

# **NANT Y DDERWEN, DREFACH, CARMARTHENSHIRE: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

**SN 52552 13272**



Prepared by DAT Archaeological Services  
For: Carmarthenshire County Council



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**DYFED**  
archaeological trust

# DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

REPORT NO. 2020-60  
PROJECT NO. 125640

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## NANT Y DDERWEN, DREFACH, CARMARTHENSHIRE: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK- BASED ASSESSMENT

By

**Luke Jenkins**



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**NANT Y DDERWEN, DREFACH, CARMARTHENSHIRE:  
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

Client	Carmarthenshire County Council
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Event Record No 125640

Report No	2020-60
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Site-visit Undertaken  
By Charles Enright

Illustrated By	Luke Jenkins
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Report Approved By Fran Murphy

Rev Number	Description	Undertaken	Approved	Date
_V1	Draft	LJ	FM	14.01.20

**NANT Y DDERWEN, DREFACH, CARMARTHENSIRE:  
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**NANT Y DDERWEN, DREFACH, CARMARTHENSHIRE:  
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Carmarthenshire County Council prepare a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for a proposed mixed tenure development at Nant Y Dderwen, Drefach, Llanelli, SA147DD (SN5255213272). The desk-based assessment has established that the proposed development will have a low/negligible impact upon the surrounding historic environment.

**CRYNODEB GWEITHREDOL**

Comisiynwyd Gwasanaethau Archeolegol YAD gan Gyngor Sir Caerfyrddin i baratoi Asesiad Ddesg yr Amgylchedd Hanesyddol ar gyfer datblygiad daliadaeth cymysg arfaethedig yn Nant Y Dderwen, Drefach, Llanelli, SA147DD (SN5255213272). Mae'r asesiad desg wedi sefydlu y bydd y datblygiad arfaethedig yn cael lefel effaith isel ar yr amgylchedd hanesyddol o gwmpas.

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

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

- 1.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Carmarthenshire County Council prepare a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for a proposed mixed tenure development at Nant Y Derwen, Drefach, Llanelli, SA147DD (SN5255213272). The proposals are currently in the pre-planning stages of development.
- 1.1.2 The purpose of this assessment, which is detailed in the following report, is to provide Cadw and the local planning authority with the information they have requested in respect of the proposed development, the requirements for which are set out in Planning Policy (revised edition 10, December 2018), Section 6, and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment (2017). archaeological assessment has been a primarily desk-based study of the
- 1.1.3 The site area, identifying potential impacts on designated archaeological assets in the vicinity, supplemented by information gained through a site walkover. Due to current restrictions related to the Covid-19 outbreak some archive sources have not been accessible, although sufficient information has been gained to provide a comprehensive assessment of the sites.

### **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 by CIfA 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 search 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 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. This will help inform future decision making, design solutions and potential mitigations strategies, including the potential for further archaeological works.
- 1.2.5 The report presents relevant information from a number of sources including:
  - Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record data;
  - Map regression exercise using earlier cartographic sources;

- Available and relevant reports on any archaeological work undertaken in the area that affects the site or its setting;
  - Archive records held at the County Archive, the National Library of Wales (NLW) and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW);
  - Aerial photography, satellite imagery and Lidar data;
  - Relevant records held by the developer;
  - 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);
  - Assessment of the archaeological potential of the area;
  - 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.
- 1.2.6 Carmarthenshire county council requires a search area of 0.5km from the centre of the proposed development to ascertain the known archaeological and historical resources.
- 1.2.7 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). Listed Buildings (LB). 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.

**Table 1:** Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales

Period	Approximate date	
Palaeolithic –	c.450,000 – 10,000 BC	<b>Prehistoric</b>
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	<b>Historic</b>
Post-Roman / Early Medieval Period –	c. AD 410 – AD 1086	
Medieval Period –	1086 – 1536	
Post-Medieval Period <sup>1</sup> –	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period –	1750 – 1899	
Modern –	20th century onwards	

## 2. NATIONAL POLICIES AND GUIDANCE

### 2.1 The Historic Environment (Wales) Act

2.1.1 The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 was previously the primary legislation for protecting archaeological remains and scheduled monuments. This has more recently been amended by The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 which has three main aims as defined by Cadw:

- to give more effective protection to listed buildings and scheduled monuments;
- to improve the sustainable management of the historic environment; and
- to introduce greater transparency and accountability into decisions taken on the historic environment.

2.1.2 The new Act amends the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and also the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act

<sup>1</sup> 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

1990. It is supported by a number of planning guidance documents. The Act most specifically provides better safeguards for the protection of scheduled monuments, listed buildings and historic parks and gardens. It also includes further guidance on place names.

## **2.2 Planning Policy Wales**

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

## **2.3 Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment**

- 2.3.1 This technical advice note provides guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan preparation and decision making on planning and Listed Building consent applications. It also provides specific guidance on how the following historic environment assets should be considered:
  - scheduled monuments
  - archaeological remains
  - listed buildings
  - conservation areas
  - historic parks and gardens
  - historic landscapes
  - historic assets of special local interest
  - World Heritage Sites
- 2.3.2 The technical advice note usefully gathers together the selection criteria employed in the designation of scheduled monuments and listed buildings and the registration of historic parks and gardens and historic landscapes.
- 2.3.3. Advice and decisions on planning applications affecting nationally significant historic environment features (or designated historic environment assets) is provided by Cadw acting on behalf of Welsh Government.
- 2.3.4 This report will also make reference to other guidance documents published by Cadw, namely: Conservation Principles (March 2011); Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales (May 2017); Managing Historic Character in Wales (May 2017); and Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (May 2017).

## **3. LOCAL PLANNING POLICIES**

### **3.1 Carmarthenshire County Council Policies**

- 3.1.1 The Historic Environment is subject to the relevant policies and procedures as laid out in the Carmarthenshire County Council (CCC) Local Development Plan (LDP) 2018 – 2033.
- 3.1.2 The historic environment is referenced throughout the document in numerous policies, emphasising its significance to the county. The main policy references to the Historic Environment are outlined in the strategic policy SP14:

## **SP 14: Protection and Enhancement of the Built and Historic Environment:**

*Development proposals should preserve or enhance the built and historic environment of the County, its cultural, townscape and landscape assets, and, where appropriate, their setting. DAT Archaeological Services 10 Report No. 2020/42 Proposals will be expected to promote high quality design that reinforces local character and respects and enhances the cultural and historic qualities of the plan area.*

*11.445 Carmarthenshire has a rich and diverse historical and cultural built heritage with a range of Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, and Scheduled Monuments. The recognition of the Plan area's built heritage and its conservation is essential in providing a sense of history, character, and a sense of place.*

*11.446 The Plan area also contains discovered, and yet to be discovered archaeological sites and features. The Policy and the Plan aims, in conjunction with primary legislation on the built environment and historic buildings to safeguard the cultural integrity of the historic settlements, features and buildings within the Plan area. Where applicable, it also looks to contribute to the enhancement of the historic and built environment. This recognises that our historic assets are irreplaceable resources and their conservation provides social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits.*

*11.447 The County's historic buildings, townscape and landscape should be regarded as assets and positively conserved and enhanced for the benefit of residents and visitors alike. These are not only affected by change and neglect, but also by changes to their setting. As such, this is an important consideration in making decisions on proposals which may have an effect.*

*11.448 Many elements of the County's built and historic environment are protected through legislation or other policy provisions, and as such do not require policies in the revised LDP. The Plan does not therefore include policies in relation to facets of the built heritage such as Scheduled Monuments as they are adequately protected elsewhere.*

*11.451 Environment which recognises the importance of such areas and features of the County:*

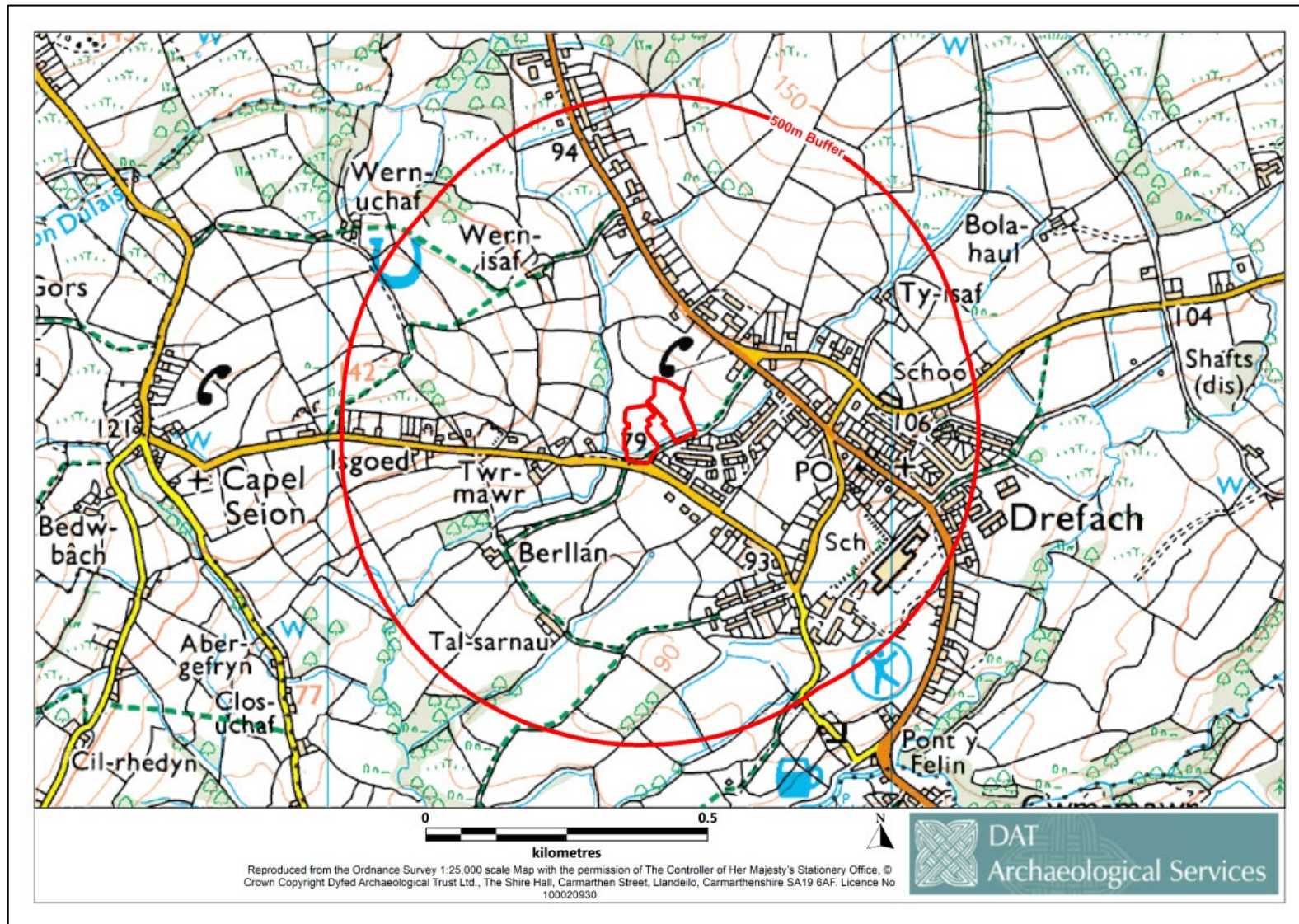
- *Historic Parks and Gardens[38] - Many parks and gardens are historically significant and are listed in the Historic Parks and Gardens in Wales Register. These areas are also defined on the LDP Proposals Map;*
- *Historic Landscapes[39]*
- *Archaeological Remains[40]*
- *Enabling Developments[41] - PPW sets out the provisions through which an enabling proposal would be considered*
- *Scheduled Monuments - These are defined on the Proposals Map*

## **4. LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY**

- 4.1 The development area lies at the western end of the small village of Drefach in Carmarthenshire, West Wales (SN5255213272) (Figure 1). The nearest town is Crosshands located 3.77km to the northeast.
- 4.2 The development area is split into two areas measuring a total area of 0.71Ha and surrounds an existing housing estate, both of which can be accessed from Capel Seion Road to from the south of the site (Figure 2).
- 4.3 The land is in Carmarthenshire County Councils ownership and provides an opportunity to build a small-scale mixed tenure development consisting of low-cost home ownership, energy efficient homes which will form part of the

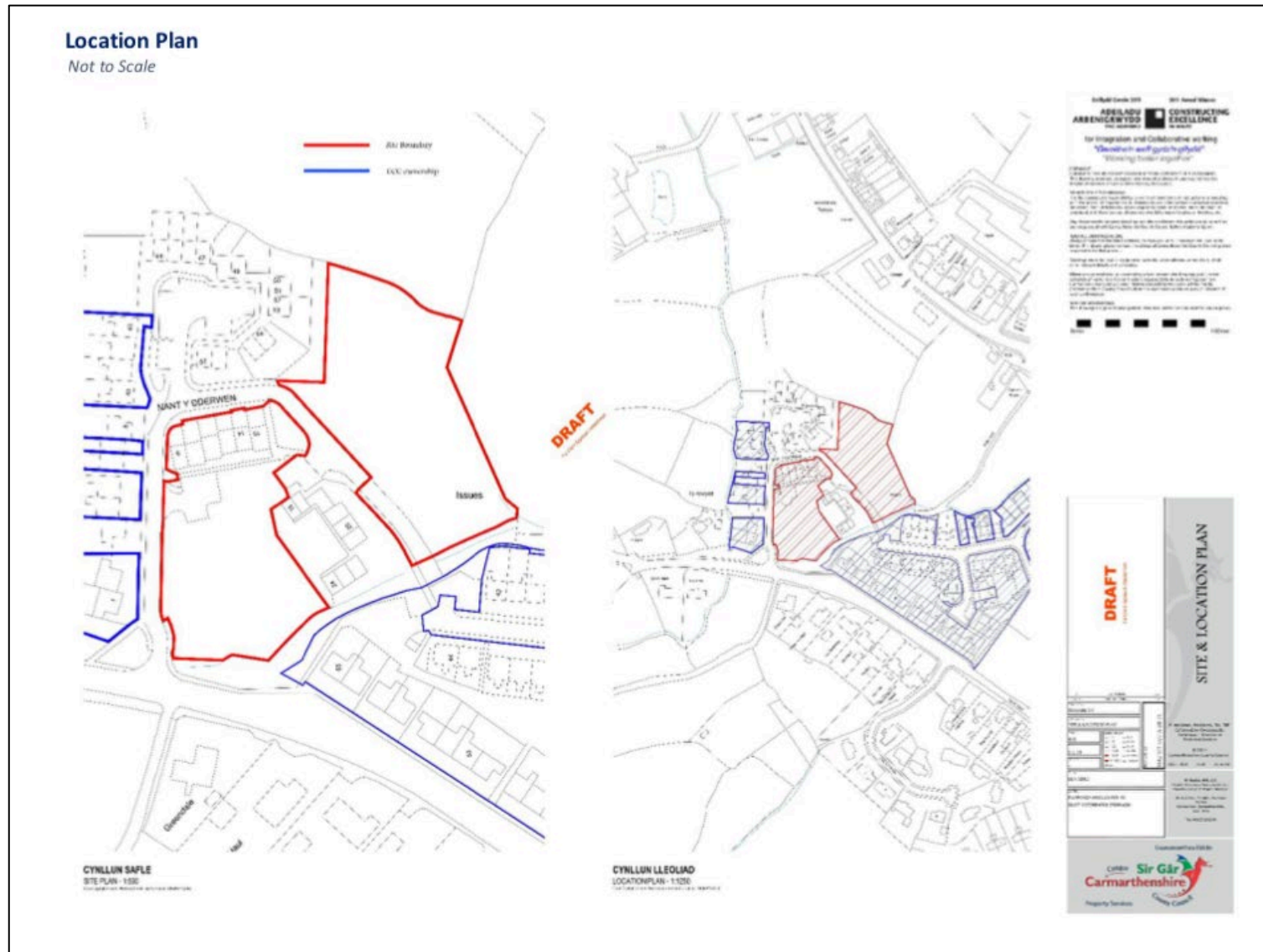
Authority's property portfolio. Currently the site is unoccupied and is laid to grass.

- 4.4 The underlying bedrock geology consists of the Bishopston Mudstone Formation - Mudstone, Siltstone And Sandstone. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 319 to 329 million years ago in the Carboniferous Period. Local environment previously dominated by swamps, estuaries and deltas (BGS 2020). The superficial geology consists of Till, Devensian - Diamicton. Superficial Deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period. Local environment previously dominated by ice age conditions (BGS 2020).



**Figure 1:** Map showing the development area (red boundary line) and the 500m radius search area (red circle).





**Figure 2:** Map provided by client showing proposed developments locations and boundaries. Not to scale.

## **5 DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS**

### **5.1 General**

- 5.1.1 The regional Historic Environment Record (HER) maintained by the Dyfed Archaeological Trust and National Monument Record (NMR) held by the Royal Commission for Ancient and Historic Monuments in Wales (RCAHMW) were searched for historic assets recorded within the 500m radius study area. This included both designated and non-designated assets.

### **5.2 Listed Buildings**

- 5.2.1 There are no listed buildings within the 500m radius search area.

### **5.3 Scheduled Monuments**

- 5.3.1 There are no scheduled monuments within the 500m radius search area.

### **5.4 Registered Historic Parks & Gardens**

- 5.4.1 There are no registered historic parks and gardens within the 500m radius search area.

### **5.5 Registered Historic Landscapes**

- 5.5.1 There are no Registered Historic Landscapes within the 500m radius search area.

### **5.6 Conservation Areas**

- 5.6.1 There are no conservation areas within the 500m radius search area

## **6. UNDESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS**

### **6.1 General**

- 6.1.1 The HER records fourteen assets within the search area as shown in Figure 3 and presented in Table 2. One of these historic assets is a general record for the village of Drefach (NPRN 268,077) so is not discussed further. No historic assets are recorded within the development boundary itself.
- 6.1.2 The following information is laid out chronologically to provide a brief archaeological and historical background for the development area and its environs for each period, along with the relevant HER entries pertaining to that period.

### **6.2 Palaeolithic & Mesolithic**

- 6.2.1 No assets dating to these periods recorded within the 500m radius search area. Evidence of such activity in the wider landscape also appears sparse.

### **6.3 Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman Period**

- 6.3.1 There are no Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age or Roman assets recorded within the 500m radius search area.

### **6.4 Early Medieval & Medieval Period**

- 6.4.1 There are no assets of Early Medieval or Medieval date located within the 500m radius search area.

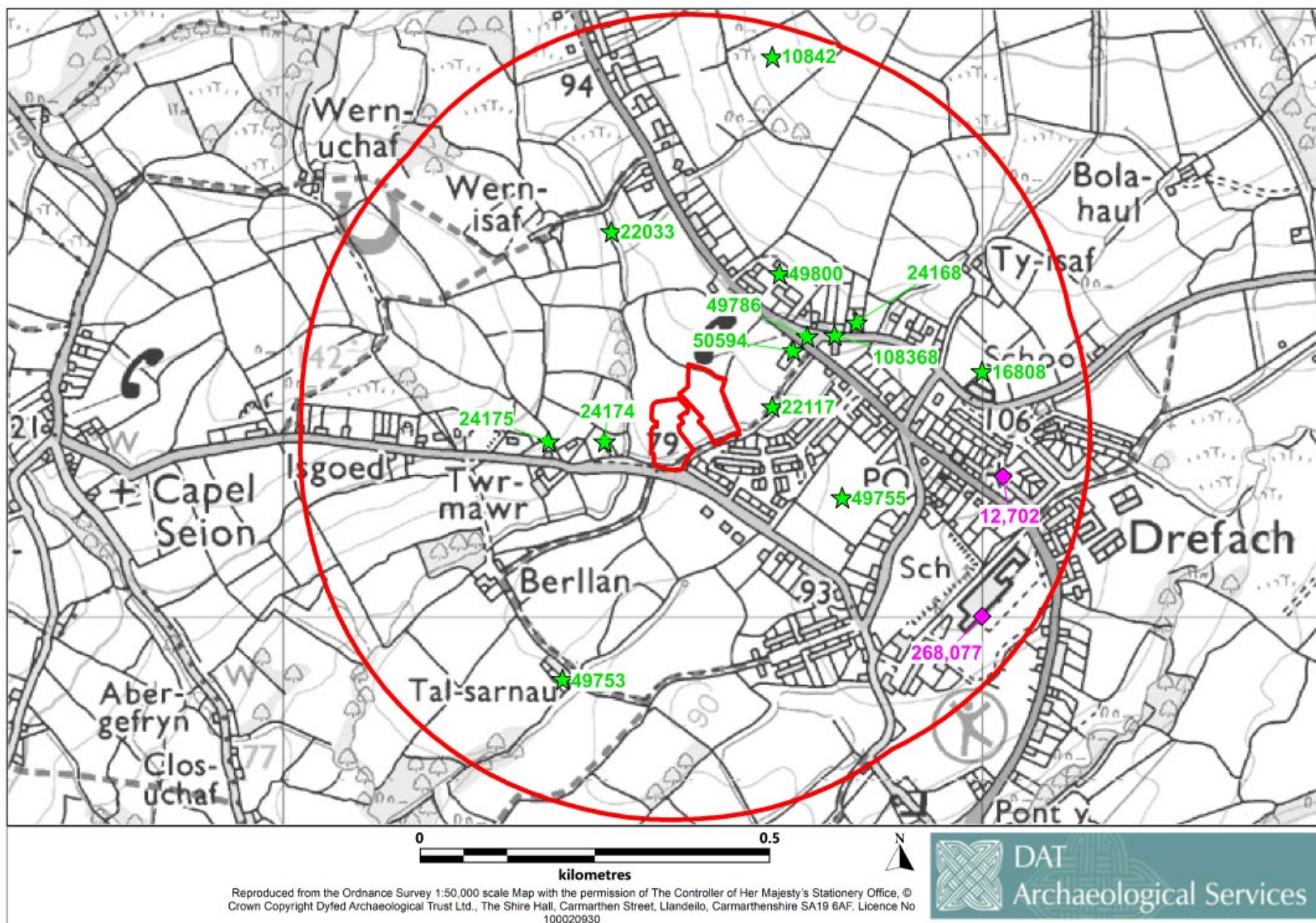
## **6.5 Post Medieval & Modern Period**

- 6.5.1 All of the 15 historic assets recorded within the search area date to the post-medieval period (See Figure 3 and Table 2).
- 6.5.2 Five of these entries refer to dwellings. Compton House (PRN 50594) is a Victorian house that was also used as a post office in the 20<sup>th</sup> Century located to the north-east of the development area. Secondly, a row of ruined 19<sup>th</sup> Century worker's cottages recorded on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance survey map to the south of the development area (PRN 49753). Thirdly, three more cottages (PRN 24174, 224175 and 14168) shown on the Ordnance Survey 1906 6-inch mapping, which are still occupied.
- 6.5.3 There is one ecclesiastical building located with the search area to the east of the development area called Hebron Chapel (NPRN 12,702). This chapel was built in the vernacular style in 1908.
- 6.5.4 There are two possible industrial buildings within the search area. The first, a Smithy (PRN 22117) shown on the Llanarthey tithe map from 1847. The second, PRN 49800, is located to the north of the proposed development and is listed as a former butter factory that had gone out of use by the late 20<sup>th</sup> Century.
- 6.5.5 Drefach village school is listed as a historic asset. This is located to the east of the proposed development area and still remains the main village primary school today.
- 6.5.6 Two records refer to place names within the village. Firstly 'Towerhill' (PRN 10842) located to the north of the proposed development, often associated with drove routes leading to/ or from London. Secondly "Waun Ffynnon Fach" (PRN 22033) to the north-west of the proposed development, this place name usually refers to the presence of a spring or well.
- 6.5.7 A toll bar house (PRN 49755) is located within the search area. This was originally located along the A48 but was moved to ensure its survival at a later date.
- 6.5.8 PRN 49786 records a Second World War pillbox that was located to the northeast of the development in the town centre on Drefach Square. A milestone (PRN 108368) for the Carmarthen/Swansea turnpike road is recorded as being at this location on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition and 2<sup>nd</sup> edition Ordnance Survey maps.
- 6.5.9 A general record for the village of Drefach (NPRN 268,077) is also recorded on National Monuments Record.

## **6.6 Previous Archaeological Work**

- 6.6.1 No previous archaeological works have been undertaken within the development area or the surrounding 500m search radius.





**Figure 3:** Non-designated historic assets with 500m of the development area. HER points are shown in green and National Monuments Record points in purple.

**Table 2:** Non-designated historic assets within 500m of development area, shown in Figure 3.

PRN	NPRN	Site Name	Description	Date	Grid Reference
108368		MILESTONE	A milestone on the Carmarthen to Swansea turnpike road. Appears on Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1880 labelled "Carmarthen 9" and "Swansea 18". Also on Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 1906 labelled the same.	Post Medieval	SN527891340 2
22117		SMITHY	A smithy is shown here on the 1847 Llanarthney parish tithe map, but was recorded in 1983 as having been built over.	Post Medieval	SN527133
49800		BUTTER FACORY	Former butter factory. In use in late 20th century but disused by the end of the century.	Post Medieval	SN52711349
50594		COMPTON HOUSE	Compton House was used as a post office during the 20th century (exact period unknown). There was a shop and cafe here during the 1990s. By 2004 it was a private dwelling.	Post Medieval	SN52731338
16808		DREFACH	Village school, still open when seen in 2003.	Post Medieval	SN53001335
49755		DREFACH	A toll bar house that originally stood on the A48 but was removed to Drefach Welfare Association Ground. It is in good condition and is believed to be unique in its survival in Carmarthenshire.	Post Medieval	SN52801317
49786		DREFACH	A Second World War pill box on Drefach Square.	Modern	SN52751340
49753		TALSARNAU	Ruined row of 19th century mine workers cottages. It is shown on the 1st edition OS map as 5 cottages facing north with a longer 6th building on the eastern end.	Post Medieval	SN52401291
10842		TOWER HILL	The significance of this name is unusual, but it may be derived from the droving tradition of applying place names associated with London to homes and fields along droving routes. There is no record of a tower having stood here.	Medieval; Post Medieval	SN527138
24175		TWR BACH	Cottage shown on 1907 6" OS map. Present condition unknown.	Post Medieval	SN52381325
24174		TY-NEWYDD	Cottage shown on 1907 6" OS map. Present	Post Medieval	SN52461325

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			condition unknown.		
24168		VALE VILLA	Cottage shown on 1907 6" OS map. Present condition unknown.	Post Medieval	SN52821342
22033		WAUN FFYNNON FACH	"Ffynnon" place-name that indicates that the presence of a spring or well in this vicinity.	Post Medieval	SN52471355
	12,702	HEBRON WELSH INDEPENDENT CHAPEL	Hebron Independent Chapel was stone built in 1908 in the Vernacular style with a gable entry plan and segmental head large pane windows.	Post Medieval	SN53031320
	268,077	DREFACH	General record for the village of Drefach, Carmarthenshire	Not Applicable	SN5313

## **7. ASSESSMENT OF EVIDENCE**

### **7.1 Historic Mapping**

- 7.1.1 The earliest maps of the development area is the Llanarthney Parish Tithe map dated 1849 (Figure 4). Here, the proposed development area lies within field '3338' which is listed in the tithe apportionment as being a meadow. The field is listed as occupied by a 'Mr William Walters', the tenant of 'Berllan farm' located to the southwest of the development area. This farm belonged to a 'Mrs Jacksville'.
- 7.1.2 The field is named 'Waun Fain' which roughly translates as thin/narrow moorland and is likely to reference the narrowing of the field as it curves northwards (see Figure 4).
- 7.1.3 The parish tithe map depicts an agricultural landscape of enclosed farmland, with established farmsteads and mansions.
- 7.1.4 The first edition 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map published in 1888-9 is a more detailed record of the landscape and often records sites of archaeological interest (Figure 5). There are no indications of any archaeological monuments within the 500m search area. However a new field boundary, orientated roughly east-west, truncates the centre of the original field (3338). This boundary remains extant in later mapping and a footpath has been added along the eastern boundary of the field.
- 7.1.5 The 2nd edition 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map published in 1906 shows very little change in the landscape in the intervening period (Figure 6) and no features of archaeological interest were identified. Consultation of subsequent mapping shows the development of this area.

### **7.2 Aerial & Historic Photography**

- 7.2.1 Copies of the 1944 Medmenham Series vertical aerial photographs and the 1946 RAF vertical aerial photographs held at Dyfed Archaeological Trust were consulted in conjunction with modern aerial photographs and satellite imagery. No evidence of features of archaeological interest was identified within the 500m search area.

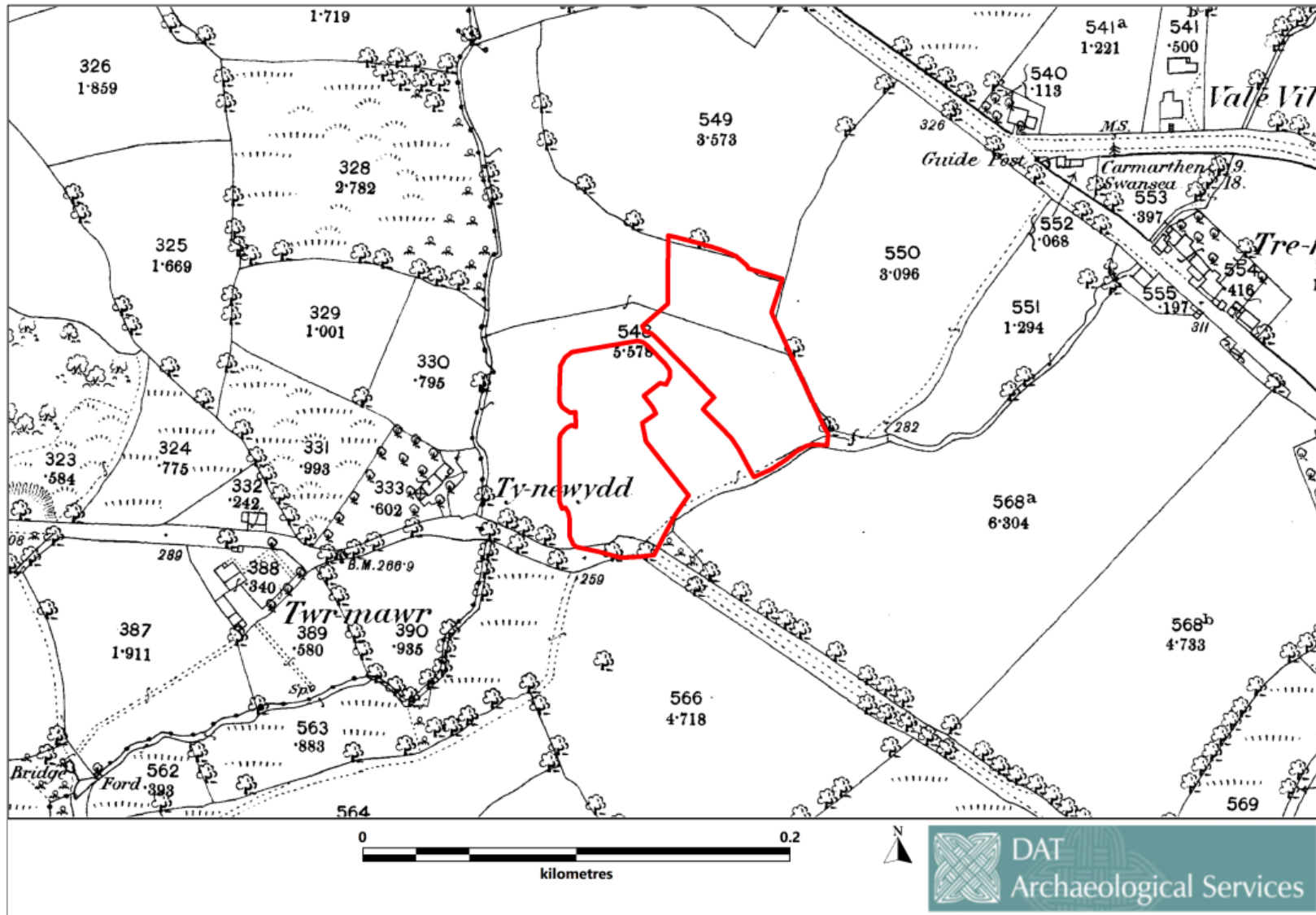
### **7.3 LiDAR**

- 7.3.1 1m composite LiDAR datasets were consulted but no further features of archaeological interest were identified within the 500m study area.

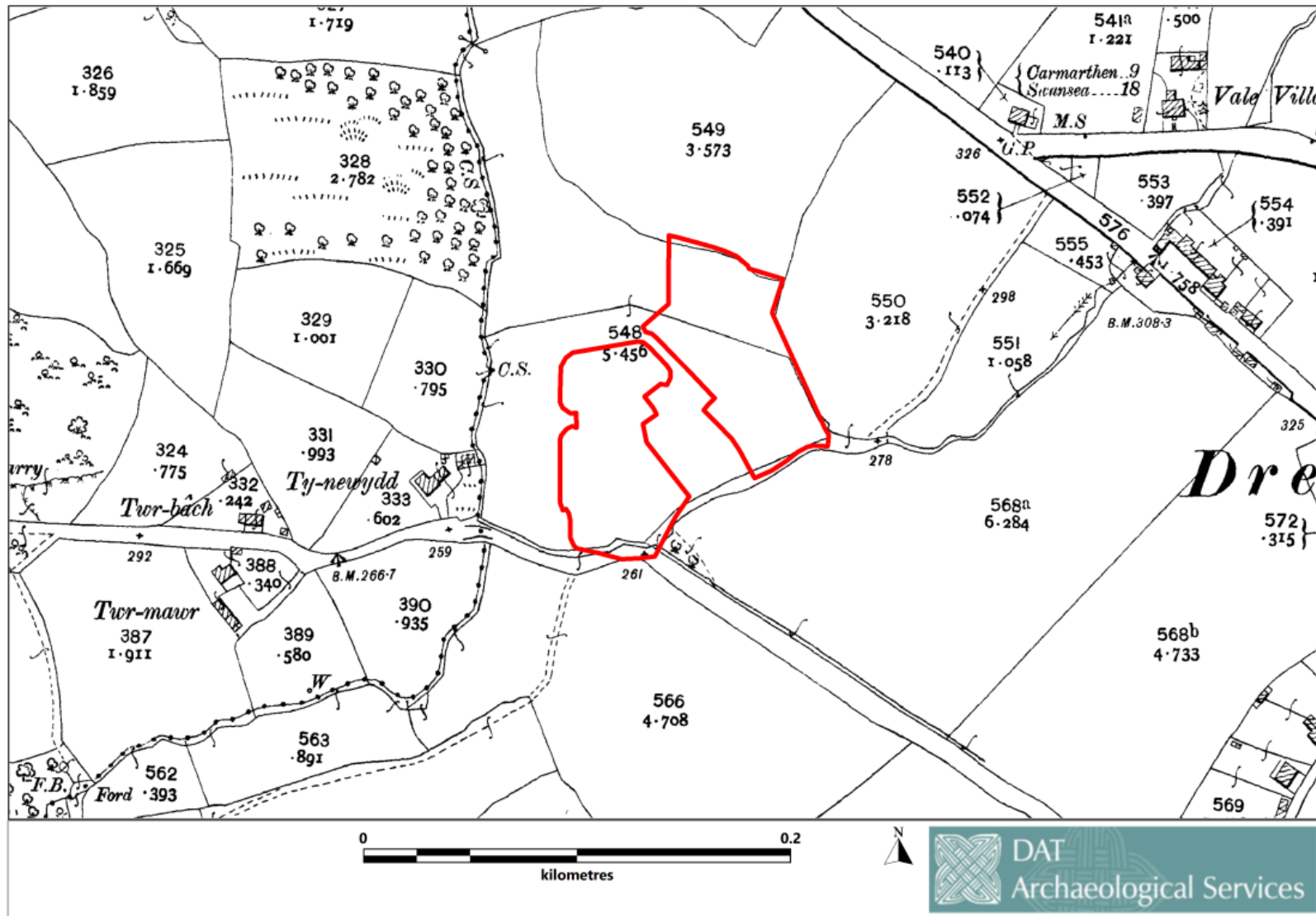


**Figure 4:** The 1849 Parish of Llanarthney tithe map with development area overlain.





**Figure 5:** Carmarthenshire 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance survey map published in 1888-9 with development area overlain.



**Figure 6:** Carmarthenshire 2nd edition Ordnance survey map published in 1906 with development area overlain.

## **7.4 Site Visit**

- 7.4.1 A site visit was undertaken by Charles Enright on the 20<sup>th</sup> June 2020 during dry and sunny weather conditions with clear visibility.
- 7.4.2 The development area was approached from the road to the south where the two areas are left as rough grassland between two previous council developments (Photo 1).
- 7.4.3 The eastern part of the development area comprised rough scrub which appears to have been previously cleared. It was flanked by trees along its eastern edge and was confined by the road of the previous council development to the west and north (Photo 2).
- 7.4.4 The western part of the development was in a similar condition and was flanked by trees along its western edge and the previous council development to the south. To the north and east was open grassland and scrub (Photo 3). This area was also thought to have been previously been cleared.
- 7.4.5 No features of potential archaeological interest were identified within the development areas during the site visit.



**Photograph 1:** Showing eastern part of development area approached from road to the south. Looking north





**Photograph 2:** Showing eastern part of development area.  
Looking south



**Photograph 3:** Showing western part of the development area.  
Looking south

**Table 3: Site potential definitions**

<b>Archaeological Potential</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>High</b>	Known archaeological remains of the period within the site area, or an abundance of remains of the period within the near vicinity
<b>Medium</b>	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
<b>Low</b>	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
<b>Negligible</b>	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 4: Site importance definitions**

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

## **8 ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL**

- 8.1. No previously recorded historic assets lie within the development area.
- 8.2. An examination of various documentary sources outlined in this assessment did not identify any known or previously unrecorded historic assets within the development area. The nearest recorded assets within the 500m study area are documentary sources for post-medieval buildings whose present condition is unknown. Therefore the archaeological potential within the development area is considered to be **low/negligible**.
- 8.3. It is worth noting that the development areas are parcels of vacant land within an existing housing estate, the impact of which may have already compromised these areas.

## **9 IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

### **9.1 Impact assessment criteria**

- 9.1.1 The criteria for the assessment of impacts, both direct and indirect, on historic assets is based on The Department for Transport 'Transport Analysis Guidance' (TAG), Unit A3 'Environmental Impact Appraisal: Section 8 Impacts on the Historic Environment', of May 2019, with additional information based on professional judgement. In addition, however, the guidance offered in the Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (Cadw 2017) has been utilised.
- 9.1.2 The TAG criteria divides the impacts into seven categories, ranging from Large Adverse (negative), Moderate Adverse (negative), Slight Adverse (negative), to Neutral, and then on to Slight Beneficial (positive), Moderate Beneficial (positive) and Large Beneficial (positive).

### **9.2 Development details**

- 9.2.1 No development details are currently in place but the land is being considered as a potential opportunity for a small-medium scale mixed tenure development consisting of low-cost, energy-efficient homes.

### **9.3 Direct impacts upon the historic assets**

- 9.3.1 No known archaeological remains/historic assets will be directly impacted upon by the development.

### **9.4 Indirect Impacts to Historic Assets**

- 9.4.1 There is thought to **no** significant indirect impacts upon historic assets within the surrounding area and any new development in this area will be within the constraints of the existing housing estate.

### **9.5 Mitigation**

- 9.5.1 No further mitigation is suggested for this site due to the low/negligible archaeological potential and the development having no significant impact on surrounding historic assets.

## **10 CONCLUSIONS**

- 10.1 DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Carmarthenshire County Council prepare a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for a proposed mixed tenure development at Nant Y Derwen, Drefach, Llanelli, SA147DD (SN 39620 20103). The proposals are currently in the pre-planning stages of development.
- 10.2 The regional Historic Environment Record (HER) maintained by the Dyfed Archaeological Trust and National Monument Record held by the Royal Commission for Ancient and Historic Monuments in Wales (RCAHMW) were searched for historic assets recorded within the 500m radius study area. This included both designated and non-designated assets.
- 10.3 No designated or non-designated historic assets were identified within the development area. There are no designated historic assets situated within the 500m study area. However, 15 non-designated historic assets were identified within the 500m search area, all of which dated to the post-Medieval period and are considered to be of **low/negligible significance**. No further features of archaeological interest were identified during the consultation of the cartographic and photographic sources or indeed, on the composite 1m LiDAR dataset. Therefore the archaeological potential within the development area is considered to be **low/negligible**.
- 10.4 As no historic assets were detected within the development area and any non-designated historic assets were detected within the wider search area were of low/negligible significance the archaeological potential of the development area is thought to be **low/negligible**.

## 11 SOURCES

### Database

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record

### Published

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](http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS%26GDBA_3.pdf) [Accessed 14.05.2020]

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 14.05.2020]

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 14.05.2020]

### Cartographic

1849 Llanarthney Parish Tithe map

1888-89 1:2500 Carmarthenshire Ordnance Survey map

2nd edition 1916 1:2500 Carmarthenshire Ordnance Survey map

1950 1:2500 Carmarthenshire Ordnance Survey map

1964 1:2500 Carmarthenshire Ordnance Survey map

1972 1:2500 Carmarthenshire Ordnance Survey map

### Websites

Google Earth Maps satellite imagery. Available at: <https://www.bing.com/maps> [Accessed 07.12.20]

British Geological Survey mapping portal. Available at: <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> [Accessed 07/December 2020]

Google Maps satellite imagery. Available at: <https://www.google.co.uk/maps> [Accessed 07.12.2020]

Natural Resources Wales LiDAR Composite Dataset. Available at: <http://lle.gov.wales/Catalogue/Item/LidarCompositeDataset/?lang=en> [Accessed 07.12.20]

Welsh Tithe Map. Available at: <https://places.library.wales/> [Accessed 07.12.20]

