

FFYNNONGAIN, CLARBESTON ROAD, PEMBROKESHIRE: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT



Prepared by DAT Archaeological Services
For: HR Warlow & Sons



DYFED ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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PEMBROKESHIRE:
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED
ASSESSMENT**

by

Philip Poucher MCIfA



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FFYNNONGAIN, CLARBESTON ROAD, PEMBROKESHIRE
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK BASED ASSESSMENT

Client	HR Warlow & Sons
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Event Record No 129788

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**FFYNNONGAIN, CLARBESTON ROAD, PEMBROKESHIRE:
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FFYNNONGAIN, CLARBESTON ROAD, PEMBROKESHIRE: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dyfed Archaeological Trust - Archaeological Services were commissioned to prepare a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment of proposed development at Ffynnongain, Clarbeston Road, Pembrokeshire (SN 06421 22787). 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.

CRYNODEB GWEITHREDOL

Comisiynwyd Gwasanaethau Archeoleg YAD i baratoi Asesiad ar Ddesg yr Amgylchedd Hanesyddol o datblygiad arfaethedig yn Ffynnongain, Clarbeston Road, Sir Benfro (SN 06421 22787). 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 Dyfed Archaeological Trust - Archaeological Services (DAT-AS) were commissioned by HR Warlow & Sons, to prepare a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment for a proposed earth-banked nutrient storage lagoon at Ffynnongain, Clarbeston Road, Pembrokeshire (NGR SN 06421 22787).
- 1.1.2 The site area currently comprises part of an undeveloped agricultural field lying around 500m to the southwest of the farmstead complex of Ffynnongain. The site lies in an area of historic and archaeological interest, with several significant sites identified in the surrounding landscape, including Iron Age enclosures and a possible Roman enclosure, two of which are also scheduled monuments.
- 1.1.3 A planning application for the proposed development has been submitted (planning application no. 23/0012/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 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 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 HER and other sources and was also used 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 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 MM.

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 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 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 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 06421 22787) lies approximately 500m to the southwest of Ffynnongain Farm, which lies 1km to the northwest of Penffordd and 2.5km to the northeast of Clarbeston in Pembrokeshire.
- 3.2 The development site lies in the northwest corner of a field of mixed agricultural use, on gentle northwest facing slopes at around 105mOD. The field is bounded by maintained hedgerows and surrounded by further enclosed fields in mixed agricultural use. A farm track lies at the east end of the field, connecting to the farmstead to the northeast.
- 3.3 The site lies towards the southern end of a gently undulating north – south ridge, enclosed by a local stream valley to the west and south, and the Rhyd-y-Brown Brook valley to the east. The ridge continues to rise to the north, before eventually becoming part of the hills around New Moat 2.5km to the north. A track traverses the spine of the ridge, providing access to Ffynnongain, before descending the steep slopes to the south at Rhyd-y-brown where it then joins a series of local roads connecting the dispersed villages and farmsteads. The ridge top is covered by enclosed agricultural land, with woodland growing along the steeper valley slopes. The farmstead of Ffynnongain lies in a sheltered saddle that traverses the ridge from east to west.
- 3.4 The wider landscape comprises a similar mix of undulating high ground rising into the hills to the north, cut by stream valleys feeding into the Afon Syfynwy, which drains down from Llys-y-frân reservoir to the northwest into the Eastern Cleddau to the southeast. This is a largely rural landscape of enclosed pasture and arable land with wooded valley slopes, and a settlement pattern of dispersed farmsteads, dwellings and small villages connected by a network of small local roads.
- 3.5 The underlying geology comprises an east – west band of mudstones of the Abergwili Formation, with mudstones of the Penmaen Dewi Shale Formation to the north and the Llanfalteg Formation to the south, the latter including bands of igneous tuff (BGS Viewer 2023).

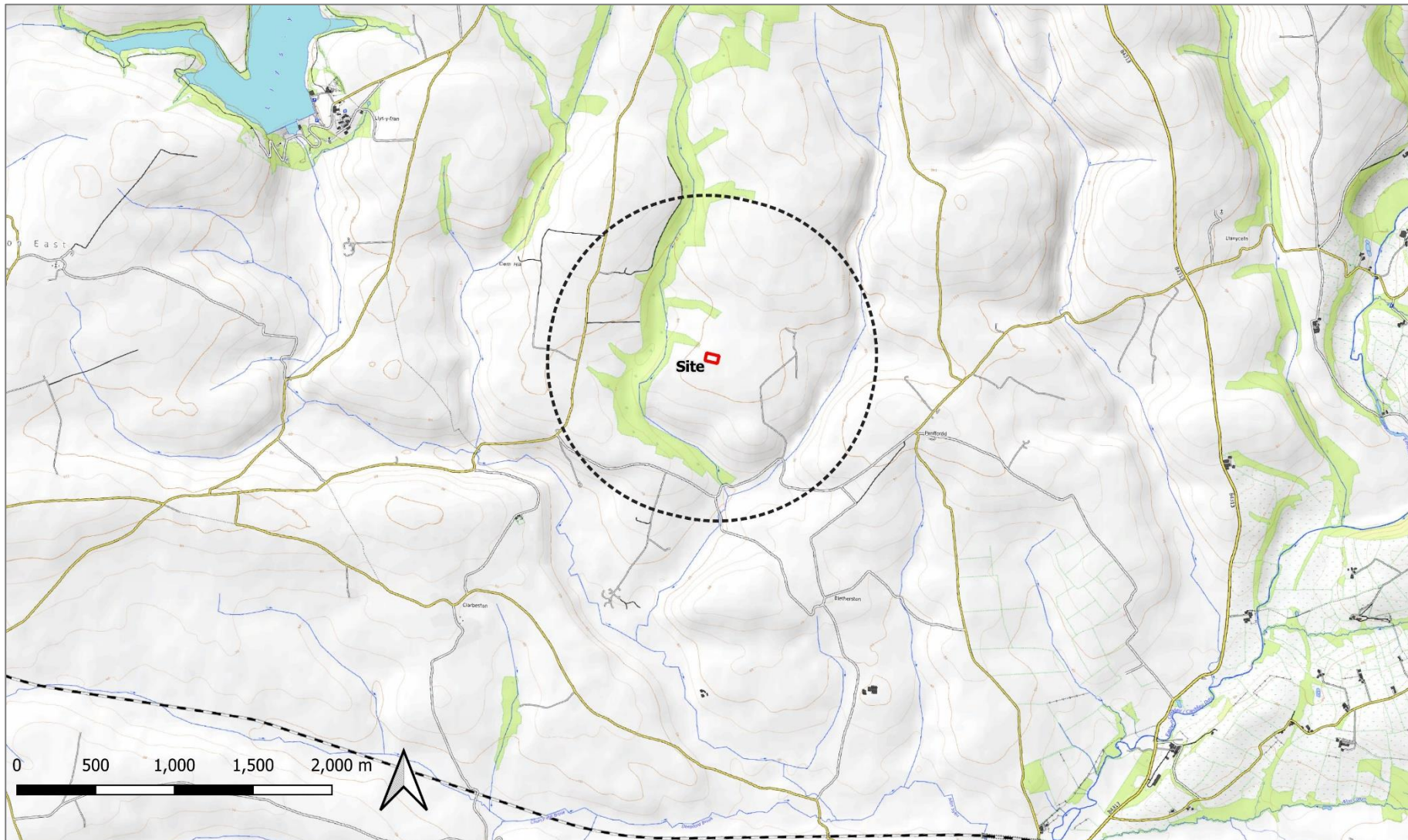


Figure 1: Proposed development site in red, with a 1km buffer zone illustrated by the black dotted line.

Map data from OpenStreetMap (OSM) <https://www.openstreetmap.org/copyright> 17/08/23

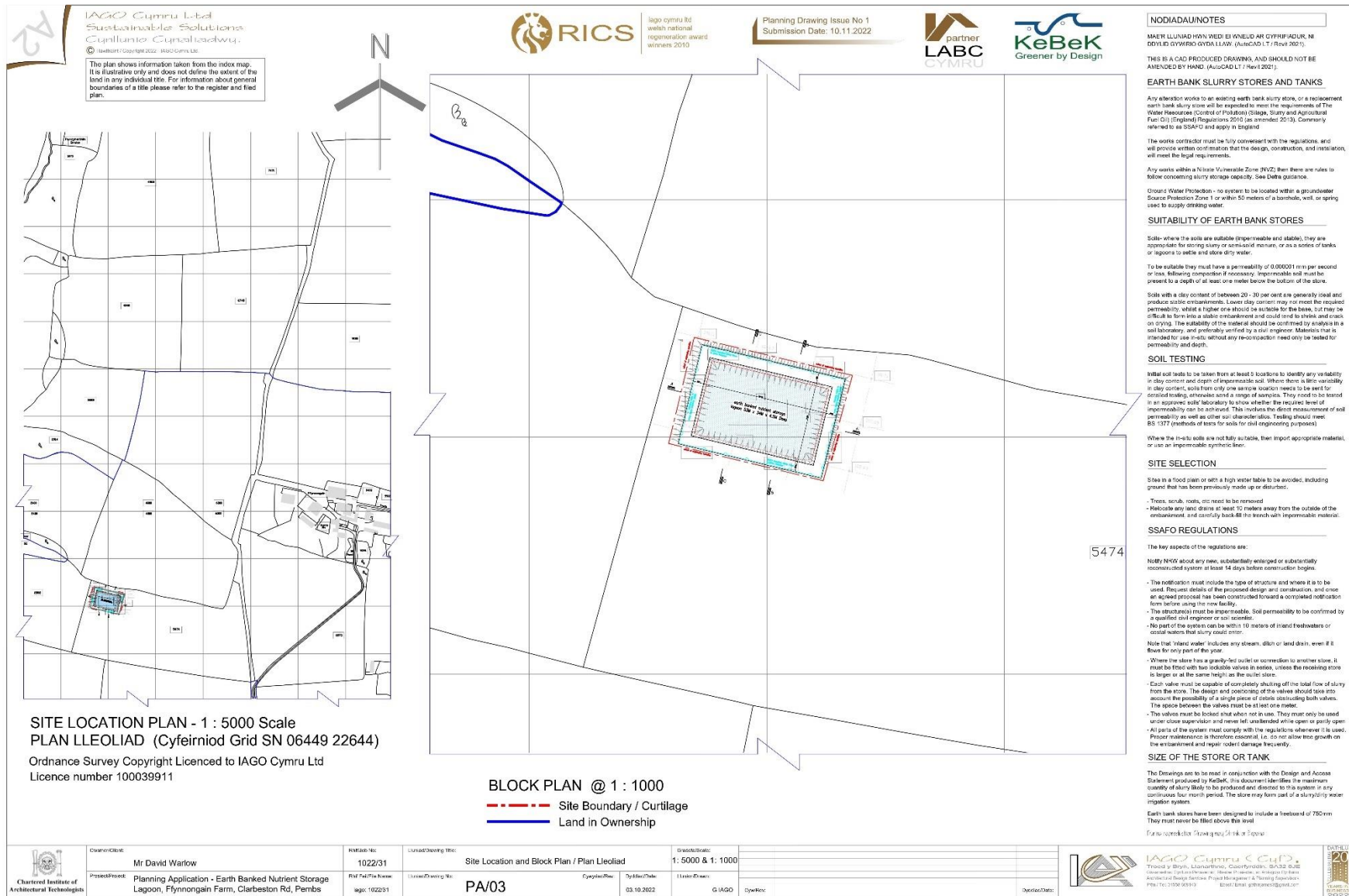


Figure 2: Detailed location plan of the proposed development area. Plan provided by the client, not reproduced to original scale.

4 DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS (Table 2 and Fig 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 two scheduled monuments within the 1km radius study area. Beyond this the next scheduled monuments are around 2.5km from the development site and unlikely to be affected.
- 4.2.4 The closest scheduled monument is **PE269 Rhyd-Brown Camp**. This site lies 420m to the southeast of the proposed development area. The site is recorded on the Dyfed HER as PRN 1410. The following is the Cadw 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 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.

- 4.2.5 1km to the northeast of the proposed development boundary lies **PE559 Posty Defended Enclosure**. This site is recorded on the Dyfed HER as PRN 1406. The following is the Cadw description:

The monument comprises the earthwork remains of a defended enclosure which dates to the Iron Age (c.800BC - 43AD). It is of national importance for its potential to inform us about Iron Age settlement. In particular, it is likely to contain evidence relating to

the internal lay-out and use of such enclosures, as well as their construction.

The site consists of a well-preserved earth and stone bank which cuts across the neck of an inland promontory and encloses a trapezoidal area of land 82m N-S and 75m E-W. On three sides the site is defined by natural features - to the east a slope runs down to a shallow valley, and to the south and west the ground falls sharply away into steep-sided wooded slopes. On the north side, the site is defended by a bank which stands 2m high and up to 11m wide. An external ditch is represented by a shallow depression 5m wide. A vehicle entrance has been driven through the centre of the bank, revealing its make-up of a packed clay core with stone revetment.

The combination of good survival of the bank and ditch, and strong archaeological potential is what makes this site particularly important. In many ways it is typical of Pembrokeshire's defended enclosures, but clear hollows and undulations can be seen within the interior, probably representing buried features. Consequently, this site may shed light on the use and lay-out of many others.

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* and 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, the closest being over 1.5km to the south.

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 areas within 1km of the site. The closest such sites lie around 5km to the south.

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, the closest such site lying over 7km to the west.

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 1km search area. The closest such landscape comprises the Preseli Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest around 4.5km to the northeast.

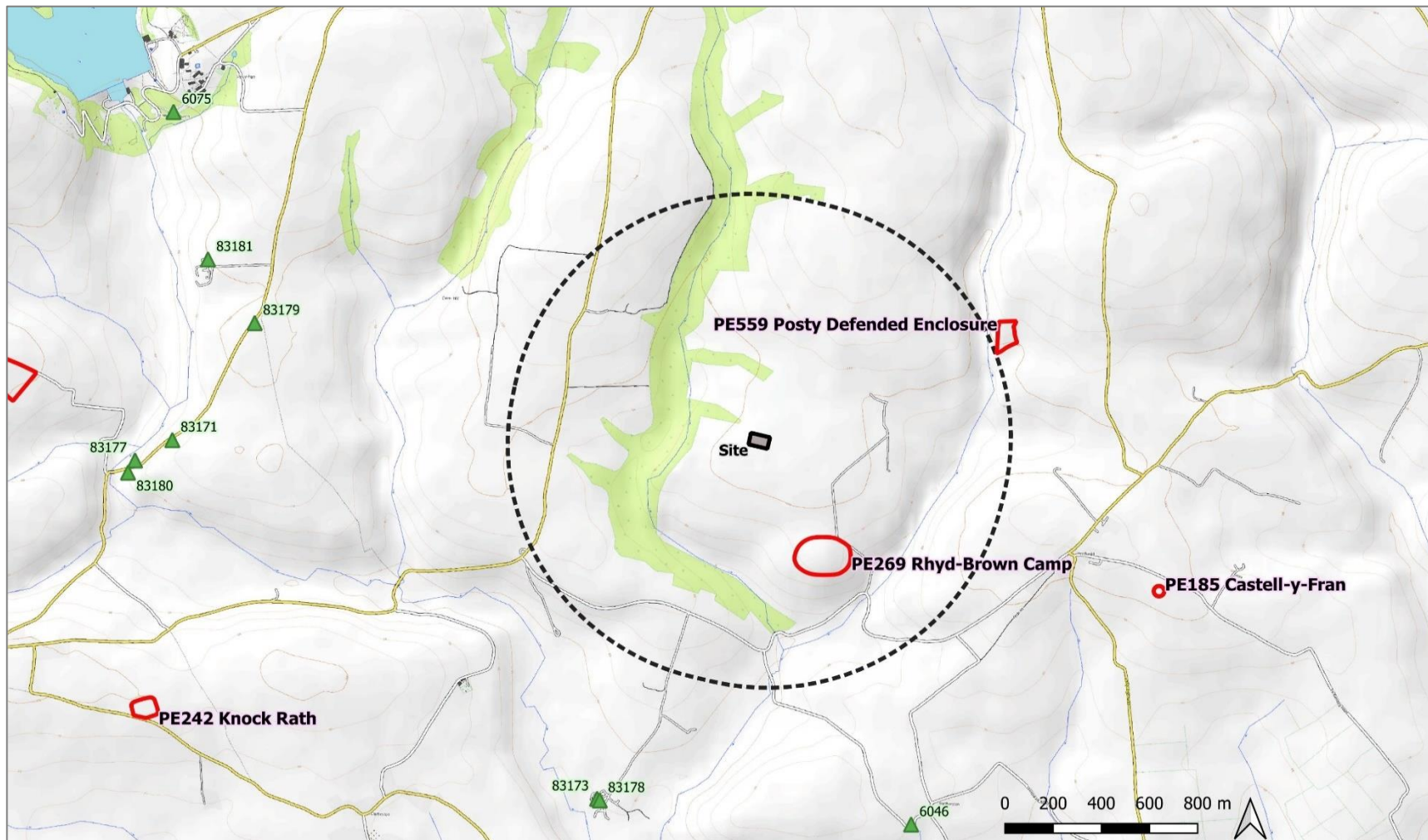


Figure 3: Map showing the proposed development site and the 1km radius study area (dotted line) and the location of scheduled monuments (red) and listed buildings (green) in the surrounding landscape.
Map data from OpenStreetMap (OSM) <https://www.openstreetmap.org/copyright> 22/08/23

5 NON-DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS (Tables 2 - 4 and Fig 4)

5.1 General

- 5.1.1 A search of the regional 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 18 assets within the search area, the closest being the scheduled site of Rhyd-Brown Camp (PE269) 420m to the southeast, also recorded on the HER as Castell Rhyd-y-brwyn (PRN 1410). Shipping Farm farmstead itself (PRN 119537) is also recorded. A smaller number of assets (five) are recorded on the NMR database, held and maintained by the RCAHMS, three of which are also recorded on the HER, with two additional sites on the periphery of the search area. One additional findspot has also been recorded on the National Museum of Wales (NMW) database to the south of Rhyd-Brown Camp.
- 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 and 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 recorded activity being a possible Neolithic henge near Clarbston Road over 4km to the southwest, and possible Neolithic burial chambers around Maenclochog over 4km to the north. 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 in the study area, the findspot for a large Bronze Age perforated axe-hammer (PRN 1409, and NMW database). The exact findspot is unknown, although it was apparently recovered from a field belonging to East Tenement Farm, which lies on the Ty-llosg Brook at the southern edge of the study area. No corresponding Bronze Age site has been recorded in this area, although further finds of a Bronze Age axe and spearheads around Bletherston, a short distance to the east of East Tenement, would suggest activity in the area and the likelihood of an as yet unrecorded Bronze Age site in the vicinity.
- 5.3.2 Further to the south, in the Llawhaden area, archaeological excavations in the 1980s (Williams 1984) on a seemingly later Iron Age site demonstrated that some monuments appeared to have their origins in the Bronze Age or had been constructed over earlier Bronze Age features. The possibility of more extensive Bronze Age activity in the area cannot therefore be discounted.

5.4 Iron Age and Roman

- 5.4.1 In contrast to the previous periods, recorded sites of a likely Iron Age date suggest a well-used and interconnected landscape during this period. There are four such sites within the 1km study area, with another three lying within 1.3km of the proposed development site. These sites are classed as defended

enclosures, comprising enclosures of various size and shape surrounded by banks and ditches.

- 5.4.2 The closest recorded enclosure is the scheduled site of Rhyd-Brown Camp (see section 4.2 - PE269), recorded on the HER as PRN 1410. This site occupies an inland promontory with natural slopes defending the site to the east and south, supplemented by a bank and ditch, and three lines of impressive banks and ditches defending the level northern and western sides. The defences on this northern side also appear to have been remodelled, with a possible earlier northern entrance replaced by a northwest entrance. No internal features have yet been identified.
- 5.4.3 The other defended enclosures in the area are all assumed to be broadly contemporary, but all differ slightly in form. 700m to the southwest of the site lies Hermonshook PRN 14314, a similarly sized site but occupying an easterly-facing slope and surrounded by three lines of relatively widely spaced ditches. 1.2km to the southeast of the site lie the two adjacent defended enclosures of Parc-y-drain PRN 14357 and Penffordd PRN 14362. The former is a relatively simple oval enclosure on a gentle slope, surrounded by a single line of bank and ditch defences. The latter is a similar sized sub-circular enclosure defended by a single line of ditches but one that extends to line an entranceway before fanning out to form a larger outer enclosure, a form often described as a 'banjo enclosure'. 1km to the northeast of the site lies Post y Draw PRN 1406, which is recorded as a promontory fort, but which falls within the same category of defended enclosures. As with Rhyd-Brown Camp, steeper slopes form the natural defences for most of the site, with a single line of defences comprising a large bank and ditch on the northern approach to the enclosure. 1.3km to the north of the site lies Park East PRN 1399, a small oval enclosure on gentle slopes, very similar in appearance to PRN 14357. Alongside these sites the RCAHMW also record an additional enclosure, NPRN 401985, 900m to the east of the site. Although little information is provided in the RCAHMW it has been described in a survey of defended enclosures (Murphy et al 2007) but given an incorrect reference number (PRN 14236). This described a sub-rectangular enclosure, defended by a single line of bank and ditch.
- 5.4.4 The variety of these enclosures likely indicate a multitude of uses, from settlement sites to military sites, stock enclosures and possible sites of ritual significance. Although the community groups occupying and using these sites may be relatively small, they demonstrate a level of organised society spread over a wider area, and it is likely much of the local landscape was being used within a wider network of agricultural lands, routeways and settlement sites that have not yet been identified.
- 5.4.5 Excavations of similar enclosures to the south, in the Llawhaden area, suggest a considerable longevity to some of the sites (Williams 1984), from the Bronze Age through to the medieval period. Generally however there is a focus of activity in the Iron Age, but one that often extended into the early Roman era. Around 1km to the north of the site lies Ffynnon-gain PRN 1417, a roughly square crop-marked enclosure. The size and shape of the enclosure appears more typical of Roman enclosures, possibly a farmstead, rather than Iron Age defended enclosures, although there does appear to be some similarities to NPRN 401985. Little is understood about this site, but it may represent a transition to a more typically Roman organisation of local society.

Table 2: Iron Age and Roman sites recorded on the HER within the study area.

PRN	Site Name	Type	Date and Summary	Grid Ref.
1410	Castell Rhyd-y-brwyn; Castell Cymmer; Rhyd-y-brown	Defended Enclosure	Iron Age – promontory defended by three lines of large banks and ditches at 90mOD	SN06672230
14314	Hermonshook	Defended Enclosure	Iron Age - crop-marked oval enclosure defended by three lines of widely spaced ditches at 90mOD	SN057224
14357	Parc-y-drain	Defended Enclosure	Iron Age - small, oval defended enclosure on gentle northeast-facing slope	SN07222192
1399	Park East	Defended Enclosure	Iron Age - small, oval, univallate enclosure occupying a gentle slope, just below the crest of a rounded hill, at c.145mOD	SN07012403
14362	Penffordd	Defended Enclosure	Iron Age - sub-circular, crop-marked enclosure with a concentric annexe at 90mOD	SN07552209
1406	Post Y Draw	Promontory Fort	Iron Age - univallate inland promontory fort lying at c.100mOD	SN07432324
1417	Ffynnon-gain	Enclosure	Roman – roughly square crop-marked enclosure with rounded corner.	SN07072365
NPRN 401985	Penffordd	Enclosure	Iron Age – sub-rectangular enclosure on NW-facing slopes at c.100mOD	SN07262243

5.5 Early Medieval and Medieval Period

- 5.5.1 Evidence of activity in the area during the early medieval period is scarce. Excavations of some Iron Age enclosures in the Llawhaden area to the south revealed evidence of activity into the early medieval period, but any such associations in this area remains entirely speculative.
- 5.5.2 Recorded evidence of activity in the medieval period is better in the wider landscape. Within the study area it appears relatively minimal, but there is a suggestion of more widespread activity than is currently recorded in the HER. There are two sites recorded on the HER of medieval date, both supposed holy wells. One site, PRN 1402, lies around 1km to the south near Bletherston

and had a reputation for curing children's ailments but has since been lost. The other site, PRN 1411, lies around 900m to the northeast and was possibly dedicated to St Keyne the Virgin, known in Welsh as Cain Wryr, the origin of the local farm name of Ffynnon-gain. The earliest surviving history of St Keyne/Cain herself comes from the 14th century but states that she is a 5th or 6th century saint, one of the many daughters of King Brychan and a relative of St Cadoc. She supposedly travelled widely throughout south Wales and Cornwall, represented by a spread of dedications across these areas. A spring is noted at the site, with modern piping using it for the local livestock. Some holy wells are associated with chapel sites and it is possible a former chapel, now vanished, may have been located near the well. The supposed Roman site of PRN 1417 immediately to the north may be of significance in this respect.

- 5.5.3 Ffynnon-gain is first mentioned in the Black Book of St David's, as 'Fonnon Keyng' in 1326 (Charles 1992; 429). It was apparently recorded as a 'knights fee', held under the tenurial arrangements of Welsh law (Jones 2001, Hall and Sambrook 2012). A knights fee typically encompassed a sizeable area of land, often considered to be between 1000 and 5000 acres, considerably larger than the current farm holdings. Presumably the fee included several farm settlements, but with a possible central focus at Ffynnon-gain by the later medieval period. No medieval remains have been recorded, so the exact location and extent of any medieval settlement is unclear, but the name association would suggest it likely lies in the area of the current farmstead (PRN 119313).
- 5.5.4 In the wider landscape the nearest known medieval settlements are Clarbston to the southwest and New Moat to the north, the two presumably connected via route over the ridge of valley to the west of the site.

Table 3: Medieval sites recorded on the HER within the study area.

PRN	Site Name	Type	Date and Summary	Grid Ref.
1402	Bletherston	Holy Well	Medieval - a spring recorded in 1925 as being locally known as 'The Holy Well'. Residents recall the well as just 'a hole in the ground'	SN0648321699
1411	St Keyne the Virgin; Ffynnon Gain	Holy Well	Medieval - a well possibly dedicated to St. Keyne the Virgin. Once a well of some repute, now enclosed by a brick and stone structure covered with corrugated iron	SN07042354

5.6 Post-Medieval and Modern Period

- 5.6.1 The remaining sites recorded on the HER largely relate to the later post-medieval agricultural landscape and include farmsteads, cottages and chapels, together with fords and footbridges across the various streams. It is likely the general settlement pattern of dispersed farmsteads and cottages, and the field enclosure pattern, were well-established by the later post-medieval period.
- 5.6.2 As mentioned in the previous section, Ffynnongain (PRN 119313) was recorded in the 14th century, but it is not recorded again until the early 17th century. By this time the lands were part of the extensive estate owned by

the Scourfield family, based at The Mote in New Moat to the north. Sometime after the death of William Scourfield, the head of the estate, in 1622 his widow, Jane, married a John Philipps of Ffynnongain. They appear in the records in 1631 when they sued Jane's (and William's) son, the inheritor of the New Moat estate, for her dowry from her late husband. They asked for a third share of 60 messuages and 5000 acres of land, a corn mill and a fulling mill across the extensive Pembrokeshire holdings of the Scourfields (Green 1923; 154, quoting the Papers of the Great Sessions, 6 Car.I.). In 1638 John Phillips/Philipps of Fynnongain appears in the records once more as he is made High Sheriff of Pembrokeshire (Nicholas 1991), suggesting he was a member of the local gentry and that Ffynnongain had become a relatively high-status dwelling.

- 5.6.3 The National Library in Aberystwyth holds copies of several wills related to Ffynnongain from the 17th to early 19th centuries, the earliest being that of David Griffith in 1663. Whilst there is little historical reference to David Griffith it is assumed he succeeded John Philipps at Ffynnongain. David Griffith however is described a yeoman, a social rank given to someone who owns and cultivates land but is considered to be just below the gentry. The change in family name and presumed social status appears unusual but it is possible the Civil War in the intervening years may have had an impact. The next will, in 1737, described the resident of Ffynnongain, Griffith Thomas, as a gentleman, the lowest rank of the landed gentry but considered above that of a yeoman. The list of property in the will includes the farmstead, along with all the animals including cows, oxen, sheep, pigs and horses, and hay, indicating a working farm similar to the present day. The latest will dates to 1816, to another Griffith Thomas, who is described simply as a farmer. The farm continued to be occupied by the Thomas family until at least the mid-19th century, when it was occupied by tenant farmers until the 1980s and purchased by the current family owners (D.Warlow, pers.comm.). The lands therefore have a long history of agricultural management, with the post-medieval archaeological potential of the site likely closely related to general agricultural activity.

Table 4: Post-medieval sites recorded on the HER within the study area.

PRN	Site Name	Type	Date and Summary	Grid Ref.
17628	Penfordd Chapel	Chapel	Post Medieval – Calvinistic Methodist chapel built in 1861, restored 1913	SN07672234
17664		Quarry	Post Medieval / Modern - small quarry	SN0546422290
17644	Back-a-mill	Mill	Post Medieval	SN06732191
46369		Boundary Stone	Post Medieval - boundary stone discovered by a CCW field worker during a river survey	SN06862218
103869	Fox Den	Cottage	Post Medieval - cottage named 'Fox Den' on the historic OS maps	SN06992228

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PRN	Site Name	Type	Date and Summary	Grid Ref.
50972	Holy Well Cottage	Cottage	Post Medieval - original location of Holy Well cottage	SN06472173
50975	Parc-y-drain	Cottage	Post Medieval - cottage marked on 1907 Ordnance Survey map, only the enclosure remains	SN07142196
17747	The Grange	Grange	Post Medieval – farmstead, but name suggests potential grange associations	SN05242293
17640	Y Bwthyn; Carmel Baptist Chapel	Chapel	Post Medieval - non-Conformist village chapel built 1804, rebuilt 1873 and 1915, now converted into private dwelling	SN07622230
126146		Ford	Post Medieval – ford over Ty-Llosg Brook, marked on the 1880 OS map	SN0644821830
126147		Footbridge	Post Medieval - footbridge over Rhyd-y-Brown Brook, marked on the 1880 OS map	SN0727822890
126242		Footbridge	Post Medieval - footbridge over Ty-Llosg Brook, marked on the 1880 OS map	SN0645621831
126243		Ford	Post Medieval - ford over Rhyd-y-Brown Brook, marked on the 1880 OS map	SN0662421968
119522	Back-a-mill	Farmstead	Post Medieval - farmstead recorded on 1907 OS map	SN0672821892
119313	Ffynnon-gain	Farmstead	Post Medieval – farmstead, recorded on documents from the 17 th century on, possibly older	SN0692622984
119521	Parkstone	Farmstead	Post Medieval - farmstead recorded on 1889 OS map	SN0549522366
17659	Rhyd-y-brown	Quarry	Post Medieval – small quarries in the valley bottom below Rhyd-y-brown camp	SN0600022000
119520	Ystrad-dir	Farmstead	Post Medieval – small farmstead / cottage recorded on 1889 OS map	SN0587822154

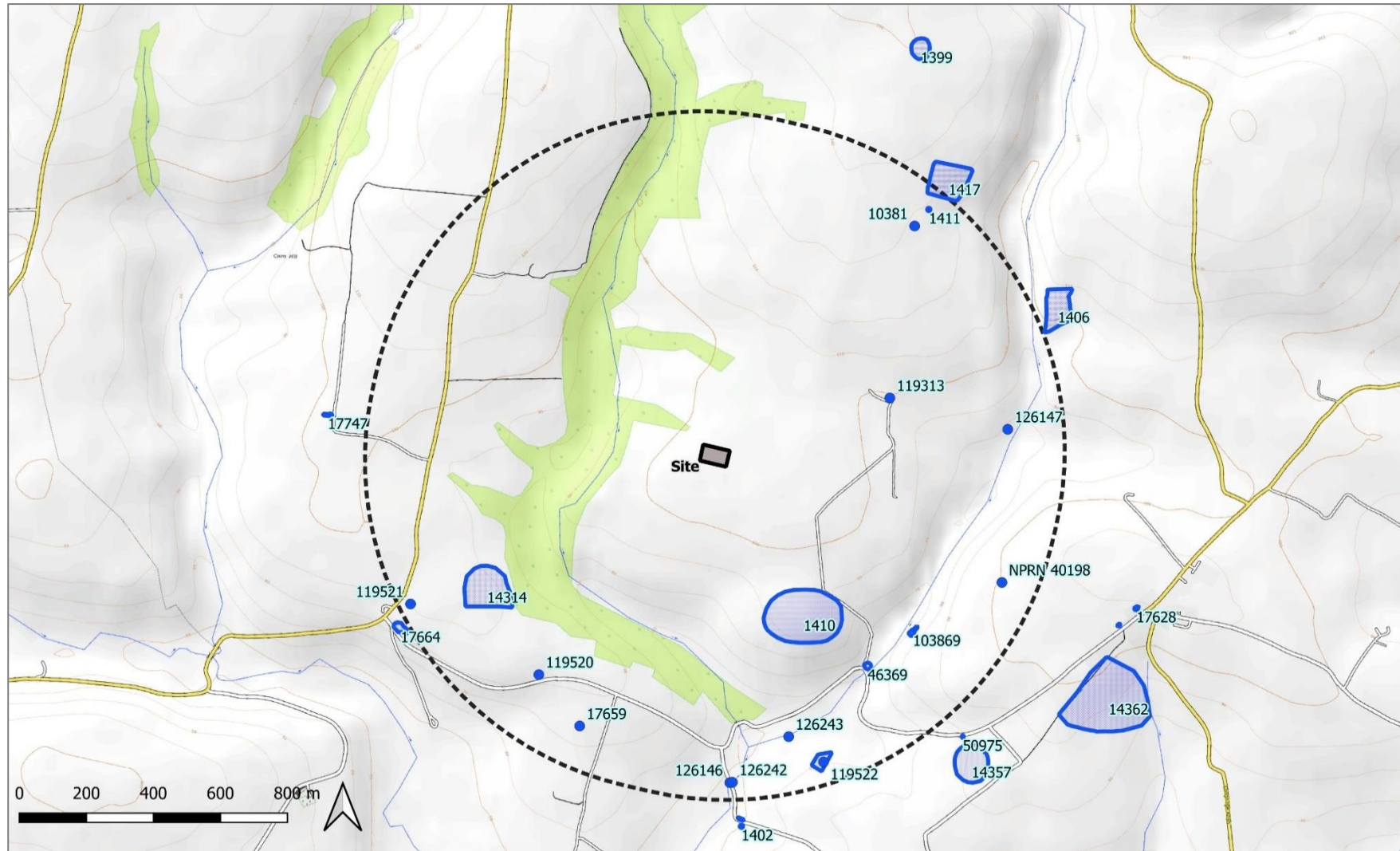


Figure 4: Map showing the proposed development site and the 1km radius study area (dotted line). Also showing assets recorded on the regional HER, labelled by PRN.

Map data from OpenStreetMap (OSM) <https://www.openstreetmap.org/copyright> 30/08/23

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 There have been no intrusive archaeological investigations within the study area, and no site-specific archaeological studies prior to this assessment.
- 6.2.2 There are a variety of archaeological assessments that have provided further information of relevance to archaeological remains within the study area. These include a regional survey of historic assets (DAT 1997), a Heritage Audit in 2012 (Hall and Sambrook 2012) and Cadw-funded assessments undertaken by Dyfed Archaeological Trust examining prehistoric defended enclosures (Murphy et al 2007), Roman non-military sites (Murphy and Page 2009) and medieval and early post-medieval wells (Ings 2012). Information from these studies have been included in the current HER data, used to inform Section 5.

6.3 Historic Mapping

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

- 6.3.1 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. Ffynnongain farm and Rhyd-Brown Camp are both shown, with the main trackway running north – south along the ridge. No features are marked in the area of proposed development, although individual field enclosures are not displayed.

Tithe Map of New Moat Parish 1839 (Fig. 5)

- 6.3.2 By the time the tithe map was drawn up in 1839 the current field pattern had been established, and it appears well-established by the mid-19th century with little change since. The farmstead of Ffynnongain was occupied by William Thomas although under the ownership of William Henry Scourfield of Robeston Hall (near Milford Haven) and The Mote (New Moat). This was a relatively large farm of just over 356 acres.
- 6.3.3 Field boundaries, farm buildings and trackways are all clearly depicted. Rhyd-Brown Camp is not shown but the field in which it sits is called 'Castle Park'. The proposed development site lies in a field to the north, labelled as 'Park Pen y Fider' and with no features of archaeological interest displayed. Other than 'Castle Park' the neighbouring fields are named after agricultural or pedological features.

Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map 1889 (Fig 6)

- 6.3.4 The more detailed Ordnance Survey map of 1889 shows some extra details, particularly around Rhyd-Brown Camp, but the only distinction from the tithe map is the subdivision of the field referred to previously as 'Castle Park'. The proposed development area remains unchanged, with no features of note marked.

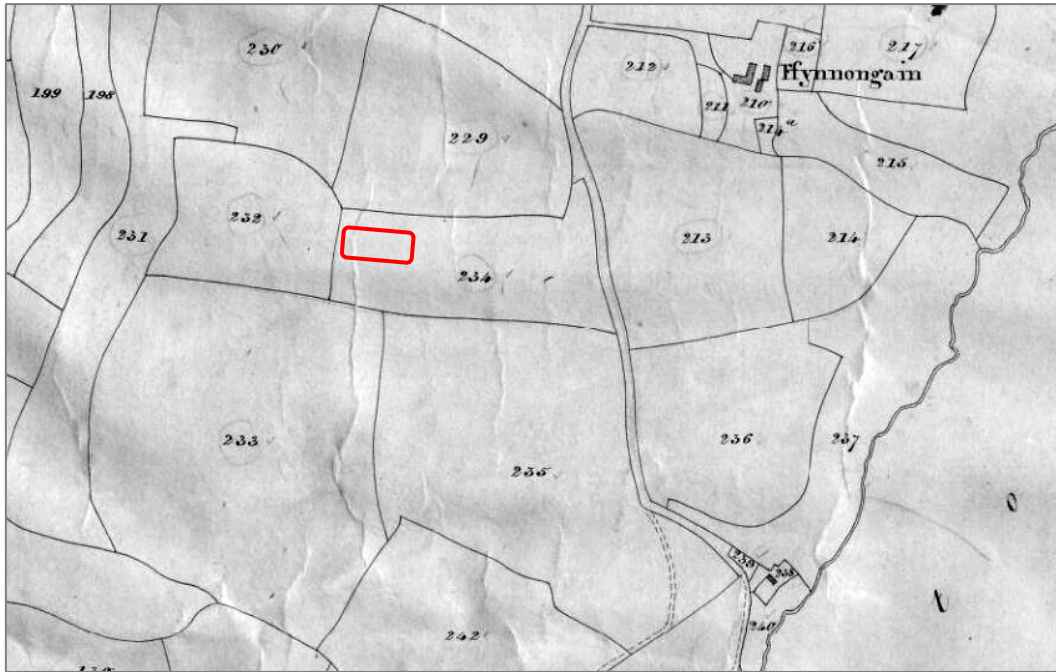


Figure 5: Extract from the tithe map of 1839. The approximate location of the proposed development area is marked in red.

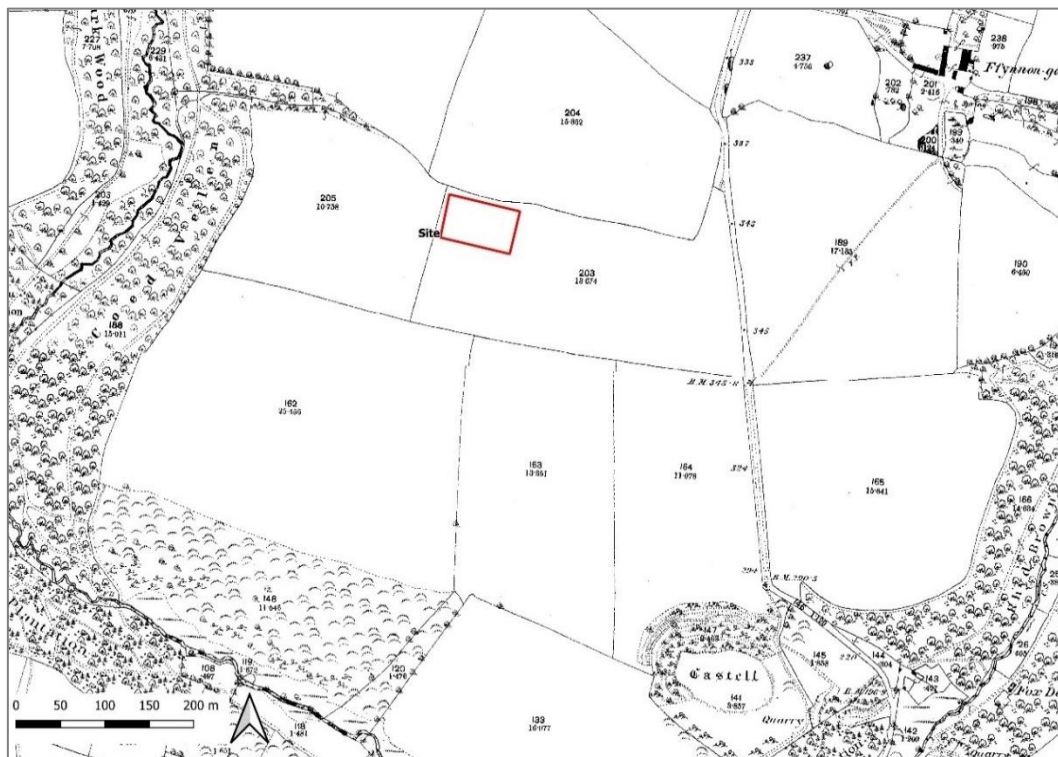


Figure 6: Extract from the Ordnance Survey map of 1889. Proposed development site boundary shown in red.

Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map 1907

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

6.4 Aerial and Historic Photography

6.4.1 A search was made of available historic and modern aerial photographs. Historic aerial photographs of clarity are limited to a series of vertical photographs taken by the RAF in 1946 (Photo 1). These images cover the farm and show the development site as a field of improved pasture surrounded by maintained hedgerows. Mixed arable agriculture is being undertaken in the field adjacent to Rhyd-Brown Camp, but no features of archaeological interest are identifiable in the proposed development area or immediate surroundings.



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



Photo 2: Oblique aerial photograph taken by T. James (Dyfed Archaeological Trust) in 1989. Approximate location of proposed development area shown in red. © DAT AP89-T15

- 6.4.2 In the late 1980s and 1990s many of the prehistoric defended enclosures in the area were specifically photographed from the air, including Rhyd-Brown Camp. These photographs were used to identify crop marks depicting enclosures that were not necessarily visible on the ground. Photographs of Rhyd-Brown Camp, which incorporate the proposed development area (Photo 2), do not show any further features of archaeological interest within or around the proposed development area.
- 6.4.3 Modern satellite images from 2005 onwards show the site and surrounding fields in mixed agricultural use, both arable and pasture, demonstrating that the site area has been ploughed in recent years. Images from 2018 in particular capture the site in a period of dry weather when crop marked features tend to be more prevalent, but no features of archaeological interest are identifiable within the proposed development area or its immediate surrounds.

6.5 LiDAR (Fig 7)

- 6.5.1 LiDAR data at 2mDTM (with trees removed) and 1mDSM (Fig 7) is available for the site area. Sites such as Rhyd Brown Camp PRN 1410 and NPRN 40198 to the east are visible, although not all crop marked enclosures in the area show up as slight earthworks on the LiDAR data. Modern ploughing furrows are visible but no features of archaeological interest are identified within the proposed development area itself.

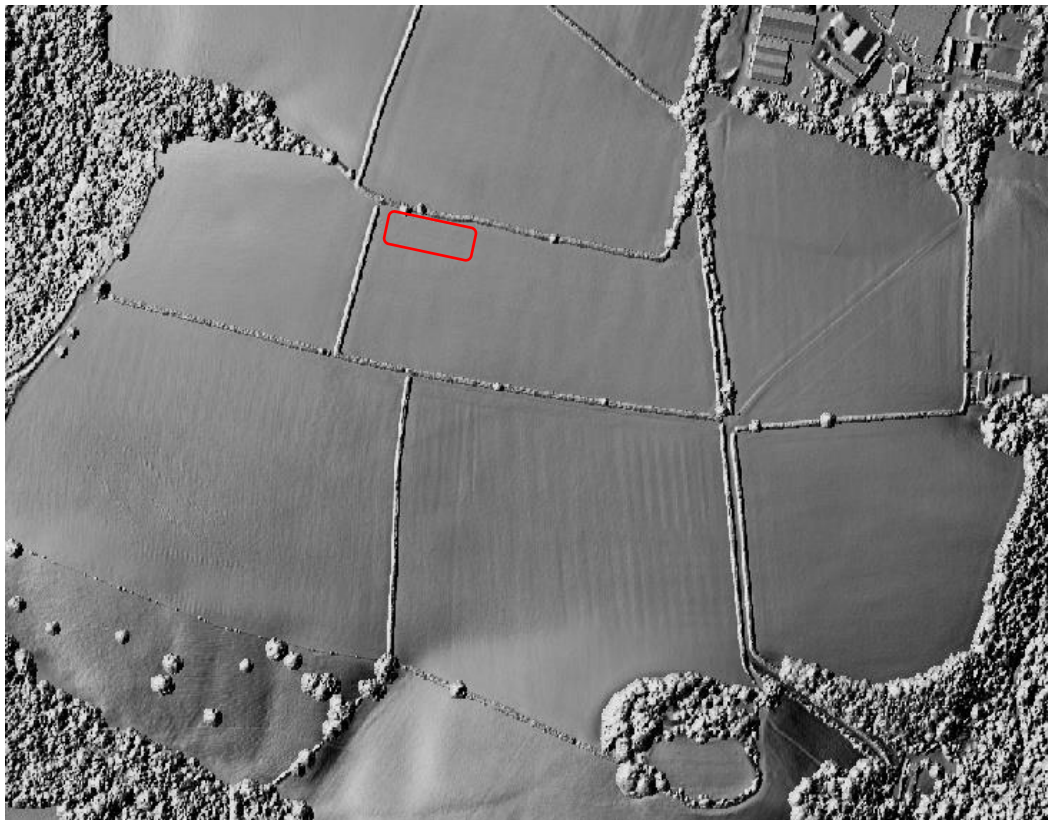


Figure 7: Lidar data at 1mDSM showing the proposed development site (approximate location in red).

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 3-14)

- 6.6.1 A site visit was undertaken on the 01 September 2023. The weather conditions were dry and sunny with excellent visibility. Access to the entire site was possible.
- 6.6.2 Views both across and from the proposed development site are shown in Photos 3-7.
- 6.6.3 The proposed development area lies in the corner of a field recently cropped for wheat. The ground slopes gently in a northerly direction down towards a shallow east – west saddle across the ridge, within which sits the farmstead of Ffynnongain. The field is surrounded by hedgerows, a gate into the adjoining field lies to the west, and the main field access lies in the southeast corner of the field. No earthworks or archaeological features are visible within the field, and no artefacts are visible on the field surface.
- 6.6.4 There are views from the proposed development site northward across the falling ground and onto rising ground beyond for around 700-800m. The edge of the Preseli Hills are visible on the horizon beyond. There are also views westward across the tree-filled stream valley and onto the hills beyond, with the farmsteads of Wood Park, Moat Grange (PRN 17747) and Llys Coed partially visible. Due to rising ground, views east and south do not extend beyond the edges of the field. Neither the farmstead of Ffynnongain (PRN 119313) nor Rhyd Brown Camp (PRN 1410, PE269) are visible from the site.



Photo 3: View north across the proposed development site (marked by the upright 2m scale and arrow), with the Preseli Hills visible on the horizon.



Photo 4: View northeast across the proposed development site (marked by the upright 2m scale and arrow), the farmstead of Ffynnongain lies in the trees on the right side.



Photo 5: View west across the proposed development site (marked by the upright 2m scale and arrow) with the tree-filled valley beyond.



Photo 6: View east across the proposed development site (marked by the upright 2m scale and arrow).



Photo 7: View southeast from the proposed development site looking in the general direction of Rhyd-Brown Camp (PRN 1410, PE269) (not visible).

- 6.6.5 The farm access track runs along the exterior east side of the field. The track is tarmac to the field entrance, where it diverges to the northeast to access the farmstead directly. The original line of the track continues to the north as a stone-packed track.
- 6.6.6 Rhyd-Brown Camp (PRN 1410, PE269) lies over the brow of the hill to the south, towards the southern end of a gentle southerly sloping field, separated from it by post and wire fencing. The site is defended on its north and western sides by up to three lines of large banks and ditches, the banks rising to 4-5m and the ditches reaching up to 7m across, all currently covered in mature trees. To the south and east the site is defended by sloping, but not precipitous, ground, topped by a scarp and bank up to 3m high in places. The interior is roughly level, raised to near the height of the southern bank and covered in lightly grazed pasture. The site offers extensive views to the south. Views to the north are limited by the tree-cover along the multivallate defences but extend only as far as the top of rising ground defined by the field boundary to the south of the proposed development area. The latter is not visible from Rhyd-Brown Camp.
- 6.6.7 Views of, from and across Rhyd-Brown Camp are shown in Photos 8-12.



Photo 8: View north along the western defences of Rhyd-Brown Camp. 2m scale.



Photo 9: View east across the interior of Rhyd-Brown Camp.



Photo 10: View southwest from Rhyd-Brown Camp, looking across the falling ground to the south.



Photo 11: View south from the interior of Rhyd-Brown Camp, showing the open aspect to southerly views.



Photo 12: View north from Rhyd-Brown Camp towards the proposed development site, not visible over the brow of the hill.

6.6.8 The farmstead of Ffynnongain (PRN 119313) lies at the eastern end of the sheltered saddle across the low ridge (Photos 13-14). Traditional buildings include the two-storey rubble-built farmhouse with slate-gable roof, with a lower two-storey addition to the south. The building is 19th century in appearance, but blocked openings suggest it may have been adapted from earlier structures. An L-shaped range of rubble-built farm buildings stands opposite, similar in appearance. Modern agricultural sheds extend to the east and west, ponds and woodland lie on lower ground to the south.



Photo 13: View northeast of the farmhouse of Ffynnongain (PRN 119313).



Photo 14: View northwest of the traditional farm building range at Ffynnongain (PRN 119313).

7 ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL, VALUE AND SETTING

Table 5: 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 6: 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 and Value

- 7.1.1 No sites have previously been recorded within the proposed development area. The assessment has not identified any new, visible sites of archaeological interest within the proposed development area but a potential for buried archaeological remains exists.
- 7.1.2 The development site does lie in an archaeological sensitive area with a particular focus on Iron Age activity. This is evidenced by the proximity of Rhyd-Brown Camp PRN 1410/scheduled monument PE269 to the south, along with a concentration of potential contemporary sites throughout the local landscape. No direct association with the proposed development site has been identified but the general concentration of such sites would suggest a **low to medium potential** for Iron Age archaeological remains in the general area, of **uncertain archaeological value** at this stage.
- 7.1.3 The proposed development area has likely been in agricultural use throughout the post-medieval period, potentially originating in the medieval period. The site has also been under mixed agricultural use and has therefore been ploughed numerous times in the past which is likely to have impacted upon any potential below-ground archaeological remains. The identified use of the site suggests a **medium potential** for remains associated with post-medieval agricultural activities, such as earlier field boundaries, drainage and agricultural items, but these are likely to be of **low archaeological value**.

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 Two scheduled monuments were identified within the study area. No link, visual or otherwise, was established with **PE559 Posty Defended Enclosure**, which lies 1km to the northeast and which is therefore discounted from further consideration.
- 7.2.3 The other site, **PE269 Rhyd-Brown Camp** lies closer, 420m to the south of the proposed development site. The site has not been archaeologically investigated, therefore its true function remains speculative, but it may represent a location for settlement. As such, it is possible it had some connection to the area surrounding it, possibly as associated agricultural land or activities which would likely have been concentrated on the more level ground spread out to the north of the site, which includes the proposed development area. Again however, associated activity in this area has not been identified archaeologically. In terms of visual connections, the site has extensive views southward, the raised interior would appear to aid in these views. There are a number of potentially contemporary sites in the surrounding landscape but no clear visual link between these various sites has been identified, and connecting routes are also uncertain. There is a

limited view north from the site to the crest of the hill at the southern end of the field containing the proposed development site, but the development site itself is not visible from Rhyd-Brown Camp. Due to this topography the proposed development site also does not feature in views of Rhyd-Brown Camp and it does not disrupt any intervisibility between any site associated with Rhyd-Brown Camp.

- 7.2.4 No further designated heritage asset has been identified within the study area or beyond that could potentially be affected by the proposed development.

8 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

8.1 Development Details (Figs 8 and 9)

- 8.1.1 The proposed development is for an earth-banked nutrient store; a rectangular tank, measuring approximately 53m by 34m, and 4.5m deep. This will be cut into the sloping ground, embanked around the lower northern side by a bank up to 1.5m high and 4.5m wide at the top, finished with topsoil and seeded. The site will be enclosed by wire fencing at least 1.3m high. Existing farm infrastructure will be used to access the store and existing hedge boundaries will be maintained.
- 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, terracing and tank excavation works;
 - Enabling works, such as the construction of access roads, parking and storage areas, associated services;
 - Surface stripping and levelling;
 - Buried pipework to the store;
 - 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.

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)

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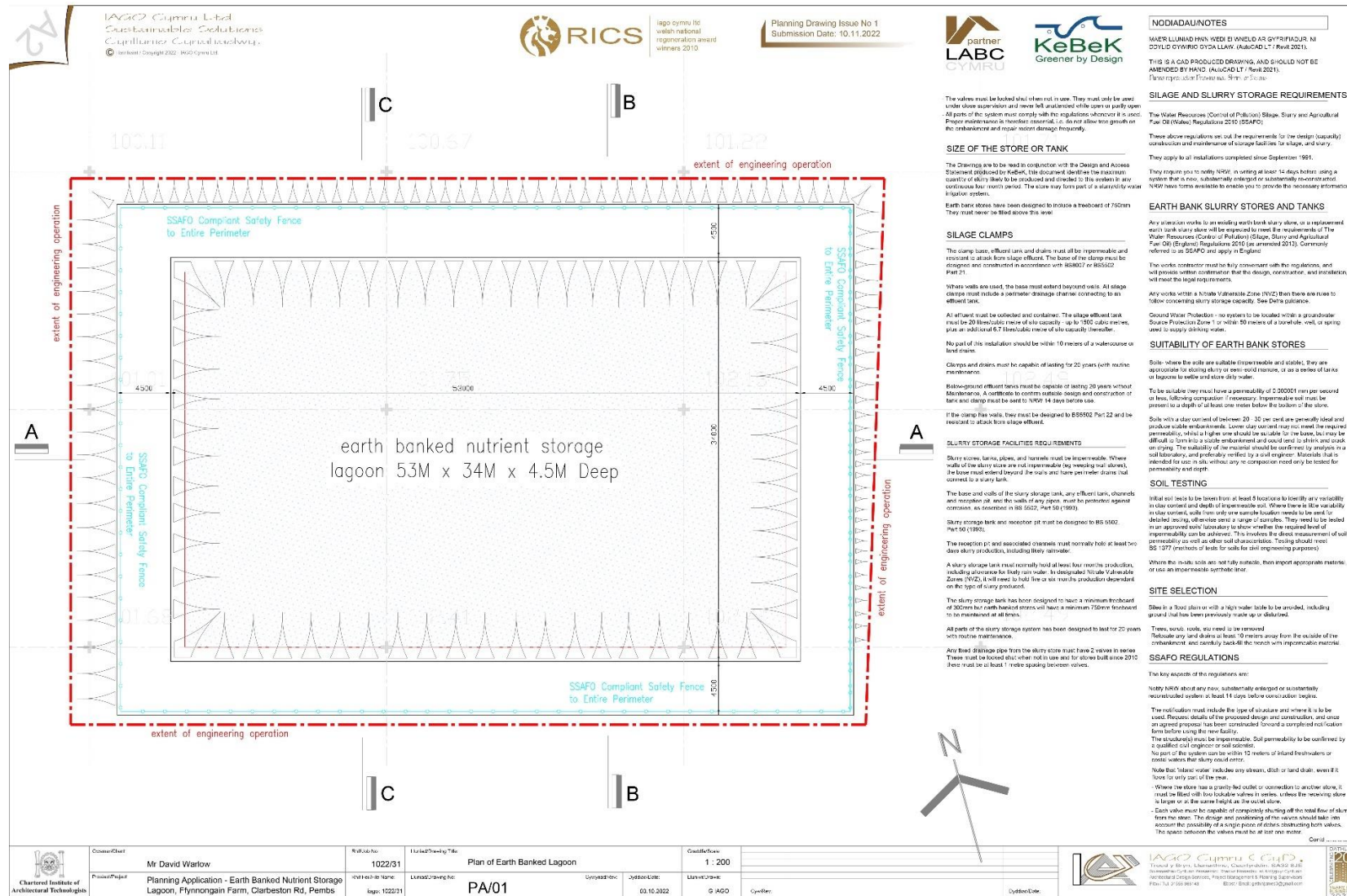


Figure 8: Development proposals, showing the dimensions of the nutrient storage tank. Plan provided by the client, not reproduced to scale.

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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 focussing on the Iron Age, of unknown value, and a medium archaeological potential for archaeological activity associated with post-medieval agriculture, of low archaeological value, 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, two scheduled monuments have been identified in the study area, with only **PE269 Rhyd-Brown Camp** having elements of its setting potentially affected by the proposed development. There will be no visual impact on PE269, the only potential impact will be on disturbance to possible associated archaeology across the farmland to the north of the monument. However, as no definitive evidence of such associated archaeological remains has yet come to light the proposed development is considered to have a **Neutral impact** on the setting of PE269.
- 8.4.3 No further impacts to designated heritage assets were identified during the course of the assessment.

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 **low to medium potential** for archaeological activity focusing on the Iron Age and of **uncertain archaeological value**. A **medium potential** for archaeological remains associated with post-medieval agricultural activity has also been identified, of **low archaeological value**. Groundworks associated with the proposed development could have a **Moderate Adverse** impact should archaeological remains be present.
- 9.1.2 No impacts on the settings of surrounding designated heritage assets (scheduled monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, historic parks and 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 speculative, 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 any archaeological remains 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.

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