

# **ONE PLANET DEVELOPMENT, Y GAER, PENCRAIG, LLANGOLMAN, PEMBROKESHIRE: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**



Prepared by DAT Archaeological Services  
For: Clare Gray



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# DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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## ONE PLANET DEVELOPMENT, Y GAER, PENCRAIG, LLANGOLMAN, PEMBROKESHIRE: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

By

**Philip Poucher**



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**ONE PLANET DEVELOPMENT, Y GAER, PENCRAIG, LLANGOLMAN,  
PEMBROKESHIRE**

**HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK BASED ASSESSMENT**

<b>Client</b>	Clare Gray
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**ONE PLANET DEVELOPMENT, Y GAER, PENCRAIG,  
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**ONE PLANET DEVELOPMENT, Y GAER, PENCRAIG,  
LLANGOLMAN, PEMBROKESHIRE  
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned to prepare a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment of a One Planet Development at Y Gaer, Pencraig, Llangolman, Pembrokeshire (SN 1197 2645), including an assessment of the impact upon the setting of Scheduled Monument PE285, Pencraig Fawr Camp.

A slight adverse direct impact upon the archaeological potential of the development area was highlighted, along with a moderately beneficial direct impact on PE285. In contrast, a slight adverse indirect impact was highlighted on the setting of PE285.

**CRYNODEB GWEITHREDOL**

Comisiynwyd Gwasanaethau Archeolegol YAD i baratoi Asesiad ar Ddesg yr Amgylchedd Hanesyddol o Ddatblygiad One Planet yn Y Gaer, Pencraig, Llangolman, Sir Benfro (SN 1197 2645), yn cynnwys asesiad o'r effaith ar osod Cofeb Rhestredig PE285, Gwersyll Pencraig Fawr.

Amlygwyd ychydig o effaith uniongyrchol andwyol ar botensial archeolegol y safle, ynghyd ag effaith uniongyrchol fuddiol gymharol ar PE285. Mewn cyferbyniad, amlygwyd ychydig o effaith anuniongyrchol niweidiol ar osodiad PE285.

**ONE PLANET DEVELOPMENT, Y GAER, PENCRAIG,  
LLANGOLMAN, PEMBROKESHIRE**  
**HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

**INTRODUCTION**

**1.1 Project Proposals and Commission**

- 1.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Clare Grey, to prepare an Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment on the One Planet Development at Y Gaer, Pencraig, Llangolman, Pembrokeshire (SN 1197 2645). The assessment was also intended to address the potential impact of the development on the setting of surrounding designated archaeological assets; in particular the Scheduled Monument of Pencraig Fawr Camp (PE285).
- 1.1.2 The development area lies approximately 85m to the east of the Scheduled Monument of Pencraig Fawr Camp (PE285, PRN 975). As a result, in a letter dated 4<sup>th</sup> March 2020, Dyfed Archaeological Trust – Development Management (DAT-DM), in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority (Pembrokeshire County Council), have requested that a desk-based assessment be carried to determine the impact of the development and what potential mitigation may be required. Cadw were also consulted due to the presence of the Scheduled Monument in the vicinity of the development. They responded in a letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> March 2020 requesting that the impact upon the setting of this monument be assessed by heritage professionals, utilising the guidance within the *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (Cadw 2017).
- 1.1.3 This Historic Environment 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, taking the impact upon the setting of PE285 into special consideration.
- 1.1.4 The assessment has been primarily a desk-based study of the development area, identifying any known archaeological or historical sites within its boundaries and its environs, identifying potential setting impacts on designated archaeological assets in the vicinity, identifying any historic landscape areas that may be affected by the proposals and assessing the potential for hitherto unknown archaeological remains to be present within the development area. Due to current restrictions related to the Covid-19 outbreak some archive sources have not been consulted, although sufficient information has been gained to provide a comprehensive assessment of the site.

**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 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 The desk-based study of the development area identifies known archaeological sites within the area 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.

1.2.4 The scope of the report also includes an assessment of the impact on the settings of surrounding designated historic assets, including scheduled monuments, listed buildings, historic landscape character areas and undesignated archaeological sites. This utilises the best practice guidance in *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (2017). This guidance sets out a four stage approach. Stage 1 being the identification of the historic assets that may be affected by development. Stage 2 defines and analyses the setting of the assets. Stage 3 evaluates the potential impact of the development upon the setting. Stage 4 considered mitigation options.

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 (RCAHMS);
- 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 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 area (or potential remains) and likely requirements, if any, for further stages of archaeological work.
- 1.2.6 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been produced, and submitted to DAT-DM for comment, in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority. It was agreed that a search area of 0.5km from the boundary of the development area would be used to examine designated and non-designated historic assets. Given the area and height of the development this is considered to encompass the potential visual impact of the development as well, as suggested in the criteria for consulting Cadw within the *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (Cadw 2017).
- 1.2.7 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).
- 1.2.8 This report contains information about the historic environment and historic assets in the vicinity of the proposed development area, 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). 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	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 <sup>1</sup> –	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period –	1750 – 1899	
Modern –	20th century onwards	

<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

## **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 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 (Edition 11, February 2021) 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 6.1, 'Recognising the Special Characteristics of 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 states that:

*The historic environment comprises all the surviving physical elements of previous human activity and illustrates how past generations have shaped the world around us. It is central to Wales's culture and its character, whilst contributing to our sense of place and identity. It enhances our quality of life, adds to regional and local distinctiveness and is an important economic and social asset.*

2.2.3 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 Local Development Plan**

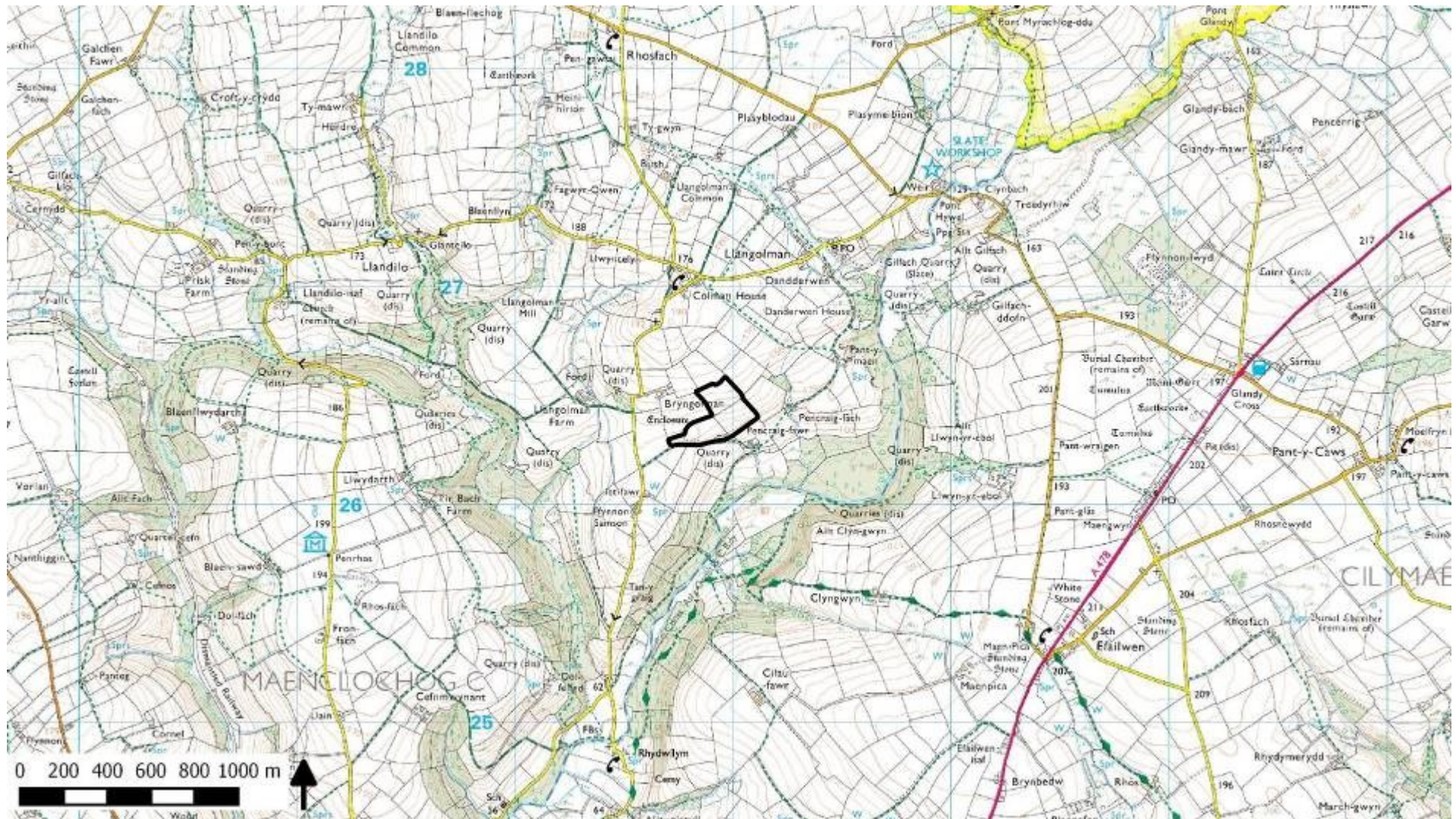
- 3.1.1 The Pembrokeshire Local Development Plan (LDP) was adopted in February 2013, and sets out the planning development strategy for the area. The LDP policies are set out in line with national policy and guidance outlined above, but applies a rational and consistent basis for decision making at local level. Of particular relevance to the historic environment is policy **GN.38 – Protection and Enhancement of the Historic Environment**.

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

- 4.1 The development area is spread across three fields to the north of an unnamed lane to Pencraig-Fawr farmstead. The fields are currently laid to pasture, regular in layout and enclosed with hedgerows. The main development area is concentrated in the two adjoining fields of Parc Uchaf and Parc Y Lloc, and within a disused quarry to the southwest. The Scheduled Monument of Pencraig Fawr Camp (PE285, PRN 975) lies within the adjoining field of Gaer to the west (Figures 1 & 2).
- 4.2 The development area is located on south facing sloping ground between 120mOD and 160mOD, which continues rising to a peak of 192mOD a little over 400m to the north, and falls into the upper reaches of the Eastern Cleddau valley 250m to the south.
- 4.3 The landscape is a rural one, of regularly shaped fields across rolling ground on the northern edge of the Cleddau valley. The fields are largely of pasture, with areas of woodland and wooded valleys. The settlement pattern is one of dispersed farmsteads, with Pencraig-fawr lying a short distance to the southeast, and Bryngolman a short distance to the west. The closest nucleated settlement is the hamlet of Llangolman Common 0.5km to the north, and Llangolman 700m to the northeast. Haverfordwest is the nearest town, which lies approximately 18km to the southwest, the Preseli Hills lie approximately 6km to the north, and the Eastern Cleddau feeds into the Milford Haven some 18km to the southwest.

- 4.4 The underlying geology largely comprises tuffaceous mudstone of the Tyrch Formation, with a band of igneous rock running through the area in a roughly east – west band. The soils are described as 'freely draining acid loamy soils' (Landis 2021).

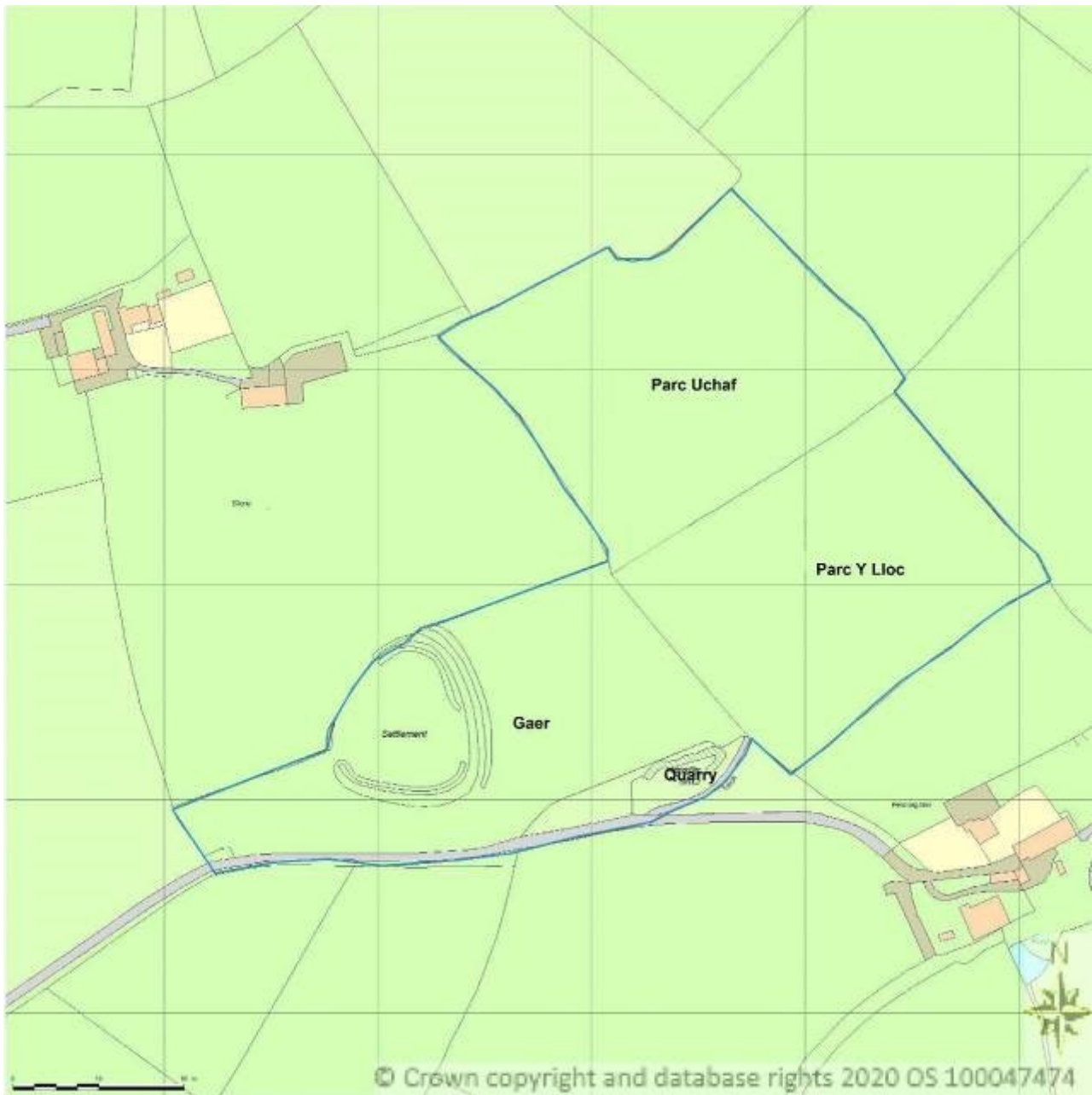




**Figure 1:** Location of development area, showing the proposed development area (outlined in black).

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**Figure 2:** Detailed location plan of the site ownership boundaries, showing field identification names. Plan provided by the client, originally supplied by Streetwise Maps Ltd. Not reproduced to original scale.

## 5 DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS (Table 2 and Figure 3)

### 5.1 General

- 5.1.1 A search of data held on several databases was made of historic assets within the 0.5km radius search area. This included both designated and non-designated assets. Designated assets from a wider area were examined to analyse the potential setting of PE285, detailed below.

**Table 2:** Designated historic assets within the study area

Name	Cadw Ref.	NGR	Designation
Pencraig Fawr Camp	PE285	SN11822634	Scheduled Monument
Preseli Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest	HLW (D) 7	-	Registered Historic Landscape

### 5.2 Scheduled Monuments

- 5.2.1 There is one Scheduled Monument (SM) within the 0.5km radius study area: PE285 Pencraig Fawr Camp. This site lies within the three fields that will be managed as part of the One Planet development, with the scheduled area lying within 150m of the nearest built element of the proposed development. The site is recorded on the Dyfed Historic Environment Record as PRN 975. The following is the SM description:

*The monument comprises the remains of a defended enclosure, which probably dates to the Iron Age period (c. 800 BC - AD 43). Pencraig-Fawr Camp is an oval enclosure located on a gentle south-facing slope that measures c. 66m across and is defended by a bank up to 2m high externally and 0.25m internally with traces of an external ditch on the northeast side. The defensive bank is overlain on the north west side by a hedge-bank where there are also traces of an external ditch. Aerial photographs show the presence of additional concentric earthworks 35m to the west of the main rampart that are partially visible on the ground in the area of a presumed western entrance to the main enclosure. The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of later prehistoric defensive organisation and settlement. The site forms an important element within the wider later prehistoric context and within the surrounding landscape. The site is well preserved and retains considerable archaeological potential. There is a strong probability of the presence of evidence relating to chronology, building techniques and functional detail.*

- 5.2.2 Beyond the 0.5km search area a series of Neolithic/Bronze Age henge monuments (CM051 & CM245) lie along a ridgetop, marked by the current A478, over 2km to the east. A series of Bronze Age funerary and ritual monuments also lie long this ridgeline (CM050, CM052, CM158, CM159, CM244, CM246, CM247 & CM311). Standing stones of a potentially similar Bronze Age date also lie near Rhosfach over 1.8km to the north (PE406), and around Prisk Farm 2.3km to the west (PE118, PE409 & PE522).



- 5.2.3 The closest potential Iron Age SM is Castell Pen-gawsai (PE289), 1.7km to the north, although this may potentially be medieval in date. The Iron Age promontory fort of Castell Forlan (PE284) lies 2.5km to the west.

### **5.3 Registered Historic Landscapes**

- 5.3.1 The proposed development area lies within the Preseli Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest (HLW (D) 7). This area includes the largely open, upland landscape of the main Preseli ridge, with the foothills and slopes on either side and the deeply incised narrow valleys between Maenclochog and Llangolman to the south, within which the proposed development area lies. The area contains a rich legacy of upstanding prehistoric and later remains, with important historic associations, and well-preserved prehistoric landscapes. The sequence of enclosures and chronology of dispersed settlements requires further study but shows a range from potential medieval layouts to more regular 19<sup>th</sup>-century parliamentary enclosure. In the post-Roman period there may have been a decline in populations and a contraction of settlements into the deep, narrow river valleys, which house some early medieval ecclesiastical sites. Despite this, many of the important cross and lateral routeways through the area persisted.
- 5.3.2 To better characterise the historic environment of the Historic Landscape it has been sub-divided into several Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCA). The proposed development area lies in one such area - HLCA 266 Llangolman.
- 5.3.3 This area lies at the southern end of the Llangolman HLCA, encompassing the valleys and lands around the headwaters to the Eastern Cleddau. It is largely an area of irregular fields, dispersed farms and cottages, narrow lands and woodland on steep valley sides. Stone is the traditional building material, boundaries are of earth and stone, topped with hedges, with agricultural land predominantly pastoral. Farmhouses are predominantly 19<sup>th</sup> century, in a vernacular style, with some earlier examples in a polite Georgian style, and a mix of later 20<sup>th</sup> century buildings. Agricultural buildings are predominantly small, reflecting the size of the holdings, in a mix of stone, corrugated tin and later steel, concrete and asbestos.
- 5.3.4 The area lay within the medieval Cantref Cemaes, and lay at the centre of ecclesiastical significance in the early medieval period. In the medieval period much of this area lay within the mesne lordship or manor of Maenclochog, largely retaining Welsh systems of tenure. The pattern of dispersed settlements is typical of this Welsh system of tenure. The farmstead of Pencraig-fawr is recorded in the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and the surrounding medium-sized regular fields are characteristic of 16<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> century enclosure. The history of this area was and still is, dominated by pastoral agriculture, although it also contains the counties densest concentration of slate quarries, along with more informal sites quarry the volcanic rock that ruins through the area. These quarries tend to be fairly late, established from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century onwards. The recorded archaeology in the area stretches from a Neolithic chambered tomb through to 2<sup>nd</sup> World War searchlight batteries.

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

- 5.4.1 There are no registered historic parks and gardens in the study area, the closest being Scolton Manor over 13km to the southwest.

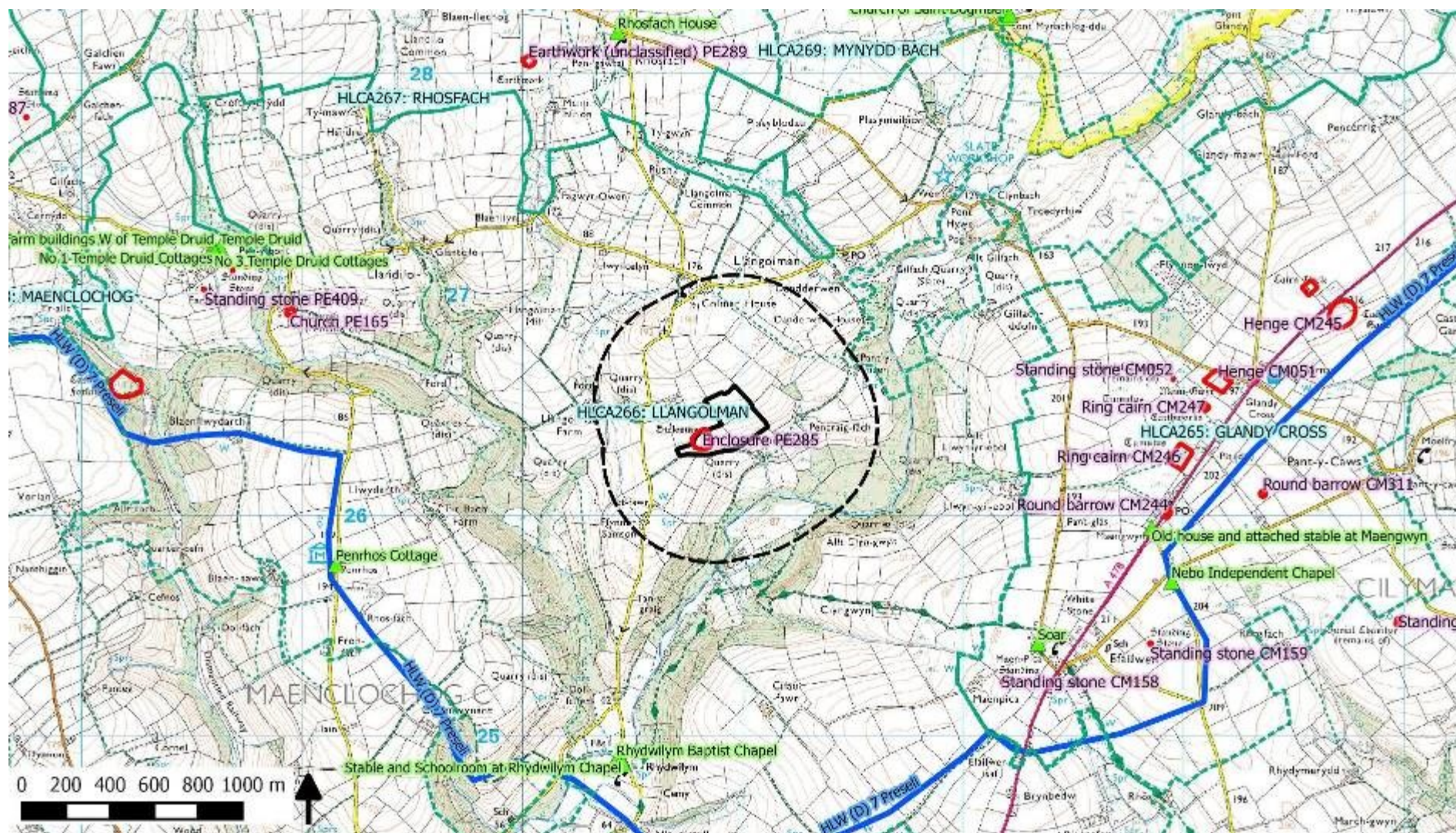
#### **5.5 Listed Buildings**

- 5.5.1 There are no listed buildings in the study area, the closest site being Rhydwlwym Chapel 1.5km to the south.

#### **5.6 Conservation Areas**

- 5.6.1 There are no conservation areas within the study area, the closest being some 10km away.





**Figure 3:** Map showing the proposed development area and the 0.5km radius study area (dotted line). Also showing designated assets including scheduled monuments (red outline), listed buildings (green triangles) and historic landscapes (blue outline).

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## **6 NON-DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS (Table 3 and Figure 4)**

### **6.1 General**

- 6.1.1 A search of data held by the Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record (HER) and other available databases was made within a study area that comprised the development area plus a 0.5km radius search area around the proposed development.
- 6.1.2 The HER records thirteen assets within the search area, although one of these sites has since been reinterpreted as a potential natural feature, and a further site is a duplicate of another site. Two assets are recorded on the NMR record, held and maintained by the RCAHMW, but both are also recorded in the HER.
- 6.1.3 Only two historic assets are recorded within the development area itself, quarry site PRN 64421, and the defended enclosure PRN 975 (already discussed under Scheduled Monuments).
- 6.1.4 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 There are no sites of these periods recorded within the study area. Evidence of such activity in the wider landscape also appears sparse.

### **6.3 Neolithic and Bronze Age**

- 6.3.1 There are no Neolithic sites recorded within the study area. Within the wider landscape there are some important Neolithic monuments, the closest being a cluster of burial monuments around Prisk Farm, to the west of Llandilo over 2km to the west, with a further cluster of monuments on the ridgeline along which the A478 runs over 2km to the east.
- 6.3.2 There is one (or possibly two) potential Bronze Age site within the study area, A standing stone (PRN 103916) is located in the middle of a field to the west of the development area, with another recorded just to the south of the development area (PRN 64422). Standing stones are a feature of the Bronze Age, and can represent sites of ritual activity, or boundary and routeway markers, however similar stone were erected during the post-medieval period for use as cattle rubbing stones. In the wider landscape there are a relatively large number of standing stones that appear to be Bronze Age in origin. As with the Neolithic monuments, there is also a concentration of activity along the ridgeline to the east, with standing stones and barrow sites, particularly in the Glandy Cross area, and the west at Prisk Farm.
- 6.3.3 The wider landscape clearly indicates that this is an area of some significance during the Neolithic and Bronze Age, as recognised in the Historic Landscape designation. Therefore, despite the relative lack of such features within the study area other than the presence of standing stones of uncertain age and function, there remains a general background potential for Neolithic and Bronze Age archaeological remains in this area.



## **6.4 Iron Age**

- 6.4.1 There is one site of this period in the study area, the scheduled monument Pencraig Fawr PRN 975 that lies within the development area itself. This site has already been described in section 5.2. The site has not been excavated but is assumed to be of Iron Age date based on the typology of the monument, being similar in design and scale to other Iron Age monuments particularly prevalent in southwest Wales. No further Iron Age sites lie within the study area, although similar defended enclosures are a feature of the wider landscape. The precise function of the feature is unclear, but they are generally thought to represent a small defended homestead or animal stockade, and as such there is the potential that associated activity may extend beyond the visible earthworks. The entrance to this site would appear to be on the western side, and aerial photography has suggested further defensive or enclosure earthworks on the west side.

## **6.5 Roman Period**

- 6.5.1 There are no sites of this period recorded within the study area. The closest potential site is a road running north-south along the ridge on the opposite side of the valley to the west of the study area.

## **6.6 Early Medieval & Medieval Period**

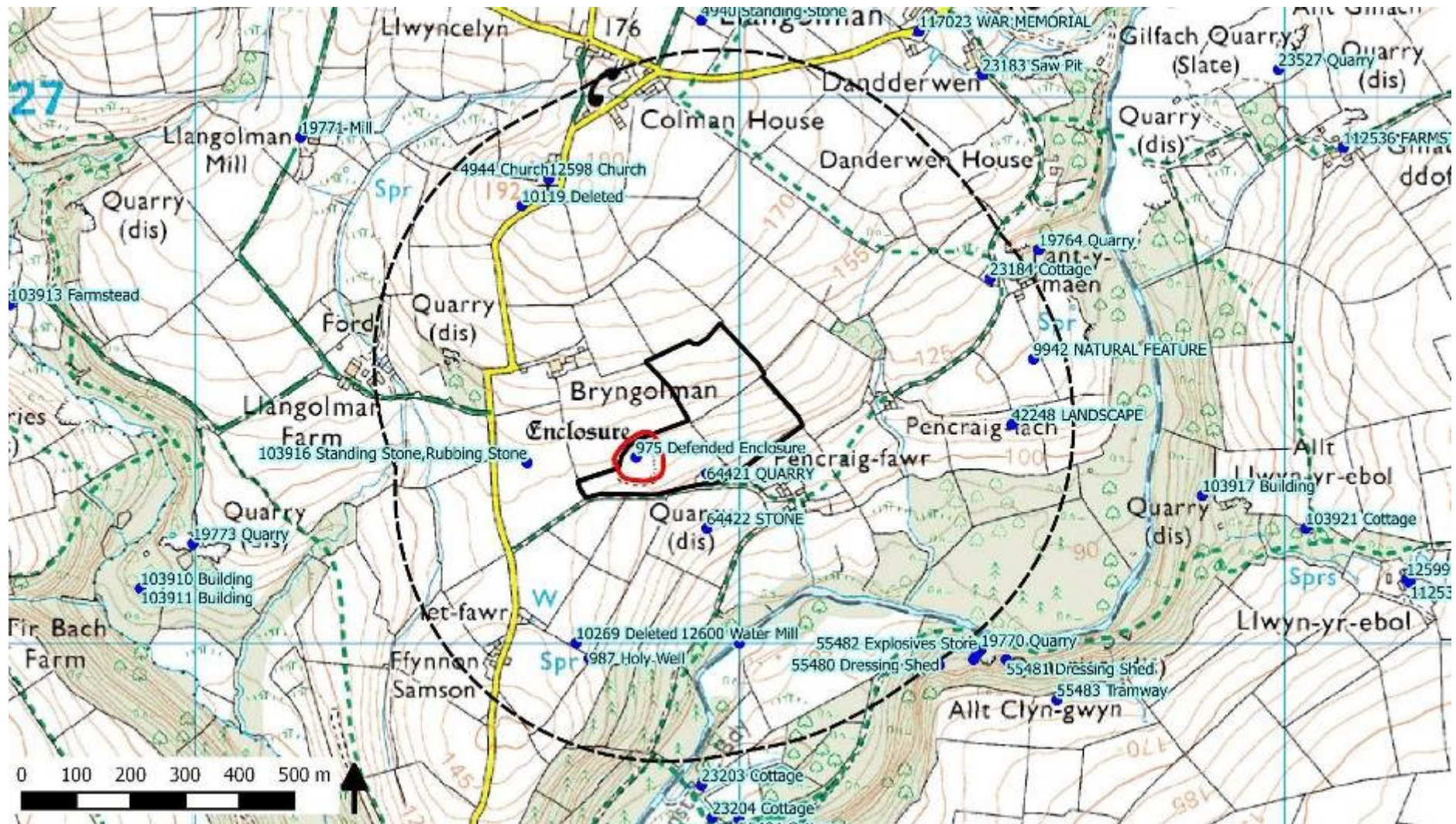
- 6.6.1 There are no Early Medieval sites recorded in the study area. Maenclochog to the west potentially has early medieval origins, but there is currently no evidence of early medieval activity in the study area.
- 6.6.2 Within 400m to the northwest of the site lies St Colman's Church (PRN 12598), a medieval parish church, with the first recorded mention in the early 14<sup>th</sup> century. To the south lies a well (PRN 987), Ffynnon Samson, which is potentially the site of a medieval holy well. A possible medieval mill site (PRN 12600) is recorded in this area on William Rees's reconstructed map of South Wales in the 14<sup>th</sup> century (Rees 1932).
- 6.6.3 These medieval sites suggest activity in this area during this period, but the nature and extent of this activity are unclear. Sites in the surrounding landscape suggest large areas of unenclosed land with little settlement, with common land recorded to the north and south, and a deer park on the opposite side of the valley to the southwest. The presence of St Colman's Church, however, suggests that the north-south road passing through the area is also a medieval route, and may have connected several smaller settlements and provided an important communication route for medieval sites.

## **6.7 Post Medieval & Modern Period**

- 6.7.1 Recorded post-medieval sites include the church mentioned previously (PRN 4944), the cottage of New Pen-Craig (PRN 23184) on the periphery of the study area, and the quarry (PRN 64421) within the development area itself. As noted in the historic landscape description, however (Section 5.3) the farmstead of Pencraig-fawr is recorded as early as the 16<sup>th</sup> century, and the field enclosures throughout this area are characteristic of 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>-century enclosures. This site is therefore likely to have a long history of pastoral agriculture, dating back to at least the 16<sup>th</sup> century. The quarry, likely to be a local enterprise, maybe a later edition, with many such quarries springing up in the area from the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.

**Table 3:** All sites recorded on the HER

PRN	Site Name	Period	NGR
975	Pencraig Fawr; The Gaer; Bryn Golman Defended Enclosure <b>(PE285)</b>	Iron Age	SN11812634
987	Ffynnon-Samson, Holy Well	Medieval	SN1172425972
4944	St Colman's Church	Post Medieval	SN11652685
9942	Pant-Y-Maen, Natural Feature	Not Applicable	SN12542652
10119	St Colman Dedication, <b>Record Deleted</b>	Medieval	SN116268
10269	St Samson Dedication, <b>Record Deleted</b>	Unknown	SN117260
12598	Llangolman Parish Church; St Colman's Church	Medieval	SN11652685
12600	Llwyn-Yr-Ebol, Water Mill	Medieval	SN1226
23184	New Pen-Craig, Cottage	Post Medieval	SN1246026667
42248	Llangolman, Landscape (HLCA)	Not Applicable	
64421	Quarry	Post Medieval	SN11942631
64422	Stone	Not Known	SN11942621
103916	Standing Stone, Rubbing Stone	Bronze Age, Post Medieval	SN11612633



**Figure 4:** Map showing the proposed development area (outlined in black) and the 0.5km radius study area (dotted line), showing historic assets recorded on the regional HER, labelled by PRN and site type.

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## **7 ASSESSMENT OF EVIDENCE**

### **7.1 General**

- 7.1.1 Sections 5 and 6 have laid out the known archaeological resource for the area, recorded on the regional databases of historic assets. The following section examines some of the main sources of information that could expand the current understanding of the archaeological resource and highlight previously unrecorded historic assets.

### **7.2 Previous Archaeological Work**

- 7.2.1 No intrusive archaeological investigations (excavations, evaluations or watching briefs) have previously been undertaken within the study area.
- 7.2.2 As part of the Tir Gofal agri-environmental scheme of the mid-2000s a rapid historic environment assessment (HE1) was undertaken for a nearby parcel of farmland, which at that time included the field containing the Scheduled Monument PE285. This was a rapid survey of readily available information and included generalised statements to aid the management of historic assets such as the enclosure, but no further information on this assessment is currently available. A more detailed site visit was carried out as part of a Tir Gofal assessment on a neighbouring farm to the south (Steele 2006). No new sites were identified within the limits of the current study area, although the report did highlight the presence of important post-medieval quarrying features in the landscape.

### **7.3 Historic Mapping**

#### Ordnance Survey original surveyors map (T.Budgen) – Tenby 1809

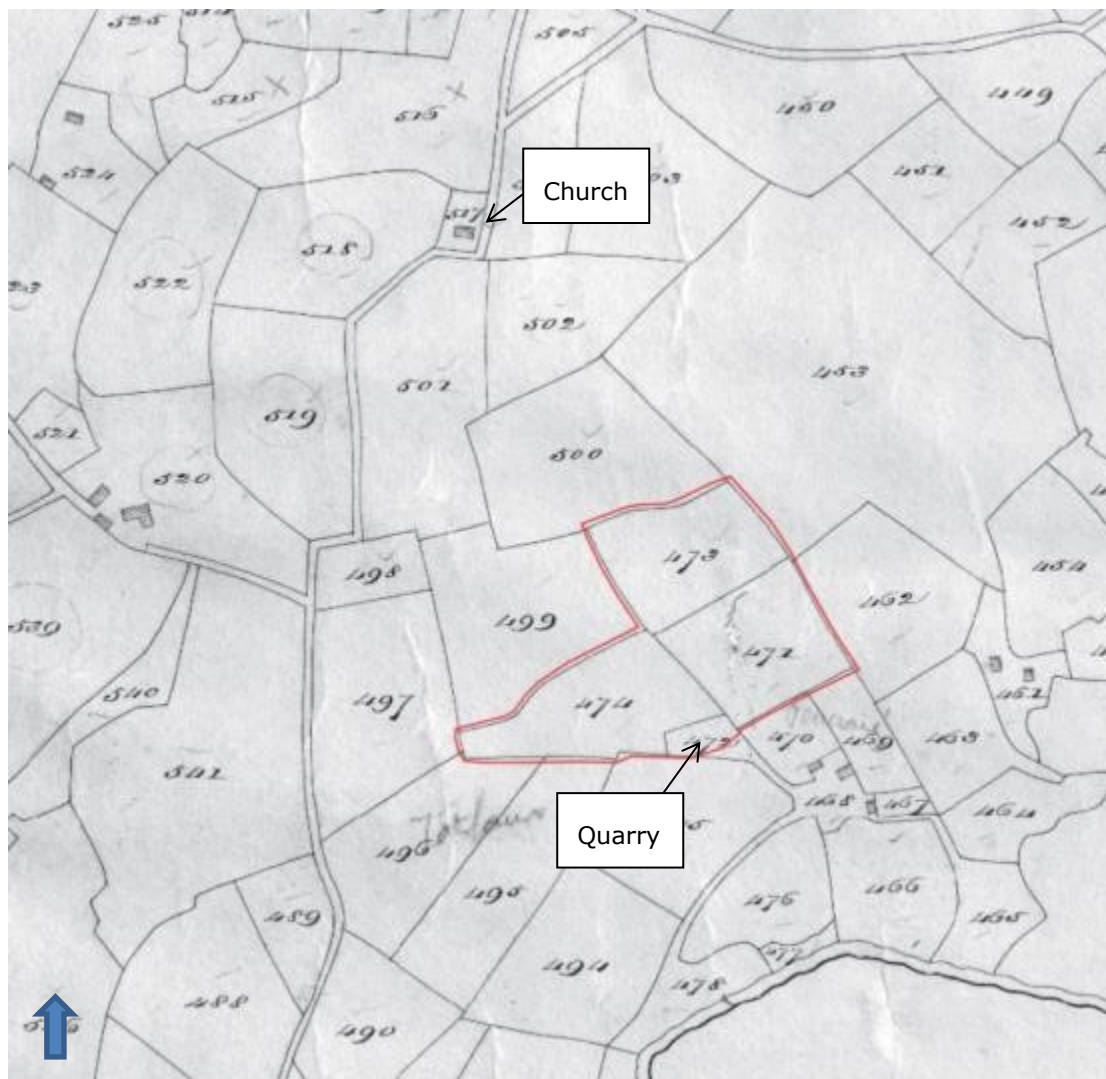
- 7.3.1 The Ordnance Survey maps from the early 19<sup>th</sup> century provide some of the earliest informative mapped evidence of the area. As suggested from the known history of the area (Section 6.6 & 6.7) Pencraig Fawr farmstead existed and is shown, as potentially is Pencraig Fach to the east, along with the north-south road to the west and St Colman's church (PRN 4944/12598) on the road to the northwest of the development area. No further detail is shown, however, and defended enclosure PE285 is not marked.

#### Llangolman Parish tithe map 1839 (Fig. 5)

- 7.3.2 The 1839 tithe map shows a field-scape similar to that of today, and even the layout of some of the nearby Pencraig Fawr farm buildings appears similar to the current layout.
- 7.3.3 According to the accompanying tithe apportionment Pencraig Fawr was owned and occupied by Lewis Protheroe, but the proposed development area, with the exception of the quarry area (PRN 64421), was in separate ownership. The quarry is labelled as 'Brake', with direct access to the farmstead, likely to be an operational quarry at this time. The three fields encompassing the proposed development area were under the ownership and occupation of Benjamin Thomas. Parc Uchaf was named as such in the tithe apportionment, although Parc Y Lloc was known simply as Parc Canol ('middle field'), and Gaer was recorded as 'Gar Meadow'. These three fields appear to have been the extent of Thomas's ownership in the parish, but it is not clear where he lived or farmed from.



- 7.3.4 Of potential interest are the fields to the south of St Colman's church. The two fields on the west side of the road share a continuous boundary with the church enclosure, which appears to enclose a semi-circular area, and are labelled as 'Cnwc llan fach' and 'Croft llan'. The field on the east side of the road to the south of the church is labelled as 'Parc dan y llan'. The 'llan' element indicates a link with the church, although this may merely be because the church is an obvious local feature with which to locate the fields, but it raises the possibility of a larger enclosure surrounding the church, close to the proposed development area.



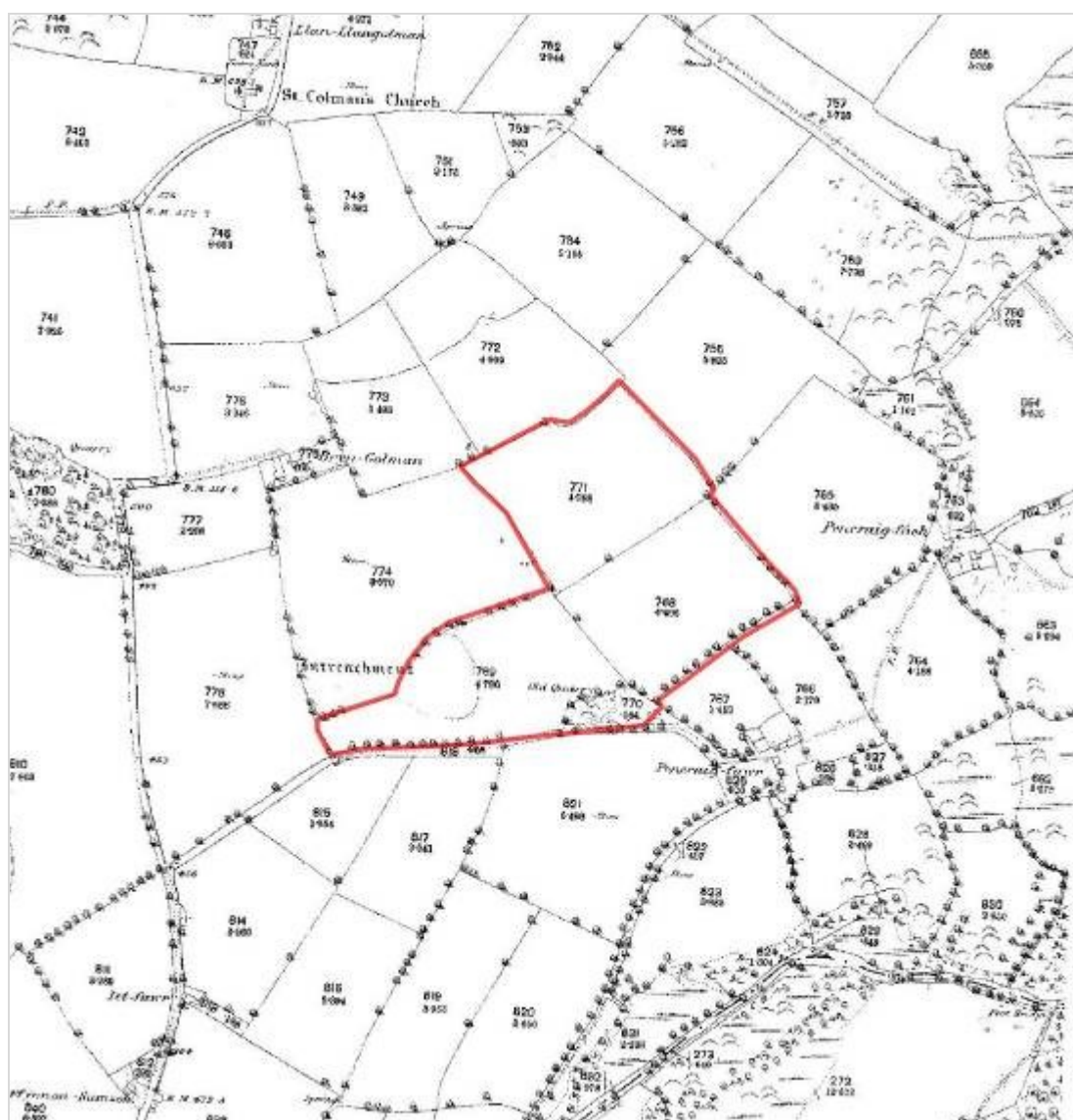
**Figure 5:** Extract of the 1839 parish tithe map. Approximate location of development area in red.

Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> edition 1:2500 map published in 1890 (Fig 6).

- 7.3.5 Little change of any note is shown within the development area on the detailed 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey map published in 1890. The map does suggest that trees have developed along the field boundaries, indicating they were mature hedgerows by this time, and there is a curious curve in the northern boundary of Parc Uchaf field, still present today, which appears a distinctive feature with no obvious cause. The quarry is labelled as 'Old Quarry', suggesting it was now out of active use. The defended enclosure is marked and labelled for the first time. The standing

stone/rubbing stone (PRN 64422) is marked to the south, as is another stone similarly placed in the centre of the field to the north of the defended enclosure. Several similar such stones are marked throughout the local area.

- 7.3.6 To the north the small farmstead of Bryn Golman had been established, with an active quarry on the west side of the road nearby. The fields to the north around the church appear to have lost any of the association in layout as suggested on the tithe map. To the northeast, further up the Cleddau valley, the extensive Whitland Abbey and Gylfach Quarries had been established, accessed via the trackway to Pencraig Fach to the northeast, although only a footpath links Pencraig Fawr and Fach suggesting there was no well-used access from Pencraig Fawr to the quarries. Also of note in the surrounding landscape is the road that passes through Llangolman to the north is labelled as a supposed Roman Road, although the provenance for this is uncertain.



**Figure 6:** Extract from the 1<sup>st</sup> edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map published in 1890. Development area shown in red.

Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map 1907.

7.3.7 No significant change is noted.

Ordnance Survey 1:10560 map 1953 & 1964.

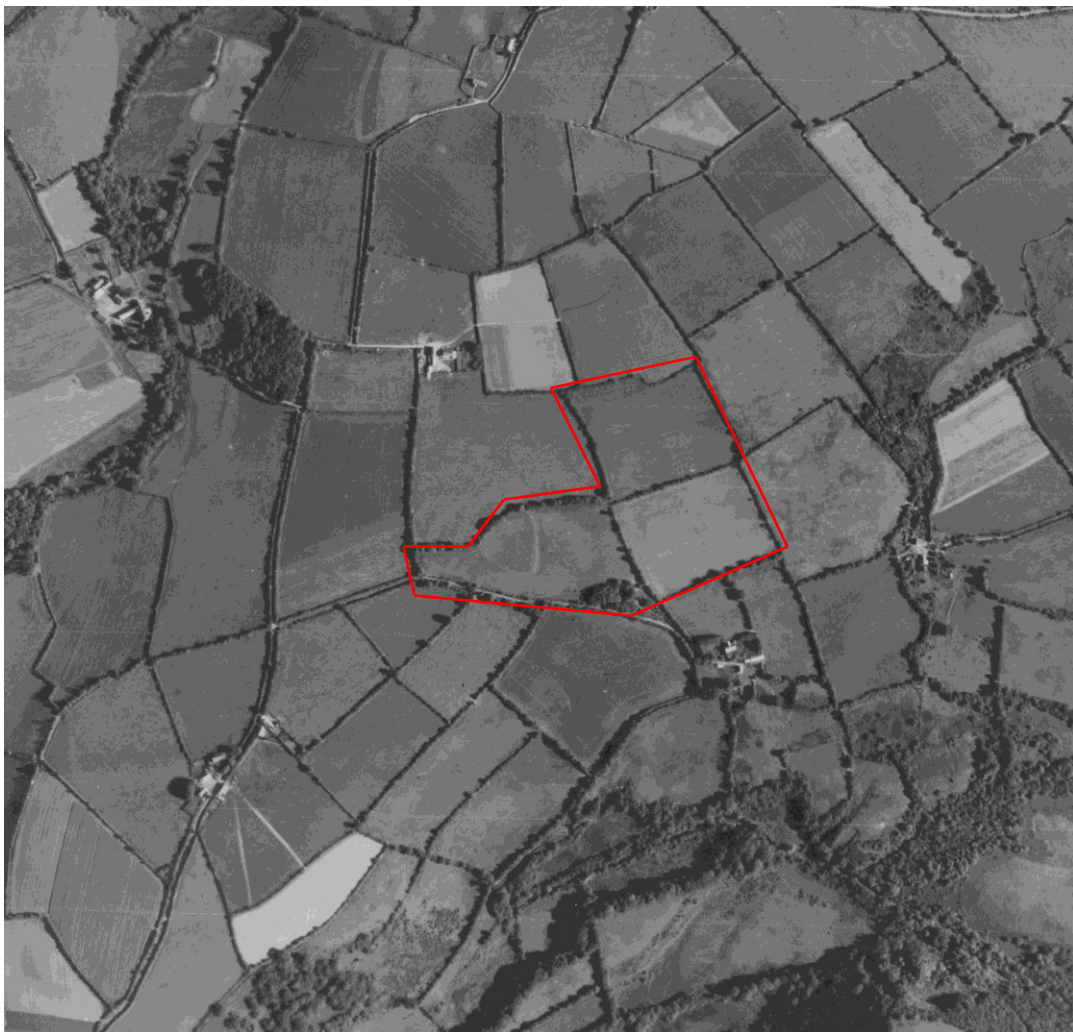
7.3.8 No significant change is noted.

Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map 1977.

7.3.9 The development area is as it appears today.

## 7.4 Aerial & Historic Photography

- 7.4.1 A search was made of available historic aerial photographs and modern aerial photographs. Historic aerial photographs of this area are limited, although images taken by the RAF in 1946 are available (Photo 1). These images show a landscape very similar to the present day. All three fields within the site boundary are in pasture, surrounded by hedgerows. The defended enclosure PE285 is clearly visible, and the quarry PRN 64421 is tree-covered. No further features of archaeological interest are noted.
- 7.4.2 Modern satellite imagery from 2013 onwards clearly shows the defended enclosure to the west, but no potential archaeological features are identified within the proposed development area. Photographs of the defended enclosure (PRN 975/PE285) taken by the RCAHMW indicate the presence of additional defences on the west side of the enclosure, but no features to the east.

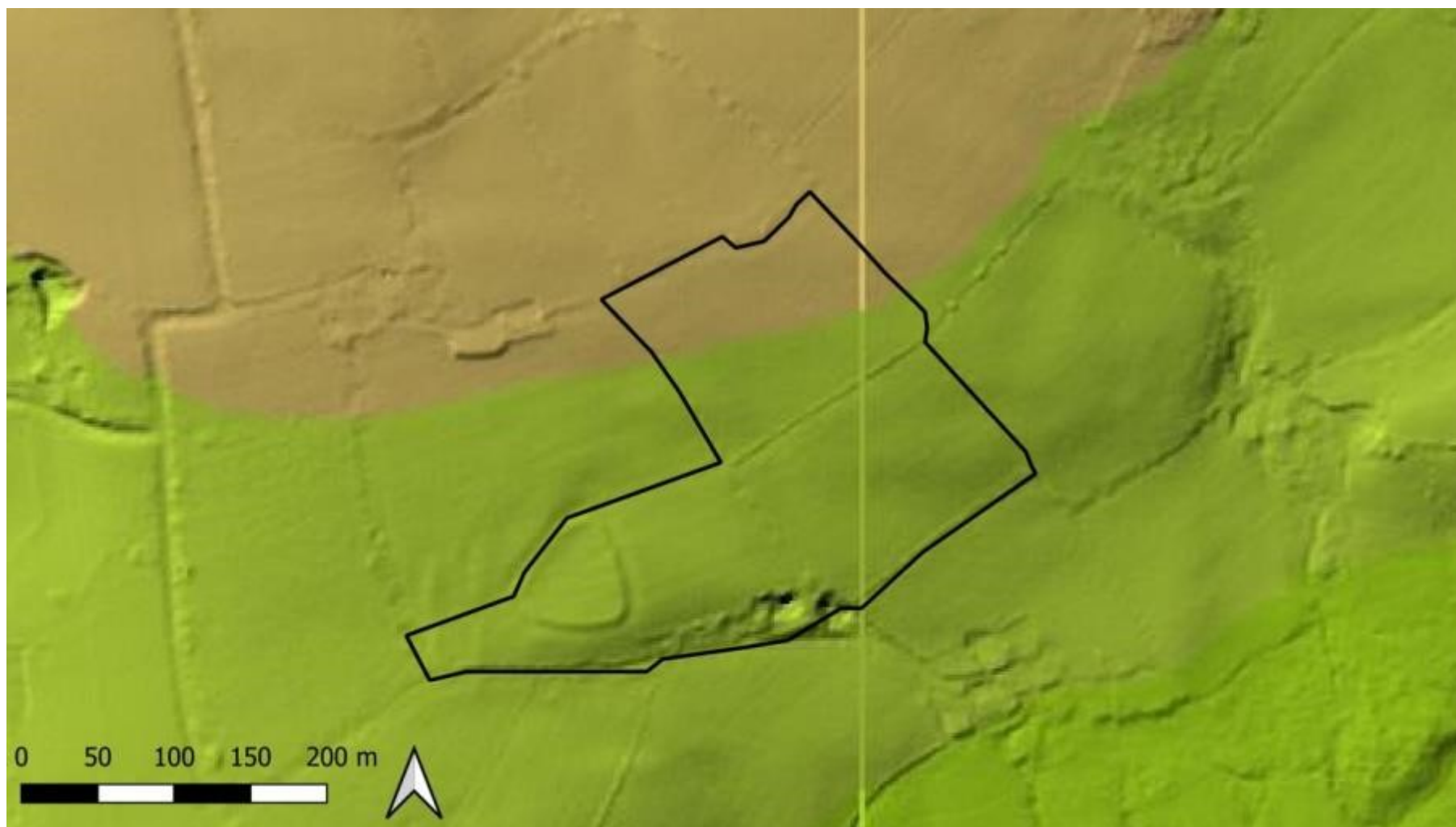


**Photo 1:** Aerial photograph taken by the RAF in 1946. Development area outlined in red.

## **7.5 LiDAR (Fig 7)**

- 7.5.1 LiDAR data at 2mDTM/DSM is available for the site area. The almost triangular area of the defended enclosure PE285 is clearly visible, with a potential entranceway on the western apex. In front of this, on the west side, two further lines of potential banks and ditches are suggested, as recorded in the aerial photos by RCAHMW. These extend to the north and south of the current field boundary that runs along the northern edge of the enclosure. Plough marks, and slight topographical ridges, give an impression of outer boundaries potentially extending around to the north of the enclosure, but these boundaries are uncertain. The plough marks also indicate that the field containing the enclosure, and the enclosure itself, have been subject to ploughing activity in the past.
- 7.5.2 No clear features of archaeological interest are visible within the proposed development area to the east of the enclosure. The area of quarrying (PRN 64421) is clearly visible, indicating extensive disturbed ground within.





**Figure 7:** Extract from the LiDAR data at 2mDTM. The defended enclosure PE285 is clearly visible at the western end of the site, with additional north-south aligned outer defences to the west, and a suggestion of potential features curving around to the north. East-west orientated geological ridges and linear plough marks are also visible.  
Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and database right.

## 7.6 Site Visit (Photos 2-20)

- 7.6.1 A site visit was undertaken on the 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021, in the presence of the client. The weather conditions were cold and blustery, but otherwise dry with good visibility. Elements of the proposed development had been marked out on the ground to aid in the visual assessment.
- 7.6.2 The Scheduled Monument PE285 lay within a field of pasture (field labelled as 'Gaer'), and comprised a triangular to oval enclosure terraced and embanked into the gently sloping ground to create a relatively level interior, surrounded by a bank with an external ditch, more prominent on the downslope, southern side (Photo 2). A probable entrance lay at the western end of the enclosure, beyond which two low linear banks suggested outer defences, or embanked features, to the west. The northern field boundary ran along the northern ditch line (Photo 3). A former farm track ran through the monument, creating a cutting into the bank on the east side, with the bank material pushed into the external ditch. The track no longer appears in active use, and the bank cutting had been re-turfed and appeared stable. A small area of stock erosion was visible on the external face of the bank on the southeast corner of the enclosure. The field was surrounded by hedgerows, with mature trees developed along the northern and southern boundaries.



**Photo 2:** View ENE from the entrance to field 'Gaer', the defended enclosure PE285 is the embanked and level area in the centre of the photograph, the area of development lies in the sloping field beyond.



**Photo 3:** View NNW across the earthwork remains of PE285. The rooftops of Bryngolman agricultural buildings visible to the rear.

- 7.6.3 Parc uchaf, the northernmost of the two eastern fields, shared an entrance at its southwest corner with the field containing PE285. The field was laid to pasture, occupying sloping ground at an increased gradient to that of field 'Gaer', and surrounded by hedgerows, with mature trees and thicker scrub developing along the western and northern boundaries (Photo 4). The proposed Goat Shed is to be sited in the southwest corner, to the north of the field entrance (Photo 5). No obvious features of archaeological interest were visible within the field.



**Photo 4:** View northeast across Parc Uchaf, showing the sloping ground and ridge on east side of the Cleddau valley beyond.





**Photo 5:** View southwest from Parc Uchaf towards PE285. The approximate location of the Goat Shed is marked by the upright 2m scale.

7.6.4 Parc y lloc comprises the southernmost of the two eastern fields and shared an entrance at its northwest corner with the field containing PE285. A secondary entrance in the western boundary lay further to the south, accessed via a trackway that ran past quarry PRN 64421. This field was also laid to pasture, occupying sloping ground at an increased gradient to that of 'Gaer', and surrounded by hedgerows on top of earth and stone banks, interspersed with mature trees. The location of the proposed Polytunnel was marked out at the high point of the field in the northeast corner (Photos 6 and 7), within a recently erected curving willow-hedgeline, fronted by native-species hedgerow planting. The location of the proposed Dwelling lay midway down the field towards the western side, aligned east-west and located to the south of a direct line-of-sight through the field gateway to the northern edge of PE285 (Photo 9). The proposed Solar Shed was marked out on the same alignment to the east of the dwelling, with a proposed pond beyond, and a small rectangular area to the south marking a proposed reed bed with the location of the proposed Produce Shed nearby. Two adjacent areas of willow coppicing have been planted in the southern part of the field (Photo 10), with a hard-wood coppice area newly planted at the northern end of the field.



**Photo 6:** View ENE from within PE285 looking towards the development area. The Goat Shed in Parc Uchaf lies behind the hedge vegetation on the left, the approximate locations of the polytunnel and dwelling are marked (red and green arrow respectively).



**Photo 7:** View WSW from the site of the proposed polytunnel (polythene area in foreground) towards PE285 (marked by red arrow).



**Photo 8:** View SW from the site of the proposed polytunnel across the main development area, with view down the valley.



**Photo 9:** View west looking along the northern edge of the proposed solar shed (marked by green posts) and dwelling (NE corner marked by upright 2m scale), looking towards PE285 beyond the hedgeline.





**Photo 10:** View southeast from area of proposed dwelling/solar shed looking across the willow coppice with the rooftop of Pencraig Fawr visible, and the wooded valley slopes beyond.



**Photo 11:** View southeast along the route of the proposed trackway, showing current track.

7.6.5 A large stone of weathered local igneous rock, roughly sub-rectangular in shape with rounded edges, and measuring approximately 1.1m long, 0.6,

wide, 0.3m deep, lies recumbent on the surface in the northwest corner of Parc y lloc field (Photo 12). This stone was moved to this location by the previous farmer from a similar recumbent position slightly further to the southeast. There were no markings on the stone to indicate it may have previously been an upright stone. No further features of archaeological interest were noted within the field. Both fields (Parc uchaf and Parc y lloc) were ploughed during previous ownership (client, pers.comm.).



**Photo 12:** Recumbent stone in the northwest corner of Parc y lloc. 2m scale.

- 7.6.6 The quarry area (PRN 64421) lies on the north side of the track to Pencraig Fawr, and has been cut into steeply sloping ground that lines the southern edge of the field containing PE285 (a slope that decreases to the west so the track accesses the southwest corner of the field at a level). The quarried northern face is largely vegetation covered, with a low quarried face to the west covered in loose material and vegetation. The base of the quarry has been infilled and levelled, no quarrying features are visible within the main quarry area, and the surrounding area to the east and west is covered with mature tree growth.
- 7.6.7 In the surrounding area the main trackway access to the site approaches on a level from the road to the west, accessing the field of Gaer in its southwest corner (Photo 13). The trackway then continues along the southern edge of the field, dropping in height as it curves its way past the quarry, with a modern track branching off to access Parc y lloc, the main track continuing to the farmstead of Pencraig Fawr. The slate rooftop of the farmstead is visible from the easternmost fields, surrounded by mature trees.



**Photo 13:** View northeast along the main access, with the gate into 'Gaer' field on the left.

7.6.8 To the southwest lies a similar new One Planet Development, with a large wooden shed and adjacent polytunnel established adjacent to the trackway access, both of which are visible through mature trees from PE285 (Photos 14-18). A similar timber-clad dwelling lies further to the south, partially visible through mature hedgerows. The buildings of Iet Fawr and Ffynnon Samson are partially visible beyond the development, partly shrouded in tree growth, located on the roadside to the southwest of the site. To the north elements of Bryn Golman are visible on higher ground through the mature hedgerows. The visible structures comprise agricultural buildings, part timber-clad with corrugated steel and slate tile roofing visible.



**Photo 14:** View southwest from within PE285 looking towards a similar development, with a larger storage shed/workshop (red arrow), larger polytunnel (green arrow), and similar dwelling (blue arrow).





**Photo 15:** View south from PE285 of neighbouring One Development dwelling, built to a similar design to the proposed dwelling.



**Photo 16:** The storage shed/workshop, on a larger scale than that proposed for this development, but with a similar external finish.



**Photo 17:** Example of the structural posts and foundation pads.

7.6.9 Further afield there are views from PE285 northeast up the Cleddau valley (Photos 2 & 6), and southwest down the valley, which is largely wooded on the lower slopes, with enclosed fields dotted with large farmstead complexes on the opposite upper slopes (Photo 18). The nature of the topography hides the upper limit of the opposite ridge, along which the A478 runs, and therefore many of the prehistoric monuments along this ridge are not visible from this point (Photo 19). Views northwards from PE285 and the site are limited (Photo 3), blocked by rising ground and hedgerow vegetation. Views westward, as mentioned, extend across more level ground as far as Ffynnon Samson, but are interrupted and backed by woodland and mature hedgerow growth (Photo 15). Accessible distant views of the site are limited, although it was possible to view the site from the local road between Efailwen and Llangolman as it traversed the ridge to the east (Photo 20).



**Photo 18:** View SSW from PE285, with the wooded valley to the left.





**Photo 19:** View southeast from PE285 (the defensive bank and outer ditch run down the centre of shot), with the wooded lower valley slopes, farmed upper slopes. The farmstead of Clyngwyn is visible on the horizon to the left.



**Photo 20:** View west from local road (at approximately SN 1348 2645), zoomed in. PE285 (red arrow) and development area (green arrow) marked.

## 8 ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL, IMPORTANCE AND SETTING

**Table 4:** Site potential definitions

Archaeological Potential	Definition
<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 5:** Site importance definitions

Site Importance (SI)	Definition of Site Category
<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

## 8.1 Potential

- 8.1.1 One previously recorded archaeological site lies within the proposed development area. Map evidence suggests that the 19<sup>th</sup> century quarry site (PRN 64421) was likely to have been working by the 1840s, but out of use on a large scale by the end of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The site visit suggested no structural features were associated with this quarry, and it is considered a site of **Low archaeological importance**.
- 8.1.2 The Iron Age defended enclosure (PRN 975/PE285) lies within the fields that will be managed as part of the proposed development. The presence of this site suggests a medium to high potential for further Iron Age remains in the area. The nature of the site and surrounding topography suggests it may have an agricultural function, with level ground and water sources to the southwest suggesting a greater potential for settlement activity in that area, or on lower valley slopes. The sloping nature of the proposed development area suggests potential in this area may be limited (low), or more ephemeral and agricultural. The defended enclosure itself is of **High archaeological importance**, acknowledged by its scheduled status, but the potential for remains of Iron Age date to survive within the proposed development area is considered to be **Low to Medium**.
- 8.1.3 A general Neolithic and Bronze Age archaeological potential has been highlighted for the surrounding area. Several standing stones are recorded in the nearby landscape, although whether these relate to Bronze Age monuments, or later post-medieval cattle rubbing stones is still debatable. Certainly, the location of the nearest stones to the north and south of the defended enclosure (PRN 64422 & 103916, and third stone marked on historic mapping, see 7.3.5), placed individually and centrally within their respective fields, suggests they may be associated with later agricultural practices. Few such sites have been archaeologically investigated, although a complex of standing stones at Parc Maen to the north were excavated and found to relate to Bronze Age activity (PRN 48359, Marshall 1991). However, a similar isolated standing stone excavated near Haverfordwest was shown to be erected in the 17<sup>th</sup> century (Poucher 2016). The recumbent stone (see 7.6.5) in the corner of Parc y lloc may be a similar former standing stone/cattle rubbing stone, no longer in its original location. As a standing stone however it is not labelled on historic map sources and is relatively small in size. Generally, the topography of the development area and lack of definitive Neolithic/Bronze Age remains in the study area suggests a **Low** potential for remains from these periods to survive within the development area, but should such features be present they are likely to be of **Medium archaeological importance**.
- 8.1.4 A general medieval and post-medieval archaeological potential is also suggested. The presence of the church to the northwest, and road to the west suggests the site lies close to medieval activity, although this activity is likely focussed on the road, the well site to the southwest and church to the northwest. The field system and nearby farmstead of Pencraig Fawr appear to have potential 17<sup>th</sup> century origins, there is therefore a long history of post-medieval agricultural activity in the area. There is therefore a **Low to Medium** potential for medieval and post-medieval archaeological remains to survive within the development area, although these are likely to be of **Low archaeological importance**.

## 8.2 Setting

- 8.2.1 The guidance stated within the *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (Cadw 2017) requires that the setting of the monument(s) in question, in this case Pencraig Fawr Camp (PE285) should be defined and analysed to allow the impact of development to be appropriately assessed.
- 8.2.2 The setting of a monument such as Pencraig Fawr Camp 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” (Cadw 2017). As such it often extends beyond the physical boundaries of the monument itself. This may include physical elements in its surroundings, such as boundaries and other monuments, relationships with other historic assets and natural features, or associated agricultural, industrial or other surroundings. Less tangible elements are also included, such as function, sensory perceptions, historical, artistic, literary and scenic associations.
- 8.2.3 The present setting of the PE285 is an agricultural one, that is largely pastoral (although the site has been ploughed in the past). The northern earthworks of the monument help to define the agricultural enclosure, with a mature hedgerow running along it. The boundary line changes its typical linear arrangement to run along the curving monument boundary, indicating the monument has been a visible and tangible element of the agricultural landscape since its current enclosure. Historic evidence suggests this agricultural pastoral setting has been in place, in much of its current form, since the 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> century.
- 8.2.4 Elements of the original setting of the monument are difficult to determine, in part due to uncertainty over the function of such a monument, and the lack of any positively identified associated archaeological features beyond the earthwork remains. Its topographical position suggests an agricultural, pastoral, setting may also have been a factor in its original setting, and therefore access to and accessibility from the surrounding agricultural landscape may have been an important factor. A layout of a prehistoric agricultural landscape and access routes is not known for this area, however. The entrance faces west, towards the current routeway through the immediate area, and potentially therefore the main prehistoric routeway. The presence of settlement either within the earthwork remains, or nearby, is also uncertain, but with more level ground to the south and west, and sources of water also to the southwest and further down the valley, it would seem likely that any associated settlement and archaeological remains may be more likely located in these areas.
- 8.2.5 Nearby contemporary monuments in the surrounding landscape are rare, with identifiable sites located at some distance; the nearest is a possible defended enclosure 1.8km to the north (potentially medieval in date), a hillfort 2.3km to the east, and Castell Forlan promontory fort 2.5km to the west. There are no visual links or clear transport links between these sites and Pencraig Fawr Camp.
- 8.2.6 Visibility from the monument is most extensive across the valley to the south, and down the valley to the southwest, although there is no clear indication that views were an important element of the setting.
- 8.2.7 The monument itself is a clear earthwork feature within the field. It is currently visible from Parc y lloc field as knotweed removal is currently denuding the vegetation cover along the intervening field boundary. The site is not currently visible from Parc Uchaf field due to intervening dense

and mature hedgerows. It is visible from the entrance to the Gaer field to the southwest, and the trackway approach from the nearby road to that point (a public footpath). Beyond that point to the east the track drops to a lower level and the feature is no longer visible. There are views of the site from the farmland to the south of the trackway, although this is intermittent through the mature hedgerows. The site is not visible from the nearby road. Distant views are limited. There is likely to be a view from farmland on the opposite side of the valley, although not as a distinctive feature. The furthest point of visibility would appear to be from the local road that crosses the upper part of the opposing ridge, joining the A478 at Efailwen (at approximately SN 1348 2645) but the monument is not a distinctive element of the surrounding landscape.



## **9 IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

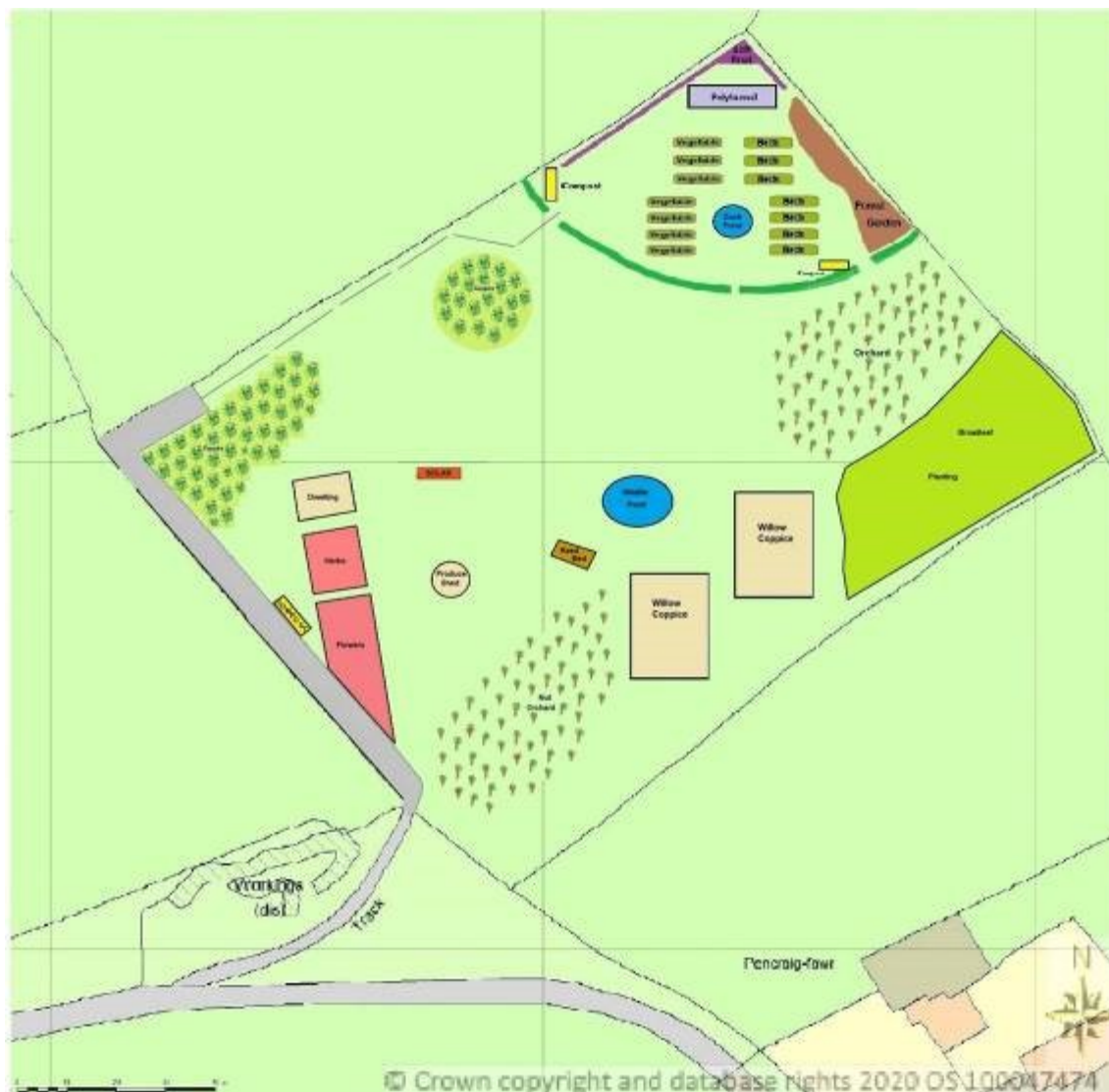
### **9.1 Development Proposals (Figures 8 – 10)**

- 9.1.1 The proposed One Planet Development is designed to encourage sustainable living with a reduced ecological footprint. Detailed plans and illustrations of all elements have been made available for use during this assessment, although only the main elements are illustrated in Figures 8 – 10. The bulk of the development lies within the field of Parc y lloc. Built elements will include a dwelling, solar shed, produce shed and polytunnel and small compost stores (Figure 8). Alongside this other elements will include a wildlife pond, duck pond, reed bed, coppices and orchards, planted areas and a trackway. The northern field, Parc Uchaf, will contain a goat shelter and areas of tree growth (Figure 9). A yurt, shower unit and storage sheds will be installed within the former quarry area to the south.
- 9.1.2 The proposed dwelling is to a Mark Waghorn One Planet Design, a single storey structure, 12.5m by 5.8m, with an additional small larder and porch to the rear, and timber veranda to the front (Figure 10). The structure is timber-framed, with external wood (larch) cladding, and pitched roof of painted steel sheeting. The structure is designed for installation with minimal foundations, including sloping ground, with the main structural posts resting on foundation pads. The solar shed lies in line to the east, 8m by 2.2m, 3m high, also timber framed with larch cladding and a pitched steel roof with solar panels. To the south lies a circular produce shed, 6.6m in diameter, 3.3m high with walls of cord wood bound in cob, and a living roof. Foundations comprise posts resting on drystone pads. The polytunnel lies in the northeast corner of the field, 18.3m by 4.9m, 2.5m high. The goat shelter will lie in the southwest corner of the adjacent field of Parc Uchaf, and would comprise a tongue and groove log cabin, 3.5m square, 2.4m high with a steel roof.
- 9.1.3 The ponds and reed bed will be excavated elements. The duck pond is a shallow pond located close to the polytunnel, 10m in diameter, 0.3m deep. The wildlife pond is a larger feature, 10-15m in diameter, to a greater depth (exact measurements uncertain), but will largely rest in built up ground above the current ground surface. The reed bed is a rectangular area downslope from the dwelling, and will be excavated approximately 0.3m deep to install the reed bed.
- 9.1.4 Willow coppices are already installed on the lower slopes of Parc y lloc. A hardwood coppice has recently been planted on the upper slope, positioned in front of a willow hedgerow that encloses the northeast corner of the field, and location of the proposed polytunnel. The trackway runs along the western boundary of the field, partially along the line of a pre-existing farm track into the field. The hedgerow boundaries are to be allowed to grow in height and thicken. The western boundary of Parc y lloc is currently denuded as knotweed growth is being treated through several seasons of close cropping (using goats) before the hedge will be replanted and allowed to grow.
- 9.1.5 Within the quarry a circular yurt, 6.2m in diameter, 3.4m high, in dark green fabric, will be installed on a timber-framed based at the eastern end of the quarried area. To the west will lie two steel rectangular storage units in dark green paint, each 3.6m long by 2.4m to 2.7m wide, and 2.7m high. All will rest on a layer of imported stone chippings.
- 9.1.6 Generally, any of the following activities typically associated with the establishment of dwellings and agricultural buildings could have a direct impact upon historic assets by potentially exposing, damaging or destroying archaeological remains:

- Landscaping and terracing works;
- Enabling works, such as the construction of access roads, parking and storage areas, associated services;
- Surface stripping and levelling;
- Construction of roads and infrastructure;
- Foundation excavations;
- Service installation;
- Any other ground disturbing works

It is noted however that construction and installation methods associated with the proposed development are designed to reduce the need for substantial ground disturbing works, with limited excavated levelling and stripped areas, small foundation footprints and localised services.

9.1.7 Development in this area also has the potential to generate indirect impacts upon historic assets, by altering elements of the setting as discussed in section 8.2.



**Figure 8:** Proposed layout of development elements within Parc y lloc field.



**Figure 9:** Proposed layout of development elements with Parc Uchaf field.



**Figure 10:** Illustrative image of proposed dwelling. Image produced by Mark Waghorn Design.

## 9.2 Impact Assessment Criteria

- 9.2.1 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.
- 9.2.2 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).

## 9.3 Direct Impacts Upon the Historic Assets

- 9.3.1 Foundation excavations for the various structures and excavation of foundation pads for support posts may comprise the removal of topsoil deposits. The removed deposits are likely to be largely plough-disturbed material, and foundation pads significantly reduce the potential area of ground disturbance as opposed to trenched or raft foundations. Trackway establishment is unclear, although heavy machinery is not anticipated and therefore any required establishing groundworks may not be substantial.
- 9.3.2 Other excavated elements, comprising the ponds and reed bed, are designed to require minimal excavation into subsoil deposits, the deepest element being the wildlife pond, but this will be established largely into made ground above the sloping surface. Removal of topsoil could still potentially expose and disturb archaeological remains should they be present. These works are considered to have a **Slight Adverse** impact.
- 9.3.2 Land management proposals associated with the development will include planted elements within the fields of Parc uchaf and Parc y lloc, with the potential for deep rooted elements, such as the woodland and coppices, to disturb sub-surface deposits, which may potentially have a **Slight Adverse** impact. Abandonment of a farm track and sympathetic grazing schemes already established within the field of Gaer have already resulted in the re-turfing and stabilisation of former trackway erosion through the Scheduled Monument PE285. The presence of on-site occupation is likely to aid in careful stock management and result in continued restoration of eroded elements; considered to have a **Moderate Beneficial** impact.
- 9.3.3 The establishment of features within the quarry (PRN 64421) will require no stripping or foundation excavations and is unlikely to lead to the disturbance of sub-surface deposits or any features or deposits associated with quarrying activity. This is considered to be a **Neutral** impact.

## 9.4 Impacts to the Settings of Surrounding Designated Features

- 9.4.1 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.*

- 9.4.2 As illustrated in the assessment (section 8.2), the main elements of the setting of Pencraig Fawr Camp PE285 include the current pastoral landscape and use of the monument within the field layout, its association with potential contemporary archaeological features, and original agricultural landscape (the layout of which is largely unknown but may be concentrated to the west and south), and general views to and from the monument.
- 9.4.3 The proposed development will increase the built environment surrounding the scheduled monument and this will have a cumulative impact with recent One Planet Developments to the southwest. The development will however remain agricultural in nature, the monument itself and the field within which it is located will remain unchanged, but better managed with erosion scars repaired, and all boundaries will be retained. The monument will therefore remain an identifiable part of a pastoral landscape, retaining its direct links to surrounding agricultural land.
- 9.4.4 As stated in 9.3 direct impacts are likely to be relatively minimal, and located in areas that appear to be sited away from the main areas of archaeological potential, therefore the proposed development is unlikely to greatly affect potential contemporary archaeological features associated with the monument.
- 9.4.5 Accessible and significant views of the monument will not be blocked by the proposed development, the main view being from the track to the west, with some distant views from the east. Some views from within the development area will be affected, but these are views from private land, only blocked from very specific locations, with many views only currently visible due to the denuded nature of the intervening hedgerow. Access and visible understanding of the monument will remain unchanged. The development will become a factor in the main views of the monument, but concerns about visual impacts have been taken on board and attempts made to address them through positioning, the use of vegetation screening, and construction materials. Vegetation screening, in terms of existing hedgerows, will be allowed to grow, including the hedgerow between the monument and the development area, once the knotweed issue has been dealt with (resulting in a short term increase in visibility, but medium to long term reduction). The dwelling and associated solar shed have been positioned to lie behind this hedgerow, out of direct line-of-sight through the field gateway. Similarly, the produce shed, and goat shed are positioned behind hedgerow screening. Wooded elements will be introduced, including a hardwood coppice in the line-of-sight between the monument and the polytunnel (the most visible element of the development), and a curving hedgerow in front of the polytunnel as well (initially in willow, to be replaced by slower-growing native species).
- 9.4.6 The coppices, and other woodland and new hedgerow elements, will be new introductions to the current landscape, however woodland elements and mature hedgerows are a common feature of the surrounding landscape. Building materials are largely of larch panelling, and cord wood in cob, with dark window surrounds and roofing material, to aid in the reduced visibility. The polytunnel is of standard design, and therefore will be the most visible structural material, which will rely on the wood coppice and surrounding hedgerow to reduce visibility. It is mentioned in the historic landscape description that the traditional building material for the area is stone, however, the local area exhibits a mix of materials, with stone built and rendered dwellings, and agricultural buildings of stone, steel and aluminium and wood panelling, with a One Planet Development using similar material nearby.



- 9.4.7 Development within the quarry area will have no visual or other impacts upon the setting of the monument. The development does not incur any additional visual or sensory impacts in terms of lighting or noise.
- 9.4.8 Overall, largely due to the visual presence of the development within views from and to the monument, the proposed development is considered to have a **Slight Adverse** impact upon the setting of the scheduled monument.
- 9.4.9 The proposed development also lies within the Preseli Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest (HLW (D) 7). As part of the proposed development field boundaries will be retained, land use will remain agricultural in nature, the known and visible archaeological resource will be retained, and the land area affected by proposed development will be a minimal proportion of the historic landscape. As mentioned above, construction materials are varied in the locality, and the proposed development will fit into the general dispersed and agricultural nature of settlement typical of this area. The proposed development is therefore considered to have a **Neutral** impact on the setting of the registered historic landscape as a whole.

## 10 CONCLUSIONS

### 10.1 Archaeological Potential and Impact Assessment

- 10.1.1 Six historic assets have been identified that may potentially be affected by the proposed development. These include the Scheduled Monument of Pencraig Fawr Camp (PE285) and the Preseli Registered Historic Landscape (HLW (D) 7), both sites of High archaeological importance. A 19<sup>th</sup> century quarry site (PRN 64221) of Low archaeological importance also lies within the proposed development area, as does a general potential for archaeological remains associated with the Neolithic/Bronze Age (Medium value), Iron Age (Low to Medium value) and Medieval/Post-Medieval (Low value) periods.
- 10.1.2 The assessment has identified a potential direct impact upon the varied archaeological potential, all considered to be a Slight Adverse impact.
- 10.1.3 A Moderate Beneficial direct impact has been identified on the Scheduled Monument of Pencraig Fawr Camp PE285, of High importance.
- 10.1.4 The direct impact on the quarry (PRN 64221) and Preseli Registered Historic Landscape (HLW (D) 7) is considered Neutral.
- 10.1.5 An indirect impact upon the setting of Pencraig Fawr Camp PE285 has been identified, considered to be a Slight Adverse impact. The indirect impact upon the Historic Landscape (HLCA 266) is considered Neutral.

**Table 6: Assessment of impacts**

Site Name	Ref. No.	Potential	Value	Site status	Direct impact	Indirect impact
Quarry	PRN 64221		Low	-	Neutral	-
Pencraig Fawr Camp defended enclosure	PE285 PRN 975		High	Scheduled Monument	Moderate Beneficial	Slight Adverse
Preseli Registered Historic Landscape	(HLW (D) 7),		High	Registered Historic Landscape	Neutral	Neutral
Neolithic/Bronze Age potential	-	Low	Medium	-	Slight Adverse	-
Iron Age potential	-	Low	Low/ Medium	-	Slight Adverse	-
Medieval/Post-medieval potential	-	Low/ Medium	Low	-	Slight Adverse	-

### 10.2 Mitigation

- 10.2.1 A direct impact upon the archaeological potential of the development area has been identified, which may require further archaeological mitigation. The potential, and direct impacts upon it, are however considered to be relatively low, therefore preservation of the archaeological resource could be achieved through an archaeological watching brief on elements of the development with the potential to disturb sub-surface deposits.

- 10.2.2 In terms of indirect impacts upon the setting of PE285 mitigation has already been introduced into the current design to address initial concerns. This includes the placement of built elements to reduce visibility behind hedgerows, which will be allowed to heighten and thicken. The locations of some features, such as the polytunnel, are unavoidable for the viability of the water management element of the scheme, but wooded elements and hedgerows have been introduced to soften the visual impact. The use of materials is also hoped to reduce visual impacts, although the choice of materials is limited for the viability of the One Planet Development. Therefore no further mitigations measures are suggested to reduce visual impacts.

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