

FEIDR PEN-Y-BONT, NEWPORT, PEMBROKESHIRE: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT



Prepared by DAT Archaeological Services
For: Enfys Developments Ltd



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**FEIDR PEN-Y-BONT, NEWPORT,
PEMBROKESHIRE:
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED
ASSESSMENT**

by

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FEIDR PEN-Y-BONT, NEWPORT, PEMBROKESHIRE

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

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HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned to prepare a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment of a proposed residential development at Fiedr Pen-y-bont, Newport, Pembrokeshire (SN 0618 3929).

A wide-ranging archaeological potential has been identified, along with several new sites not previously recorded within the proposed development area, ranging in value from low to high. The potential impact of proposed development upon these sites ranges from slight to large adverse. A negligible to slight adverse impact upon the setting of distant scheduled monument on Mynydd Carningli, as well as a nearby Grade II listed building, and the Newport and Carningli Landscape of Special Historic Interest is also discussed. Proposals to mitigate the impact upon the archaeological resource are suggested.

CRYNODEB GWEITHREDOL

Comisiynwyd Gwasanaethau Archaeolegol YAD i baratoi Asesiad Desg Amgylchedd Hanesyddol o ddatblygiad preswyl arfaethedig yn Fiedr Pen-y-bont, Trefdraeth, Sir Benfro (SN 0618 3929).

Mae potensial archeolegol eang wedi'i nodi, ynghyd â nifer o safleoedd newydd na cofnodwyd o'r blaen o fewn yr ardal ddatblygu arfaethedig, yn amrywio o ran gwerth o isel i uchel. Mae effaith bosibl datblygiad arfaethedig ar y safleoedd hyn hefyd yn amrywio o andwyol bach i fawr. Trafodir hefyd effaith andwyol fach iawn ar leoliad heneb gofrestredig bell ar Fynydd Carningli, yn ogystal ag Adeilad Rhestredig gradd II gerllaw, a Thirwedd o Ddiddordeb Hanesyddol Arbennig Casnewydd a Charningli. Awgrymir hefyd gynigion i liniaru'r effaith ar yr adnodd archeolegol.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Proposals and Commission

- 1.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by Enfys Developments Ltd, acting on behalf of Wales and West Housing, to prepare an Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for the proposed residential development on land at Feidr Pen-y-bont, Newport, Pembrokeshire (roughly centred on SN 0618 3929).
- 1.1.2 The area currently comprises a field of mixed agricultural use lying on the northeast edge of Newport, bounded by Fedir Pen-y-bont to the west. The proposed site is located within a registered historic landscape and within close proximity to several sites of historic and archaeological interest, including a scheduled monument. In a pre-application consultation Dyfed Archaeological Trust – Development Management (DAT-DM), in their role as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority (Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority), recommended that an archaeological desk-based assessment should be undertaken in order to better assess the potential impact upon the historic environment and to inform potential future works.
- 1.1.3 The proposed development is currently still in its pre-planning stages and to help inform their proposals Enfys Developments Ltd requested that a desk-based assessment be carried out to determine the impact of the proposed work on the historic environment and what potential mitigation might be required.
- 1.1.4 This Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment is a primarily desk-based study of the site area and provides an indication of the archaeological potential of the development area, highlighting possible issues in relation to the impact of the development on the historic environment.

1.2 Scope of the Project and Methodology

- 1.2.1 The scope of the assessment follows the Standard and Guidance For Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment as laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014). The standard is stated 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. Significance is to be judged in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.

- 1.2.3 The desk-based study of the area identifies known archaeological sites within the proposed development area and its environs, and assesses the potential for hitherto unknown remains to be present within that area. This will help inform future decision making, design solutions and potential mitigation strategies, including the potential for further archaeological works.
- 1.2.4 The report also includes a brief 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* (Cadw 2017).
- 1.2.5 The report presents relevant information from a number of sources including:
- Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record (HER) data;
 - Map regression exercise using earlier cartographic sources;
 - Available and relevant reports on any archaeological work undertaken in the area that affects the site or its setting;
 - Archive records held at the County Archive, the National Library of Wales (NLW) and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW);
 - Aerial photography, satellite imagery and LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging) 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 proposed development site (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 site (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. An initial search area of 500m from the boundary of the development area was used to identify sites recorded on the HER and other sources, and was extended to examine the potential impact on the setting of high status, designated historic assets in the surrounding landscape.
- 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).

1.3 Abbreviations

1.3.1 All sites recorded on the regional HER are identified by a Primary Reference 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 Reference Number (NPRN).

Additional sites identified during the course of this assessment have been given the site-specific prefix FP.

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 ¹	1536 – 1750	
Industrial period	1750 – 1899	
Modern	20th century onwards	

Note: ¹The post-medieval and Industrial periods are combined as the post-medieval period on the Regional HER, as held by Dyfed Archaeological Trust.

2. 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 Act amends both the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. It is supported by a number of planning guidance documents and, 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* (Ed.11, 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, 'Distinctive and Natural Places', explains how planning systems must take into account the Welsh Government's objectives to protect, conserve, promote and enhance the historic environment as a resource for the general well-being of present and future generations. It also sets out the planning policies for the sustainable management of specific categories of historic environment assets.

2.3 Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment

2.3.1 This technical advice note provides guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan preparation and decision making on planning and Listed Building consent applications. It also provides specific guidance on how the following historic environment assets should be considered:

- Scheduled monuments
- Archaeological remains
- Listed buildings
- Conservation areas
- Historic parks and gardens
- Historic landscapes
- Historic assets of special local interest
- World Heritage Sites

- 2.3.2 The technical advice note usefully gathers together the selection criteria employed in the designation of scheduled monuments and listed buildings, and the registration of historic parks and gardens and historic landscapes.
- 2.3.3 Advice and decisions on planning applications affecting nationally significant historic environment features (or designated historic environment assets) is provided by Cadw acting on behalf of the 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).

2.4 Local Development Plan

- 2.4.1 The site lies within the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park (PCNP). The PCNP Authority Local Development Plan (LDP) was adopted in September 2020 (end date 2031) 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 also set out policies and proposals to meet the long term vision for the Park.
- 2.4.2 The historic environment is seen as a special quality of the National Park and the LDP states one of its aims is:
To conserve, enhance and promote the historic environment of the National Park, its archaeological resource, historic buildings and landscapes, parks and gardens (Policy 8).

3 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 3.1 The proposed development is located on the northeast edge of the town of Newport on the northern Pembrokeshire coast (NGR SN 0618 3929 – Figures 1-2).
- 3.2 The site comprises two adjoining fields (the smaller of the two lying to the southwest) of mixed agricultural use, bounded by hedgerows. The area of proposed development occupies approximately 1.4 hectares across the northern end of the larger field. The assessment site includes areas of potential future development to the south, totalling approximately 3.7 hectares. To the west, the site is bounded by Feidr Pen-y-bont, with residential development along the west side of the road continuing westward as the town of Newport. To the south, the site is bounded by the A487, with a pocket of light industrial development (Newport Business Park) to the southwest and a bus depot currently bordering the site. Agricultural land continues to the south of the road. To the east, the site is bounded by a mature hedgerow with agricultural land continuing. To the north, the site is bounded by a band of scrub and trees on the banks of the River Nevern/Afon Nyfer, which flows westward into Newport Bay and the Irish sea.
- 3.3 The site occupies steadily sloping ground from approximately 20mOD at the southern end, down to around 6mOD at the northern end. Water drainage is currently channelled into field drains along the eastern field boundary. The ground continues to rise steadily to the south for approximately 500m before beginning to climb rapidly into the uplands of Mynydd Carningli, which peaks at 337mOD around 2km to the south of the proposed development site. The town of Newport extends across the gentler coastal slopes for another *circa* 1km west. The tidal River Nevern / Afon Nyfer to the north of the site meets the sea approximately 1.5km to the west. The river valley continues east for another 700m from the site, before turning north and then winding its way towards Nevern and Felindre Farchog to the east. On the north side of the valley the land rises into an undulating coastal landscape. The A487 provides the main access route along this coastal area, running east – west immediately south of the site, with Feidr Pen-y-bont crossing the river to the north and providing access northward and Feidr Bentick skirting the lower slopes of Mynydd Carningli to provide access south.
- 3.4 The underlying geology comprises mudstones of the Penyraber Mudstone Formation, bounded by the igneous bedrocks of Mynydd Carningli to the south. The bedrock is overlain largely by till, with Newport largely sat on a diverse mix of glacial clays and gravels (BGS 2023).



Figure 1: Location of development area showing the proposed development site

Map data from OpenStreetMap (OSM) <https://www.openstreetmap.org/copyright> 15/05/2023.

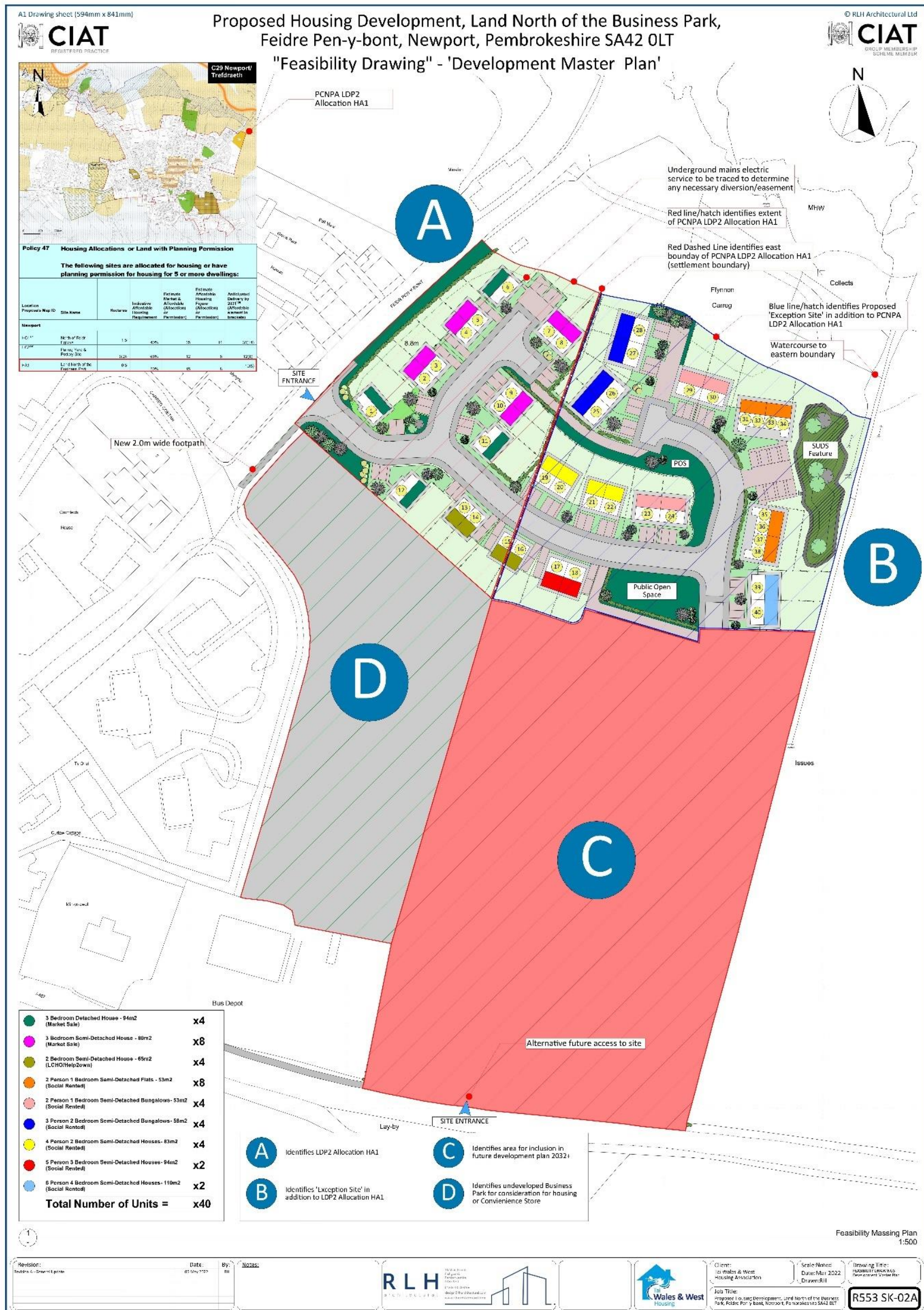


Figure 2: Outline feasibility study showing the proposed development area within Newport. Plan provided by the client, not reproduced to scale.

4 DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS (Tables 2 and 3 and Fig. 3)

4.1 General

- 4.1.1 A search of data held on several databases was made of historic assets within the 500m radius search area. Designated assets beyond this search area were also considered for potential wider-ranging impacts, including a number on the rising ground to the south that may have been intervisible with the area of development. These designated assets are described first, as they largely comprise sites with some form of statutory protection.

4.2 Scheduled Monuments (SMs)

- 4.2.1 Scheduled monuments are historic and archaeological sites considered to be of national importance. These sites are given legal protection and consideration of the impact of development upon them and their settings are considerations of the planning process.
- 4.2.2 There are no scheduled monuments within the proposed development area.
- 4.2.3 There are five scheduled monuments (SM) within the 500m search area surrounding the proposed development site and a further five scheduled monuments on the north-facing slopes of Mynydd Carningli overlooking the town of Newport and, potentially, the proposed development site.
- 4.2.4 Lying on the eastern summit of Mynydd Carningli is **PE011 Carn Ingli Camp**, 1.6km to the south of the site. The following is the SM description:

The monument comprises the remains of a hillfort, which probably dates to the Iron Age period (c.800 BC - AD 74, the Roman conquest of Wales). Hillforts must have formed symbols of power within the landscape and their function may have had as much to do with ostentation and display as defence. The fort is located on Mynydd Carn Ingli at the eastern end of a high moorland ridge that commands extensive views over the north coast and river valleys to the east and south. It consists of a fortification of stone built walls enclosing and linked to two summit crags that are separated by a saddle of lower ground. The walls are now very collapsed though there are some sections where the original drystone facework survives, they may once have been c.3m high. The interior of the fort is sub-divided by cross-walls into four sections, probably the result of multiple periods of occupation and enlargement. The first enclosure set just around the summit was of a modest size, it was perhaps later conjoined to a further two that extend from it down slope to the south west. The fourth, a large annexe, extends to the north onto lower ground and contains within it plentiful evidence of stone-built huts and pounds together with the remains of a street or track. An additional annexe, perhaps from an even later phase, bounds the lower slopes of the mountain on the eastern side. Around the main outer walls there are nine simple entrances as well as one through each of the three cross-walls; some still retaining traces of passage walling. This is a high number of vulnerable openings to defend and may indicate that there are earlier pre-Iron Age origins for the monument, perhaps as early as in the Neolithic (4000-2300 BC). Alternatively they may represent later alterations following changes in use. To the north and east within the main fort, on and outside the south and west sides are a number of terraced, drystone walled enclosures with simple entrances. Filled with soil on otherwise stony ground they may have been cultivation plots or paddocks. The end of occupation of the fort was apparently sudden and enforced as there are signs that the defences were deliberately slighted.

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 which has abundant settlement evidence, perhaps contemporary with occupation of the fort. 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.

- 4.2.5 Just over 1km to the south of the site lies **PE019 Carn Ingli Round Barrows**. The site lies on the north to east facing slopes of Mynydd Carningli, with potential views across the proposed development area. The following is the SM description:

The monument comprises the remains of up to three earthen or stone built round barrows or cairns, probably dating to the Bronze Age (c.2300 - 800 BC) and located on the lower north east slope of Mynydd Carningli. There are no recent records of this monument and it may no longer be extant. Alternatively, it may have been misidentified in the original record as there are other similar monuments in the vicinity.

The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of prehistoric burial and ritual practices. The features are an important relic of a prehistoric funerary and ritual landscape and retain significant archaeological potential. There is a strong probability of the presence of both intact ritual and burial deposits, together with environmental and structural evidence. Barrows may be part of a larger cluster of monuments and their importance can be further enhanced by their group value.

- 4.2.6 Occupying a north facing promontory 1.6km to the southwest of the site lies **PE051 Carn Ffoi Camp**. The following is the SM description:

The monument comprises the remains of a stone-built enclosure, which probably dates to the Iron Age period (c. 800 BC - AD 74, the Roman conquest of Wales). It is set on a crag on the northern slope of Mynydd Carn Ingli where it is overlooked slightly by higher ground to the south east. Enclosing a sub-rectangular area of c. 90m north to south and 50m east to west is a rampart consisting of a collapsed dry-stone wall. This survives up to 3m high where best preserved on the north and incorporates three rocky outcrops in its circuit. There are two gaps, one to the south and one to the west which probably locate the original entrances; a stone-lined track-way approaches the southern one. A number of dry-stone circular huts are visible along the inner line of the rampart.

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.

- 4.2.7 The closest site is **PE056 Carreg Coetan Burial Chamber** which lies approximately 60m to the west. The site is recorded on the Dyfed Historic Environment Record as PRN 1462. The following is the SM description:

The monument comprises the remains of a chambered tomb dating to the Neolithic period. Chambered tombs were built and used by local farming communities over long periods of time. There appear to be many regional traditions and variations in shape and construction.

This small but well preserved chambered tomb lies on the estuary of the River Nyfer on low lying flat land near the sheltered Newport Bay. It is one of the smaller tombs which lie clustered along the slopes of the Nevern Valley. The massive wedge shaped capstone measures 2.8m square by 0.5m thick and is supported by only two of the four sidestones which stand c.1.5m at the front. The large megaliths of which the tomb is composed are almost certainly local erratics, carefully selected for shape and size.

Excavations in 1979 and 1980 revealed that the chamber had been surrounded by a circular cairn, revetted by a kerb of boulders c. 11m in diameter. Only one small segment of the cairn survived, and on the old ground surface below it lay round-bottomed Neolithic pottery. The pots probably served as cremation urns as within and around the broken sherds were quantities of charcoal and pieces of cremated bone of adult humans. They lay on a surface which had been carefully laid with small slabs of stone. Also outside the chamber but unassociated with the cremated bone, was found a considerable amount of other Neolithic pottery. A fragment of polished axe, flint knives and scrapers were also found.

The tomb was dated by a series of four radiocarbon dates to about 3500 BC. The tomb was probably open for a number of years to serve the Neolithic farming community who settled in the area in the 4th millennium BC. Access to the tomb was presumably through the apparently original spaces between the side stones, though these may have been blocked by drystone walling between successive interments of the cremated remains of the dead.

The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of prehistoric burial and ritual. The monument is an important relic of a prehistoric funerary and ritual landscape and environmental and structural evidence, including a buried prehistoric land surface. Chambered tombs may be part of a larger cluster of monuments and their importance can be further enhanced by their group value.

- 4.2.8 420m to the southwest of the site lies **PE087 Newport Castle**. The site is recorded on the Dyfed Historic Environment Record as PRNs 1499 and 59202. The following is the SM description:

The monument consists of the remains of a castle dating to the medieval period which is situated on a short spur of ground on the lower slopes of Mynydd Carningli about 100m south west of the parish church of Newport and 600m south of the inlet to the Afon Nyfer. It comprises a gatehouse, three corner towers and an internal building with an undercroft linked originally by a single curtain wall of which very little remains. All the masonry remains are 13th century or later. The castle was surrounded by a large moat and counterscarp bank which might be the remains of an earlier ringwork. A castle at Newport was founded by William Fitzmartin, son of Robert Fitzmartin, who first conquered Cemais in the 12th century. The castle is first recorded in 1215 when it was taken by Llywelyn ap Iorwerth; restored to the Fitzmartins not long afterwards, and then taken again in 1257 when both castle and town were burned by Llywelyn ap Gruffyd. These records however could refer either to the possible ringwork or to another earthwork on the banks of the Afon Nyfer to the north (scheduled as PE404 The Old Castle). Therefore the new castle's date cannot be confirmed before 1277-78 when a gaol is recorded there. In 1324-5 the castle passed to the Audley family by descent, repairs were made in 1398 but the castle was reported destroyed in 1408 as a result of the Glyndwr uprising. In 1497, after the execution of James, Lord Audley, the castle passed to the crown before returning to the Audleys in 1534. It

was then bought in 1543 by William Owen, the father of George Owen the famous Elizabethan antiquarian who later described the castle in 1583 as having been in ruins for some time when the moat was in use as a fishpond. In 1859-60, the ruins of the gatehouse were converted into a house designed by R.K. Penson.

The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of medieval defensive practices. The monument is well-preserved and an important relic of the medieval landscape. It retains significant archaeological potential, with a strong probability of the presence of both structural evidence and intact associated deposits.

- 4.2.9 380m to the southwest of the site lies **PE304 Pillar Cross in Newport Churchyard**. The following is the SM description:

The monument consists of a stone with a cross carved into the surface, probably dating to the medieval period and standing outside the west end of the church. It was moved to the churchyard in 1956 having been formerly used as a gatepost (set head downwards) at Cnwc - Y Croywydd, beside the Newport - Fishguard road opposite Cnwc farmhouse. It has an incised Latin ring across with crossed foot and curved bar below, 5ft x 11ft 6ins x 1ft. It stands outside the west end of the church.

The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of the organisation and practice of medieval Christianity. It retains significant archaeological potential, with a strong probability of the presence of associated archaeological features and deposits. A cross marked stone may be part of a larger cluster of monuments and their importance can be further enhanced by their group value.

- 4.2.10 Close to PE304 and 360m to the southwest of the site lies **PE305 Pillar Cross, 140m SE of Newport Church**. The site is recorded on the Dyfed Historic Environment Record as PRN 1464. The following is the SM description:

The monument consists of a stone with a cross carved into the surface, probably dating to the medieval period, which has been placed in the centre of the lawn of a private residence. The rough boulder measures 1.8m in height, 1.2m in width and 0.4m in depth. The east face has been incised with a cross contained in circle.

The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of the organisation and practice of medieval Christianity. A cross marked stone may be part of a larger cluster of monuments and their importance can be further enhanced by their group value.

- 4.2.11 270m to the northwest of the site lies **PE404 The Old Castle**. The site is recorded on the Dyfed Historic Environment Record as PRN 1468. The following is the SM description:

The monument comprises the earthwork remains of a ringwork, situated on the edge of the estuary of Afon Nyfer and at the northern end of the planned medieval settlement of Newport. It is best interpreted as the original site of 'Newport Castle', probably the earliest stage of the establishment of the settlement. Subsequently, Newport's power base shifted to the southern edge of the town, where the church and stone castle are dominant features. The monument as visible today is roughly semi-circular, defined by a clear and well-preserved bank and outer ditch, with a counterscarp bank visible for much of its length. The northern part of the ringwork has, presumably, been flattened under the road/path which runs along the edge of the river.

The northwest corner of the site has been disturbed by the construction of tennis courts, and the form of the earthwork has been lost in that section.

- 4.2.12 Lying close to the round barrows, and 1.1km to the south of the site, lies **PE495 Carn Llwyd Ring Cairn**. The following is the SM description:

The monument comprises the remains of a ring cairn, probably dating to the Bronze Age (c.2300 BC - 800 BC) and situated within open moorland on a N-facing terrace on the slopes of Mynydd Carningli. The well-preserved ring cairn is circular on plan and measures about 7.5m in diameter within a grass-covered stony ring bank about 2.5m in thickness and up to 0.4m in height. The interior is level and largely stone free. The ring cairn is situated in a classic location, with wide views all around, except to the S where it is overlooked by higher ground.

The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of prehistoric burial and ritual practices. Excavated examples have shown these monuments to be essentially ceremonial - although with a consistent link with the burial of the dead (some cremation burials have been revealed). Rituals involving the burning and deposition of charcoal, perhaps symbolic of the funeral pyre, would seem to have been important. The well preserved monument is an important relic of a prehistoric funerary and ritual landscape. It retains significant archaeological potential, with a strong probability of the presence of both intact burial or ritual deposits and environmental and structural evidence.

- 4.2.13 Occupying the summit of Mynydd Carningli 2km to the south of the site is **PE544 Carn Briw Round Cairn**. The following is the SM description:

The monument comprises the remains of a large round cairn, which probably dates to the Bronze Age (c. 2300 - 800 BC). It is located on the summit of Carningli Common. The stone-built cairn is circular in shape on plan and measures 18m in diameter and 2.2m in height. The upper cairn fabric has been re-fashioned into three walkers' shelters and is surmounted by a modern walkers' cairn. The N side of the cairn has been denuded at its perimeter leaving a prominent outer lip, but the central cairn mass does not appear to have been disturbed.

The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of prehistoric burial and ritual practices. The monument is an important relic of a prehistoric funerary and ritual landscape and retains significant archaeological potential, with a strong probability of the presence of both structural evidence and intact burial or ritual deposits.

- 4.2.14 No further scheduled monuments are considered likely to be potentially affected by the proposed development.

Table 2: Scheduled monuments within the study area

Site / Building Name	Cadw Ref.	NGR	Site Type
Carn Ingli Camp	PE011	206315 237278	Prehistoric hillfort
Carn Ingli Round Barrows	PE019	206451 238028	Prehistoric round barrow
Carn Ffoi Camp	PE051	204841 237936	Prehistoric hillfort
Carreg Coetan Burial Chamber	PE056	206033 239352	Prehistoric chambered tomb
Newport Castle (unoccupied parts)	PE087	205705 238865	Medieval castle
Pillar Cross in Newport Churchyard	PE304	205767 238965	Early medieval cross-marked stone
Pillar Cross 140m SE of Newport Church	PE305	205877 238850	Early medieval cross-marked stone
The Old Castle	PE404	205852 239517	Medieval ringwork
Carn Llwyd Ring Cairn	PE495	206286 237916	Prehistoric ring cairn
Carn Briw Round Cairn	PE544	205638 237070	Prehistoric round cairn

4.3 Listed Buildings

- 4.3.1 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.
- 4.3.2 There are no listed buildings within the proposed development area.
- 4.3.3 Within the 500m search area there are 22 listed buildings with a further three sitting on north facing slopes to the south, all overlooking the proposed development area. These comprise a range of urban structures, including domestic properties, shops, public houses, churches and chapels, along with one lime kiln and Newport Castle. These buildings are all largely focused around the traditional centre of Newport along Castle Street, Church Street, Long Street and East Street to the west of the proposed development site but also include a house on Feidr Pen-y-bont and one on

the north side of the river. The closest site is **Cromlech House (LB 12492)**, a Grade II listed early to mid-19th century house on Feidr Pen-y-bont, 40m to the west of the proposed development site.

4.3.4 Of the listed buildings included within the search area there is one Grade I listed building, **Newport Castle (LB 13083)**, also a Scheduled Monument), and two Grade II* listed buildings: the **Church of St Mary (LB 12483)** and the **Ebenezer Congregational Chapel (LB 12497)**. The remaining buildings are all Grade II listed.

4.3.5 The full list of listed buildings are included in Table 3.

Table 3: *Listed buildings within the study area*

Record No.	Name	Grade	Brief description	Easting	Northing
12480	Castle Green	II	Pair of early/mid-19 th century traditional single-storey cottages	205710	238978
12481	Castle Green	II	Pair of early/mid-19 th century traditional single-storey cottages	205710	238970
12482	Lluest	II	Early 19 th century house	205766	238996
12483	Church of Saint Mary	II*	19 th century church with large 13 th century tower	205797	238964
12485	Walls of Churchyard of Church of St Mary	II	Churchyard walls	205779	238927
12486	Ivy House (The Cnapan Restaurant)	II	Fine substantial early 19 th century house	205802	239142
12487	Llys Meddyg	II	Larger mid to late 19 th century townhouse	205899	239168
12488	The Llwyngwair Arms	II	Unusually large early to mid-19 th century inn	205736	239105
12489	The Sessions House	II	Former courthouse, 18 th century details but 1900 date plaque	205748	239107
12492	Cromlech House	II	Early to mid-19 th century house	206025	239276

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Record No.	Name	Grade	Brief description	Easting	Northing
12493	Bank Terrace	II	Mid to late 19 th century terraced row	205737	239183
12494	Bank Terrace	II	Mid to late 19 th century terraced row	205738	239189
12495	Bank Terrace	II	Mid to late 19 th century terraced row	205739	239195
12496	The White Cottage	II	Early 19 th century single-storey cottage	205738	239302
12497	Ebenezer Congregational Chapel (Capel Ebenezer)	II*	Fine unaltered mid-19 th century chapel	205809	239177
12498	Melrose (D.B.Davies, Pharmacy)	II	Early – mid-19 th century house	205699	239077
12499	Bryn Coed	II	Early 19 th century house	205701	239069
12500	Fronlas	II	Mid to late 19 th century small town house	205700	239051
12508	Arosfa	II	Early 19 th century house	205620	239024
12509	The Church Chapel	II	Late 18 th century former chapel, now church hall	205798	239002
12531	Ty'Rhedyn Bach	II	Once typical early to mid-19 th century small hillside house	206535	238619
12532	Ty'Rffynnon	II	Once typical early to mid-19 th century small hillside house	206663	238451
12535	Stone Hill	II	Mid-19 th century rural house	205811	238320
12761	Limekiln at Ffynnon Bryncyn	II	Exceptionally large 19 th century limekiln	206143	239721
13083	Newport Castle	I	Medieval castle incorporated into a 19 th century house	205708	238870

4.4 Conservation Areas

- 4.4.1 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 and/or architectural value.
- 4.4.2 The **Newport Conservation Area** encompasses the historic core of the town to the west of the proposed development area. The proposed development area does not lie within the conservation area, the boundaries of which lie 150m to the west.

4.5 Registered Historic Parks and Gardens

- 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 help protect and preserve essential features of these parks and gardens, and enable their significance and character to be protected through the planning system.
- 4.5.2 There are no historic parks and gardens within the proposed development area or the wider search area. The closest such site lies in Nevern, 2.2km to the east.

4.6 Registered Historic Landscapes

- 4.6.1 Registered historic landscapes are landscapes of historic interest included on the 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 help ensure that the historic character of the landscape is sustained, and that where change is contemplated, it is well-informed.
- 4.6.2 The proposed development area lies within the **Newport and Carningli Landscape of Special Historic Interest (HLW (D) 15)**. This area includes the small medieval borough of Newport, located on a coastal plain between 50m to 100mOD. To the south, the ground rises steeply to the heights of Carningli at 347mOD, dominating the open moorland of the northern Preseli Hills. This striking natural setting and the lack of large scale post-medieval and modern development of the town and its surrounding area mean that its medieval topography is well-preserved and the component elements of a medieval Marcher lordship — town, fields, mills, common pastures — are either fossilized in the present landscape or persist as working elements.
- 4.6.3 Elements of an earlier Welsh landscape of dispersed settlement survives, as do later enclosures and settlements of the 19th century. Prehistoric settlement and landscapes survive on the higher slopes, with studies demonstrating its wealth of surviving archaeological remains and great potential for further interpretation. On the lower coastal slopes, Neolithic chambered tombs, such as Carreg Coetan Arthur, demonstrate the prehistoric use of this area. Good documentary evidence survives for the medieval borough and the 17th century town. Archaeological investigations have recorded evidence of the medieval burgages of the town and studies also document the architectural development of the medieval castle. The area is also noted for its traditions, including the agricultural fair on the feast of St Curig which persisted from the medieval period to the 1930s, and the survival of Courts Leet and Baron concerned with 'the management of the common lands on the Presely Hills'. There is still a Marcher lord and the bounds of the barony continue to be perambulated.

- 4.6.4 In order to better characterise the historic environment of the Historic Landscape, it has been sub-divided into a number of Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCA). The proposed development area lies largely within **HLCA 362 Holmhouse – Tycanol**. This mainly agricultural area surrounds Newport and extends across the coastal plain north of Mynydd Carningli.
- 4.6.5 The presence of several prehistoric monuments suggests this area was an important ritual landscape during the Neolithic and Bronze Age, with important views of Carningli Hillfort and other upland monuments and coastal sites. During the medieval period it was part of Cantref Cemaes, brought under Anglo-Norman control in c.1100 by the Fitzmartins, who retained it as the Barony of Cemaes, later becoming the Hundred of Cemaes. The area lay within the borough of Newport, with the burgesses having right to common land since 1278. Many of the fields in this area appear to have been strip fields. They may have been used largely for livestock rather than developing from an open field agricultural system but nevertheless, the field boundaries appear to have medieval origins. Pockets of irregular fields surround Parc-y-marriage and Holm House, medieval demesnes established on the edge of the strip fields. Rhigian and Trewrieddig also have medieval origins. 18th century farms, such as Ty Canol, have superimposed the current layout over the medieval landscape, amalgamating many of the strip fields into larger regular fields.
- 4.6.6 The characteristic features of this area comprise agricultural land, largely pastoral, in large regular fields with some remnant strip fields. Boundaries are stone-faced banks topped by well-maintained hedges. The agricultural holdings are relatively large, the farmhouses and other dwellings being a mix of styles, but generally built of local stone, cement rendered, slate roofed and 19th century in date, with 20th century housing also present. Several small historic bridges also lie in the area, the recorded archaeological sites are numerous and varied. The boundary is clear to the north with the urban area of Newport, but elsewhere the boundary is less well-defined.
- 4.6.7 The adjoining field to the southwest, part of the area of potential future development, lies within the adjoining **HLCA 361 Newport**, drawn around the urban area of the town.
- 4.6.8 The castle and town of Newport was founded at the end of the 12th century when the Fitzmartins retook Cemaes after the death of Rhys ap Gruffudd. The castle was destroyed during Welsh uprisings in 1215 and 1257 but retained by the Fitzmartins until succeeded by the Audleys in 1326. The town was originally laid out as burgrave plots along Long Street and St Mary's Street, with the original castle (now known as Old Castle) between them. During the 13th century the castle was re-sited to its present location, a grid of new streets were laid out and St Mary's Church established. The town does not appear to have flourished during the later medieval and early post medieval periods, although it was the centre of a pottery industry during this period. The economy was largely based on agriculture, fishing and coastal trade and became a coastal trading port for cloth and wool from the 16th century with a textile industry developing the town hinterlands. Quarrying and herring fishing were also important elements of the post-medieval economy. The town saw a great deal of rebuilding during the 19th century but has not greatly expanded beyond its medieval limits.
- 4.6.9 The main character elements are the houses, gardens, shops, school, roads and other infrastructure of the town but also include pockets of open ground. The town is spread across gentle north-facing slopes, the core centred on the A487 and several narrow side streets. The medieval layout

still has a strong influence, with houses located hard on the street frontage within medieval burgrave plots. Apart from the castle and church, the building stock is largely 19th century, built of local dolerite and shale, with a mix of cement render and bare stone. Building types vary, though two-storey houses in a polite Georgian tradition dominate. The use of local stone in boundary and garden walls is also a feature. Later 20th century development includes municipal facilities such as library, school and doctors' surgery, with small housing estates and bungalows on the town fringes. Most of the archaeological sites relate to the development of the town. The boundaries of the urban area are well defined, surrounded by agricultural land and a narrow coastal strip.

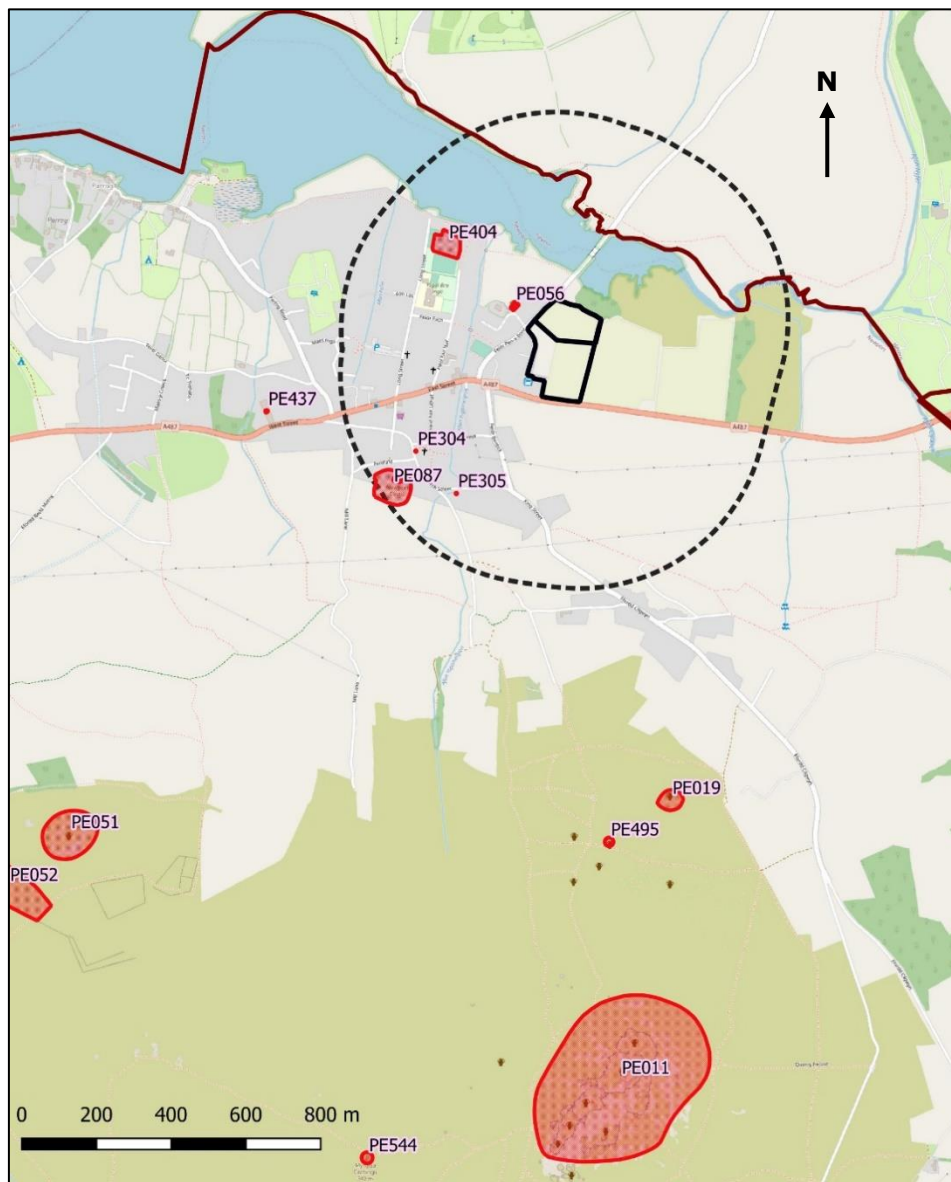


Figure 3: Map showing the proposed development site and the 500m radius study area (dotted line). Also showing scheduled monuments (red outline) mentioned in the report and the boundary of the registered Historic Landscape (brown line).

Map data from OpenStreetMap (OSM) <https://www.openstreetmap.org/copyright> 15/05/2023.

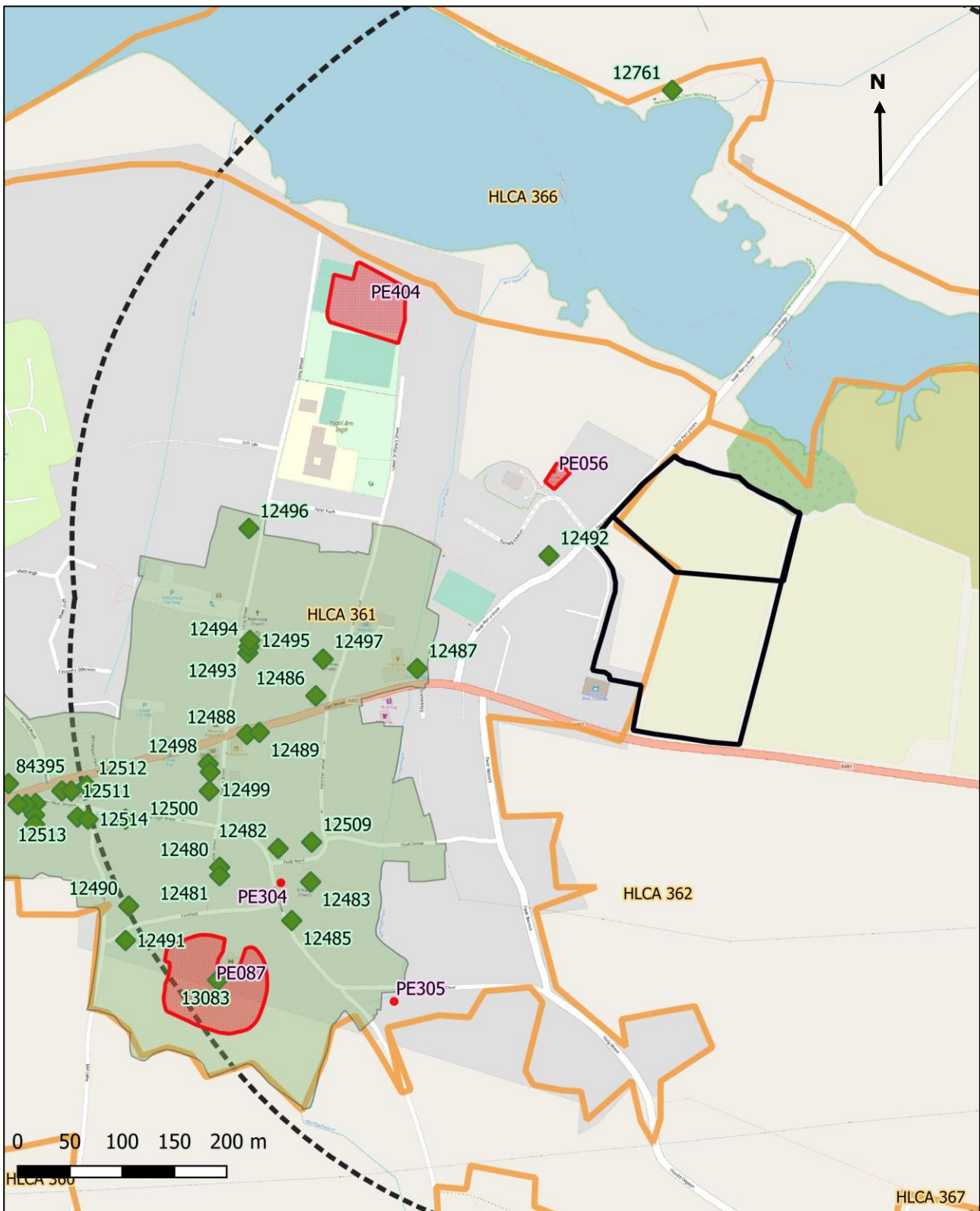


Figure 4: Map showing the proposed development site and all designated assets within the 500m radius study area (dotted line). Scheduled monuments are marked in red, listed buildings and the Newport Conservation Area in green, and the Historic Landscape Character Areas in orange.

Map data from OpenStreetMap (OSM) <https://www.openstreetmap.org/copyright> 15/05/2023.

5 NON-DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS (Tables 4 - 8 and Figs. 5 -7)

5.1 General

- 5.1.1 A search of the regional HER and other databases was made within the 500m search area around the proposed development. The HER records 64 assets within the search area. There are no previously recorded sites within the bounds of the proposed development area on this record, although a number of sites lie in close proximity.
- 5.1.2 A smaller number of assets are recorded on the National Monuments Record (NMR) database, held and maintained by the RCAHMW, which includes three additional sites to those recorded on the HER, comprising school buildings to the south and the bridge to the north but none within the proposed development area.
- 5.1.3 In addition to these sites there are two artefacts found in the area, reported on the National Museum of Wales database. These include those from Carreg Coetan burial chamber (also recorded on the HER) and a Bronze Age artefact from within the proposed development area itself (not recorded on the HER, subsequently referenced as FP01).
- 5.1.4 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.

5.2 Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic (Table 4)

- 5.2.1 There are no recorded palaeolithic sites within either the study area or the wider landscape.
- 5.2.2 During the Mesolithic period nomadic groups would likely have been moving through the landscape and estuary areas such as this would have provided a resource-rich area attracting these groups. In the 1920s, excavations near the bridge, a short distance to the north of the site, uncovered a large number of worked flints dating to the Mesolithic (PRN 1466). The number of flints suggested a flint-working site, where groups would have paused for some time to manufacture tools. A number of upright stones (PRN 1467) were also uncovered, which may add significance to the site. These features were uncovered on a layer of clay, with large amounts of charcoal spread nearby, submerged beneath 1m of peat, which suggest excellent preservation conditions, increasing opportunities to obtain radiocarbon dating and rare paleoenvironmental material.
- 5.2.3 This activity may also be associated with the remains of a submerged forest found around the estuary and dated to the Mesolithic period (PRN 34042). A further Mesolithic flint flake is also recorded as being discovered somewhere in Newport (PRN 12233). In addition, archaeological investigations on Long Street (see Section 6.2) have uncovered further evidence of Mesolithic flint-working sites.
- 5.2.4 During the subsequent Neolithic period, the spread of farming practices meant groups were now beginning to settle in the area. 60m to the west of the site lies Carreg Coetan Arthur Chambered Tomb (PRN 1462, also SM PE056). There is a detailed description of this site in section 4.2.4. This is the remains of a burial chamber, currently comprising several large upright stones supporting a large capping stone (see Photo 17). The site has been excavated, recovering Neolithic pottery, flint tools and cremated remains, and radiocarbon dated to about 3500 BC. Such sites were often erected as communal burial sites, with cremations and inhumations laid out in

chambers, often covered (as in this case) with substantial capping stones and subsequent mounds of stone and earth. Such monuments could have been in use for some time, with burials rearranged internally, but they did not contain entire communities, suggesting only specific individuals or groups would be buried in such a manner. Monuments such as this may have remained significant sites even after their use as burial chambers ceased.

- 5.2.5 Carreg Coetan Arthur is the only recorded Neolithic site within the study area but similar chambered tombs are recorded further afield, such as Cerrig y Gof alongside the A487 2.4km to the west, and possibly at Wynston 1.7km to the north. A short distance to the northeast of the proposed development area, the HER records the site of Bedd Samson PRN 1492. This was first reported in the RCAHMW *Inventory* of 1925, which describes a mound around 10m by 3.5m and 1.5m high, situated on the southern riverbank in an area liable to flooding. The form and the name (Bedd, which means grave) gave rise to the suggestion that it may represent a long barrow, a Neolithic burial mound similar to Coetan Arthur, PRN 1462 to the west, although the RCAHMW surveyors at the time favoured an interpretation of a medieval military earthwork. However, this latter interpretation does not fit within the known form and development of the town of Newport. The site now appears indistinct in the trees and scrub along the banks of the estuary, but along with the surrounding remains suggests an active area during the Neolithic period.

Table 4: *Sites of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic date recorded on the HER*

PRN	Site Name	Type	Period	NGR
1462	Carreg Coetan; Carreg Coetan Arthur; Coetan Arthur	Chambered tomb	Neolithic	SN0603839351
1466	Newport Bridge	Flint working site	Mesolithic	SN06163945
1467	Newport Bridge	Standing stone group	Prehistoric	SN06163945
1492	Bedd Samson	Mound	Medieval; Neolithic	SN06293937
12233	Pen-dre	Findspot	Mesolithic	SN0500039000
32042	Newport Beach and Estuary	Submerged forest	Mesolithic; Neolithic	SN0500040000

5.3 Bronze Age (Table 5)

- 5.3.1 The HER records only one possible Bronze Age site within the study area, which may in fact be more Iron Age in date. However, the wider landscape is particularly noted for its widespread and impressive Bronze Age archaeological remains. The large hillfort of Carningli to the south, with evidence of numerous hut circles behind its stone ramparts, may have its origins in the Bronze Age or indeed earlier. Relict prehistoric field enclosures, trackways, hut circles, enclosures and standing stones across the northern

slopes of Carningli and down towards the coast around Newport have also been described as remnants of a settled Bronze Age landscape. It would seem likely that such a well-used landscape extended to the coastline, including the proposed development area.

- 5.3.2 A significant Bronze Age artefact (FP01) has also been recovered from within the bounds of the proposed development site and currently resides in the National Museum of Wales. This small gold penannular 'lock ring' is one of only eight found in Wales and the only example from West Wales. Such rings tend to be more late Bronze Age in date and although not found *in situ*, it is an indicator of potentially significant activity in the immediate locality. The findspot is not marked on Figure 7 with only a general NGR given.

Table 5: Sites of Bronze and Iron Age date recorded on the HER and NMW database.

PRN	Site Name	Type	Period	NGR
14342	Berry Hill	Promontory fort	Bronze Age; Iron Age	SN06883952
FP01	Newport	Findspot	Bronze Age	SN0639

5.4 Iron Age (Table 5)

- 5.4.1 The HER lists only one definite Iron Age site within the study area, that of Berry Hill promontory fort (PRN 14343) which overlooks the Nevern Valley to the east. In the wider landscape however, settlement sites and field systems on the northern slopes of Mynydd Preseli may be evidence of more extensive settlement and use of the landscape throughout the Iron Age. It is likely that this encompassed the whole coastal landscape, including the proposed development area.

5.5 Roman Period (Table 6)

- 5.5.1 There are two sites of potential Roman date listed on the HER, comprising a possible road (PRN 126646) and mound-like earthwork (PRN 126645) identified from LiDAR data to the east. Although it is very possible these features are indeed archaeological (see section 6.5), further research as part of this assessment suggests the possibility they are not Roman in origin (see section 6.3). The road appears to have been in use in the 18th century, representing an earlier road line to the current A487, although an off shoot does head in a north-easterly direction, vaguely towards Allt Jane (PRN 40397), a rectangular defended enclosure to the west of Nevern that may have Roman origins. Generally however, the evidence of Roman activity in the area during this period is uncertain.

Table 6: Sites of Roman date recorded on the HER.

PRN	Site Name	Type	Period	NGR
126645	Careg Coetan	Earthwork	Roman?	SN066392
126646	Careg Coetan	Road	Roman?	SN066390

5.6 Early Medieval and Medieval Period (Table 7)

- 5.6.1 There is one record of an early medieval feature in the study area, that of a cross carved stone of probable 7th to 9th century date (PRN 1464). Although now lying in a private garden, it was first discovered in the churchyard of St Mary's church. This churchyard was however not founded until the 13th century, so the stone is likely to have been moved from its original location. St Brynach's church in Nevern, which houses a collection of early medieval carved stones and was the caput of the manor prior to Newport, is a possible origin. There are no further records to suggest a significant early medieval presence in the area although the historic landscape description (Section 4.6) does suggest some field enclosures may predate the late 12th century.
- 5.6.2 Newport as a settlement (PRN 12975) was founded in *circa* 1197 by William Fitzmartin as the new caput of the manor. The Fitzmartins had taken control of northern Pembrokeshire in the early 12th century and were based at a castle established in Nevern, which may already have been a location of some significance prior to the 12th century. Nevern castle changed hands several times during the 12th century, during much of the latter part of which it was a stronghold of the Welsh under Rhys ap Gruffudd. When the FitzMartins regained control towards the end of the 12th century they chose a new, more convenient site, to establish their centre of power.
- 5.6.3 A new castle was established, likely the site of 'Old Castle' PRN 1468, on the shores of the river. Two streets, Long Street and St Mary's Street, ran to the south of the castle with burgage plots laid out along them, all enclosed into a neat rectangular area by the streams of Afon Felin to the west and Afon Ysgolheigion to the east. The castle was destroyed in 1215 by Llewelyn ap Iorwerth and again in 1257 by Llewelyn ap Gruffudd. At some point in the 13th century, presumably as a consequence of one of these attacks, the castle site was moved to a new, more commanding location at the southern end of the town (PRN 1499). The focus of the town now shifted to this southern side, with a grid pattern of streets laid out and the nearby St Mary's church (PRN 1504), market site and shire hall established.
- 5.6.4 The initial town privileges were confirmed in a town charter by Nicholas FitzMartin in c.1241. A survey of 1434 recorded 233 burgage plots within the town, in the hands of 76 burgesses. This showed an expansion of the town along West Street, East Street and Bridge Street, although it seemed likely many of the burgage plots had been abandoned by 1434. This was confirmed by the archaeological excavation of some burgage plots at the northern end of the town (Murphy 2021). Schematic plans of the town in the 13th and 14th centuries are presented in figures 5 and 6.
- 5.6.5 The schematic maps suggest the focus of medieval settlement closest to the proposed development site was along the western side of Feidr Pen-y-bont. Just to the north lies the site of a holy well PRN 12915, named Ffynnon Careg / Currig after the 7th century Saint Curig. The exact form and history of the well is unclear. The name is marked on early Ordnance Survey maps associated with a spring on the edge of the tidal mudflats approximately 40m to the north of the proposed development boundary. The Curig name is also given to another well, PRN 1469, to the southeast of St Mary's Church and associated with the agricultural fair that was held in this area on the feast day of St Curig. This second, southern St Curig's well was recorded as such by the RCAHMW (1925) and Jones (1954) but not given a name on the Ordnance Survey maps. Jones (1954) also records a site called Pistyll Samson (PRN 1519), which would appear to be a riverside site close to the proposed development area. A short distance to the east of PRN 12915, the

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HER records the site of Bedd Samson PRN 1492. As discussed in section 5.2.5, this was recorded by the RCAHMW surveyors in 1925 as a medieval military earthwork. However this interpretation may be inaccurate and the site could have prehistoric origins.

- 5.6.6 The evidence from the HER suggests the main medieval settlement of Newport extended as far as Feidr Pen-y-bont but did not extend into the proposed development area. A further named holy well to the north of the site may have been the focus of a variety of activity during the medieval period. There is therefore, good potential for medieval activity throughout the area surrounding the core of the medieval settlement.



Figure 5: Schematic map of Newport as it may have been in *circa* 1220. Taken from Murphy 2021.

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Figure 6: Schematic map of Newport as it may have been in *circa* 1320, possibly the full extent of the medieval town. Taken from Murphy 2021.

Table 7: Sites of medieval date recorded on the HER

PRN	Site Name	Type	Period	NGR
1460	Newport	Friary	Medieval	SN0500039000
1464	Newport	Inscribed stone	Early medieval	SN05873885
1468	Old Castle	Ringwork	Medieval	SN05833950
1469	St Curig's Well; Ffynnon Gurig	Holy well	Medieval	SN05903869

Feidr Pen-y-bont, Newport, Pembs:
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PRN	Site Name	Type	Period	NGR
1492	Bedd Samson	Mound	Medieval	SN06293937
1499	Newport Castle; Castell Trefdraeth	Castle	Medieval	SN05703887
1501	Cross House	Cross	Medieval	SN05693909
1504	Newport Parish Church; St Mary's	Church	Medieval; post medieval	SN0579738964
1519	Pistyll Samson	Holy well	Medieval	SN064393
11321	Long Street	Findspot	Medieval	SN0569839447
11473	Trevethel	Settlement	Medieval	SN0500040000
12915	Ffynnon Careg; Ffynnon Currig	Holy well	Medieval	SN06233938
12975	Newport; Trevdraeth	Town	Medieval; post medieval	SN0500039000
14006	Banc Y Capel	Common land	Medieval; post medieval	SN058390
18818	Ffynnon Bryncyn	Holy Well; Well	Medieval; medieval?	SN0626639732

5.7 Post-Medieval and Modern Period (Table 8)

- 5.7.1 There are accounts from the 16th century that show Newport was a coastal trading centre, with cloth and wool being particularly prominent in the traded commodities and a textile industry developed in the town hinterlands. The rest of the local economy was based largely on agriculture and fishing, with some quarrying.
- 5.7.2 Despite its position as a trading post, rental records of 1594 record further depopulation of the town into the early post-medieval period, with just 44 of 211 burgage plots occupied, all clustered in the southern part of the town. Fenton (1810) records the continued decline of Newport, which he attributes to the 'sweating sickness' of the late 15th and 16th centuries and the rise of Fishguard as the main regional port and trading centre in the earlier post-medieval period.
- 5.7.3 There was a revival in Newport's fortunes in the 18th and 19th centuries and the town began to expand once more. Many of the buildings within the town centre date to this later period of rebuilding which occurred largely within the limits of the medieval town. Slate quarrying became an important feature of the 18th and 19th century economy and herring fishing also brought prosperity. The main imports during this time were limestone and coal, with lime kilns being built along the waterfront.

5.7.4 The majority of the HER records within the study area relate to this 18th and 19th century urban rebuild and include a large number of houses and cottages, along with other civic amenities such as schools, chapels, public houses, shops and a church hall. The closest such sites to the proposed development area include the Grade II listed Cromlech House (PRN 58728) which fronts Feidr-y-bont to the west and was built in the early to mid 19th century, retaining many of its traditional features. The bulk of the remaining sites are clustered within the town centre to the west. Feidr Pen-y-bont continues northward to cross the river a short distance to the north of the site and the progression of crossings are recorded, from ford (PRN 32043), ferry and stepping stones (PRN 31936) to the current bridge (PRN 21768), first built in around 1890. The current records would suggest the proposed development area was largely agricultural throughout much of the post-medieval period.

Table 8: Sites of post-medieval and modern date recorded on the HER.

PRN	Site Name	Type	Period	NGR
1500	Newport Record Office	Record office	Post medieval	SN05763896
2902	High Street	Whipping Post	Post medieval	SN05693909
2903	High Street	Stocks	Post medieval	SN05693909
7812	Ebeneser	Chapel	Post medieval	SN0580939176
18688	Tabernacle	Chapel	Post medieval	SN05753922
18691		School	Post medieval	SN05843922
21768	Newport Bridge	Bridge	Post medieval	SN06373954
24413	Newport; Trefdraeth	Town	Post medieval	SN0572439138
25443	Newport Sands	Lime Kiln	Post medieval	SN06133974
31934	Newport Bridge	Quarry	Post medieval	SN06303958
31935	Newport Bridge	Stile	Post medieval	SN06313959
31936	Newport Bridge	Stepping Stones	Post medieval	SN06313950

Feidr Pen-y-bont, Newport, Pembs:
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PRN	Site Name	Type	Period	NGR
31937	Newport Bridge	Ferry Crossing	Post medieval	SN0500040000
31938	Bryncyn House	Cottage	Post medieval	SN06213957
32043	Newport Bridge	Ford	Post medieval	SN06283951
58729	No.1 Castle Green, Castle Street	House	Post medieval	SN0571038978
58730	No.2 Castle Green, Castle Street	House	Post medieval	SN0571038970
58731	Lluest, Church Street	House	Post medieval	SN0576638996
58732	Walls of Churchyard of Church of St Mary	Churchyard walls	Post medieval	SN0578038928
58733	Ivy House (the Cnapan Restaurant), East Street (n Side)	Restaurant	Post medieval	SN0580239142
58734	Llys Meddyg, East Street	House	Post medieval	SN0589939168
58735	The Llwyngwair Arms, East Street	Public house	Post medieval	SN0573639105
58736	The Sessions House, East Street	Gallery	Post medieval	SN0574839107
58737	Ffynnon Felin, Ffeidr Felin	Farmhouse	Post medieval	SN0562338941
58738	Cromlech House, Feidr Pen-y-bont	House	Post medieval	SN0602539276
58739	No.1 Bank Terrace, Long Street	House	Post medieval	SN0573739183
58740	No.2 Bank Terrace, Long Street	House	Post medieval	SN0573839189
58741	No.3 Bank Terrace, Long Street	House	Post medieval	SN0573939195
58742	The White Cottage, Long Street	Cottage	Post medieval	SN0573839302

Feidr Pen-y-bont, Newport, Pembs:
Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment

PRN	Site Name	Type	Period	NGR
58743	Melrose, Market Street (d.b.davies,pharmacy)	Shop	Post medieval	SN0569939077
58744	No.3 Market Street (Bryn Coed)	House	Post medieval	SN0570139069
58745	Fronlas, Market Street	House	Post medieval	SN0570039051
58753	Arosfa, Upper Bridge Street	House	Post medieval	SN0562039024
58754	The Church Chapel, Upper St.Mary's Street	Church hall	Post medieval	SN0579839002
58755	No.3 Temple Terrace, Upper West Street	House	Post medieval	SN0555939051
58756	No.4 Temple Terrace	House	Post medieval	SN0556839051
58757	Bethlehem Baptist Chapel	Chapel	Post medieval	SN0558339056
58758	Major House, Upper West Street	House	Post medieval	SN0557439026
58759	Major Lodge, Upper West Street	Lodge	Post medieval	SN0558439024
58921	Limekiln at Ffynnon Bryncyn, Bryncyn	Limekiln	Post medieval	SN0614439723
59202	Newport Castle, Feidr Felin	Castle	Post medieval	SN0570838870
103045	Glan-rhyd	House	Post medieval	SN05983951
110393	Woodville Terrace	Depot; house	Modern	SN05863925
118663	Castle Hill	Farmstead	Post medieval	SN0639838676

Feidr Pen-y-bont, Newport, Pems:
Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment

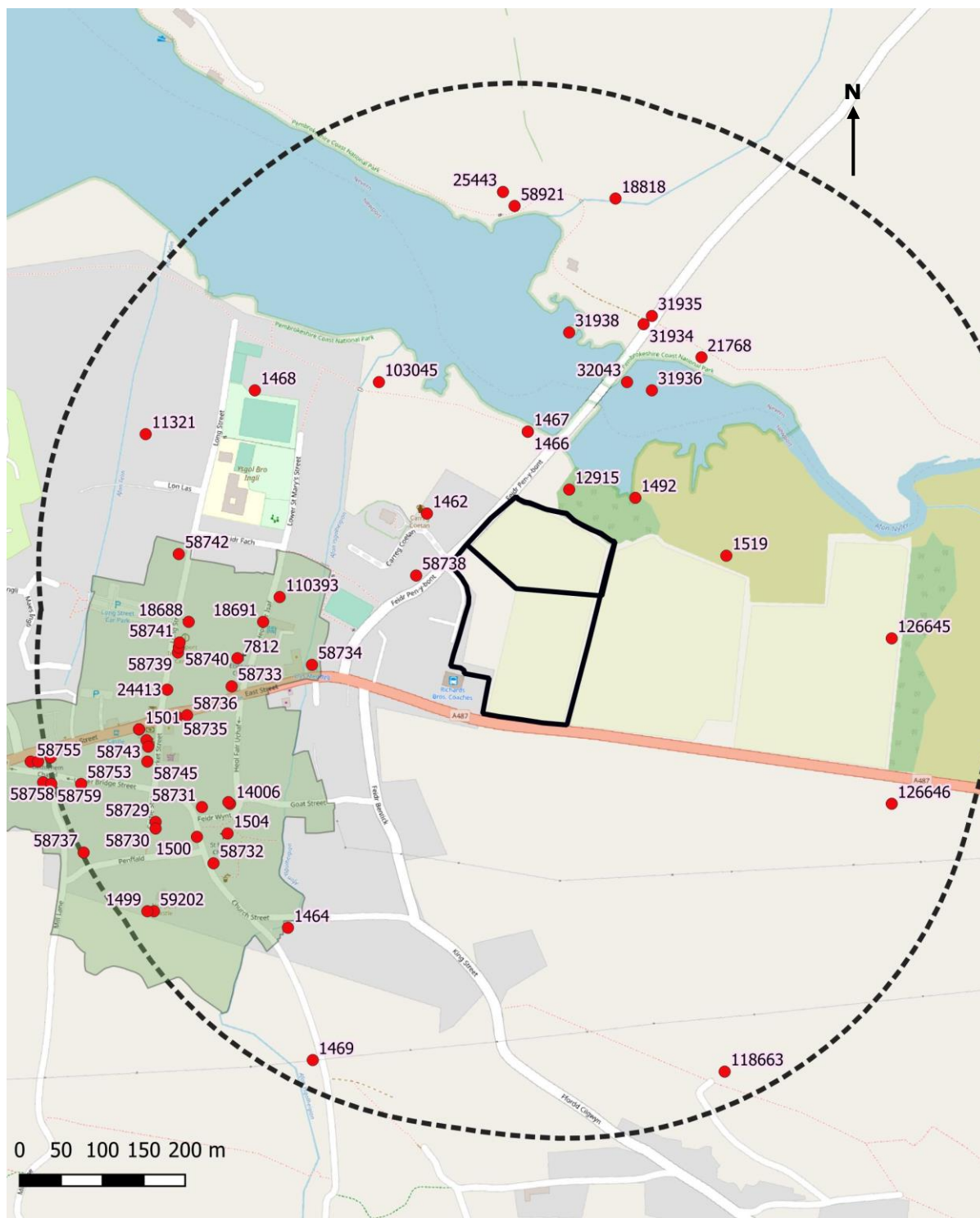


Figure 7: Map showing the proposed development site and the 500m radius study area (dotted line), together with non designated assets recorded on the regional HER, labelled by PRN.

Map data from OpenStreetMap (OSM) <https://www.openstreetmap.org/copyright> 15/05/2023.

6 ASSESSMENT OF EVIDENCE

6.1 General

- 6.1.1 Sections 4 and 5 have described 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.

Sites identified during the course of this assessment and prefixed FP, some of which are discussed in this section, are shown in Figure 12.

6.2 Previous Archaeological Work

- 6.2.1 No intrusive archaeological investigations (excavations, evaluations or watching briefs) have previously been undertaken within the proposed development area.
- 6.2.2 In 2008 an archaeological site walkover survey was carried out as part of the Tir Gofal agri-environmental scheme (Steele 2006). The proposed development area includes one of the farm holdings covered in the survey but no archaeological features were noted during the visit.
- 6.2.3 Within the wider study area there have been multiple archaeological studies and investigations undertaken during developments. More recently Dyfed Archaeological Trust produced a series of reports on the historic towns of Dyfed, including Newport (Murphy 2021). As well as examining the history and development of the town the report also summarises the archaeological investigations within it.
- 6.2.4 These investigations include geophysical survey, evaluation and archaeological excavation on Long Street in 1991 prior to the construction of a new primary school (Murphy 1994). These revealed evidence of the medieval burgage plots, with the remains of houses and a large assemblage of medieval pottery. A large number of Mesolithic flints were also recovered, further highlighting the importance of the estuary area during the Mesolithic period.
- 6.2.5 Further evidence of medieval burgage plots, possible evidence of medieval defences and post-medieval occupation were recorded in an archaeological evaluation in 2011 to the east of St Mary's Church around the initial town (Pannett 2011).
- 6.2.6 In 1921 two medieval pottery kilns were discovered during the construction of Newport Memorial Hall. A third kiln was uncovered during renovation works in 2016-17, dating to the late 15th/early 16th century. All three are considered to be some of the best preserved late medieval kilns in Britain (RCAHMW 1925, Dawson & Kent 2020).
- 6.2.7 Several archaeological watching briefs have also recorded archaeological remains. Work at Gwaunfa on West Street revealed a series of likely late medieval pits within the former burgage plot (Murphy 2015), a garage construction at Glanhelyg on Long Street revealed a discoloured layer containing a considerable amount of medieval pottery, similar to deposits uncovered in the Long Street excavations (Manley Jones 2011), an extension to the rugby club changing rooms on Long Street in 2012 uncovered part of a burgage plot boundary (Wilson 2012) and a site visit during works at Ystrad Fflur on Long Street in the early 1980s recorded some medieval pottery and part of an early stone wall that may be related to the medieval burgage plots (Stenger 1995).

- 6.2.8 Other watching briefs have recovered no indications that previous development is likely to have removed any previous evidence, including work on Parrog Road in 2014 (Davies 2014), Green Cottage on Long Street in 2007 (Manley Jones 2007), Felindre on Long Street in 2010 (Manley Jones 2010), The Globe in Upper St Mary Street in 2006 (Manley Jones 2006), Awel Deg in Goat Street in 2013 (Manley Jones 2013), the construction of a school canteen on Lower St Mary's Street in 1996 (Ramsey 1996), the construction of two houses set back from the frontage of Long Street in 2002 (Manley Jones 2002) and 2005 (Manley Jones 2005) and work at 42 Parrog Road in 2019 (Jenkins 2019). An archaeological trenched evaluation on a greenfield site at Tyddyn Dolwerdd uncovered some land drains and modern pits but recorded no archaeological remains (Ramsey 2010).
- 6.2.9 These investigations have all helped inform the current understanding of how Newport developed as a medieval town, as laid out in previous sections. They demonstrate that important archaeological remains do survive within Newport but also that this evidence can be sporadic and dependent on the subsequent development of the town.

6.3 Historic Mapping

Newport, estate map for George Bowen (Henry John) – 1758

- 6.3.1 The National Library holds the copy of a map showing lands belonging to the estate of George Bowen Esq., in and around Newport, dated to 1758. The map itself is not reproduced here due to potential copyright issues but the main features it depicts have been plotted as an overlay of the current proposed development site, presented in Figure 8.
- 6.3.2 The map clearly demonstrates a different layout of field enclosures (FP02) and alignment of the road (PRN 126646) to the east of Newport. On this map the proposed development area is subdivided into three rectangular fields running perpendicular to Feidr Pen-y-bont, all marked as arable land and possibly remnants of earlier, potentially medieval, strip field agriculture. These fields run as far east as a watercourse, still marked on some modern mapping draining through the current field. A further small field lay to the east of this which demonstrates that the current eastern boundary of the site is a later creation.
- 6.3.3 The northern end of the site is labelled as 'Church Land'. Due to the accuracy of the map and changes in reference points it is unclear if this area of land straddles the northern end of the proposed development area or lies immediately to the north. However, comparisons with subsequent mapping suggest it is likely to lie just beyond the northern boundary, and this boundary is likely to have remained broadly constant since this map was produced. This area of Church Land coincides with the location of holy well PRN 12915, potentially adding to its religious significance.
- 6.3.4 The southern end of the site comprises irregular field enclosures laid out along the present route of the A487, labelled on the 1758 map as the road to Eglwswrw. Immediately to the east of the site this road takes a more northerly route to the current line, which has been identified from LiDAR data as PRN 126646.

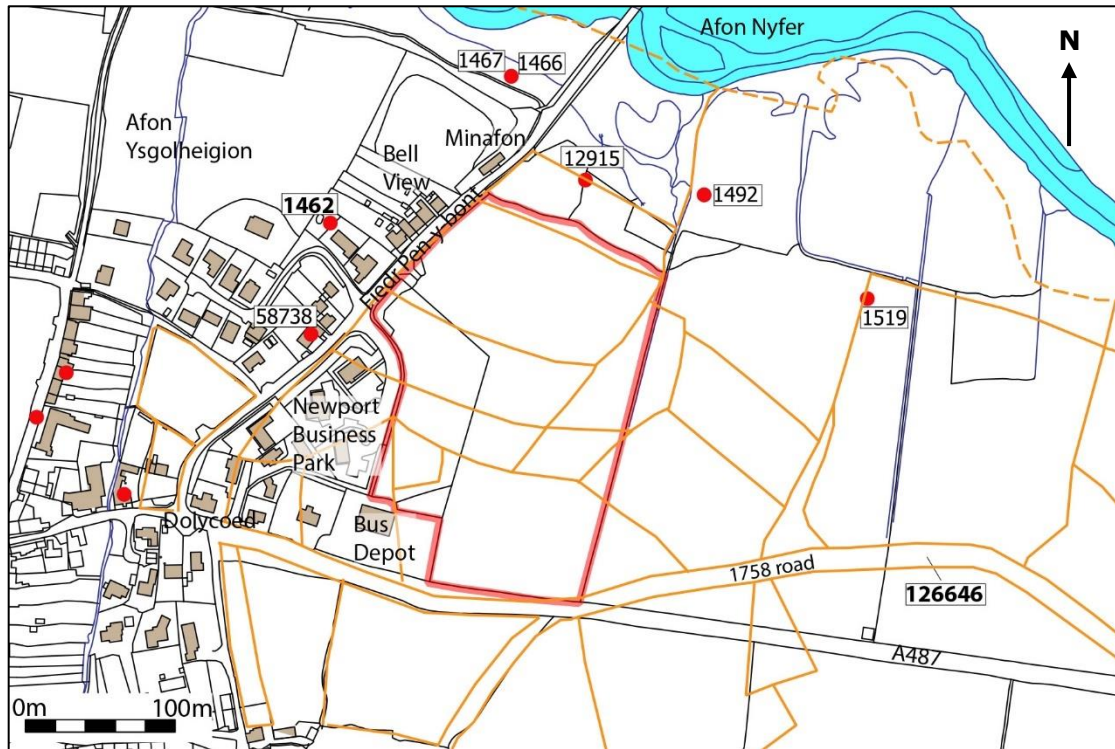


Figure 8: The approximated boundaries (FP02) and features marked on the 1758 estate map (in orange), overlaid on current mapped features. HER sites are marked with red dots, labelled by PRN.

Ordnance Survey original surveyors maps (T.Budgen) – Cardigan 1810

- 6.3.5 These early 19th century Ordnance Survey maps do not provide the detail of the other maps but do indicate that buildings lined the west side of Feidr Pen-y-bont (likely Cromlech House and the terraced cottages to the north). However, the proposed development area was undeveloped agricultural land. The road line to the south still followed the route depicted on the previous map of 1758.

Newport Parish tithe map 1844 (Fig. 9)

- 6.3.6 The 1844 parish tithe map shows a field layout very similar to the current one, demonstrating a reorganisation of the landscape in the early to mid 19th century. This reorganisation is likely in response to the new road line (FP03) which now follows the current straightened route between Newport and Pont Clydach. Although unrecorded, it is likely this was achieved through The Fishguard Turnpike Trust, established in 1791 to improve the road infrastructure to Fishguard. In around 1812 the Trust established a turnpike road between Fishguard and Newport (www.turnpikes.org.uk). The intention was to extend the road through Newport and on to Cardigan, although as milestones only exist on the route between Fishguard and Newport it had been assumed the work had stopped at Newport (Schlee 2016). This mapping however suggests the road was extended at a later date (at some point between 1810 and 1844) but possibly only in sections, which is why milestones were not added. The latter work of the Fishguard Trust in this period has been described as 'chaotic' (Williams 1953), which may fit with this piecemeal construction.
- 6.3.7 The tithe map shows the proposed development area lying within one large field with the northern and eastern boundaries as at present, amalgamating

the various smaller fields visible on the 1758 map. The field is named 'Werglo Fawr', possibly a shortened form of 'gweirglodd', meaning meadow, part of the extensive holdings of George Bowen.

- 6.3.8 Immediately to the north of the site the strip of land formerly labelled as 'Church Land' on the 1758 map is now subdivided into three units. The central unit, with a curving northern boundary, is labelled as 'Park Cerrig' (FP04) and remains church land (glebe), the name clearly linking to the site of the holy well of St Curig (PRN 12915) recorded at this point. To the west several cottages and a house line the west side of Feidr Pen-y-bont, likely those of Cromlech House, Tegfan to Bell View, and Minafon. To the southwest of the site lies the edge of the urban limits of Newport (now occupied by Hengoed, Dolycoed, Cysgod y Coed and Primrose Cottage) with an adjacent house and field (where the bus depot can now be found).



Figure 9: Extract of the 1844 parish tithe map. Approximate location of development site in red.

Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map 1889 (Fig. 10)

- 6.3.9 The detailed Ordnance Survey map of 1889 shows little change within and around the proposed development area during the latter part of the 19th century. Springs and watercourses within the field are marked, one of which formed a field boundary for the layout visible in 1758 and may once again have been used as a boundary at this time, with a short section of field boundary visible at the southern end.
- 6.3.10 The town does not appear to have expanded eastward in the intervening period. To the north the site of 'Ffynnon Careg' (PRN 12915) is marked, just to the north of the 'Park Cerrig' enclosure (FP04) of the tithe map and approached by footpaths across the estuarine deposits.

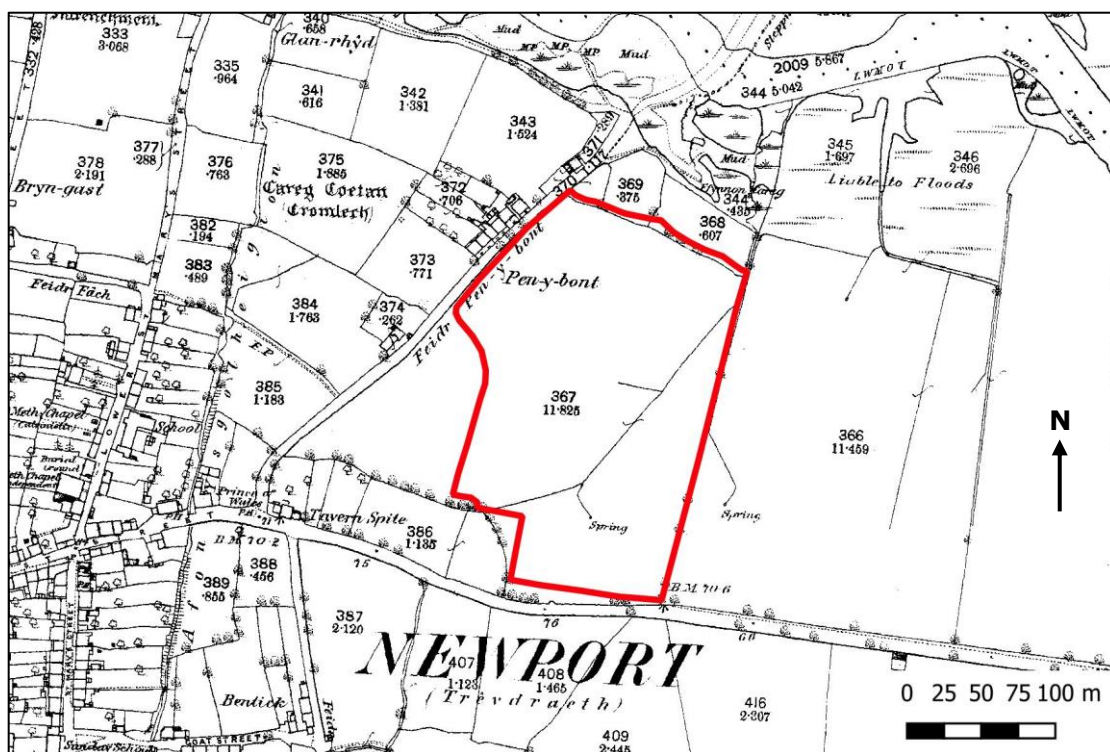


Figure 10: Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1889. Site boundary shown in red.

Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map 1907

6.3.11 No significant change is noted within the proposed development area. To the north the bridge has been built, replacing the previous ferry, ford and stepping stones. A small structure lies at the southern end of the bridge, possibly some form of toll building. The well PRN 12915 is still marked and labelled although the limits of the tidal mud around it have shifted slightly.

6.4 Aerial and Historic Photography (Photos 1 and 2)

6.4.1 A search was made of available historic and modern aerial photographs; several aerial photographs taken by the RAF between 1940 and 1954 show the area in some detail.

6.4.2 The RAF images of the 1940s and early 50s show the site as an agricultural field, bounded by hedgebanks to the north and east. A prominent watercourse, marked on historic mapping, crosses the field at an angle, with a second linear watercourse running north – south through the centre of the field, effectively acting as a crop subdivision in some images. The image from 1946 appears to show a linear feature (FP05) extending from the junction of Feidr Pen-y-bont and the A487, running northeast across the southern end of the proposed development area, through the adjacent field and into the subsequent one, becoming indistinct around feature PRN 126645 (Photo 1). The next photo in the same sequence suggests it also continues past that feature and on to the northeast. It is unclear what this represents as it does not immediately appear to correspond to a farm track and would seem to be an unusual position for buried services. It may represent buried archaeological remains such as an earlier, potentially

Roman, road line, but it is not apparent on any other aerial photographs of that time or later.

- 6.4.3 Also apparent on many of these early aerial photographs are the traces of earlier roads and field boundaries (FP02) corresponding to the layout visible on the 1758 estate map of the area (Photos 1 and 2). The small field of 'Park Cerrig' (FP04) is visible to the north, with its very distinctive curving boundary, one that is also marked on historic mapping and which appears quite distinct from the surrounding fields, possibly representing an enclosure of some archaeological note.
- 6.4.4 More recent satellite imagery is available from 2005 through to 2021. These images show that the surrounding 18th century field enclosures (FP02) and former road line are still visible as cropmarks and partial earthworks in places but no particular features of archaeological interest are visible within the proposed development site.

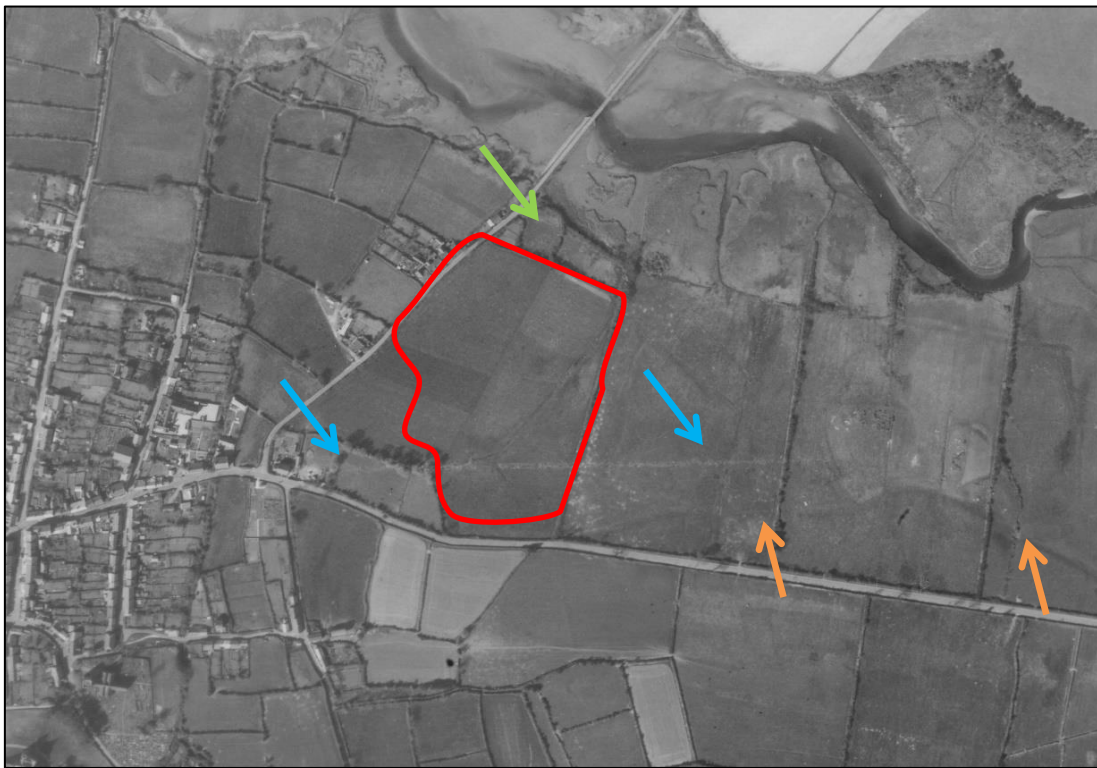


Photo 1: Aerial photograph taken by the RAF in 1946. Approximate site area shown in red, linear cropmark FP05 shown by blue arrows, 'Park Cerrig' FP04 shown with a green arrow and road line PRN 126646, visible on the 1758 estate map, shown by orange arrows. Some contemporary field boundaries are also visible as cropmarks.

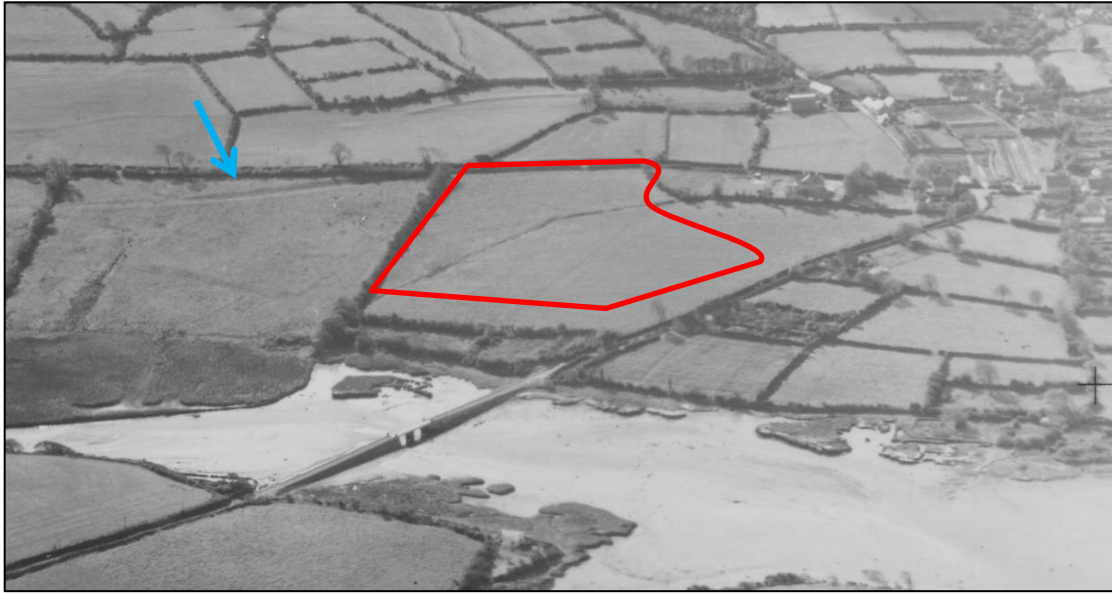


Photo 2: An oblique aerial photograph from 1952, looking south across the proposed development area (in red). The drain is visible running across the field, and the earthworks of the 1758 road PRN 126646 are visible to the east, marked by the blue arrow, with some of the contemporary field boundaries FP02 also visible as cropmarks.

6.5 LiDAR (Fig. 11)

6.5.1 LiDAR data at 1mDTM is available for the site area. This data clearly picks out a number of features that can be related to the 1758 estate map, including field boundaries (FP02) and road lines (including PRN 126646) now lying beneath the current field enclosure pattern. The earthwork feature PRN 126645 is also clearly visible to the east. Within the proposed development area the line of the drainage channel can be seen running northeast across the field. There are suggestions of a parallel linear feature to the northwest (FP06), possibly representing an earlier field boundary but one that is not marked on historic mapping. The LiDAR data suggests evidence of the pre-19th century field system FP02 may survive within the proposed development area.



Figure 11: Extract of the LiDAR data at 1m DTM across the proposed development area (in red). The pre-19th century field system layout FP02 is clearly visible throughout, with the possible additional linear boundary FP05 within the proposed development area (blue arrow).

Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.

6.6 Site Visit (Photos 3-23)

- 6.6.1 A site visit was undertaken on the 20th March 2023. Access to the entire proposed development site was possible. The weather conditions were mixed with periods of low cloud, heavy rain and poor visibility, interspersed with drier periods of improved visibility. Although efforts were made to ensure distant designated assets were visited during periods of good visibility, the changeable nature of the weather ultimately affected some long-distance views from sites on Mynydd Carningli.
- 6.6.2 The site comprised a main large field of improved pasture, with a slight northward slope down towards the nearby river (Photos 3 and 4). There is a slight earthwork denoting the line of the former water channel visible on historic maps and photographs but otherwise no specific earthworks or features of archaeological interest were discernible at ground level.
- 6.6.3 The field was accessed via a modern field gate from Feidr Pen-y-bont to the west. The field boundary along the western edge comprises a wooden fence and hedgeline (Photos 5 and 6). The road itself is set at a slightly lower level, lined on the west side by a terraced row of 19th century buildings with modern infill.

- 6.6.4 The northern boundary comprises a post and wire fenceline backed by a hedgerow, mature trees and scrub (Photo 7). Beyond this boundary lie former enclosures including FP04 and the site of the holy well PRN 12915, these however were neither accessible nor visible amongst the vegetation cover.
- 6.6.5 The eastern boundary (Photos 8 and 9) comprises a built stone wall, or stone-revetted bank, built of clay-bonded, unworked local stone, interspersed with large boulders, possibly glacial erratics and field clearance material. This wall/bank is topped by a hedgeline of mature trees and fronted by post and wire fencing. A buried drainage pipe runs along the western side of the boundary, emerging into a machine-cleared ditch towards the northern end. Large sub-rounded boulders are visible amongst the excavated ditch material. Roughly midway along the boundary (at *circa* SN 0623 3919) lies a large, semi-rectangular stone (FP07) with a pointed end, approximately 1.4m long, 0.5m wide (Photo 10). The stone lies recumbent on the field surface adjacent to the field boundary and has the appearance of being cleared from the field at some point in the past (the stone is moss covered and traversed by the wire fencing) but it is also of a size and shape compatible with a former standing stone and may therefore be of archaeological interest.
- 6.6.6 The southern boundary comprises a later stone-built wall of large unworked random rubble, topped by a hedgerow (Photo 11). The main road (A487) fronts this boundary to the south.
- 6.6.7 To the southwest lies a bus depot, laid out over embanked and levelled ground, with the new bank forming the boundary to the field (Photo 12). To the north of this lies a scrubby field enclosed by a stone wall topped by a hedgerow (Photo 13). This small field also forms part of the larger proposed development area, the southwest edge of which is bounded by post and wire fencing, beyond which lies the modern development of Newport Business Park.
- 6.6.8 Sites of interest within the immediate proposed development area include the aforementioned row of 19th century cottages along Feidr Pen-y-bont to the west, overlooking the northern end of the development site (Photo 14). This row comprises two adjoining two-storey houses (Tegfan and Hawen) in mortared random rubble with slate gable roof, the southernmost (Tegfan) rendered. Adjoining the northernmost house is the two-storey, bay-fronted Grove Park, with the adjacent two-storey Bell View, random-rubble built with slate gable roof.
- 6.6.9 Further south lies the Grade II listed Cromlech House (PRN 58738, LB ref 12492) which faces the new development of Newport Business Park (Photos 15 and 16). Modern infill housing fronts the road around these traditional buildings and includes a small cul-de-sac of modern bungalows behind (Carreg Coetan). Behind these bungalows lies the Neolithic chambered tomb of Coetan Arthur PRN 1462 / PE056, within a small, fenced enclosure (Photo 17). The intervening bungalows and associated gardens separate this site from any intervisibility or direct connection to the proposed development area (Photo 18).
- 6.6.10 To the north the ground falls to the river's edge, with a band of mature trees and scrub dividing the proposed development site from the river. As mentioned, the sites of Ffynnon Carreg holy well PRN 12915, enclosure FP04 and Bedd Samson PRN 1492 all lie within this scrub and were not accessible at the time of survey. The location of buried Mesolithic material PRNs 1466 and 1467 lies in an area of tidal mudflats and a coastal footpath. The road continues to cross the river via bridge PRN 21768. The partial remains of

earlier stepping stones PRN 31936 are visible to the east but no other earlier crossings are immediately apparent.

- 6.6.11 As well as Coetan Arthur chambered tomb (PE056), several other scheduled monuments in the area were also visited. Old Castle PE404 lies a short walk to the west and comprises prominent turf-covered earthworks with a tennis court to the west and sports fields to the south (Photo 19). There are no visible or direct connections between this site and the proposed development area. Intervening urban development similarly blocks any visual or direct links with the subsequent castle PE087 and features within the nearby churchyard (PE304 and PE305) (Photo 20).
- 6.6.12 Further afield the scheduled monuments on Mynydd Carningli were difficult to assess due to the changeable weather. Carn Ingli Round Barrow PE087 is a difficult site to identify as there are a number of barrow sites, enclosures and cairns on the lower slopes of the hill but no clear remains corresponding directly to the scheduled area. The depicted site of the scheduled monument occupies generally northeast facing slopes, looking out over the patchwork of field enclosures and dispersed farmsteads and cottages to the northeast, with clear intervisibility back to the prominent summit of Mynydd Carningli (PE011). Nearby Carn Llwyd ring cairn PE495 occupies a position on a slight rounded spur on the lower slopes of Carningli with extensive views over Newport Bay and the surrounding landscape (Photo 21). The houses of Newport feature in these views, particularly the rendered frontages, and the proposed development area is also visible (Photo 22).
- 6.6.13 Carn Ingli Camp PE011 covers a large site on and around the distinctive rocky summit of the hill. This area includes extensive views northward across Newport and the surrounding countryside, including the proposed development area (Photo 23), and is also a prominent landmark in views from within and around Newport itself, again including the proposed development area (Photo 3). The impact of these views were difficult to assess during the site visit due to rolling banks of low cloud. Carn Briw Round Cairn PE544 was not visited during the survey due to the changeable weather but as it occupies the summit of Mynydd Carningli its outlook and visibility will be very similar to that of PE011.
- 6.6.14 Carn Ffoi Camp PE051 was not directly visited during the survey but this site occupies a northerly facing promontory with views across the coastal lowlands and out to sea, incorporating much of the western end of Newport. The proposed development area however is not a prominent part of this viewscape.



Photo 3: View south across the proposed development area from the northwest corner of the field, with Mynydd Carningli in the background.



Photo 4: View north across the proposed development area from the southeast corner of the field.



Photo 5: View southwest along the western boundary to the site, with field gate. The row of 19th century cottages line the west side of Feidr Pen-y-bont.



Photo 6: View northwest of the western boundary to the site, overlooked by the row of 19th century cottages along Feidr Pen-y-bont.



Photo 7: View northeast of the northern boundary to the site, with enclosure FP04 and holy well PRN 12915 in the scrub.



Photo 8: View southeast showing the construction of the eastern field boundary. 1m scale.



Photo 9: View east of the disturbed boulders within the ditch upcast at the northern end of the eastern field boundary. 1m scale.



Photo 10: View southeast of the recumbent stone against the eastern field boundary, possibly representing a former standing stone FP07. 1m scale.



Photo 11: View south of the southern field boundary to the A487. 1m scale.



Photo 12: View southwest showing the adjacent bus depot on raised and levelled ground to the southwest.



Photo 13: View southeast across the small adjacent field, part of the wider proposed development area.



Photo 14: View WSW of the 19th century cottages fronting Feidr Pen-y-bont.



Photo 15: View west of the Grade II listed Cromlech House (PRN 58738, LB ref 12492).



Photo 16: View northeast showing the view from Cromlech House towards the proposed development site, lying behind the mature trees and entrance to Newport Business Park.



Photo 17: View north of Coetan Arthur chambered tomb PRN 1462 / PE056.



Photo 18: View east from Coetan Arthur chambered tomb PRN 1462 / PE056 towards the proposed development site, not visible beyond the adjacent developments.



Photo 19: View southeast across the earthwork remains of Old Castle PE404, looking towards the proposed development site (not visible).



Photo 20: View northeast from St Mary's church, looking towards the proposed development site (not visible).



Photo 21: View north from the lower slopes of Mynydd Carningli, approximating views from the vicinity of Carn Llwyd ring cairn PE495.



Photo 22: As the previous image but showing the proposed development site (red arrow).



Photo 23: View north from Carn Ingli Camp PE011. The town of Newport is just visible, as is the proposed development site (arrow).

7 ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL, IMPORTANCE AND SETTING

Table 9: Site potential definitions

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

Table 10: Site importance definitions

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

7.1 Potential

- 7.1.1 There are no sites previously recorded on the regional HER within the bounds of the proposed development area, although this assessment has identified some additional sites of potential interest. What is clear however is that the proposed development area lies within an area of archaeological sensitivity from multiple periods. Archaeological investigations in the area have recovered evidence of Mesolithic activity around the estuary (PRN 1466 and Murphy 1994). The presence of Coetan Arthur chambered tomb (PRN 1462) and Bedd Samson (PRN 1492) suggests increased activity in the area during the Neolithic period. The site lies in a landscape of Bronze Age and Iron Age activity (Murphy and Ludlow 2003). Potential Roman activity has also been recorded to the east (PRNs 126645 and 126646). Newport was a medieval town and trading centre that extended as far as Feidr Pen-y-bont, with activity likely in the immediate hinterland, including the proposed development area. As a consequence, there is considered to be a **Medium archaeological potential** spanning multiple periods in the proposed development area, currently of **Uncertain value** as the nature of this potential archaeology is not known at present.
- 7.1.2 This assessment has identified seven new sites within or adjacent to the proposed development site (labelled FP01 to FP07), not previously recorded on the HER (figure 12).
- 7.1.3 A significant Bronze Age artefact (**FP01**) has been recovered from within the proposed development site which is currently being held by the National Museum of Wales. An exact location is not given and the object itself was likely displaced from its original context, but given the general archaeological potential outlined above, there is a **Medium potential** for an associated site within the area that could represent a site of **High value** given the importance and value of the retrieved artefact.
- 7.1.4 Mid-18th century mapping depicts an earlier field layout across the proposed development area (**FP02**). The presence of these earlier boundaries is also shown on aerial photography and LiDAR data, which suggests a **High potential** for archaeological remains of this field layout to survive. As field boundary features however it is anticipated they would be of **Low value**.
- 7.1.5 Historic mapping also shows a change in the road alignment, with the route currently followed by the A487 established in the early to mid-19th century. This is likely to be a turnpike road (**FP03**) with a **Low to Medium potential** for associated remains along the southern edge of the proposed development area. Such remains are likely to be **Low value**, associated with construction of the road.
- 7.1.6 Historic mapping, aerial photography and associated archaeological remains identify a potential enclosure with religious associations (**FP04**), known as Parc Cerrig bordering the northern edge of the proposed development area. This enclosure lies outside the proposed development area, therefore there is a **Low potential** for archaeological remains within the proposed development area itself. The nature of this site and any potential activity associated with it is uncertain and therefore any associated remains are currently of **Uncertain value**.
- 7.1.7 Some early aerial photography suggests a linear feature (**FP05**) crosses the proposed development area. The visibility of the feature on the image would suggest a **Medium to High potential** for remains to exist. However, as this is only apparent on one set of aerial images, the nature and value of this feature is **Uncertain**.

- 7.1.8 LiDAR data suggests another linear feature (**FP06**) crossing part of the proposed development area. The alignment would suggest it is associated with the 18th century field boundaries, although it is not depicted on contemporary mapping. The presence on the LiDAR data would suggest a **Medium potential** for remains to exist, and if associated with the field boundaries then this would also be of **Low value**.
- 7.1.9 The site visit identified a recumbent stone (**FP07**) along the field boundary. The stone has presumably been cleared from the field at some point in the past and may represent a former Bronze Age standing stone. As such and given the general archaeological potential and presence of FP01, there is a **Medium potential** for an associated site of **Medium value** within the area, potentially increasing to **High value** if it is directly associated with FP01.

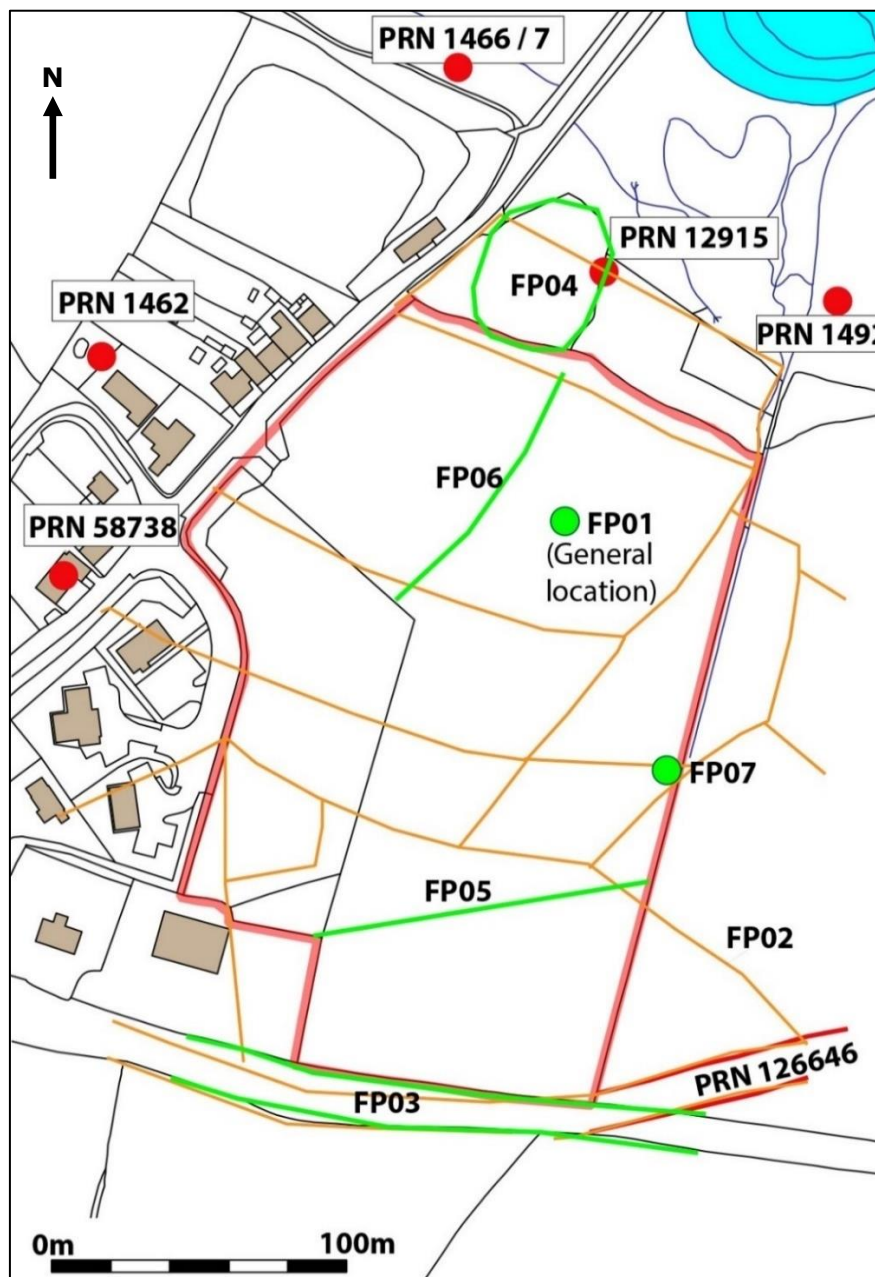


Figure 12: Location plan of sites identified during the assessment (in green and orange), together with existing HER sites.

7.2 Setting

7.2.1 *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (Cadw 2017) offers guidance on defining and analysing the setting of designated heritage assets to allow the impact of development to be appropriately assessed. The setting of such assets 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.

7.2.2 The designated heritage assets that have been examined within this study area are described in Section 4 and include scheduled monuments, listed buildings, a conservation area and historic landscape areas.

Scheduled monuments

7.2.3 The closest site is that of **PE056 Carreg Coetan Burial Chamber**. The site has been excavated, its form and layout is relatively well understood and the visible remains now stand within a separate fenced enclosure, publicly accessible and provided with an interpretation panel. The enclosure provides a clear boundary to the site, particularly given modern development now immediately surrounds it to the east and south. Enclosed fields to the west and north maintain an open association with the coastal estuary setting and potentially significant visual links with the summit of Mynydd Carningli to the south have also been maintained. At present the proposed development area is not a significant element in the setting of this monument, particularly given the intervening urban development which blocks any intervisibility. However, there is a possible link in terms of the buried archaeological resource and the potential for Neolithic archaeological remains is highlighted in Section 7.1 which could form part of a larger contemporary setting for PE056. However, at present no known associated archaeological remains have been identified to place the proposed development area within such a setting.

7.2.4 The current setting of **PE404 The Old Castle** includes the coastal strip to the north and the open playing fields to the south; it is bounded by scrub and woodland to the east and west but its original setting is larger. It is closely associated with the original layout of the medieval town which has the appearance of a planned settlement with the castle as the key element. As such, the setting includes Long Street and Lower St Mary's Street and properties laid out along it, bordered by the Afon Felin to the west and the Afon Ysgolheigion to the east, with access to the estuary to the north. The proposed development area does not feature within this setting.

7.2.5 Both **PE304 Pillar Cross in Newport Churchyard** and **PE305 Pillar Cross 140m SE of Newport Church** have a similar setting in that they are likely associated with early medieval and medieval religious sites but both are likely to have been moved from their original locations and settings. Currently both are closely associated with the site of St Mary's Church, although one lies in a private garden. At present their setting is unlikely to extend much further beyond this physical and visual association with the church and churchyard. The proposed development area does not feature within this setting.

- 7.2.6 As with PE404, the setting of **PE087 Newport Castle** is closely associated with the layout of the medieval settlement of Newport. This associated settlement is an expanded one including streets to the south and west of the settlement associated with PE404 but is still identifiable in the current street and boundary layout of Newport, extending as far east as Feidr Pen-y-bont. Associated with this medieval town are remnants of medieval strip fields that surround the town. Although such strip fields may have existed within the proposed development area, it has been shown that the current layout of the proposed development area is 19th century in date and is therefore not part of this wider visible medieval layout; at present medieval settlement is not thought to extend into the proposed development area. There is however the potential for associated buried archaeological remains, though (as with PE056) no such remains have been identified to place the proposed development area within such a setting to date. The siting of the castle in a more prominent location to its predecessor also likely brings in an element of visibility into its setting, both in terms of making the castle a more visible and domineering presence in the locality and in extending views from the castle. These extended views likely improved the residential aesthetic and functional defensive elements of the castle.
- 7.2.7 The remaining scheduled monuments, **PE019 Carn Ingli Round Barrows**, **PE495 Carn Llwyd Ring Cairn**, **PE051 Carn Ffoi Camp**, **PE011 Carn Ingli Camp** and **PE544 Carn Briw Round Cairn** lie on the higher slopes of Mynydd Carningli and share many interconnected and similar setting aspects. These include the surrounding unenclosed upland landscape, the intervisibility with each other and other prehistoric monuments on the slopes and summit of the hill, the open access to these monuments and their location within an identifiable prehistoric landscape. The visual aspect to the setting of these monuments is also an important element, with extensive views from, and of, each of these monuments. As with other scheduled prehistoric monuments there is a potential that the proposed development area may affect buried archaeological elements of the wider prehistoric landscape setting associated with these sites but there are currently no known archaeological remains that will be affected. The main potential impact of the proposed development will be through the general visual aspect of the setting, increasing the visual limits of the urban spread of Newport and modern development visible from these prehistoric monuments, and affecting the viewpoints that take them in. As such, the proposed development will feature in views from PE495 Carn Llwyd Ring Cairn and, more distantly, from PE011 Carn Ingli Camp and PE544 Carn Briw Round Cairn. These sites are also visible from the proposed development area, although PE495 and PE544 are less distinct, with PE011 being a prominent monument on the distant horizon. The proposed development area does not feature within the views to and from PE019 and PE051.

Listed buildings

- 7.2.8 The vast majority of the 22 listed buildings within the study area share a similar setting beyond their immediate property boundaries, associated with the visible layout and understanding of the town and its medieval origins. The proposed development area forms part of the general agricultural surroundings to the town but otherwise is not a prominent feature of the setting of these buildings. The closest listed building is **Cromlech House (LB 12492)**. When originally constructed this house is likely to have been a relatively peripheral structure with an open easterly aspect and sporadic development along the west side of Feidr Pen-y-bont. More recently, this setting has changed with the building now surrounded by modern infill

development along the west side of Feidr Pen-y-bont and faces mature hedgerows and the modern development of Newport Business Park. The proposed development area is not immediately visible from the site but will increase the sense of surrounding urban development that has already been established in the vicinity.

Conservation areas

- 7.2.9 **Newport Conservation Area** is drawn around the historic centre of Newport and includes the majority of listed buildings mentioned above (but excludes Cromlech House). It therefore shares the same setting to those listed buildings.

Historic landscapes

- 7.2.10 The proposed development area affects two Historic Landscape Character Areas that form part of the **Newport and Carningli Landscape of Special Historic Interest (HLW (D) 15)**. These two Character Areas comprise **HLCA 362 Holmhouse – Tycanol** and **HLCA 361 Newport**. The distinctive characteristics of these areas, which includes their setting, are laid out in the descriptions given in section 4.6.
- 7.2.11 The proposed development area comprises approximately 0.8% of the total area of **HLCA 362** and includes a characteristic pastoral field with boundaries of stone-faced banks and maintained hedges but does not include surviving elements of the medieval strip fields, built elements or identified prehistoric monuments.
- 7.2.12 The proposed development area would comprise 4.4% of the current total area of **HLCA 361** but does not at present include the characteristic built urban elements of this area or related archaeological sites. It would however represent an extension of the characteristic elements of this area.

8 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 Development Details (Fig. 2)

8.1.1 The outline design proposals are illustrated in Figure 2 and comprise residential development initially spread across the northern part of the current field, covering a total area of approximately 1.37 hectares. Current proposals indicate a total of 40 detached and semi-detached residential units, split between one, two, three and four bedroom houses and bungalows. The main road access will be from Feidr Pen-y-bont to the west, via the existing field entrance. This assessment has also examined the remaining field to the south which has been highlighted as potential future development space and an adjoining field to the southwest which is an undeveloped part of the Newport Business Park. Together this encompasses an area of just under 3.8 hectares.

8.1.2 Generally, any of the following activities typically associated with a residential development on this scale could have a physical 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 anticipated that such a development is likely to expose most of the area to potential ground-disturbing works.

8.1.3 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 7.2.

8.2 Impact Assessment Criteria

8.2.1 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.

8.2.2 The TAG criteria divides the impacts into seven categories:

- Large Adverse (negative)
- Moderate Adverse (negative)
- Slight Adverse (negative)
- Neutral
- Slight Beneficial (positive)
- Moderate Beneficial (positive)
- Large Beneficial (positive)

8.3 Physical Impacts upon the Historic Assets

- 8.3.1 There is considered to be **Medium archaeological potential** for archaeological remains spanning a wide period from the prehistoric through to the medieval. Given that the potential existence, extent and nature of any such archaeological remains are at present not known, the potential impact upon them is also difficult to verify. Should such remains exist however then the impact is likely to be adverse, and is categorised here as a **Moderate Adverse impact** but could vary from slight to large.
- 8.3.2 **FP01** is a Bronze Age artefact recovered from within the proposed development area. Although found out of context there is considered to be a medium potential for a Bronze Age feature associated with this find to exist within the proposed development area. There is however uncertainty over the presence, condition and extent of such a feature which makes quantifying the potential impact difficult, but as with the previous potential it is categorised here as a potential **Moderate Adverse impact**.
- 8.3.3 **FP02** is a series of field boundaries that cross the proposed development area and beyond. Groundworks both within the initial phase of works at the northern end of the site and in any subsequent developments to the south, are likely to adversely impact buried remains which aerial photography and LiDAR analysis suggest exist. However, as these features are more extensive in the wider landscape, such development will only affect part of the total area of these remains, therefore works in the proposed development area are considered to have a **Slight to Moderate Adverse impact**.
- 8.3.4 **FP03** relates to activity associated with an early to mid-19th century turnpike road. Initial proposed development works at the northern end of the site will have a **Neutral impact** on any such remains. Future development to the south, with the potential creation of a secondary entrance from the A487 to the south, would increase this impact to Slight Adverse as associated remains are not considered likely to be extensive.
- 8.3.5 **FP04** relates to an enclosure with possible religious associations that borders the proposed development area to the north. This enclosure therefore lies outside the proposed development area with potential impacts dependent on the spread of any associated activity and any proposed works to the northern boundary of the site. Given this proximity there is considered to be a potential **Slight Adverse impact** from development.
- 8.3.6 **FP05** is a linear feature of uncertain character. It crosses the southern part of the proposed development site and therefore lies outside the boundary of the initial development proposals, thereby having a **Neutral impact**. Future development to the south however would increase the potential impact to Moderate Adverse.
- 8.3.7 **FP06** is another linear feature thought to potentially be related to the earlier field boundaries. This feature lies within the northern part of the site and would likely be largely removed through initial development as LiDAR suggests potential near-surface remains, resulting in a **Large Adverse impact**.
- 8.3.8 **FP07** is a possible standing stone that currently lies recumbent against the eastern field boundary. This site is very similar to FP01, in that it has probably been displaced from its original context. Its original location is likely to have been within the bounds of the current field which is vulnerable to development works. The stone itself is also vulnerable to general site clearance and boundary works, therefore there is a potential **Moderate Adverse impact**.

8.4 Impacts to the Settings of Surrounding Designated Assets

- 8.4.1 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.

- 8.4.2 As illustrated in Section 7.2 there are several designated assets in the area whose settings may incorporate some element of the proposed development area, including scheduled monuments, listed buildings, a conservation area, and historic landscape areas.
- 8.4.3 For scheduled monument **PE056 Carreg Coetan Burial Chamber**, the only potential aspect of its setting that may be impacted upon is the potential for associated contemporary archaeological remains to be present. As stated however, no such remains have yet been identified, therefore on a current understanding the impact on the setting would be **Neutral**.
- 8.4.4 For scheduled monuments **PE404 The Old Castle**, **PE304 Pillar Cross in Newport Churchyard** and **PE305 Pillar Cross 140m SE of Newport Church**, no aspect of their settings was identified within the proposed development area.
- 8.4.5 For scheduled monument **PE087 Newport Castle**, there is the potential for associated and contemporary archaeological remains relating to the medieval settlement of Newport within the proposed development area. As a planned settlement established with the castle and developing with the castle as its power centre, remains of the settlement form part of the setting for this scheduled monument. However, as with PE056, there are at present no known associated remains positively identified within the area. Similarly a visual aspect to the setting, including views from the castle, was identified but the subsequent development of Newport severs this visual link to the proposed development area, therefore on a current understanding the impact on the setting would be **Neutral**.
- 8.4.6 The remaining scheduled monuments within the study area all share the similar potential setting aspect of a visual link to the proposed development area. Neither PE019 Carningli Round Barrows nor PE051 Carn Ffoi Camp include the proposed development area in their visual settings. However, for **PE495 Carn Llwyd Ring Cairn**, **PE011 Carn Ingli Camp** and **PE544 Carn Briw Round Cairn** the proposed development will feature in, and therefore change, the views from them. There will be a visible increase in the urban spread of Newport into the surrounding enclosed farmland. This spread however does not obscure any noticeable landmarks or contemporary archaeological features and presents only a small visual element in the extensive views from all these sites. The proposed development is not a noted viewpoint of these monuments and will therefore not obscure views towards the monuments, or feature in notable views of the monuments. Therefore, there is considered to be a **Neutral to Slight Adverse impact** on the settings of PE495, PE011 and PE544.
- 8.4.7 Only one listed building was identified with a potential impact from the proposed development, that of the Grade II listed **Cromlech House (LB 12492)**. As stated in section 7.2 the proposed development will increase the sense of urban development surrounding this building, originally

constructed on the fringe of the town with a relatively open eastern aspect. This aspect however has already been lost and a sense of urban expansion in the immediate vicinity of the building established. The addition of further building to the northeast is considered to have a **Neutral to Slight Adverse impact** on the setting of this building. This may increase to a more definite Slight Adverse impact with subsequent development of the southern part of the proposed development area.

- 8.4.8 The vast majority of listed buildings are unlikely to be affected by the proposed development. The Newport Conservation Area is drawn around the historic centre of the town and includes many of these listed buildings, this area will therefore also be unaffected.
- 8.4.9 The site lies within the **Newport and Carningli Landscape of Special Historic Interest (HLW (D) 15)**. Proposed development will impact upon two associated Historic Landscape Character Areas, that of HLCA 362 Holmhouse – Tycanol and HLCA 361 Newport.
- 8.4.10 **HLCA 362** is a large area and although proposed development will lead to the loss of an agricultural field that forms one of its characteristic elements, total development will still only account for less than 1% of the total area. Important archaeological characteristics such as identified monuments and remnants of medieval strip fields have not currently been identified within the proposed development area and the existing field outline will be maintained. **HLCA 361** is an urban area, therefore the proposed development would see its expansion of up to 4.4%. This expansion is surrounded by urban development to the west and southwest, and therefore will be in keeping with the surrounding character of this area. Generally therefore, it is considered that there will be a **Neutral to Slight Adverse impact** upon the HLCAs and the registered Historic Landscape as a whole.

9 CONCLUSIONS

9.1 Archaeological Potential and Impact Assessment (Table 11)

- 9.1.1 The assessment has identified a **Medium** archaeological potential for a range of archaeological activity from the prehistoric through to the medieval period and beyond within the proposed development area. As the nature of this potential archaeology is unknown so the value of it is uncertain but any proposed development will likely have a **Moderate Adverse** impact upon such archaeological remains should they exist.
- 9.1.2 Alongside this general archaeological potential a number of possible new sites within the proposed development area have also been identified during the course of the assessment.
- 9.1.3 These new sites include a potentially **High Value** site associated with an important Bronze Age artefact (FP01) recovered from within the field encompassing the proposed development; proposed development could therefore have a **Moderate Adverse** impact upon such a site.
- 9.1.4 A potential removed standing stone (FP07) lies on the field edge and may also be related to a site of at least **Medium Value** within the proposed development area, which could therefore have a **Moderate Adverse** impact upon such a site and the stone itself.
- 9.1.5 Two sites of uncertain value have been identified, comprising an adjacent enclosure (FP04) and linear feature (FP05). The latter has been identified on aerial images and therefore has a **Medium to High potential** for remains to exist. However, the former lies adjacent to the site and therefore has a **Low potential** for remains within the proposed development area. The proximity of FP04 suggests a possible **Slight Adverse** impact from development. FP05 lies outside the area of initial development, therefore there will be a **Neutral** impact but this would increase to a moderate adverse impact should the southern part of the proposed development area be developed.
- 9.1.6 The remaining sites are all considered to be of **Low Value**. They include former pre-19th century field boundaries (FP02), an early to mid-19th century turnpike road (FP03) and a linear feature, potentially another field boundary (FP06). Field boundaries FP02 and FP06 have a high to medium potential to exist within the initial proposed development area. Elements of the road FP03 are unlikely to exist in this initial area but there is a low to medium potential for remains within the subsequent development area to the south. Remains of FP02 are likely to be impacted by the proposed development but only a part of the larger system of boundaries will be affected, considered to be a **Slight to Moderate Adverse** impact. FP06 however lies entirely within the initial proposed development area, therefore the impact will be a **Large Adverse** one. FP03 lies outside the initial development area which will therefore have a **Neutral** impact, but this will increase to slight adverse with potential future development to the south.
- 9.1.7 No designated historic assets lie within the proposed development area but the potential impact of proposed development on the setting of a number of such features has been examined.
- 9.1.8 For scheduled monuments a potential **Neutral to Slight Adverse** impact was identified on the settings of PE495 Carn Llwyd Ring Cairn, PE011 Carn Ingli Camp and PE544 Carn Briw Round Cairn due to the change in views from these monuments.

- 9.1.9 For listed buildings a similar **Neutral to Slight Adverse** impact was identified on the setting of the grade II listed Cromlech House (LB 12492) through an increase in surrounding urban development.
- 9.1.10 For registered historic landscapes, a **Neutral to Slight Adverse** impact was identified on the Newport and Carningli Landscape of Special Historic Interest (HLW (D) 15) due to changes to the associated Historic Landscape Character Areas of HLCA 362 Holmhouse – Tycanol and HLCA 361 Newport.

9.2 Mitigation

- 9.2.1 Due to the archaeological potential and archaeological sites identified within the proposed development area, further archaeological mitigation may be required at different stages in the development process. Any requirements for archaeological mitigation rests with the local planning authority and will be based on recommendations from their archaeological planning advisors.
- 9.2.2 The presence of identified archaeological activity in the locality, from the Mesolithic through to the medieval period, raises the possibility of such activity extending into the proposed development area but this potential is at present untested. Mapping evidence, aerial photography, LiDAR imagery and a site visit have identified more positive evidence of potential archaeological remains within the proposed development area, the possible locations of which are illustrated on Figure 12. However, a better understanding of the potential archaeological resource within the proposed development area may be considered desirable. Geophysical survey techniques could provide a relatively rapid method of identifying the potential survival of archaeological remains within the proposed development area. The site as it currently appears, as a field of pasture on a gentle slope with minimal interference from development, offers a good opportunity for geophysical surveying.
- 9.2.3 Dependent on the results of such a survey, further, more intrusive, archaeological investigations may be required to establish the presence, extent, character and significance of archaeological remains. Such work could take the form of evaluation trenches targeting potential archaeological remains. These trenches are typically machine excavated under archaeological supervision, with the trench and any revealed archaeological remains subsequently investigated and appropriately recorded by archaeologists. Both geophysical survey and archaeological evaluation would seek to understand the archaeological resource in greater depth to allow for more informed decision making and the possibility of further mitigation measures; consequently such work is often, but not exclusively, undertaken prior to any potential planning decisions. Further mitigation measures could vary greatly depending on whether archaeological remains are discovered and the condition, extent and value of those remains.
- 9.2.4 Impacts, albeit slight, have been identified on surrounding designated historic assets and the historic landscape. Impacts on scheduled monuments on Mynydd Carningli are largely visual in nature, therefore consideration should be given to the design scheme in order to reduce the visual impact of the development when viewed from these sites. The impact upon the historic landscape could also be reduced by maintaining field boundaries where possible.

Table 11: Assessment of impacts

					Initial Development (northern end)		Potential future development (southern end)	
Site Name & Type	Ref. No.	Potential	Value	Site Status	Physical Impact	Setting Impact	Physical Impact	Setting Impact
General Archaeological Potential	-	Medium	Uncertain	-	Moderate Adverse	-	Moderate Adverse	-
Bronze Age artefact and associated site	FP01	Medium	High	-	Moderate Adverse	-	Moderate Adverse	-
Pre-19 th century field boundaries	FP02	High	Low	-	Slight to Moderate Adverse	-	Slight to Moderate Adverse	-
Early to mid-19 th century turnpike road	FP03	Low - Medium	Low	-	Neutral	-	Slight Adverse	-
Parc Cerrig Medieval-post medieval religious enclosure	FP04	Low	Uncertain	-	Slight Adverse	-	Neutral	-
Linear feature / possible road	FP05	Medium – High	Uncertain	-	Neutral	-	Moderate Adverse	-

Feidr Pen-y-bont, Newport, Pems:
Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment

					Initial Development (northern end)		Potential future development (southern end)	
Site Name & Type	Ref. No.	Potential	Value	Site Status	Physical Impact	Setting Impact	Physical Impact	Setting Impact
Linear feature / possible field boundary	FP06	Medium	Low	-	Large Adverse	-	Neutral	-
Possible standing stone and associated site	FP07	Medium	Medium	-	Moderate Adverse	-	Moderate Adverse	-
Carn Ingli Camp	PE011	-	High	Scheduled monument	-	Neutral to Slight Adverse	-	Neutral to Slight Adverse
Carn Llwyd ring cairn	PE495	-	High	Scheduled monument	-	Neutral to Slight Adverse	-	Neutral to Slight Adverse
Carn Briw Round Cairn	PE544	-	High	Scheduled monument	-	Neutral to Slight Adverse	-	Neutral to Slight Adverse
Cromlech House	LB 12492	-	High	Listed building (Grade II)	-	Neutral to Slight Adverse	-	Slight Adverse

Feidr Pen-y-bont, Newport, Pembs:
Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment

					Initial Development (northern end)		Potential future development (southern end)	
Site Name & Type	Ref. No.	Potential	Value	Site Status	Physical Impact	Setting Impact	Physical Impact	Setting Impact
Historic Landscape Holmhouse – Tycanol	HLCA 362	-	High	Registered Historic Landscape	Neutral to Slight Adverse	Neutral to Slight Adverse	Neutral to Slight Adverse	Neutral to Slight Adverse
Historic Landscape Newport	HLCA 361	-	High	Registered Historic Landscape	Neutral to Slight Adverse	Neutral to Slight Adverse	Neutral to Slight Adverse	Neutral to Slight Adverse

10 SOURCES

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