

SHIPPING FARM, LLAWHADEN, NARBERTH, PEMBROKESHIRE: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT



Prepared by DAT Archaeological Services
For: Andrew Jones



DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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By

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SHIPPING FARM, LLAWHADEN, NARBERTH, PEMBROKESHIRE
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned to prepare a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment of proposed development at Shipping Farm, Llawhaden, Pembrokeshire (SN 07149 19547). No specific archaeological remains have been identified within the development area, but a possible moderate adverse impact upon a low to medium potential for general archaeological remains has been identified. No designated archaeological assets will be impacted. Proposals to mitigate the impact upon the archaeological resource are suggested.

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Comisiynwyd Gwasanaethau Archeoleg YAD i baratoi Asesiad ar Ddesg yr Amgylchedd Hanesyddol o datblygiad arfaethedig yn Shipping Farm, Llawhaden, Sir Benfro (SN 07149 19547). Nid oes unrhyw olion archeolegol penodol wedi'u nodi, ond mae effaith andwyol gymedrol bosibl ar botensial isel i ganolig ar gyfer olion archeolegol cyffredinol wedi'i nodi. Ni fydd unrhyw asedau archeolegol dynodedig yn cael eu heffeithio. Awgrymir cynigion 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 Andrew Jones of Shipping Farm, to prepare a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for a proposed above ground nutrient storage tank at Shipping Farm, Llawhaden, Narberth (NGR SN 07149 19547).
- 1.1.2 The site area currently comprises undeveloped pasture field to the north of the farmstead complex of Shipping Farm. The site lies in an area of historic and archaeological interest, with numerous prehistoric sites identified in the surrounding landscape, including Iron Age enclosures and a medieval ringwork, three of which are also scheduled monuments.
- 1.1.3 A planning application for the proposed development has been submitted (planning application no. 22/0702/PA) to the local planning authority, Pembrokeshire County Council. Due to the potential archaeological sensitivity of the area Dyfed Archaeological Trust – Development Management (DAT-DM), in their role as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority, recommended that an Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment should be prepared, and submitted with the planning application.
- 1.1.4 This Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment provides an indication of the archaeological potential of the development area and highlights possible issues in relation to the impact of the development on the historic environment and what potential mitigation may be required.
- 1.1.5 The assessment has been a primarily desk-based study of the site area, identifying any known archaeological or historical sites within the site and its environs, identifying potential setting impacts on designated archaeological assets in the vicinity, identifying any historic landscape areas that may be affected by the proposals and assessing the potential for hitherto unknown archaeological remains to be present within the development area.

1.2 Scope of the Project and Methodology

- 1.2.1 A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been produced, detailing the methodology by which this assessment would be carried out. This WSI was submitted to DAT-DM for comment and approval, in their capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority.
- 1.2.2 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.

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

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

1.2.4 The desk-based study of the area identifies known archaeological sites within the site and its environs and assesses the potential for hitherto unknown remains to be present within the proposed development area. This will help inform future decision making, design solutions and potential mitigations strategies, including the potential for further archaeological works.

1.2.5 The report 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).

1.2.6 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 data;
- Relevant records held by the developer;
- Identification of any Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Historic Landscapes, Historic Landscape Character Areas or Conservation Areas within or in the vicinity of the site area (Cadw, DAT, NRW);
- Assessment of the archaeological potential of the area;
- Assessment of the likely impact upon the settings of surrounding features of the historic environment; and
- Assessment of likely impacts on any identified remains within the development site (or potential remains) and likely requirements, if any, for further stages of archaeological work.

1.2.7 An initial search area of 1km from the boundary of the development area has been used to identify sites recorded on the Historic Environment Record and other sources and was extended to examine the potential impact on the setting of high status, designated, historic assets in the surrounding landscape. Where potential wider ranging impacts on designated historic

assets beyond the 1km search area have been identified, these have been included within the assessment as well.

- 1.2.8 For the purposes of planning policy in Wales, the historic environment is defined as:

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

A historic asset is:

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

1.3 Abbreviations

- 1.3.1 All sites recorded on the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) are identified by their 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). 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	

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

2. 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 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 the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and also the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. It is supported by a number of planning guidance documents. The Act most specifically provides better safeguards for the protection of Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings and historic parks and gardens. It also includes further guidance on place names.

2.2 Planning Policy Wales

2.2.1 *Planning Policy Wales* (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 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 Historic Environment is subject to the relevant policies and procedures as laid out in the Pembrokeshire County Council (PCC) *Local Development Plan* (LDP). A revised LDP is currently being prepared, but the date when this will be published for public consultation is not currently available. Until the revised LDP is adopted, the LDP adopted on 28.02.2013 remains in place.
- 2.4.2 The historic environment is referenced throughout the document in numerous policies, emphasising its significance to the county. The main policy references to the Historic Environment are outlined in the general policy GN 38: Protection and Enhancement of the Historic Environment. This states that:

Development that affects sites and landscapes of architectural and/or historical merit or archaeological importance, or their setting, will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that it would protect or enhance their character and integrity (PCC 2013, 127).

3 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 3.1 The proposed development site (SN 07149 19547) lies approximately 50m to the north of Shipping Farm, which itself lies 2km to the north of Llawhaden in eastern Pembrokeshire.
- 3.2 The development site lies on upper north-facing slopes of a pasture field, at approximately 70-75mOD, bounded by hedgerows. The field drops down into the Syfynwy/Syfnï Valley to the north, which levels out at approximately 30mOD around 230m to the north. Within around 50m to the west the land also drops away into a small, wooded stream valley which runs north to feed into the Syfynwy/Syfnï. The stream emerges from a series of springs at the head of the slope approximately 150m to the southwest of the site. At the head of the field to the south lies an embanked slurry pond, which will ultimately feed into the proposed development. Beyond this lies an east – west access road with the Shipping Farm complex arranged on the south side of the road, set just below the summit of the rising ground which ultimately rises to around 95mOD.
- 3.3 The development site is surrounded by enclosed agricultural land, largely pasture, which extends across hilltops, valley slopes and the valley floodplain, with some areas of woodland on the steeper slopes. The Syfynwy/Syfnï Valley runs west to east at the foot of the sloping ground, where the adjacent stream and the Deepford Brook both meet the river. This watercourse then feeds into the upper Eastern Cleddau less than 1.5km to the east. The track to the south accesses both Shipping Farm and Drim Farm to the west, continuing east to Bodringallt. The area is crossed by a series of small local roads that access the farmsteads, hamlets and dwellings that are dispersed throughout the surrounding area. A railway line runs along the base of the slope to the north.
- 3.4 The underlying geology comprises mudstones of the Slate and Redhill Formation, with older mudstones of the Mydrim Shales Formation along the valley base (BGS Viewer 2023).

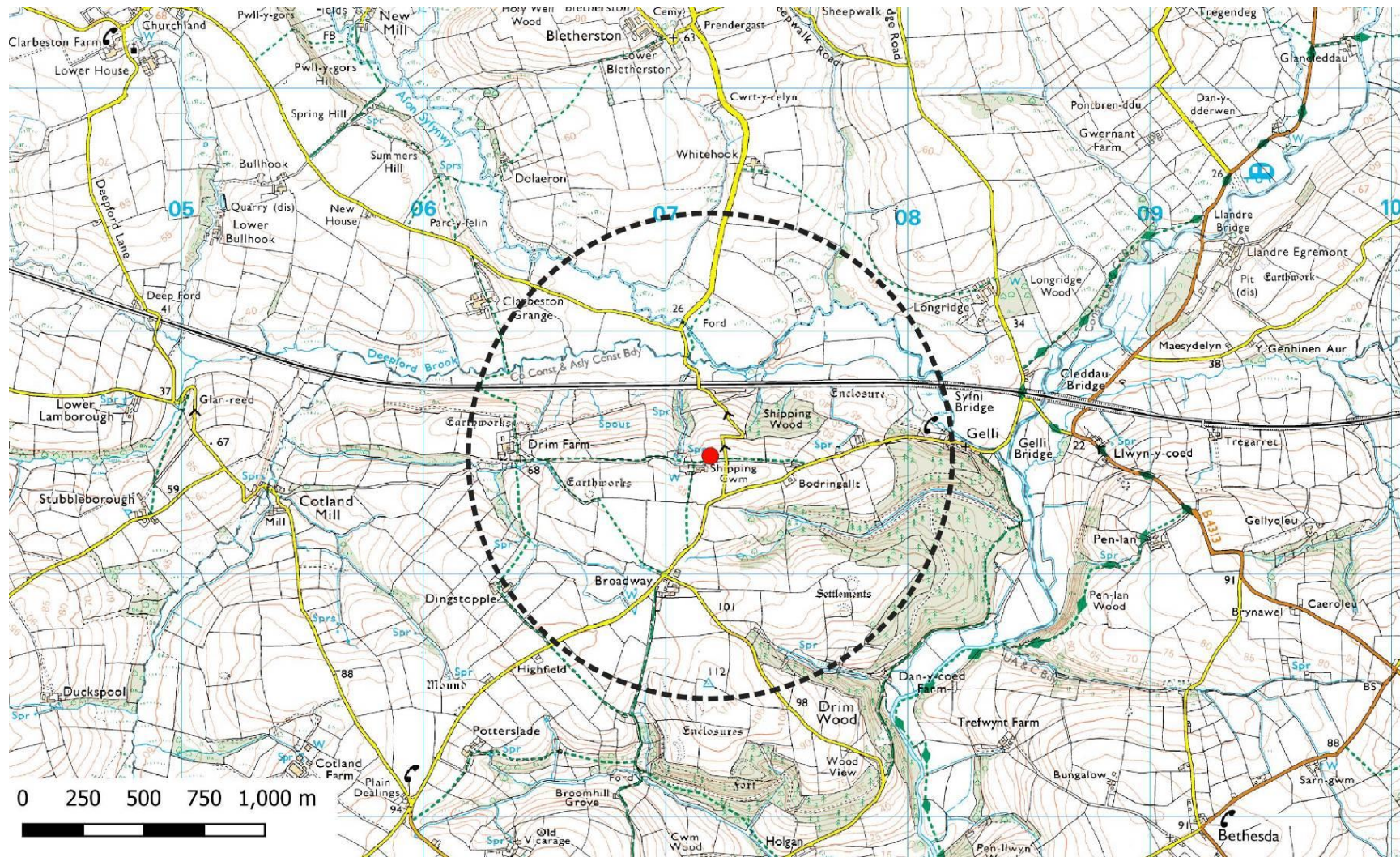


Figure 1: Location of development area, showing the proposed development site (red dot).

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Figure 2: Detailed location plan of the proposed development area. Plan provided by the client, not reproduced to original scale

4 DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS (Table 2 and Figure 3)

4.1 General

- 4.1.1 A search of data held on several databases was made of historic assets within a 1km radius search area from the edge of the proposed development boundary. Designated assets beyond this search area were also considered for potential wider-ranging impacts, as outlined below. These designated assets are described first, as they largely comprise assets with some form of statutory protection.

4.2 Scheduled Monuments

- 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 these sites 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 three Scheduled Monuments (SM) within the 1km radius study area. In addition, two further Scheduled Monuments are included beyond this area lying up to 3km to the north, as they occupy prominent south-facing locations with the proposed development area occupying a prominent north-facing location, and therefore potentially inter-visible.
- 4.2.4 The closest SM is **PE107 Drim Camp**. This site lies 680m to the west of the proposed development area. The site is recorded on the Dyfed Historic Environment Record as PRN 5685. The following is the SM description:

The monument comprises the remains of a well preserved castle-ringwork, which dates to the early part of the medieval period (c. AD 1066 - 1485). Drim Camp has a high bank and a small internal area. There is a gap - possibly the original entrance and a causeway across the ditch.

The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of medieval settlement, organisation and defence. The site forms an important element within the wider medieval landscape. It is well preserved and retains considerable archaeological potential. There is a strong probability of the presence of evidence relating to chronology, layout, building techniques and functional detail.

- 4.2.5 740m to the east of the proposed development boundary lies **PE184 Gelly Earthwork**. This site is recorded on the Dyfed Historic Environment Record as PRN 3572. The following is the SM description:

The monument comprises a small defended enclosure or rath, which probably dates to the Iron Age period (800 BC - 43 AD). Usually enclosed by a bank and ditch, raths often contain evidence of intensive occupation. The Gelly Earthwork comprises a [error in published description].

The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of Iron Age settlement and social organisation. The monument forms an important element within the wider later prehistoric landscape. The structure itself may be expected to contain archaeological information in regard to chronology, building techniques and functional detail.

- 4.2.6 The third site within the study area lies just about 1km to the south and comprises **PE104 Camp 370m NE of Stoneyford**. This site is recorded on the Dyfed Historic Environment Record as PRN 3565. The SM description is currently under review, but it is recorded in the HER as an Iron Age univallate defended enclosure. The site was part excavated in 1980, recording at least one roundhouse, and dating the earliest occupation to the 8th to 5th centuries BC, with the site subsequently enclosed by a defensive earth bank.

- 4.2.7 2.7km to the north lies **PE269 Rhyd-Brown Camp**, occupying a promontory at the head of a stream valley with southerly views. The following is the SM description:

The monument comprises the remains of a defended enclosure, which probably dates to the Iron Age period (c. 800 BC - AD 74, the Roman conquest of Wales). Rhyd-Y-Brwyn Camp is a roughly oval, some 112m east-west by 68m and set in a promontory position, defined by scarps above natural slopes on the south and east. On the weaker north and west sides, it is protected by up to three lines of defensive banks and ditches over 170m long and 70m wide, the banks rising to 4m-5m over the ditches. The earthworks show evidence of having been remodelled, with a possibly original north-facing, in-turned entrance replaced by a more complex, northwest-facing entrance.

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.

- 4.2.8 A similar distance to the north lies **PE185 Castell-y-Fran**, occupying the south-facing slopes below a hill summit occupied by the hamlet of Penffordd. The following is the SM description:

The monument comprises the remains of a motte and ditch, dating to the medieval period (c. 1066 -1540 AD). A motte is a large conical or pyramidal mound of soil and/or stone, usually surrounded by either a wet or dry ditch, and surmounted by a tower constructed of timber or stone. Castell-y-Fran measures 25ft in diameter across the top and stands to a height of 15ft. It is lightly concave and appears to have one had a trench cut across it. There is very slight sign of a ditch.

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.

4.3 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, and no Listed Buildings within the 1km search area.
- 4.3.3 **St Mary's Church (Ref. 6046)**, a Grade II* Listed church, lies in Bletherston approximately 1.6km to the north. Although outside the initial search area this occupies a south-facing position looking towards the development area and is therefore considered in the assessment. The church is listed for its special interest as a substantially medieval church with a 15th century arcade.

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 There are no Conservation Area within the search area. The closest such area is Llawhaden Conservation Area 2km to the south, but this will remain unaffected by the proposed development.

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 to help protect and preserve essential features of these parks and gardens, and enable their significance and character to be protected through the planning system.
- 4.5.2 There are no historic parks and gardens within the proposed development area, or within the wider search area.

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 to 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 site does not lie within a registered historic landscape, and no such landscape lies within the wider search area.

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

Site / Building Name	Cadw Ref.	NGR	Designation
Drim Camp	PE107	206419 219611	Scheduled Monument
Gelly Earthwork	PE184	207933 219716	Scheduled Monument
Camp 370m NE of Stoneyford	PE104	207122 218453	Scheduled Monument
Rhyd-Brown Camp	PE269	206668 2 22328	Scheduled Monument
Castell-y-Fran	PE185	208064 2 22182	Scheduled Monument
St Mary's Church	6046	207034 221206	Grade II* Listed Building

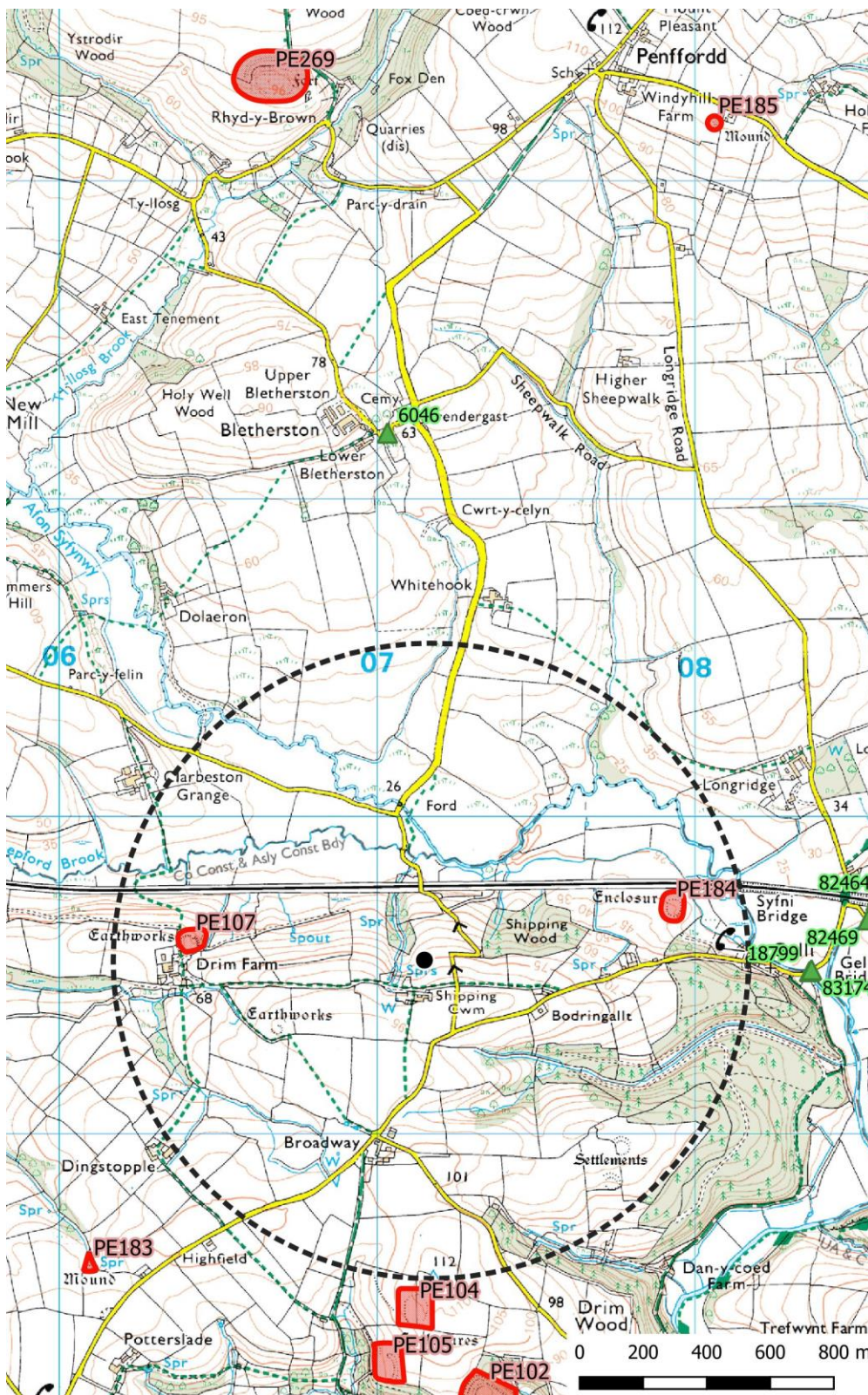


Figure 3: Map showing the proposed development site (black dot) and the 1km radius study area (dotted line). Also showing designated assets including Scheduled Monuments (red outline) and Listed Buildings (green triangles).

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5 NON-DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS (Table 3 and Figure 4)

5.1 General

- 5.1.1 A search of the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) and other databases was made within the 1km search area around the proposed development. There are no recorded sites within the proposed development area.
- 5.1.2 The HER records 40 assets within the search area, the closest being the Shipping Farm farmstead itself (PRN 119537). A smaller number of assets are recorded on the NMR database, held and maintained by the RCAHMS, but all of these sites are also recorded on the HER. One additional findspot has also been recorded on the Portable Antiquities Scheme database.
- 5.1.3 The following information is laid out chronologically to provide a brief archaeological and historical background for the development area and its environs for each period, along with the relevant HER entries pertaining to that period.

5.2 Palaeolithic, Mesolithic & Neolithic

- 5.2.1 No sites dating from these periods are recorded within the 1km radius study area. Evidence of activity during these periods in the wider landscape is also unusually sparse, the closest Mesolithic records coming from around Wiston Wood 5km to the southwest, and the closest recorded Neolithic activity from around Llandissilio 5km to the northeast. Although it is likely that activity was more extensive throughout the landscape than is suggested in the known record, the general potential for archaeology relating to these periods around the development area appears very low.

5.3 Bronze Age

- 5.3.1 There is one site of Bronze Age date listed on the HER in the study area, a round barrow (PRN 9849) at Highfield, just under 1km to the southwest. This is a funerary and ritual site, located on a prominent hilltop with extensive views. Further afield more round barrows can be found on similar prominent locations, along with records of standing stones, burnt mounds and a variety of findspots.
- 5.3.2 A series of excavations carried on largely Iron Age sites in the early 1980s (Williams 1984) also recovered evidence of further Bronze Age activity in the area. A roundhouse was revealed within Woodside defended enclosure PRN 3570 that was radiocarbon dated to the early Bronze Age period. Alongside this a Bronze Age flint arrowhead was recovered from the adjacent defended enclosure PRN 3575, and pits and hollows were recorded in enclosures just to the south of the study area. These features had clearly been abandoned for some time before these sites were re-occupied in the Iron Age, but they indicate the landscape was being used during the Bronze Age. These features are scattered throughout the local area and there appears to be no particular focus of activity in the vicinity of the proposed development area, but the potential for Bronze Age archaeology in this area remains.

5.4 Iron Age

- 5.4.1 In contrast to the previous periods, recorded sites of a likely Iron Age date are well recorded on the HER and suggest a well-used and interconnected landscape during this period.
- 5.4.2 There are 11 recorded sites of Iron Age date in the 1km study area, although many more also lie in the surrounding landscape. The majority of these sites are classed as defended enclosures, comprising enclosures of various size and shape surrounded by banks and ditches.
- 5.4.3 The closest recorded enclosure is Bodringallt PRN 8982, lying 400m to the southeast. This comprises an inner sub-rectangular enclosure a little over 50m across, with an outer bank and ditch another 50m away. An entrance lies on the west side, approached by a track flanked by ditches. The site was partially excavated in 1980, recording at least one round house within, and producing dates from the late Iron Age through to the 1st-2nd century AD. The site occupies sloping ground below the summit of the hill, at around 70mOD.
- 5.4.4 450m to the southwest lies Drim Camp PRN 3562, a smaller circular enclosure 25m across, located on roughly level ground at the summit of the valley top. This enclosure was completely excavated in 1979-80, which revealed an initial fenced (palisaded) enclosure broadly dated to sometime in the early to mid Iron Age (762 - 398BC), along with a contemporary cremation burial (PRN 118088) just to the northwest. Evidence of ploughed land also surrounded the site, with the palisade and ploughed ground replaced by a more substantial bank and ditch in the late Iron Age. One round house, which had been rebuilt many times, and a four-post structure were found within the enclosure, with artefacts indicating the enclosure was occupied into the Roman period, and post-Roman early medieval period as well. Associated cropmarks extend (PRN 7619) extend to the southeast, and the site is approached by a sunken track from the northwest.
- 5.4.5 Another defended enclosure is recorded 790m to the west of the development site, at Drim Farm (PRN 12218), rectangular and measuring 70m by 50m. It occupies a roughly level spur at around 60mOD, however it is located adjacent to Drim Castle PRN 5685, thought to be the site of a medieval castle, and it would seem possible that the two are linked (see below). 700m to the east of the development site lie a pair of defended enclosures PRNs 3572 and 10639. The easternmost, Gelli Camp PRN 3572, is a sub-rectangular enclosure defined by a bank and ditch, approximately 41m by 47m, on gently sloping ground just above the base of the valley. The entrance lies on the north side, approached by a ditched trackway. The adjacent enclosure PRN 10639 lies 50m to the west, represented by a curving section of bank, around 70-80m long. Both sites are overlooked by the steeply rising valley side to the southwest.
- 5.4.6 To the southeast of the development site lie three adjoining defended enclosures, PRNs 3570, 3575 & 11774 (the latter lying just outside the study area). The most northerly, Woodside enclosure PRN 3570, lies on roughly level ground but below the summit of the hill. The enclosure is D-shaped, 35m across, defined by a bank and ditch. This site was excavated between 1980-84, which revealed some evidence of Bronze Age activity, but largely Iron Age occupation, continuing in use until the 2nd century AD with radiocarbon dates also indicating medieval occupation. The large bank and ditch were built in the late Iron Age, with a four-post gatehouse on the west side, similar to Drim Camp, approached by a ditched trackway, as at Bodringallt and Gelli Camp. Internally at least six round houses were identified, along with a number of four-post structures. Lower down the slope lies Dan-y-Coed PRN 3575, an oval enclosure defended by a bank and ditch,

with an entrance to the southwest approached by a ditched trackway, which funnelled out to define a concentric enclosure. Internally at least five round houses were recorded (rebuilt many times), along with four four-post structures and a rectangular structure. The enclosure was constructed in the late Iron Age and continued to be occupied into the Romano-British period, with the rectangular structure dated to this later period. Post-Roman early medieval use was also recorded, and as with the adjacent enclosure, some medieval activity was also noted. The adjacent enclosure PRN 11774 has been identified from aerial photography, as a possible circular enclosure around 30m across.

- 5.4.7 Around 800m to the south of the development site lies a long curving dyke PRN 11657 thought to be Iron Age in date. This leads to, and is possible connected to, the Broadway enclosure PRN 3565. This lies outside the study area but is another defended enclosure that has been excavated and dated to the early to mid Iron Age. To the north a pair of possible enclosures PRN 3567 & 3568 have been identified from aerial photography. These enclosures are uncertain, and the HER record suggests they may not be archaeological in nature, but their location would fit with the general pattern of Iron Age enclosures in the area.
- 5.4.8 The final defended enclosure PRN 35764 in this study area lies just over 500m to the northeast on the valley floor, just above the floodplain. This site has been identified from aerial photography, with a ditch defining a rectangular enclosure measuring approximately 30m by 19m, with a possible entrance on the eastern side.
- 5.4.9 As mentioned, these sites are just part of a range of Iron Age sites throughout the wider landscape. The enclosures likely performed a variety of functions, the presence of multiple round houses, and four post structures which are often interpreted as granary stores, suggests occupation, possibly in small community groups. Other enclosures may have been used largely as defensible animal enclosures, along with the possibility of military use and ritual use. The significance of the cremation burial (PRN 118088) near Drim Camp PRN 3562 is unclear and whether this was a former occupant or whether the site had some funerary and ritual use, but settled agriculture was clearly demonstrated by the presence of ploughed ground as well as artefacts related to weaving and working leather, and quern stones showing the processing of grains. It is possible some of the field divisions and trackways through the landscape have their origins in this period, although the current field systems appear later in form. Many of these sites are likely to have been interconnected and contemporary, although the longevity of the sites is also remarkable, with continued occupation throughout much of the Iron Age. Possible Bronze Age origins, or re-use of an earlier Bronze Age site, is suggested in an enclosure to the southeast (PRN 3570), with many sites showing continued occupation into the early Romano-British period, as is common throughout Southwest Wales. Some sites however appear to show continued use, or re-use in the early medieval and medieval periods, which would appear less common.
- 5.4.10 The prevalence of such sites in the area increases the potential of Iron Age activity within the vicinity of the proposed development area. In addition, the emerging springs in this area may have also encouraged activity.

5.5 Roman Period

- 5.5.1 As mentioned above, there was clearly a continuation of settlement and activity into the early Romano-British period. As appears common in much of Southwest Wales, Iron Age defended enclosure appear to have continued in occupation into the 2nd century AD, and indeed Roman pottery of this period can often be the only artefactual evidence recovered from these sites.
- 5.5.2 The most noticeable change in the archaeology of the early Roman period is the establishment of a Roman Road through the southern part of the study area, identified from aerial photography (PRN 33924). A series of adjacent quarries PRN 33925 may also be contemporary, used in the construction of the road. The road extends from a likely Roman fort near Whitland, running west and passing south of Clynderwen, crossing the river under Dan-y-coed farm, and then continuing west to a Roman fort near Wiston. The road connected with the Roman town in Carmarthen, and likely extended all the way to the west coast.
- 5.5.3 The excavated evidence from the Iron Age enclosures indicates settlement activity continued into the Roman period, therefore the potential for Roman archaeological in the area also exists.

5.6 Early Medieval & Medieval Period

- 5.6.1 Evidence of activity during the early medieval period is typically scarce, and often limited to church sites, such as Llawhaden church and Llandyssilio church, both of which are likely to have early medieval origins. However, as excavations in at least two of the Iron Age enclosures has shown (Drim Camp PRN 3562 and Dan-y-Coed PRN 3575) there appears to have been re-occupation of these Iron Age sites during the early medieval period.
- 5.6.2 The exact dates of this early medieval activity are unclear, a penannular brooch (PRN 12002) was recovered from Drim Camp, which can date to any period of the early medieval, although typically associated with the earlier part of that period. The excavations at Dan-y-coed suggested post-Roman activity, so also dating to the early part of the period. This was a period of strong Irish influence in west Wales, as may be suggested by the design of the brooch, but it may also have been a turbulent time that necessitated living in defended enclosures.
- 5.6.3 The medieval period of the late 11th and early 12th century was also a turbulent period, as Anglo-Norman forces attempted to establish themselves in the area. This was largely achieved by establishing castle sites, and although well-known and substantial examples exist in the area, such as Llawhaden castle further south, many more fell out use during the medieval period with very little recorded about them. One such site lies on the north side of Drim Farm, around 700m to the west of the development site. Drim Castle PRN 5685 is not too dissimilar to the Iron Age defended enclosures, with a bank and ditch enclosing a circular area 25m to 35m across, but the size of the enclosing bank distinguishes it as a medieval ringwork castle. A rectangular enclosure to the west PRN 12218 has been recorded as a possible Iron Age enclosure, but the location and form suggest it may be associated with the castle, potentially as an attached bailey. There is no recorded history to this site. Drim is later recorded as manor within Llawhaden parish (PRO - RTP Williams Solicitors paper, 1867), and this castle may have acted as its caput. A John Drim is recorded as a local official in Haverfordwest in the early 14th century (tenement grants, NLW), although other sites in Pembrokeshire also carry the name 'Drim'.

- 5.6.4 As a potentially important centre of local control and administration the area surrounding Drim Castle could have seen more extensive activity. By the later post-medieval period Drim had become a small hamlet, home to at least three separate farms with surrounding fields referred to as 'town' fields on 18th and 19th century maps (see section 7.3). This may be a gradual contraction of a medieval settlement. Medieval pottery was also recovered from within Drim Camp PRN 7621. The main access to Drim Castle, the current farm track, passes by Shipping Farm. Given this activity, there is the potential for unrecorded medieval activity in the locality.

5.7 Post-Medieval & Modern Period

- 5.7.1 The remaining sites recorded on the HER largely relate to the later post-medieval agricultural landscape, and include farmsteads, farm buildings, cottages and a woollen mill, together with weirs and footbridges along the river to the north.
- 5.7.2 It is likely the general settlement pattern of dispersed farmsteads and cottages, and the current field enclosure pattern, were well-established by the later post-medieval period, with much of it appearing in much of its current form on late 18th century estate mapping (see section 6.3). Shipping Farm PRN 119537, also known as Shipping Cwm, is first recorded in the late 18th century, but its origins are unclear. The name of the farm may have come from the adjacent stream, particularly as it is often referenced as Shipping Cwm. The river at the lower, northern, end of the Cwm is likely too small to have seen any shipping activity, and the name may therefore have evolved from a reference to sheep, but the development of the name has not been extensively researched.

Table 3: Site recorded on the Historic Environment Record.

Prn	Site name	Type	Date & Summary	NGR
3562	Drim Camp	Defended Enclosure	Iron Age, small circular defended enclosure	SN06681933
3566	Broadway	Cropmark; Unknown	Undated cropmark.	SN06951895
3567	Dan Y Coed	Cropmark; Unknown	Uncertain cropmark identified from aerial photography.	SN07251870
3568	Dan Y Coed	Cropmark; Unknown	Uncertain cropmark identified from aerial photography.	SN07201870
3570	Woodside; Parc Y Coed	Defended Enclosure	Iron Age, D-shaped defended enclosure with good southerly views.	SN07771896
3572	Gelli Camp	Defended Enclosure	Iron Age, sub-rectangular defended enclosure just above the flood plain.	SN07931972
3574	Drim Wood	Burnt Mound; Natural Feature	Possibly Bronze Age, recorded as a burnt mound in 1911, but later considered to be a natural feature.	SN07561922

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3575	Dan-y-coed	Defended Enclosure	Iron Age, oval defended enclosure. Excavated in the early 1980s.	SN07741884
5685	Drim Castle	Ringwork	Medieval, earthwork ringwork castle, surrounded by a massive bank up to 5.4m high.	SN06421960
7619	Drim	Unknown	Undated, poorly defined cropmark identified from aerial photography.	SN067193
7620	Woodside	Earthwork	Iron Age, part of the defensive outworks of Woodside defended enclosure PRN 3570.	SN07671900
7621	Drim Camp	Findspot	Medieval, findspot for a sherd of pottery.	SN06681933
8982	Bodringallt	Defended Enclosure	Iron Age, sub-rectangular ditched enclosure, surrounded by a semi-circular outer ditch. Partially excavated in the early 1980s.	SN076193
9849	Highfield	Round Barrow	Bronze Age, low denuded mound, possible round barrow.	SN06675187 17
10639	Brynsyfnï Enclosure	Defended Enclosure	Iron Age, section of curving bank possibly part of a defended enclosure.	SN07831968
11657	Broadway Dyke	Dyke (Defence)	Iron Age, curving bank northwest of Broadway	SN07201880
12002	Drim Camp	Occupation Site	Early Medieval, excavation revealed possible reuse of a roundhouse within Drim Camp in the early medieval period.	SN06681933
12218	Drim	Defended Enclosure?; Enclosure	Iron Age/Medieval, rectangular enclosure identified from aerial photography, immediately west of Dri Castle.	SN06331963
14388		Cropmark; Unknown	Undated cropmark.	SN06851870
23307	Foxen	Cottage	Post Medieval, cottage identified on early 20 th century OS mapping.	SN07751950
23308	Gelly Factory	Woollen Mill	Post Medieval, 19 th century water-powered woollen mill, converted to domestic use.	SN08164195 83
33924	Broadway	Road	Roman, segment of Roman road identified from aerial photography.	SN06851878
33925	Broadway	Quarry	Roman, line of quarries identified from aerial photography alongside the Roman road.	SN07071880
35764	Clarbeston Grange	Defended Enclosure	Iron Age, small rectangular defended enclosure identified from aerial photography.	SN06852004

53877	Drim Farm	Farmstead	Post Medieval, large farmstead complex marked on late 19th century OS maps.	SN0640119513
53878		Well	Post Medieval, well identified from late 19 th century OS map.	SN0647319587
54285	Drim	Threshing Barn	Post Medieval, derelict and much-altered threshing barn, possibly built in the late 18 th /early 19 th century.	SN06351950
54286	Drim	Cottage	Post Medieval, single storey farm workers cottage, 19 th century or earlier.	SN06451945
54287	Drim	Farmhouse	Post Medieval, low earthwork and stone remains of a building, said to be the former farmhouse replaced by the current structure c.1870.	SN06361958
118088	Drim	Cremation Burial	Iron Age, cremated remains of adult male found in a stone-lined pit.	SN0672119357
119537	Shipping Cwm	Farmstead	Post Medieval, farmstead recorded on the early 20th century OS map.	SN0711219431
121189	Broadway	Farmstead	Post Medieval, farmstead recorded on the early 20th century OS map.	SN0700918945
126098		Weir	Post Medieval, weir marked on the late 19th century OS map.	SN0738319859
126099		Weir	Post Medieval, weir marked on the late 19th century OS map.	SN0732919819
126100		Footbridge	Post Medieval, footbridge marked on the late 19th century OS map.	SN0709920009
126101		Footbridge	Post Medieval, footbridge marked on the late 19th century OS map.	SN0710219892
126148		Footbridge	Post Medieval, footbridge marked on the late 19th century OS map.	SN0657819881
126149		Footbridge	Post Medieval, footbridge marked on the late 19th century OS map.	SN0635119834
126239		Ford	Post Medieval, ford marked on the late 19th century OS map.	SN0709120051
127854	PEN-DWR	Cottage	Post Medieval, cottage marked on 19th century mapping, but no longer present.	SN07061981

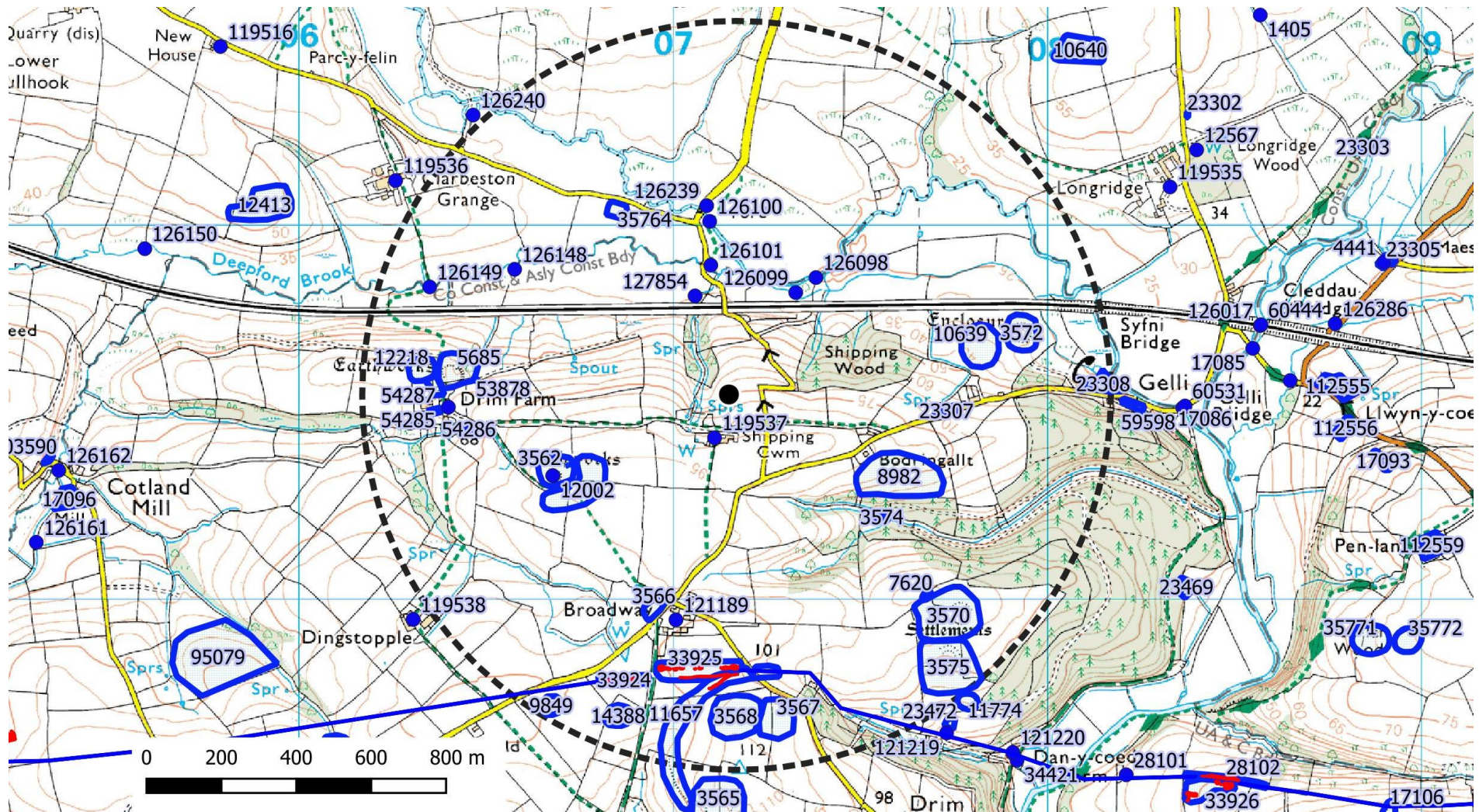


Figure 4: Map showing the proposed development site and the 1km radius study area (dotted line). Also showing assets recorded on the regional HER, labelled by PRN.

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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.

6.2 Previous Archaeological Work

- 6.2.1 Between 1979 and 1984 a series of defended enclosures were investigated and excavated between Llawhaden and Gelli, including several within the study area (Williams 1984, Williams & Mytum 1998). Excavations were carried out by Dyfed Archaeological Trust and the Oxford University Archaeological Society, under the direction of G Williams (DAT) and H Mytum (OUAS). These investigations have formed the basis of much of the HER record for this area and are discussed in Section 5 above.
- 6.2.2 These excavations have formed parts of subsequent assessments that include sites within this area, including an assessment of rectangular cropmarked enclosures (Murphy et al 2004), a survey of defended enclosures in Pembrokeshire, 2006-07 (Murphy et al 2007), and an MA study into Bronze Age settlement patterns (Griffiths 2017), but again this has helped inform the current understanding outlined in Section 5.
- 6.2.3 In 2013 Trysor carried out an archaeological appraisal of proposed development at Drim Farm and Highfield (Hall & Sambrook 2013), which included sites within the study area, but the appraisal is of little direct relevance to this assessment.

6.3 Historic Mapping

A map of the lordship of Drim – T.Lewis 1773

- 6.3.1 A set of estate maps of farms belong to Sir Richard Philipps is held in the National Library archives, including one for the 'lordship' of Drim in 1773 (not reproduced here for copyright reasons). Shipping Farm is included, as 'Shipping Coomb', a farm of just over 143 acres. The farmstead itself is marked as a single, L-shaped, building on the south side of the track, perhaps a little to the north of the present farmhouse, alongside the trackway. The surrounding fields appear in much of their present form. The field containing the proposed development site is further subdivided, with an eastern boundary following the line of the local road down the hillslope without its current eastward kink. The field continues to the base of the hill, narrowing to the north, with two cottages on the lower ground at the northern end, close to the stream/river bank. No features are marked in and around the proposed development site, and the field is listed simply as 'Hill Park', wood and arable land.
- 6.3.2 No further features of note are displayed in the immediate vicinity of the site. The local road to the east appears to end within the field, with no route down to or across the river marked, instead the main access routes head off eastward towards Gelli, and along the present farm track towards Drim. Drim itself is described as a 'village', with at least two farms (belonging to Solomon Hake and Edward Higgons) arranged along a north-south track between the castle site and the main farm track, with further cottages alongside the main farm track, including the 'Sr(?) Knapps Head & Moonshine Hall'. The castle site (PRN 5685) is marked, and Drim Camp (PRN 3562) lies in a field called 'The Tumpath Parc', Twmpath meaning 'mound'.

Ordnance Survey original surveyors' maps – T. Budgen (Tenby) 1809

- 6.3.3 These early 19th century Ordnance Survey maps show that the general settlement pattern of dispersed farmsteads throughout this area had been established by the early 19th century at the latest. Shipping Farm is shown, labelled as 'Sheeping Coomb', which may provide an explanation for the origins of the name. The farmstead buildings are arranged to the south of the access track, with an extended yard across the track, but no features of interest are marked in the proposed development area.

Tithe Map of Llawhaden 1843 (Fig. 5)

- 6.3.4 The parish tithe map gives a clear and relatively accurate depiction of the area towards the middle of the 19th century. The farmstead of 'Shipping Coomb' was occupied by John Williams, although under the ownership of Sir Richard Bulkeley Philipps Philipps, 1st Baron Milford and MP for Haverfordwest. The farm is listed as just over 147 acres, slightly enlarged from that depicted on the 18th century estate map. The farmstead itself comprised a small collection of buildings, including a farmhouse roughly in its current location, and a small set of farm buildings to the north. These were set within a sizeable yard that extended to the east and west. The proposed development area lies in a rectangular field, a subdivision of its current extent. The eastern boundary is visible on the 1773 map, the northern boundary appears to be a subsequent addition. It is also one of the few fields within the farm to be individually named in the tithe apportionments, as 'Park y doi Post', or field of the two posts. This however does not tally with the previous 1773 estate map, which labels the field to the east of the farmstead as 'The two post Park' (field no.153 on the tithe map). No features of interest are marked in the proposed development area.

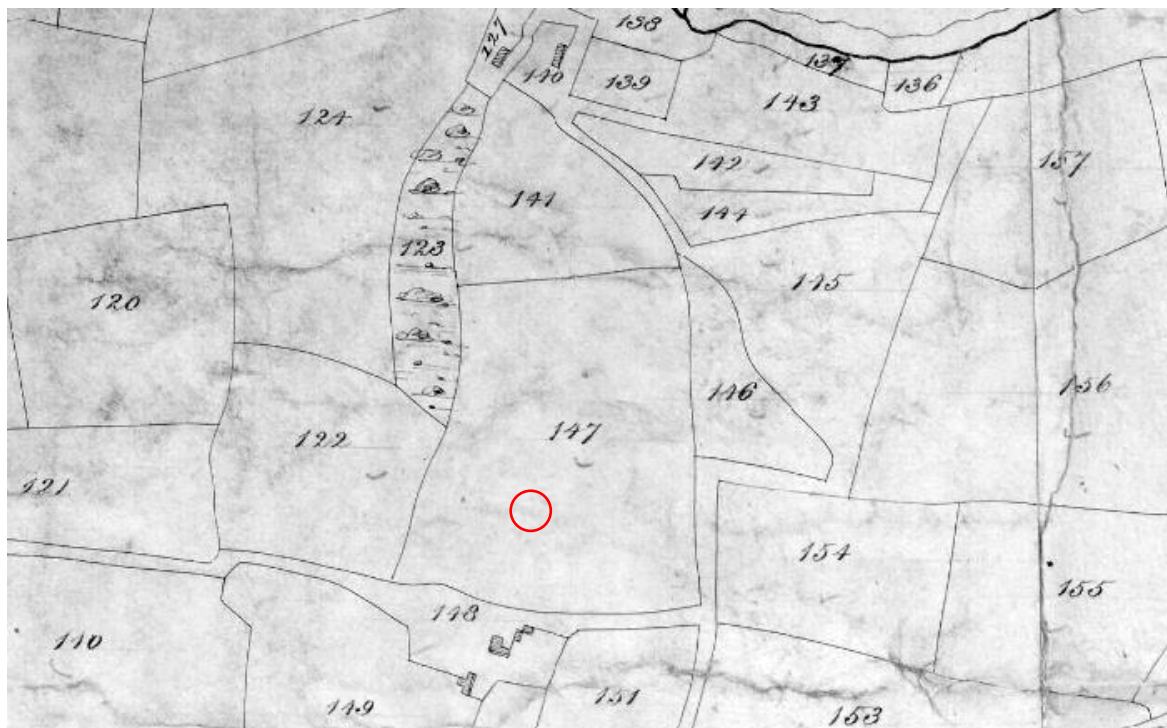


Figure 5: Extract from the tithe map of 1843. The approximate location of the proposed development area is marked in red.

Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map 1889 (Fig 6).

- 6.3.5 The more detailed Ordnance Survey map of 1889 demonstrates the field around the proposed development area had extended eastward into the triangular corner of the current field, enclosed by the local road on two sides. The field also expanded west up to the line of the stream, an area now fenced off and scrub covered. Into this area ran a trackway from the farm track to the south. The lower northern end of the current field was still subdivided as it had been on the tithe map, but the railway line now ran along the base of the valley. Within the farmstead the farmhouse, which had a T-shaped plan on the tithe, is now laid out on its current footprint. The farm building opposite had been added, which along with two farm buildings that appeared on the tithe now enclosed the east side of a yard to the north of the farmhouse. On the northwest corner lay a small structure, possibly pigsties, with a further small farm building on the south side of the farm track to the east. A feature is marked to the west at the head of one of the springs, possibly a well structure. No features of archaeological interest are shown in the proposed development area.

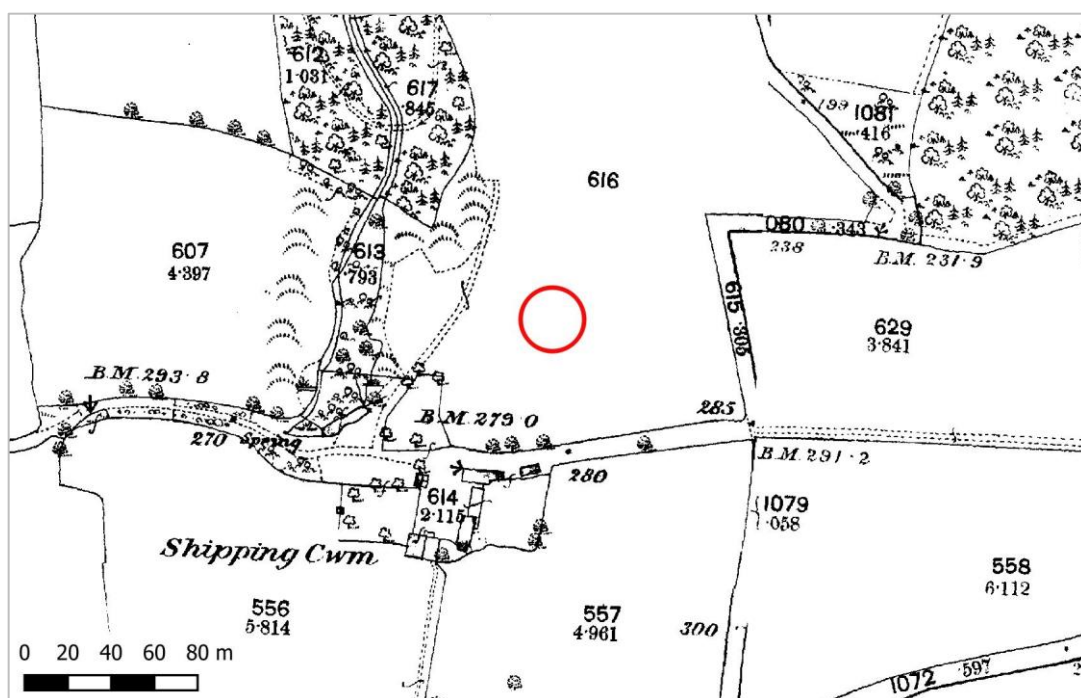


Figure 6: Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1889. Proposed development site boundary shown in red.

Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map 1907.

- 6.3.6 No change of note is marked on the subsequent Ordnance Survey map of 1907.

6.4 Aerial & Historic Photography

- 6.4.1 A search was made of available historic aerial photographs and modern aerial photographs. Several aerial photographs taken by the RAF in 1946 and 1948 show the area in some detail. Several aerial runs were also carried out in the late 1980s and 1990s subsequent to the excavation of the

numerous defended enclosures in the locality, some of which include the site area. More recently the site is also covered by satellite images from 2006 to 2020.

- 6.4.2 Images from 1946 (Photo 1) and 1948 show no features of particular interest within the proposed development site. The nearby farmstead had developed modestly since the layout visible on the early 20th century mapping, but generally little change is noted.
- 6.4.3 The site only appears on the periphery of photos of the nearby defended enclosure, but no features are noted within the proposed development area. The area was clearly overflowed with the aim of identifying defended enclosures, but no such site was identified and photographed within the development area.
- 6.4.4 By the time of the earliest satellite imagery from 2006 large agricultural sheds had been added on the east side of the farmstead, and the slurry pond on the north side of the track had been established. Between 2006 and 2009 the large shed at the eastern end of the site had been added, with associated landscaping works. Since 2018 the large shed at the western end of the farmstead has been added. The field containing the proposed development site remained pasture in all visible images, and no features of archaeological interest are noted.



Photo 1: Aerial photograph taken by the RAF in 1946. Approximate site area shown in red.

6.5 LiDAR (Figure 7)

6.5.1 LiDAR data at 1mDTM/DSM is available for the site area. In the wider landscape many of the Iron Age defended enclosures and medieval ringworks are visible within the data, as is the line of the Roman road to the south. Closer to the proposed development site the farm buildings to the south, and slurry pond at the top of the slope are all clearly identifiable. Within the field slight earthworks depict the former field boundaries visible on the mid-19th century tithe map, enclosing a rectangular field. No features of archaeological interest are identified within the proposed development area itself, however.



Figure 7: Lidar data at 1mDSM showing the proposed development site (approximate location in red).

Contains public sector information licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0.
Visible at <https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/new#/>.

6.6 Site Visit (Photos 2-15)

- 6.6.1 A site visit was undertaken on the 24th March 2023. The weather conditions were mixed, with periods of heavy rain, but generally cloudy with very good visibility. Access to the entire site was possible.
- 6.6.2 The proposed development area lies within a field of pasture, occupying sloping ground (photos 2 – 7) with extensive views to the north (photos 4 & 6). The development area slopes consistently down to the north. Around 20-30m to the south the ground begins to level out at the top edge of the field, enclosed by a hedgerow with a slurry pond embanked into the upper slope to the southwest (photos 2 & 3). A short distance (15-20m) to the west a post and wire fence encloses an area of rough ground below the slurry tank and the steeper slopes of the adjacent stream valley (Shipping Cwm – photo 5 & 8). These steeper slopes are wooded. The field extends for some distance (circa 200m) to the north dropping into the valley bottom, beyond which lies a wooded area and railway embankment. No surface features were noted within or around the proposed development area.
- 6.6.3 Beyond the upper southern boundary to the field runs the farm access road (photo 9), and beyond this lies the farmstead complex (photos 9 – 13). The farmstead is partly terraced and partly embanked into rising ground. The farmhouse is a rectangular two-storey building with slate roof and brick chimneys to each gable, externally concrete rendered, with modern uPVC door and windows (photo 10). Opposite, to the east, stands a stone-built combination barn with brick voussoirs and a slate roof (photo 11). A small traditional stone-built farm building with corrugated panel gable roofing lies at the corner of farmyard and trackway (photo 12), the remaining farm buildings are all modern structures, and include large livestock sheds. The land continues to rise to the south of the farmstead, but soon levels out at the summit of the valley side.
- 6.6.4 The stream to the west follows a relatively steep course to the valley bottom, with scrub and tree-covered slopes. Towards the head of the stream, which emerges from beneath the trackway, lies a disused field enclosure bank. On the south side of the trackway, around the stream head, lies a large modern livestock shed (photo 13).
- 6.6.5 The farm trackway connects to the local road network a short distance to the east. It continues in a relatively straight line to the west to access Drim Farm. Near Drim Farm a sunken track runs off at an angle towards Drim Camp (photo 14). The trackway is clearly of some age, directly accessing the Iron Age/early medieval site of Drim Camp (photo 15). The route is cut down into the bedrock and below ground level to either side, providing shelter from the cross winds, although the base is greatly silted and now acting more as a stream at the time of visit. This track heads towards Drim Farm and meets the current access track to Shipping Farm at a tight angle and is therefore likely to be unrelated.
- 6.6.6 From the proposed development site views south (photo 2) are limited by the rising ground and the farmstead complex. Views west (photo 3 & 5) are also limited by mature tree growth along the stream valley, and similarly views east (photo 7) are limited by hedgerows and curving topography. Views north (photos 4 & 6) across the valley base and beyond are extensive, with the Preseli hills visible in the background. Individual Scheduled sites and Listed Buildings are however difficult to distinguish within these views (photo 6).



Photo 2: View SSW looking up the hill towards the proposed development centre (arrow denotes centre), with embanked slurry pond behind and to the right, and Shipping Farm buildings beyond.



Photo 3: View W across the proposed development site (arrow denoted centre) showing the sloping ground with the wooded stream valley behind and the embanked slurry pond to the left.



Photo 4: View N across the proposed development site (arrow denoted centre), taken from adjacent to the slurry pond.



Photo 5: View W across the upper part of the field from the level of the adjacent farm track, with the centre of the proposed development site marked.



Photo 6: View N from the proposed development site (red arrow denotes centre), looking towards distant designated historic assets, the closest of which, the Grade II* listed St Mary's Church, is marked by the blue arrow.



Photo 7: View E from the proposed development site, looking towards the site of PE184 (not visible), showing the nature of the intervening topography.



Photo 8: View W from the proposed development site looking towards the site of PE107 (not visible), showing the intervening vegetation cover and topography.



Photo 9: View W along the farm track approach to Shipping Farm and the proposed development site (off to the right).



Photo 10: View SW of the current farmhouse of Shipping Farm PRN 119537.



Photo 11: View E of the traditional farm building opposite the farmhouse within Shipping Farm PRN 119537.



Photo 12: View SW of a traditional farm building within Shipping Farm PRN 119537.



Photo 13: View W of modern agricultural shed at the head of the Shipping Cwm stream valley.



Photo 14: View SE along the sunken trackway to Drim Camp (PRN 3562).



Photo 15: View NW across the site of Drim Camp PRN 3562. The buildings in the background belong to Clarbeston Grange.

7 ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL, VALUE AND SETTING

Table 4: 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 5: Site value definitions

Site Value	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 & Value

- 7.1.1 No sites have previously been recorded within the proposed development area.
- 7.1.2 The development site does lie in an archaeological sensitive area with a remarkable concentration of Iron Age activity, along with evidence of Romano-British, early medieval and medieval settlement and activity, along with more scattered evidence of earlier Bronze Age activity. This would suggest a medium potential for archaeological remains in the general area, of uncertain archaeological value at this stage.
- 7.1.3 No features of archaeological interest have been positively identified through this assessment within the proposed development area. The closest recorded archaeological site is that of Shipping Farmstead itself, but there is no indication that the farmstead extended to within the proposed development area. Many of the surrounding Iron Age sites are identified cropmarks or are visible as earthworks at surface level, or been identified from aerial photographs and lidar data, however, no such remains have been identified within the proposed development site. The location near a spring head has been highlighted as a site that could potentially attract archaeological activity and was no doubt a factor in the siting of Shipping Farm itself, but the proposed development site is not in a convenient location to access the springs, and the sloping ground of the site is both less suited to archaeological activity, and more prone to reveal surface remains should they exist. This would appear therefore to reduce the archaeological potential of the proposed development area itself, to a **low to medium potential** of uncertain archaeological value at this stage.

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 Of the three Scheduled Monuments identified in the study area, **PE104**, **PE107** and **PE184**, none appear to have definitive links with the proposed development site. At present no associated archaeological remains or contemporary activity has been identified within the site area. The site shares no inter-visible links with these sites and does not feature in views of or from these sites. These views are blocked at ground level by the natural topography surrounding the site, and are further hidden from view by vegetation to the west and east, and the farmstead to the south. These sites have therefore been excluded from further assessment.
- 7.2.3 The two Scheduled Monuments to the north, **PE185** and **PE269**, do theoretically share intervisibility with the proposed development site, but these sites are indistinct over the intervening distance and rolling

countryside, and such a visible link could not be established, therefore these sites have also been excluded from further assessment.

- 7.2.4 One Listed Building (**Church of St Mary 6046**) lies to the north, also theoretically sharing intervisibility with the proposed development site, although mature tree growth and hedgerows surrounding the churchyard currently block any views between the sites. The church is not a distinct part of the view from the proposed development site (see Photo 6). Given its topographical location however it is possible the church was sited with views over the valley to the south, and views from the valley in mind. However, the church lacks a tower and therefore is less visible from any great distance, and the parish it served lay mostly to the north of the Syfynwy, which does not include the proposed development area, therefore intervisibility between the two sites is unlikely to be a significant element of its setting.

8 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 Development details (Figures 8 & 9)

- 8.1.1 The proposed development is for a nutrient storage tank. This would be a circular structure, just under 30m in diameter, and 4.2m high. The final colour scheme has yet to be confirmed but is likely to be green. The tank will be terraced into the sloping ground, the maximum excavation being around 3m on the upslope side, with lesser embankment on the downslope side. The site will be located downslope from the existing slurry pond which will feed the tank, and according to submitted design plans the top of the tank will be approximately 7m below the level of the existing trackway to the south.
- 8.1.2 Generally, any of the following activities typically associated with a 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;
 - Buried pipework to the slurry pond;
 - Any other 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.

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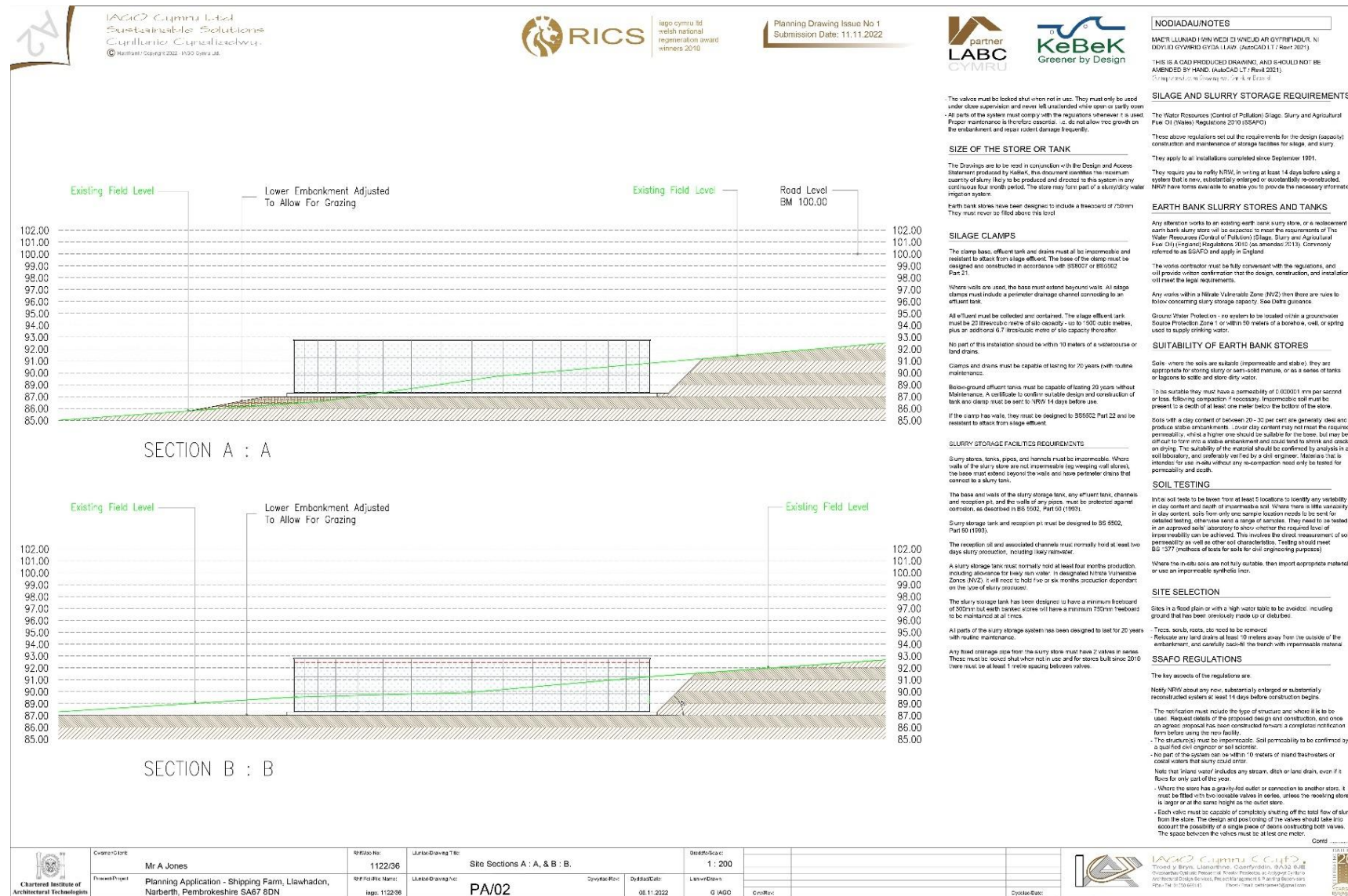


Figure 9: Development proposals, showing the proposed terracing for the tank. Plan provided by the client, not reproduced to scale.

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, ranging from Large Adverse (negative), Moderate Adverse (negative), Slight Adverse (negative), to Neutral, and then on to Slight Beneficial (positive), Moderate Beneficial (positive) and Large Beneficial (positive).

8.3 Physical impacts upon the historic assets

- 8.3.1 No specific archaeological remains have been identified within the proposed development area, but a low to medium potential for archaeological activity spanning the Bronze Age through to the medieval period has been highlighted. Should such remains exist then groundworks associated with the development could have a **Moderate Adverse** impact.

8.4 Impacts to the Settings of Surrounding Designated Features

- 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, although several Scheduled Monuments have been identified in the study area, their associated settings should not be impacted upon by this development.
- 8.4.3 There is potential intervisibility with the Grade II* listed Church of St Mary (Ref. 6046) to the north, however these views are currently obscured by mature vegetation surrounding the church, lessened by distance between the sites, and unlikely to have been a significant factor in the original setting for the church. Therefore, it is considered that there will be a **Neutral impact** on the setting of the Church of St Mary (Ref. 6046).

9 CONCLUSIONS

9.1 Archaeological potential and impact assessment

- 9.1.1 No specific archaeological sites have been identified within the proposed development area. The assessment has identified a medium potential for archaeological activity from the Bronze Age through to the medieval period within the local area, however the potential of the actual development site itself is considered to be reduced to a **low to medium potential, of uncertain archaeological value**. Groundworks associated with the proposed development do have the potential for a **Moderate Adverse** impact, should archaeological remains be present.
- 9.1.2 No impacts on the settings of surrounding designated archaeological assets (Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Historic Parks & Gardens, Historic Landscapes) have been identified.
- 9.1.3 No other significant impact has been identified.

9.2 Mitigation

- 9.2.1 The general archaeological potential identified within the proposed development area, although reduced, may still require further archaeological mitigation. Any recommendation for archaeological mitigation rests with the archaeological advisor to the local planning authority.
- 9.2.2 An archaeological watching brief during ground-disturbing works associated with the proposed development should assist in identifying and recording archaeological remains should they be present. Development plans would need to accommodate, particularly in terms of time and resources, the potential requirement for further archaeological works should significant remains come to light during an archaeological watching brief.

10 SOURCES

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