

HERITAGE IMPACT ASSESSMENT:
WOODLAND WEST OF LLETHIR BRITH, FFAIR-RHOS, CEREDIGION

Planning Reference: Pre-application
NGR: SN 7668 6895
AAL Site Code: FRLB 23



Report prepared for Clarke Telecom

By
Allen Archaeology Limited
Report Number AAL2023075

June 2023



Allenarchaeology



Contents

Executive Summary	1
Crynodeb Gweithredol.....	2
1.0 Introduction	3
2.0 Site Location and Description	3
3.0 Planning Background	3
National Planning Policy	3
Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment (Cadw 2017a)	4
The Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (Cadw 2017b)	4
Local Planning Policy.....	4
4.0 Methodology.....	5
Data Collection.....	5
5.0 Archaeological and Historical Background	6
6.0 Site Visit.....	7
7.0 Assessment of Significance and Impact	10
Scheduled Monuments.....	11
Listed Buildings	11
Designated assets	11
Undesignated assets	11
8.0 Discussion and Conclusions	12
9.0 Acknowledgements.....	13
10.0 References	13
Cartographic Sources	14

List of Plates

Plate 1: Drone shot of the site and its setting, looking southwest.....	8
Plate 2: View of site, looking southwest.....	8
Plate 3: View of the surrounding landscape, looking east.....	9
Plate 4: View towards the listed building Gwar-Caeau, looking west-southwest	9
Plate 5: Drone shot of the view of the surrounding landscape, looking south	10

List of Appendices

Appendix 1: List of DAT HER Entries within a 1km study area and Listed Assets within 2km	15
--	----

Appendix 2: Figures.....	21
--------------------------	----

List of Figures

Figure 1: Site location outlined in red.....	21
Figure 2: Location and direction of site visit photographs with site outlined in red.....	22
Figure 3: Extract of Dyfed Archaeological Trust HER with site outlined in red.....	23
Figure 4: Extract of 1887 Ordnance Survey map with site outlined in red.....	24
Figure 5: Extract of 1953 Ordnance Survey map with site outlined in red.....	25

Document Control

Element:	Name:	Date:
Report prepared by:	Louise Clempson MSc (Hons) and Jack McDonald BSc (Hons)	07/06/2023
Illustrations prepared by:	Louise Clempson MSc (Hons) and Jack McDonald BSc (Hons)	06/06/2023
Report edited by:	Chris Clay BA MA (Hons)	08/06/2023
Report reviewed by:	Mark Allen BSc (Hons) MCIfA	09/06/2023
Version no:	1.0	09/06/2023
Report revised by:	Louise Clempson MSc (Hons)	02/10/2023
Report reviewed by:	Chris Clay BA MA (Hons)	02/10/2023
Version no:	1.1	02/10/2023

Cover image: Drone shot of the site, looking southwest

Executive Summary

- Clarke Telecom commissioned Allen Archaeology Limited to undertake a Heritage Impact Assessment to assess the archaeological and heritage potential of woodland west of Llethir Brith, Ffair-Rhos, Ceredigion prior to the submission of a planning application for a telecoms tower.
- Data was gathered from a range of primary and secondary sources, including the DYFED Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record (DYFED HER), historic maps, online resources and a site visit.
- The proposed development site is situated within woodland east of Ffair-Rhos. A single prehistoric site has been identified within the 1km study area suggesting a negligible potential for this period.
- There are no Roman or early medieval sites within the study area suggesting there is also a negligible archaeological potential for these periods.
- Three sites of a medieval date have been identified within the study area. The closest is an area of ridge and furrow located c.660m south of the proposed development site. The lack of closer activity suggests a negligible potential for this period.
- The majority of the post-medieval sites relate to mining activity to the north and west of the proposed development site. Historic mapping of the area shows the site has remained undeveloped. Layers relating to a previous footpath are likely but will have little to no archaeological significance.
- The proposed development site is within the Historic Landscape of Upland Ceredigion. The proposed development will not adversely affect this asset due to its small footprint within a vast landscape displaying many differing land uses.
- There is one Scheduled Monument and one Listed Building within the study area. The setting and significance of these assets and any undesignated assets in the area will not be adversely affected by the proposed development, primarily due to their distance from the site, and screening by the existing woodland.

Crynodeb Gweithredol

- Comisiynodd Clarke Telecom Allen Archaeology Cyf i gynnal Asesiad o'r Effaith ar Dreftadaeth i asesu potensial archeolegol a threftadaeth coetir i'r gorllewin o Lethir Brith, Ffair-Rhos, Ceredigion cyn cyflwyno cais cynllunio ar gyfer tŵr telathrebu.
- Casglwyd wybodaeth o ystod o ffynonellau cynradd ac eilaidd, gan gynnwys Cofnod Amgylchedd Hanesyddol Ymddiriedolaeth Archeolegol DYFED (CAH DYFED), mapiau hanesyddol, adnoddau ar-lein ac ymweliad safle.
- Mae safle'r datblygiad arfaethedig wedi'i leoli o fewn coetir i'r dwyrain o Ffair-Rhos. Mae un safle cynhanesyddol wedi'i nodi o fewn ardal yr astudiaeth 1km sy'n awgrymu potensial dibwys ar gyfer y cyfnod hwn.
- Nid oes unrhyw safleoedd Rhufeinig na chanoloesol cynnar yn ardal yr astudiaeth sy'n awgrymu bod potensial archeolegol dibwys ar gyfer y cyfnodau hyn hefyd.
- Mae tri safle o'r cyfnod canoloesol wedi'u nodi yn ardal yr astudiaeth. Yr agosaf yw ardal o gefnen a rhych a leolir tua 660m i'r de o safle'r datblygiad arfaethedig. Mae diffyg gweithgarwch agosach yn awgrymu potensial dibwys ar gyfer y cyfnod hwn.
- Mae mwyafrif y safleoedd ôl-ganoloesol yn ymwneud â gweithgarwch mwynogloddio i'r gogledd a'r gorllewin o safle'r datblygiad arfaethedig. Mae mapiau hanesyddol o'r ardal yn dangos nad yw'r safle wedi'i ddatblygu o hyd. Mae haenau sy'n ymwneud â llwybr troed blaenorol yn debygol ond ni fydd ganddynt fawr ddim arwyddocâd archeolegol.
- Mae safle'r datblygiad arfaethedig o fewn Tirwedd Hanesyddol Ucheldir Ceredigion. Ni fydd y datblygiad arfaethedig yn cael effaith andwyol ar yr ased hwn oherwydd ei ôl troed bychan o fewn tirwedd eang sy'n arddangos llawer o wahanol ddefnyddiau tir.
- Mae un Heneb Gofrestredig ac un Adeilad Rhestredig o fewn ardal yr astudiaeth. Ni fydd y datblygiad arfaethedig yn effeithio'n andwyol ar osodiad ac arwyddocâd yr asedau hyn, yn bennaf oherwydd eu pellter o'r safle.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Clarke Telecom commissioned Allen Archaeology Limited (hereafter AAL) to prepare a heritage impact assessment to evaluate the archaeological and heritage potential of woodland west of Llethir Brith, Ffair Rhos, Ceredigion in advance of the submission of a planning application for a telecoms tower.
- 1.2 The document has been completed with reference to current national guidelines, as set out in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists '*Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment*' (CIfA 2020). It has also been produced in accordance with the '*Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)*' (The Welsh Archaeological Trusts 2022), and a WSI for the works prepared by this company (AAL 2023).
- 1.3 The documentation and records generated by the survey will be assembled and deposited in accordance with the guidelines in '*Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*' (Brown 2011), '*Archaeological Archives: Selection, Retention and Disposal Guidelines for Wales*' (WMF 2019) and '*RCAHMW Guidelines for Digital Archives*' (Edwards nd).

2.0 Site Location and Description

- 2.1 The proposed development site is located in Ffair Rhos, in the administrative district of Ceredigion. It is situated c.22km southeast of Aberystwyth and c.4.5km southwest of Pontrhydfendigaid. The proposed development area is approximately 0.01 hectares and located in an area presently used as a tree plantation. The site is centred at National Grid Reference SN 7668 6895 and is 443m above Ordnance Datum.
- 2.2 The bedrock geology comprises Devil's Bridge Formation mudstone and sandstone and Blaen Myherin mudstone formations, with Devensian Diamicton Till drift deposits also recorded (<https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/geoindex-onshore/>).

3.0 Planning Background

- 3.1 This heritage statement has been prepared to inform a planning application that will be submitted in due course for the building of a telecoms tower. This is the first stage of archaeological investigation, intended to provide detailed information that will allow the planning authority to make an informed decision as to whether further archaeological investigations will be required prior to or following the determination of a planning application for the proposed development.

National Planning Policy

- 3.2 Planning Policy Wales (PPW 2021) sets out the land use and planning policies of the Welsh Government. The relevant section of the PPW concerning the historic environment is section 6.1.

'PPW provides the national planning policy framework for the consideration of the historic environment and this is supplemented by guidance contained in Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment and Cadw associated best practice guidance on the historic environment.' (6.14).

'It is the responsibility of all those with an interest in the planning system, including planning authorities, applicants, developers and communities, to appropriately care for the historic environment in their area. The protection, conservation and enhancement of historic assets is most effective when it is considered at the earliest stage of plan preparation or when designing proposals new proposals.' (6.18).

'Any decisions made through the planning system must fully consider the impact on the historic environment and on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets and their contribution to the character of place.' (6.19).

Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment (Cadw 2017a)

- 3.3 This should be referred to in conjunction with PPW. The purpose of the TAN is outlined as: *'to provide guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan preparation and decision making on planning and Listed Building (LBC) applications.'*
- 3.4 This TAN defines the historic environment in policy terms 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.'*
- 3.5 It also defines historic assets as: *'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.'*

The Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (Cadw 2017b)

- 3.6 This document sets out guidance of what setting of an historic asset is, why it is important and how it contributes to the significance of an asset.
- 3.7 The document defines setting as *'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.'... 'Setting describes the relationship of a historic asset to the surrounding landscape or townscape. Its importance lies in what it contributes to the significance of a historic asset.'*
- 3.8 A development can potentially affect the setting of the heritage assets within its vicinity. The setting of a heritage asset is the surrounding in which it is experienced (not necessarily everything it is intervisible with).

Local Planning Policy

- 3.9 The Ceredigion Local Development Plan was adopted by the Council on the 25th April 2013 (Ceredigion County Council, 2013). A replacement plan is currently being produced but has been delayed. Although the current plan period ended in 2022 this will continue to be the Development Plan for Ceredigion until a Replacement Plan is adopted.
- 3.10 The relevant policy of the Ceredigion Local Development Plan (Ceredigion County Council, 2013) concerning archaeological and cultural heritage assets is DM19:

Policy DM19:

Historic and Cultural Landscape Development affecting landscapes or buildings which are of historical or cultural importance and make an important contribution to the character and interest of the local area, will be permitted where the distinctive appearance, architectural integrity or their settings will not be significantly adversely affected. Where possible development should enhance these qualities and special character.

4.0 Methodology

Data Collection

4.1 A full range of primary and secondary archaeological and historical sources were consulted in the preparation of this document. The sources consulted were as follows:

- DYFED Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record (hereafter DAT HER)– a database of archaeological sites and artefacts, listed buildings and Scheduled Monuments. A search of this resource was undertaken for a study area extending 2km from the centre of the site for Designated Assets and 1km for other assets.
- The National Library of Wales – holds a range of resources online, for example Tithe maps of the development area.
- Historic Wales Portal – searchable online resource allowing access to the National Monuments Record of Wales, the Archaeology Collection of Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales, the Welsh Historic Environment Records and CADW (<https://historic-wales-rcahmw.hub.arcgis.com/>).
- A search of the records held by the RCAHMW was undertaken for a 1km radius from the centre of the site (<https://coflein.gov.uk/en/>). These have been combined with the HER data and are detailed in Appendix 1 and section 5 below, and shown on Figure 3.
- Allen Archaeology’s own reference library – secondary sources pertaining to the archaeology and history of the region.
- A site visit was carried out on 14th May 2023 to assess the present situation of the development area, to identify any areas where the potential archaeological resource may be particularly well preserved or damaged by recent development, and to observe the site in its landscape context.

4.2 Each archaeological and historic site and Listed Building identified in the study area has been allocated a one or two digit ‘Site’ number and assigned to a specific period according to the definitions outlined on the ‘Period (Wales)’ from RCAHMW (<https://collectiontrust.org.uk/resource/period-wales/>). These sites are described in the Archaeological and Historical Background section (See Section 5.0 below). All measurements referred to in this section are measured from the proposed development site outline to the edge of the polygon/line in question or to the Site number if one of these

is not present. Further details are provided for each site in Appendix 1, and where applicable the sites are depicted on Figure 3.

5.0 Archaeological and Historical Background

- 5.1 A Bronze Age circular cairn is the only prehistoric dated site within the 1km study area. It is located c.450m east of the proposed development site on the highest point of an upland spur (Site 1). It has a diameter of 14.5m and a height of 0.5m, although there is evidence of disturbance so it may have been higher originally. It is made from mostly local shale though some sandstone and quartz blocks are also present.
- 5.2 Six Bronze Age round barrows or clearance cairns are in the wider area; within 2km of the site but none are Scheduled. An Iron Age hillfort, Pen y Bannau Camp, is in the wider vicinity c.3.13km southwest of the proposed development site and is a Scheduled Monument (CD109).
- 5.3 There are no Roman dated sites within the study area. There is also a distinct lack within the wider vicinity. A possible Roman road has been identified along the boundary of Ceredigion and Powys c.4.7km east of the proposed development site. This road runs from the Roman fort at Castell Collen to another fort at Trawscoed.
- 5.4 No early medieval dated sites have been identified within the study area. The closest activity of this type appears to be c.3.76km southwest of the proposed development site at the site of Strata Florida Abbey. Excavations at this medieval Cistercian Abbey have encountered early medieval dated finds suggesting activity predating the abbey (DAT HER PRN50162 and PRN2036).
- 5.5 Three sites of medieval activity have been identified within the 1km study area (Sites 2 - 4). A block of traditional common land has been identified c.675m south-southeast of the proposed development site (Site 2). An area of ridge and furrow has been identified c.400m west of this although it is possible this dates to the post-medieval period (Site 3).
- 5.6 The Cwm Rhydol settlement dates to the medieval or post-medieval period and is a Scheduled Monument (Site 4). The monument comprises two buildings (including a longhouse) and an enclosure and is located c.1.79km south of the proposed development site. The monument is a well persevered example of an upland settlement with the potential to enhance our knowledge of land use within this period.
- 5.7 Most of the sites within the study area date to the post-medieval period (Sites 5 – 76). The Grade II Listed 19th century farmstead of Gwar Caeau is located c.750m west-southwest of the proposed development site. This is a single storey cottage with an attached cow byre and is an example of a small holding located on the edge of cultivable land (Site 5). A restored drystone cottage probably 19th century in date is located c.400m northeast of the proposed development (Site 6).
- 5.8 Eight structures in a damaged/ruinous condition are located within the study area to the west and northeast of the proposed development site between c.340m and c.960m away (Sites 7 – 14). These were likely dwellings or farmsteads and were most likely constructed in the 19th century. A square enclosure or building of unknown but likely agricultural purposes is located c.920m southeast of the proposed development site (Site 15).

- 5.9 Thirty-three sites within the 1km study area are associated with the industrial period (Sites 16 - 48). A dam (Site 16) and three hush gutters (Site 17) are part of a water management system located 890m west of the proposed development site on the eastern edge of the Esgairmwyn lead mine. A 19th century working is located c.800m northwest of the proposed development site and referred to in the DAT HER as a 'minor metal working' (Site 18). A circular cutting is located c.315m south of this and is probably part of Esgair Mwyn mine to the west (Site 19). There are many sites within the study area which relate to the 19th century lead mine of Esgair-ddu (Site 20). The mine is located c.770m north of the proposed development site and has a tall building located next to it which may have housed a large mill wheel. Associated sites include six leats (Sites 21 and 26), a gully (Site 27), a wheelpit (Site 28), ore bins (Site 29) run-in shafts (Sites 30 and 31), a run-in level (Site 32) and several dump deposits (Sites 33–39). There are three prospecting pits to the east of the proposed development site with the closest being c.220m southeast (Sites 40–42). A quarry is located c.930m northeast of the proposed development site that measures 20m by 15m (Site 43). A number of further suspected leats are also situated within the study area (Sites 44 – 48).
- 5.10 A large number of earthworks are present within the study area, these primarily consist of field boundaries as well as enclosures and drainage (Sites 49 – 61). A number of earthworks relate to potato clamps which were constructed to store vegetables (Sites 62 – 71). Also present are a number of trackways (Sites 72 – 75).
- 5.11 A marker carin is located c.470m east of the proposed development site. As well as being used to mark burials in the prehistoric period, these are also used in rural areas within more recent times to mark trails (Site 76).
- 5.12 The 1887 Ordnance Survey map (OS) depicts a footpath running through the centre of the site and a second directly north of the site (Figure 4). This is also the case for the 1953 OS map (Figure 5) which shows little change. Currently only the footpath to the north is still present with the footpath through site no longer visible.
- 5.13 The only modern site within the study area is an area of cultivation marks located c.955m southeast of the proposed development site (Site 77)
- 5.14 An earthwork boundary of unknown purpose is located c.920m northwest of the proposed development site (Site 78). It is not clear when this was constructed. A series of linear banks located c.500m northeast of the proposed development site are also of an uncertain date (Site 79).

6.0 Site Visit

- 6.1 The site was visited on Sunday 14th May 2023. Selected photographic images taken during the site visit are reproduced below and their locations indicated on Figure 2.
- 6.2 The proposed development site is located on a slight rise in an area of low hills and scattered woodland (Plate 1).



Plate 1: Drone shot of the site and its setting, looking southwest

- 6.3 The site is currently unused land with several small trees growing on it. It is on the border of a tree plantation and has a barbed wire fence which blocks public access to the site. The trees of the plantation block the view of site from ground level in all directions except to the east (Plate 2).



Plate 2: View of site, looking southwest

- 6.4 The heritage assets in the study area are not visible from the ground level of the site due to the tree plantation and topography (Plate 3). However, there may be some intervisibility from the top of the proposed telecoms tower.



Plate 3: View of the surrounding landscape, looking east

- 6.5 The top of the proposed tower will likely be visible from the Listed Building Gwar-Caeau. (Plate 4).

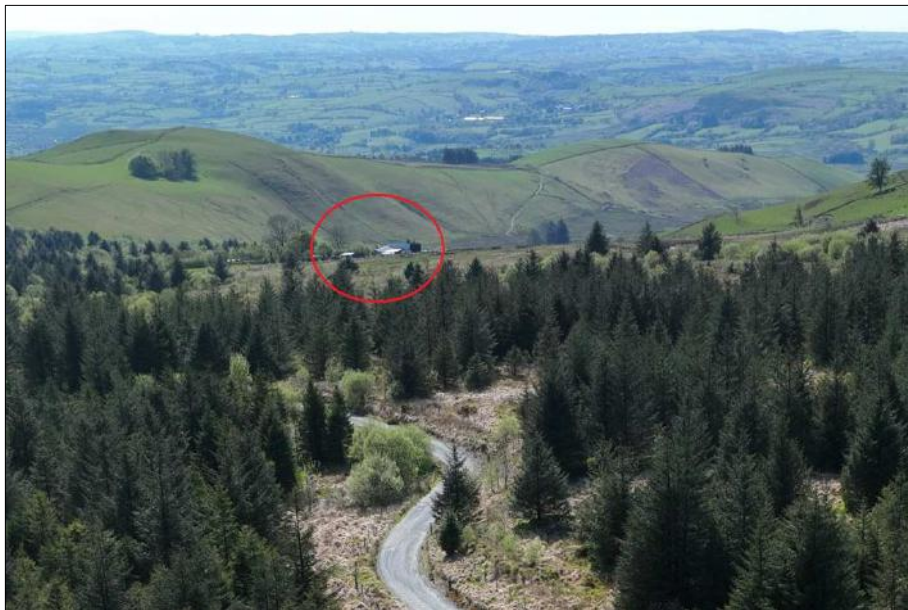


Plate 4: View towards the listed building Gwar-Caeau, looking west-southwest

- 6.6 Due to the landscape being fairly open to the south it is likely there will be some intervisibility with Scheduled monument of Cwm Rhydol (Plate 5).



Plate 5: Drone shot of the view of the surrounding landscape, looking south

7.0 Assessment of Significance and Impact

7.1 The assessment of significance and impacts has been undertaken in accordance with 'Conservation Principles' (Cadw 2011). The document outlines four heritage values:

- Evidential value

This derives from those elements of an historic asset that can provide evidence about past human activity, including its physical remains or historic fabric.

- Historical Value

An historic asset might illustrate a particular aspect of past life or it might be associated with a notable family, person, event or movement. These illustrative or associative values of an historic asset may be less tangible than its evidential value but will often connect past people, events and aspects of life with the present.

- Aesthetic Value

This derives from the way in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from an historic asset. This might include the form of an historic asset, its external appearance and how it lies within its setting

- Communal Value

This derives from the meanings that an historic asset has for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory.

7.2 In order to assess the significance of an asset the relative significance of the different values needs to be considered, 'It will be necessary to compare the values of the asset under consideration with others in the locality, region or even nationally, depending on its importance.'

Scheduled Monuments

- 7.3 There is a single Scheduled monument within the 2km study area. The Cwm Rhydol settlement consists of two buildings and an enclosure and is located c.1.8km south of the proposed development site.
- 7.4 The monument cannot be seen from the site at ground level due to the intervening woodland but the proposed tower will likely be visible to some extent above the treeline. The monument is scheduled due to its potential to enhance knowledge of the medieval and post-medieval land use, settlement and economy. It is a well-preserved example of an upland settlement, and this proposed development will not impact on its preservation nor the information it provides on historic land use. Therefore, the proposed tower will have no adverse effect on the setting or significance of the monument.

Listed Buildings

- 7.5 One Listed Building is located within the 1km study area. The 19th century cottage of Gwar Caeau is Grade II Listed and is located c.750m west-southwest of the proposed development site. Again, this cannot be seen at ground level due to intervening trees, but the top of the tower will most likely be visible from the asset. The building is listed as a surviving example of the smallest cottage smallholdings of the county. The tower will not alter this significance, and as such will have no adverse effect on the setting or significance of the asset.

Designated assets

- 7.6 The entirety of the 2km study area is within the boundary of the Registered Historic Landscape 'Upland Ceredigion'. The area is categorised as being '*rich in diverse and often visually dramatic evidence of land use and the exploitation of natural resources, from the prehistoric period to the present, and it also includes several sites with important historic artistic associations*'. (CADW 2002 HLW (D) 2). It is noted that a period of afforestation began in the 1920s and this is now at its planned extent.
- 7.7 The proposed development site is situated within this registered historic landscape but due to its very small footprint in an extensive and diverse landscape with many land uses over a long period it is considered to have no appreciable negative effect within the vast landscape.
- 7.8 There are no Registered Battlefields or Conservation areas within the study area.
- 7.9 There are no designated assets within the proposed development site.

Undesignated assets

- 7.10 The undesignated assets can be broadly categorised into the following; prehistoric sites, medieval sites, recent agricultural features and buildings, buildings and features associated with mining.

Prehistoric sites

- 7.11 The only site in this category is a circular cairn located 450m to the east. This is located within an open landscape with the proposed development site being located just within the forested area providing some cover. The cairn's significance is partially derived from the archaeological value it holds as well as from its setting at a high point in the landscape. Although partially obscured by tree cover, there will likely be some intervisibility between

this asset and the site. However, there will remain many obscured viewpoints of the asset, which can still be appreciated in the wider landscape.

Medieval sites

- 7.12 The medieval undesignated assets comprise areas of common land and ridge and furrow, both of which are located over 660m south of the proposed development site. The significance of these assets lies in the information they provide about medieval land use. The surrounding forest will largely block views between the site and the asset and as such the significance and setting of these sites will not be adversely affected.

Recent agricultural features and buildings

- 7.13 These are sites dating to the post-medieval and later and are mainly earthworks. The only sites within 100m of the proposed development site are earth banks thought to date to the post-medieval period (Sites 49 and 50). Other sites in this category include long huts, field boundaries, enclosures, field systems, potato clamps, trackways and other similar sites. All of these sites have a setting and significance that is derived largely from their inter relationship and the understanding of the historic landscape they provide. Due to the woodland around the site the visibility is significantly obscured, between the site and these assets and the proposed development will not adversely affect our ability to understand these key characteristics.

Buildings and features associated with mining

- 7.14 A large number of the sites relate to post-medieval mining practises in the area, the majority of which are located within the northern extent of the study area. These sites include mines, leats, shafts, quarries, spoil heaps and pits. The significance of these sites are rooted in their association with each other and the information they provide on the nature and extent of, and technologies used in, the historic mineral extraction industries in the region, with their wider setting being of lesser value. Furthermore, the distance from the site and the woodland surrounding the site limit the intervisibility. As such it can be concluded that the significance of the assets will not be adversely affected.

8.0 Discussion and Conclusions

- 8.1 An undesignated Bronze Age circular cairn has been identified within the 1km study area, located on a high point in the surrounding landscape, clearly intended to be seen, perhaps as a territorial marker or a meeting point. This prominence is not affected by the proposals. A further six round barrows or clearance cairns dating to the Bronze Age have been identified in the wider area. The lack of activity of this date within a 1km radius of the proposed development site suggests a negligible archaeological potential for this period within the small footprint of the proposed development area.
- 8.2 There are no Roman or early medieval dated sites within the study area and a distinct lack within the wider area. Therefore, it can be concluded there is a negligible archaeological potential for these periods.
- 8.3 Two sites of medieval activity have been identified within the 1km study area and a Scheduled Monument of this date is located within the 2km study area, all reflecting the open agricultural nature of the study area. All these sites are located within the southern

extent of the study area over 660m from the proposed development site. This suggests a negligible potential for activity of this kind to be within the site.

- 8.4 Most of the post-medieval sites relate to lead mining activity to the north and west of the proposed development site. Mapping of the area shows the site was otherwise undeveloped in the 19th century with a footpath running approximately northeast to southwest through the site. There is no evidence for this industrial activity extending into the current site.
- 8.5 The proposed development site will have no adverse effect to the setting or significance of the Scheduled Monument of Cwm Rhydol settlement, the Grade II Listed Building Gwar Caeau or any undesignated assets within the 1km study area.
- 8.6 The historic landscape of Upland Ceredigion will also not be adversely affected by the proposed development due to its small footprint within a vast and diverse landscape.

9.0 Acknowledgements

- 9.1 Allen Archaeology Limited would like to thank Clarke Telecom for this commission.

10.0 References

AAL, 2023, *Written Scheme of Investigation for a Heritage Impact Assessment: Woodland west of Llethir Brith, Ffair Rhos, Ceredigion*, Unpublished planning document

CIfA, 2020, *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment*, Reading: Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

CADW, 2002, *Full Reports of Registered Historic Landscape Reference HLW (D) 2*, [https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/historiclandscape/FullReport?id=HLW%20\(D\)%202](https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/historiclandscape/FullReport?id=HLW%20(D)%202). Accessed 08/06/2023

Cadw, 2011, *Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales*, Cardiff: Welsh Government Historic Environment Service (Cadw)

Cadw, 2017a, *Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment*, Cardiff: Welsh Government Historic Environment Service (Cadw)

Cadw, 2017b, *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales*, Cardiff: Welsh Government Historic Environment Service (Cadw)

Ceredigion County Council, 2013, *Ceredigion Local Development Plan 2007- 2022 Volume 1 Strategy and Policies*, Ceredigion County Council, <http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/resident/planning-building-control-and-sustainable-drainage-body-sab/planning-building-control/ceredigion-local-development-plan/adopted-ceredigion-local-development-plan-ldp/>

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2021, *National Planning Policy Framework*. London: Department for Communities and Local Government

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2019, *Planning Practice Guidance Historic Environment Advises on enhancing and conserving the historic environment*, Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/conserving-and-enhancing-the-historic-environment> (Accessed: 21/06/21)

The Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2022, Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)

Cartographic Sources

1887 Ordnance Survey Map – Promap.co.uk

1953 Ordnance Survey Map – Promap.co.uk

Appendix 1: List of DAT HER and RCAHMW Entries (coflein) within a 1km study area and Listed/ Designated Assets within 2km

Site No.	HER No.	Grade and Listing No.	Easting	Northing	Description	Date	Source
1	8614		277138	268982	Circular cairn measuring 14.5m in diameter and 0.5m high on upland spur. Made from local shale with some sandstone and white quartz.	Prehistoric	DAT HER
2	14111		276900	268300	A block of traditional common land. No further information given.	Medieval	DAT HER
3	9094		276500	268300	Area of ridge and furrow cultivation marks, possibly medieval or post-medieval in date.	Medieval	DAT HER
4	CD207	SM/CD207	276731	267145	Cwm Rhydol settlement. The scheduled area includes two buildings and an enclosure probably dating to the medieval or post-medieval periods. It is situated in enclosed upland pasture on a sheltered terrace. The main building is a well-preserved example of a longhouse. The enclosure is kidney shaped and was possibly used as a garden.	Medieval	DAT HER
5	58196/55017	II/82976	275968	268721	Gwar Caeau is a small upland farmstead. The C19 cottage has an attached cow-byre and is an example of the smallest holdings on the edge of the cultivable land, possibly an encroachment.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
6	9083		276920	269280	Drystone cottage recorded as being renovated in 1979.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
7	9101		276128	269074	Recorded in 1979 and appears to be a long hut type structure.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
8	522563		277375	269593	This rectangular structure measures 7m long by 4m wide. It has a boundary bank running upslope to the south. It is cut into the slope with a low wall at the north end. At the eastern side is a small hollow and mound.	Post-medieval	Coflein
9	522564		277349	269556	This long hut is a rectangular building with its gable ends still standing to 1.35m high.	Post-medieval	Coflein
10	9059		276390	268760	Ruined drystone cottage. No further information given.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
11	9084		276260	269250	Ruined, two-roomed, drystone cottage with enclosure. No further information given.	Post-medieval	DAT HER

Site No.	HER No.	Grade and Listing No.	Easting	Northing	Description	Date	Source
12	9085		276465	269419	Ruined drystone cottage or minor farmhouse, two-storey, three rooms. Recorded in 1979.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
13	9103		275730	268850	Ruined C19 cottage. Walls reduced to below wall plate height, but still mostly above 1m high.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
14	9058		276200	268530	Ruined farmstead complex. No further information given.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
15	9093		277430	268410	Square enclosure or building of unknown purpose. No further information given.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
16	97646		275780	269120	A dam recorded on eastern edge of Esgairmwyn lead mine, part of a water management system comprising hush gutters.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
17	97645		275760	269140	"Three radiating hush gutters" running east-west and converging on dam.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
18	25940		276100	269500	Bryn Coryn. Minor C19 metal mine working.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
19	55018		276160	269191	A circular cutting with a linear ditch running to the SW. Possibly part of Esgair Mwyn mine to the west.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
20	25941		276709	269679	Esgair-ddu Mine. Small 19th century lead mine with an associated narrow building which possibly housed a large mill wheel. No shaft could be seen during site visit but it may be obscured by rubble.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
21	96583		276800	269520	Trace of a leat (watercourse conducting water to a mill). Related to lead mine PRN25941.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
22	9097		276300	269730	A former leat serving Esgair-Mwyn metal mines. Recorded as being in good condition.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
23	300786		276930	269360	Leat south of Esgair Ddu mine.	Post-medieval	Coflein
24	300791		276990	269540	Leat runs westwards from a stream to the east of Esgair Ddu mine, curving north and then west to serve the wheelpit.	Post-medieval	Coflein
25	300787		277000	269540	Linear ditch south of Esagir Ddu mine. Runs east to west towards Bryn Corun.	Post-medieval	Coflein
26	309815		276570	269520	Three leats passing east-west along Esgair Ddu, apparently heading for Esgairmwyn mine.	Post-medieval	Coflein

Site No.	HER No.	Grade and Listing No.	Easting	Northing	Description	Date	Source
27	96584		276660	269620	Slight gully. Related to lead mine PRN25941.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
28	96585		276680	269630	Very ruined 35' x 5' wheelpit. Related to lead mine PRN25941.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
29	96586		276700	269640	Possible ruin of ore bins. Related to lead mine PRN25941.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
30	96587		276680	269650	Run in shaft in centre of ore development rock tip. Related to lead min PRN25941.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
31	96594		276760	269620	Run in shaft; bridge rail adjacent. Related to lead mine PRN25941.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
32	96592		276770	269680	Run in level. Related to lead mine PRN25941.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
33	96588		276680	269680	Area of tips removed. Spoil heap. Related to lead mine PRN25941.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
34	96589		276710	269660	Area of finer waste on spoil heap. Related to lead mine PRN25941.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
35	96590		276610	269720	Area strewn with waste - appears to be mainly as a result of outwash downslope from mine. Related to lead mine PRN25941.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
36	96591		276770	269700	Two grassy tips from level. Spoil heap. Related to lead mine PRN25941.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
37	96593		276750	269650	Cascade down slope of ore development waste. Related to lead mine PRN25941.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
38	5040		276400	269700	Hollow and accompanying spoil tip, possibly associated with mining operations.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
39	5084		276500	269690	Hollow and accompanying spoil tip, possibly associated with mining operations.	Post-medieval	DAT HER
40	522347		276864	268803	Trial workings measuring 2.5m long by 2.5m wide. The excavated spoil has been piled up to create a parallel bank on the north side.	Post-medieval	Coflein
41	522334		277107	269311	This concentric depression measures 4m long north-south by 3m and is c.0.75m deep. It has a grassed over spoil tip on its west side. Quartz blocks are scattered to the west.	Post-medieval	Coflein

Site No.	HER No.	Grade and Listing No.	Easting	Northing	Description	Date	Source
42	522345		277078	269574	This trial working is a linear hollow measuring 6m long southeast-northwest by 2.5m wide and 0.75m deep. It has earth mounds to either side which are more pronounced on the northeast side.	Post-medieval	Coflein
43	522560		277255	269673	This quarry measures 20m long by 15m wide with an access track to it.	Post-medieval	Coflein
44	522335		276998	269374	This linear earthwork measures 1.5m wide and runs north-south. It could be a leat or a trackway.	Post-medieval	Coflein
45	300790		276200	269360	Linear ditch.	Post-medieval	Coflein
46	300757		275900	269100	Leat running from the main mine complex eastwards, towards Banc Esgair-mwym.	Post-medieval	Coflein
47	300762		275940	269080	Linear ditches on Banc Esgair-mwym.	Post-medieval	Coflein
48	300582		277410	268270	Leats running downslope. They have the appearance of being continuous features but the ditch may have been obscured over time. A second smaller ditch feature is near by but is running across the slope rather than from top to bottom.	Post-medieval	Coflein
49	300782		276610	268870	Linear bank feature visible from aerial photographs.	Post-medieval	Coflein
50	300784		276770	268990	D' shaped bank with long linear ditch, visible on aerial photographs running southwest-northeast.	Post-medieval	Coflein
51	522562		277359	269593	This boundary bank measures 1m wide and 0.5m high. Some stone is visible but it is mostly covered in vegetation. A ditch of the same dimensions lies on the upslope south side of the bank. This boundary bank possibly divided Marchnant from the upper mountain pastures.	Post-medieval	Coflein
52	300793		277220	269640	Small rectangular enclosure, possible sheep fold.	Post-medieval	Coflein
53	522567		277356	269555	A small enclosure is attached to the eastern end of a long hut. It was roughly 8m square and was defined by a very low earth bank between 1-2m wide. In the southern side are 2 potato clamps.	Post-medieval	Coflein
54	300788		276310	269350	Linear field boundary north of Bryn-Coryn farmstead.	Post-medieval	Coflein

Site No.	HER No.	Grade and Listing No.	Easting	Northing	Description	Date	Source
55	300789		276210	269500	Linear bank, possible field boundary.	Post-medieval	Coflein
56	300780		275930	268950	Possible linear field boundary.	Post-medieval	Coflein
57	300783		275880	268810	Series of linear banks visible from aerial photography.	Post-medieval	Coflein
58	300760		276330	269360	Suspected incline or possible leat running eastwards from Esgair Mwyn spoil tip to Bryn Corun. There is a U-shaped enclosure, possibly a drum house, on the high ground at Bryn Corun.	Post-medieval	Coflein
59	522338		276967	269350	This linear gully measuring 20m long east-west by 2m wide and 0.75m deep runs down slope. Its eastern end intersects with a later leat and then runs into a boundary fence.	Post-medieval	Coflein
60	300584		275830	268610	Possible enclosure surrounded by an area of peat cutting. Nearby linear bank feature which appears to be a continuation of an existing field boundary visible on aerial photography.	Post-medieval	Coflein
61	522568		277396	269612	This sheep shelter or bield is formed by a drystone wall, which measures 14m long, 1m wide and 1m high, orientated north-south. It is triangular in section with coping stones along the top.	Post-medieval	Coflein
62	522336		276965	269320	This is a low linear mound with a gully running around its sides and top. It measures 6.5m in length east-west by 2.75m wide.	Post-medieval	Coflein
63	522339		276959	269354	This linear mound measures 5m long east-west by 2.5m wide and 0.75m high. It has been cut at its western end by a trackway.	Post-medieval	Coflein
64	522341		276966	269265	A low, linear mound measuring 5m long east-west by 2.25m wide, running downslope.	Post-medieval	Coflein
65	522342		276967	269368	This linear hollow measures 3m wide east-west by 0.2m deep. It may be a potato clamp.	Post-medieval	Coflein
66	522340		276964	269359	A linear mound measuring 5m long east-west by 2.25m wide and 0.3m high runs downslope with its centre dug out. It is one of a group of several potato clamps.	Post-medieval	Coflein

Site No.	HER No.	Grade and Listing No.	Easting	Northing	Description	Date	Source
67	522343		276967	269373	This linear hollow measures 4m long east-west by 0.5m wide and 0.3m high has an embanked gully around it. It may be a potato clamp.	Post-medieval	Coflein
68	522337		276956	269332	A reed filled hollow 1.5m long by 0.8m wide and 0.4m deep is flanked on its north and south sides by 1m wide banks.	Post-medieval	Coflein
69	522344		276956	269337	This hollow is 2m long east-west, 0.5m wide and 0.2m deep. It is cut at its west end by a fence. There is a broad low bank around the hollow with a gully around the outside of the bank.	Post-medieval	Coflein
70	522565		277348	269550	This potato clamp is 2m long by 1m wide with a depth of 0.25m.	Post-medieval	Coflein
71	522566		277351	269547	This potato clamp measures 2m long by 1m wide.	Post-medieval	Coflein
72	522346		276966	269119	This trackway is 2m wide and is cut by a leat.	Post-medieval	Coflein
73	522331		277205	268205	Earthwork trackway shown on 1st edition OS map.	Post-medieval	Coflein
74	522330		277130	268231	This trackway has a ditch or flat-based gully with low banks on its south side measuring 2m wide.	Post-medieval	Coflein
75	522329		277099	268328	A cut and fill trackway up to 3m wide.	Post-medieval	Coflein
76	522333		277143	268989	This upstanding marker cairn measures 2.5m in diameter and is 1m high. Its south side has been built with white quartz blocks.	Post-medieval	Coflein
77	522649		277188	268128	An area of cultivation marks aligned north northeast- south southwest. It covers an area 125m by 60m. Visible on aerial photography but not on the ground.	Modern	Coflein
78	9100		275889	269415	Earthwork boundary bank of unknown purpose. No further information given.	Uncertain	DAT HER
79	300785		276920	269390	Series of linear banks forming a rectangular field boundary. Possibly part of an earlier system.	Uncertain	Coflein

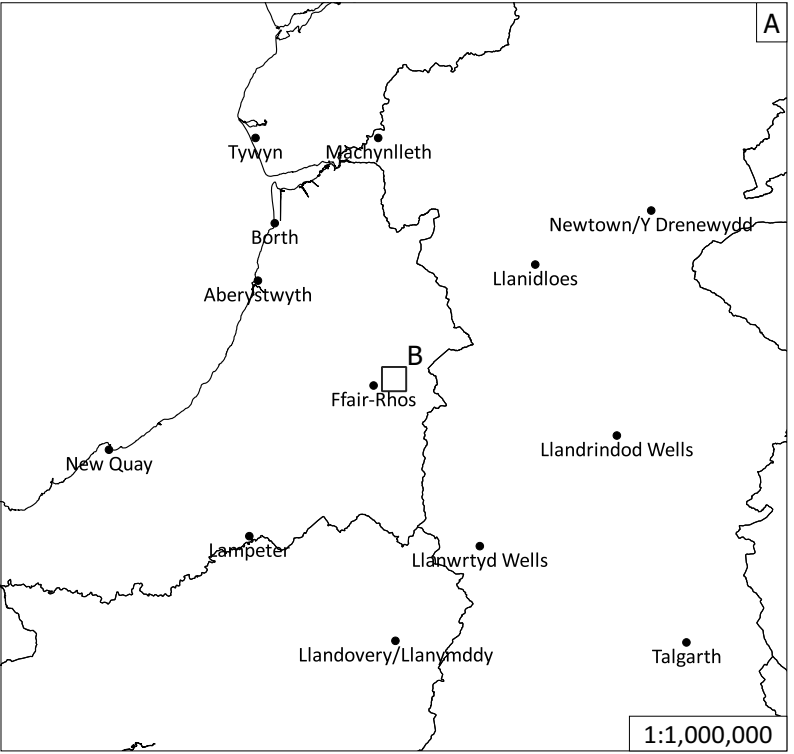
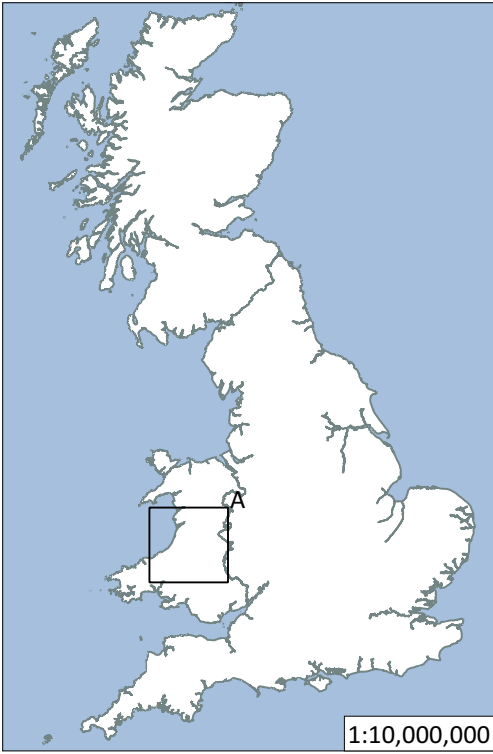


Figure 1: Site location outlined in red

© Crown copyright 2000. All rights reserved. Licence Number 100047330

Site Code	FRLB 23
Scale	1:10,000,000 1:1,000,000 1:25,000 @ A4
Drawn by	J. McDonald
Date	11/05/2023

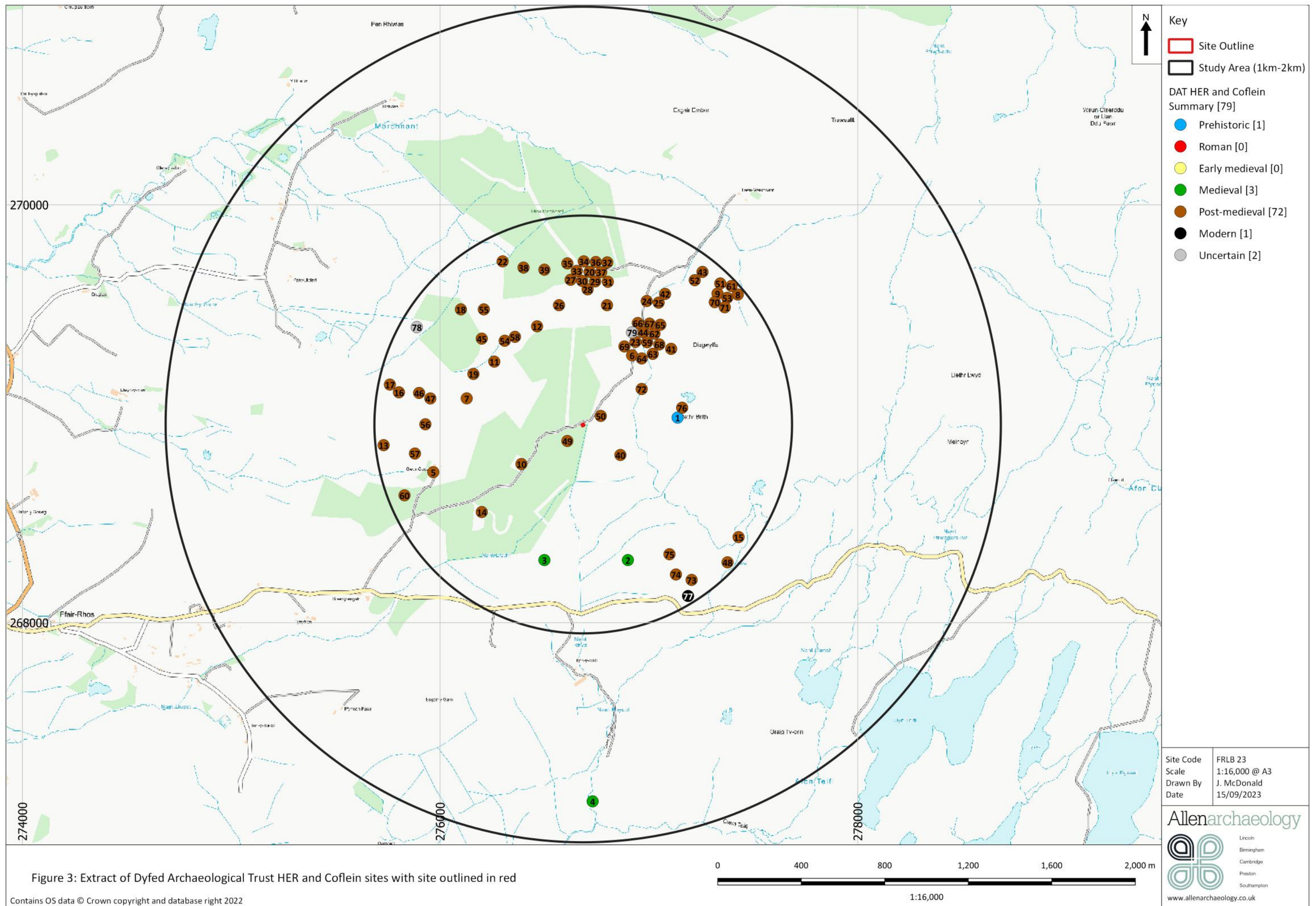
Allenarchaeology

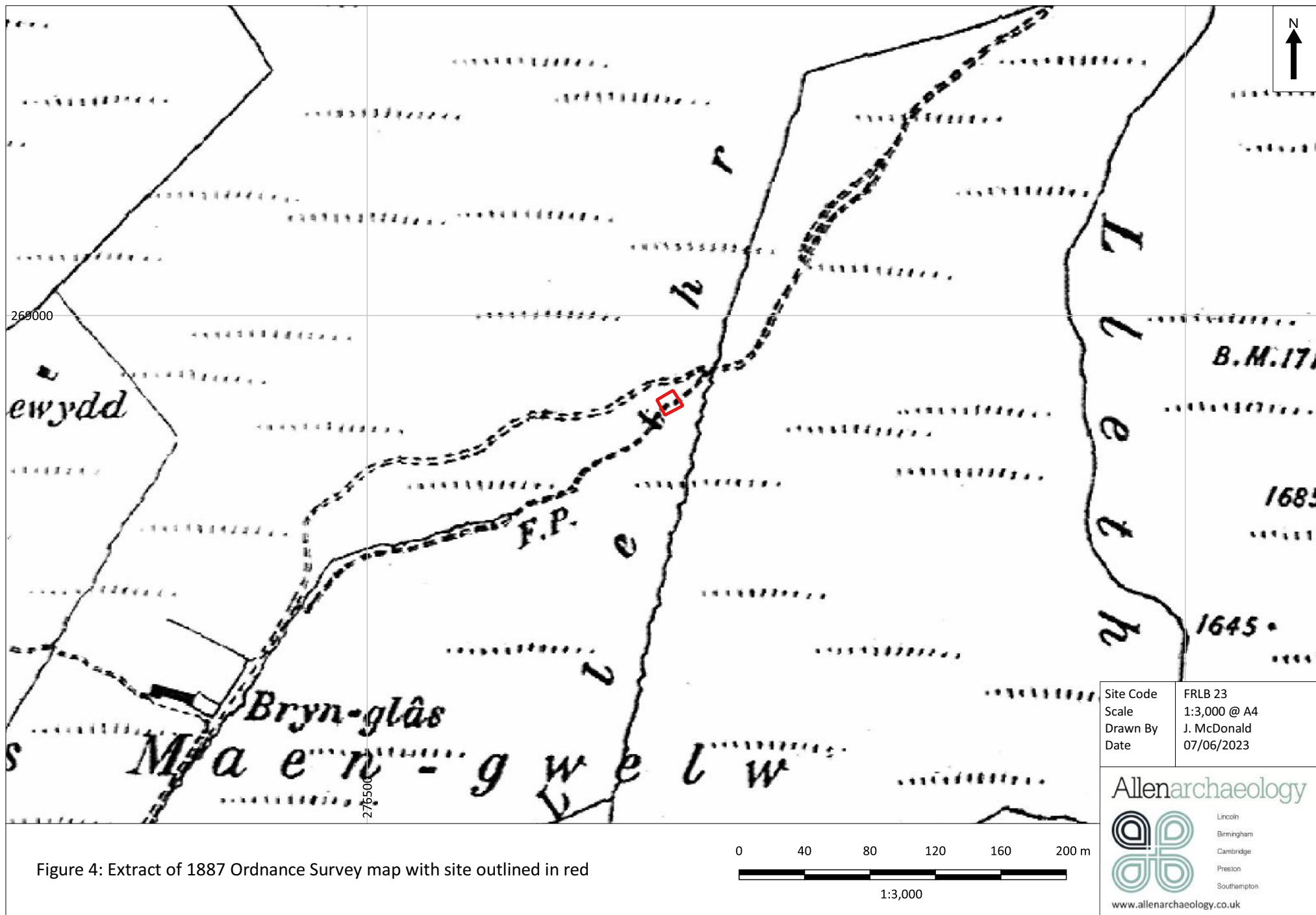
Lincoln
Birmingham
Cambridge
Preston
Southampton

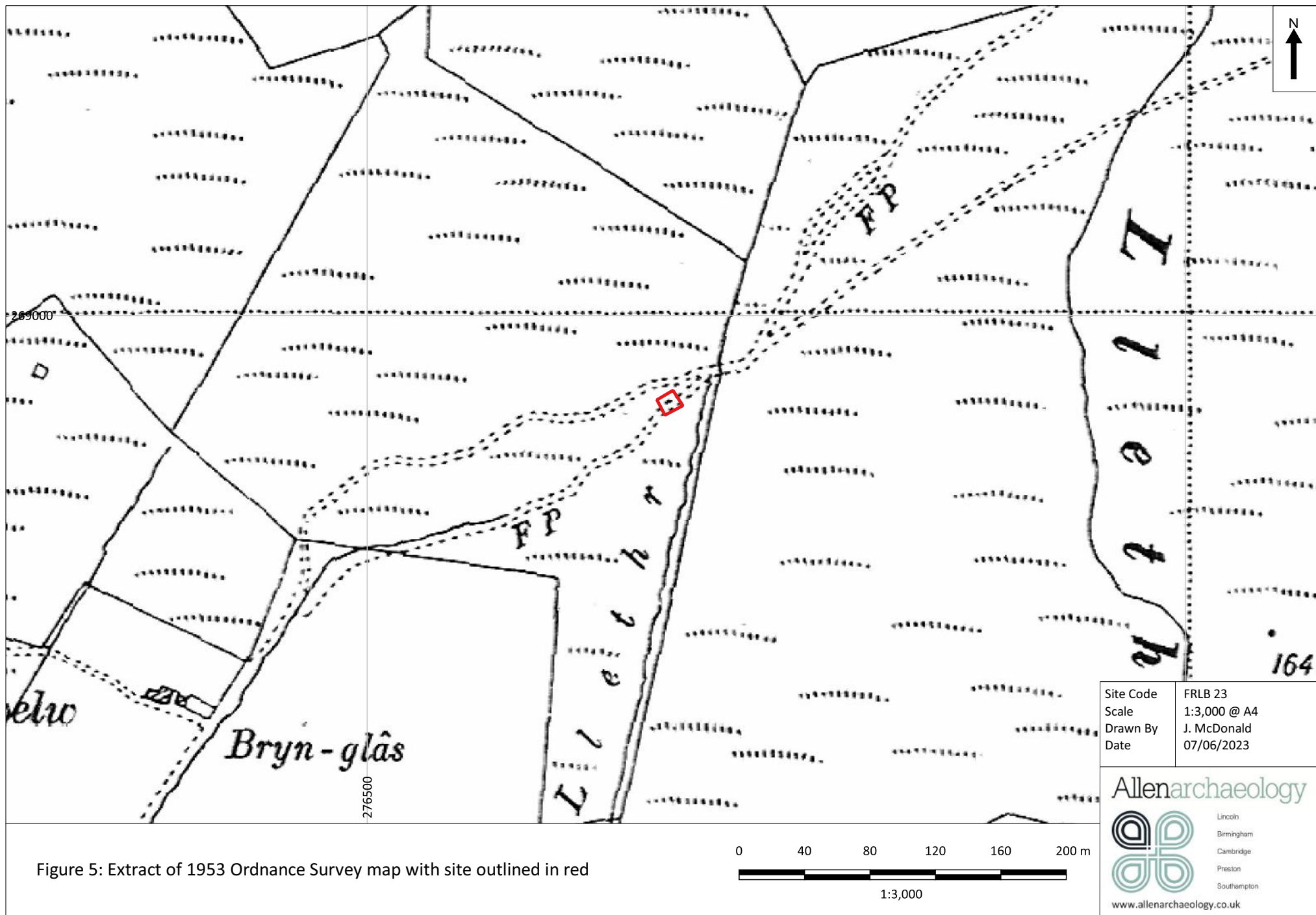
www.allenarchaeology.co.uk



Figure 2: Location and direction of site visit photographs with site outlined in red









Allen Archaeology Limited
www.allenarchaeology.co.uk

Company Registered in England and Wales No: 6935529

Lincoln
Whisby Lodge
Hillcroft Business Park
Whisby Road
Lincoln
Lincolnshire
LN6 3QL

T: +44 (0) 1522 685356
E: info@allenarchaeology.co.uk

West
Arion Business Centre
Harriet House
118 High Street
Birmingham
B23 6BG
T: +44 (0) 800 610 2545
E: birmingham@allenarchaeology.co.uk

South
International House
Southampton International Business
Park
George Curl Way
Southampton
SO18 2RZ

T: +44 (0) 800 610 2555
E: southampton@allenarchaeology.co.uk

East
Wellington House
East Road
Cambridge
Cambridgeshire
CB1 1BH
T: +44 (0) 800 610 2550
E: cambridge@allenarchaeology.co.uk

Northwest
Office 4
Barbury House,
8 Hardy Close,
Nelson Court Business Centre,
Preston,
PR2 2XP

T: +44 (0) 1772 963039
M: +44 (0) 7710 099052
E: northwest@allenarchaeology.co.uk