

YSGOL-Y-CASTELL SCHOOL, KIDWELLY, CARMARTHENSHIRE:

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT



Prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust
For: Carmarthenshire County Council



DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2018/13
RHIF Y DIGWYDDIAD / EVENT RECORD NO. 111472

Mai 2018
May 2018

YSGOL-Y-CASTELL SCHOOL, KIDWELLY, CARMARTHENSHIRE:

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

Gan / By

Alice Day ACIfA

Paratowyd yr adroddiad yma at ddefnydd y cwsmer yn unig. Ni dderbynnir cyfrifoldeb gan Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf am ei ddefnyddio gan unrhyw berson na phersonau eraill a fydd yn ei ddarllen neu ddibynnu ar y gwybodaeth y mae'n ei gynnwys

The report has been prepared for the specific use of the client. Dyfed Archaeological Trust Limited can accept no responsibility for its use by any other person or persons who may read it or rely on the information it contains.

Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed Cyf
Corner House, 6 Stryd Caerfyrddin, Llandeilo, Sir
Gaerfyrddin SA19 6AE
Ffon: Ymholiadau Cyffredinol 01558 823121
Adran Rheoli Treftadaeth 01558 823131
Ebost: info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk
Gwefan: www.archaeolegdyfed.org.uk

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Limited
Corner House, 6 Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo,
Carmarthenshire SA19 6E
Tel: General Enquiries 01558 823121
Heritage Management Section 01558 823131
Email: info@dyfedarchaeology.org.uk
Website: www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk

Cwmni cyfyngedig (1198990) ynghyd ag elusen gofrestredig (504616) yw'r Ymddiriedolaeth.
The Trust is both a Limited Company (No. 1198990) and a Registered Charity (No. 504616)
CADEIRYDD CHAIRMAN: Professor B Burnham. CYFARWYDDWR DIRECTOR: K Murphy BA MCIfA

YSGOL-Y-CASTELL SCHOOL, KIDWELLY, CARMARTHENSHIRE: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

CONTENTS

	SUMMARY	1
1	INTRODUCTION	2
1.1	Project Proposals and Commission	2
1.2	Scope of the Project and Methodology	2
1.3	Abbreviations	4
1.4	Illustrations	4
1.5	Timeline	5
2	LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY	10
3	HISTORICAL, LANDSCAPE AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND	11
3.1	Archaeological and Historic Background	11
3.2	Previous Archaeological Work	13
3.3	Historic Landscape Areas	13
3.4	Historic Parks and Gardens	14
3.5	Scheduled Monuments	14
3.6	Listed Buildings	18
3.7	Non-designated Archaeological Sites	18
3.8	Other Archaeological finds	23
3.9	Aerial Photography and LiDAR	24
3.10	Historic Mapping	24
3.11	Site Walkover Survey	28
4	POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ON THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT	32
4.1	Previous Impacts to the Development Site	32
4.2	The Potential Impacts of the Proposed Development	32
4.3	Impacts to the Settings of Surrounding Designated Features	32
5	ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL AND IMPORTANCE	34
6	DISCUSSION	36
6.1	General Conclusions	36
6.2	Archaeological Mitigation	37
7	SOURCES	38

APPENDIX I: (Text only): Ysgol-Y-Castell, Kidwelly: Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment: Written Scheme Of Investigation	40
APPENDIX II: Description of Kidwelly from Lewis, S. 1849. <i>A Topographical Dictionary of Wales.</i>	44
APPENDIX III: Historic Landscape Characterisation Area 170: Holloway Former Strip Fields	48
TABLES	
Table 1: Archaeological and historical timeline for Wales	5
Table 2: Scheduled Monuments within 500m of the boundary of the proposed development site	16
Table 3: Listed Buildings within 500m of the boundary of the proposed development site	19
Table 4: Known historic assets recorded in the HER and NMR databases within 250m of the proposed development site	21
Table 5: Site potential definitions	34
Table 6: Site importance definitions	34
FIGURES	
Figure 1: Location Map for Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire, with the site of the proposed development shown	6
Figure 2: Location Map for the proposed development at Ysgol-y-Castell, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire	7
Figure 3: Detailed location plan for the proposed development at Ysgol-y-Castell, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire	8
Figure 4: Proposed site plan for the new school and facilities at Ysgol-y-Castell, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire	9
Figure 5: Map of the Scheduled Monuments within 500m of the boundary of the proposed development site	17
Figure 6: Map of the Listed Buildings within 500m of the boundary of the proposed development site	20
Figure 7: Map showing historic assets recorded in the HER within 250m of the proposed development site	22
Figure 8: Map showing historic assets recorded only in the NMR within 500m to the south of the proposed development site	23
Figure 9: Extract of the 1811 original 1:63360 OS survey drawing	24
Figure 10: Extract of the 1842 Kidwelly Parish Tithe Map	25
Figure 11: Extract of the 1880 OS 1:2500 1 st edition map	26
Figure 12: Diagram showing locations and directions of photos taken	27

PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo 1:	Looking west from the grassy area south of the main Ysgol-y-Castell school building over the playing field; the proposed site of the new school	28
Photo 2:	Looking east-northeast at the polytunnel, grassy area, portacabin and tree plantation south of the main Ysgol-y-Castell building	29
Photo 3:	Looking northwest at the tarmac and astroturf areas with the rear of the main Ysgol-y-Castell school building beyond	29
Photo 4:	Looking northwest from the northwest corner of the proposed development site towards Kidwelly Castle (PRN 1621) beyond the housing terrace	30
Photo 5:	Looking west-southwest from the northwest corner of the proposed development site towards modern church on left (PRN 16379) and St Mary's Church in the distance (PRN 1929)	31
Photo 6:	Looking west-northwest at the modern church building (PRN 16379) beyond a rugby goal post in the current school playing field	31

**YSGOL-Y-CASTELL SCHOOL, KIDWELLY, CARMARTHENSHIRE:
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

SUMMARY

DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Carmarthenshire County Council to prepare a Historic Environment (Archaeological) Desk-Based Assessment for the proposed development site of a new school at an existing school: Ysgol-y-Castell, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire (roughly centred on SN 4129 0683). The development area comprises the existing school buildings to the east and the larger playing field to the west encompassing an area of c.1.7ha.

A 500m radius search area from the development area boundary was used to evaluate impacts on designated historic assets (Scheduled Monuments, Registered Historic Landscapes, Registered Parks and Gardens, Listed Buildings). It was found that the medieval designated sites of Kidwelly Castle (Scheduled Monument No. CM002; PRNs 1621; 1622) and the Church of Saint Mary (Grade I Listed Building No. 11878; PRN 16291) are partially intervisible with the proposed new school site. It is considered that there would be low impact on the settings of these buildings because they are relatively distant and their views in the relevant directions are already dominated by housing development.

Twelve sites recorded in the national heritage databases were found to exist within 250m of the site boundary, and only one of these would have its setting affected by the development. This site is Our Lady and St Cadoc Catholic Church (NPRN 12649), which sits just beyond the western edge of the proposed new school site. It is a modern building. A 1.6m tall hedge runs along the boundary, but windows in the east side of the church have views of the site.

The potential for below-ground archaeology originating in the Prehistoric to Early-Medieval periods is considered to be negligible due to a paucity of recorded remains in this area. If such remains were to be found their importance would vary from low to high with increasing age, depending upon their rarity as a site-type

The potential for below-ground archaeology originating in the medieval or early post-medieval periods is considered to be medium/low because Kidwelly was both a major religious centre and an important town during that period. The site area was presumably used as agricultural land surrounding the town during these periods. Newly-discovered medieval remains would be of medium to high importance depending upon their rarity as a site-type, whereas Post-Medieval finds would be of low-medium importance.

Mapping from 1811 onwards shows that the proposed development site was a large agricultural field, until the creation of the current school in the mid-1990s. The site area would have previously been subject to ploughing. The construction of the existing school buildings will have significantly impacted upon any below ground archaeology which may be present as would the associated playing fields through levelling and drainage works. A footpath is also recorded as crossing the southwest corner of the development area.

Based on the low archaeological potential and previous impacts already caused to the development site, it is considered unnecessary that any further archaeological mitigation will be required at the site in lieu of buried archaeological remains. This would need to be discussed and confirmed with the Dyfed Archaeological Trust - Development Management team, who are the archaeological advisors to the planning authority.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Proposals and Commission

- 1.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Carmarthenshire County Council to prepare a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (or Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment) for a proposed development site at Ysgol-y-Castell, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire (roughly centred on SN 4129 0683; Figures 1 and 2). The proposed development area encompasses existing school buildings to the east and a larger playing field area to the west, an area of c.1.7ha (Figure 3).
- 1.1.2 The proposed development is for a new primary school to be built on the playing fields of the existing school site (Figure 4). This single development will principally include for the following under 'one collective roof':
- A new build primary school for approximately 300 pupils aged 4 to 11;
 - A nursery for approximately 30 pupils aged 3 to 4; and
 - Some facilities accessible to and shared with the community.
- 1.1.3 This desk-based assessment provides an indication of the archaeological potential of the development area and highlights possible issues in relation to the impact of the development on the historic environment.

1.2 Scope of the Project and Methodology

- 1.2.1 The scope of the assessment follows the Standard And Guidance For Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment as laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014). The standard is stated as:

Desk-based assessment will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within a specified area. Desk-based assessment will be undertaken using appropriate methods and practices which satisfy the stated aims of the project, and which comply with the Code of Conduct and other relevant regulations of CIfA. In a development context desk-based assessment will establish the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the historic environment (or will identify the need for further evaluation to do so), and will enable reasoned proposals and decisions to be made whether to mitigate, offset or accept without further intervention that impact.

- 1.2.2 A desk-based assessment is defined by CIfA as:

.....a programme of study of the historic environment within a specified area or site on land, the inter-tidal zone or underwater that addresses agreed research and/or conservation objectives. It consists of an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely historic assets, their interests and significance and the character of the study area, including appropriate consideration of the settings of historic assets and, in England, the nature, extent and quality of the known or potential archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interest. Significance is to be judged in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.

- 1.2.3 This desk-based assessment is presented as the fulfilment of a Written Scheme of Investigation (Appendix I) approved by the archaeological

advisors to the planning authority (Development Management – Dyfed Archaeological Trust).

- 1.2.4 The desk-based study of the area identifies known archaeological sites within the site and its environs, and assesses the potential for hitherto unknown remains to be present within the proposed development area. An indication is also given of what further archaeological works might be required in advance of or during the proposed school development.
- 1.2.5 The scope of the report also includes an assessment of the impact on the settings of surrounding designated heritage assets, including scheduled monuments, listed buildings, historic landscape character areas and undesignated archaeological sites.
- 1.2.6 The report presents relevant information from a number of sources including:
 - Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record data;
 - On-line National Monuments Record of Wales data held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales in Aberystwyth (Coflein);
 - Aerial photographic search, National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth;
 - National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth;
 - Map regression exercise using earlier cartographic sources;
 - Identification of any Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Historic Landscapes, Historic Landscape Character Areas or Conservation Areas within or in the vicinity of the site area (Cadw, DAT, NRW);
 - Site visit and walkover survey;
 - Assessment of the archaeological potential of the area;
 - Assessment of the likely impact upon the settings of surrounding features of the historic environment; and
 - Assessment of likely impacts on any identified remains within the development site (or potential remains) and likely requirements, if any, for further stages of archaeological work.
- 1.2.7 In accordance with the WSI, a 500m radius search area from the development area boundary was considered sufficient with which to evaluate impacts on designated archaeological sites and elements of the historic environment (Scheduled Monuments, Registered Historic Landscapes, Registered Parks and Gardens, Listed Buildings). A 250m radius search area was used to find recorded undesignated archaeological sites in order to provide sufficient overview of the nature of the area's heritage. These search areas were agreed with the Development Management section of Dyfed Archaeological Trust.
- 1.2.8 For the purposes of planning policy in Wales, the historic environment is defined as:

All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and deliberately planted or managed (Welsh Government 2017).

A historic asset is:

An identifiable component of the historic environment. It may consist or be a combination of an archaeological site, a historic building or area, historic park and garden or a parcel of historic landscape. Nationally important historic assets will normally be designated (ibid).

- 1.2.9 This report contains information about the historic environment and historic assets in the vicinity of the proposed development site, which will assist the archaeological advisors to the planning authority in their decision about what, if any, archaeological mitigation will be required. Further guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment and historic assets during development plan preparation and decision making on planning and Listed Building (LBC) applications can be found in *Planning Policy Wales: Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment* (Welsh Government 2017; available online).

1.3 Abbreviations

- 1.3.1 All sites recorded on the regional Historic Environment Record (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 Monument (SM). Altitude is expressed to a height above Ordnance Datum (aOD). 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 Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale. North is towards the top of the page unless otherwise indicated.

1.5 Timeline

1.5.1 The following timeline gives date ranges for the various archaeological periods that may be mentioned within this report.

Period	Approximate date	
Palaeolithic –	c.450,000 – 10,000 BC	Prehistoric
Mesolithic –	c. 10,000 – 4400 BC	
Neolithic –	c.4400 – 2300 BC	
Bronze Age –	c.2300 – 700 BC	
Iron Age –	c.700 BC – AD 43	
Roman (Romano-British) Period –	AD 43 – c. AD 410	Historic
Post-Roman / Early Medieval Period –	c. AD 410 – AD 1086	
Medieval Period –	1086 – 1536	
Post-Medieval Period ¹ –	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period –	1750 – 1899	
Modern –	20th century onwards	

Table 1: Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales

¹ The post-medieval and Industrial periods are combined as the post-medieval period on the Regional Historic Environment Record as held by Dyfed Archaeological Trust

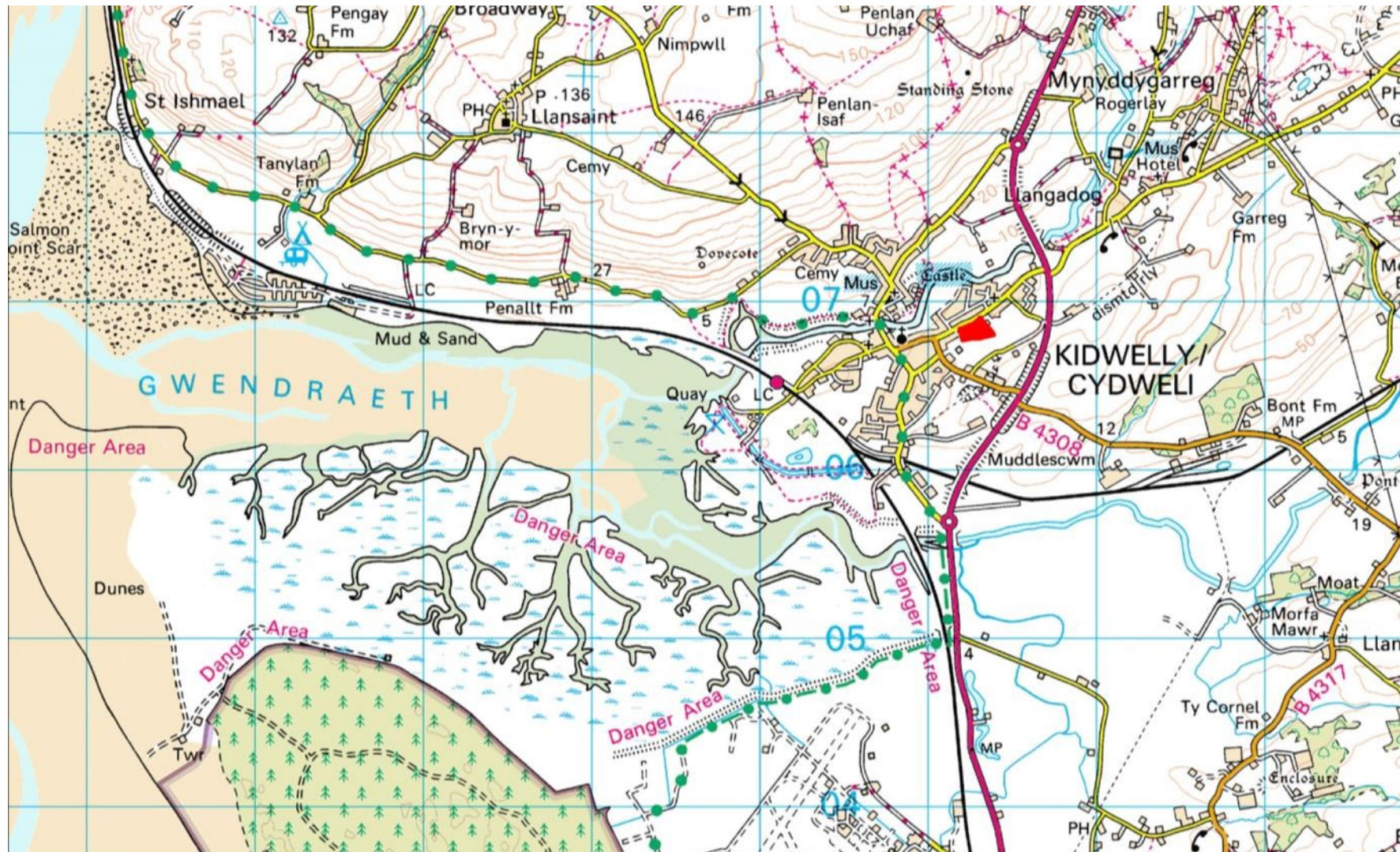


Figure 1: Location Map for Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire, with the site of the proposed development shown in red

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 scale Map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright Dyfed Archaeological Trust, Corner House, 6 Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AE. Licence No 100020930

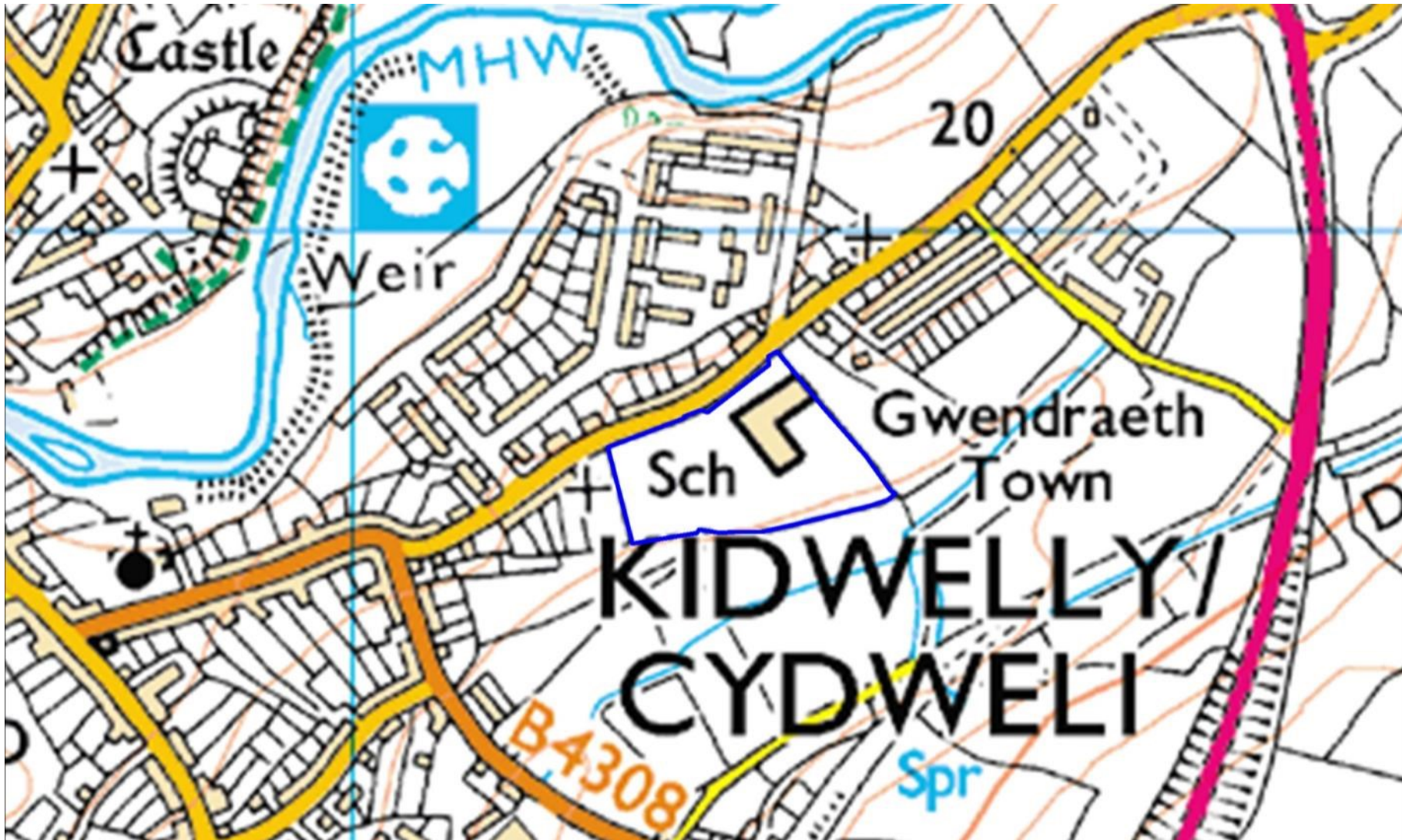


Figure 2: Location Map for the proposed development at Ysgol-y-Castell, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire (outlined in blue)

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 scale Map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright Dyfed Archaeological Trust, Corner House, 6 Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AE. Licence No 100020930

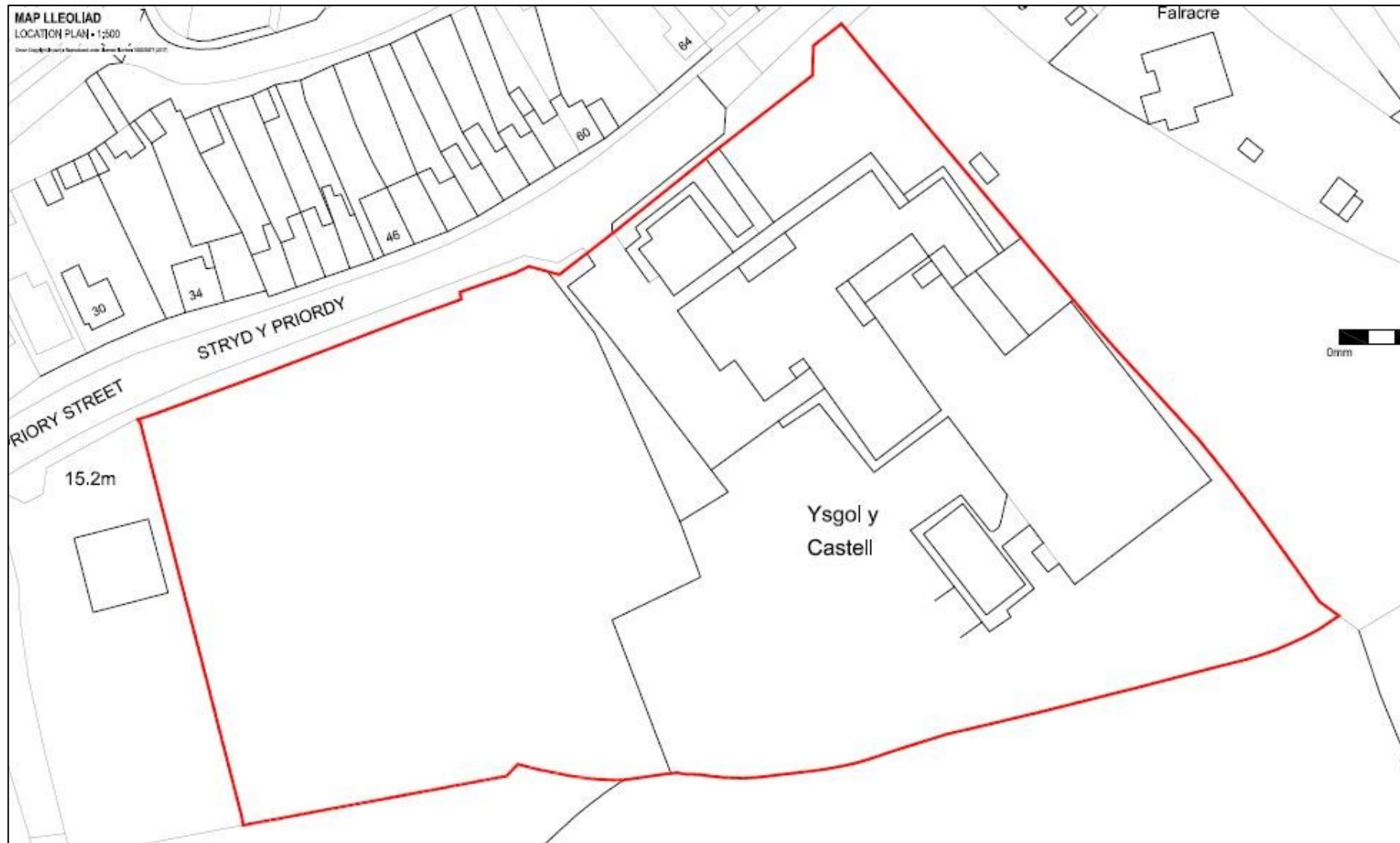


Figure 3: Detailed location plan for the proposed development at Ysgol-y-Castell, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire (outlined in red)

Map supplied by the client, Carmarthenshire County Council

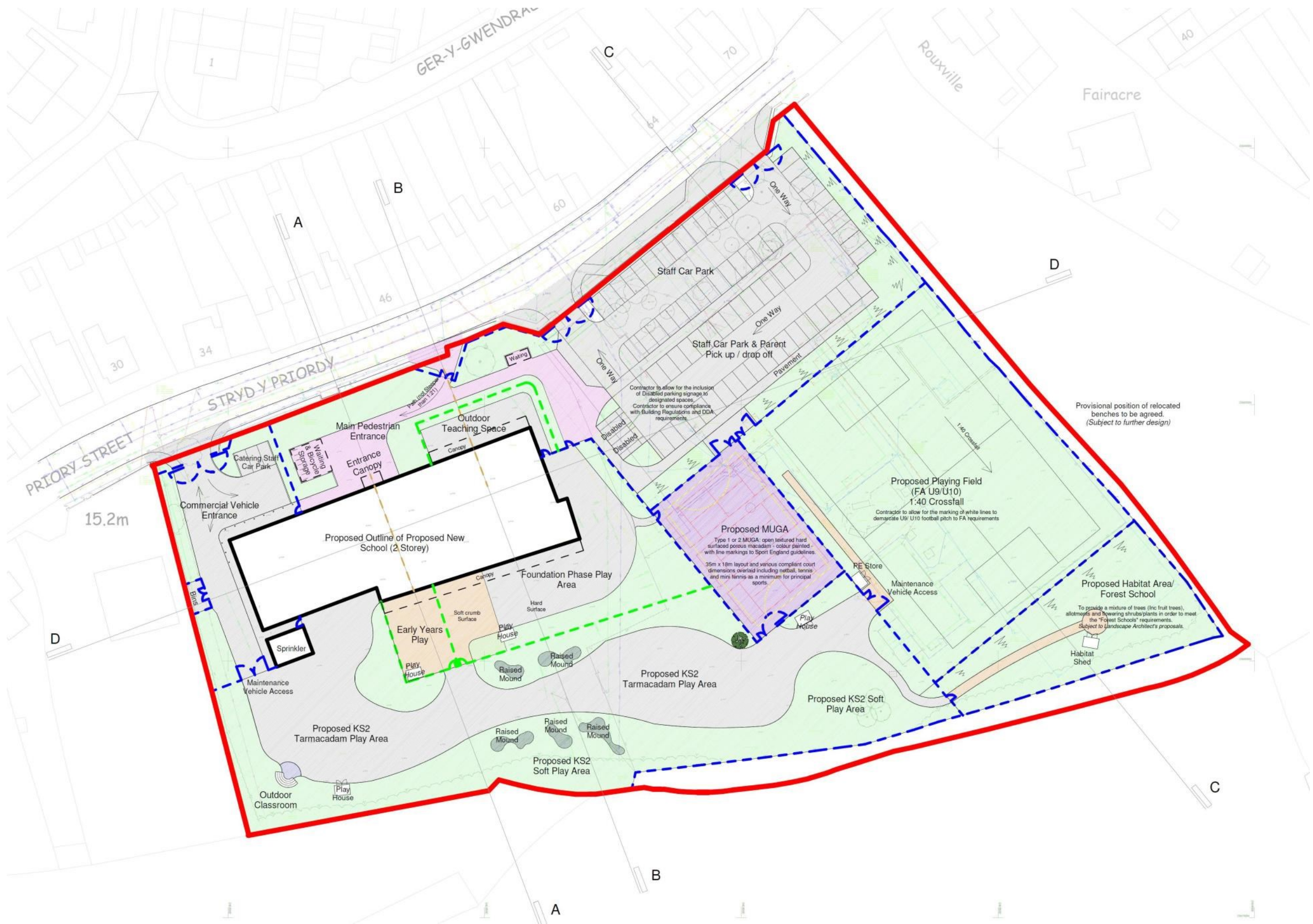


Figure 4: Proposed site plan for the new school and facilities at Ysgol-y-Castell, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire
Map supplied by the client; Carmarthenshire County Council

2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 2.1 The proposed development site of Ysgol-y-Castell school is located on Priory Street in Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire (roughly centred on SN 4129 0683; Figures 1 and 2). The proposed development plot for a new school comprises existing school buildings to the east and the larger playing field to the west, an area of c.1.7ha (Figure 3). Priory Street forms the northern boundary of the development area and to the west lies the boundary of Our Lady and St Cadoc Catholic Church (NPRN 6025996) and its grounds. Open fields are located to the east and south.
- 2.2 The area around the proposed school redevelopment is mostly residential, with housing to the north, west and east beyond the road, church and field respectively. The Gwendraeth Fach river lies beyond the housing to the north, with Kidwelly Castle (Scheduled Monument CM002) on its far side.
- 2.3 There is a gentle slope to the south at the site, from c.20m aOD at Priory Street to c.15m aOD at the far side.
- 2.4 The bedrock at the site is sedimentary mudstone, siltstone and sandstone of the Bishopston Mudstone Formation. A superficial deposit covers the bedrock across the whole site: Till (Diamicton) deposited by the movement of glaciers during the Devensian period (British Geological Society website).

3 HISTORICAL, LANDSCAPE AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 General Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1.1 Palaeolithic archaeology is not found *in situ* in this part of Carmarthenshire because the last ice sheets eroded away all man-made remains in their path. No Mesolithic sites have yet been found on this side of the River Tywi, although more and more sites are being identified through fieldwork in other parts of the county and throughout Wales. There are currently about one hundred known Neolithic sites in Carmarthenshire, the majority of which are stone burial chambers and the findspots of stone axe heads. Within 10km of the proposed development site the known Neolithic remains consist of five burial chambers, one stone axe findspot, and two Flint arrowhead findspots. Evidence for occupation in the Bronze Age is far more abundant in the county and further afield. As is typical throughout the region, Ysgol-y-Castell is located in an area dotted with standing stones and funerary barrows. None are closer than 600m to the site boundary.
- 3.1.2 Evidence for human activity in the Iron Age is less common (and below average for Carmarthenshire). The vast majority of known Iron Age sites are defended enclosures and there are several of these within 10km of Ysgol-y-Castell, the closest being 2km away. Romano-British remains are very scarce in this part of the county, only represented by a few findspots of Roman coins, one of which was in Kidwelly.
- 3.1.3 It is likely that Kidwelly originated at least as early as the Early Medieval period (Ludlow 2004). It is expected that it was a seat of power during this period because it was named after the Early Medieval hundred (county) in which it sat – that of Cedweli. The medieval castle was formerly known simply as 'the castle of Cantref Cedwli' (Cantref translates as 'Hundred'). The church of St Mary is known to occupy the site of an earlier medieval church and before that a priory (ibid). 3km northwest of Kidwelly, in Llansaint, there is definite evidence of Early Medieval religious activity in the form of two Latin-inscribed stones of 5th-6th century style built into the walls of the current church (itself of medieval origin). Early Medieval archaeology in the area as a whole is very rare.
- 3.1.4 Kidwelly has about twenty known archaeological sites of medieval date, including the castle, the church and a gatehouse. The following details of the medieval history of Kidwelly are extracted from a previous DAT report (Meek 2009).
- 3.1.5 The castle is the most easterly of the three major coastal castles of Carmarthenshire (along with Llanstephan and Laugharne) and is sited at the mouth of the Gwendraeth Fach river (Avent 1991). The original castle was constructed following colonisation of the area by Henry I in 1106. It comprised a large earthwork motte (PRN 1621) with timber structures. The castle was later granted to Roger Bishop of Salisbury by Henry I. The reconstruction of the castle in stone commenced in 1275 (Hughes 1999).
- 3.1.6 The early town (PRN 5329) was established close to the castle on its southwestern side, but it expanded further to the southwest over time. The growth of the town has been attributed to Flemish settlers who were renowned for their expertise in the cloth trade, the town benefitting from the trade opportunities given by the navigable river and port. Records provide some evidence for an emerging merchant and ship-owning industry trading with England and France (Hughes 1999). The town defences (PRN 1623; SM CM183), comprising town walls and town gates on the major roads had been established by the 14th century (although an

exact date for their construction is not known). The site of a medieval fulling mill, 'Caldecot Mill,' lay to the south of the town on the river floodplain.

- 3.1.7 In 1403 the Welsh forces of Owain Glyndwr overran the town's defences and set fire to the town destroying it. They did not manage to breach the castle walls. The town was left in a decayed state after this attack and in 1444 is described as being 'waste and desolate.' Later development appears to have happened in the new town on the south side of the river, whereas the old town failed to be rebuilt (Soulsby 1983). Other than the castle, and gatehouse, the only other medieval building surviving in the old town is a dwelling on Bailey Street (PRN 8872; SM CM209).
- 3.1.8 Kidwelly underwent gradual expansion during the medieval and Post-medieval periods, with a more rapid expansion during the industrial revolution. In *A Topographical Dictionary of Wales* (Lewis 1849), various aspects of the town and its history were described in great detail and the main points relating to its contemporary state are given below. The full description is given in Appendix II.
- There were 1563 inhabitants, of whom 1297 are in the borough, and the remainder in the suburbs.
 - The Lesser Gwendraeth river divides the town into two portions, called respectively the Old and the New Town: the former of these, situated on the western side, is connected with the latter by a handsome stone bridge.
 - The Old Town was formerly surrounded with walls, having three gates. It now consists, with few exceptions, merely of hovels; and the New Town contains very few respectable dwelling-houses, the majority being thatched cottages of inferior appearance. The air is salubrious, and the place is considered very healthy.
 - A dangerous sand bar formed across the mouth of the river, so that its commerce, once flourishing, in consequence declined; and latterly, the opening of collieries, and the establishment of copper-works, at Llanelly, to which this port is a creek, transferred nearly all the remaining trade of Kidwelly to that place.
 - Many fruitless attempts were then made to improve the navigation of the river, and later the sands removed again naturally. Some docks, and a short canal, were constructed here about the year 1766. The docks are situated about half a mile from the town, and the canal was intended to convey coal from nearby pits to vessels in the harbour.
 - The Kidwelly Canal Company extended the navigation a distance of two miles up the Vale of Gwendraeth, and added a branch three miles and a half in length to communicate with Pembrey harbour: it now extends for fifteen miles. The South Wales railway will run by Kidwelly.
 - Here were both iron and tin works; the former have been entirely abandoned, and the latter are now conducted only on a very limited scale. The exports are, coal to the opposite side of the Bristol Channel, and corn, cheese, and other agricultural produce to Bristol.
 - The revenues of the corporation (the Mayor, Aldermen, Bailiffs, and Burgesses of the borough of Kidwelly) consist of about fifty acres of inclosed land, let upon long leases to a large number of tenants; a further inclosure of twenty acres, lately made; a considerable number of chief rents of small amount; and rent derived from a lease of certain copper-mines under the uninclosed lands (of 730 acres): the whole producing a net income of about £120.

- Besides the church, there are places of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, Independents, Wesleyans, and Particular Baptists; a National school, chiefly supported by voluntary contributions; and six Sunday schools, one of them in connexion with the Established Church. At Penallt, near this place, was anciently a small priory of Benedictine monks, founded about the year 1130, by Roger, Bishop of Sarum, who dedicated it to St. Mary, and made it a cell to the abbey of Sherborne in Dorsetshire; it continued to flourish till the Dissolution, at which time its revenue was £38: the present remains are very inconsiderable.

3.2 Previous Archaeological Work

- 3.2.1 No archaeological work is known to have taken place within the proposed development site.
- 3.2.2 A desk-based assessment has been written concerning land immediately to the south and southeast of the school (Ratty 2008). It was found that traces of former medieval strip fields existed within the area, and it was considered possible that these might indicate the presence of buried settlement along the street frontage along the southern boundary of the site in question (on the opposite side of the road from the school site). It was also noted that near there was a possibility for the presence of a Bronze Age burnt mound adjacent to the stream running through the area.

3.3 Historic Landscape Areas

Registered Historic Landscapes

- 3.3.1 The proposed development does not lie within the boundary of any Registered Historic Landscape, although it does lie only 115m to the east of that of Taf and Tywi Estuary (Ref: HLW (D) 9).

Historic Landscape Characterisation Areas

- 3.3.2 Ysgol-y-Castell lies inside a Historic Landscape Character Area (HLCA), known as 'Holloway Former Strip Fields' (No. 170). This area lies close to Kidwelly and formed part of the town's medieval open strip-field system. This system has been enclosed and is now much fragmented and is becoming neglected. The full description is given in Appendix III.

LANDMAP

- 3.3.3 The proposed development lies within landscape areas recorded on the National Resources Wales (NRW) LANDMAP database. LANDMAP is a GIS (Geographical Information System) based landscape resource where landscape characteristics, qualities and influences on the landscape are recorded and evaluated in a nationally consistent data set.
- 3.3.4 The plot lies within the historic landscape known as 'Holloway Former Strip Fields' (Ref: CRMRTHL40202), an area of former medieval or early post-medieval strip fields to the eastern side of Kidwelly town. This area has been evaluated as outstanding for the following reasons:
- The landscape is 'complete' with little modern development/intrusion to hinder the visibility of the overall landscape and its patterns.
 - There is outstanding potential for future study though less potential for interpretation of this landscape and recreational amenity.
 - Although this type of landscape can be paralleled elsewhere in Carmarthenshire it is not common.

- 3.3.5 The buildings already standing at the school lie within the Kidwelly Valley visual and sensory aspect area (Ref: CRMRTVS871), which is considered to be of moderate value and summarised as:

A historic coastal town, in a rural setting, overlooking the river and salt marsh. Complete with castle and notable church. The historic town is nucleated around the castle.

- 3.3.6 The remainder of the development site is situated within the Gwendraeth Valley visual and sensory aspect area (Ref: CRMRTVS955), which is considered to be of moderate value and summarised as:

An agricultural river valley that appears to be well wooded on account of the small fields, high hedges, hedgerow trees and woodland. The distinctive towns are identified by a separate Aspect Area (CRMRTVS395). The small fields tend not to be intensively managed; many have the appearance of marshy grassland. The valley side rise quite steeply to the higher land, and these too appear to be well wooded. There is evidence in the old mineral line, and in a handful of sites associated with the coal industry of the industrial history of this landscape. There is a feeling of movement along and across the valley on the B roads that traverse this area.

- 3.3.7 The proposed development also lies within the cultural landscape of Kidwelly (Ref: CRMRTCL028), which has been evaluated as being of high value for the following reasons:

- It is a regionally significant but possibly underplayed leisure and recreation destination
- Kidwelly's cultural assets are well recognised locally and more widely
- Kidwelly's cultural assets represent several periods
- There exists considerable documentation in relation to the Castle, Maes Gwenllian and the tinplate industry
- The town has high group value in association with other coastal towns with castles
- Cultural associations are very diverse
- The town has high potential for increasing tourism

3.4 Historic Parks and Gardens

- 3.4.1 There are no Registered Historic Parks and Gardens within 500m of the boundary of the proposed development site, and there is no Registered Historic Park or Garden further afield whose setting would be affected by the development.

3.5 Scheduled Monuments (Table 2; Figure 5)

- 3.5.1 There are three Scheduled Monuments within 500m of the proposed development site. They are all situated roughly 350m - 400m to the west-northwest and there is limited intervisibility with the potential new school site due to housing developments in between.
- 3.5.2 One of the monuments is Kidwelly Castle (Ref: CM002), one of the finest surviving examples in Wales of a Norman (medieval) Castle. The upper parts of the castle are visible from the development area. The new school

buildings would be visible from the upper parts of the castle, although partially hidden by existing housing.

- 3.5.3 Abutting the castle to the west is the Scheduled Monument of 'Kidwelly Medieval Town (Part of)' (Ref: CM2909). Most of the medieval town was destroyed by Owain Glyndwr's forces in the fifteenth century, so this is an important remainder. There is unlikely to be any intervisibility between this scheduled monument and the school site.
- 3.5.4 'Kidwelly Town Gate & Defences' (Ref: CM183) is the third Scheduled Monument, which comprises the only survivor of three town gates and walling. The gate is situated at the southwestern corner of the castle and the walling extends southwest from there. There is likely to be very limited intervisibility, if any, with the school site.
- 3.5.5 There are no Scheduled Monuments further afield whose setting would be impacted upon by the development.

SAM No.	PRN	Name	Summary	NGR
CM209	5329	Kidwelly Medieval Town (Part of)	A town, dating to the medieval period. A rough cindered surface forming part of Kidwelly within the stone walls. The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of Roman/medieval urban organisation and of the growth of towns. The monument forms an important element within the wider Roman/medieval context and the structure itself may be expected to contain archaeological information in regard to chronology, building techniques and functional detail.	SN 40829 07047 400m west-northwest
CM183	1623; 7555; 60832	Kidwelly Town Gate & Defences	An unusually well preserved medieval town gate dating from c.1300 whose upper storey was converted into the late medieval town hall. The "old town" of Kidwelly was laid out with the castle from the foundation in 1106. However, following a murage grant in 1280 the town was separated from the northern bailey of the castle by stone walls. Three gates of which this gate is the only survivor originally entered the town. The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of entrance architecture. It retains significant archaeological potential, with a strong probability of the presence of associated archaeological features and deposits. The structure itself may be expected to contain archaeological information concerning chronology and building techniques. A gatehouse may be part of a larger cluster of monuments and their importance can further enhanced by their group value.	SN 40817 06928 350m west-northwest
CM002	1621; 1622	Kidwelly Castle	The remains of a castle, dating to the medieval period. First built as an earth and timber ringwork in about 1106 by Bishop Roger of Salisbury justicar of Henry 1 this early castle took the form of a palisaded crescent shaped earth bank and ditch using the natural scarp of the river as a defence on the east and these earthworks still define the extent of the castle today. The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of medieval defensive and domestic practices. The monument is well-preserved and an important relic of the medieval landscape. It retains significant archaeological potential, with a strong probability of the presence of both structural evidence and intact associated deposits.	SN 40915 07096 340m northwest

Table 2: Scheduled Monuments within 500m of the boundary of the proposed development site (Figure 5)

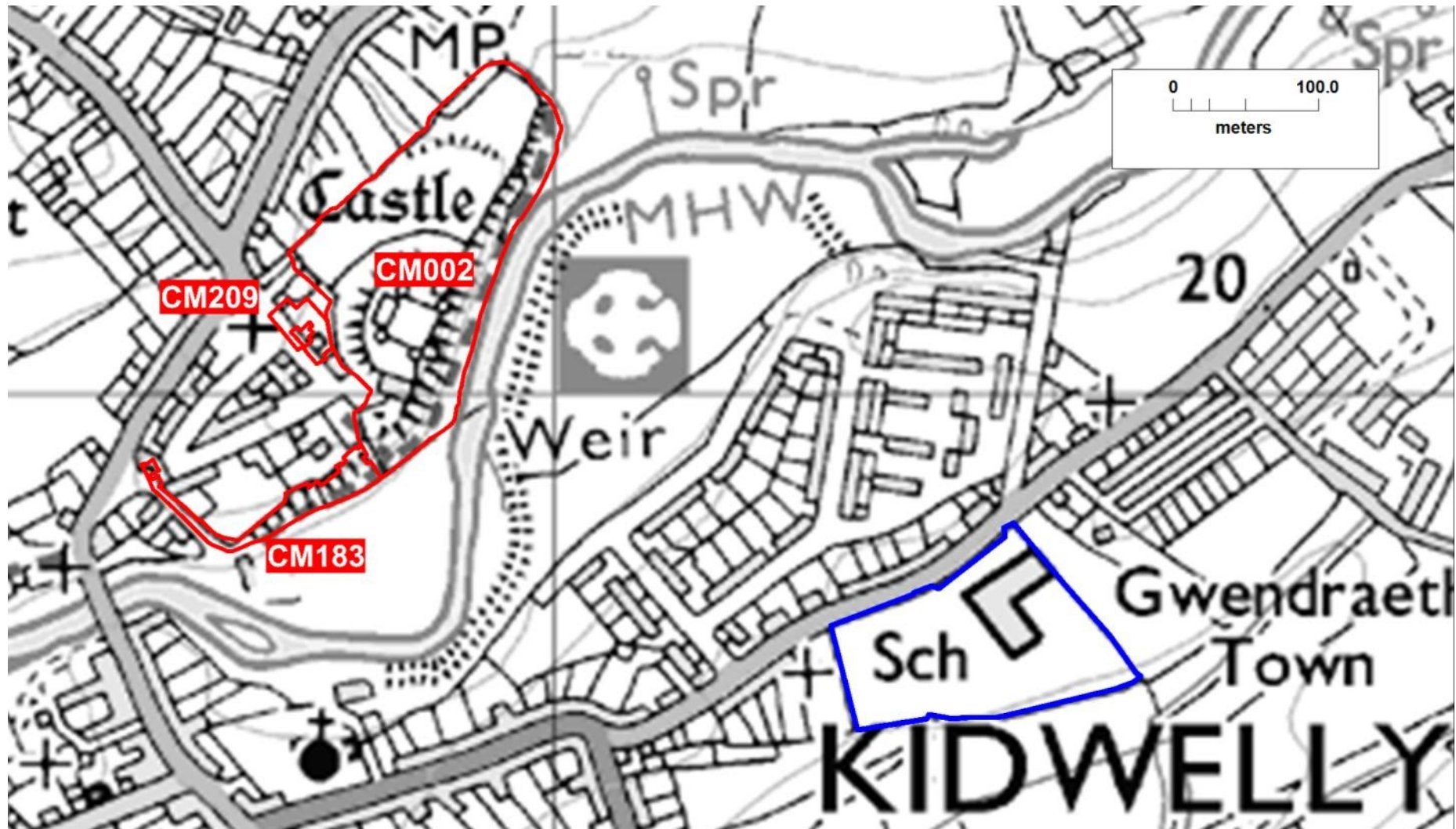


Figure 5: Map of the Scheduled Monuments (red) within 500m of the boundary of the proposed development site (outlined in blue)

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 scale Map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright Dyfed Archaeological Trust, Corner House, 6 Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AE. Licence No 100020930

3.6 Listed Buildings (Table 3; Figure 6)

- 3.6.1 There are two Grade I Listed Buildings, one Grade II* Listed Building and eleven Grade II Listed Buildings within 500m of the proposed development. All lie over 350m west to northwest of the school site. Four of the sites are medieval in origin and the remainder are of Post-Medieval date.
- 3.6.2 One of the Grade I Listed Buildings is the medieval castle (LB No. 11876) and the Grade II* Listed Building is the medieval town gate (LB No. 11877), and both of these sites are also Scheduled Monuments and have already been described above.
- 3.6.3 The other Grade I building is St Mary's Church (LB No.11878) lying some 360m west, also of medieval origin. It has been through many re-builds and renovations and is now the biggest parish church in Carmarthenshire. It is situated 340m west-southwest of the proposed new school site and the tower is visible from the area. Sight lines would exist from the upper parts of the church (tower etc) to the proposed new school site.
- 3.6.4 The only other medieval Listed Building in the 500m study area is Kidwelly Bridge (LB No. 20184), which has also been repaired over the centuries. It is Grade II listed. As it is 500m west of the site, downhill, and beyond a built-up area, it is unlikely to be visible from the Ysgol-y-Castell site.
- 3.6.5 The other Grade II Listed Buildings are the Town Hall, the old castle school, the castle mill, the ruined warehouse by the bridge, a parish church wall, a chapel, the war memorial and railings, and three houses. They are all situated approximately 450m - 500m west and northwest of the proposed development area and it is considered unlikely that they will be intervisible with the site due to topography and the existing built environment.

3.7 Non-designated Archaeological Sites (Table 4; Figures 7 and 8)

- 3.7.1 The Historic Environment Record (HER) records eight sites of archaeological interest within 250m of the site boundary, two of which are also recorded on the National Monuments Record (NMR). A further four sites are recorded only in the NMR. None of these records are Scheduled Monuments or Listed Buildings.
- 3.7.2 None of the sites lie within the proposed site boundary. The nearest record is for Our Lady and St Cadoc Catholic Church, Priory Street Church (NPRN 12649) that sits just beyond the western boundary of the proposed new school site. It is a modern building in current use and was built in 1975. Just beyond it to the west, another church, no longer in existence, is recorded: The church of Christ the King (PRN 16379). Salem Calvinistic Methodist Sunday School, Priory Street (NPRN 6283) is also the record of a building close to the school that is no longer standing.
- 3.7.3 Further afield, the recorded sites are mainly of Post-Medieval date and would be completely out of sight of the new development. The Post-Medieval sites consist of a trackway, three dwellings, a blacksmith's forge, two chapels and a roadblock.
- 3.7.4 The oldest recorded site is the findspot of a of Bronze Age stone axe-hammer. However, its actual findspot is unknown – it is simply recorded as being found near Kidwelly.

LB No.	PRNs	Grade	Name	Summary	NGR
11876	1622	I	Kidwelly Castle	Norman (medieval) castle founded c.1106. Rubble stone, mainly millstone grit boulders with sandstone, and some Sutton limestone for dressings. Listed as one of the finest castles in Wales.	SN 40897 07049
11877	60832	II*	The Town Gate	Medieval gateway, probably early C14, though aid for walling the town was given in 1280-1. Listed as a medieval town gateway of national importance as a structure from the town defences.	SN 40724 06941
11878	1629	I	Church of Saint Mary	Medieval Benedictine priory church mostly early C14. Founded c1114, burnt 1223, C13 plan and piers of crossing, but mostly of c1320, including tall tower and broach spire. Listed as the largest parish church in S.W. Wales, exceptional for the broach spire and fine Dec Gothic detail.	SN 40842 06750
11880	20417	II	Kidwelly Town Hall	Town Hall of 1877-8, designed by T.W.A. Evans (1841-97) architect and Mayor of Kidwelly, who gave his services free. The lower floor was a covered market, the upper floor the Guildhall, and the building also contained police cells and a reading room. Listed as the central feature of the modern town of Kidwelly.	SN 40805 06691
20184	8422; 8423	II	Kidwelly Bridge/Pont Cydweli	Road bridge over Gwendraeth Fach of three distinct periods, the original narrow bridge of uncertain date possibly late C15 (medieval), widened twice, the exterior faces and parapets now of c1920-30. Listed as an early stone bridge, disguised by later alterations.	SN 40689 06855
20185	61044	II	No 16 (Morfa House)	Early C19 house with later C19 shop front. Listed as a good late Georgian facade with rare complete Victorian shopfront.	SN 40703 06792
20186	16384	II	Capel Sul	Built as Rumsey House in 1862 by T.W.A. Evans (1841-97), architect and later Mayor of Kidwelly. Converted to a chapel 1924-6 by J. Harold Morgan of Carmarthen. Listed as an early C20 chapel interior of quality in a building of great townscape value overlooking the town bridge.	SN 40691 06812
20187	61045	II	The Old Moat House	House, now restaurant, probably later C18, on older site within medieval walled town. Listed as one of the oldest surviving houses within the medieval walled settlement.	SN 40826 07004
20188	20467; 61046	II	Castle School and School house	1858 British School designed by David Davies of Llanelli, enlarged 1887 by George Morgan for Kidwelly School Board. Listed a good example of a mid-Victorian school built for the British School movement, in opposition to the church-sponsored National Schools. Of group value with the medieval gatehouse.	SN 40759 06969
20189	61047	II	No 6	House, now shop, probably C18 on older core, the site being part of the medieval town of Kidwelly. Much restored 1989-90. Listed as a house now shop of C18 on older core, with preserved thatch and trusses.	SN 40784 06975
20190	61048	II	Ruined Warehouse by Kidwelly Bridge	Late C18 to early C19 warehouse, said to be associated with the shipment of tin-plate from the Kidwelly Tin-Plate Works, the second oldest tin-plate factory in Britain, founded 1737. Listed as an industrial relic associated with the historically-important tin-plate industry, and for it's prominent position overlooking Kidwelly Bridge.	SN 40694 06883
20191	61049	II	Wall along S side of churchyard	Late C18 to early C19 churchyard wall, built using industrial slag from mineral smelting. Listed for group value with the Church of St Mary, and of interest for the use of industrial slag.	SN 40847 06724
20192	7831	II	Castle Mill	1804 former corn-mill, built by Benjamin Haselwood, on site of medieval mill first mentioned in 1114. Restored as antique furniture store. Listed as a fine early C19 industrial building.	SN 40787 06877
20193	61050	II	The War Memorial and railings	War Memorial of 1924 designed by Glendinning Moxham FRIBA, of Swansea. Listed as a handsome and prominent war memorial.	SN 40701 06971

Table 3: Listed Buildings within 500m of the boundary of the proposed development site (Figure 6)

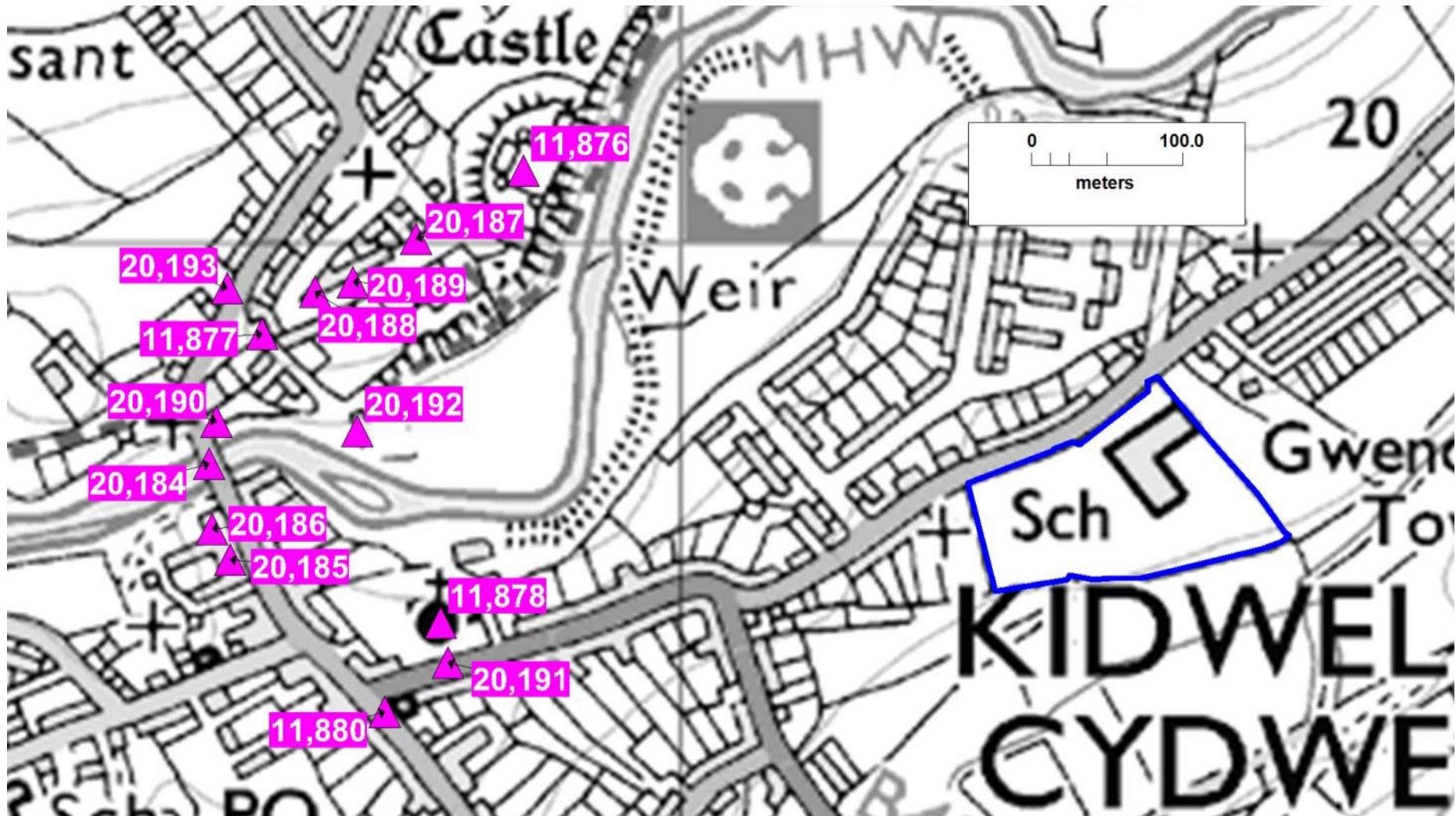


Figure 6: Map of the Listed Buildings (purple) within 500m of the boundary of the proposed development site (outlined in blue)

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 scale Map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright Dyfed Archaeological Trust, Corner House, 6 Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AE. Licence No 100020930

PRN / NPRN	Name	Summary	Period	NGR
1628	Kidwelly	An axe-hammer of basic tuff found near Kidwelly. The findspot and recovery details are unknown.	Bronze Age	SN 41 07
10576	Tinworks Lane	Trackway known from topographical evidence	Post-Medieval, Medieval	SN 41 07
6543/ 17078	Alstred Street Nos.10-12	Cottage in Kidwelly town.	Post-Medieval	SN 4101 0664
7832/ 17414	Gwendraeth Town	Recorded as a dwelling by RCAHM in 1977.	Post-Medieval	SN 4142 0695
8220/ 17060	Abbey Street No.1	Building in Kidwelly town.	Post-Medieval	SN 4104 0676
16378	Stockwell Forge	Blacksmith's Workshop	Post-Medieval	SN 4126 0651
16379	Church of Christ The King	Church known from cartographic and documentary evidence.	Post-Medieval	SN 4118 0682
16380		Chapel	Post-Medieval	SN 4139 0699
6283	Salem Calvinistic Methodist Sunday School, Priory Street, Gwendraeth	Chapel	Post-Medieval	SN 41303 06932
6278	Gwendraeth Independent Chapel, Priory Street, Kidwelly; Kidwelly Apostolic Church	Built in 1869. The building appears to have been rebuilt since then but no details are known. The present building is Vernacular in style of the gable entry type.	Post-Medieval	SN 41375 06979
12649	Our Lady and St Cadoc Catholic Church, Priory Street, Kidwelly	Our Lady and St Cadoc Catholic church, Kidwelly was opened in 1975.	Post-Medieval	SN 41182 06813
270654	Roadblock, Kidwelly	Roadblock closing the B4308 Trimsaran Road on the west side of the railway over-bridge crossing the trackbed of the former railway that ran to Mynyddgarreg. NGR obtained by conversion of Cassini Grid reference.	Post-Medieval	SN 4128 0651

Table 4: Known historic assets recorded in the HER and NMR databases within 250m of the proposed development site (Figures 7 and 8)

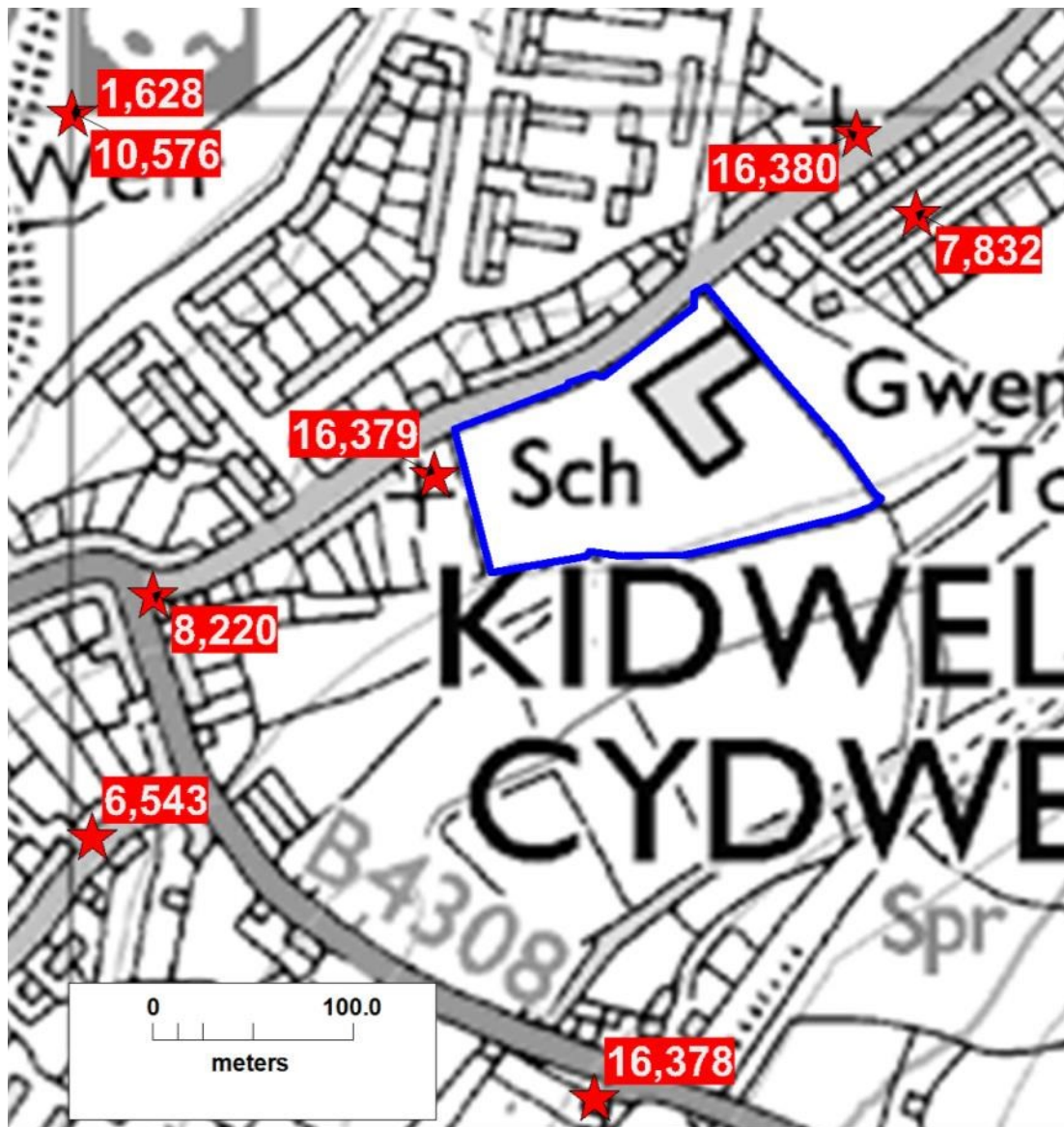


Figure 7: Map showing historic assets recorded in the HER (red) within 250m of the proposed development site (blue)

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 scale Map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright Dyfed Archaeological Trust, Corner House, 6 Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AE. Licence No 100020930

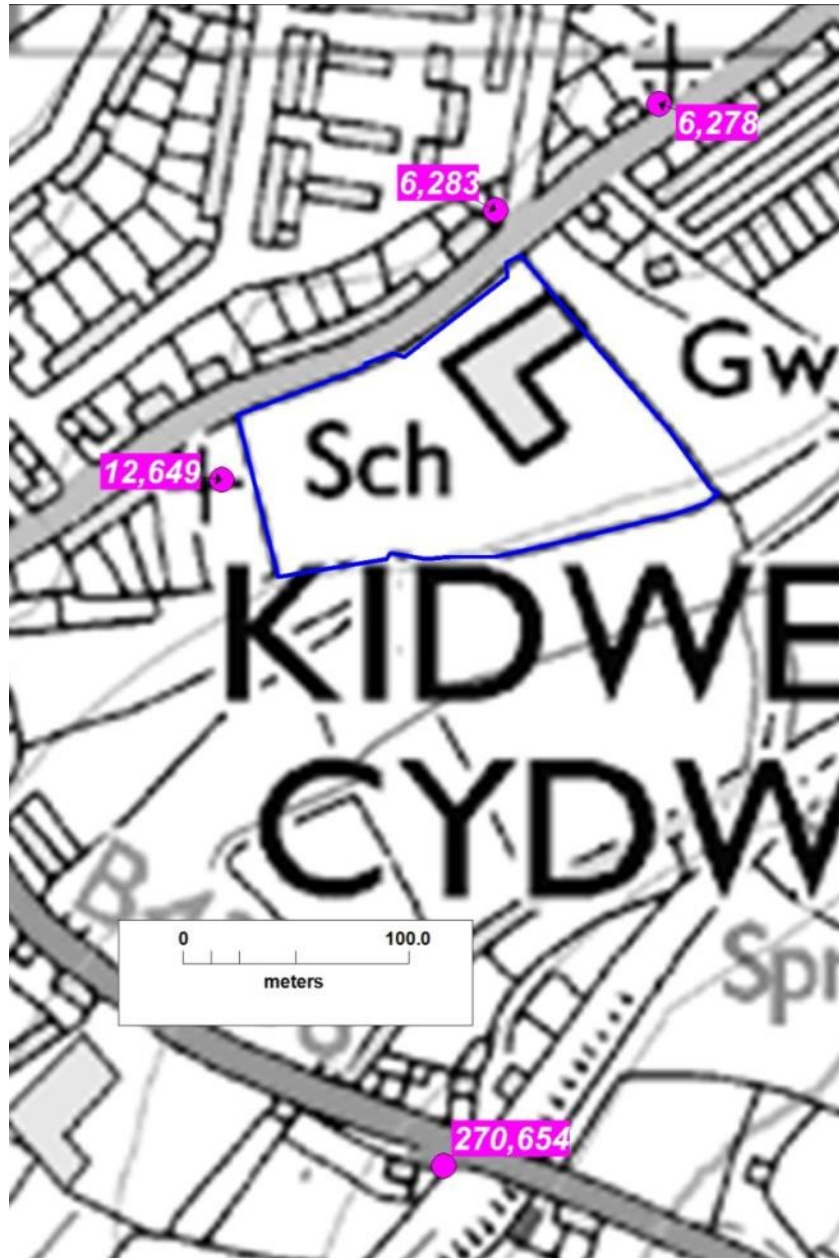


Figure 8: Map showing historic assets recorded only in the NMR (purple) within 500m to the south of the proposed development site (blue)

Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 scale Map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright Dyfed Archaeological Trust, Corner House, 6 Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire SA19 6AE. Licence No 100020930

3.8 Other Archaeological Finds

- 3.8.1 Several finds have been recorded within the Portable Antiquities Scheme and the National Museum of Wales object collection in and around Kidwelly. None of the findspots were less than 300m away from the potential school site. The oldest find was one Roman coin. A group of medieval and Post-medieval coins were found elsewhere. Many medieval and Post-Medieval objects found during explorations at Kidwelly Castle and in the old town, mainly sherds of pottery and floor tiles.

3.9 Aerial Photography and LiDAR

- 3.9.1 RAF aerial photos of 1946 were consulted but did not reveal any sites of archaeological interest not already known or revealed by historic mapping (see next section).
- 3.9.2 Meridian Airmap aerial photos of the 1950s do not cover the proposed development area. Modern satellite imagery showed no archaeological features.
- 3.9.3 LiDAR was examined but showed nothing except an old footpath cutting across the southwest corner of the proposed school site. (This footpath is shown on old maps – see below.)

3.10 Historic Mapping

- 3.10.1 The original Ordnance Survey (OS) drawing of 1811 is the earliest available map for the Kidwelly area to show any great detail of the town and its surroundings (Figure 9). The proposed development site is shown simply as open farmland south of Priory Street, in an area of far less housing than at present.
- 3.10.2 The Kidwelly Parish tithe map of 1842 (Figure 10) shows the same layout as the 1811 OS map. The apportionment to the tithe map was examined for details of each numbered field on the map but unfortunately gave no names or states of cultivation in this case.
- 3.10.3 Detailed maps of the site were first published by the OS in 1880 (Figure 11). They show a footpath cutting through the field's southwest corner, which seems to coincide with the position of the town boundary on the 1842 tithe map. Further housing is depicted north of Priory Street and this trend towards increased residential development continues to be seen in the subsequent OS maps up to the present day. The current school was built in the mid-1990s and no previous development is known to have taken place in that field.



Figure 9: Extract of the 1811 original 1:63360 OS survey drawing of this area, with the position of the proposed development site circled in blue

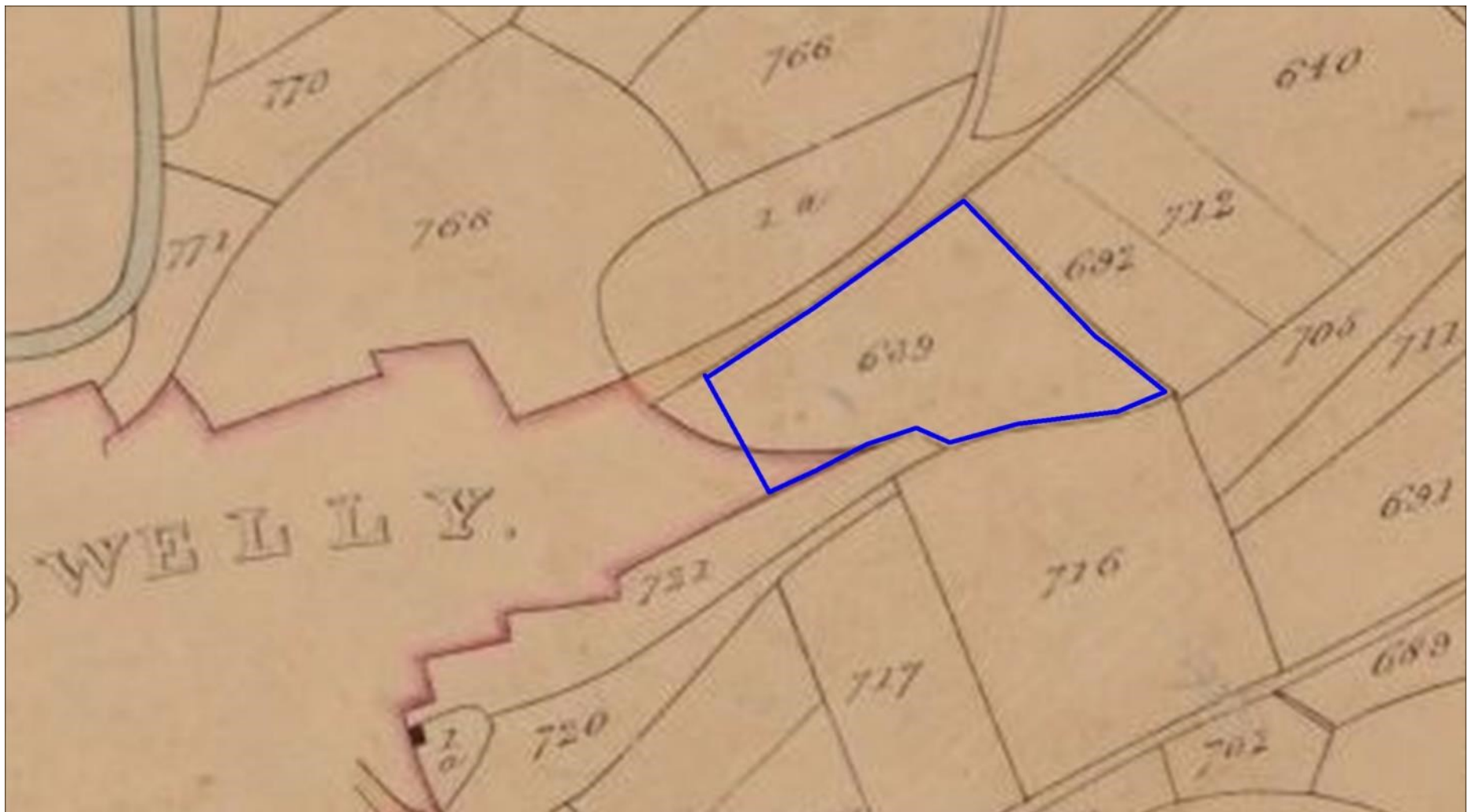


Figure 10: Extract of the 1842 Kidwelly Parish Tithe Map, with the approximate position of the proposed development site outlined in blue

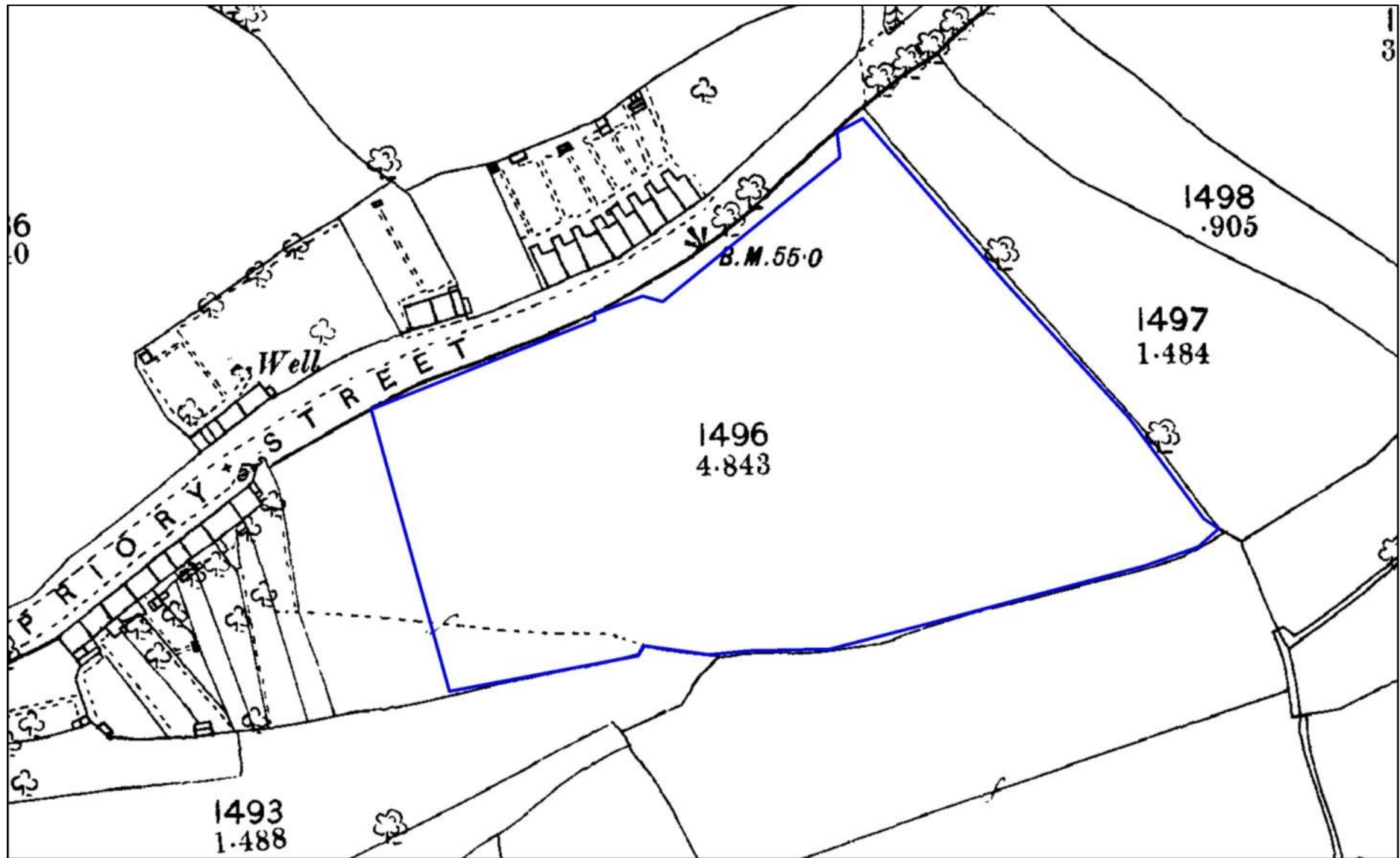


Figure 11: Extract of the 1880 OS 1:2500 1st edition map, with the proposed development site outlined in blue

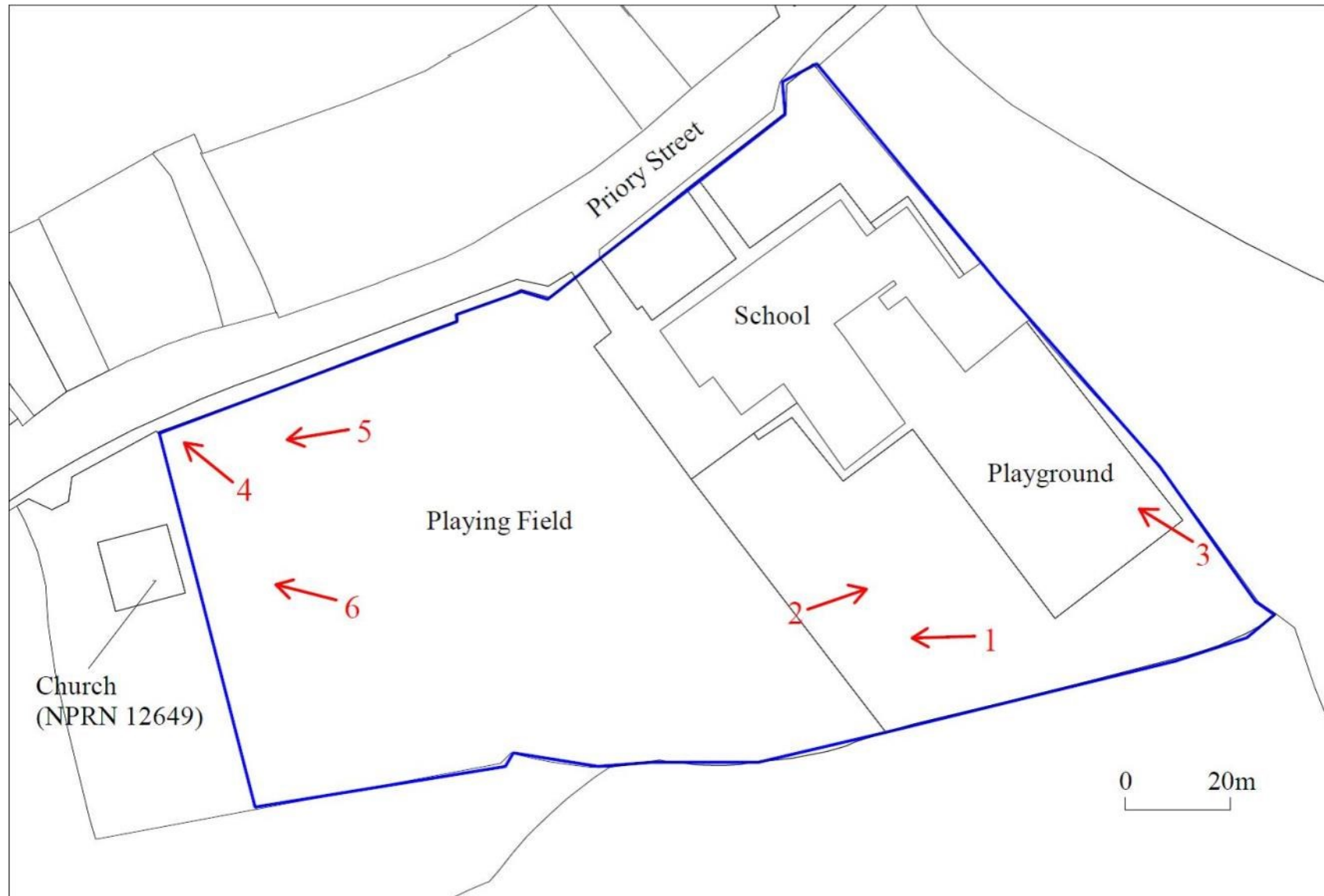


Figure 12: Diagram showing locations and directions of photos referred to in this report

3.11 Site Walkover Survey

- 3.11.1 A site visit was undertaken on the 5th of April 2018. The visit comprised a walkover of the proposed development site and the surrounding area and also incorporated looking at the wider area for views looking back to the proposed development location from designated and other sites. Photographs were taken and field observations recorded in note form. Figure 12 shows the locations and directions of photos taken.
- 3.11.2 Most of the ground within the proposed development site was under grass. South of the current main school building there is a grassy play-area and west of the school is a football/rugby pitch (Photos 1 and 2). At the edges of the grassy area south of the main school building were a poly tunnel, a few cabin classrooms and a small plantation of tree saplings. To the southeast of the main school building was another large play area, half tarmac and half astro-turf (Photo 3).



Photo 1: Looking west from the grassy area south of the main Ysgol-y-Castell school building over the playing field; the proposed site of the new school



Photo 2: Looking east-northeast at the poly-tunnel, grassy area, porta-cabin and tree plantation south of the main Ysgol-y-Castell building



Photo 3: Looking northwest at the tarmac and astro-turf areas with the rear of the main Ysgol-y-Castell school building beyond

- 3.11.3 Kidwelly Castle (Scheduled Monument No. CM002; PRNs 1621; 1622) was just visible from most parts of the proposed development site (Photos 1 and 4). Looking towards the site from the castle, the addition of the new school would make a negligible difference to the view in that direction, dominated as it already is by modern properties. No other Scheduled Monuments were intervisible with the proposed new school.
- 3.11.4 The spire of the Church of Saint Mary (Grade I Listed Building No. 11878; PRN 16291) was visible from most parts of the proposed development site (Photos 1 and 5). Looking from the church towards the school, there would again be no significant change to the view. No other Listed Buildings were intervisible with the proposed new school.
- 3.11.5 One heritage site would have its setting impacted upon slightly by the construction of the new school – Our Lady and St Cadoc Catholic Church (NPRN 12649) that sits just beyond the western boundary of the proposed new school site (Photos 5 and 6). A 1.6m tall hedge runs along the boundary, but windows in the east side of the church have views of the site area.
- 3.11.6 No new above-ground archaeological sites were discovered during this site walkover survey, and nothing was observed that would suggest potential below-ground remains either.



Photo 4: Looking northwest from the northwest corner of the proposed development site towards Kidwelly Castle (PRN 1621) beyond the housing terrace



Photo 5: Looking west-southwest from the northwest corner of the proposed development site towards modern church on left (PRN 16379) and St Mary's Church in the distance (PRN 1929)



Photo 6: Looking west-northwest at the modern church building (PRN 16379) beyond a rugby goal post in the current school playing field

4 POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ON THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

4.1 Previous Impacts to Development Area

- 4.1.1 The east end of the development area is known to have been previously disturbed below- and above-ground by the construction of the current Ysgol-y-Castell school in the mid-1990s. Building foundations, associated car parking areas, drainage and service installation will all have caused quite significant disturbance to any below ground archaeological remains which may be present.
- 4.1.2 The remainder of the site, forming the majority of the area, appears forms the school playing fields and play areas. These areas will have been levelled to some extent during their construction. Lidar imagery suggests that the main playing fields to the west and the area of the tarmac and astro-turf pitches to the southeast of the existing school buildings have been slightly reduced in height from the level of the ground directly south of the school. It is also likely that drainage will have been inserted below all of the pitches, although this cannot be confirmed.
- 4.1.3 It is likely that when the field was in agricultural use it was put to the plough. Any below-ground archaeological remains, if present, would have been disturbed through ploughing.
- 4.1.4 A footpath is shown on the 1880 OS map cutting across the southwest corner of the site. It is no longer present and it is not known whether it was simply a well-trodden pathway through the field or something more substantially constructed.

4.2 Potential Impacts from the Proposed Development

- 4.2.1 Full details of the construction design for the development have not been produced as yet. The following construction activities are all likely to be undertaken to some extent at the development site, all of which have the potential to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains if present at the site. These activities include:
- Enabling works, such as installation of contractor's compound, construction of access roads, parking areas, storage areas, borrow pits or retention ponds if required;
 - Topsoil stripping;
 - Landscaping and terracing works;
 - Foundation excavation;
 - Construction of roads, parking areas and infrastructure; and
 - Service installation.

4.3 Impacts to the Settings of Surrounding Designated Features

- 4.3.1 The definition of setting, how it contributes to the significance of a historic asset, and why it is important are outlined in *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (Welsh Government 2017a; available online) as follows:

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.

- 4.3.2 There will be negligible impact to the setting of two registered heritage assets within 500m of the proposed development site: Kidwelly Castle (Scheduled Monument No. CM002; PRNs 1621; 1622) and the Church of Saint Mary (Grade I Listed Building No. 11878; PRN 16291). The upper reaches of both of these buildings are just visible in the distance from most parts of the proposed development site. Looking from the castle and church towards the school, there would be no significant change to the view, because a high concentration of modern buildings already dominates. The proposed new school buildings will replace those that presently exist and as such will cause no real increase in the visible built environment from these sites. The design of the new school buildings as well as the choice of materials and colours could be used to minimise its visibility in the landscape.
- 4.3.3 One heritage site would have its setting impacted upon by the construction of the new school – Our Lady and St Cadoc Catholic Church (NPRN 12649) that sits just beyond the western boundary of the proposed new school site. A 1.6m tall hedge runs along the boundary, but windows in the east side of the church have views of the site. The church already looks out across the playing field and school buildings, but the new school buildings will be closer.
- 4.3.4 There is considered to be no intervisibility between the development site and any other known heritage assets in the vicinity, and thus no further impacts from the proposed development on the settings of those known historic assets.

5 ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL AND IMPORTANCE

- 5.1 The historic environment desk-based assessment has shown that the proposed development lies within an area of archaeological and historical significance and potential, with known evidence of human activity dating back to the medieval period.
- 5.2 The site walkover survey did not identify any unrecorded upstanding archaeological remains within the boundary of the proposed development.
- 5.3 An assessment of the potential for buried archaeology within the site as a whole is discussed below in order of archaeological period. The scale of potential is defined in Table 5. It should be noted that this only provides an indication of potential and does not entirely preclude the presence of significant archaeological remains of any period within the site area. Archaeological and historical importance is ascribed to the sites according to the criteria in Table 6.

Archaeological Potential	Definition
High	Known archaeological remains of the period within the site area, or an abundance of remains of the period within the near vicinity
Medium	A number of archaeological remains of the period are present in the vicinity or wider area, and/or the topography or location of the site would be typical for remains of that period
Low	Few sites of a specific period are known in the wider area, or where the topography of the site is unlikely to contain remains of that period. Or where no archaeological records of a certain period are present, but the location of the site is one that would be considered suitable or typical for remains of that period to exist
Negligible	Where there is no evidence for archaeological remains of a certain period to be present and the location/topography is most unlikely to contain remains of that period, or where a site area has already been totally disturbed

Table 5: Site potential definitions

Site Importance (SI)	Definition of Site Category
High	Features of national importance - Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed buildings Grade I and II*, well preserved historic landscapes, registered parks and gardens and historic battlefields
Medium	Non-scheduled sites of regional or county importance. Listed Buildings Grade II, reasonably preserved historic landscapes
Medium / Low	Features of district or local importance but generally common features at a national or regional level
Low	Minor sites or sites so badly damaged that too little now remains to justify their inclusion in a higher grade
Uncertain	Features about which insufficient is known to attribute them to a higher rank, or which cannot be sufficiently accurately located to justify their consideration
Negligible	Where a site area has already been totally disturbed by previous development or natural processes

Table 6: Site importance definitions

- 5.4 The potential for remains of Palaeolithic date is negligible because other than very rare stray finds, there would be no chance of recovering stratified remains in this area from this period.
- 5.5 The potential for remains of Neolithic to Early-Medieval date is considered to be low, based on the fact that there are no known sites within the search area, but that sites are known in the wider area. If any such sites were to be found during development at the new school site they would be of high importance.
- 5.6 The potential for below-ground archaeology originating in the medieval period is considered to be medium/low due to the fact that Kidwelly was both a major religious centre and an important town during that period. The medieval Castle, old town and Church of Saint Mary, all lie within 500m of the proposed development site. The development area does lie outside of the main focus of the medieval settlement areas and is more likely to lie within surrounding agricultural land. Newly-discovered medieval remains would be of medium to high importance depending upon their rarity as a site-type.
- 5.7 The potential for remains from the early Post-Medieval period is also thought to be medium/low for the same reasons as given for medieval remains above. The importance of any such finds would be of low-medium importance.
- 5.8 Mapping from 1811 onwards shows that the proposed development site was a large field, almost undoubtedly used for agricultural purposes, until the creation of the current school in the mid-1990s. This implies that potential for remains of late Post-Medieval and modern date is negligible. Any archaeology that might be found would be of low importance.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 General Conclusions

- 6.1.1 A new primary school is proposed at the site of a current primary school in Kidwelly known as Ysgol-y-Castell. The new school would be constructed on the grassed playing fields to the west of the current school.
- 6.1.2 Mapping from 1811 onwards shows that the proposed development site was a large agricultural field, until the creation of the current school in the mid-1990s. The only known impacts to the ground within the site would be from former ploughing (the extent of which is not known), a footpath across the southwest corner and the creation of the current school buildings and levelling and drainage for the playing fields.
- 6.1.3 There are three Scheduled Monuments, two Grade I Listed Buildings, one Grade II* Listed Building, and eleven Grade II Listed Buildings within 500m of the proposed development. All are of medieval or Post-Medieval date, and only two are intervisible and would therefore have their settings impacted upon by the new school. These are Kidwelly Castle (Scheduled Monument No. CM002; PRNs 1621; 1622) and the Church of Saint Mary (Grade I Listed Building No. 11878; PRN 16291), both with medieval origins. The upper parts of both of these buildings are visible in the distance from most parts of the proposed development site. Looking from the castle and church towards the school, there would be no significant change to the view, because a high concentration of modern buildings already dominates. The new school buildings would also replace the existing ones, creating a minimal increase in the built environment visible from those sites. Design, material and colour choices for the new building could all be used to minimise the new buildings visibility in the wider landscape.
- 6.1.4 Twelve heritage assets are currently recorded in the national heritage databases within 250m of the proposed development. Only one of these sites would have its setting impacted upon slightly by the construction of the new school – Our Lady and St Cadoc Catholic Church (NPRN 12649), which sits just beyond the western edge of the proposed new school site. It is a modern building. A 1.6m tall hedge runs along the boundary, but windows in the east side of the church have views of the site.
- 6.1.5 There is considered to be no intervisibility between the development site and any other known heritage assets in the vicinity, and thus no further impacts from the proposed development on the settings of those known historic assets.
- 6.1.5 The potential for further, below-ground archaeology originating in the Prehistoric to Early-Medieval, and late Post-Medieval to modern periods is considered to be negligible. Generally speaking, if such the remains were to be found their importance would vary from low to high with age, with the oldest finds being of highest importance.
- 6.1.6 The potential for below-ground archaeology originating in the medieval or early Post-medieval periods is considered to be medium/low because Kidwelly was both a major religious centre and an important town during that period, although the site area is likely to have been located within agricultural land surrounding the medieval/early post-medieval settlement. Newly-discovered medieval remains would be of medium to high importance depending upon their rarity as a site-type, whereas Post-Medieval finds would be of low-medium importance.

6.2 Archaeological Mitigation

- 6.2.1 Based on the below ground archaeological potential determined by this assessment and from previous impacts caused to the site area from construction of the existing school and associated playing fields, it is considered that there should be no requirement for any further archaeological mitigation at the site.
- 6.2.2 This would need to be discussed and confirmed with the Dyfed Archaeological Trust – Development Management section, who are the archaeological advisors to the planning authority.

7 SOURCES

Published

- Avent, R. 1991. The early development of three coastal castles, in James, H. (ed.) *Sir Gaer Studies in Carmarthenshire History*. The Dynevor Printing Company.
- Cadw. 1998. *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales*. Cardiff: Cadw
- CIfA. 2014. *Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment*. Available at: http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS%26GDBA_3.pdf [Accessed 10/Nov/2017]
- Hughes, E. 1999. *Kidwelly, A history: Legends, Folklore and Traditions*. Dinefwr Press.
- Lewis, S. 1849. *A Topographical Dictionary of Wales*. London: S. Lewis
- Soulsby, I. 1983. *The towns of medieval Wales*. The Camelot Press.
- Welsh Government. 2017. Planning Policy Wales: Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment. Cardiff: Cadw. Available at: <http://gov.wales/docs/desh/policy/170531tan-24-the-historic-environment-en.pdf> [Accessed 21/Dec/2017]
- Welsh Government. 2017a. Setting of Historic Assets in Wales. Cardiff: Cadw. Available at: <http://cadw.gov.wales/docs/cadw/publications/historicenvironment/20170531Setting%20of%20Historic%20Assets%20in%20Wales%2026918%20EN.pdf> [Accessed 21/Dec/2017]

Unpublished

- Ludlow, N. 2004. Early Medieval Ecclesiastical Sites Project, Stage 2: Carmarthenshire Gazetteer of sites. Cambria Archaeology Report No.2004/2.
- Meek, J. 2009. 15 Castle Street, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire: Archaeological Evaluation. DAT Report No. 2009/70.
- Ratty, S. 2008. Monksford Street, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire: Archaeological Appraisal. Cambria Archaeology Report No.2008/6.

Database

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record, housed with Dyfed Archaeological Trust at Corner House, 6 Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo, Carmarthenshire, SA19 6AE

Websites

- Bing Maps satellite imagery. Available at: <https://www.bing.com/maps> [Accessed 11/Mar/2018]
- British Geological Survey mapping portal. Available at: <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> [Accessed 5/Mar/2017]
- Dyfed Archaeological Trust's Historic Landscape Characterisation Pages. Available at: <http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk/> [Accessed 5/Mar/2017]
- Google Maps satellite imagery. Available at: <https://www.google.co.uk/maps> [Accessed 11/Mar/2018]
- Natural Resources Wales LiDAR Composite Dataset. Available at: <http://lle.gov.wales/Catalogue/Item/LidarCompositeDataset/?lang=en> [Accessed 5/Mar/2017]

Natural Resources Wales LANDMAP interactive mapping. Available at:
<http://landmap-maps.naturalresources.wales/> [Accessed 5/Mar/2017]

Portable Antiquities Scheme. Available at: <https://finds.org.uk/> [Accessed 11/Mar/2018]

Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments Wales – National Monument Record database interactive mapping. Available at:
<http://map.coflein.gov.uk/> [Accessed 5/Mar/2017]

Cartographic

Original 1:63360 Ordnance Survey drawing	1811
Kidwelly Parish Tithe Map	1842
Ordnance Survey 1 st edition 1:2500	1880

Aerial Photographic

RAF 106G/UK/1400, frames 3088-9	1946
RAF 106G/UK/1629, frames 5089-90	1946

APPENDIX I: (Text only):

**PROPOSED NEW SCHOOL: YSGOL-Y-CASTELL, KIDWELLY,
CARMARTHENSHIRE:**

**WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR A
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This written scheme of investigation presents a proposed methodology for a desk-based assessment for a proposed development at Ysgol-y-Castell, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire. The assessment will be used to support a forthcoming planning application for a new school on the site.
- 1.2 The proposed development site consists of one plot of land measuring approximately 1.7ha (roughly centred on SN 4129 0683) lying some 500m west of the centre of Kidwelly (Figures 1 and 2). The development plot lies 300m southeast of three Scheduled Monuments at and around Kidwelly Castle (CM002, CM183 and CM209). Immediately adjacent to the plot there are two known heritage sites: A current building - Our Lady and St Cadoc Catholic Church (NPRN 6025996) and a building no longer standing – the Church of Christ the King (PRN 16379).
- 1.3 The report will comply with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessments (CIfA 2014), available at:
http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS&GDBA_2.pdf
- 1.4 This desk-based assessment of the development area will identify any known archaeological or historical sites within the site and its environs, identify potential setting impacts on Scheduled Monuments or Listed Buildings in the vicinity, identify any Historic Landscape Areas that may be affected by the proposals and assess the potential for hitherto unknown archaeological remains to be present within the proposed development area.
- 1.5 An indication of what further archaeological works might be required, if any, will also be prepared.
- 1.6 The Trust always operates to best professional practice. DAT Archaeological Services has its own Health and Safety Policy, and all works are covered by appropriate Employer's Liability and Public Liability Insurances. Copies of all are available on request.
- 1.7 ***Dyfed Archaeological Trust is a CIfA Registered Archaeological Organisation.***
- 1.8 ***All permanent staff members of DAT Archaeological Services are CSCS² registered.***

² Construction Skills Certification Scheme (Health and Safety Tested)

2. AIM AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

2.1 This document provides a scheme of works for:

The preparation of a desk-based assessment for a proposed new development at Ysgol-y-Castell, Kidwelly, Carmarthenshire (an area of approximately 1.7ha, roughly centred on SN 4129 0683). The report will assess the potential impact that the development might have on any underlying archaeological remains, if present, within the study area, and an assessment of the wider impact of the development on the historic environment. The assessment will be presented within a report that will be submitted with the planning application for the proposed development.

2.2 A written scheme of investigation will be provided to outline the methodology by which DAT Archaeological Services will undertake the assessment (this document).

2.3 Any known archaeological remains will be identified and an assessment will be made of the potential of any hitherto unknown archaeological deposits within the locations of the planned new school at Ysgol-y-Castell and associated areas of infrastructure.

2.4 Any known historic environment features within the wider area that could be affected indirectly by the proposed works will be identified.

3. DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

3.1 The proposed desk-based assessment will involve the preparation of a stand-alone report. The report will be prepared using relevant information from a number of sources, and will comprise the following elements:

- Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record data and other relevant information (DAT HER in Llandeilo);
- National Monuments Record of Wales information as held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales in Aberystwyth (RCAHMW offices in Aberystwyth);
- Bibliographic, cartographic and photographic information held at the National Library of Wales and potentially information held at the Local Studies Library;
- Identification of any Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Historic Landscape Character Areas or Conservation Areas within or in the vicinity of the site area (Cadw, GGAT, NRW);
- Relevant web-based information;
- Site visit and walkover survey;
- Assessment of the archaeological potential of the area;
- Assessment of likely impacts on any identified remains (or potential remains) and likely requirements, if any, for further stages of archaeological work.

3.2 A search area of 250m around the boundary of the site area would be used to identify the presence of non-designated archaeological sites and a boundary of 500m for Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Historic Landscape Character Areas, and Registered Parks and Gardens. The information would be used to provide an indication of the archaeological

potential of the development area and any possible issues in relation to the impact of the development on the wider historic environment.

- 3.3 The following will be considered when preparing the assessment (in some cases no such features may be present and thus will not be considered):
- a. Scheduled Monuments (SMs) and their settings;
 - b. Non-scheduled ancient monuments and their settings;
 - c. Listed buildings and their settings;
 - d. Non-statutory Buildings of Local Importance, where this information is readily available and relevant to the proposed development;
 - e. Registered Parks and Gardens and their essential settings;
 - f. Registered Historic Landscapes;
 - g. Non-registered historic landscapes;
 - h. Buried archaeological potential;
 - i. Palaeo-environmental potential;
 - j. Hedgerows and field patterns;
 - k. Ancient woodland;
 - l. Place-name evidence;
 - m. Newly identified sites of historic importance;
 - n. Cumulative impacts
 - o. Any Tir Gofal / Glastir interests or requirements (where relevant); and
 - p. LANDMAP and landscape characterisation information.
- 3.4 The report will include information on known archaeological and historical sites within and in the vicinity of the proposed development site, along with maps showing the location of these sites. Photographs will be used where appropriate.
- 3.5 The report will be fully representative of the information gained from the above methodology, even if there should be negative evidence. The report will include the following:
- a) A concise non-technical summary of the appraisal results.
 - b) At least one plan showing the site's location in respect to the local topography.
 - c) A list of all the sources consulted.
 - d) Where necessary, suitably selected plans and maps (including historic maps) of significant archaeological features.
 - e) Written descriptions of all archaeological features observed during the site visit.
 - f) A statement of the local and regional context of the historic assets identified. Consideration, where appropriate, of the National Research Agenda.
 - g) An assessment of the relative value or significance of each recognised historic asset.
 - h) An impact assessment of the proposed development on the potential archaeological resource.

- 3.7 Once completed, a copy of the report will be submitted to the Local Planning Authority (LPA) for the consideration of their archaeological advisers. A further copy of the report will be provided for deposition within the regional Historic Environment Record (HER).
- 3.8 Where appropriate, a summary report on any new significant archaeological discovery will be submitted for publication to a national journal (e.g. Archaeology in Wales) no later than one year after the completion of the work.
- 3.9 Although there may be a period during which client confidentiality should be maintained, the report and the archive should normally be deposited in the appropriate repository not later than six months after completion of the work.

4 STAFF

- 4.1 The project will be managed by James Meek, Head of DAT Archaeological Services.
- 4.2 The report will be undertaken by an experienced member of DAT Archaeological Services staff.

5. HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 5.1 All permanent members of DAT Archaeological Services staff are CSCS³ registered.
- 5.2 DAT Archaeological Services will carry out a health and safety risk assessment prior to the site walkover survey to ensure that all potential risks are minimised.
- 5.3 All relevant health and safety regulations must be followed where advised by the client.
- 5.4 As the site visit will likely be undertaken by a single archaeologist, it may be necessary to implement lone working procedures and contacts.

³ Construction Skills Certification Scheme (Health and Safety Tested)

APPENDIX II:

Description of Kidwelly from Lewis, S. 1849. *A Topographical Dictionary of Wales*. London: S. Lewis.

KIDWELLY, or CYDWELI, an incorporated market-town, and a parish, with separate jurisdiction, locally in the hundred of Kidwelly, in the union of Llanelly, county of Carmarthen, South Wales, 9 miles (S. by E.) from Carmarthen, and 225 (W.) from London; containing 1563 inhabitants, of whom 1297 are in the borough, and the remainder in the suburbs. This is a place of great antiquity, and by some historians is supposed to have been the scene of the battle between Ambrosius and Vortigern, which Bede states to have been fought in the year 458. According to Camden, this part of the principality was for many years occupied by the Scots under the sons of Keianus, who were finally expelled by the illustrious British prince, Cunadda. In the reign of William Rufus, William de Londres, one of the twelve knights who attended Fitz-Hamon in his successful attempt upon Glamorgan, and to whom the lordship of Ogmores, in that county, was afterwards assigned, subsequently made a conquest of this district, where he is said to have erected the castle, to which the town was indebted for the importance it attained. The erection of this fortress, however, is attributed with greater probability to one of his descendants, Maurice de Londres, who, according to Camden, after a troublesome war, made himself master of Kidwelly, and fortified the old town with walls and a castle. It afterwards became the scene of some important military events. In the year 1114, the town and fortress were surprised and taken by Gruffydd ab Rhys, who retained possession only for a short time; and after their re-capture, Gwenllïan, wife of Gruffydd, a woman of masculine intrepidity, with a view to recover her husband's territories, placed herself at the head of a body of forces, and, attended by her two sons, attacked Maurice de Londres at a place in the vicinity of the castle, where she was defeated, made prisoner, and put to death by her adversary, one of her sons being also slain, and the other made captive: the place where this battle was fought is still called Maes Gwenllïan, or "Gwenllïan's field." In 1148, Cadell, one of the sons of Gruffydd ab Rhys, issuing from Carmarthen with a powerful body of forces, ravaged and laid waste the country around this town. The castle was repaired and strengthened, in 1190, by Rhys ab Gruffydd, but was subsequently demolished in 1233, by Gruffydd, son of Llewelyn ab Iorwerth, Prince of North Wales, who had come into this part of the country to oppose the invasions of the Earl of Pembroke, and, hearing that a plot had been concerted by the inhabitants of Kidwelly, to betray him into the power of the English, fired the town, and marched to Carmarthen.

By the marriage of the grand-daughter of Maurice de Londres with Henry, Earl of Lancaster, the castle and lordship of Kidwelly became the property of this nobleman, and the exclusive jurisdiction at present exercised in the town and lordship owes its origin to the erection of the estates of this earldom into a county palatine in the reign of Edward III. These estates, by descent, became vested in the crown in the reign of Henry VII., who granted the castle and lordship to the celebrated Rhys ab Thomas, to whose assistance that monarch had been materially indebted for the success of his efforts to obtain the throne. On the attainder of Gruffydd, grandson of Rhys, they again reverted to the crown. In the reign of Charles I. they were sold to the Vaughans of Golden Grove, in this county; and, after the death of John Vaughan, Esq., early in the present century, became the property of his devisee, Lord Cawdor, whose son and successor, Earl Cawdor, is the present proprietor. The lordship, honour, and liberty of Kidwelly comprises the comots, or hundreds, of Carnawllon, Iscennen, and Kidwelly, and contains sixteen parishes and nineteen manors. By virtue of a grant from King

Charles I., the successive lords have claimed and exercised exclusive jurisdiction within the lordship, independently of the rest of the county of Carmarthen, and also various extensive and important privileges. The lord's officer holds the offices of bailiff itinerant, and bailiff of the liberties of the castles and lordship within the said liberty; and he is also coroner, escheator, and steward of the courts baron, which are held separately for each hundred. He has the return of all writs which run in the liberty, excepting only non omittas writs; and, as bailiff of the liberty, summonses, for the assizes and quartersessions, the grand and petit jurors of that part of the county which lies within its peculiar jurisdiction.

The town occupies a low and uninteresting situation on the banks of the Gwendraeth Vâch, or Lesser Gwendraeth river, which divides it into two portions, called respectively the Old and the New Town: the former of these, situated on the western side, is connected with the latter by a handsome stone bridge. The prosperity of this once important place seems to have been completely annihilated by destructive fires and other misfortunes, prior to the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when its inhabitants were at the lowest ebb of poverty, as appears by a memorial drawn up on their behalf by a native of the town, and presented to Sir George Carew, Knight Marshal. The Old Town was formerly surrounded with walls, having three gates, over one of which, in Leland's time, were the remains of a town-hall, with a prison underneath. It now consists, with few exceptions, merely of hovels; and the New Town contains very few respectable dwelling-houses, the majority being thatched cottages of inferior appearance. The air is salubrious, and the place is considered very healthy.

The advantages which it derived from its situation on a navigable river, within half a mile of its influx into the great bay of Carmarthen, having ceased, from the obstruction of the navigation with sand, which formed a dangerous bar across the mouth of the river, its commerce, once flourishing, in consequence declined; and latterly, the opening of collieries, and the establishment of copper-works, at Llanelly, to which this port is a creek, transferred nearly all the remaining trade of Kidwelly to that place. Many fruitless attempts were made to improve the navigation of the river, and various sums were expended in unavailing efforts to remove the obstructions that impeded it; the sands, however, which formerly accumulated, have now totally disappeared through the operations of nature. Some docks, and a short canal, were constructed here about the year 1766, by Mr. Keymer, a private individual; the docks are situated about half a mile from the town, and the canal was intended to convey coal from the mouth of the neighbouring pits to the vessels in the harbour. This navigation was some time since transferred to a company, known as the "Kidwelly Canal Company," by whom it was extended a distance of two miles up the Vale of Gwendraeth, and a branch three miles and a half in length was constructed to communicate with Penbrey harbour: it now extends for fifteen miles. The South Wales railway will run by Kidwelly. Here were both iron and tin works; the former have been entirely abandoned, and the latter are now conducted only on a very limited scale. The exports are, coal to the opposite side of the Bristol Channel, and corn, cheese, and other agricultural produce to Bristol. Markets were held by charter, on Tuesday and Friday; but that on Tuesday has been discontinued, and the other, from the proximity of Carmarthen and Llanelly, has become merely a market for butchers' meat and vegetables. Fairs are held on August 3rd and October 29th.

There are five charters in the possession of the corporation, of which the four first, dated, respectively, the 30th of Edward III., 22nd of Henry VI., 32nd of Henry VIII., and 4th of Edward VI., are under the seal of the duchy of Lancaster, within which the borough is comprised. The fifth was granted by James I., under the great seal, in the sixteenth year of his reign, August 7th, 1618, and, having

re-constituted the borough, is the present governing charter. The style of the corporation is, "the Mayor, Aldermen, Bailiffs, and Burgesses of the borough of Kidwelly, in the county of Carmarthen;" and the government is vested in a mayor, twelve aldermen, two bailiffs, twelve principal burgesses, a recorder, deputy-recorder, town-clerk, chamberlain, two serjeants-at-mace, and an indefinite number of burgesses. Of these officers, the mayor, who is chief magistrate, coroner, and clerk-of-themarkets, is appointed by the common-council, which consists of the mayor, aldermen, bailiffs, and principal burgesses, and is the governing body of the corporation, from among the aldermen, on the Monday next after Michaelmas-day, the charter day. The aldermen, of whom one is a magistrate, are chosen for life, and the bailiffs, who are also sheriffs, for a year, by the common-council, from the body of principal burgesses: the principal burgesses are elected for life by the council, from the burgesses. The recorder, who is a justice of the peace, the town-clerk, and the chamberlain, are also appointed by the council, during pleasure; and the serjeants-at-mace are chosen from the burgesses by the mayor.

The freedom is acquired by birth, limited, however, to the eldest sons of freemen, born after their fathers' admission. It is also to be obtained by election of the common-council, who may choose burgesses to whatever extent they please; in practice, one person is generally nominated by the mayor every year, and thereupon elected by the council. The privileges of the burgesses include exemption from serving on all county juries, and the right of grazing five head of cattle and thirty head of sheep each upon the uninclosed lands that belong to the corporation; these lands are stated to comprise about 730 acres, and are supposed to contain valuable beds of copper-ore, to which the corporation lays claim. General sessions are directed by the charter to be held before the mayor, the recorder, or, in his absence, the deputy-recorder, and the alderman who should be elected a justice as before mentioned, or any two of them, including the mayor, for the trial of all offences within the borough short of felony; and the charter declares that no other justice of the peace shall interfere with the concerns of the borough. Quarter-sessions are regularly held, and cases of misdemeanor are occasionally tried, before a jury selected by the bailiffs from among the burgesses; but it most frequently happens that there are no cases for trial. A court of record is also directed by the charter to be held within the borough before the mayor and recorder, or their sufficient deputy, every Monday fortnight, for the trial of all actions, real, personal, and mixed, under £200 in amount; and the hundred court of Kidwelly may also by the same authority take place before the mayor and steward every three weeks; but both these courts have entirely fallen into disuse, though some proceedings appear to have occurred in the former within the present century. The revenues of the corporation consist of about fifty acres of inclosed land, let upon long leases to a large number of tenants; a further inclosure of twenty acres, lately made; a considerable number of chief rents of small amount; and rent derived from a lease of certain copper-mines under the uninclosed lands: the whole producing a net income of about £120. The town-hall is a tenement possessing no features worthy of notice, which has been fitted up for the purpose.

The parish of Kidwelly is divided into St. Mary's within, and St. Mary's without the borough, each division separately maintaining its own poor. The living is a discharged vicarage, rated in the king's books at £7. 10., and in the patronage of the Lord Chancellor; present net income, £120: the impropriation belongs to the Maliphant family. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, and situated in the New Town, is an ancient cruciform structure, with a square embattled tower at the western end, surmounted by a very lofty spire; over the entrance is a figure of the Virgin, and in the interior is a monumental effigy of a priest, with an

inscription now illegible. An ancient tombstone was dug up on the north side of the church, in 1846; it bears the figure of a female head, judging from the head-dress, with an inscription which is much defaced. There are places of worship for Calvinistic Methodists, Independents, Wesleyans, and Particular Baptists; a National school, chiefly supported by voluntary contributions; and six Sunday schools, one of them in connexion with the Established Church. A rentcharge of 6s. 8d., assigned by Howell Thomas in 1666, is distributed in bread among the poor annually; another of 10s. has been lost. At Penallt, near this place, was anciently a small priory of Benedictine monks, founded about the year 1130, by Roger, Bishop of Sarum, who dedicated it to St. Mary, and made it a cell to the abbey of Sherborne in Dorsetshire; it continued to flourish till the Dissolution, at which time its revenue was £38: the present remains are very inconsiderable.

Leland, speaking of the castle, in the reign of Henry VIII., states that it was then "meately wel kept up," "veri fair, and doble waullid;" having been repaired by Alice de Londres, wife of one of the Dukes of Lancaster, and again in the reign of Henry VII. The remains of this edifice occupy a bold rocky eminence on the western side of the Gwendraeth Vâch, and are more perfect than any other of a similar character in the principality. Their appearance is grand and imposing, the ruins comprising a quadrangular area, inclosed by strong walls defended with massive circular towers at the angles, and also with bastions in the intervals; the principal entrance, which is on the west side, is under a magnificent gateway, flanked by two round towers, and is still in good preservation. Many of the state apartments are almost entire, and the groined ceilings of some of them, together with other portions of the edifice, display interesting features of the early style of English architecture. A signet-ring, supposed to be of the early part of the fourteenth century, was found near the castle some years ago.

APPENDIX III:

Historic Landscape Characterisation Area 170:

Holloway Former Strip Fields

(Taken from Dyfed Archaeological Trust's Historic Landscape Characterisation Pages. <http://www.dyfedarchaeology.org.uk/>)

GRID REFERENCE: SN 413066

AREA IN HECTARES: 76.10

Historic Background

An area within the Medieval borough of Kidwelly, which has a good documented Medieval and Post-Medieval history, representing former town fields. The Kidwelly area (and later lordship) was granted to Bishop Roger of Salisbury in 1106 who established the borough (Avent 1991, 167), but it passed between Anglo-Norman and Welsh hands during the 12th- and early 13th-century. More settled conditions prevailed during the later 13th- and 14th-century under the tenure of the Chaworths and, from 1327, the Duchy of Lancaster. At least the western half of the area appears to have lain within the estate of Muddlescwm, a holding just to the east within the foreignry of the lordship, as in 1487 'one rood at Le Halwey' (Holloway) was granted to William Howe and Joan, his wife, by Trahaiarn ap Morgan of Muddlescwm (Jones 1985, 17). Kidwelly's industrialisation through the 18th- and 19th-century has also left evidence within the landscape in the form of a railway line and a former brick and silica works. The area is crossed by the A484 Kidwelly Bypass and some late 20th century development has occurred along side roads, but the overall impression is one of dereliction.

Description and essential historic landscape components

A small area of fairly small fields lying between 5 metres and 20 metres, representing a system of former strip fields associated with the Medieval borough of Kidwelly. The former strips are most pronounced to the west, around Holloway Farm which has Medieval origins; they are less apparent to the east where there has been some reorganisation of boundaries. Boundaries throughout are earth banks, now overgrown and becoming derelict, dividing fields of unimproved pasture which are becoming neglected. There is no woodland. Kidwelly bypass which crosses this area has led to further fragmentation of the field system.

A former spur from the GWR main West Wales line, which was established in the 1870s to convey ore and stone from the quarries on Mynyddgarreg, and tinplate from the former works east of Kidwelly (Ludlow 1991, 84), runs through the area. The 'Dinas' brick and silica works formerly lay to the west of the area (Ordnance Survey 6" First Edition, Sheet LIII. NE, 1891). The only other archaeological site recorded in the area is a former Post-Medieval smithy on the A484.

There are few buildings. Holloway was mentioned in 1487 and its name may suggest Medieval origins for the east-west road upon which it lies; the house is still standing but no early elements have been noted.

A historic landscape area of long, narrow enclosures distinct from Kidwelly town to the north and west, the larger irregular fields to the east and the marsh/former marsh to the south.

YSGOL-Y-CASTELL SCHOOL, KIDWELLY, CARMARTHENSIRE:

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT


RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2018/13
RHIF Y DIGWYDDIAD / EVENT NO. 111472

Mai 2018
May 2018

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan / This report has been prepared by

Alice Day

Swydd / Position: **Archaeologist**

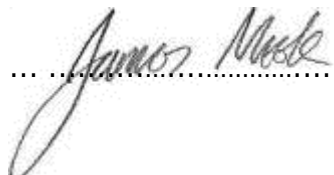
Llofnod / Signature  Dyddiad / Date 18/04/2018

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 DAT Archaeological Services**

Llofnod / Signature ...  Dyddiad / Date 22/05/2018

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

