

# **PENYBANC, CASTLEMORRIS, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL APPRAISAL 2011**



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust  
For: C K Planning Ltd



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**PENYBANC, CASTLEMORRIS,  
PEMBROKESHIRE:  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL APPRAISAL**

Gan / By

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## **PENYBANC, CASTLEMORRIS, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL APPRAISAL**

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**PENYBANC, CASTLEMORRIS, PEMBROKESHIRE:  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL APPRAISAL**

**SUMMARY**

*A planning application is to be submitted for the construction of two wind turbines on land near Penybanc, Castlemorris, Pembrokeshire (centred on SM 900 297). The two proposed wind turbines are 500kw, 40m high towers with 52m diameter rotors. The first wind turbine is to be sited in a pasture field to the west of Penybanc farmstead at SM 8975 2962. The site of the second turbine is not yet fixed. C K Planning Ltd, on behalf of their client, commissioned an archaeological appraisal of the site and its environs for submission with the proposed planning application for the development. Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services were commissioned to carry out the appraisal in October 2011.*

*The proposed wind turbines lie in close proximity to a number of known archaeological sites. These include three Neolithic chambered tombs, all of which are scheduled ancient monuments. These sites and their settings are protected and any impacts upon them from the turbines will need to be fully assessed and discussed with Cadw. At least five Bronze Age standing stones are known within the 1.5km radius study area, three of which are designated as Scheduled Ancient Monuments. Again the impacts to the settings of these monuments would need to be assessed further.*

*Find sites of prehistoric Neolithic and Bronze Age date have also been found within the study area. The known archaeological evidence would suggest that the general area was of some importance during these periods. Further remains of Neolithic and Bronze Age date are considered likely to be present within the proposed development area.*

*The potential for archaeological remains of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Iron Age and Roman date is considered to be low. This is based on the present lack of information on these periods within this area.*

*During the early medieval, medieval and post-medieval periods the majority of the site area would have lain within agricultural land surrounding a network of farmsteads. It is possible that Penybanc farm could have medieval origins.*

*This appraisal has concluded that further archaeological works, of at least a watching brief, will be required during any future construction works at the site. Further work on the impacts of the turbines on the settings of the surrounding Scheduled Ancient Monuments will also be needed.*

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Project Proposals and Commission**

- 1.1.1 A proposal for the construction of two wind turbines on land near Penybanc, Castlemorris, Pembrokeshire (centred on SM 900 297) lies in close proximity to a number of archaeological sites recorded on the regional Historic Environment Record. C K Planning Ltd, on behalf of their client, commissioned an archaeological appraisal of the site and its environs for submission with the proposed planning application for the development. Dyfed Archaeological Trust Field Services were commissioned to carry out the appraisal in October 2011.
- 1.1.2 The two proposed wind turbines are 500kw, 40m high towers with 52m diameter rotors. The first wind turbine is to be sited in a pasture field to the west of Penybanc farmstead at SM 8975 2962. The site of the second turbine is not yet fixed and several sites have been proposed within a radius of c.300m of the first turbine.

### **1.2 Scope of the project**

- 1.1.2 The appraisal consisted of the examination of available sources of information such as maps, published works and aerial photographs held in the Historic Environment Record<sup>1</sup> (HER) and a site visit. The results are intended to identify the extent and character of the known and potential archaeological resource, to assess the likely and potential impacts of the scheme on that resource and, if required, to outline a possible programme of further works to mitigate those impacts. The appraisal should be seen only as the first stage of the archaeological process and does not preclude the possibility that further archaeological input may be required prior to, or during, the proposed development.

### **1.3 Abbreviations used in this report**

- 1.3.1 All sites recorded on the county HER are identified by their Primary Record Number (PRN) and located by their National Grid Reference (NGR). Sites recorded on the National Monument Record (NMR) held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) are identified by their National Primary Record Number (NPRN). Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM). Altitude is expressed to Ordnance Datum (OD). References to cartographic and documentary evidence and published sources will be given in brackets throughout the text, with full details listed in the sources section at the rear of the report.

### **1.4 Illustrations**

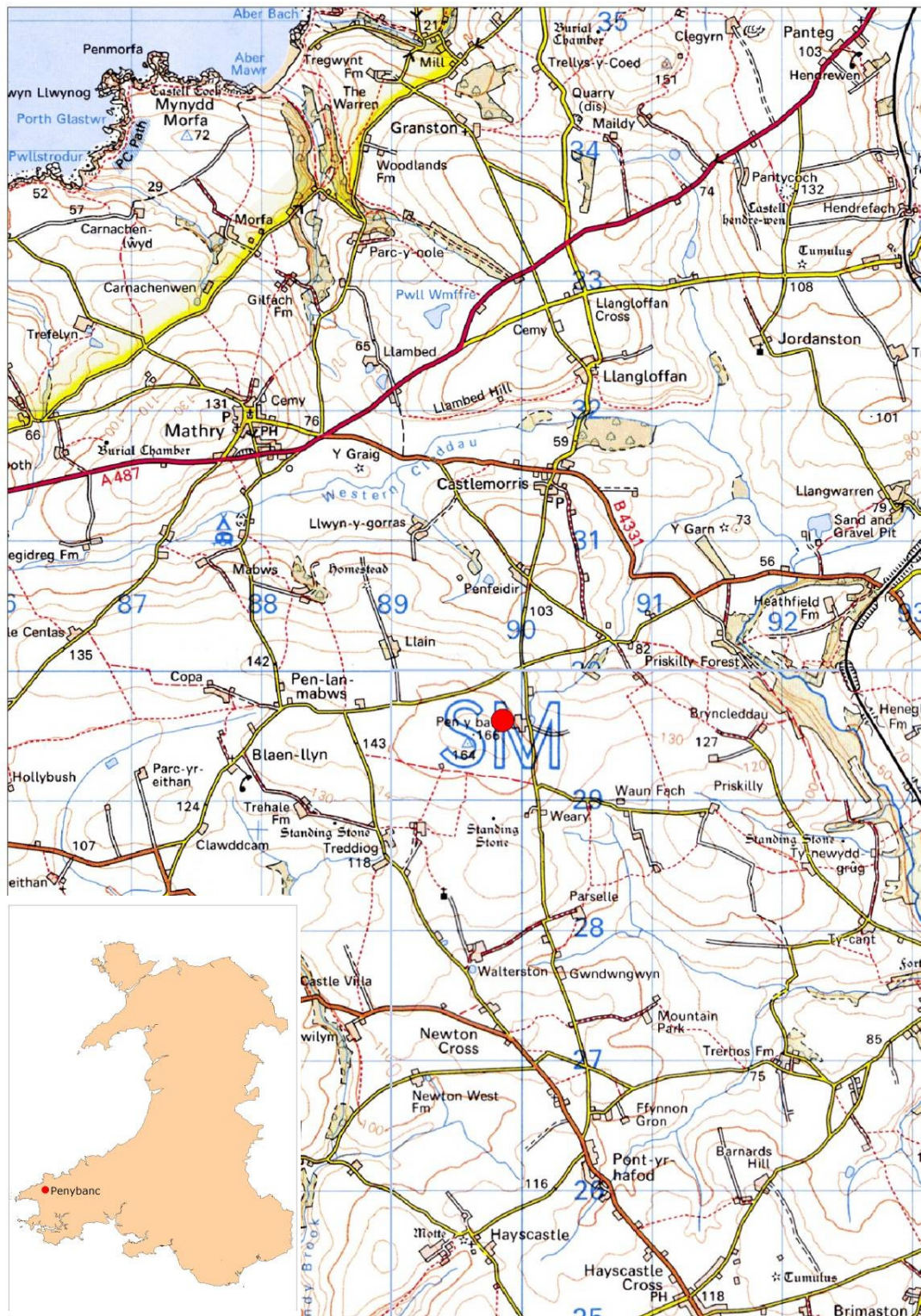
- 1.4.1 Photographic images are to be found at back of the report. Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale and are illustrative only.

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<sup>1</sup> Held and managed by Dyfed Archaeological Trust, The Shire Hall, Llandeilo.

## **2. SITE LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY**

- 2.1 The site of the proposed wind turbines lies to the east of Penybanc, near Castlemorris, Pembrokeshire (SM 900 297; Figure 1, 2 and 3). The first wind turbine is to be sited in a pasture field to the west of Penybanc farm at SM 8975 2962, a wind gauge has been set up at this location. Several sites have been proposed for the location of the second turbine within a radius of c.300m of the first turbine, although an area of c.600m radius centred on the first turbine has been taken as the proposed development area for the purpose of this report. A total study area of 1.5km radius from the first turbine has been researched to gain a better understanding of the landscape setting.
- 2.2 The proposed development area lies in an area of high ground in an undulating landscape of mixed pasture and arable farmland. The field pattern is one of well-established irregular medium to large fields with a typical settlement pattern of dispersed farmsteads. The villages of Mathry and Castle Morris lie to the north and Letterston to the south. The sea is clearly visible to the north and several prominent local landmarks can be seen from the proposed development area.
- 2.3 The underlying geology is generally one of shale from the Abermawr formation, with a band of Keratophyre shale to the north of the main east – west road. The shale is surrounded by bands of sandstone and mudstone on the edge of the study area to the north and south with an intrusion of igneous rock in the centre of the study area demarcating the high ground to the west of Penybanc farm.



**Figure 1:** Location map based on the Ordnance Survey.

Reproduced from the 2003 Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 scale Landranger Map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright Dyfed Archaeological Trust, The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF. Licence No AL51842

### 3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

#### 3.1 Designated Sites

- 3.1.1 There are six Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM) lying within the larger 1.5km radius study area (highlighted in Figure 3). Only one SAM lies within the proposed development area of c.600m radius from the location of the first turbine. Pen-lan-mabws uchaf chambered tomb (PRN 4286, PE131), lies just to the northwest of the first proposed turbine. The remaining SAMs consist of a further two Neolithic chambered tombs and three Bronze Age standing stones. Both types of monument are relatively rare, hence their protected status and it is especially unusual to find such a collection of chambered tombs. Numerous standing stones are recorded in the surrounding area and only a selection of the more intact or under threat examples have been scheduled. Cartographic sources clearly indicate many more once stood within these fields but have been removed during the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

| SAM No. | SITE NAME  | PRN       | NGR        | Site Type      | Period                   |
|---------|--|-----------|------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| PE063   | Tre-Howell Burial Chamber, Hayscastle                | PRN 4289  | SM 891 288 | Chambered tomb | Neolithic                |
| PE132   | Clyn-Ffwrn Burial Chamber, Hayscastle                | PRN 4291  | SM 898 289 | Chambered tomb | Neolithic                |
| PE131   | Pen-Lan-Mebws-Uchaf Burial Chamber, Mathry           | PRN 4286  | SM 893 299 | Chambered tomb | Neolithic/<br>Bronze Age |
| PE508   | Standing Stone 270m NW of Trehale House, Hayscastle  | PRN48324  | SH 881 292 | Standing stone | Bronze Age               |
| PE509   | Standing Stone 200m ENE of Trehale House, Hayscastle | PRN 8979  | SM 885 290 | Standing stone | Bronze Age               |
| PE510   | Standing Stone 400m NE of Pen-lan-Mabws, Mathry      | PRN 94446 | SM 884 300 | Standing stone | Bronze Age               |

#### 3.2 Listed Buildings

- 3.2.1 There are no listed buildings within the proposed development area, although three Grade II listed buildings lie within the surrounding study area (shown in Figure 2). These consist of Penfeidr Gentry house, Tre-Howell house and Trehale farmhouse. None of these sites will be directly affected by the proposed development.

| PRN   | Building Name                              | Grid Reference   | Grade    | NPRN  |
|-------|--|------------------|----------|-------|
| 59113 | Penfeidr, Castle Morris / Casmorys, Mathry | SM 189995 230770 | Grade II | 12958 |
| 59750 | Tre-howell, Hayscastle                     | SM 189250 228823 | Grade II | 25607 |
| 59754 | Trehale, Hayscastle                        | SM 188358 229016 | Grade II | 25613 |

#### 3.3 Known Archaeological Remains and Historical Development

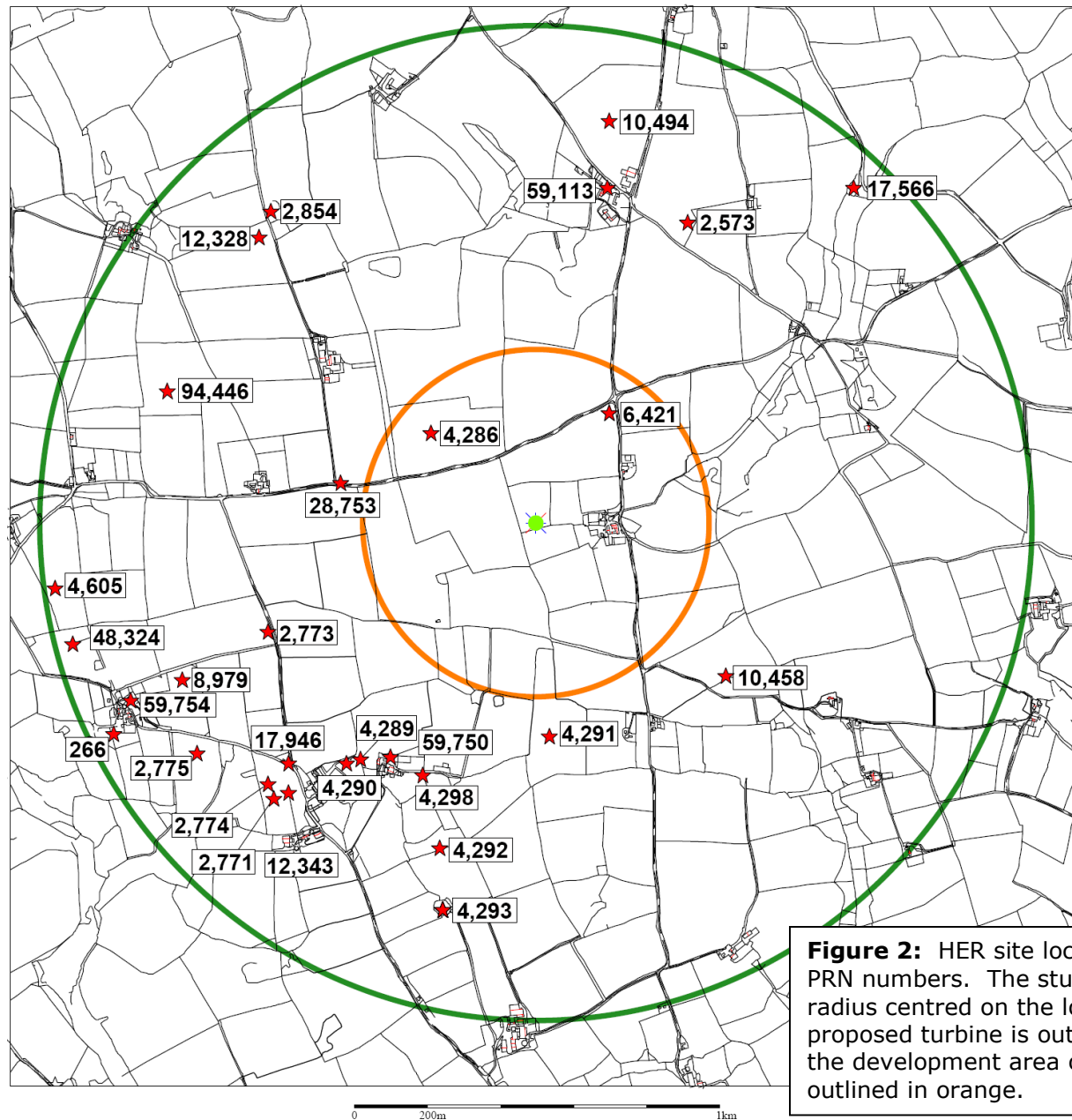
- 3.3.1 The following section includes the results of searches undertaken of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record, RCAHMW NMR and other readily available web-based and bibliographic sources, listed by time period.

## Regional HER Sites within 1.5km (Figure 2)

| PRN    | Name                                     | Description  | Gred Ref       | Period                   |
|--------|--|--|----------------|--------------------------|
| 266    | Trehale                                  | Fragment of a sandstone macehead found during ploughing.   | SM 883 289     | Prehistoric              |
| 2573   | Castell Pen Y Feidr                      | Hillfort, near destroyed earthwork   | SM 9027 3065   | Iron Age                 |
| 2771   | Tre-Ddiog                                | A scatter of large stone flakes, which 'had the appearance of having been worked. An examination of the stone by H N Savoury revealed a similarity to waste material recorded on an axe production site in North Wales. The stone was a metamorphic ash of Group VIII type.  | SM 8885 2868   | Neolithic                |
| 2773   | Trehale                                  | Flat axe (bronze)  | SM 8883 2925   | Bronze Age               |
| 2774   | Tre-Ddiog                                | A former standing stone, 2.8m x 1.1m x 0.7m, knocked down by a tractor in the 1960s and moved to its current location at SM 8878 2875 at the side of the field.  | SM 8883 2873   | Bronze Age               |
| 2775   | Trehale Stone                            | A standing stone reduced in height by blasting, so that it now stands 1.2m high x 0.8m x 0.5m. There are two drilled holes in the stone which is located in an arable field.   | SM 88587 28834 | Bronze Age               |
| 2854   | Parc Yr Hen Gastell; Castell Llain Mabws | Hillfort, damaged earthwork  | SM 8884 3069   | Iron Age                 |
| 4286   | Pen-Lan-Mabws-Uchaf, Pen-Y-Banc          | Chambered Tomb; Standing Stone, near Intact Scheduled Ancient Monument PE063   | SM 8939 2993   | Neolithic;<br>Bronze Age |
| 4289   | Tre Howell                               | The very ruined remains of a possible burial chamber, comprising at least two large stones, located in a hedge on the south side of an arable field. Scheduled Ancient Monument PE063  | SM 89147 28815 | Neolithic                |
| 4290   | Tre Howell                               | Stone spindle whorl  | SM 891 288     | Roman,<br>Iron Age       |
| 4291   | Clyn-Ffwrn                               | A single upright stone with a smaller stone at its base is all that remains of this possible burial chamber. Scheduled Ancient Monument PE132  | SM 89796 28892 | Neolithic                |
| 4292   | Penlan Ole Maenhir                       | This site was recorded by the RCAHM in 1925 as the stump of an erect standing stone c.1.2m high, which was originally much taller (c.2.2m). By the time the Ordnance Survey visited the site in 1966 there was no trace of a standing stone.   | SM 8942 2851   | Bronze Age               |
| 4293 * | St Edrin's                               | A well dedicated to Saint Edrin, or Edren, that was formerly located within the churchyard of Saint Edrin's Parish Church (PRN 5975), now converted to a residence   | SM 8943 2830   | Medieval                 |
| 4294 * | St Edrin's                               | Group III ECM (cross), of probable late 10th - 11th century date, now at Scolton Manor Museum. It was first recorded in 1883 when it was standing on the N side of St Edrins churchyard PRN 47486. It was moved to Scolton in 1987. Small disc-headed cross with plain shaft, 40" long overall.  | SM 8943 2830   | Early Medieval           |
| 4295 * | St Edrin's                               | Group III ECM (cross-carved stone with inscriptions), of probable late 9th - 11th century date. It was first recorded in 1883 when it was lying at the foot of St Edrins church tower PRNs 5975 & 47486. Moved to its present location in the 1980s. Plain outline Latin wheel cross, with inscription 'Alpha Omega Jesus Christ'. Stolen from church, but recovered at Pwllderi Youth Hostel, & now housed in Mathry church PRN 4642. | SM 8943 2830   | Early Medieval           |
| 4296 * | St Edrin's                               | Group III ECM (cross-carved stone with inscriptions), of probable late 9th - early 10th century date. It was first recorded in 1883 when it was lying at the foot of St Edrins church tower PRNs 5975 & 47486. Round-headed cross slab, plain Latin wheel cross, with inscription 'Alpha Omega Jesus Christ'. Built into internal s. wall of chancel, moved to Scolton Manor in 1987 and now on loan to Dyfed Archaeology Trust        | SM 8943 2830   | Early Medieval           |
| 4297 * | St Edrin's                               | Fragment of Group III ECM, of probable late 9th - 11th century date, now at Scolton Manor Museum. It was first recorded in 1883 when it was lying at the foot of St Edrins church tower. Basal portion of a half-round cross-slab, formerly built into internal n. wall of chancel   | SM 8943 2830   | Early Medieval           |

| PRN     | Name                              | Description   | Gred Ref       | Period                  |
|---------|-----------------------------------|---|----------------|-------------------------|
| 4298    | Tre Howell                        | A stone macehead, of 'gritty material' (information from OS Card SM82 NE22) with an incomplete hour-glass perforation.  | SM 8936 2876   | Bronze Age              |
| 4605    | Waun Y Caerau                     | Place-name of unknown significance.   | SM 881 294     | Unknown                 |
| 5975 *  | St Edrin's Parish Church          | Medieval parish church, entirely rebuilt (in same location) in 1846. Formerly cruciform, it now comprises chancel, nave and west tower. The church was made redundant and converted into a dwelling in 1987. However, it is thought that the churchyard is still in CinW ownership.   | SM 8943 2830   | Post-medieval, Medieval |
| 6421    | Letterston                        | Field system.   | SM 90 30       | Post-medieval, Medieval |
| 8979    | Trehale                           | This stone was shown by a local farmer to H. James and G. Williams of the Dyfed Archaeological Trust in January 1980. It was very weathered and c.2m high. Described by PFRS Project in 2003 as "An upright stone, leaning slightly to the NNW, 1.7m high, and measuring c.1.1m x0.7m at its rectangular base. The stone tapers at its top and is aligned NW-SE through its long axis." Scheduled Ancient Monument PE509  | SM 88536 29086 | Bronze Age              |
| 10458   | Castell-Froga                     | Place-name – Castell - of unknown significance.   | SM 904 291     | Unknown                 |
| 10494   | Castle Maurice Mill               | Water mill indicated on cartographic/documentary sources  | SM 90 31       | Medieval                |
| 12328   | Maboris                           | Settlement indicated on cartographic/documentary sources  | SM 888 306     | Medieval                |
| 12343   | Treduok                           | Settlement indicated on cartographic/documentary sources  | SM 889 287     | Medieval                |
| 17566   |                                   | Post medieval former quarry   | SM 9084 3077   | Post-medieval           |
| 17946   | Trehale Lodge                     | Lodge indicated on cartographic/documentary sources   | SM 8890 2880   | Post-medieval           |
| 28753   | Mabws-Uchaf Penlan-Mabws          | 1939-45, Military Camp, now demolished. Three Nissen huts.  | SM 8908 2976   | Modern                  |
| 47486 * | St Edrin's Parish Church          | Early medieval B site, ie. medium-probability early medieval origins. Circular churchyard occupied by St Edrins parish church (PRN 5975), entirely rebuilt in 1846. Four Group III ECMs (PRNs 4294-7) from site, all possibly +/- in situ suggesting that the site may have been a small monastic church associated with St Davids during the late 9th - 11th centuries. Also contains 'holy' well PRN 4293. The church is redundant and now a dwelling; churchyard still in CinW ownership | SM 8943 2830   | Early Medieval          |
| 48324   | Trehale                           | A standing stone, 1.25m high, located in a pasture field, just over 350m to the WNW of another standing stone, PRN 8979, and 300m to the ESE of another standing stone, PRN 48325. Scheduled Ancient Monument PE508   | SM 88159 29208 | Bronze Age              |
| 59113   | Penfeidr, Castle Morris/ Casmorys | Grade II listed gentry house No. 12958  | SM 89995 30770 | Post-medieval           |
| 59750   | Tre-Howell                        | Grade II listed house No. 25607   | SM 89250 28823 | Post-medieval           |
| 59754   | Trehale                           | Grade II listed farmhouse No. 25613   | SM 88358 29016 | Post-medieval           |
| 94446   | Pen-lan-Mabws                     | This large and squat standing stone is situated on the NW shoulder of a hill. It measures 1.3m tall, 1.0m wide, 0.8m deep and 2.8m in circumference. The monument leans slightly to the NW and has a rounded top. Strumble Head and St George's Channel are visible to the N. Scheduled Ancient Monument PE510.   | SM 8849 3007   | Bronze Age              |

- All PRNs listed for St Edrin's parish church are located at the same NGR. They are all denoted by the PRN 4293 on Figure 2.

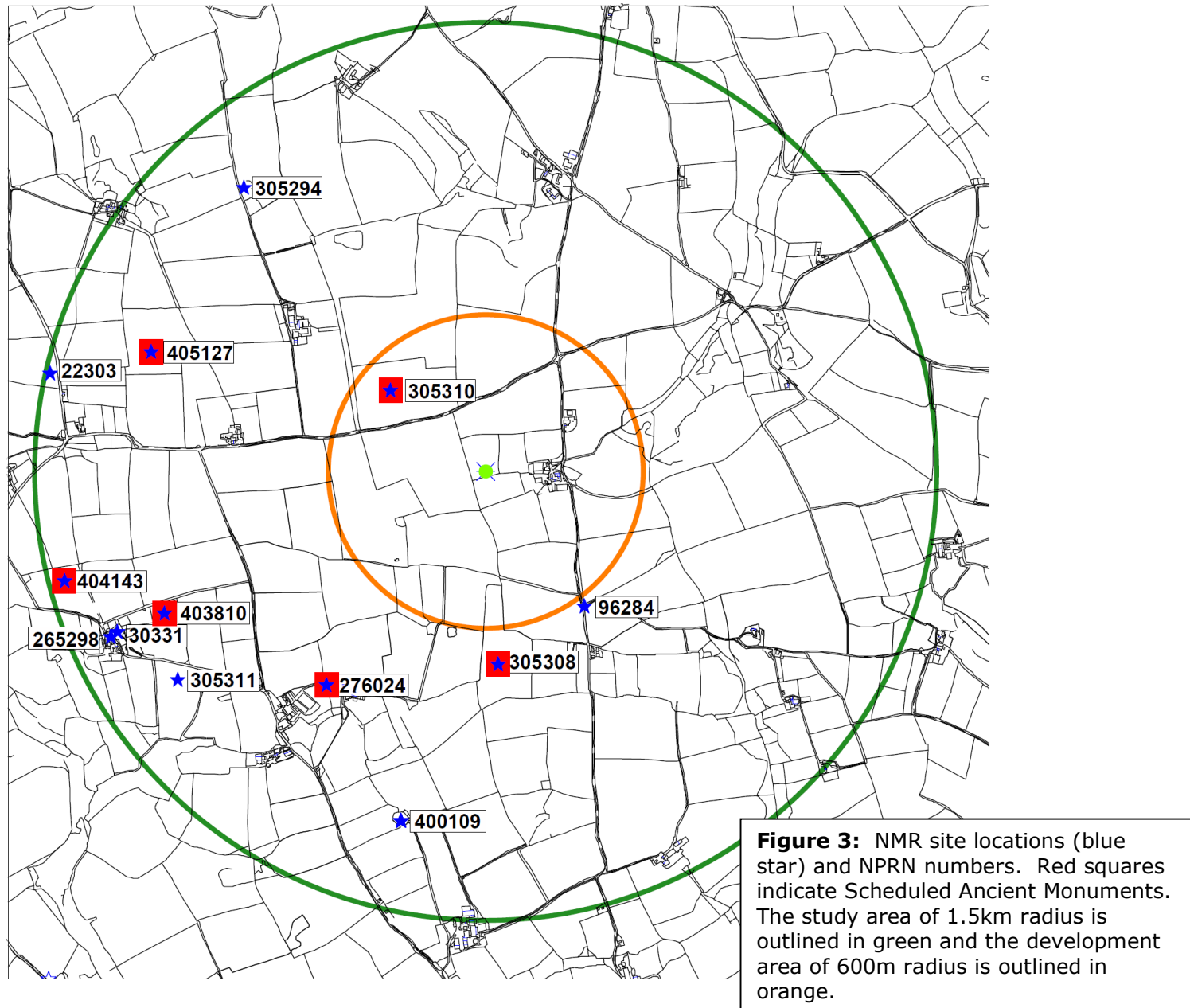


**Figure 2:** HER site locations (red star) and PRN numbers. The study area of 1.5km radius centred on the location of the first proposed turbine is outlined in green and the development area of 600m radius is outlined in orange.

### RCAHMW sites within 1.5km (Figure 3)

| NPRN          | Site Name  | Regional PRN | NGR            | Period                   | Description  |
|---------------|--|--------------|----------------|--------------------------|--|
| <b>22303</b>  | Mabws Fawr   |              | SM 88 30       | Post Medieval?           | Post-medieval House  |
| <b>30331</b>  | Trehale House  | PRN 59754    | SM 8836 2901   | Post Medieval            | Trehale is a small country house, a later 19th century remodelling of an earlier house with service wing said to have been built in 1844-5 for the Rev T E Thomas (1802-74). It is white painted stucco with imitation slate roofs and rendered end stacks. Raised quoins. Two-and-a-half storeys, the upper windows breaking the eaves under small later 19th century gables with bargeboards and terracotta finials. There is a central 2-column porch and a parallel rear range with a half-hipped gable. |
| <b>96284</b>  | Priskilly Fawr Lane Gatepost, Mathry                 |              | SM 9012 2911   | Post Medieval            | A large split slab of local stone with incised initials, probably no early than 18th century.  |
| <b>265298</b> | Trehale, Garden, Mathry                              |              | SM 88344 29000 | Post Medieval            | This garden is depicted on the Second Edition Ordnance Survey 25-inch map of Pembrokeshire XVI, sheet 5 (1907). Its main elements on that map include carriage drive, lawns, lodge and relict hedgelines.  |
| <b>276024</b> | Tre-Howell Burial Chamber                            | PRN 4289     | SM 891 288     | Prehistoric              | Tre-Howell Burial Chamber  |
| <b>305294</b> | Parc-Yr-Hen Gastell, Enclosure; Castell, Llain Mabws | PRN 2854     | SM 8884 3069   | Iron Age?; Medieval?     | A ploughed-down, sub-rectangular embanked enclosure, 27m by 47m, with a possible entrance and rectilinear annex to the E. The site may possibly be connected with a medieval settlement, "Maboris" recorded in the general vicinity (DAT Prn12328). Recorded from the air on 10th April 2003, still under plough and visible as soil mark.   |
| <b>305308</b> | Clyn Ffwrn, Stone, Weary                             | PRN 4291     | SM 8979 2888   | Neolithic                | Clyn Ffwrn is a standing stone, 1.4m high by 0.3m. There is no evidence to support local traditions of a cromlech, or stone circle. The site has clearly been re-assessed by more recent fieldwork by the Dyfed Archaeological Trust, and is now recorded and scheduled as a Neolithic tomb.   |
| <b>305310</b> | Pen-Lan-Mabws-Uchaf, Stone; Pen-Y-Banc, Stone        | PRN 4286     | SM 8939 2993   | Prehistoric              | Pen-Lan-Mabws-Uchaf is a doubtful standing stone, 1.4m high by 1.6m by 0.5m. Local tradition recalls a cromlech here, however it is thought that this may be a natural boulder. Scheduled as a burial chamber.   |
| <b>305311</b> | Trehale, Stone                                       | PRN 2775     | SM 8857 2882   | Unknown                  | Trehale stone consists of the stump of a standing stone destroyed by blasting, 1.2m high by 0.8m by 0.5m, its sides bearing halves of drill holes.   |
| <b>400109</b> | St Edrin's Church or St Edren's Church               | PRN 5975     | SM 8943 2829   | Medieval; Early Medieval | Church, comprising a west tower, nave & chancel, built 1846, set within a sub-circular churchyard, roughly 50-60m in diameter. St Edren's well was formerly found within the churchyard. Several cross/pillar stone fragments are associated with the church.  |

| <b>NPRN</b>   | <b>Site Name</b>                         | <b>Regional PRN</b> | <b>NGR</b>   | <b>Period</b> | <b>Description</b>  |
|---------------|--|---------------------|--------------|---------------|---|
| <b>403810</b> | Standing Stone 200m ENE of Trehale House | PRN 8979            | SM 8854 2906 | Prehistoric   | Standing stone within an enclosed field on a south facing slope. Measuring 1.6m tall, 1.1m wide and 0.75m deep. It is oriented ESE-WNW and tapers to a blunt and rounded point. The surface of the stone is weathered and displays brown and white quartz inclusions.       |
| <b>404143</b> | Standing Stone 270m NW of Trehale House  | PRN 48324           | SM 8815 2920 | Prehistoric   | Located within an enclosed field on a south facing slope, the stone measures 1.25m tall, 1.1m wide and 0.8m deep. It is oriented NW-SE and tapers to a point. The stone has many quartz inclusions.   |
| <b>405127</b> | Standing Stone 400m NE of Pen-Lan-Mabws  | PRN 94446           | SM 8849 3007 | Prehistoric   | A large and squat standing stone situated on the NW shoulder of a hill. It measures 1.3m tall, 1.0m wide, 0.8m deep and 2.8m in circumference. The monument leans slightly to the NW and has a rounded top. Strumble Head and St George's Channel are visible to the north. |



***Palaeolithic (c. 450,000 – c. 10,000 BC)***

- 3.3.2 No known sites of Palaeolithic date have been identified within the boundary of the development area or within the surrounding study area.

***Mesolithic and Neolithic (c. 10,000 – c. 2300 BC)***

- 3.3.3 No known sites of Mesolithic date have been identified within the development area or within the surrounding study area.

One site of Neolithic date (PRN 4286) lies within the development area c.460m to the northwest of the proposed location of the first turbine. This is a chambered tomb that has been designated a Scheduled Ancient Monument. Within the surrounding study area lie a further two Neolithic chambered tombs (PRNs 4289 & 4291), both of which are Scheduled Ancient Monuments (see 3.1 above). These sites are burial chambers, often communal burial sites, generally dating to a period between 4000 and 3000 BC. A scatter of stone flakes (PRN 2771) discovered close to Treddiog farm appears to represent the waste flakes associated with the manufacture of Neolithic stone axes.

***Bronze Age (c.2300 – 700 BC)***

- 3.3.4 There is an unusually large number of possible Bronze Age features within the study area. These consist mainly of standing stones. Five standing stones have been recorded on the HER and NMR (PRNs 2774, 2775, 4292, 8979, 48324 and 94446), three of which are designated as Scheduled Ancient Monuments (see 3.1 above). Cartographic evidence, however, clearly depicts another 29 "stones" (see 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map, Figure 6), that may represent further standing stones removed during the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Standing stones can be somewhat enigmatic structures that are difficult to date. However, archaeological excavation has shown that many standing stones were erected in the Bronze Age, and has suggested that they had a ritual function. In later periods standing stones have been used or reused, sometimes as marker posts or as rubbing stones for animals. Bronze Age activity in the area is further attested by the discovery of finds within the study area including a Bronze Age axe made out of bronze and a stone mace head (PRNs 2773 & 4298).

***Iron Age & Roman (c.700 BC – c. AD410)***

- 3.3.5 Within the study area, on higher ground to the north of the proposed development area, lie two defended enclosures (PRNs 2573 & 2854), typically dated to the Iron Age. Further Iron Age activity in the area is suggested by the discovery of a stone spindle whorl (PRN 4290) close to Treddiog farm to the southwest of the development area, although spindle whorls of this type remained in use through into the Roman period. However, there are no other indications of Roman activity in the area. Antiquarian sources have suggested that the road that passes east – west through the development area has its origins in the Roman period but there is currently no known archaeological evidence to confirm this.

### ***Early Medieval (c. AD410 – AD1066)***

- 3.3.6 To the south of the development area, but within the study area, lies the small church of St Edrins (PRN 5975), now converted into a private dwelling. Although the current building was almost totally rebuilt in 1846, a religious foundation on this site has much earlier origins (PRN 47486). Within and around the church several inscribed stones have been discovered (PRNs 4294, 4295, 4296 & 4297, Photo 18). Each is described as an Early Christian Monument (ECM), dated to between the 9<sup>th</sup> and the 11<sup>th</sup> centuries. The sub-circular shape of the churchyard (PRN 47486) surrounding the church is also typical of churches that have their origins in the early medieval period. It has been suggested, due to the presence of the ECMs, that the site of St Edrins church was a small monastic site associated with St Davids. Such a site may have attracted further activity during that period, although to date no further evidence has come to light.

### ***Medieval (1066 – 1485)***

- 3.3.7 St Edrin's church, established during the early medieval period, continued to be an important church for the area during the medieval period, when it was elevated to the position of parish church. A medieval holy well (PRN 4293) also lies close by. It is likely that the beginnings of the landscape of dispersed farmsteads and small hamlets that characterise the area today were first established during the medieval period. The scholar Rees drew up a map in the 1960s, purporting to show South Wales in the 14<sup>th</sup> century, and although the sources used for this information are not always explicit, he does mark two small settlements of Maboris and Treduok in this area (PRNs 12328 & 12343). Both these sites appear to develop into farmsteads. Maboris is further described by Francis Jones. In 1326 it was a 'fee' of which the Bishop of St David's was the lord and appears to have become the house and farmstead of Mabws Fawr by the 16<sup>th</sup> century, when descendants of Twdwr, prince of Deheubarth lived there. The house was also home to John Evans in the late 18<sup>th</sup> and early 19<sup>th</sup> century, an enthusiastic Baptist. His son, John Brown Evans, born at Mabws Fawr, emigrated to South Africa to become a hugely successful farmer, owning over 260,000 acres and inventing barbed wire. The old house was demolished and replaced with the current farmhouse in the 1960s. The second medieval settlement mentioned by Rees, Treduok, later became the house and farmstead of Treddiog, in the small hamlet of St Edrins. Francis Jones first records a house at Treddiog in the early 17<sup>th</sup> century.

### ***Post Medieval (1485 – 1900)***

- 3.3.8 Many of the other farmsteads in the area first appear in the records in the early post medieval period. Francis Jones records a mention of Parselle in 1559, the home for generations of Yeoman families. Trehale was mentioned as a farm in 1611, as part of the Scourfield estate. The current farmhouse (PRN 59754), which is now Grade II listed, was built by the Reverend Theophilus Evan Thomas in 1844-5. Rhydydharding was mentioned in 1670, when it was assessed in the Hearth Tax for one hearth. It is clear from map evidence that many of the remaining farmsteads were in place by the early 19<sup>th</sup> century (see figures 3-5), including Penybanc, Penymynydd, Pen y Feidr

(now a Grade II listed Gentry house), Pant y blodau, Wydd, Llwyn y gorras, Penlan Mabws Uchaf, Weary, Waun fach, Walterston, Tre Howell (a Grade II listed house), Treddiog Fach and Bansley. As well as these there also numerous smaller places that have since been abandoned such as Pen-lan-oleu, although remains still stand, and others that have since disappeared such as Castell Ffroga, Llygad yr haul, Tir Sais as well as several small cottages, likely to have housed farm labourers, such as Green cottage, Penlan, Mountain Craslmw and Cippill.

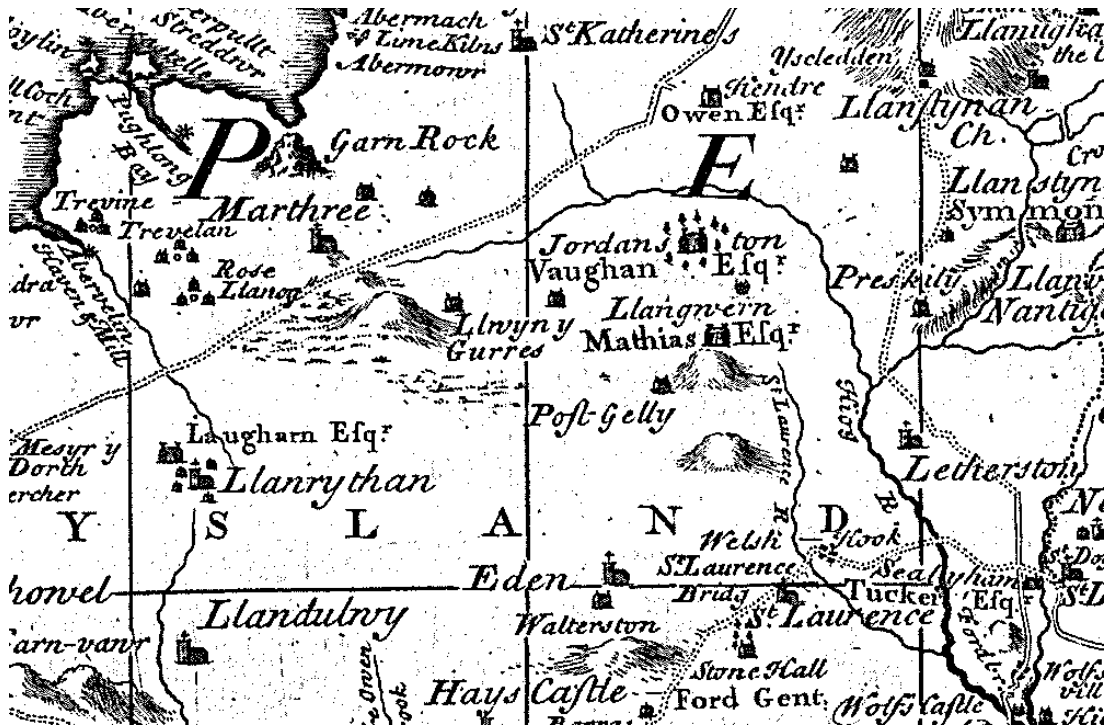
### ***Modern (20<sup>th</sup> century to present)***

- 3.3.9 Although the landscape may be little changed since the 19<sup>th</sup> century there are some more recent archaeological sites recorded in the landscape. A former WWII military camp (PRN 28753) was sited on land just to the west of the development area, consisting of several Nissan Huts. This has since been cleared and no visible above ground features remain.

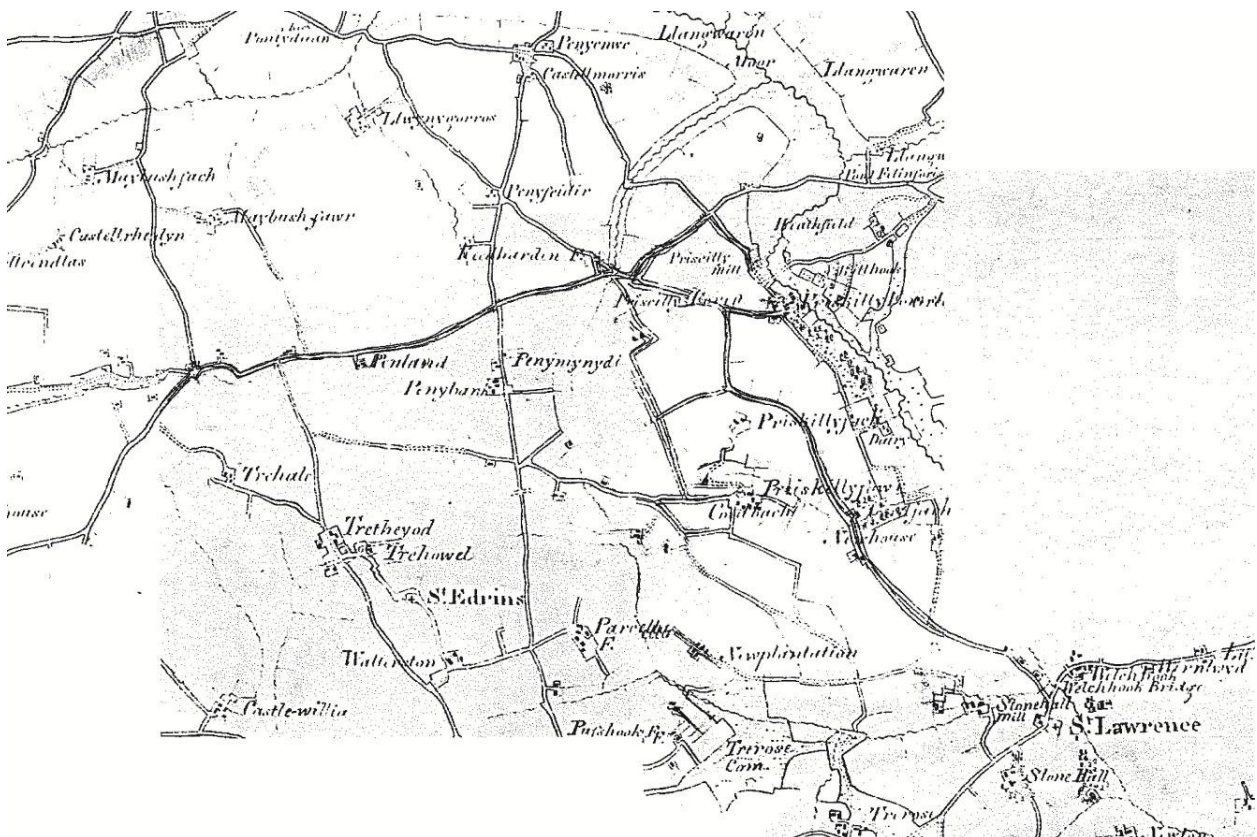
## **3.4 Cartographic Information**

- 3.4.1 One of the earliest known map sources to show the area within which this proposed development lies is Emmanuel Bowen's map of 1729 (Figure 4) but unfortunately no details of interest can be discerned within the development area or the surrounding study area. However, the Ordnance Survey original surveyor's drawing of 1810 (Figure 5), although not at a scale to depict individual fields, does show that the network of roads and the settlement pattern of dispersed farmsteads and villages had been established throughout the area by this date. Penybanc farmstead complex is shown with Penymynydd just to the north, although also shown is what appears to be a house or small farmstead complex on the west side of the road between Penybanc and Penymynydd. Nothing visible now remains of this site above ground. To the west, on the south side of the main east-west road through the area lies a small complex of buildings called Penlan, although again little now remains of this site above ground. To the south of Penybanc an east-west trackway is shown connecting the two roads that run south towards Hayscastle. A cottage is shown on the south side of this trackway, although unlabelled, later maps identify this as Cippill. No other features are identified within the proposed development area on these maps, although many of the surrounding farmsteads and settlements identified within the study area (see section 3.3.8) are depicted.
- 3.4.2 Parish tithe maps drawn up in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century offer a greater level of detail for this area, although they are known to have varying degrees of accuracy. The proposed development area covers two parish tithe maps, the tithe map of Mathry parish, drawn up in 1843, and the tithe map of St Edrin's parish, drawn up in 1844. Penybanc farm and the majority of the development area lie within Mathry parish (Figure 6). Penybanc is shown on the map, although labelled Penbach (presumably a mishearing of the farm name) with an unusual cruciform building forming part of the farmstead, although it is not known how accurate this depiction is of the farmstead buildings. Immediately north of the farmstead lies a separate building, not named, but characterised as a house and garden. This is likely to correspond to the building in the same location depicted on the Ordnance Survey

- drawings of 1810. Slightly to the north, on the opposite side of the road, the small complex of Penymynydd is shown, although labelled Penyrardd Fach. This name change is less easily explained as Penymynydd appears on the earlier Ordnance Survey drawings of 1810. It is possible the names interchanged with the now vanished house on the opposite side of the road. The site of the central wind turbine lies to the west of the main farmhouse, in an area depicted as small square fields. Nothing is marked within these fields, and the names of the fields give no indication as to their history. Larger fields lie to the north, medium sized fields to the west and south, although again little of note is labelled. A small cottage (later identified as Cippill) is marked to the south within the development area.
- 3.4.3 The St Edrins tithe map (Figure 7) shows smaller fields to the southwest of Penybanc within the proposed development area, as well as a house and a cottage. To the south of the main east-west road running through the area lies a house and an outbuilding, labelled as Penllan House. This is presumably the same Penlan house shown on the Ordnance Survey drawings of 1810. Further south lies a small building labelled simply as 'cottage' (later identified as Pen-lan-oleu) and remains of this building still survive to roof level. In between these two sites lies a field labelled as 'Park Garreg'. This can often be an indication of prominent stone features such as standing stones, especially given the known proliferation of such sites in this area. This field, however, corresponds to the site of a stone quarry, the name may therefore relate to outcropping rocks that attracted the quarrying.
- 3.4.4 The more detailed and accurate 1<sup>st</sup> edition 1: 2500 Ordnance Survey map of 1889 (Figure 8) shows that the field patterns and settlement layout of the proposed development area and its surrounding landscape changed very little throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The main house of Penybanc farmstead is shown, with a u-shaped range of farm buildings to the southeast around a central courtyard, a style typical of farmsteads laid out or rebuilt in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century. The house to the north of Penybanc farmstead is no longer recorded at this date. Close to where this house formerly stood the map marks a "stone"; one of the two shown on the map that lie within the development area. A second stone lies in the field on the opposite side of the road to the east of the farmstead. Neither of these stones are visible today. There are other numerous "stones" labelled throughout the study area. Several of these stones have been identified in this area as Standing Stones dating to the Bronze Age (see section 3.3.4), but it is not known how many other marked "stones" are prehistoric monuments or perhaps later boundary markers, animal rubbing stones or natural outcrops. Although the house to the north is no longer recorded, the remaining houses and cottages of Penymynydd, Pen-lan, Pen-lan-oleu, Cippill and Mountain Craslwm are still marked.
- 3.4.5 The 20<sup>th</sup> century clearly saw the amalgamation of many of the smaller fields within this landscape. This was no doubt in part due to improvements in farm machinery and techniques allowing larger areas to be cultivated and farmed, but also as many of the smaller farmsteads and cottages were abandoned their land was subsumed into the larger farms. Within the development area itself, only the central Penybanc farmstead and nearby Penymynydd survive in use, although upstanding remains of Pen-lan-oleu also survive.



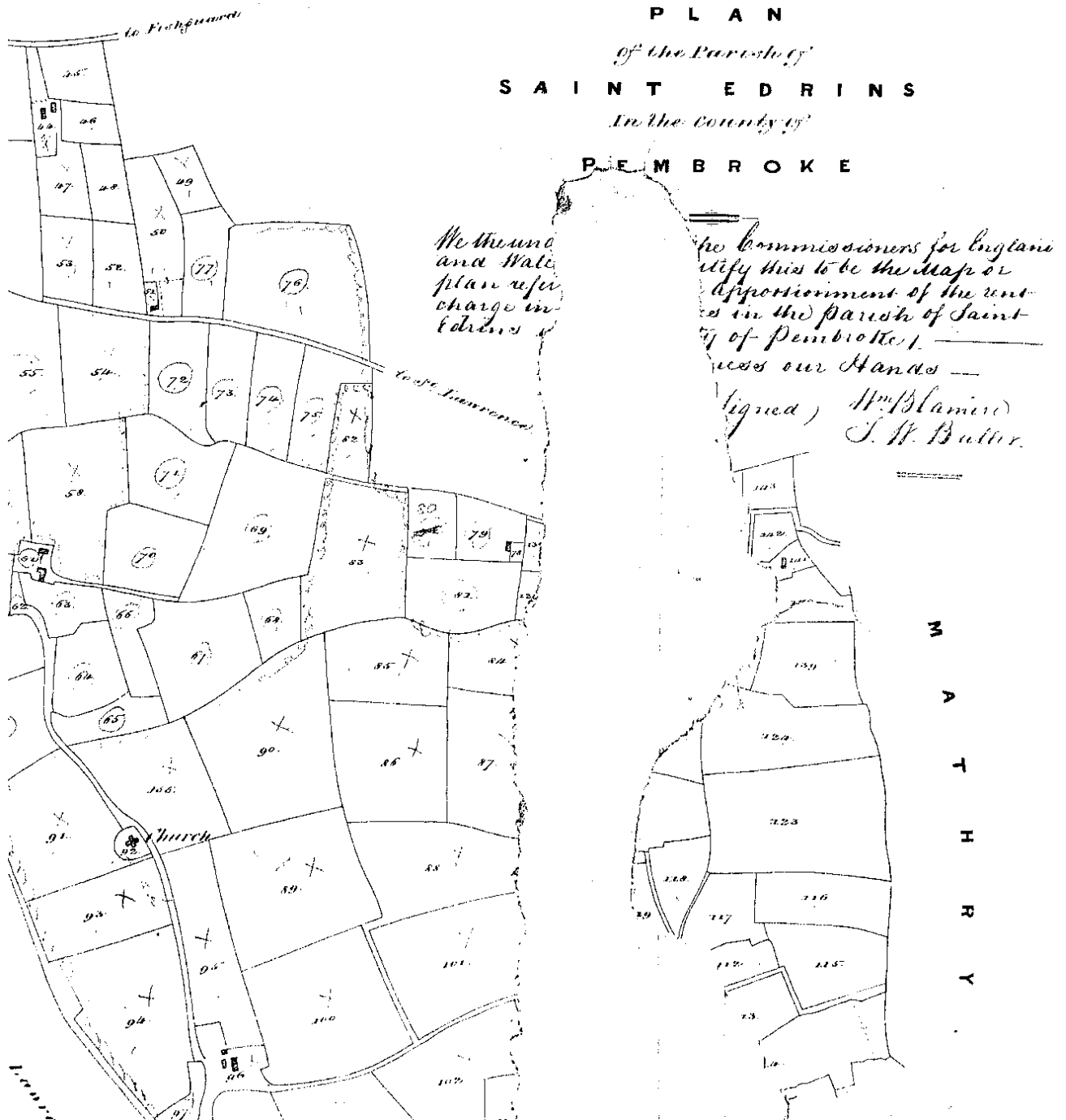
**Figure 4:** Extract from Emmanuel Bowen's map of 1729



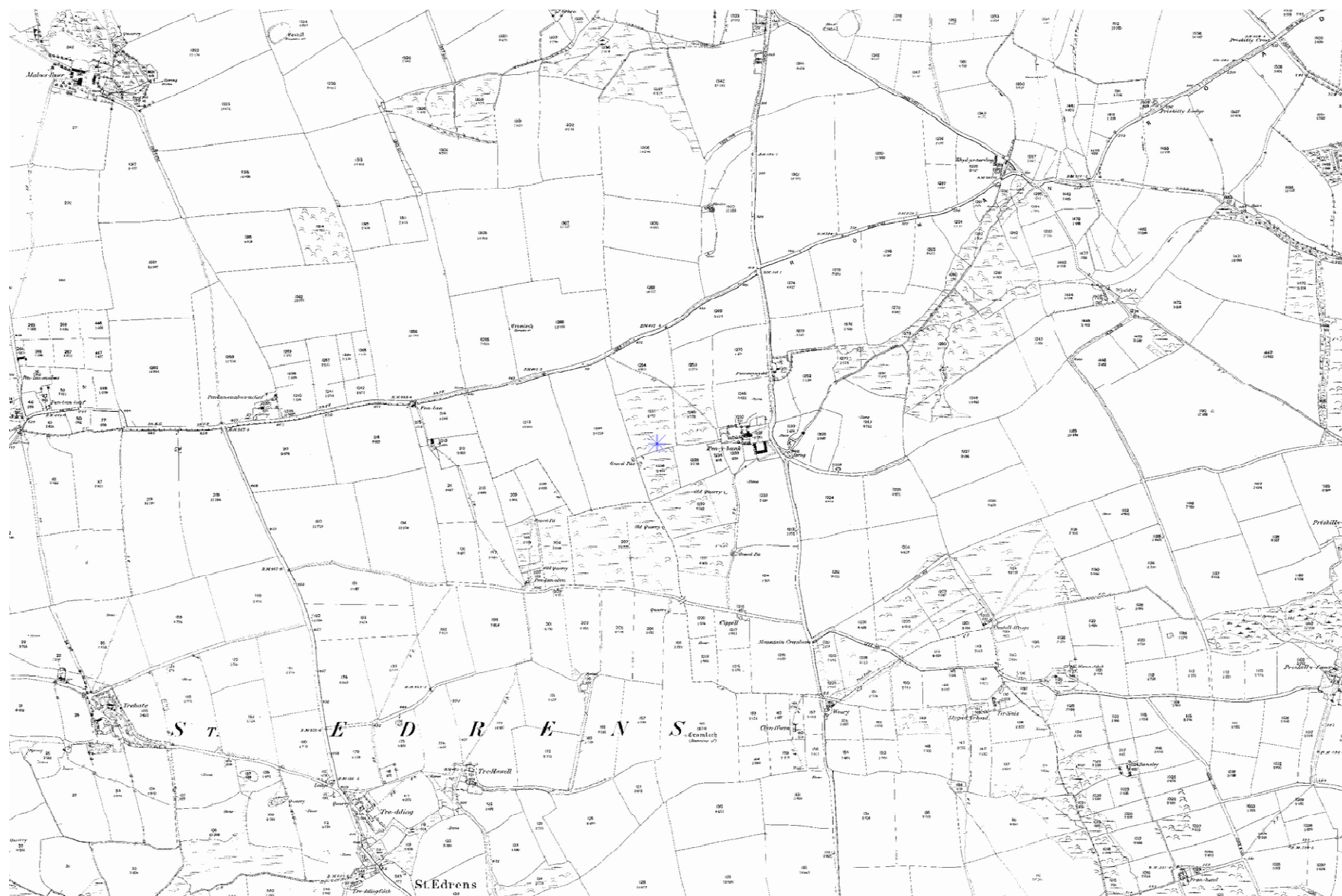
**Figure 5:** Extract from the Ordnance Survey original surveyor's drawings of 1810



**Figure 6:** Extract from the tithe map of Mathry Parish 1843



**Figure 7:** Extract from the tithe map of St Edrin's Parish 1844



**Figure 8:** Extract from the Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition 1:2500 map of 1889

### **3.5 Site Walkover Survey**

- 3.5.1 A site visit was undertaken on the 28<sup>th</sup> October 2011. The visit comprised a walkover of the whole proposed development area. Photographs were taken and field observations recorded in note form.
- 3.5.2 The location of the first proposed wind turbine lies on high ground in a field of pasture (Photo 1). This field and those immediately surrounding it are bounded in banks of large local stone (Photos 2 & 3). These stones have presumably come from a mixture of field clearance and local quarries, and include stones clearly large enough to have been used as standing stones (Photos 4 & 5), although there is no evidence that any were used as such. A quarry, containing some large stones, lies in the southwestern corner of the field (Photo 6). This quarry is marked on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map (Figure 8) as a gravel pit, it has clearly been expanded since that time.
- 3.5.3 There are two recorded HER sites within the proposed development area, and one further recorded NMR site. PRN 4286 is the site of a Neolithic chambered tomb, a Scheduled Ancient Monument. This site consists of a large stone embedded in the ground, roughly 4.5m by 3.5m and 1.7m high (Photos 7, 8 & 9). Smaller stones lie around the base, including some quartz blocks. Roughly 75m to the east lies a second smaller stone, roughly 1.1m by 1.8m by 0.9m. The stone is of the same material as the larger stone, although it has more visible veins of quartz running through it. This stone lies at the eastern end of a slightly raised ridge 10.0m long, 3.0m wide and 0.1m to 0.2m high. The stone does not appear to be deeply rooted and may have been dislodged in the past. The field in which this monument is sited is arable.
- 3.5.4 PRN 28753 is the site of a WWII military camp that contained several Nissan huts. There are no surface remains of this camp (Photo 10).
- 3.5.5 The NMR record a post medieval inscribed stone in a gateway to the south of Penybanc. There is no indication of this stone at the given grid reference.
- 3.5.6 Several other possible sites have been identified from cartographic sources. There are no surface indications of several of the houses and cottages marked on 19<sup>th</sup> century map sources. These include the house to the north of Penybanc, Pen-lan cottage (Photo 11), Cippill cottage (Photo 12) and Mountain Craslwm. Pen-lan-oleu cottage still survives as a roofless ruin (Photos 13, 14 & 15). This includes a main building 8.8m long by 5.2m wide. The remains of a kitchen fireplace are still evident at the eastern ground floor end, with a smaller fireplace at the western end. This building was originally two storeys, with an attached lean-to to the rear, and two small outbuildings attached to the western gable end.
- 3.5.7 Two "stones" are marked on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map within the development area. No evidence of either of these stones could be found during the site visit.
- 3.5.8 Other than the remains of some of the small quarries and gravel pits marked on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map no further archaeological features were noted within the development area.
- 3.5.9 St Edrin's Church can be seen from the development area (PRN 5975; Photo 17), which has early medieval origins. One of the four Early Christian Monuments recovered from the church (PRN 4296; Photo 18) is now housed

at the offices of Dyfed Archaeological Trust, Llandeilo. It is also possible to see the remains of another Neolithic chambered tomb (PRN 4291; Photo 19) from the development area.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

- 4.1 This archaeological appraisal has indicated that the site of the two proposed wind turbines lies in an area of archaeological significance, focused mainly in the Neolithic, Bronze Age, early medieval and medieval periods.
- 4.2 The general area has not been subject to previous development or mineral extraction. The land has been disturbed through agricultural processes, such as ploughing and land clearance. Within the study area the walkover survey has confirmed that prehistoric burial monuments have been disturbed following agricultural processes, earthworks have been levelled and a number of former post medieval structures have been demolished or cleared. Where archaeological remains survive, they will lie below the plough soil at the interface with the undisturbed natural ground below (typically less than 0.4m below present ground surface).
- 4.3 No known sites of Palaeolithic or Mesolithic date have been identified within the study area, and the potential for remains of this date to be present is considered low. Such sites are rare, but should they be present they would be of high archaeological importance.
- 4.4 Neolithic archaeology is represented by three chambered tombs, all of which are designated as Scheduled Ancient Monuments. Such sites are of national archaeological importance. The setting of such monuments is a material consideration and the impact upon their setting by the proposed wind turbines would need to be properly assessed. The appraisal indicates that the turbines would be clearly visible from the monuments. Cadw have been asked their initial opinion on the scheme in respect to these monuments, and we are awaiting a response. A possible Neolithic stone axe manufacturing site has also been identified within the study area. These all indicate that there is a moderate to high potential for further remains of Neolithic date to be present within the proposed development area. Such remains, if present, could be considered of regional to national archaeological importance.
- 4.5 Five Bronze Age standing stones are known in the study area, three of which are scheduled. Further standing stones may have been present, but were removed during the 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries. Along with the finds of a bronze axe and stone mace head of this date, there is considered to be a moderate to high potential for further remains of Bronze Age date to be present within the proposed development area. Such remains, if present, could be considered of regional to national archaeological importance.
- 4.6 Iron Age activity is known on the higher ground to the north, but none has as yet been identified within closer proximity to the site. The potential for remains of Iron Age date is considered low, and any such remains, if present, would be of local to regional archaeological importance.
- 4.7 Roman remains in this area of Pembrokeshire are rare. Typical Roman sites have numerous and very recognisable artefacts and the absence of any within the known archaeological record may be seen to suggest that there is little or no activity of this period within the study area, and the potential for any such remains in the development area would be low. If such remains were identified, they would be of regional to national importance.
- 4.8 Archaeological evidence of early medieval period activity is known to the south at St Edrin's church. Typically, churches were a focus for settlement,

and any such remains of this date would be concentrated in known church or existing village sites. The potential for remains of early medieval settlement within the proposed development area is considered low. Remains are more likely to be associated with agricultural practices, and these are of low archaeological importance.

- 4.9 A very similar picture is likely to have occurred during the medieval period, with settlement concentrating around churches, and following a very similar settlement pattern to that seen today. Farmstead sites would have also been present, in locations similar to that which exists today, or where previously identified from map evidence and the walkover survey. The proposed development area would most likely have been situated in agricultural land, and as such any remains would be of low archaeological importance. The above conclusions are mirrored for the post-medieval period.
- 4.10 The final locations of the proposed wind turbines must be sited to avoid any archaeological remains identified within this report. They should also avoid being placed too close to any known monuments and specially any scheduled ancient monuments to avoid impacting upon their settings.
- 4.11 The proposed wind turbines will require ground reduction and excavation for their bases. Cabling and other services may also be needed, all of which could expose, damage or destroy below ground archaeological remains. It is probable that as a minimum an archaeological watching brief would be required during such groundworks to ensure that if any archaeological remains are exposed, they can be appropriately recorded. It may be worth considering opening up the footprints of the turbines at an early stage to allow them to be archaeologically evaluated (and excavated if necessary) before development commences to avoid delays or allow relocation of the turbines.
- 4.12 The scope of any further archaeological works required at the site should be discussed with the archaeological advisor to the planning authority. Cadw would need to be consulted further on the impacts of the wind turbines on the setting of the nearby Scheduled Ancient Monuments. Impacts to the wider landscape setting of this area of Pembrokeshire should also be considered, in consultation with the relevant officer at Pembrokeshire County Council and Pembrokeshire Coast National Park. The wind turbines would be considered detrimental to the views and setting of the landscape/heritage features.

## 5. SOURCES

### Database

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record, housed with Dyfed Archaeological Trust in The Shire Hall, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, SA19 6AF

Coflein, online database for the National Monuments Record of Wales (NMRW), provided by The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales

### Cartographic

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Tithe Map and Apportionment for the Parish of St Edrin's 1844

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### Published

Jones, F (ed. R Innes-Smith) 1996 *Historic Houses of Pembrokeshire and Their Families*

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### Unpublished

Ludlow, N 2000 *CADW Welsh Historic Churches Project: Ceredigion Churches* Dyfed Archaeological Trust Report (DAT 48) for CADW Welsh Historic Monuments

## PHOTOGRAPHS



**Photo 1:** General view west from proposed development area



**Photo 2:** General view west showing the proposed site of the central wind turbine



**Photo 3:** Typical stone banks enclosing pasture fields around the proposed central wind turbine



**Photo 4:** One of numerous large stones within the field banks. 1m scale



**Photo 5:** As above, one of numerous large stones within the field banks. 1m scale



**Photo 6:** Former stone quarry close to proposed central wind turbine



**Photo 7:** Looking west at the site of chambered tomb PRN 4286



**Photo 8:** Looking east from chambered tomb PRN 4286



**Photo 9:** Chambered tomb PRN 4286



**Photo 10:** Site of former WWII camp, PRN 28753



**Photo 11:** Site of Penlan cottage. 1m scale



**Photo 12:** Site of Cippill cottage



**Photo 13:** Remains of Pen-lan-oleu cottage with stone quarry in the foreground



**Photo 14:** Pen-lan-oleu cottage. 1m scale



**Photo 15:** Interior of Pen-lan-oleu cottage



**Photo 16:** Former trackway running past Cippill and Pen-lan-oleu cottages



**Photo 17:** St Edrins church, PRN 5975



**Photo 18:** Inscribed cross (PRN 4296) from St Edrins church, now housed at Dyfed Archaeological Trust offices



**Photo 19:** Remains of chambered tomb/standing stone PRN 4291

# **PENYBANC, CASTLE MORRIS, PEMBROKESHIRE: ARCHAEOLOGICAL APPRAISAL**

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2011/55  
RHIF Y PROSIECT / PROJECT RECORD NO. 102580

Tachwedd 2010  
November 2010

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan / This report has been prepared by:  
**Philip Poucher**

Swydd / Position: **Archaeologist**

Llofnod / Signature ..... Dyddiad / Date

Mae'r adroddiad hwn wedi ei gael yn gywir a derbyn sêl bendith

This report has been checked and approved by:  
**James Meek**

ar ran Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf.  
on behalf of Dyfed Archaeological Trust Ltd.

Swydd / Position: **Head of Field Services**

Llofnod / Signature ..... Dyddiad / Date

*Yn unol â'n nôd i roddi gwasanaeth o ansawdd uchel, croesawn unrhyw sylwadau  
sydd gennych ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn*

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



ymddiriedolaeth archaeolegol

