

**Impact on Setting and Significance
Relating to the Proposed erection of
Straights Feed Store and all associated
works at Cwrt Malle, Llangynog,
Carmarthen, Dyfed, SA33 5BN
Revised March 2024**



Report by: Trysor

For: Roger Parry and Partners

March 2024



Impact on Setting and Significance Relating to the Proposed erection of Straights Feed Store and all associated works at Cwrt Malle, Llangynog, Carmarthen, Dyfed, SA33 5BN Revised March 2024

By

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Trysor Project No. 2023/901
HER Event Record PRN – DAT 126571

For: Roger Parry and Partners

March 2024

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Cover photograph: Looking southwest from the road bridge over the Fernhill Brook to the northeast of Cwrt Malle farm in 2023. The earthwork site of CM390 Cwrt Malle moated site, Llangynog with lies in the field with the Cwrt Malle farm complex beyond.

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DYDDIAD 20^{fed} Awst 2023 **DATE** 20th August 2023
Fersiwn Diwygiedig – 19^{fed} Mawrth 2024
Revised Version 19th March 2024

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan bartneriad Trysor. Mae wedi ei gael
yn gywir ac yn derbyn ein sêl bendith.

This report was prepared by the Trysor partners. It has been checked
and received our approval.

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***Croesawn unrhyw sylwadau ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr
adroddiad hwn.***

***We welcome any comments on the content or structure of this
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Date	Revision	Reason
19/03/2024	Revisions throughout the document	Client changed the proposed location of the straights feed store and the report was revised to assess the potential change in impact

Event Record PRN – DAT HER

PRN	DAT 126571
Name	<i>Impact on Setting and Significance Relating to the Proposed erection of Straights Feed Store and all associated works at Cwrt Malle, Llangynog, Carmarthen, Dyfed, SA33 5BN</i>
Type	HERITAGE ASSESSMENT
NGR	SN3744417346
Easting	237444
Northing	217346
Summary (English)	During summer 2023 Trysor carried out an assessment of the impact on the setting and significance of designated historic assets from a new straights feed store at Cwrt Malle, Llangynog, Carmarthenshire, SA33 5BN. The report was revised in March 2024 to assess a revised location for the store within the same field. © Trysor 2024
Crynodeb (Cymraeg)	Yn ystod haf 2023 cynhaliodd Trysor asesiad o'r effaith ar leoliad ac arwyddocâd asedau hanesyddol dynodedig o storfa borthiant syth newydd yng Nghwrt Malle, Llangynog, Sir Gaerfyrddin, SA33 5BN.© Trysor 2024
Description	During summer 2023 Trysor carried out an assessment of the impact on the setting and significance of designated historic assets from a new straights feed store at Cwrt Malle, Llangynog, Carmarthenshire, SA33 5BN. The report was revised in March 2024 to assess a revised location for the store within the same field. © Trysor 2024
Sources	<i>Trysor, 2023, Impact on Setting and Significance Relating to the Proposed erection of Straights Feed Store and all associated works at Cwrt Malle, Llangynog, Carmarthen, Dyfed, SA33 5BN, Revised March 2024</i>
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Summary

This report is an assessment of potential impacts on the setting and any resulting impact on the significance of nationally important historic assets within a 2-kilometre radius of a proposed straights feed development at Cwrt Malle, Llangynog, Carmarthenshire, SA33 5BN centred on SN3747617296.

An initial assessment demonstrated that only the Scheduled Monument, Cwrt Malle Moated Site, CM390, could experience a potential impact from the development.

A full assessment was undertaken for Cwrt Malle moated site following current Cadw guidance "Managing Setting of Historic Assets in Wales" (Cadw, 2017) in 2023. It demonstrated that the significance of Cwrt Malle moated site is drawn from its evidential value, historical value and aesthetic value (with regard to its setting). It has little communal value.

The moated site is situated on lower lying land in the bend of a stream. The site is best appreciated from aerial photographs and LiDAR as it is barely visible at the ground level. Moated sites of this type had been thought to date to the late 13th and early 14th centuries (Spurgeon, 1981) although more recent work on the moated sites of southeast Wales suggests a wider timespan going back to the early medieval period (Travers, C, 2004). The Cwrt Malle name suggests links to the de Malley family who can be documented in southwest Wales from at least 1301 onwards (James, 1988, p.110). Whether there is a direct link to Robert de Malley who was granted land in the Manor of Llangain in 1312 is not clear as the moated site lies to the west of Fernhill Brook and therefore in Llangynog not Llangain parish.

In March 2024, the client asked for the assessment to be reviewed as the proposed location of the new store had moved c. 90 metres closer to the existing farm.

The change in location of the proposed development brings it closer to Cwrt Malle moated site. It 170 metres to the northwest of the moated site rather than 200 metres. However, it is still on slightly higher ground with a road and three dense hedgelines between the two. The nature of these hedgerows and the topography mean that the proposed development will not be visible in any key view of the moated site which is currently best seen from the road bridge to the northeast or within the field itself. The change to the proposed development will still move the current outdoor straights food

mixing area away from the moated site and into a building further away. This will reduce noise and activity closer to the moated site.

Overall, the impact on the setting of Cwrt Malle moated site, CM390, is Very Low and still includes a positive element. The significance of the historic asset will not be affected.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This document has been prepared by Trysor, at the request of Roger Parry and Partners, The Estates Office, 20 Salop Road, Oswestry SY11 2NU, on behalf of their client, to assess the impact on the setting and significance of nationally important historic assets within a 2-kilometre radius from a development centred on SN3740117329 at Cwrt Malle, Llangynog, Carmarthenshire, SA33 5BN.
- 1.2 The proposed development is a straights feed store and associated works extending the existing farm complex at Cwrt Malle farm, Llangynog, Carmarthenshire, centred on SN3747617296, see Figure 1.
- 1.3 A field visit was made by Trysor to the proposed location of the development, and the surrounding area, on 29th June 2023 to examine the development site and its surroundings.
- 1.4 In response to a pre-planning application consultation, a letter dated May 16th, 2023 Cadw stated that any resulting planning application should be accompanied by an assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the setting of the above designated historic assets, prepared by a competent and qualified historic environment expert, in accordance with the methodology outlined in the Welsh Government's best-practice guidance Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (2017).
- 1.5 Dyfed Archaeological Trust also commented on the pre-application on 30th May 2023. They expressed no concerns about potential buried archaeology.
- 1.6 A planning application has been submitted to the local authority PL/05854 and was validated on 26th July 2023, see Figure 2.
- 1.7 Subsequently, the proposed location of the straights feed store was moved 90 metres closer to the existing farm buildings, and Cadw requested a revised setting assessment to reflect that.

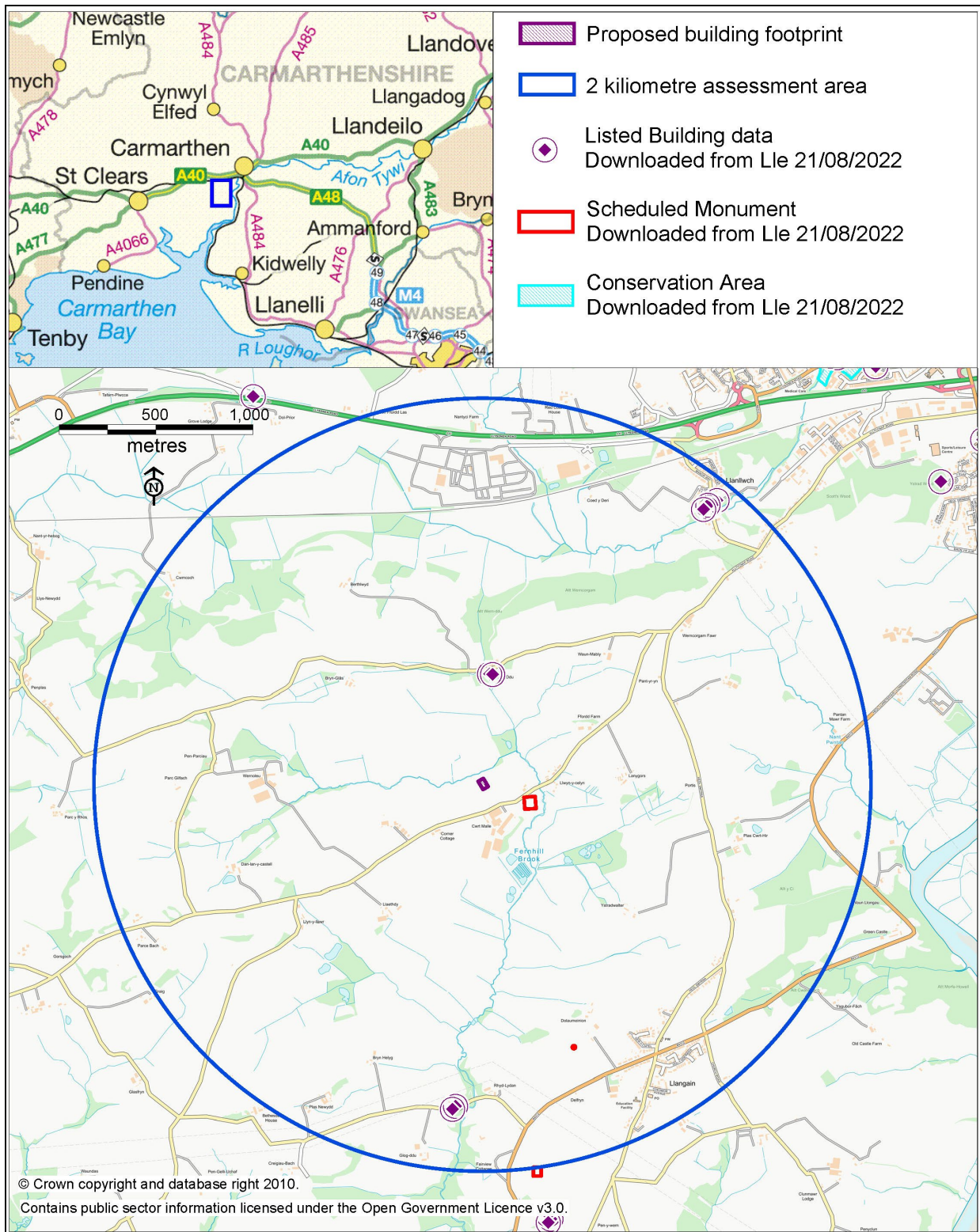


Figure 1: Original Location of the development and the designated, nationally important historic assets within 2 kilometres.



2. The Proposed Development Site

- 2.1 The proposed development is for a single storey, rectangular building with a ridge roof orientated north northwest to south southeast. The building will measure 48.8m long, 30.5m wide and stand 9.4m high to the eaves, 13.5m to the ridge.
- 2.2 It will stand at *SN3747617296* on a level part of a larger field at 61 metres AOD to the north of the minor road from Llanllwch to Llangynog. The road separates it from the existing main farm complex to the south. The field is currently pasture.
- 2.3 A minor stream, a tributary to Fernhill Brook, runs west-southwest to east-northeast 10 metres to the north of the development area. The land rises to the southwest clockwise round to the north over 120 metres and falls for a short distance from the east-northeast clockwise to the south towards main course of the Fernhill Brook.

3. Cwrt Malle Moated Site, CM390.

3.1 The moated site was first recorded in 1984 by Terrence James from aerial photographs, DAT HER PRN 11809, NPRN 111673. The site was described as 60 metres square, similar in size to other moated sites (James, T, 1988). A feature running northwards in the field to the north was thought to be a possible leat taking water from a tributary to the Fernhill Brook.

3.2 When the site was visited on the ground in 1997 by David Leighton of the RCAHMS it was described as:

From ground level the site presents as an enclosure of oval or sub-rectangular plan defined by a broad shallow ditch enclosing a raised stony interior. An outer bank fades imperceptibly into surrounding ground, but from the outside of the ditch the earthwork measures about 50m across; the bank is most prominent on the W where the ditch is 0.75m deep. The raised interior is roughly 17m across and no more than 0.25m high above the surrounding ditch.

<https://coflein.gov.uk/en/site/111673/>

3.3 When it was described by Dyfed Archaeological Trust in 2009 as part of the Cadw funded *Scheduling enhancement project 2009: medieval minor defended sites*, it was described that the field was ploughed every two years and cut for silage. The moated site was badly drained and seen to have suffered extensive damage from farm vehicles (Ramsey et al, 2009).

3.4 The moated site was scheduled by Cadw on 21/01/2011, Scheduled Monument CM390. It was described as

The site comprises the earthwork remains of a Medieval moated site, thought to date to the early 14th century. Documentary references suggest that it was the home of Robert de Malley, granted lands in Llangain in 1312. It comprises a low, square earthwork, c.60m x 60m, with a bank and internal ditch surrounding a slight raised platform. The presence of an internal building indicated on an 18th century estate map is supported by aerial photographs together with a leat feeding the moat, running north-south into the northwest corner. The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of medieval settlement. The monument is well preserved and is an important relic of the medieval landscape. Although the earthwork has been spread and obscured by repeated ploughing it retains significant archaeological potential with a strong probability of

the presence of intact archaeological deposits and structural evidence. Additional significance comes from the association with a named individual.

<https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=en&id=1392>

3.5 The 1 metre LiDAR data made available in 2023 via DataMapWales gives a clear picture of the site, see Figure 3. The moated site is seen to be square with a broad ditch or moat. The possible leat noted on the aerial photographs running in the field to the north of the moated site is not visible.

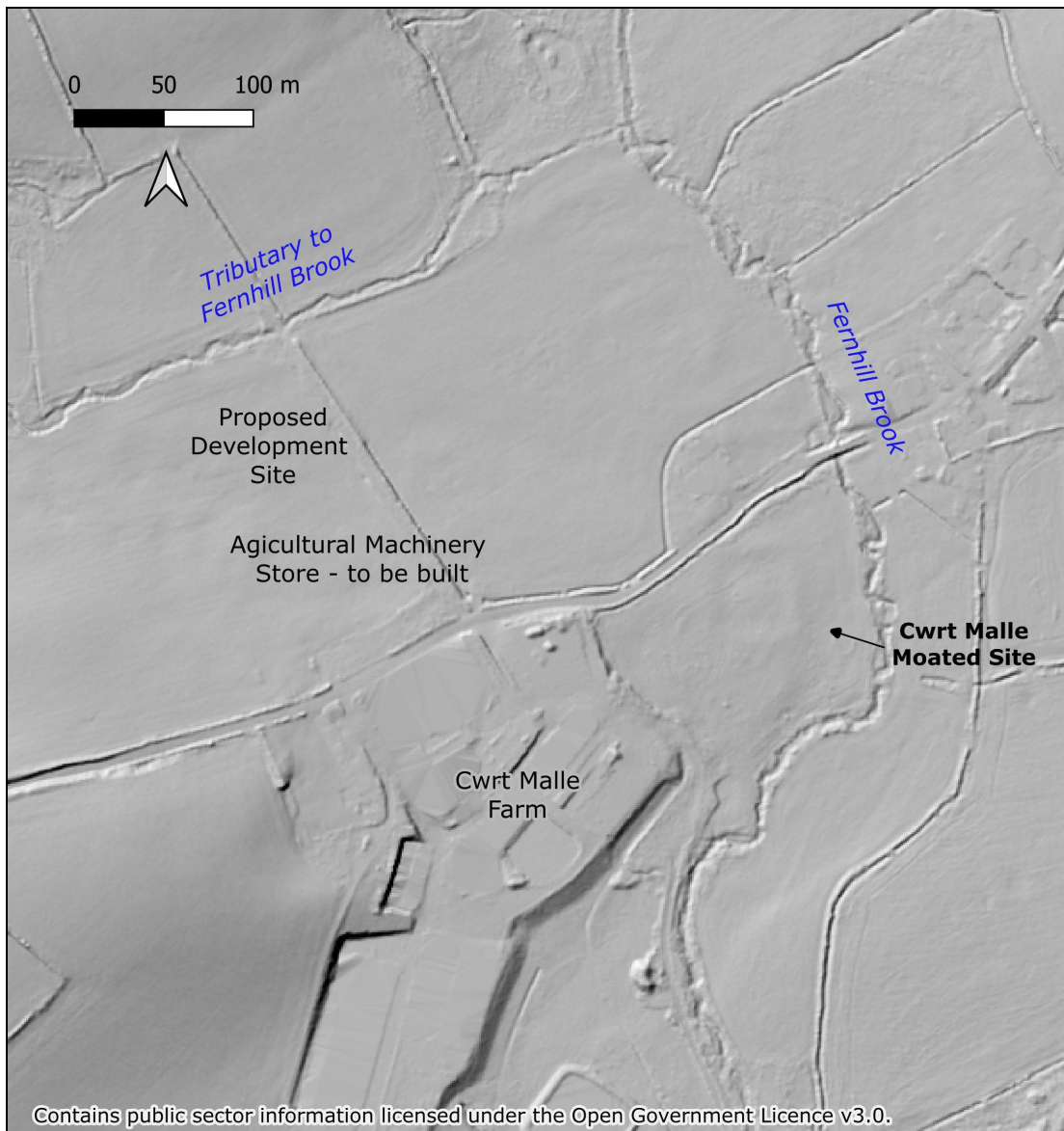


Figure 3: The 1 metre LiDAR data showing the earthwork moated site and the locations of points noted in the text. The earthworks of the moated site are visible but obviously denuded. Note that no leat is visible running through the field to the north of the earthwork (a feature proposed by T James in 1988 based on aerial photographs).

3.6 The development site was part of the *Court Malley* holding at the time of the parish tithe map of 1842, see Figure 4. The land was owned by Richard Bulkeley Philipps Philipps of Picton Castle and tenanted by John Francis. The apportionment survey may have been taken before November 1840 as John Francis died in that month at the age of 58. On the 1841 census 25-year-old Anne Francis is listed as the farmer, likely to have been his wife who the widower married in 1836. Unfortunately, field boundaries are not shown on this map and therefore field names are not given. However, a building at the approximate location of the current farmhouse at Cwrt Malle is shown, as well as two buildings at the approximate location of the moated site. This is likely to reflect the estate map seen by Terrence James and commented on in his article about Cwrt Malle in the 1988 *Carmarthenshire Antiquary* (James, T, 1988). The map of 1774 was part of the book of maps of Richard Phillips' estates in Carmathenshire. He described the map showing "a regular enclosure within which is depicted a standing building (noted as Cot. and garden). The field is called Park yr Hengwrt." Whether there was a building shown at the location of the current Cwrt Malle on the 1774 map was not commented on.

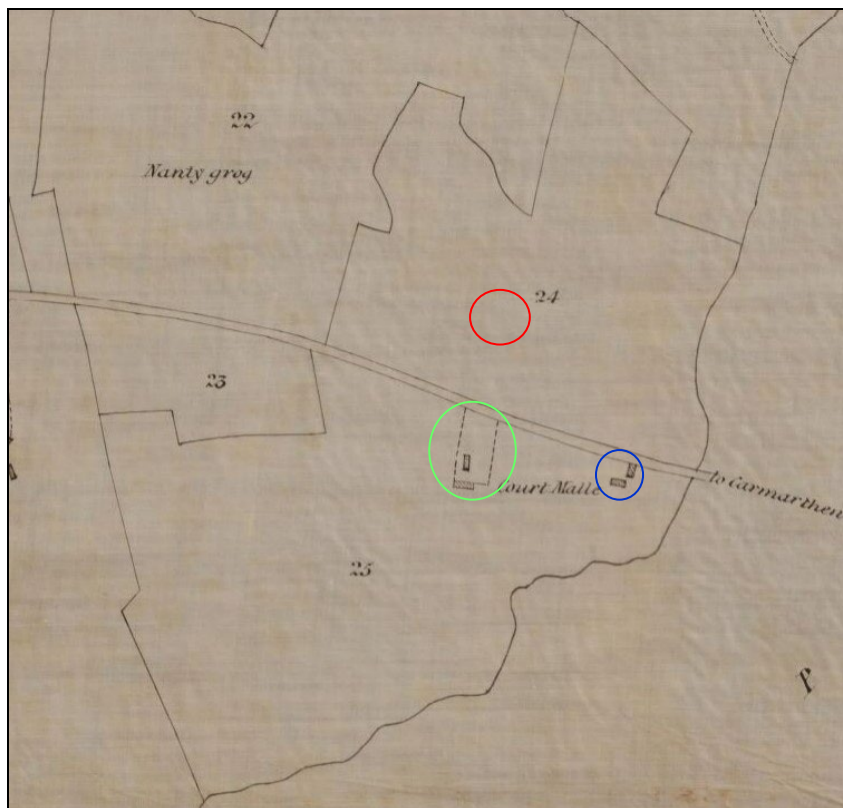


Figure 4: The parish tithe map shows a building, probably the current house at Cwrt Malle, and another building to its south, circled in green. The approximate location of the proposed development is circled in red and two

buildings at the approximate location of scheduled monument CM390, Cwrt Malle moated site, Llangynog are circled in blue.

- 3.7 By the time of the Ordnance Survey First edition map of 1888, the two buildings at the moated site had been removed and the current farm site had started to grow, see Figure 5.

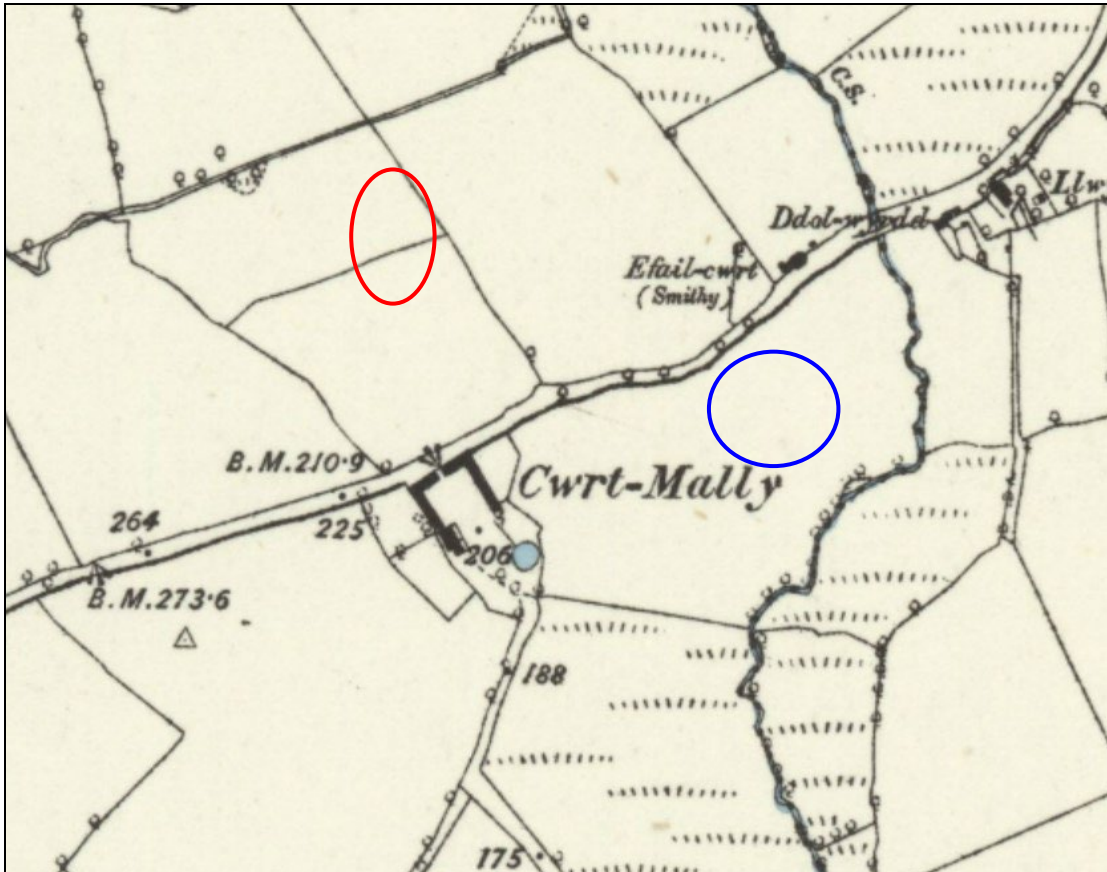


Figure 5: The Ordnance Survey First Edition map of 1888, showing the growth of the current farm site at Cwrt Malle and no buildings depicted at the moated site. The red circle shows the approximate location of the new Straights feed store, and the blue circle where the moated site lies.

4. Methodology

4.1 This document assesses the impact on the setting and significance of nationally important historic assets within a 2-kilometre radius from a development centred on SN3740117329 at Cwrt Malle, Llangynog, Carmarthenshire, SA33 5BN.

4.1.1 The process outlined in "Setting of Historic Assets in Wales" (Cadw, 2017) has been followed in order to assess impacts on the setting of the historic asset and any impacts on its significance.

4.1.2 This process has four stages;

Stage 1: Identify the historic assets that might be affected by a proposed change or development.

Stage 2: Define and analyse the settings to understand how they contribute to the significance of the historic assets and in particular the ways in which the assets are understood, appreciated and experienced.

Stage 3: Evaluate the potential impact of a proposed change or development on that significance.

Stage 4: If necessary, consider options to mitigate or improve the potential impact of a proposed change or development on that significance.

4.2 In line with the annexe in the "Setting of Historic Assets in Wales" (2017, p.11), where an application has a footprint of under 1 hectare the impact on nationally important historic assets within 2 kilometres has been assessed.

5. Impacts on Setting Stage 1: *Identify the historic assets that might be affected by a proposed change or development.*

5.1 A Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) was created to help identify designated historic assets which might be able to experience impacts on their setting and significance from the proposed development. The ZTV was for a point 13.5 metres above the land surface at the centre of the proposed development area at SN3747617296.

5.2 Within a 2-kilometre radius of the proposed development site there are 3 scheduled monuments, see Table 1. All three lie within the Zone of Theoretical Visibility.

Scheduled Monument Number	Historic Asset Name	Period	Historic Asset Type	Easting	Northing
CM056	Rhyd-Lydan Cromlech	Prehistoric	Burial Chamber	237914	215989
CM057	Meini Llwydion Burial Chamber	Prehistoric	Chambered tomb	237725	215345
CM390	Cwrt Malle moated site, Llangynog	Medieval	Moated Site	237688	217254

Table 1: Scheduled Monuments within 2-kilometres of the proposed development site

5.2.1 The Rhys-Lydan Cromlech, CM056, lies 1.4 kilometres to the south-southeast of the proposed development site. Although on higher ground, at 88 AOD, the stones of the cromlech lie against the south side of a hedge with mature trees within it and there would be no views of the cromlech within which the development would appear in. The setting and significance of the cromlech would not be affected. No further assessment has been made.

5.2.2 The Meini Llwydion Burial Chamber, CM057, lies 2 kilometres just to the east of south of the proposed development site. It is only just within the theoretical view and hedges and mature trees will block any intervisibility. The setting and significance of the burial chamber will not be affected and no further assessment has been made.

5.2.3 The Cwrt Malle moated site, Llangynog, CM390, lies approximately 170 metres to the east of the proposed development. A full assessment of the setting of this site and the potential impacts has been undertaken in this assessment.

5.3 Within a 2-kilometre radius of the proposed development site there 8 Listed Buildings are recorded, see Table 2.

Listed Building Number	Historic Asset Name	Grade of Listing	Easting	Northing
9495	Church of St Mary	II*	238583	218782
9718	Fern Hill	II	237303	215693
9719	Stable and coach-house at Fern Hill	II	237286	215677
26835	Wern Ddu	II	237493	217929
26836	Outbuilding at Wern Ddu	II	237477	217932
82145	Boksburg Hall	II	238653	218829
82155	Former National School	II	238608	218796
82165	Lychgate to Church of St Mary	II	238605	218806

Table 2: Listed buildings within 2-kilometres of the proposed development site

5.4.1 Listed Buildings numbers 9495, 82145, 82155 and 82165 lie over 1.8 kilometres to the northeast and are not within the zone of theoretical visibility. There would be no impact on their setting or significance and no further assessment has been undertaken.

5.4.2 Listed Buildings numbers 9718 and 9719 lie 1.6 kilometres to the south-southwest of the proposed development site at 51 metres AOD. They are only just within the zone where they could be intervisible with the development but in practice being on lower ground and bounded by mature trees with further trees within the landscape there would be no impact on setting or significance. No further assessment has been undertaken.

5.4.3 Listed Buildings numbers 26835 and 26836 lie 610 metres to the north of the development site at 72 metres AOD. They would be intervisible with the roof of the development in theory but in practice the buildings stand within an area of woodland and scrub

and there would be no impact on their setting or significance and no further assessment has been undertaken.

5.5 A small section, approximately 70 hectares, of the Tywi Valley registered Historic Landscape, which covers 20160 hectares in total, lies within a 2-kilometre radius of the proposed development site. Of these 70 hectares, only a small area is potentially intervisible with the development site. Three fields to the east of Heol Smyrna centred on SN3884416586 would be partially intervisible with the development site but at a distance 1.4 kilometres and this would not impact on the Historic Landscape itself.

5.6 There are no Conservation Areas, World Heritage Sites, or registered Parks and Gardens within 2 kilometres of the proposed development.

5.7 After an initial assessment of intervisibility, distance, topography, built structures, hedges and trees, the only nationally important historic asset on which there may be a quantifiable impact was the Cwrt Malle moated site, CM390. A full assessment of the setting of the moated site and the impact on that setting and on its significance from the proposed development is the subject of the rest of this report, see Appendix B for detailed commentary.

6. Impacts on Setting Stage 2: Define and analyse the settings to understand how they contribute to the significance of the historic assets and, in particular, the ways in which the assets are understood, appreciated and experienced.

6.1.1 The significance of an historic asset is derived from the sum of four heritage values according to *Conservation Principles* (Cadw, 2011, p.10). These four values are:

- Evidential value
- Historical value
- Aesthetic value
- Communal value

6.1.2 Conservation principles outlines that setting is part of the Aesthetic Value (Cadw, 2011, p.10, section 2.3 and p.17 *Aesthetic Value*).

6.1.3 Guidance on assessing the setting of historic assets was introduced in 2017 (Cadw, 2017). Cadw states that: *Setting is not itself a historic asset, though land within a setting may contain other historic assets. The importance of setting lies in what it contributes to the significance of a historic asset.* (Cadw, 2017, p.2, Section 1, second para).

6.1.4 In section 6.2 below, the setting and significance of the Cwrt Malle moated site are assessed

6.2 Cwrt Malle Moated Site (Scheduled Monument CM390) (see Appendix B for more detail of setting)

6.2.1 Historic Setting: The moated site was created on a low-lying site within a bend of the Fernhill Brook. The name suggests that it may be connected directly to Robert de Malley when he was given part of the neighbouring manor of Llangain in 1312, or at least to member of the de Malley family. Although it was initially postulated from aerial photographic evidence that a leat ran through the field to the north towards the site in order to fill the leat, recent LiDAR data shows no evidence for a leat, see Figure 3. The site does not appear to have any direct relationship other than with the Fernhill Brook to its east. It is on low ground with limited long range views.

6.2.2 Modern Setting: The modern setting of the moated site is within a field used for cutting silage. At the southwest edge of the field in which it stands is the extensive, modern dairy farm complex at Cwrt Malle. This covers an area of 4.5 hectares and includes cattle sheds, milking parlours, slurry pits and food preparation areas. The current straights feeds store and mixing area is the closest part to the moated site. It is an external area with bins for the food and when the site was visited for this report was the busiest part of the site. Tractors and other machinery were continually using this area, accessing the feed and moving materials creating a very busy, active area. To the north of the moated site runs a minor road with dense hedges on either side. The road is slightly higher than the field. The best views of the moated site are from the road bridge to the northeast (although the site is hard to discern) or on the site itself. Longer views of the location of the moated site are few and far between, because of the landscape topography, trees and hedges, see Plate 10.

7. Impacts on Setting Stage 3: *Evaluate the potential impact of a proposed change or development on that significance.*

- 7.1 Cwrt Malle is a scheduled monument as an earthwork site of a relatively rare form in Wales dating to the medieval period. It is a reasonable assumption that it was connected with Robert de Malley when he was given the manor of Llangain in 1312.
- 7.2 According to Conservation Principles published by Cadw, the Welsh Government's historic environment service in 2011, the significance of an historic asset is assessed through four heritage values: Evidential, Historical, Aesthetic and Communal. Setting usually forms part of the Aesthetic value.
- 7.3 The earthwork site lies in a low-lying area in the bend of a stream. It is not recognisable in ground views to the casual observer and is best understood from aerial photographs and LiDAR. Its main relationship seems to be with the stream and no other physical or visual relationships have been recorded.
- 7.4 The proposed development will be 170 metres away from the moated site. The topography and three dense hedgerows between the proposed development and the moated site mean intervisibility between the two will be very limited. The key views of the moated site will not be affected. The proposed development will not be visible from the road bridge to the north when looking at the moated site, see Plates 1 to 5. It will also not be visible in the field at the moated site itself as the land rises to the west slightly and the dense hedges block views.
- 7.5 A positive impact of the proposed development will be that the current straights feed storage and preparation area will be moved away from the moated site. This area is a busy, active area with the sound of tractors and machinery. The current store consists of open-faced bins and all the activity takes place outside. The new straights feed store will provide an under-cover area for mixing feed, reducing external sounds and further away from the moated site.
- 7.6 Consequently, the impact on the setting of Cwrt Malle moated site is Very Low, both as a negative and a positive. The significance of the historic asset will not be affected.

8. Impacts on Setting Stage 4: *If necessary, consider options to mitigate or improve the potential impact of a proposed change or development on that significance.*

- 8.1 Retain all three hedges and consider strengthening the hedge to the east of the proposed development so gaps don't appear.

9. Bibliography

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Spurgeon, J C, 1981, Moated Sites in Wales in Aberg and Browns (eds), *Medieval Moated Sites in North West Europe*, BAR 121

Travers, T, 2004, *The Non-defensive Medieval Moated Sites of the South-east Welsh March: A survey of the three pre-1974 counties of Breconshire, Radnorshire and Monmouthshire, in two volumes*. PhD thesis, Newport

9.1 Map sources

Ordnance Survey, 1831, 1 inch to 1 mile, Sheet 41

Ordnance Survey, 1888, First Edition 1:10560 scale, Sheet number Carmarthenshire XXXIX.SW, Surveyed 1887

Ordnance Survey, 1907, Second Edition 1:10560 scale, Sheet number Carmarthenshire XXXIX.SW, Revised 1905

Ordnance Survey, 1953, First Edition 1:10560 scale, Sheet number Carmarthenshire XXXIX.SW, Revised 1948

Llangynog Parish Tithe Map, 1842

Llangynog Parish Tithe Apportionment, 1842

APPENDIX A

Photographs

*Impact on Setting and Significance Relating to the
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Revised March 2024*

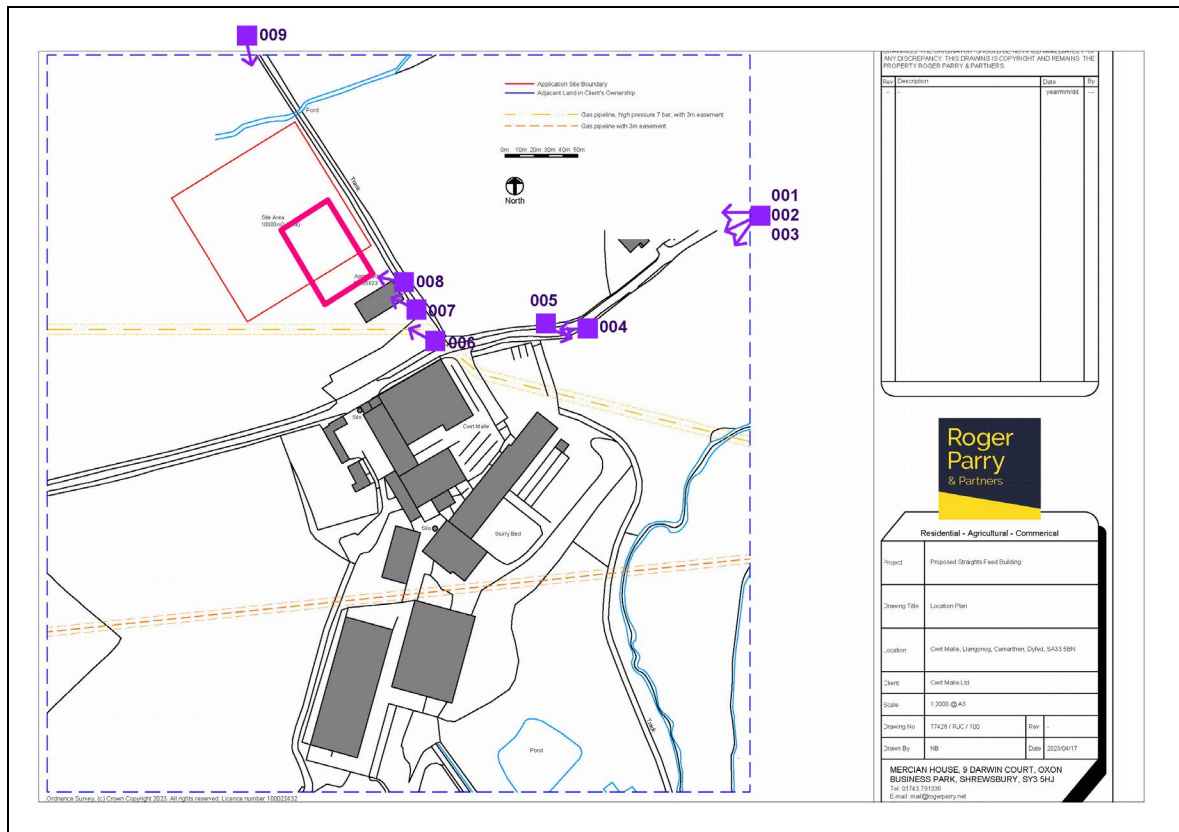


Figure 7: Location of photographs 001 to 009, showing the revised location of the straights feed store. Photo 010 was taken from further away at SN3842216320, 1.4 kilometres to the southeast of the proposed straights feed building.



Plate 1: CWT2023_001, A view from the road bridge over the Fernhill Brook to the northeast of the Cwrt Malle moated site, CM390. The moated site lies in the righthand side of the field and although this is the best view of the site from publicly accessible areas the earthwork is not clearly visible. The main farm complex at Cwrt Malle lies beyond. Looking southwest.



Plate 2: CWT2023_002, Another view from the road bridge, showing the location of the moated site on the lefthand side of the photograph with the modern Cwrt Malle farm beyond. To the right-hand side the road runs along the edge of the field on slightly higher ground with a mature, dense hedge between. At this end of the hedge are mature trees but the rest of the hedge is cut to a shorter length. Looking west-southwest.



Plate 3: CWT2023_003, Another view from the road bridge. Looking west, the proposed development would lie beyond the shrubs and trees surrounding the buildings at Efail Cwrt.



Plate 4: CWT2023_004, A view from on top of the hedge bank on the north side of the road running to the north of the moated site. Looking east-southeast over the location of the moated site. The dense hedge row and the slight drop into the field prevent any view of the moated site from here.



Plate 5: CWT2023_005, A reverse view, looking west, from the other side of the road. The arm of the excavator is approximately where the revised straights feed store will stand. The proposed development will be to the right of the photograph. From this roadside location the roof of the new building will be visible with the hedge cut to this level. It is not going to be visible from views of the moated site in the field to the south of this photo.



Plate 6: CWT2023_006, A view down the track that will be used to access the proposed development, looking north-northwest. The revised straights feeds store will be located to the left, and slightly beyond, the excavator.



Plate 7: CWT2023_007, Another view with the track that will be used to access the proposed development on the right behind the machinery, looking northwest. The revised straights feeds store will be located in the centre of the photograph.



Plate 8: CTW2023_008, A view from the access track looking across the area where the proposed straights feed building will be. The photo shows how the ground rises to the west and northwest, looking west-northwest.



Plate 9: CTW2023_009, A view down the access track towards the site of the proposed straights feed building, looking south-southeast. It would be in the field beyond the smaller trees across the centre of the photograph which line the edge of this section of the Fernhill Brook. The main farm complex can be seen beyond, and the hedge on the left lining the track is one of the three hedges which lie between the proposed building and moated site.



Plate 10: A view taken from a public footpath at SN3842216320, 1.4 kilometres to the southeast of the proposed straights feed building, looking northwest. The mass of the present Cwrt Malle farm can be seen in the photo shown by the red arrow. The green arrow shows where the proposed straights feed building would be, in this view hardly adding to the end of the existing complex. The orange arrow shows the field where the moated site lies. This is one of few longer views of the field in which the moated site lies.

APPENDIX B

SETTING ASSESSMENT NOTES STAGES 2 & 3

Scheduled Monument - CM390

Cwrt Malle moated site, Llangynog

Cwrt Malle moated site, Llangynog Scheduled Monument – CM390	
Stage 2: How do the present surroundings contribute to our understanding and appreciation of the historic asset today?	
Thinking about when the historic asset was first built and developed:	
Origins of the historic asset	<p>The historic asset is believed to be a medieval moated homestead dating to the early part of the 14th century. Documentary references suggest that it was the home of Robert de Malley, who was granted lands in Llangain in 1312. At the time he was deputy justiciar of South Wales. The name “Cwrt Malle” and the form of the moated site suggest that it is likely this site was created by de Malley at the start of the 14th century when he was granted the lands.</p> <p>Other than that little evidence can be connected to the moated site. By 1774 the land was in the hands of the Picton Castle estate. An estate map of 1774 shows a building within a regular enclosure at the location of the moated site. The field is called <i>Park yr Hengwrt</i> and the building and enclosure are labelled as <i>Cot and Garden</i> (James, T, 1988). The Llangynog parish tithe map of 1842 shows two buildings, one possibly within the moated site and another at 90 degrees by the roadside. The First edition Ordnance Survey map of 1888 shows no buildings.</p> <p>The moated site was recorded from aerial photographs in 1984 when it was suggested that a leat ran through the field to the north from a tributary to Fernhill Brook. The moated site shows clearly on 1 metre LiDAR data available from DataMapWales but there is no trace of a leat to the north.</p>
What were its physical, functional and visual relationships with other structures/	<p>It lies on lower lying ground within a reverse L-shaped bend of the Fernhill Brook. Views from it could have been no more than 1.5 kilometres in any direction, most of them under 1 kilometre. This suggests the site</p>

historic assets and natural features?	was not chosen to have long range views. No identified medieval historic assets lie within theoretical views. The clearest relationship is that it is close to the Fernhill Brook. It has been suggested that a leat may have fed the moat from the stream, although not confirmed on the ground.
What topographic or earlier features influenced its location?	The Fernhill Brook seems to have influenced its location as it sits within a bend of the stream.
What was its relationship to the surrounding landscape/ streetscape?	Beyond the relationship to the stream there are no obvious historic relationships. Cwrt Malle farm lies to the southwest of the moated site but developed later. The name of the farm probably reflects the earlier moated site.
Was it constructed to take advantage of significant views or to be a part of a significant view? Although there may be a 360 degree view, some areas of the view may be more significant than others.	It does not appear to be constructed to take advantage of any significant view
Thinking about changes since the historic asset was built	
Has its function or use changed?	It is now a very low earthwork site in a pasture field with little to inform the casual viewer. It was only recorded in 1984 when aerial photographs taken Terrence James showed the site as a cropmark.
What changes have happened to the surrounding landscape/ streetscape?	The most obvious change in the surrounding landscape is that Cwrt Malle farm has developed in the western end of the post medieval field in which the moated site lies. This busy, modern farm is visible from the moated site and the sounds from it are the modern soundscape.
Have changes happened because of changes to the historic asset or to	The moated site became disused and forgotten other than in the post medieval farm name.

its historical setting?	
Has the presence of the historic asset influenced changes to the landscape, for example, where a monument has been used as a marker in the layout of a field enclosure?	The presence of the moated site does not seem to have influenced change in the landscape. The road runs past the north of the site but does not divert around it. No field boundaries kink around it.
Has the presence of the historic asset influenced the character of the surrounding landscape /streetscape?	The moated site was unrecorded and unremarked upon, apart from the suggestive Cwrt Malle name, until it was recorded in 1984. The moat of the earthwork feature may be responsible for leaving that part of the field poorly drained as recorded during a field visit in 2009 for the Cadw funded Scheduling enhancement project: medieval minor defended sites (DAT HER PRN 11809)
Have historic and designed views to and from the historic asset	No designed views can be identified and the views are now of a modern rural landscape with a hedge, road and bridge to its north and northwest, a large modern farm to its southwest and the Fernhill Brook, now lined by trees and shrubs to its east and south.
Thinking about the original layout of the historic asset and its relationship to its associated landscape:	
Were these relationships designed or accidental? How did these relationships change over time?	The relationship with the Fernhill Brook to its east is probably deliberate and that relationship is still retained to a certain degree although the moated site is nothing more than a low earthwork site now. If there was a leat that fed the moat, this is no longer apparent, but the presence of the moat may be responsible for the poor drainage of this part of the field. Alternatively, the poor drainage may be why the site was abandoned.
How do these relationships appear in the current landscape; are they visual or buried features?	The stream is still recognisable but the moated site is only a low earthwork and not recognisable to the casual viewer. The best way of seeing the relationship is on some aerial photographs or on the current 1 metre LiDAR available through DataMapWales.
• Are there other	There are no known artistic, literary or scenic

<p>significant factors, such as historical, artistic, literary, place name or scenic associations, intellectual relationships (for example, to a theory, plan or design), or other non-visual factors such as sounds or smells that can be vital to understand the historic asset and its setting?</p>	<p>associations. Sounds or smells are not particularly important to this historic asset. The moated site is thought to be linked to Robert de Malley at the start of the 14th century in Maenor Gain. The post medieval farm name of Cwrt Malle (also used Cwrt Maly and Cwrt Malley) presumably links back to the moated site.</p>
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Stage 2 should also identify the viewpoints from which the impact of the proposed change or development should be assessed, taking into account, for example:	
• views to, from and across the historic asset that were designed and developed when the historic asset was first created – for example, in the case of a defensive or ritual structure	There are no designed views that can be identified. It is in close proximity to the stream but that is not a visual relationship but more a functional one.
• views to, from and across the historic asset which are linked with a time in its history - for example, a historic artistic depiction of the site	There are no views linked to a period in time, no artistic impressions, no descriptions. In 1984 the site was first recorded from an aerial photograph, looking down on the site from a plane.
• important modern views to, from and across the historic asset – for example, popular visitor viewing points.	The main view that the general public can potentially appreciate the site is from the road bridge over the Fernhill Brook to its northeast. There are no views from the road its north as the hedge along the road is a dense, broad hedge which blocks views of the field. There is no public access to the modern farm to the southwest or the fields to the south beyond the stream

Stage 3: Evaluate the potential impact of change or development.			
POSSIBLE IMPACT	COMMENT	IMPACT ON SETTING	IMPACT ON SIGNIFICANCE OF THE HISTORIC ASSET
The visual impact of the proposed change or development relative to the scale of the historic asset and its setting	The historic asset is now a low earthwork and covers approximately 0.35 hectares. The proposed building will stand up to 13.5 metres high along its ridge and cover 0.15 hectares. The views of the moated site are now best gained from the road bridge looking southwest which will not include the new building to the northwest	None	None
The visual impact of the proposed change or development relative to the location of the historic asset	Views from the moated site northwards towards the proposed building are likely to be screened by the field hedges. The moated site is on lower ground than the road to its north.	None	None
Whether the proposed change or development would dominate the historic asset or detract from our ability to understand and appreciate it — for example, its	The proposed development will not dominate the historic asset as three mature hedgerows separate the moated site and development site. The proposed building does not interfere with the relationship between	None	None

Stage 3: Evaluate the potential impact of change or development.			
functional or physical relationship with the surrounding landscape and associated structures and/ or buried remains	the moated site and the stream		
The presence, extent, character and scale of the existing built environment within the surroundings of the historic asset and how the proposed change or development compares with this	The existing modern farm at Cwrt Malle is already a dominant feature in the existing built environment and readily visible from the moated site. The proposed site will be the opposite side of the road and three mature hedges away from the moated site and will not appear in modern views of the site.	None	None
The lifespan of the proposed change or development and whether or not the impact might be reversible	The structure could be demolished and the visual change to the landscape changed back. The structure is likely to be in use for at least 25 years or more	None	None
The extent of tree cover, whether it is deciduous or evergreen, and its likely longevity	Three substantial hedges, with mature/maturing trees within them lie between the moated site and the proposed development. Two of these are road side hedges and will not be altered or removed. The third runs along the east side of the development area. It	Very Low Negative	None

Stage 3: Evaluate the potential impact of change or development.			
	is likely to be retained to screen the building from the road.		
The impact of artificial lighting – for example, on night-time views	The proposed development is beyond the other side of the road from the current complex and any lights would add another element into the nighttime views. However, these will not affect the moated site which will be screened from any lights by the three hedges. Lights on the current farm, and the properties to the northeast.	None	None
The capability of a landscape setting to absorb change or new development without the erosion of its key characteristics	The core of the farm at Cwrt Malle is already a considerable built complex, the buildings alone covering an area of approximately 4.5 hectares, with slurry pits etc beyond. The proposed development will extend this complex but away from the moated site not towards it	None	None
The impact of the proposed change or development on non-visual elements of the setting and character of the historic asset, such as sense of	The moated site lies within a modern farmed environment	None	None

Stage 3: Evaluate the potential impact of change or development.			
remoteness, evocation of the historical past, sense of place, cultural identity or spiritual responses			
The impact of non-visual elements of the proposed change or development, such as the removal or addition of noises and smell	The current straights feed store is at the eastern edge of the farm complex and the closest structure to the moated site. When the site visited was undertaken these was the busiest part of the complex with tractors and other vehicles accessing the straights feed constantly. This was a noisy part of the farm with engine noise and warning sounds. Moving the straights feed store to the opposite side of the road where the feed will be mixed within a purpose-built building will remove this activity from the current area and create a quieter environment around the moated site.	Very Low Positive	
The cumulative effect of the proposed change or development – sometimes relatively small changes, or a series of small	The proposed building will extend the farm complex northwards beyond an agricultural machine store building to be built on the north side of the road. It has been confirmed by the LPA that prior	None	None

Stage 3: Evaluate the potential impact of change or development.			
changes, can have a major impact on our ability to understand, appreciate and experience a historic asset.	approval is not required for that building which will measure 30.5 metres east-northeast to west-southwest by 15.2 metres and standing 6 metres high to the eaves and 8 metres to the ridge. However, the currently proposed building will stand further away from the moated site moving a busy area of the farm with it and		