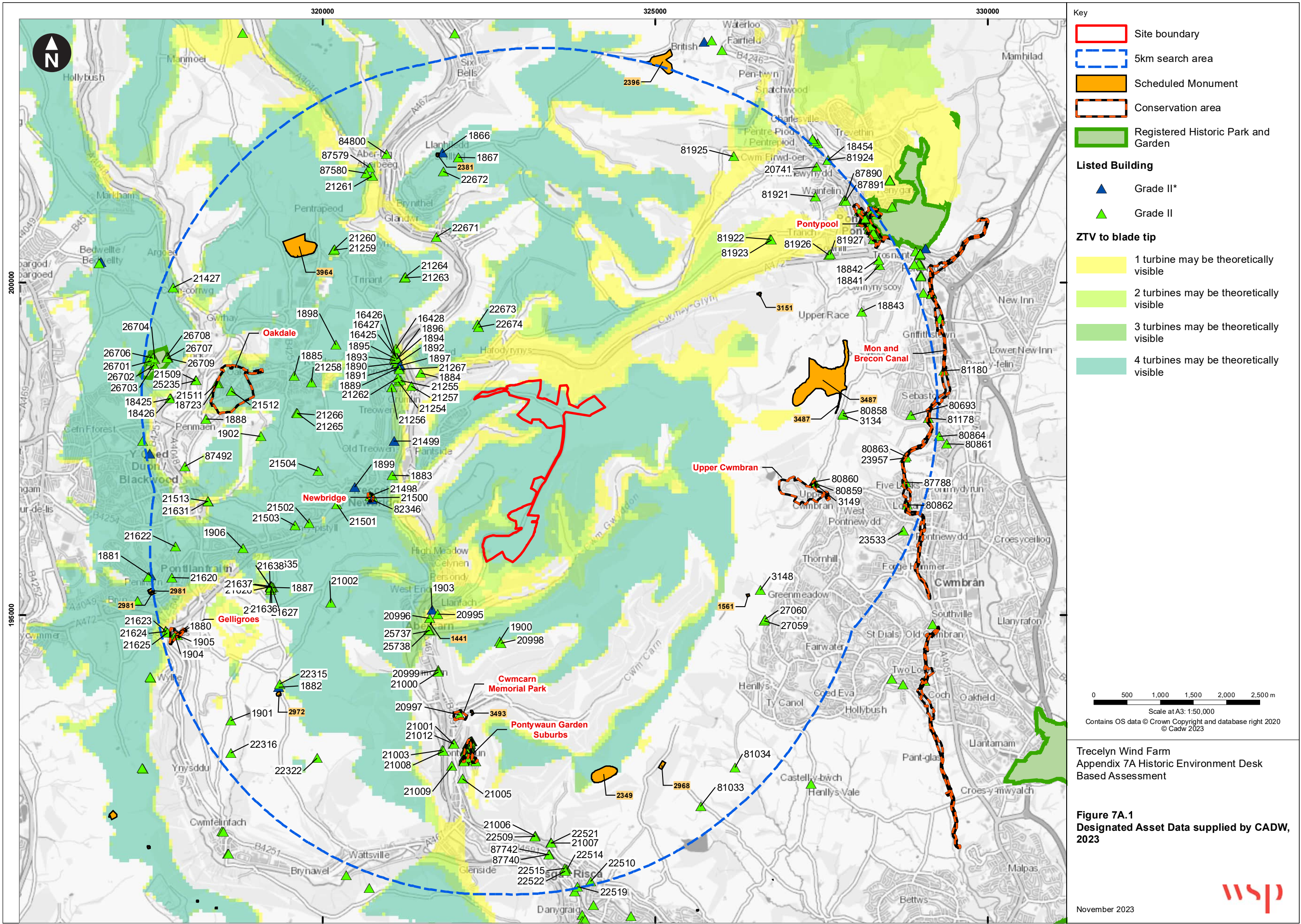
Figure 7A.1 Site Location and designated historic assets within 5km.

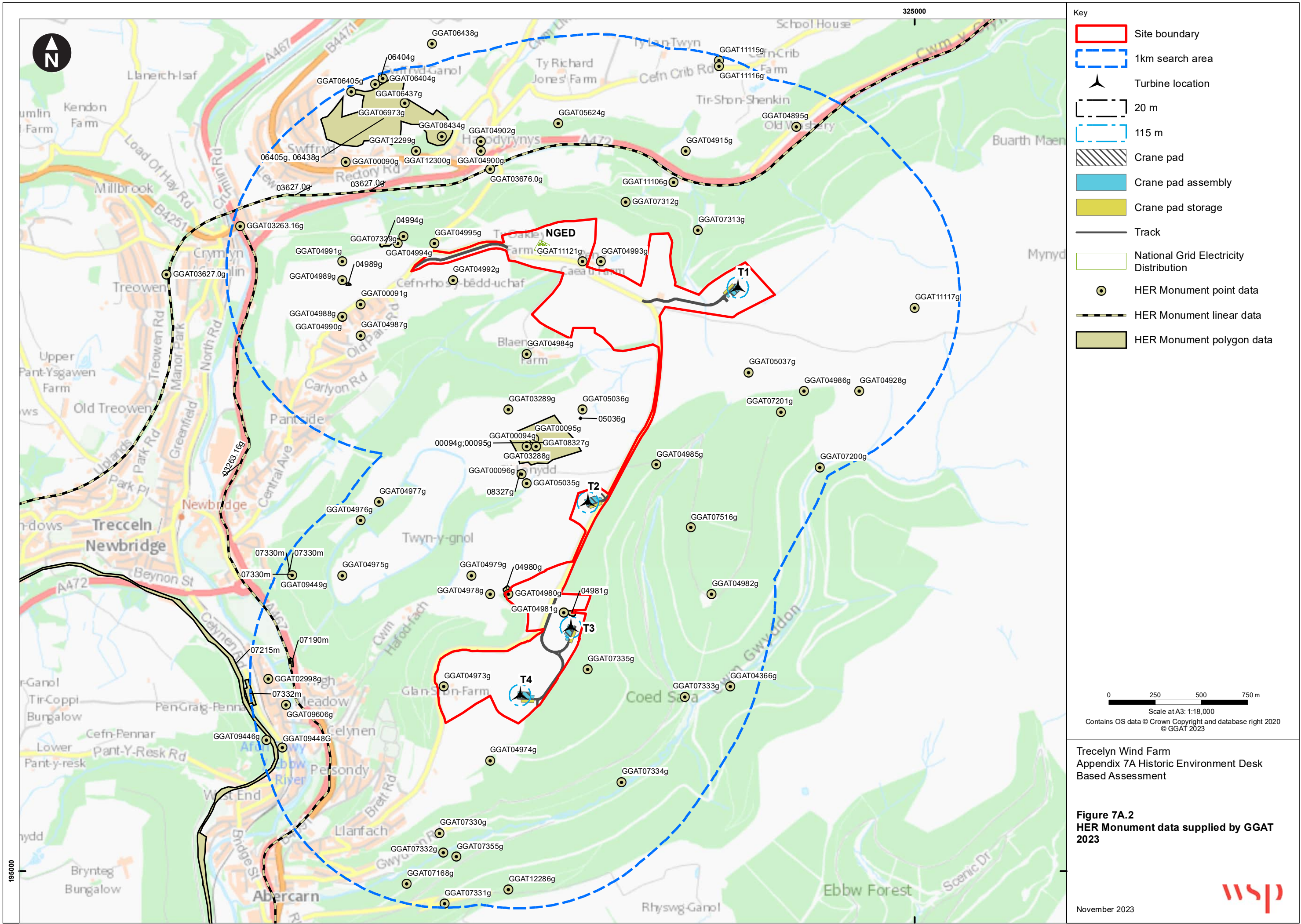
Figure 7A.2 Site location and GGAT HER data within 1km.

Figure 7A.3 The Tithe Map, Plan of the Parish of Mynyddislwyn in the County of Monmouth, 1846.

Figure 7A.4 Ordnance Survey 6" to the mile, 1881.

Figure 7A.5 LiDAR 2m DTM imagery.





 Site Boundary

Scale at A3 1:10,500

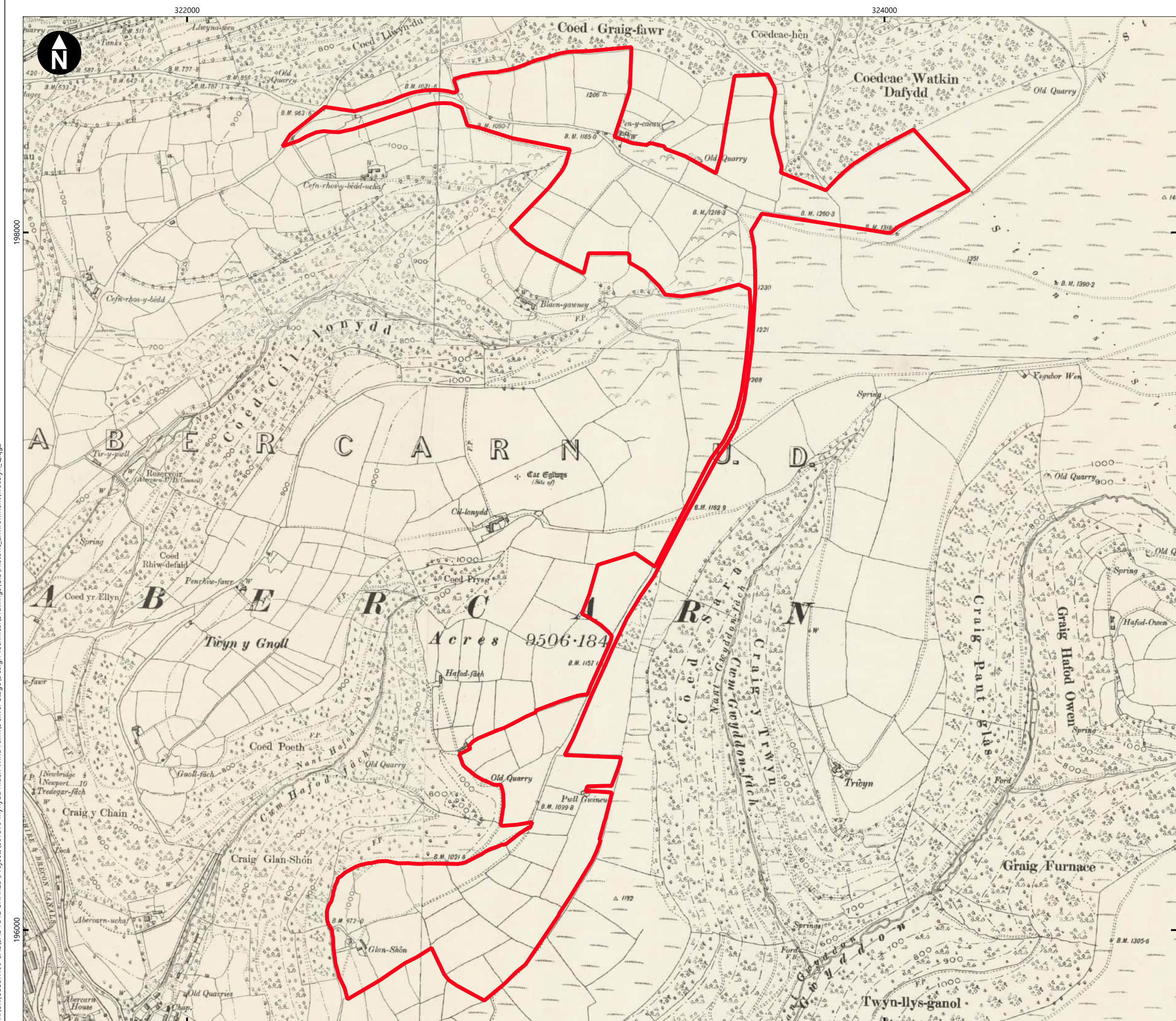
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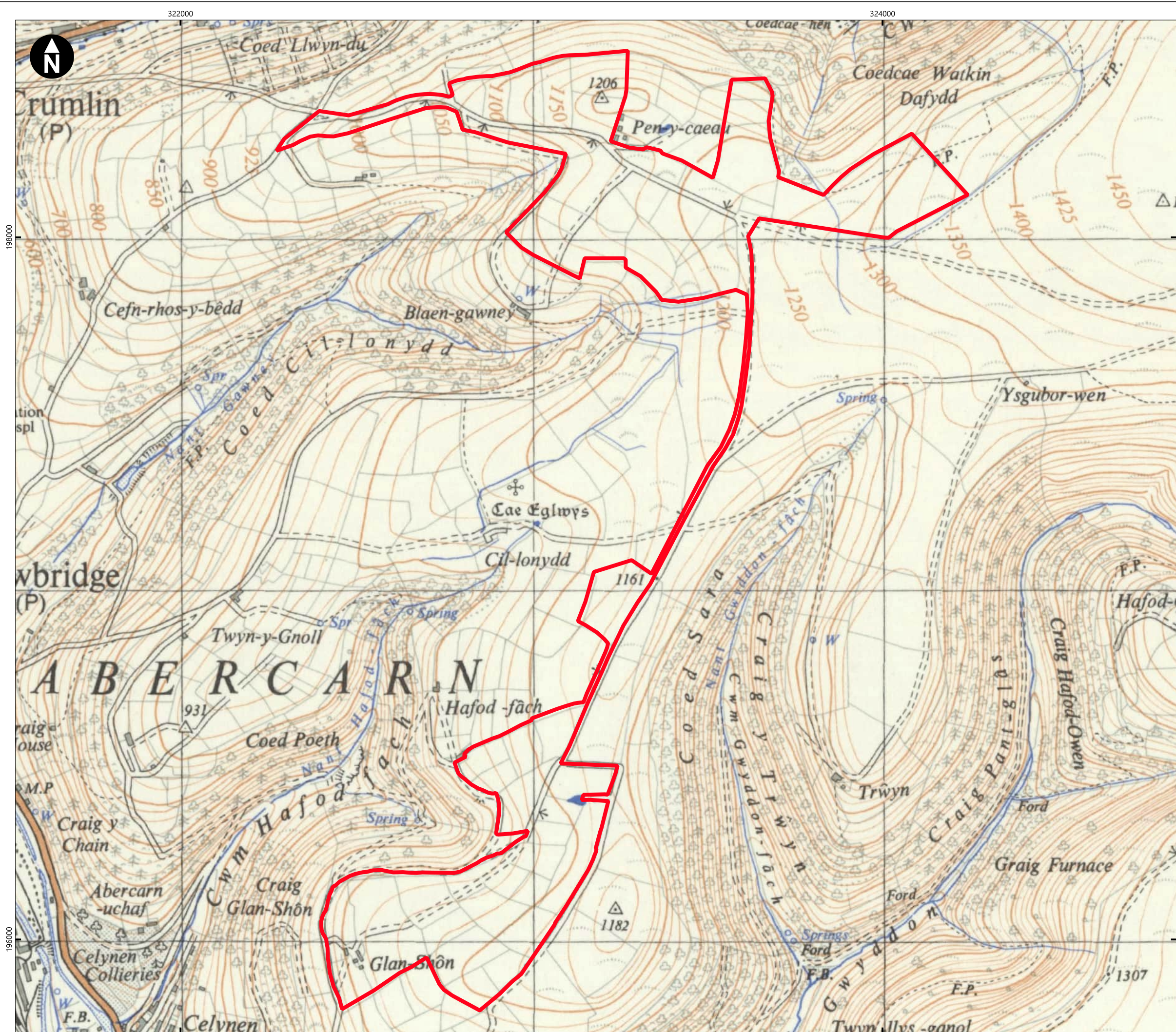
Trecelyn Wind Farm
Environmental Statement
Appendix 7A: Historic Environment Desk
Based Assessment

Figure 7.3
**Plan of the Parish of Mynyddislwyn in
the County of Monmouthshire, dated
1846. Reproduced from The National
Library of Wales.**

November 2023

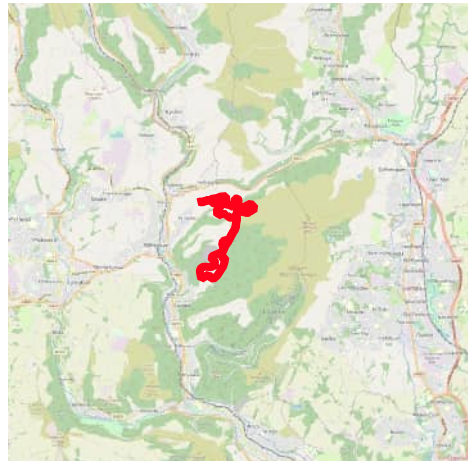






Key

 Site Boundary



0 0.2 0.4 0.6 km

Scale at A3 1:10,500

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Trecelyn Wind Farm
Environmental Statement
Appendix 7A: Historic Environment Desk
Based Assessment
Figure 7.4b
Map Regression: Ordnance Survey
1:25000 (1947)

November 2023

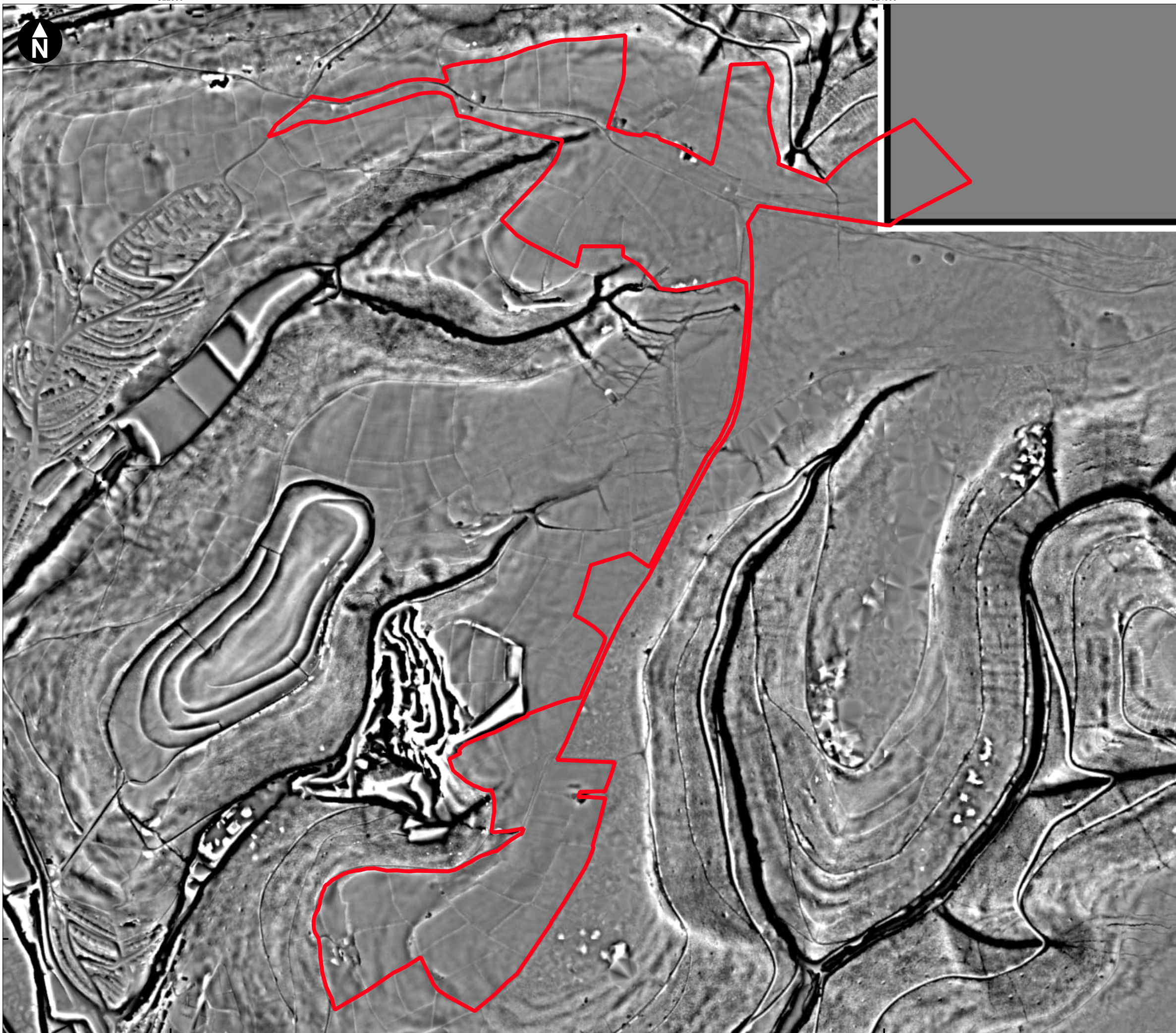


198000

196000

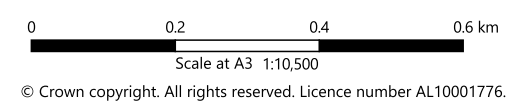
322000

324000



Key

 Site Boundary



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Figure 7.5
LiDAR Local Relief Model using 2m
resolution Digital Terrain Model.
Composite LiDAR data acquired from
DataMap Wales

November 2023



