

CRUGMORE FARM, PENPARC, CEREDIGION: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT APPRAISAL 2021 (NGR SN 2056 4715)



Prepared by DAT Archaeological Services
For: Asbri Planning



DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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**CRUGMORE FARM, PENPARC, CEREDIGION:
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT APPRAISAL 2021
(NGR SN 2056 4715)**

By

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SUMMARY

DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Asbri Planning to prepare a Historic Environment Appraisal of proposed development works at MD Recycling Plant, Crugmore Farm, near Cardigan. Development proposals include three lagoons immediately outside the recycling plant and areas of hardstanding within the boundaries of the recycling plant. An area of future expansion has also been considered in this HEA.

A low potential for medieval and post-medieval archaeological remains to exist within the area of the three lagoons has been identified, but all other impacts are considered to be negligible. An archaeological watching brief is suggested as potential mitigation for groundworks in this specific area.

CRYNODEB

Comisiynwyd Gwasanaethau Archaeolegol YAD gan Asbri Planning i baratoi Gwerthusiad o'r Amgylchedd Hanesyddol o waith datblygu arfaethedig yng Nghanolfan Ailgylchu MD, Fferm Crugmore, ger Aberteifi. Mae cynigion datblygu yn cynnwys tri lagwnau tu allan i'r ganolfan ailgylchu ac adrannau o'r arwyneb solet o fewn ffiniau'r canolfan ailgylchu. Mae adran ehangu yn y dyfodol wedi'i ystyried yn yr GAH hwn hefyd.

Mae potensial isel i weddillion archeolegol canoloesol ac ôl-ganoloesol yn bod yn ardal y tri lagwnau wedi'i nodi, ond ystyrir bod yr holl effeithiau eraill yn ddibwys. Awgrymir briff gwylio archeolegol fel lliniariad posibl ar gyfer gwaith daear yn yr ardal benodol hon.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Proposals and Commission

- 1.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Asbri Planning to provide a Historic Environment Appraisal (HEA) of proposed further development works at MD Recycling, Crugmore Farm, Penparc, Ceredigion (centred on NGR SN 2056 4715). This document will be submitted in support of a planning application for the proposed works.
- 1.1.2 During the site visit the archaeologist was shown the redevelopment areas which included a seeded field to the west of MD Recycling where three lagoons are proposed, and three areas within the boundary of the recycling plant where hardstanding is to be placed for use as machine holding areas. Each of these latter areas is currently made-ground which will be overlaid with concrete. In addition, an area planned for future expansion was also included.
- 1.1.3 The HEA has been produced following a generic brief previously prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Trust Development Management Section (DAT-DM).

1.2 Scope of the project

- 1.2.1 The HEA is presented in fulfilment of a generic brief produced by DAT-DM. This HEA is not a full desk-based assessment of the potential historic environment resource. Rather, it is a more rapid piece of work involving readily available information to assess historic environment potential.
- 1.2.2 The results are intended to identify the extent and character of the known and potential archaeological resource, to assess the likely and potential impacts of the scheme on that resource and, if required, to outline a possible programme of further works to mitigate those impacts.
- 1.2.3 The appraisal was limited to the resources held in the regional HER and other online resources, and a site visit. Considering the size and nature of the proposed development a 1km radius around the site of the proposed development area was used to identify the presence of designated and non-designated archaeological sites recorded on the Dyfed Archaeological Trust (DAT) Historic Environment Record (HER), along with Scheduled Monuments, Historic Landscape Character Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens and Listed Buildings.

1.3 Abbreviations used in this report

- 1.3.1 Dyfed Archaeological Trust (DAT); Historic Environment Record (HER); Primary Record Number (PRN); National Grid Reference (NGR); National Monument Record (NMR); Scheduled Monument (SM); N – north; W – west; S- south; E- east; NW – northwest etc; SSW – south-southwest etc.

1.4 Illustrations

- 1.4.1 Photographic images are to be found adjacent to relevant text. Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale.

1.5 Timeline

1.5.1 The following timeline (Table 1) is used within this report to give date ranges for the various archaeological periods that may be mentioned within the text.

Period	Approximate date	
Palaeolithic –	c.450,000 – 10,000 BC	Prehistoric
Mesolithic –	c. 10,000 – 4,000 BC	
Neolithic –	c.4,000 – 2,300 BC	
Bronze Age –	c.2,300 – 700 BC	
Iron Age –	c.700 BC – AD 43	
Roman (Romano-British) Period –	AD 43 – c. AD 410	Historic
Post-Roman / Early Medieval Period –	c. AD 410 – AD 1086	
Medieval Period –	1086 – 1536	
Post-Medieval Period ¹ –	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period –	1750 – 1899	
Modern –	20 th century onwards	

Table 1: Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales

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

2. SITE LOCATION AND TOPOGRAPHY

- 2.1 The proposed development is located on land at Crugmore Farm, approximately 2.8 km northwest of Ceredigion and 0.5km south of Penparc, in the county of Ceredigion, West Wales.
- 2.2 The site is covered by the existing MD Recycling Plant, which lies on the west side of the original farmstead. Only a field to the west of the site being considered for three lagoons is undeveloped, comprising a field of improved pasture, bounded by hedgerows to the east and south, and a modern track to the north.
- 2.3 The site lies on the southern slopes of the hill of Banc-y-warren / Crug Mawr. The underlying geology comprises a band of sandstone, flanked to the east and west by mudstones, all of the Nantmel Mudstones Formation. This is overlaid by Devensian glacial deposits of mixed clays, silts, sands and gravels (BGS viewer)

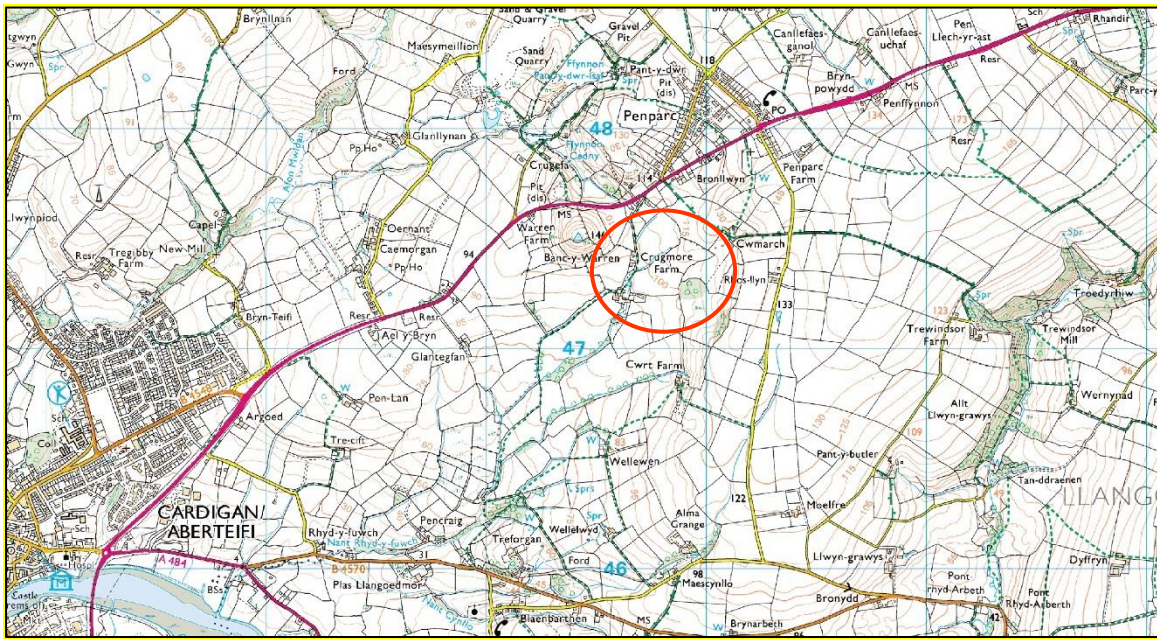


Figure 1: Location map based on the Ordnance Survey.

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



Figure 2: Google Earth image showing MD Recycling and the areas proposed for development. Source: Google Earth 2021.

3 METHODOLOGY

- 3.1 This HEA followed the required methodology laid out in the generic brief for such appraisals as prepared by DAT-DM.

Desk Top Study

- 3.2 Computer-based and other resources within the Regional HER were consulted in the preparation of this document. Sufficient information was consulted to inform comments on the goals of the assessment. GIS layers were used to assess and illustrate the likely effects of the proposals upon the historic environment.
- 3.3 Designated historic assets (registered Historic Landscapes, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, and Historic Parks and Gardens) were identified within a 1km radius of the proposed development site. The potential visual effect of the proposed development on the settings of the designated sites within this area was then briefly evaluated.
- 3.4 Non-designated archaeological and historic sites were also identified within a 1km radius centred on the proposed development site. This area was considered sufficient to enable an assessment of the buried archaeological potential of the site area to be made.

Site Walkover Survey

- 3.5 A site visit was undertaken on the 4th of November 2021. The visit comprised a walkover of the proposed development areas and incorporated views of the surrounding area. Weather conditions were cloudy but dry, with good visibility. Photographs were taken and field observations recorded in note form.

4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

4.1 Registered Historic Landscapes within 1km

- 4.1.1 Registered Historic Landscapes are landscapes of historic interest included on the non-statutory Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales (Cadw 1998). The landscape boundaries and associated details have been created as non-statutory advice to assist decision-makers and landscape managers to help ensure that the historic character of the landscape is sustained and that where change is contemplated, it is well-informed.
- 4.1.2 The development site does not lie within the boundaries of any Registered Historic Landscape. The nearest Registered Historic Landscape is the Lower Teifi Valley, situated approximately 2km away.

4.2 Scheduled Monuments within 1km

- 4.2.1 Scheduled Monuments are historic and archaeological sites considered to be of national importance. These sites are given legal protection, and the impact of development upon these sites and their settings are considerations of the planning process.
- 4.2.2 There are no Scheduled Monuments within 1km of the proposed development area. The nearest Scheduled Monuments are located over 2.5km away in the town of Cardigan, associated with the medieval town walls and castle.

4.3 Conservation Areas within 1km

- 4.3.1 Conservation Areas are designated to preserve and enhance the special character of areas of architectural or historic interest. The purpose of designating a Conservation Area is to provide the Planning Authority with an additional measure of control over an area that they consider to be of special historic or architectural value.
- 4.3.2 The proposed development at Crugmore Farm does not lie within any Conservation Areas, the nearest being the historic core of Cardigan, to the southwest.

4.4 Listed Buildings within 1km

- 4.4.1 Listed Buildings are buildings and structures of national importance given legal protection by being placed on a 'List' of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. Buildings on the List are given one of three grades which denote their level of importance (Grade I, II* & II), Grade I being the highest. A listed building may not be demolished, extended, or altered without special permission from the local planning authority.
- 4.4.2 There are no listed buildings within 1km of the proposed Crugmore Farm development. The nearest listed building is the early 19th-century country house of Treforgan (Grade II* listed) and associated outbuildings and walled garden, just over 1km to the south.

4.5 Historic Parks and Gardens within 1km

- 4.5.1 Parks and Gardens of special historic interest in Wales are included on a Register of Historic Parks and Gardens, designed to provide comprehensive information to assist decision-makers to help protect and preserve essential features of these parks and gardens and enable their significance and character to be protected through the planning system. The Register will become statutory in late 2021, but this does not impose new legal restrictions or change the consent regime.
- 4.5.2 There are no registered Historic Parks or Gardens within the 1km radius search area, the nearest being Castle Green gardens within the grounds of Cardigan Castle, to the southwest.

4.6 Known Archaeological Remains within 1km

- 4.6.1 A search of data held by the Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record (HER) was made within a 1km radius of the proposed development.
- 4.6.2 A total of 18 sites are recorded on the HER within 1km of the proposed development. The National Monument Record (NMR), held and maintained by the RCAHMS, and PAS database were also consulted, and two more records were found on the NMR. No sites lie within the proposed development boundary.
- 4.6.3 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 recorded assets pertaining to that period.
- 4.6.4 In total six assets dating to Prehistoric periods are recorded within 1km of the proposed development area. Five of these are recorded on the HER and span the Mesolithic to the Bronze Age. The Mesolithic and Neolithic evidence (PRNs 9622 and 7767, respectively) relates to flint findspots, possibly part of the same collection of finds.
- 4.6.5 The three Bronze Age records relate to burial mounds (PRNs 5831, 5837 and 12147). In each case, however, the possible presence of a burial mound is a reference to the 'Crug' element of local place-names, which has been found to refer to Bronze Age cairns or burial mounds in some cases, although no definitive evidence of Bronze Age archaeology has been recorded at these sites.
- 4.6.6 An additional record relating to an Iron Age defended enclosure was found on the NMR (NPRN 405527). Aerial reconnaissance in 2004 identified two dark lines encircling the summit of Banc-y-warren / Crug Mawr hill, believed to represent either a bivallate defence or a single bank with an outer ditch.
- 4.6.7 There are three sites of medieval origin on the HER. PRN 5218, Banc Y Warren, is located at the defended Iron Age enclosure (NMR 405527). Its name indicates the former presence of a rabbit warren, and it is suggested the banks of the Iron Age enclosure were utilised during the medieval period to contain the warren. A late medieval name of 'Warren Tree Hill' for this site also suggests former use for public executions, 'Warren Tree' being an old nickname for gallows. A holy well is recorded as PRN 5833, but its location is uncertain. 'Crug Mawr' is referenced in medieval documents as the site of a battle between Welsh and Anglo-Norman forces in 1135/6. Over 3000 Anglo-Normans are

reported as having been slain, but the precise location of the battle site has never been proven.

- 4.6.8 A total of 10 sites associated within the post-medieval period are recorded on the HER. Six of these relate to farmsteads (PRNs 122179, 122182, 122183, 122185, 122186, 122187 and 122188), PRN 21279 relates to a mansion, and PRNs 108107 and 51763 relate to a milestone and pond respectively. An additional longhouse is recorded on the NMR (NPRN 3042). Crugmawr/Crugmore farm itself is recorded as a post-medieval mansion and farmstead site, referenced in the early 19th century, but no further information is available.

PRN	NPRN	Site Name	Description	NGR
5831		CRUG EFA	Possible Bronze Age burial mound.	SN202478
5837		CRUG-MAWR	Possible Bronze Age burial mound.	SN20684725
7767		LLAIN IFOR PENPARK	A small collection of flints, including 'three tools', one of which may have been a knife recovered as surface finds. NAP 2004.	SN20504784
9622		LLAIN DEG	Possible Mesolithic flint microlith	SN205478
12147		CRUG DU ISAF	Possible Bronze Age burial mound	SN207478
	405527	BANC-Y- WARREN ENCLOSURE	Defended Iron Age enclosure.	SN2041147507

Table 2: HER and NMR records of Prehistoric date within a 1km radius of the proposed development site.
As shown in Figure 3.

PRN	Site Name	Description	NGR
5218	BANC Y WARREN	The place-name 'Banc y Warren' may indicate the former presence of a rabbit warren in the area. An Iron Age defended enclosure lies on the hill and it is possible that the earthen banks could have been adapted to contain a warren.	SN20404750
5833	FFYNNON CEDNY	Site of a spring with no recorded associated tradition and uncertain location (M. Ings, 2011)	SN2035447867
8066	CRUG MAWR;BANC Y WARREN	In 1135 or 1136, the Welsh advanced on Cardigan which was under Norman/English control. In the battle that followed at Crug Mawr, just outside Cardigan, the Welsh were victorious and over 3000 English/Norman are reported as having been slain. It is unclear whether the castle was taken. There are no reports of finds associated with the site. JH July 1998 based on Meyrick 1810 and OS 1974.	SN207472

Table 3: HER records of Medieval date within a 1km radius of the proposed development site.
As shown in Figure 3.

PRN	NPRN	Site Name	Description	NGR
21279		CRUGMAWR	Mansion	SN20524723
51763		CRUGMOR; CRUG-MAWR	Pond marked on various historic maps, size and shape suggests that it may have been associated with the mansion (ornamental?)	SN20654730
108107			A milestone on the turnpike road 2 miles north east of Cardigan at Banc Y Warren. Shown on the 1:2500 1 st edition Ordnance Survey map Cardiganshire sheet 38.02.	SN20364864
122179		LLAIN-DEG	Farmstead recorded on 2 nd edition, 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map.	SN2077647792
122182		CRUG-MAWR	Farmstead recorded on 2 nd edition, 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map.	SN2060347250
122183		CWRT	Farmstead recorded on 2 nd edition, 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map.	SN2088446846
122185			Farmstead recorded on 2 nd edition, 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map.	SN1990247013
122186		WARREN FARM	Farmstead recorded on 2 nd edition, 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map.	SN2020547600
122187		CRUG-DU-ISAF	Farmstead recorded on 2 nd edition, 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map.	SN2065347683
122188		CRUG-EFA	Farmstead recorded on 2 nd edition, 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map.	SN2026647869
	3042	RHIWSON- UCHAF, LLANWENOG	Rhiwson-Uchaf is a mid- to late-seventeenth century longhouse of the 'classic' type built from whitewashed rubble stone with corrugated iron roofs over a gorse under thatch. The two-storey building has irregular fenestration and no external door, being reached via a hearth passage entrance from the byre adjoining the main farmhouse. Inside the house has a simple three-room plan, with a downhill kitchen and central stair dividing an upper end parlour and dairy. The walls have extensive traces of extremely rare freehand wall-paintings and black and yellow line, which appear to date from the seventeenth century. The kitchen has a broad fireplace with 4m heavy oak lintel. The beams are also of oak, with four fine oak scarfed cruck trusses with double purlins.	SN2048946828

Table 4: HER and NMR records of Post-Medieval date within 1km radius of the development site.
As shown in Figure 3.

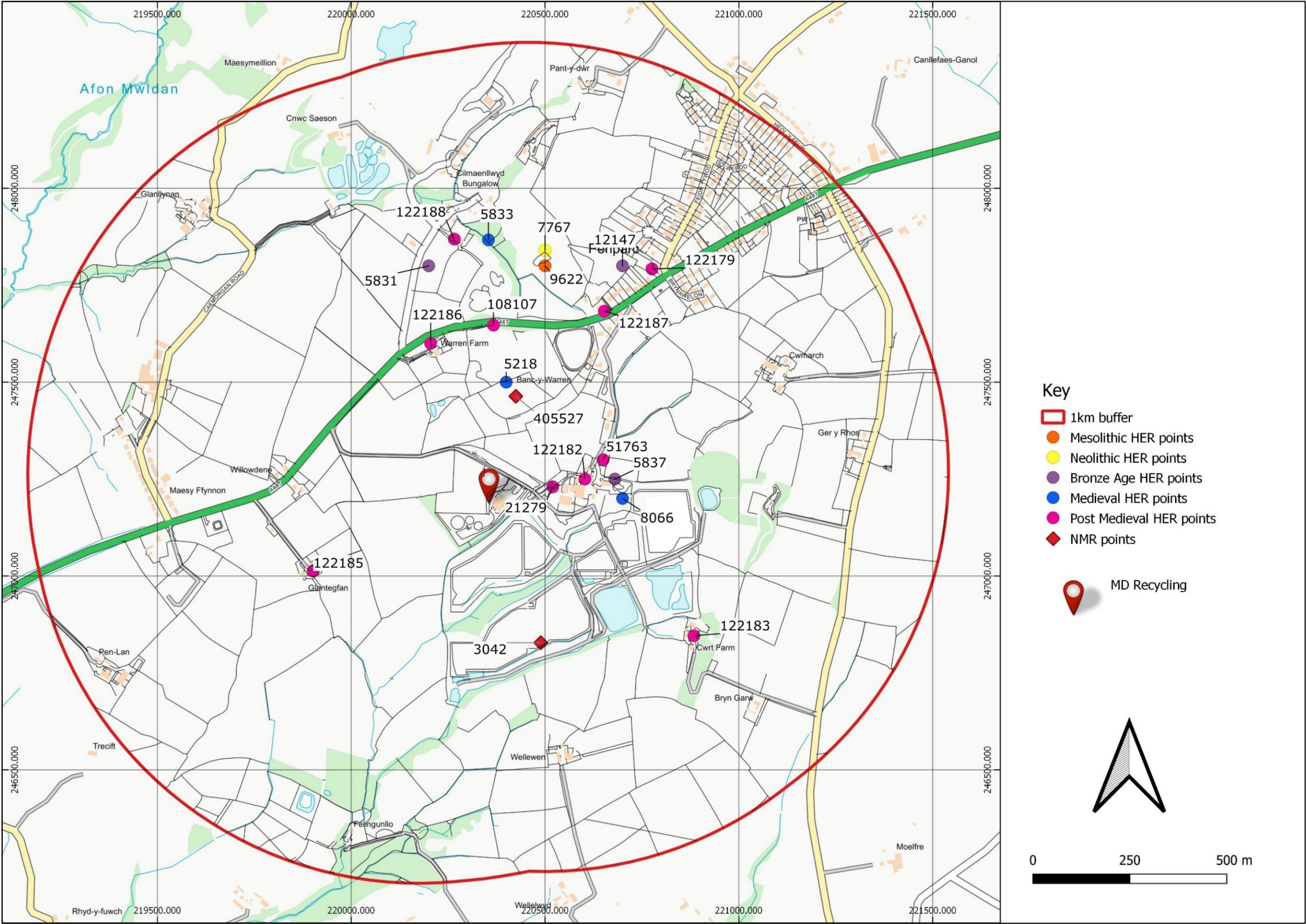


Figure 3: Map showing HER and NMR sites within 1km of the proposed development site.
(Source: OS open data hub. Miniscale: A simple overview map of Great Britain. Credit OS, ONS)

4.7 Cartographic Sources

- 4.7.1 The earliest map consulted for this HEA was the 1846 tithe map for the Parish of St Mary Cardigan (Figure 4). The current MD Recycling site, which includes the locations of the proposed concrete pads, is spread over several individual fields marked on the tithe map, part of a local landscape of small irregular fields lying between Crugmawr Farm (as it was then called) and the main road to the north. The proposed expansion area to the northeast also overlies part of these fields, the former field boundaries having since been removed. The field names given in the accompanying tithe apportionment provide little further information. The proposed lagoon site to the west represents the western limit of these smaller fields, west of which lies former open common land, which suggests these smaller fields may be earlier post-medieval encroachment and enclosure of former open common land. In the southwest corner of the lagoon area a cottage site is marked on the tithe map, part of the Crugmawr Farm, and presumably housing agricultural workers.
- 4.7.2 The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map of 1889 shows a similar landscape of small enclosed fields to the west of Crugmawr Farm. The common land to the west has also been enclosed as farmland by this time. The small cottage marked previously in the lagoon area has been abandoned, although the former enclosure within which it stood is still marked. This enclosure was removed by the time of the 2nd edition map of 1905.
- 4.7.3 The smaller field enclosures were retained into the mid to late 20th century, before being amalgamated into larger units, eventually being developed within the past 10 years.

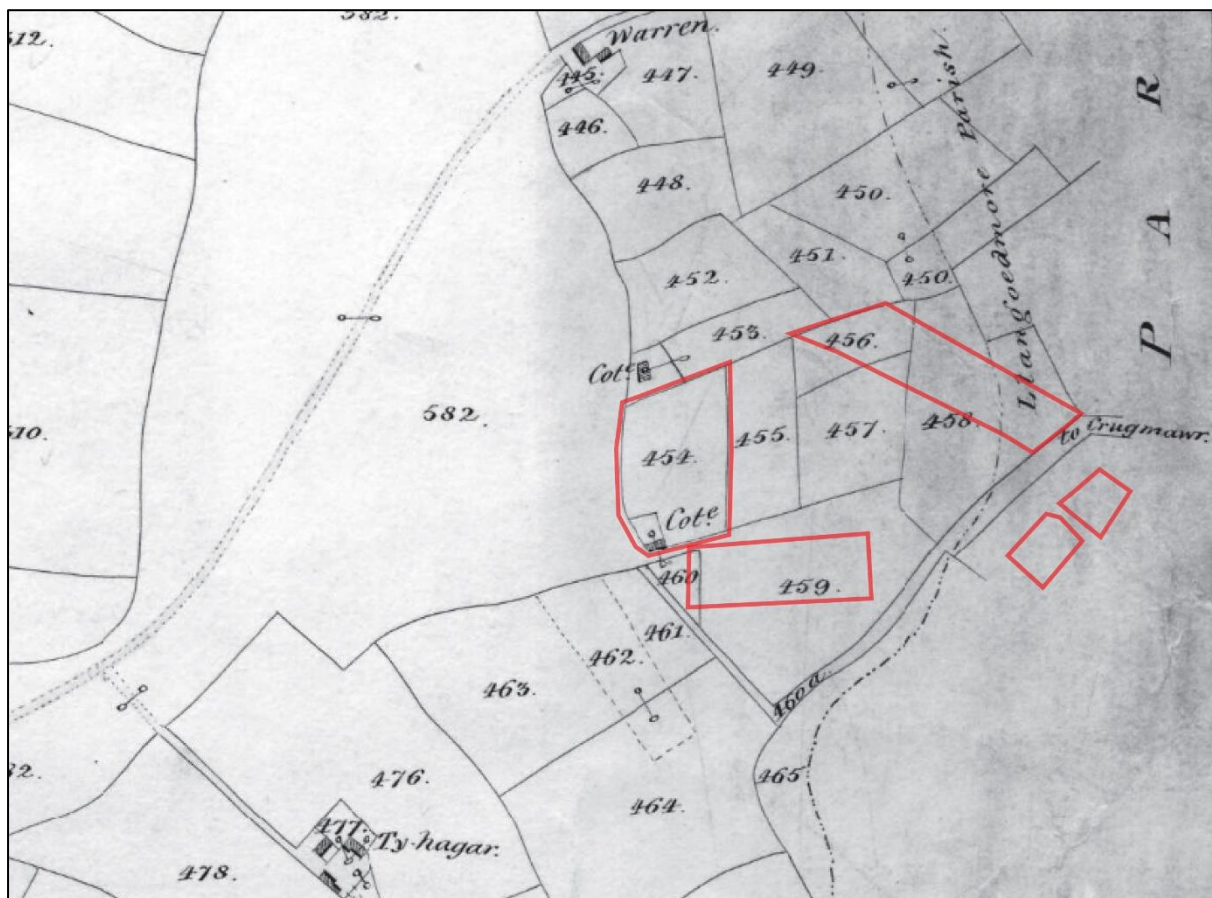


Figure 4: Parish of St Mary Tithe map (1846).

4.8 Previous archaeological investigations

- 4.8.1 Previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity of the proposed development have included a geophysical survey. This was undertaken in 2010 by Archaeology Wales (Report No. 1250). The survey (undertaken with a fluxgate gradiometer) was conducted in two fields to the south of MD Recycling, within the footprint of a solar farm. The results showed a considerable amount of metal waste scattered throughout the area and only one feature which was interpreted as a former field boundary.
- 4.8.2 Two watching briefs have been undertaken near MD recycling (Poucher 2009 and Poucher 2015). The 2009 watching brief was undertaken to the south of MD recycling, in a field on the northeast corner of Cwrt Farm where two lakes are now located. The second watching brief in 2015 took place within the boundaries of MD recycling at the site of an anaerobic digestion facility. The findings of these watching briefs demonstrated no significant archaeological remains.

4.9 Site Visit

- 4.9.1 A site visit was made to MD Recycling plant on the 4th November, 2021 as part of the HEA and each proposed development site was photographed.
- 4.9.2 The MD recycling plant is a well-established facility covering an area approximately 5.5ha in size. Only a field to the west of the facility, being considered for three lagoons, is undeveloped and is currently under improved pasture (Photo 1). No features of archaeological interest were identified within this field, and no evidence of the former cottage site visible on historic mapping was identified.
- 4.9.3 The three areas being considered for hardstanding are located within the boundaries of the recycling plant (Photos 2 – 4) and consist of made-ground associated with the plant, which could be up to several metres deep in places.
- 4.9.4 Finally an area planned for future expansion was also assessed. This sits immediately to the north of the recycling plant. It is currently under grass and used for equipment storage with a modern track traversing the field (Photo 5). No features of archaeological interest were identified in this area.



Photo 1: Field immediately to the east of MD recycling being considered for three lagoons.



Photo 2: Area of hardstanding (labelled No.1 on Figure 2).



Photo 3: Area of hardstanding (labelled No.2 on Figure 2).



Photo 4: Area of hardstanding (labelled No.3 on Figure 2).



Photo 5: Area proposed for future expansion.

5. IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ON THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

5.1 Physical Impacts of the Development Proposal

- 5.1.1 The development proposals include the construction of three lagoons, and two areas of hardstanding, with an area of potential future expansion also considered. These works would expand the existing site of the MD Recycling Plant, but it is understood no standing structures are included as part of these proposed works.
- 5.1.2 All three areas hardstanding, and the area of potential future expansion, are located within areas of modern made-ground associated with the existing MD Recycling Plant. The three lagoons to the west are located within an undeveloped field.
- 5.1.3 Any ground-breaking activity associated with the proposed development has the potential to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains should they be present at the site. These works could include, but are not limited to:
- Enabling works, such as the installation of contractor's compounds, construction of access roads, parking areas and storage areas;
 - Stripping works for access tracks and parking areas;
 - Landscaping and terracing works if required;
 - Excavation for the lagoons;
 - Excavation to prepare the ground for areas of hardstanding;
 - Service installation
- 5.1.4 No previously recorded archaeological remains have been identified within the bounds of the proposed development area. One known site, a medieval battle ground PRN 8066, may lie within this area, but the precise location for this site is not known. A post-medieval cottage site is visible on historic maps lying on the edge of the area proposed for the construction of the lagoons, but no above-ground remains of this cottage have been identified.

5.2 Buried Archaeological Potential

- 5.2.1 The known archaeological remains in the surrounding landscape suggests a potential for prehistoric activity in the area, associated with suggested Bronze Age burial mounds (PRNs 5831, 5837 and 12147) and an Iron Age defended enclosure (NPRN 405527) to the north. The Bronze Age potential is considered uncertain however, and general Prehistoric activity appears to be limited to the higher ground to the north, therefore potential in the development area is considered negligible.
- 5.2.2 A potential for medieval archaeological remains is possible, associated largely with the 12th century battle site (PRN 8066). As stated above however, the precise location of this battle site is unknown, and no previous evidence related to this site has come to light on previous work carried out in the immediate vicinity, therefore potential for medieval remains is also considered to be low.
- 5.2.3 Finally, a potential also exists for archaeological remains associated with the post-medieval mansion and farmstead of Crug Mawr (PRN 21279, 122182) which lies to the east of the proposed development. Potentially associated with this is a former post-medieval cottage identified from historic map sources on the edge of the proposed lagoon development. No standing remains survive, but a potential for buried remains exist. Given the proximity of these sites there is a greater potential for associated post-medieval archaeological remains to exist below-ground. Generally, such remains are likely to be of a low, local, archaeological value.
- 5.2.4 The site visit confirmed that the proposed areas of hardstanding and future expansion lie in areas of modern made-ground. The depth of the made-ground is uncertain, but it is likely that any archaeological potential in this areas has been greatly compromised, and potentially removed, and therefore any archaeological

potential in these areas is likely to be low to negligible. The area of the proposed lagoons lies within an undeveloped field. The field has been ploughed, and surface remains of the post-medieval cottage have been cleared, but there remains the potential for buried remains to survive in this area. However, previous archaeological investigations in the immediate vicinity of the site, including a geophysical survey and two watching briefs, have identified very few archaeological remains in this area, and suggest the general archaeological potential may be limited.

5.3 Palaeo-environmental potential

- 5.3.1 There is considered to be no potential for Palaeo-environmental evidence to be present at the proposed development site.

5.4 Impacts to setting

- 5.4.1 It is considered that the proposed development will not impact upon the setting of any designated historic asset. No such assets are located within 1km of the site, and the proposed development will comprise only surface or below-ground changes within the context of the existing MD Recycling Plant.

5.5 Summary and Archaeological Mitigation

- 5.5.1 It is concluded that there is a low potential for below ground archaeological remains associated with a 12th century battle site, and the post-medieval mansion and farmstead of Crug Mawr and associated cottage site. Such remains are likely to be of a low, local, archaeological value. This archaeological potential is also only considered to exist within the area of the proposed lagoons, the archaeological potential for the areas of proposed hardstanding and future having been compromised by previous modern development.
- 5.5.2 No paleo-environmental potential or impacts to the settings of surrounding designated historic assets have been identified.
- 5.5.3 Due to the archaeological potential in the area of the proposed lagoons it is suggested that an archaeological watching brief during ground-breaking activity in this area may be appropriate mitigation. The decision for the scope of any further programme of archaeological works lie with the archaeological advisor to the local planning authority (Development Management – Dyfed Archaeological Trust).

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