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Wolfscastle Wastewater Treatment Works

Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment

March 2024

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Crynodeb Gweithredol

Mae'r Asesiad Desg hwn o'r Amgylchedd Hanesyddol wedi'i baratoi gan Mott MacDonald ar ran Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water. Mae'n asesu effaith gwaith (a elwir 'y cynllun arfaethedig' o hyn ymlaen) a wneir i Waith Trin Dŵr Gwastraff Wolfscastle (WwTW) ar yr amgylchedd hanesyddol. Mae angen y cynllun arfaethedig er mwyn gwella'r Gwaith Trin Dŵr Gwastraff.

Bydd y cynllun arfaethedig yn golygu dymchwel yr offer presennol a gosod strwythurau newydd yn WwTW Wolfscastle yn Hwlfordd, Sir Benfro (Cyfeirnod Grid Cenedlaethol SM 95806 26652), y cyfeirir ato o hyn ymlaen fel 'y safle', yn ogystal ag uwchraddio'r lôn fynediad presennol. Mae angen gwell cysylltiad â'r grid pŵer i gefnogi'r gwaith uwchraddio a bydd hyn yn cael ei hwyluso gan gebl newydd tan ddaear wedi'i osod mewn ffos ar hyd llwybr y lôn fynediad. Mae'r gwaith yn ddatblygiad a ganiateir.

Ni fydd unrhyw effaith ffisegol ar unrhyw asedau hanesyddol dynodedig o ganlyniad i'r cynllun arfaethedig. Ni fydd y cynllun arfaethedig chwaith yn amharu ar arwyddocâd heneb gofrestredig Wolfscastle Castle Mound gerllaw (MM01) na Phont Ford sy'n strwythur rhestredig Gradd II (MM02) drwy newidiadau i'w lleoliadau. Mae hyn oherwydd bod y safle wedi'i leoli ar waelod llethr sydd wedi'i amgylchynu gan lystyfiant, ac mae o fewn gwaith trin dŵr gwastraff presennol. Ni fydd y cynllun arfaethedig chwaith yn effeithio ar afon Anghof, afon Cleddau na'r dirwedd gyfagos.

Er bod dyddodion llifwaddod wedi'u cofnodi gan Arolwg Daearegol Prydain ar hyd afon Anghof yn union i'r dwyrain o'r safle lle mae mwy o botensial i olion palaeoamgylcheddol oroesi, mae Ymchwiliadau Tir diweddar wedi dangos nad yw'r rhain yn parhau i mewn i ôl-troed y gwaith trin presennol.

O fewn y safle, mae'r Ymchwiliadau Tir wedi dangos bod dyddodion o dir gwneud yn goroesi lle mae strwythurau presennol ac ardaloedd o wynebau caled. Mae dyfnder y tir gwneud yn amrywio o 0.5m i 1.5m o dan lefel bresennol y ddaear. Felly, ystyrir bod y potensial i olion archaeolegol oroesi lle mae'r tir gwneud yn goroesi yn fach iawn. Mae mwy o botensial i olion archaeolegol oroesi o'r cyfnodau canoloesol, ôl-ganoloesol a modern, yn cynnwys y rheini sy'n gysylltiedig â Chas-blaidd gerllaw, cloddio ôl-ganoloesol a gweithgarwch amaethyddol mewn ardaloedd na fu tarfu arnynt o'r blaen.

Bydd angen gwaith cloddio ar gyfer y ffos cebl newydd a fydd yn cael ei gosod drwy ffos wedi'i thorri yn ogystal ag ar gyfer seilwaith newydd i uwchraddio'r gwaith trin dŵr gwastraff presennol. Mae'n debygol y bydd angen rhagor o waith archaeolegol ymlaen llaw neu yn ystod y gwaith cloddio hwn, ond dim ond o fewn ardaloedd na fu tarfu arnynt o'r blaen. Dylai hyd a lled unrhyw waith archaeolegol pellach gael ei bennu gan Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Dyfed yn dilyn adolygiad o'r adroddiad hwn.

Mae Pont Ford, rhestredig Gradd II (MM02), yn bont sy'n hygyrch i'r cyhoedd a bydd yn cael ei defnyddio bob dydd gan gerbydau adeiladu sy'n teithio o gompownd y safle yn Spittal (tua 3.5km i'r de-ddwyrain o'r safle). Dylid cynnal trafodaethau rhwng y Prif Gontractwr a Swyddog Cadwraeth yr Awdurdod Lleol i benderfynu a oes angen mesurau i atal difrod i'r bont restredig.

Executive summary

This Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment has been prepared by Mott MacDonald on behalf of Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water. It assesses the impact of works (here after 'the proposed scheme') to Wolfscastle Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) on the historic environment. The proposed scheme is required in order to provide improvements to the Wastewater Treatment Works.

The proposed scheme will involve the demolition of current equipment and installation of new structures at the Wolfscastle WwTW in Haverfordwest, Pembrokeshire (National Grid Reference SM 95806 26652) and hereafter referred to as 'the site', as well as upgrades to the existing access track. Improved connection to the power grid is required to support the upgrades and will be facilitated by a new underground ground cable laid in a trench along the route of the access track. The works fall under permitted development.

There will be no physical impact to any designated historic assets as a result of the proposed scheme. The proposed scheme will also not harm the significance of the nearby Wolfscastle Castle Mound scheduled monument (MM01) or the Grade II listed Ford Bridge (MM02) through changes to their settings. This is due to the site being located at the bottom of a slope surrounded by vegetation, screened from view, and located within an existing WwTW. The proposed scheme will also not impact upon the Afon (river) Anghof, Western Afon Cleddau or the surrounding landscape.

Although deposits of alluvium have been recorded by the British Geological Survey along the Afon Anghof immediately east of the site where there is a higher potential for palaeoenvironmental remains to survive, recent Ground Investigations (GI) have indicated that these do not continue into the footprint of the existing WwTW.

Within the site, the GI has indicated that deposits of made ground survive where there are existing structures and areas of hard surfacing. The depth of the made ground ranges from 0.5m up to 1.5m below the present ground level. It is therefore considered there is a negligible potential for archaeological remains to survive where the made ground survives. There is a higher potential for archaeological remains to survive from the medieval, post-medieval and modern periods including those associated with the nearby Wolfscastle, post-medieval mining and agricultural activity within areas not previously disturbed.

Excavations will be required for the new cable trench which will be installed via a cut trench as well as for new infrastructure to upgrade the existing WwTW. It is likely that further archaeological work will be required in advance or during these excavations but only within areas that have not already been previously disturbed. The scope of any further archaeological work should be determined by Dyfed Archaeological Trust (DAT) following a review of this report.

The Grade II listed Ford Bridge (MM02) is a publicly accessible bridge and will be used by construction vehicles travelling from the site compound in Spittal (approximately 3.5km south-east of the site). Discussions should be undertaken between the Principal Contractor and the Local Authority Conservation Officer to determine whether measures to prevent damage to the listed bridge are required.

1 Abbreviations and terms

The following tables define the abbreviations and terms used in this desk-based assessment.

Table 1: Definition of Abbreviations

Acronym	Definition
BGS	British Geological Survey
DAT	Dyfed Archaeological Trust
DBA	Desk-Based Assessment
DCWW	Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water
HER	Historic Environment Record
HST	Hummus Settling Tank
MCC	Motor Control Centre
MM	Mott MacDonald
NGR	National Grid Reference
NMR	National Monument Record
PCC	Pembrokeshire County Council
PCHIA	Principles of Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment in the UK
PS	Pump Station
PST	Primary Settlement Tank
RBC	Rotating Biological Contractors
SHT	Sludge Holding Tank
TAN	Technical Advice Note
WwTW	Wastewater Treatment Works

Source: Mott MacDonald 2024

2 Introduction

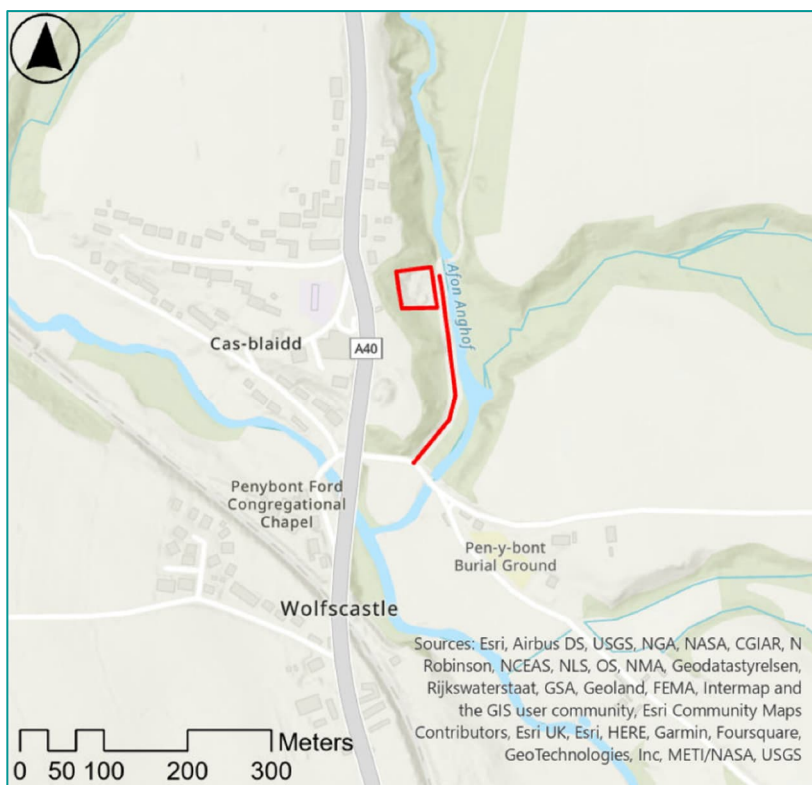
2.1 Overview of the proposed scheme

This Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (DBA) has been prepared by Mott MacDonald (MM) on behalf of Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW). It assesses the impact of works (here after 'the proposed scheme') at Wolfscastle Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) on the historic environment. The proposed scheme is required in order to provide improvements to the WwTW (here after 'the site').

2.2 Location

Wolfscastle is a village in Pembrokeshire, Wales, located between Haverfordwest (south of the site) and Fishguard (north of the site). It is sometimes spelt Wolf's Castle or referred to by its Welsh name, Casblaidd or Cas-blaidd, but will hereafter be referred to as 'Wolfscastle' for consistency. It lies on the A40 and at the meeting of the Afon (River) Anghof and Cleddau Wen. Most of the settlement lies west of the A40, however the WwTW is located to the east centred at national grid reference, NGR SM 95796 26647). The site is surrounded by woodland to the south, north and east, some of which is designated as ancient woodland and has been discussed in a preliminary arboricultural scoping assessment (B16934-123532-XX-XX-RP-NA-EI0034-02) A broadly level surface has historically been created at the site by digging into the hill to the west. The site is accessed by a track which runs to the south through woodland. These are shown below in Figure 2.1 and Figure 2.2.

Figure 2.1: Site location and access track (red)



Source: Mott MacDonald (2023)

Figure 2.2: Aerial image of site and access track (red)



Source: Mott MacDonald (2023) Contains data ©Maxar 2023.

2.3 Project Description

The proposed scheme is described in greater detail in Section 8 below. It may be summarised as the removal of existing equipment and installation of new structures at Wolfscastle WwTW, and upgrade works to the access track. A large amount of the existing site infrastructure is ageing and not suitable for upgrade and would therefore be removed as part of the proposals. The proposed scheme therefore includes the demolition of the existing inlet, storm tank, sludge beds, primary settlement tank (PST), hummus settling tank (HST) and biofilter and installation of a new inlet works chamber with screens, two new rotating biological contactors (RBCs), a new PST, (HST), sludge holding tank (SHT), ferric dosing, Motor Control Centre (MCC) and pump station (PS).

Improved connection to the power grid is required to support the upgrades and will be facilitated by a new underground ground cable laid in a trench along the route of the access track. Minor works to improve the track, such as the infilling of potholes and stabilisation of a small section of riverbank, would also form part of the proposals.

All aspects of the proposed scheme are anticipated to take place under permitted development.

3 Legislation, Policy and Guidance

3.1 Overarching legislation

The overarching legislation in relation to the historic environment is provided by:

3.1.1 The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979

This Act¹ consolidates and amends the law relating to ancient monuments; to make provision for the investigation, preservation and recording of matters of archaeological or historical interest and (in connection therewith) for the regulation of operations or activities affecting such matters.

3.1.2 The Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990

This Act² consolidates certain enactments relating to special controls in respect of buildings and areas of special architectural or historic interest. It sets out the protections given to listed buildings and conservation areas in England and Wales.

3.1.3 The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016

This Act³ makes amendments to the above acts with regard to additional provisions for scheduled monuments and listed buildings in Wales. It also makes provisions for other aspects relating to the historic environment in Wales, such as the maintenance of Historic Environment Record (HER) data.

3.1.4 The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023

The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023⁴ was passed on March 8th and is anticipated to come into force in the latter half of 2024. It provides a consolidation of existing legislation and aims to improve the accessibility of the language used. This report continues to use language from the previous Act (2016) as this has not yet come into force.

3.2 National planning policy

National planning policy in relation to the historic environment is provided by the below. Although the proposed scheme is anticipated to be carried out under permitted development, the relevant national policy has been considered as a matter of best practice.

3.2.1 Planning Policy Wales

Planning Policy Wales⁵ was published on the 5th December 2018 and updated on the 7th February 2024 forming Edition 12 which has replaced all previous editions. Chapter 6.1 of the document addresses the conservation of the Welsh historic environment and prioritises the enhancement and protection of historic assets within Wales. Policies of relevance are as follows:

¹ Available online at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1979/46>.

² Available online at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1990/9/contents>

³ Available online at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/anaw/2016/4/contents>.

⁴ Available online at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asc/2023/3/contents/enacted>

⁵ Available online at: www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-02/planning-policy-wales-edition-11_0.pdf.

6.1.1 *The historic environment comprises all the surviving physical elements of previous human activity and illustrates how past generations have shaped the world around us. It is central to Wales's culture and its character, whilst contributing to our sense of place and identity. It enhances our quality of life, adds to regional and local distinctiveness and is an important economic and social asset.*

6.1.2 *The historic environment is made up of individual historic features which are collectively known as historic assets. Examples of what can constitute an historic asset include:*

- *Listed buildings;*
- *Historic assets of special local interest, ... and;*
- *Archaeological remains (including scheduled monuments).*

6.1.6 *The Welsh Government's specific objectives for the historic environment seek to:*

- *conserve archaeological remains, both for their own sake and for their role in education, leisure and the economy, and;*
- *safeguard the character of historic buildings and manage change so that their special architectural and historic interest is preserved.*

6.1.9 *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.*

6.1.23 *The planning system recognises the need to conserve archaeological remains. The conservation of archaeological remains and their settings is a material consideration in determining planning applications, whether those remains are a scheduled monument or not.*

6.1.26 *Where archaeological remains are known to exist or there is a potential for them to survive, an application should be accompanied by sufficient information, through desk-based assessment and/or field evaluation, to allow a full understanding of the impact of the proposal on the significance of the remains. The needs of archaeology and development may be reconciled, and potential conflict very much reduced, through early discussion and assessment.*

In accordance with the above, this DBA has been prepared to assess the potential for impact to archaeological remains and built historic assets. It includes a proportionate assessment of significance and explanation of the potential for the works to impact historic assets, including through changes in their setting.

3.2.2 Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment

Planning Policy Wales is supported by *Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment*⁶. The TAN provides guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan preparation and decision making on planning applications. The TAN was issued in 2018 by Llywodraeth Cymru (Welsh Government). The following sections of TAN24 are of relevance to this DBA:

1.12 *Applicants and other organisations are strongly encouraged to make use of [the] Conservation Principles when considering development proposals and other works to historic assets. It is important for those responsible to understand the heritage values and assess the*

⁶ Available online at: www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-09/tan24-historic-environment.pdf.

significance of the historic assets that will be affected. There are four heritage values which need to be understood before the significance of the asset can be assessed.

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

An understanding of these values forms the basis of a statement of significance prepared as part of a heritage impact statement.

1.15 *Heritage impact assessment is a structured process that enables the significance of a designated asset to be taken into account when considering proposals for change. Heritage impact assessments should be proportionate both to the significance of the historic asset and to the degree of change proposed, and should include sufficient information to enable both the significance of the asset and the impact of change to be understood.*

1.23 *Planning Policy Wales identifies how local planning authorities must treat World Heritage Sites, scheduled monuments, unscheduled nationally important archaeological remains, listed buildings, conservation areas and registered historic parks and gardens in Wales in their consideration of planning applications and producing development plans. This includes the impact of proposed developments within the settings of these historic assets.*

4.2 *The conservation of archaeological remains is a material consideration in determining a planning application... In cases involving less significant archaeological remains, local planning authorities will need to weigh the relative importance of the archaeological remains and their settings against other factors, including the need for the proposed development.*

4.3 *Where development might reveal, disturb or destroy archaeological remains, including palaeo-environmental evidence, it is important that the opportunities to record archaeological evidence are taken and that archaeological remains are not needlessly destroyed. The ability to record such evidence should not be a factor in deciding whether controlled removal should be permitted.*

4.5 *Where there is a possibility that archaeological remains may be present, applicants are encouraged to make an enquiry with the body with responsibility for the relevant historic environment record (HER) and seek advice from the local planning authority's archaeological advisor at an early stage in considering their development proposal.*

4.7 *Where archaeological remains are known to exist, or considered likely to exist, and a study has not already been undertaken by the applicant, the local planning authority should ask an applicant to undertake a desk-based archaeological assessment and, where appropriate, an archaeological evaluation. These should be done by a qualified and competent expert to the appropriate standard. The reports of these investigations will form part of the planning application. Applicants should show they have modified their development proposals to minimise any negative impact on the identified archaeological remains, and how they intend to mitigate any remaining negative impacts.*

5.1 *Listed buildings are nationally important assets which represent a unique source of information about the past and make a valuable contribution to the quality and character of Welsh landscapes and townscapes. Buildings are listed when they are considered to be of special architectural or historic interest.*

In accordance with the above, this DBA has been produced to understand the potential of the proposed scheme to impact the historic environment. The significance of assets has been assessed in accordance to their heritage values (see also guidance below). The setting of all

historic assets has been considered. Impact assessment undertaken in this DBA is proportionate to the significance of the assets and degree of change. HER data has been purchased to inform this desk-based assessment and the local archaeological advisor has been consulted regarding the proposals.

3.3 Local planning policy

Local planning policy in relation to the historic environment is provided by:

3.3.1 Pembrokeshire Local Development Plan

Pembrokeshire Local Development Plan⁷ was adopted on 28th February 2013, replacing the previous Joint Unitary Development Plan (2006) and captures all of Pembrokeshire excluding the national coast park. The Plan establishes the development strategy for Pembrokeshire. It was previously considered to cover the period to 2021, however Pembrokeshire County Council (PCC) have since advised the end date should be disregarded⁸. Policy GN.38 pertains to the historic environment and is as follows:

GN.38 Protection and Enhancement of the Historic Environment

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

3.4 Guidance

The baseline for assessment in this DBA has been established using guidance contained within the following:

- IHBC, IEMA and ClfA, Principles of Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment in the UK (PCHIA)⁹ (2021);
- ClfA, Standard and guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment¹⁰, (updated 2020);
- ClfA, Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment¹¹ (updated 2020);
- ClfA, Code of conduct: professional ethics in archaeology¹² (updated 2022); and
- Cadw, Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales¹³ (2011).

⁷ Available online at: <https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/adopted-local-development-plan>.

⁸ PCC (2023) *Local Development Plan*. Available online at: <https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/adopted-local-development-plan>.

⁹ Available online at: https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/j30361_iema_principlesofchia_v8.pdf.

¹⁰ Available online at: https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/ClfAS&GCommissioning_1.pdf.

¹¹ Available online at: www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/ClfAS%26GDBA_4.pdf.

¹² Available online at: www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CodesofConduct.pdf.

¹³ Available online at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/conservation-principles/conservation-principles>.

4 Methodology

4.1 Introduction

This section defines the study area and identifies the resources used to gather baseline data, including where research and surveys have been undertaken. It outlines consultation undertaken with relevant stakeholders. It concludes by setting out the methodology used for the impact assessment and any assumptions or limitations related to that methodology.

4.2 Study area

A study area of 500m from the site boundary has been used for both designated and non-designated historic assets within this DBA. This is considered proportionate due to the enclosed boundary of the WwTW (from which there are no external views due to topography and vegetation, see Section 5.1), scale of the proposals and scope of the assessment agreed through consultation. This is considered sufficient to provide a proportionate baseline understanding of the historic environment and understand any potential impacts.

4.3 Baseline research

The baseline conditions include known designated¹⁴ and non-designated¹⁵ historic assets within the study area, the historic landscape character of the area and archaeological potential.

The historic environment assessment will assess the impacts to significance on the following;

- Designated historic assets including World Heritage Sites, scheduled monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields and protected wrecks;
- Non-designated historic assets including locally listed buildings, buildings and structures of recognisable significance and archaeological remains of national, regional and local significance; and
- Unknown archaeological remains.

Data sources consulted have included:

- National Heritage List (Cof Cymru as provided by Cadw);
- The Historic Environment Record (HER);
- Published and unpublished sources (documentary material, archaeological studies, fieldwork reports, local histories) and other sources online;
- Vertical and oblique aerial photographs;
- Archaeological research frameworks;
- Cartographic information; and
- Relevant borehole and geotechnical data available online on the British Geological Surveys (BGS) website.

¹⁴ Annex D: Glossary, Planning Policy Wales, Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment, May 2017.

¹⁵ A historic asset is defined 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. Ibid (2017).

4.4 Baseline Surveys

The following surveys have been undertaken in order to inform the baseline for the assessment of impact:

- An initial walkover survey of the study area has been undertaken to assess character, survival, condition and setting of aspects of the historic environment resource.

4.5 Consultation

The following consultation has been undertaken as part of the assessment of the baseline conditions.

Dyfed Archaeological Trust (DAT) were contacted in May 2023 to consult on the initial proposals. The preliminary proposals and site conditions were shared, and the scope of this DBA agreed as follows:

A limited desk-based assessment [to] include a site visit, to inform understanding of setting and survival potential for remains, but omit an archives visit and rely on desk-based research including HER data. [Comprising]; executive summary (English and Welsh), introduction, methodology, summary of relevant policy and legislation, high level baseline (summary of site conditions, brief historical development, significance of assets with potential to be impacted), archaeological potential and survival, scheme description, focussed impact assessment, conclusion, recommendations and relevant appendices.

It was indicated during initial consultation that there was potential for archaeological monitoring to be required, however additional information would be required to confirm this. The results of this desk-based assessment will be shared with DAT to determine the need for any further archaeological work.

Cadw were consulted in May and June 2023 due to the proximity of the castle mound scheduled monument to the site (see Section 5.4.1). The response from Cadw confirmed the assessment approach was proportionate to the potential impact to the scheduled monument as a result of the proposed scheme.

4.6 Assessment methodology

The assessment of impact to the historic environment (also referred to as cultural heritage in the relevant guidance) resulting from the proposals, will be undertaken based on guidance in IEMA, IHBC and ClfA “Principles of Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment in the UK” (PCHIA) (2021)¹⁶ and Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales¹⁷. The assessment methodology adheres to legislation and adopts guidance presented in Section 3 above.

4.6.1 Understanding the asset (assessment of significance)

An assessment of significance has been undertaken with regard to *Conservation Principles*¹⁸, and therefore assets are described in regard to the following:

¹⁶ IEMA, IHBC and ClfA (2021), *Principles of Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment* (PCHIA). Available online at: https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/j30361_iema_principlesofchia_v8.pdf

¹⁷ Welsh Assembly Government (2019). *Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment Wales*, [Conservation Principles Doc ENG \(gov.wales\)](https://gov.wales)

¹⁸ Cadw (2011) *Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales*. Available online at: https://cadw.gov.wales/sites/default/files/2019-05/Conservation_Principles%20for%20the%20sustainable%20management%20of%20the%20historic%20environment%20of%20Wales.pdf

- Evidential value;
- Historical value;
- Aesthetic value; and
- Communal value.

The contribution the setting of an asset makes to its significance is also considered in this assessment, in accordance with *Conservation Principles* and paragraph 1.26 of TAN24¹⁹.

4.6.2 Evaluating the consequences of change (assessment of impact)

Impact assessment has been undertaken in accordance with paragraphs 1.15 and 1.26 of TAN24²⁰, '*Heritage Impact Assessment*'. As such, impact assessment undertaken in this desk-based assessment:

- Is proportionate to the significance of the historic asset and the degree of change;
- Includes sufficient information to enable both the significance of the historic asset and the impact of change to be understood;
- Includes an assessment of change within the settings of historic assets; and
- Is a structured assessment and is clearly summarised in this desk-based assessment (see Section 9).

These paragraphs are written to apply to designated assets, however the same approach is taken in this desk-based assessment for non-designated assets, proportionate to significance, to ensure the significance of these assets is appropriately considered. Impact assessment also considers the potential to impact unknown buried archaeological remains, in accordance with Section 4 of TAN24.

4.7 Assumptions and limitations

The following assumptions and limitations have been taken in the production of this DBA:

- The assessment is reliant on available data. Designated data is up to date as of 04th March 2024 and all non-designated data is up to date as of 2nd June 2023;
- Databases are limited in their ability to predict new sites and the information from databases has been used as a starting point for further research rather than as a definitive list. Where there is an absence of data, professional judgement has been used to reach informed decisions regarding the historic environment;
- Historic documents are often biased, and their availability can be limited. Although their use is approached with care in this document, information contained within them should not be considered the absolute or complete truth;
- The current understanding of the extent and survival of archaeological remains within the study area is limited by the extent of research and field investigation. The specific nature, extent, date, degree of preservation and significance of known and potential archaeological remains is difficult to predict without archaeological excavation. There is the possibility that further or more complex unknown archaeological remains exist;
- The temporal scope of the assessment assumes a baseline with current conditions as at the time of writing;
- Access to Castle Mound was restricted by overgrown vegetation and the poor condition of maintenance steps (see 5.4.1). The assessment given is therefore based on available online

¹⁹ Available online at: www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-09/tan24-historic-environment.pdf.

²⁰ Available online at: www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-09/tan24-historic-environment.pdf.

sources and photographs and verbal accounts of the asset given by a DCWW employee who was able to access the asset on a separate occasion in June 2023;

- The HER lists Carn Cwcw (4571) and states this asset is a National Monument Record (NMR) mistake relating to natural geology. As such it has been discounted from this DBA; and
- Online archives reviewed for this assessment contained no meaningful historic aerial imagery or LiDAR, whereby no changes or possible archaeological features were seen on any of the imagery. Therefore this is omitted from Section 5.3.
- As detailed in Section 5.3, an archive visit was not deemed necessary to inform this assessment.

5 Baseline Conditions

5.1 Geology, topography and landform

Wolfscastle, and the adjacent hamlet of Ford, lie in a valley at the intersection of the Afon (River) Anghof and Cleddau Wen in an area of undulating topography and varied geology. The A40 runs north-south through the study area and separates the site from most of the settlement. The A40 mostly follows the rising and falling geography, but cuts into the hillside adjacent to the Castle Mound (MM01, see Section 5.4.1). Here it has truncated the remains of this scheduled monument (see also Section 5.4.1) below. The site itself is cut heavily into a steep hillside west of the Anghof and north of the castle mound.

The only recorded superficial deposits are alluvial soils recorded along the courses of the rivers. Gravel has historically been mined from alluvium around the course of the Afon Anghof east of the site²¹, although none is recorded by the British Geological Survey (BGS) within the site itself. The bedrock geology of the area is very varied, containing various mudstones from the Ogof Hen formation, Penmean Dewi Shale and Menevian group as well as Andesitic lava from the Sealyham volcanic formation²².

5.1.1 Ground Investigations

Ground investigations (GI)²³ (Q1041/FR.01) to support the proposed scheme were undertaken to determine the general ground conditions within the WwTW. The GI included:

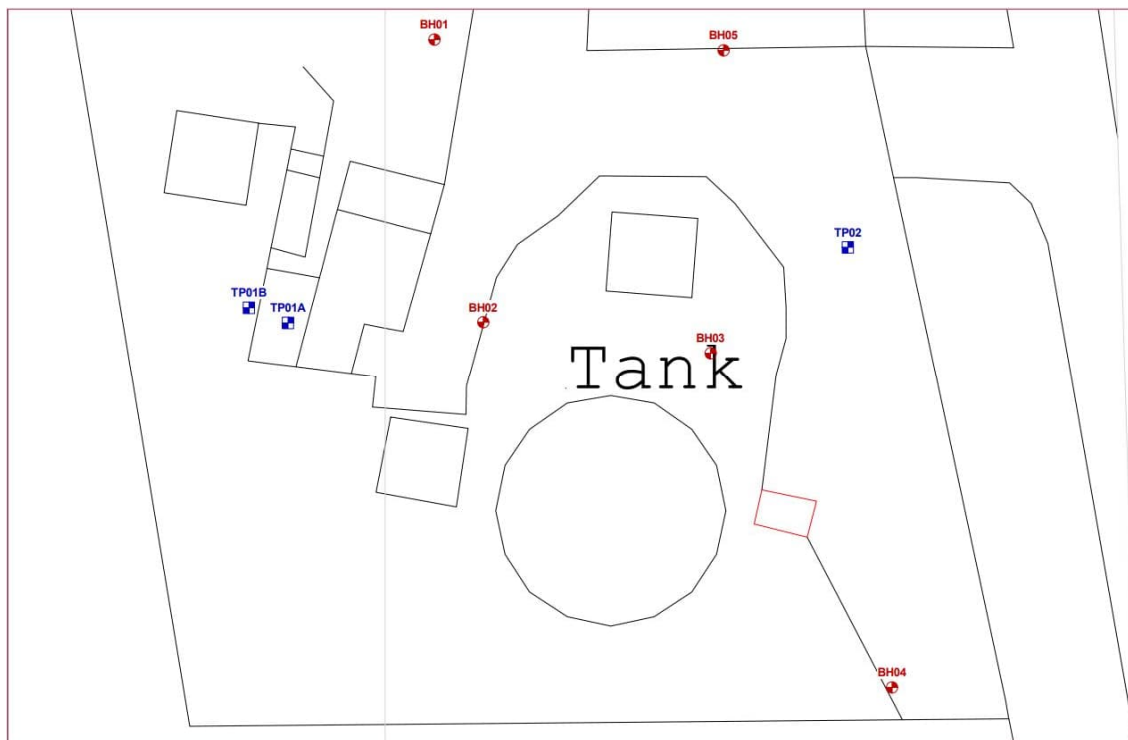
- Five Dynamic Sampled / Percussive Rotary Boreholes (BH); and
- Two machine excavated trial pits (TP).

²¹ British Geological Survey (2023) *GeoIndex Onshore*. Available online at: <https://mapapps2.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex/home.html>.

²² British Geological Survey (2023) *GeoIndex Onshore*. Available online at: <https://mapapps2.bgs.ac.uk/geoindex/home.html>.

²³ Quantum Geotechnic Limited (2023) SW23 Wolfscastle – FPF Resolution Ground Investigation Factual Report

Figure 5.1: GI locations



Source: Quantum Geotechnic Limited (2023)

GI has indicated that made ground survives across a large area of the site, reaching an average depth of 1.5m below the present ground level. The made ground is generally within areas where existing infrastructure is located or there are areas of hardstanding. Only the grassed areas, towards the south of the site do not contain made ground deposits. In the western and central areas of the site, the boreholes and trial pits revealed made ground overlying sandy gravel deposits, while in the east the made ground overlaid gravelly clay. Alluvial deposits were not uncovered in any of the boreholes or trial pits, suggesting they do not extend into the footprint of the site.

5.2 Walkover Survey

The walkover survey was conducted by heritage professionals from MM in June 2023. This survey has informed understanding of the setting of historic assets, condition of the site (especially topography and the enclosing woodland) and potential for archaeological remains to survive.

The weather was dry and clear. All areas of the site were accessed and key assets in the study area, where accessible, were visited. Access to Wolfscastle Castle Mound (MM01, see Section 5.4.1) was restricted due to the condition of the access path and overgrown vegetation.

The site itself was identified as heavily disturbed throughout due to the cutting into the hillside and digging of areas for pipes and tanks. Slightly less disturbance was noted in the north-east corner of the site where infrastructure is more superficial and there is less dramatic cutting evident.

Photo 5.1: South-western corner of the site demonstrating the elevation changes between the site and surrounding area, facing north-west.



Source: Mott MacDonald (2023)

Photo 5.2: Overview of WwTW, looking west



Source: Mott MacDonald (2023)

Photo 5.3: Overview of the site, looking north-west



Source: Mott MacDonald (2023)

Photo 5.4: View of access track, facing south.



Source: Mott MacDonald (2023)

One historic asset not listed on Cof Cymru or the HER was identified during the walkover survey. An early medieval stone (MM11) was recovered where there is now a much later fountain, dated 1902 (see Photo 5.5) approximately 80m to the west of the site. This fountain has heritage significance in its own right. However, due to topography, vegetation and the severance of the site from the village by the A40 there is no potential for the proposed scheme to impact this asset. Therefore it is not further discussed.

Photo 5.5: Fountain within which MM11 is set



Source: Mott MacDonald (2023)

5.3 Cartographic and Pictorial Evidence

Table 5.1 provides a summary of the available cartographic evidence and historic aerial imagery available for the site. Online archives reviewed for this assessment contained no meaningful historic aerial imagery or LiDAR and is therefore not included further.

Table 5.1: Historic Map and aerial imagery regression

Name	Date	Description
Tithe Map of the Parish of St. Dogwells	1846	The route of the toll road (MM13) is shown in full on this map, with a small number of properties south of Ford Bridge (MM02, also shown) and several properties at the historic settlement core to the north. Woodlands are shown north of the site, but ceasing around the site and to the west, areas which are wooded in the modern day. The access track currently used for the site is shown with a bridge over the Afon Anghof and instead provides access to the quarries to the north. Several of the historic cottages and farms in the study area are shown on this map. The field containing the site is recorded as in use for pasture. The route of the river is almost identical to present day. There is no topographic display on the map, therefore quarries and the castle mound cannot be easily recognised. Notably a field boundary appears present through the castle mound itself, running north-south.
Ordnance Survey six-inch: mile Pembrokeshire Sheet XVI.SE	1887	The area is shown much the same as the above in greater detail. Within the site there are topographical markings indicating a slight cut in the north, otherwise the site appears to remain in use as pasture. To the south-west the castle mound is clearly indicated, as are likely associated defensive earthworks to the south-west. No other earthworks appearing related to the castle mound are shown. There are additional houses in the settlement which has slightly expanded. Quarries are marked throughout the north and west of the study area, but none within the site itself. Out of the study area approximately 1km to the west, a Roman villa and camp, as well as a Roman road running east-west is marked. A

Name	Date	Description
		camp is marked beyond the quarries at Sealyham to the north, also outside the study area.
Ordnance Survey six-inch:mile Pembrokeshire Sheet XVI.SE	1908	The great western railway line is now shown cutting through the study area south-west of Ford Bridge. A spring is now shown within the site. Otherwise, there is only minimal change from the above.
Ordnance Survey six-inch:mile Pembrokeshire Sheet XVI.SE	1948	The quarries throughout the study area are now labelled as disused. The A40 has also been constructed between this map and the previous, truncating the earthworks south-west of the surviving castle mound (MM01). Otherwise, the site and study area are largely unaltered.
Ordnance survey SM92NE - A	1930- 1963	There are no notable changes from the above.

5.4 Designated historic assets

A designated historic asset is one that has been protected by law. These include World Heritage Sites, scheduled monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields and protected wreck sites designated under the relevant legislation.

5.4.1 Wolfscastle Castle Mound Scheduled Monument

Scheduled monuments are a selection of nationally important archaeological sites that have been carefully chosen based on certain characteristics, including their date, rarity, value, condition, and fragility²⁴. The definition of a scheduled monument in Wales is extended by the 2016 Historic Environment Wales Act which allows Welsh Ministers to designate any sites that provide evidence of past human activity²⁵. Permitted change to scheduled monuments is limited, as it is presumed that they will be preserved in their current state for future generations.

Wolfscastle Castle Mound scheduled monument (MM01) is the closest designated historic asset to the site, located 70m south-west of the WwTW and 60m west of the access track at its nearest point (see figure in Appendix A). It comprises the earthwork remains of a Motte and Bailey castle, believed to date to approximately the 13th century. The motte is c 7m high and 15m in diameter at the top and is surrounded by a ditch. It is set within the north part of a scarp defined by a 70m by 88m enclosure. The listing description states that there are cropmarks and subtle earthworks within this enclosure which indicate the possible presence of the remains of buildings²⁶.

The asset is positioned on top of a hill where commanding views of the surrounding landscape, river and fording point can be obtained. From a defensive point of view, this would have allowed any activity within the surrounding area to be spotted quickly and easily. Its position along the river also allows access to water and potentially trade, with boats being used to transport goods and people fording the river at this location. The vegetation that now surrounds and conceals the castle was likely cleared during the medieval period to ensure views were not being obscured.

²⁴ Historic England (2017) Scheduled Monuments [online] available at: <https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/what-is-designation/scheduled-monuments/>

²⁵ Cadw (2016) *The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 — Fact Sheet 1. Scheduled monuments — Definition of a monument, designation and scheduled monument consent*. Available online at: https://cadw.gov.wales/sites/default/files/2019-06/20171115Fact%20Sheet%201-Scheduled%20Monuments-ENG-Amended_1.pdf.

²⁶ Cadw (2023) Wolfscastle Castle Mound. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=&id=1000>.

Photo 5.6: Wolfscastle Castle Mound Scheduled Monument looking north.



Source: Bentley (2023)

5.4.2 Ford Bridge (Grade II listed)

This asset comprises a bridge which was constructed in 1793. It has been improved alongside road works in the area and provides the main access into Wolfscastle, passing underneath the A40. It is built in rubble and comprises three arches with a parish boundary plaque in the centre²⁷. The flyover of the A40 severs the bridge from its historic context to the east, the castle mound (approximately 140m north-east of the bridge) and the site (approximately 230m north-east of the bridge). The site is not considered to form part of the bridge's setting due to the distance between the assets. The open green space, river and surrounding vegetation contribute positively to the asset's setting by generating a tranquil, rural character. This character provides an understanding of how the asset was experienced when it was first built in the late 18th century.

²⁷ Cadw (2023) Ford Bridge. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=26845>.

Photo 5.7: Ford Bridge (top: looking west, bottom left: close up, bottom right: looking north-east towards the site)



Source: Mott MacDonald (2023)

5.4.3 Glenview (Grade II listed)

This asset comprises an early 19th century cottage. The cottage is in some disrepair with the roof trusses exposed²⁸. It is comprised of greywashed roughcast with a grouted slate roof. The asset was assessed during the walkover study due to its proximity to the site (approximately 190m to the west of the site). Its setting is suburban in character as the asset is surrounded by residential dwellings, with mostly 20th century development to the south and west. The large, open green space to the immediate south of the asset generates a rural character in an otherwise suburban area. This allows the assets setting to extend beyond its immediate boundaries to the road and adjacent properties. However, its setting does not extend to the site, which lies approximately 190m east of the asset. Due to the topography and intervening buildings, the asset has no relationship to the site and is therefore not discussed further.

²⁸ Cadw (2023) Glenview. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=21639>.

Photo 5.8: Glenview (top: facing asset looking north, bottom: view towards the site)



Source: Mott MacDonald (2023)

5.4.4 Other designated assets

No other designated assets have been identified within the study area as having the potential to be impacted by the proposals. This is due to a combination of factors including topography,

vegetation, distance and a lack of historic relationship with the site. This ensures that the site does not form part of the setting of other designated historic assets, and therefore the proposed scheme will not cause any change in their settings which could impact their significance.

5.5 Non-designated historic assets

Non-designated historic assets are buildings, monuments, sites, places, areas or landscapes identified by plan-making bodies as having a degree of heritage significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, but which do not meet the criteria for designated historic assets²⁹.

5.5.1 Non-designated buildings

No locally listed buildings are recorded within the site or study area, however two buildings identified in the HER are extant; a school (MM15) and a chapel (MM16). The chapel lies approximately 285m south-west of the site, near Ford Bridge (MM02) and was observed during the walkover survey. Its setting does not extend to the site due to the intervening A40 and topography around the Castle Mound (MM01), as well as due to being set back from the road.

The school (MM15) lies approximately 90m west of the site. It is enclosed by high hedgerows and mature vegetation, restricting views towards and from the asset. The setting of the asset is suburban in character, surrounded by roads and residential properties, with some areas of open green space. Its setting does not extend to the site due to the intervening vegetation and the topography of the area.

Therefore, both assets are not further discussed in this report as there is no potential for impact to either of the assets through changes within their settings.

²⁹ Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government (2019) National Planning Guidance: Historic environment, <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/conserving-and-enhancing-the-historic-environment>.

Photo 5.9: Methodist chapel (MM16) with decorative entrance gates



Source: Mott MacDonald (2023)

5.5.2 Non-designated archaeological monuments and sites

Eighteen non-designated archaeological monuments and sites have been identified in the study area. These may be summarised as follows:

- An early medieval stone (MM11) recovered within the settlement. This is the closest asset to the site (approximately 90m north-west of the site);
- Placename evidence which is undated but may relate to medieval activity (MM12);
- A record of a medieval settlement (MM12) and a medieval ford (MM09);
- Thirteen records relating to post-medieval activity, comprising:
 - Two records of former farmsteads (MM05 and MM07) and one of a Manse (MM21)
 - Extensive mining evidence, comprising; one substantial complex (MM04), four further quarries (MM17, MM18, MM20 and MM23) and a gravel pit (MM19);
 - One toll road (MM13).
- A modern memorial plaque (MM14).

5.6 Events

One archaeological event, a watching brief (MM24) is recorded in the study area. This was undertaken adjacent to the toll road (MM13) where it curves away from the present A40, at Penrhiw, Plot 1, Wolfscastle. No archaeological finds, remains or features were identified during the watching brief.

5.7 Archaeological and Historical Background

This section outlines historic assets identified during the production of the baseline. A full list of historic assets is presented in Appendix A.

Each historic asset has been assigned a unique reference number for ease of reading. The historic narrative is provided chronologically as outlined in Table 2, below.

Table 2: Archaeological and historic periods used for the purpose of this assessment

Prehistoric Period Dates	Historic Period Dates
Palaeolithic 500,000 to 10,000 BC	Roman AD 43 to 410
Late Glacial / Mesolithic 10,000 to 4,000 BC	Early Medieval AD 410 to 1066
Neolithic / Early Bronze Age 4,000 to 1,600 BC	Medieval AD 1066 to 1540
Middle Bronze Age 1,600 to 1,200 BC	Post-medieval AD 1540 to 1901
Late Bronze Age 1,200 BC to 700 BC	Modern AD 1901 to present
Early Iron Age 800 to 300 BC	
Middle Iron Age 300 to 100 BC	
Late Iron Age/Roman Transition 100 BC to AD 43	

Source: FISH (2023)

5.7.1 Prehistoric to Roman

No evidence of human activity prior to the early medieval is recorded in the site or study area. The wider area contains little evidence of earlier prehistoric activity, but there is some later prehistoric activity in broader context. The research framework for South-West Wales notes limited evidence for early human activity in the region³⁰.

A Neolithic chambered tomb is recorded at Carn Turne³¹, far outside the study area approximately 2.5km to the east, but there is no closer evidence of Neolithic occupation. Outside of the study area, approximately 800m to the north, a prehistoric (likely Iron Age) defensive camp³² is recorded at Sealyham Quarries, as shown on the Ordnance Survey map of 1887. This is located on higher ground back from the river, utilising the undulating topography for a defensive position. There is no evidence of this activity to the north-east extending to the site.

Approximately 1km south-west outside of the study area a villa and camp, as well as road running east-west are all marked as 'Roman' on 1887 mapping. The Roman date for this site is dubious; there is no archaeological excavation reliably recording this date and it is not recorded on the extensive survey of Roman Britain undertaken in 2015³³. Part of this area - 'Ford Camp' - is scheduled and comprises a stone and earthwork enclosure, however this is given a likely late prehistoric or medieval date by the Cadw record³⁴. This is located on a slight raise in the open floodplain of the Western Claerddu. There is no evidence for this activity extending to the site in the north-east.

³⁰ A research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales (2012). Available online at: [Research Framework for the Archaeology of Wales - Fframwaith Ymchwil i Archaeoleg Cymru](#).

³¹ Megalithic Portal (2023) *Carn Turne*. Available online at: <https://www.megalithic.co.uk/article.php?sid=4345>.

³² Cadw (2023) Sealyham Quarries Camp. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=&id=2688>.

³³ Allen et al (2015) *The Rural Settlement of Roman Britain: an online resource*. Available online at: <https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/archives/view/romangl/map.html>.

³⁴ Cadw (2023) *Ford Camp*. Available online at: [Scheduled Monument - Full Report - HeritageBill Cadw Assets - Reports \(cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net\)](#).

Therefore, there is evidence for prehistoric, especially Iron Age, and possibly Roman activity in the wider context of the surroundings, but the conditions of the site differ to these areas and there is no evidence yet identified for this extending to the site itself.

5.7.2 Early medieval

There is limited evidence for early medieval activity in the study area, but no confirmed evidence of inhabitation. Evidence of activity primarily comes from an inscribed stone (MM11) which was recovered from a nearby rubbish dump and re-used in a local fountain. This stone was first recorded in 1912 at Ivy House in Wolfscastle; however, the HER states that it is of 7th-9th century date. There is no other evidence of activity in the study area. Early medieval evidence is rare nationally and information about the period as a whole is limited. The ancient county of Dyfed is known to have been divided into seven provinces, with Wolfscastle and Ford lying across two of these either side of the Western Claeurddu. No known early medieval settlement is recorded here³⁵.

5.7.3 Medieval

There were a number of Anglo-Norman incursions into Pembrokeshire at the turn of the 12th century, leading to the construction of numerous defensive structures in the region. This would include a Motte and Bailey at Wolfscastle believed to date to the 12th century³⁶. The remains of the mound survive today adjacent to the A40 and are scheduled (MM01). Motte and Bailey castles were a popular form amongst Norman invaders, utilising a motte, or earth mound, on which a defensible tower was constructed. This was then surrounded by a walled / fortified enclosure called the bailey. The location of Wolfscastle at the junction of two rivers likely contributed to the selected location, as well as the natural rise in topography which would offer open views. The Black Book of St Davids of 1326 refers to buildings here belonging to the Lord of the Manor³⁷.

The castle is the likely origin of the settlement name of Cassblaid (Wolf's Castle). A local legend also relates the name to the killing of the last wild wolf in Wales at the town³⁸.

The settlement at Wolfscastle may also originate in the medieval period. The HER records the ford (MM10) which predated the bridge as present in the medieval period. However, there is no further evidence of medieval settlement nor surviving medieval buildings. The ford may instead have related to the defensive activity around the motte.

5.7.4 Post-medieval

There was significant change and development of the study area during the post-medieval period. This is heavily driven by the extensive mining operations to the north and west towards Sealyham which would have brought income to the rural settlement. The improved transport links when the railway was introduced would have contributed to the expansion of the town towards the end of the period and into the modern.

A mansion was constructed at Sealyham (outside the study area). The Wolfs Castle country hotel, then a small inn, was also constructed³⁹. Most of the post-medieval buildings in the study area date to the 19th century, such as Glenview (MM03); however, Ford Bridge (MM02) is notably earlier (c.1793) due to its likely construction as part of the recorded turnpike route

³⁵ Hall (2012) Trysor Project: Part H Wolfscastle Community Audit. Available online at: [Wolfscastle community](#).

³⁶ Hall (2012) Trysor Project: Part H Wolfscastle Community Audit. Available online at: [Wolfscastle community](#).

³⁷ Cadw (2023) Wolfscastle Castle Mound. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=&id=1000>.

³⁸ Welsh Assembly Government (2000) *Legends of Wolfscastle local information sign*.

³⁹ Hall (2012) Trysor Project: Part H Wolfscastle Community Audit. Available online at: [Wolfscastle community](#).

(MM13). This ran between Fishguard and Haverford west and mostly follows the route of the A40. A notable divergence is where the turnpike road avoided the Motte and Bailey (unlike the A40). The steep corner here is known locally as 'heart attack hill'.⁴⁰ The turnpike is likely to have made trade and travel to and from Wolfscastle easier in the early 19th century, contributing to its local economy⁴¹.

The chapel is also notable, being a nonconformist place of worship. The 19th century was the height of the Welsh nonconformist movement, and the chapel was constructed during the period, in 1807. The stones are said locally to have been taken from the Roman villa site shown on historic maps although this has not been confirmed⁴².

5.7.5 Modern

In the modern period the quarrying industry declined, and the mines became abandoned, returning Wolfscastle to a rural community predominantly reliant on agriculture. The rail line also closed, with local train services axed in the Beeching cuts in 1964⁴³. The A40 was constructed from 1923 onwards and has greatly altered the character of the town. The treatment works was also constructed in the modern period, although the date is not confirmed.

⁴⁰ Welsh Assembly Government (2000) *Legends of Wolfscastle local information sign*.

⁴¹ Hall (2012) Trysor Project: Part H Wolfscastle Community Audit. Available online at: [Wolfscastle community](#).

⁴² *Ibid.*

⁴³ *Ibid.*

6 Archaeological, Geoarchaeological and Palaeoenvironmental Potential

6.1.1 Geoarchaeological and palaeoenvironmental potential

Geoarchaeology is the application of earth science principles and techniques to the understanding of the archaeological record. Geoarchaeological approaches help understand the formation of sites and the physical landscape through time. Palaeoenvironmental archaeology is the study of preserved remains, including wood, pollen and insects, to understand past environments. The potential to recover this information is enhanced in good preservation conditions including alluvial river sources, river terrace deposits, peat sources, or marine deposits.

There are deposits of alluvium recorded by BGS along the Afon (river) Anghof to the immediate east of the site. The survival of waterlogged deposits which may inform on the palaeoenvironment are more likely to survive within alluvial deposits. However, GI undertaken to support the proposed scheme, discussed in detail in Section 5.1, has indicated that alluvial deposits were not uncovered in any of the boreholes or trial pits, suggesting they do not extend into the footprint of the site. There is therefore a **low** potential for palaeoenvironmental remains to survive within the site.

6.1.2 Archaeological Potential

Archaeological potential is an assessment of the likelihood of unknown archaeological remains being present in an area. This is described in terms of potential archaeological interest by period and/or type. A measure of likelihood is given in terms of none, low, medium and high. It will also define areas where there is no archaeological potential including roads, developed areas or areas that have been subject to mineral extraction in the modern period.

The statement of archaeological potential states the potential significance of the archaeological remains with reference/inclusion of supporting evidence, such as the relevant regional research framework (RRF).

The potential for archaeological remains to survive within the site has been heavily affected by previous works, in which deep tanks have been dug and the adjacent hill significantly dug into, for the creation of the WwTW. There is also extensive evidence of opencast mining along the Afon Anghof. Although there is no direct evidence for this recorded within the site, it is possible that the site was subject to some disturbance from this activity, as it sits along the river route and the adjacent track was in use for the quarries. There is the greatest potential for remains to survive in the north of the site and in the north-east corner, where there has been the least ground disturbance.

Evidence recorded during GI works indicated that deposits of made ground survive in areas of existing structures and hard standing to a depth of up to 1.5m. Due to this it is considered that archaeological potential is higher in areas of undisturbed grassland within the site.

6.1.2.1 Prehistoric

There is **low** potential for Iron Age remains and **very low** potential for any other prehistoric remains.

The wider area does contain evidence of Iron Age habitation, but this is not recorded within the study area. Additionally, the low-lying conditions of the site in a steep hillside adjacent to the

river differ to those where Iron Age activity is otherwise recorded. There is limited evidence for any other prehistoric activity in the wider area and none within the site or study area, therefore earlier remains are considered very unlikely. If any archaeological remains from this period do survive within the site, it is likely this will be in areas of undisturbed grassland on the site as indicated by the results of the recent GI works.

The significance of in-situ prehistoric remains would likely be high, and residual remains may be moderate.

6.1.2.2 Roman

There is **low** potential for remains of Roman date.

Outside of the study area over 1km south-west of the site is a potential Roman villa and camp, as well as a Roman road. However, the Roman date for this site is dubious as there is no archaeological excavation reliably recording this date and it is not recorded on the extensive survey of Roman Britain undertaken in 2015. Roman settlements are usually located along Roman roads and there are none recorded within proximity to the site or within the study area. Therefore, remains from this period are unlikely. As per the results of the recent GI works, archaeological remains are more likely to be present in areas of undisturbed grassland within the site as a layer of modern made ground has been recorded across most of the area. Though the potential for remains for this period is low, if any do exist they would more likely be found within the undisturbed grassland areas.

The significance of in-situ Roman remains would likely be high, residual remains may be moderate.

6.1.2.3 Early medieval

There is **low** potential for remains of early medieval date.

Within the study area is evidence of an inscribed stone (MM11) which was recovered from a nearby rubbish dump and re-used in a local fountain recorded 80m west of the site. However, there is no known early medieval settlement here. Early medieval activity is rare nationally and information about the period as a whole is limited. Therefore, remains from this period are unlikely.

The significance of in-situ early medieval remains would likely be high, residual remains may be moderate.

6.1.2.4 Medieval

There is **moderate** potential for remains of medieval date.

The scheduled Motte and Bailey Castle at Wolfscastle lies approximately 70m south-west of the WwTW and 60m west of the access track at its nearest point. There is also an ancient ford (MM10) to the south of where the current Ford Bridge (MM02) stands and the Wolfscastle settlement may have medieval origins. It is unlikely that any defensive features associated with the Motte and Bailey will extend into the site due to the lower topography. There is potential however for agricultural and peripheral settlement activity to be present. If any archaeological remains from this period do survive within the site, it is likely this will be in areas of undisturbed grassland on the site as indicated by the results of the recent GI works.

The significance of in-situ and residual medieval remains would be moderate.

6.1.2.5 Post-medieval

There is **moderate** potential for remains of post-medieval date.

Within the study area is evidence of extensive mining operations undertaken to the north and west of the site towards Sealyham. These activities may have extended into the site, although there is no recorded evidence of this. A spring is also shown within the site on OS mapping from 1908; although this is within the south of the site which has been heavily disturbed. GI results has shown a layer of modern made ground across most of the site, thus it is more likely archaeological remains could survive in areas of undisturbed grassland within the site.

The significance of in-situ and residual post-medieval remains would be low. If any archaeological remains from this period do survive within the site, it is likely this will be in areas of undisturbed grassland on the site as indicated by the results of the recent GI works.

6.1.2.6 Modern

There is **high** potential for remains of modern date.

Following the ceasing of quarrying activities, Wolfscastle returned to a rural community predominantly reliant on agriculture. During this time the site was likely used for agricultural purposes. However, these remains may have been removed and/or truncated following the construction of the WwTW. GI results show a large spread of modern made ground across a majority of the site which would affect the survival potential for any archaeological remains, thus these are more likely to have survived within the undisturbed grassland areas of the site.

The significance of in-situ and residual modern remains would be low.

7 Significance of key assets

In accordance with the principles of impact assessment – the significance (also called heritage value) of historic assets needs to be identified, evaluated and understood before an impact assessment can be undertaken. However, a proportional approach to assessment should be undertaken.

Therefore, as part of the survey and baseline compilation process the following key historic assets have been identified. These may be the significant designated historic assets, non-designated historic assets within, adjacent or close to the site or archaeological remains within the site.

The following key historic assets have been identified during the walkover survey and production of the baseline. An assessment of their significance, including the contribution of their setting to the significance, has been undertaken below.

7.1 Wolfscastle Castle Mound scheduled monument (MM01)

Evidential value

The Wolfscastle Castle Mound (MM01) derives its evidential value from it being a surviving example of a Motte and Bailey castle, thought to have been constructed in the 12th century. The motte, surrounding ditch, enclosure and the possible building remains within this survive as earthworks. These remains have the potential to inform on the Norman invasion of Wales after 1066, the layout and positioning of defensive structures, specifically of a Motte and Bailey castle and potentially an insight into daily life in the castle.

Historical value

The assets historic value is derived from it being a medieval Motte and Bailey castle and through its association with the Norman Conquest of Wales after 1066. There were a number of Anglo-Norman incursions into Pembrokeshire at the turn of the medieval period, leading to the construction of numerous defensive structures in the region. The castle is therefore one of several surviving Motte and Bailey castles across Wales.

Aesthetic value

The asset is interpreted as having limited aesthetic value due to it comprising earthworks and buried archaeological remains.

Communal value

The asset is a key local landmark and the namesake of the town and illustrates past lives and events. Although it is not a visually dominant landmark, it is physical evidence of the long-standing occupation and history of Wolfscastle. A local legend also relates the name to the killing of the last wild wolf in Wales at the town.

Setting

The asset's setting has changed overtime, with vegetation limiting views from and towards the asset. The asset is now more enclosed, which has led to the setting being contained to its immediate surroundings, mainly comprising the hill that it sits on. Due to the intervening vegetation, the site is not visible from the asset and vice versa. Therefore, the site is not considered to fall within the setting of the asset and so the proposed scheme will not have an impact on the significance of the asset.

7.2 Ford Bridge, Grade II listed building (MM02)

Evidential value

The asset has limited evidential value. The bridge (MM02) was built in c.1793 and was constructed as part of the recorded turnpike route (MM13). The bridge may have some potential to inform on bridge constructions and early turnpike roads. The fording point itself however was in use prior to the construction of the bridge and so could contain some information on earlier use or previously unrecorded structures.

Historical value

The assets historical value is derived from it being a late 18th century bridge constructed as part of an early turnpike road (MM13). This is the first bridge that was constructed at this point of the afon (river), allowing better access into Wolfscastle. This had a direct, positive influence on the settlement's economy by allowing more frequent trading to take place. This representation of an important part of the settlement's history and connection to the wider Welsh landscape contributes to its historic value.

Aesthetic value

The assets aesthetic value is derived from its use of materials and vernacular design. It is comprised of rubble stone which is a common material used across Wales for houses, walls and bridges, and likely a result of local materials being utilised. This, and its simple design, reflects the functional nature of the asset and pivotal role it played in transport and connection to the settlement, which contributes to its aesthetic value.

Communal value

The asset has limited communal value as it is recognised locally as an important feature but is not a visually dominant feature within the landscape or a landmark.

Setting

The assets setting forms an idyllic area along the Afon Cleddau Wen, surrounded by green space and vegetation. The gentle flow of the river creates a tranquil feel. One can gain an understanding of how the area may have appeared when the bridge was first built. The asset's setting, however, does not extend towards the site. The site is not visible from the bridge due to the intervening A40, changes in topography and surrounding vegetation, nor does it have a historic relationship with the bridge.

8 Proposed Scheme

The below describes the proposals at the site. A figure showing the proposed new layout of the site overlain by the current WwTW layout is available in Appendix B.

Much of the existing site infrastructure is ageing and not suitable for upgrade and will therefore be removed as part of the proposals. The proposals include:

- Demolition of the existing inlet, sludge beds, storm tanks, HST, biofilter and PST.

Replacement will include:

- Installation of two new RBC units, for which the removal of existing hardstanding and a cabin will be required. Excavations for the RBC are expected to reach below the present ground level;
- Installation of a new PST and two pump stations, which will require excavations 2.9m below the present ground level;
- Installation of a new HST and SHT which will require excavations 3.5m below the present ground level;
- Installation of a new package inlet works, which will require excavation of less than 1.5m;
- Installation of a new returns pumping station, which will require excavations 3m below the present ground level; and
- Associated works, such as pipe replacements and connections, new manhole covers etc. as shown on the drawing contained within Appendix B.

Within the site a new access track will be laid. This will involve shallow excavations and adding aggregate. Minimal works to the access track running south from the WwTW are proposed, to make it safe for vehicles. This will involve filling in potholes with aggregate. There is no new land take or excavations proposed. There may be a requirement to stabilise a small section of riverbank. If this is required, it is not expected to require excavations.

An existing compound in Spittal (approximately 3.5km south-east of the site) will be used to facilitate the proposals.

Improved connection to the power grid is required to support the upgrades. Due to site and ecological constraints from the surrounding ancient woodland this will be facilitated by a new underground ground cable laid in a trench along the route of the access track. Installation of the cable will be via a cut trench, expected to be excavated 0.50m in depth and 0.30m in width.

9 Impact Assessment

This impact assessment provides a proportionate assessment of historic assets identified as having the potential to be impacted by the proposed works, in accordance with the methodology in Section 4.

9.1 Wolfscastle Castle Mound (MM01)

There will be no physical impacts to the Wolfscastle Castle Mound Scheduled Monument (MM01) as a result of the proposed scheme as the works do not extend into the scheduled area. The site has already been cut into the hill (which does not form part of the scheduled area) and removed and/or truncated any archaeological remains within this area, should they have been present. There is currently no indication that remains associated with the castle extended this far down the slope or into the site.

There will also be no impact to the significance of the asset through changes to its setting. This is because the area is heavily vegetated, which prevents intervisibility between the asset and site. Additionally, the site is currently an existing WwTW, and the proposed scheme will be replacing existing infrastructure within the site; as such it will not change the setting of the asset and therefore not impact the significance of the asset in any way. The WwTW will not obscure any views of the surrounding area from the asset as it is located at the bottom of the slope.

Photo 9.1: View towards Wolfscastle Castle Mound from within the site, looking west.



Source: Mott MacDonald, 2023

9.2 Ford Bridge (MM02)

It's recommended that discussions between the Principal Contractor and the Local Authority Conservation Officer are undertaken to determine whether necessary protection measures are put in place to ensure no direct impact/harm to the bridge through its use as access to the site.

Due to the nature of the proposed scheme and fact that the setting of the bridge does not extend to the site, there will be no changes to its setting which could impact the significance of the asset.

Photo 9.2: View towards the bridge from the green space to the south, looking north towards Wolfscastle.



Source: Mott MacDonald, 2023

9.3 Buried archaeological and palaeoenvironmental remains

There is a moderate potential for palaeoenvironmental remains within the areas of the site closest to the river. This potential lessens as you progress westwards. There is low potential for remains of prehistoric, Roman and early medieval date across the site. In the north-east corner of the site, there is a moderate potential for medieval remains, which may relate to peripheral activity associated with the castle and a moderate potential for post-medieval and modern remains, which may be of past mining activity, agricultural remains or remains associated with the WwTW.

GI works within the site have indicted the presence of made ground deposits across most of the site including at the locations of the proposed replacement and new features, which have been detailed in Section 8 of this report. It is therefore considered that areas where made ground has been identified is likely to present a negligible potential for the survival of archaeological

remains. There is a higher potential for archaeological remains to survive within areas not previously disturbed such as the north-east part of the site.

There may be a requirement for further archaeological works along the access track and within the north-east corner of the site. This could be in the form of boreholes but should be discussed with Dyfed Archaeological Trust (DAT).

10 Conclusions and Recommendations

This Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment (DBA) has been prepared by Mott MacDonald on behalf of Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW). It has assessed the impact of works to Wolfscastle Wastewater Treatment Works (WwTW) on the historic environment. This proposed scheme is required to provide improvements to the WwTW. The works are considered to be permitted development.

There will be no physical impact to any designated historic assets as a result of the proposed scheme. Additionally, there will be no impact to the significance of any designated historic assets through changes to their settings. This is due to the intervening development, changes in topography, vegetation screening and lack of historic relationship between assets and the site.

Potential for the site to contain palaeoenvironmental remains was originally determined. This is due to the proximity to the Afon (river) Anghof to the east of the site. It was concluded that the site could have a moderate potential for palaeoenvironmental remains in those areas closest to the river course, lessening moving west. However, although deposits of alluvium have been recorded by the British Geological Survey along the Afon Anghof where there is a higher potential for palaeoenvironmental remains to survive, recent Ground Investigations (GI) have indicated that these do not continue into the footprint of the existing WwTW.

The north-east corner of the site and the access track are considered to have potential to contain buried archaeological remains. This is due to the site walkover identifying low levels of disturbance within these areas in comparison to the rest of the site. However, the site has been disturbed during the construction of the WwTW, which could have extended into this area, and prolonged use of the access track has caused it to become rutted. This will have had an impact on the level of survival of any archaeological remains within these areas, should they be present. If remains are present in the north-east corner, these may relate to peripheral activity associated with the medieval castle or post-medieval / modern mining or agricultural activity, as well as remains associated with the modern WwTW.

Within the site, GI has indicated that deposits of made ground survive where there are existing structures and areas of hard surfacing. The depth of the made ground ranges from 0.5m up to 1.5m below the present ground level. It is therefore considered there is a negligible potential for archaeological remains to survive where the made ground survives. Should remains survive, it's most likely these are contained to areas not previously disturbed. If present, it's considered more likely that these date to the medieval, post-medieval and modern periods including those associated with the nearby Wolfscastle, post-medieval mining and agricultural activity.

It should be noted that due to the site being surrounded by protected ancient woodland, ecological measures have been assessed in order to comply with Root Protection Areas (RPA) requirements. A Preliminary Arboricultural Scoping Assessment (B16934-123532-XX-XX-RP-NA-EI0034-02) conducted on the site identified the north-east corner of the site as being an area of consideration due to being in the vicinity of the RPA of five trees. It was recommended in this assessment that excavations in areas identified as RPA's should be conducted using compressed air tools or vacuum excavation in order to avoid any damage to existing roots. These excavation methods could impact the potential of archaeological remains being recorded or recovered in this area.

The Ford Bridge is a publicly accessible bridge as part of the highway. Workers and deliveries accessing the site from the compound located in Spittal (approximately 3.5km south-east of the site) should be informed of the listed status of Ford Bridge (MM02). This could be done through

a toolbox talk on site. Discussions should be undertaken between the Principal Contractor and the Local Authority Conservation Officer to determine whether measures to prevent damage to the listed bridge are required.

The proposed scheme complies with national and local planning policy as it avoids and minimises wherever possible any impacts to historic assets. An assessment of the significance, including contribution made by setting, of key historic assets has been undertaken to allow for an understanding of this impact. Where possible impacts to buried archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains have been anticipated, recommendations for further work have been given.

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Appendices

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A. Gazetteer of Historic Assets

Table A.1: Gazetteer of assets

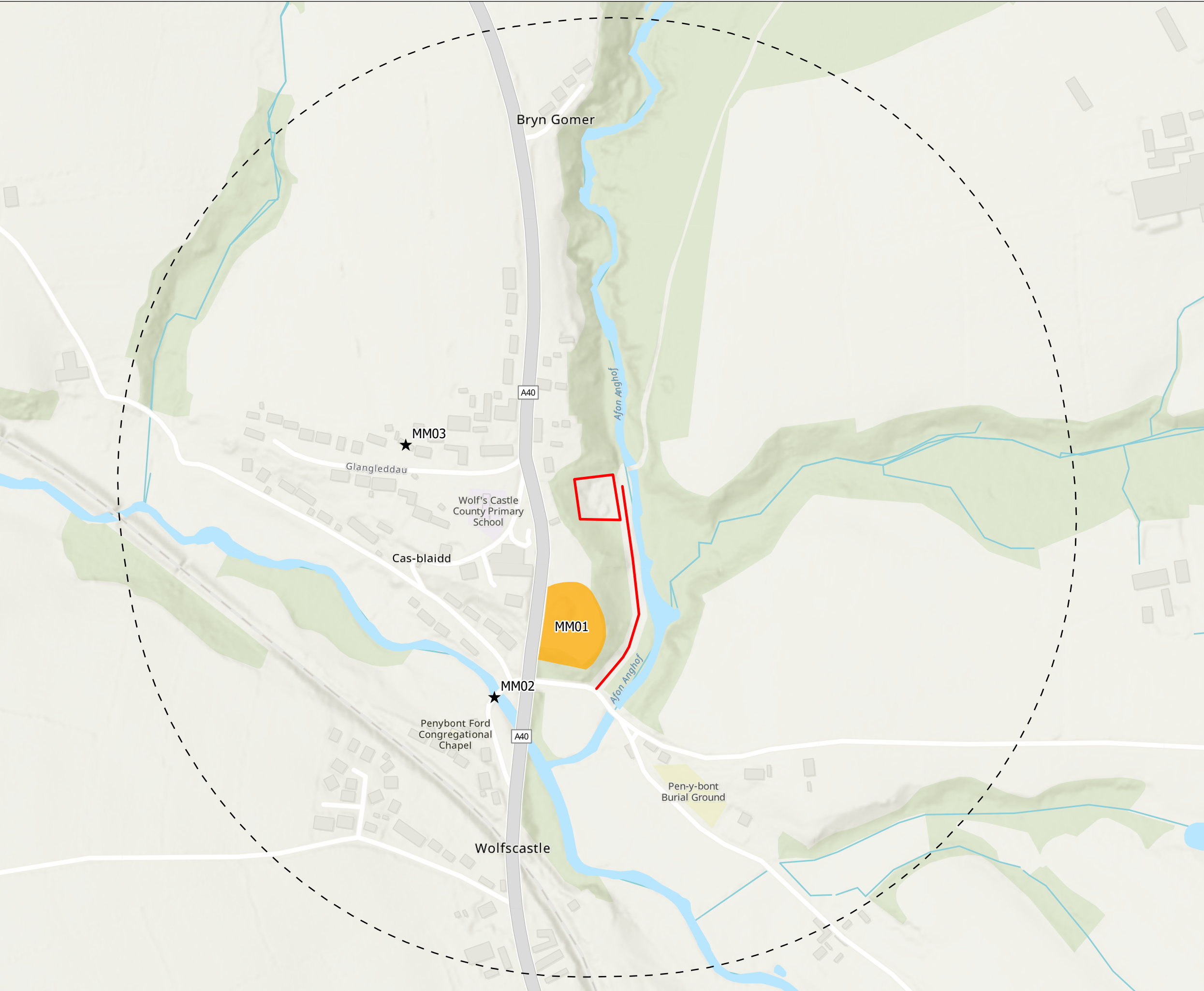
No.	Cof Cymru or HER No.	Name	Designation	Period	Description
MM01	PE254	Wolfscastle Castle Mound	Scheduled Monument	Medieval	<p>The monument comprises the remains of a motte and bailey castle, a military stronghold built during the medieval period (c. 1066 -1540 AD) which is located on a bluff at the junction of the Western Cleddau and the Anghof rivers. The name Castrum Lupi occurs in the thirteenth century where the Latin word Lupi refers to a 'wolf'. The Black Book of St Davids of 1326 refers to buildings here belonging to the Lord of the Manor. The motte is c.7m high and 15m in diameter at the top and is surrounded by a ditch. It is set within the north part of a scarp defined enclosure 70m by 88m which contains indications of buildings of uncertain period or purpose.</p> <p>The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of medieval defensive practices. The monument is well-preserved and an important relic of the medieval landscape. It retains significant archaeological potential, with a strong probability of the presence of both structural evidence and intact associated deposits.</p> <p>The scheduled area comprises the remains described and areas around them within which related evidence may be expected to survive.</p>
MM02	26845	Ford Bridge	Grade II listed building	Post Medieval	<p>Road bridge over the Western Cleddau, dated 1793.</p> <p>Road bridge, rubble stone with three arches, cut-stone voussoirs, recessed with thin arch ring. Keystone of S arch, E side is dated 1793. Triangular cutwater each side with cut stone cap and sloping rubble top. Parapets have end-on stone copings. In centre of E parapet plaque marked 'Boundary of St Dogwells and Hayscastle parish'. Parapet curves out at NW end.</p>
MM03	21639	Glenview	Grade II listed building		<p>Village house of earlier C19. On St Dogwell's Tithe Map of 1846, but not on Bishop of St David's Map of 1815. Extended to L in 2 phases, C19 and C20. The building belonged to the Sealyham Estate (as part of Lordship farm).</p> <p>House, greywashed roughcast with grouted slate close-eaved roof and brick end stacks. Two storeys, double fronted with centre half-glazed door and 4-pane sashes</p>

No.	Cof Cymru or HER No.	Name	Designation	Period	Description
					<p>each side, narrow sashes to first floor, wider below. Roughcast is smoothed in bands under eaves and at first floor, and around windows and door. Door surround has a pebble-inlaid keystone. Raised lozenge-pattern plaque between upper windows. Loft window in right end wall. No outshut to rear. Single storey range to left extended in earlier to mid C20, roughcast with asbestos sheet roof and red brick ridge stack. One 16-pane sash to right, C20 pair of metal windows with door between to left and metal window in end wall.</p> <p>House front garden is enclosed in whitewashed roughcast wall with rough stone coping and 4 rendered piers with pyramid caps.</p> <p>Included as a smaller vernacular house of traditional type retaining its overall character.</p>
MM04	104266	Industrial complex	Non-designated	Post Medieval	Extensive industrial (mine) complex recorded on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition mapping (Pembs Sheet 16.12, 1889) including large quarrying areas, mine shafts and associated shafts, two engine houses and more.
MM05	119417	Farmstead	Non-designated	Post Medieval	Farmstead recorded on 2nd edition, 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map.
MM06	46485	Milestone	Non-designated	Post Medieval	Milestone. Inscription reads, "Fishguard 7 miles 170 yards - Haverfordwest 7 miles".
MM07	119418	Allt-yr-afon	Non-designated	Post Medieval	Farmstead recorded on 2nd edition, 1:2500 Ordnance Survey map.
MM08	59992	Ford Bridge	Non-designated	Post Medieval	Grade II listed bridge (see MM02).
MM09	10536	Gibbrick's Ford	Non-designated	Post Medieval	A ford at this site, anciently called Gibbrick's Ford.
MM10	47485	Ivy House Stone	Non-designated	Early Medieval	Lost Group II ECM (cross-carved stone) of 7th - 9th century date. It was first recorded in 1912 at Ivy House, Wolfscastle. In the late 20th century, it was dumped in an unofficial rubbish tip on the roadside 500m N of Wolfscastle (NGR SM 9562 2736) .
MM11	4559	Parc Castell	Non-designated	Early Medieval	Castell place-name of unknown significance. RPS August 2001
MM12	12891	St Dogwells (Ilantydewi)	Non-designated	Unknown	Settlement
MM13	109058	Toll road from Fishguard to Haverfordwest,	Non-designated	Modern	The Fishguard Trust, that ran between Fishguard and Haverfordwest. This road was accompanied by numerous milestones. The roads between Haverfordwest and St

No.	Cof Cymru or HER No.	Name	Designation	Period	Description
					David's, St David's to Fishguard and Haverfordwest towards Cardigan are represented.
MM14	118151	William Davies Evans Memorial	Non-designated	Medieval	A blue plaque was placed on a stone at Wolfscastle Village Green to commemorate Wolfscastle as the birthplace of Captain William Davies Evans.
MM15	17670	School	Non-designated	Post Medieval	School building
MM16	17671	Chapel	Non-designated	Post Medieval	Chapel
MM17	46486	Quarry	Non-designated	Post Medieval	Quarry shown as 'old quarry' on Ordnance Survey 1st ed 1:2500 map (Pembrokeshire sheet XVI.12) of 1889, suggesting that it had gone out of use by the time the map was published.
MM18	46487	Quarry	Non-designated	Post Medieval	Quarry shown as 'old quarry' on OS 1st ed 1:2500 map (Pembrokeshire sheet XVI.12) of 1889, suggesting that it had gone out of use by the time the map was published.
MM19	46491	Gravel Pit	Non-designated	Post Medieval	Gravel pit marked as 'Old Gravel Pit' on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1:2500 map (Pembrokeshire sheet XVI.12) of 1889, suggesting that it had gone out of use by the time the map was published.
MM20	46492	Garn Cwcw	Non-designated	Post Medieval	A small quarry shown on the Ordnance Survey 1st edition 1:2500 map (Pembrokeshire sheet XVI.12) published in 1889. The quarry was not labelled 'old' or 'disused', so it may still have been in operation in the later 19th century, although it does not appear on later OS maps.
MM21	24405	Manse	Non-designated	Post Medieval	There is no description available on the HER for this asset beyond it being recorded as a post-medieval building.
MM22	46494	Pen-y-bont Burial Ground	Non-designated	Post Medieval	Pen-y-Bont burial ground associated with Pen-y-Bont Independent Chapel (PRN 17671).
MM23	17669	Sealyham	Non-designated	Post Medieval	This quarry entered commercial use in 1825 and closed in the 1890s. The quarry remains are now largely flooded.
MM24	94525	Penrhiw, Plot 1, Wolfscastle	N/A	N/A	Watching Brief. The results are unknown as the report is not currently available online and there is no description recorded on the HER.

Source: Mott MacDonald, 2023.

B. Figures



500m Study Area

Site Boundary

Access Track

Listed Building

Scheduled Monument

Coordinate system: British National Grid; Datum: OSGB 1936

Data sources: Sources: Esri, Airbus DS, USGS, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, N Robinson, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NMA, Geodatastyrelsen, Rijkswaterstaat, GSA, Geoland, FEMA, Intermap and the GIS user community, Esri Community Maps Contributors, Esri UK, Esri, HERE, Garmin, Foursquare, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, Esri UK, Esri, HERE, Garmin, Foursquare, METI/NASA, USGS, Designated Historic Asset data available online from Cadw (September 2023).

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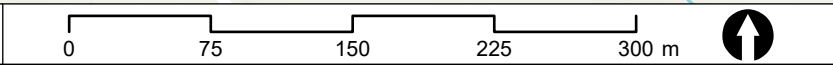
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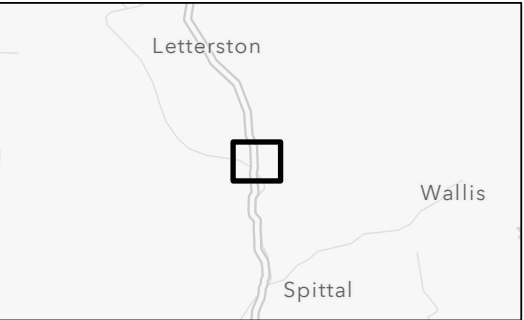
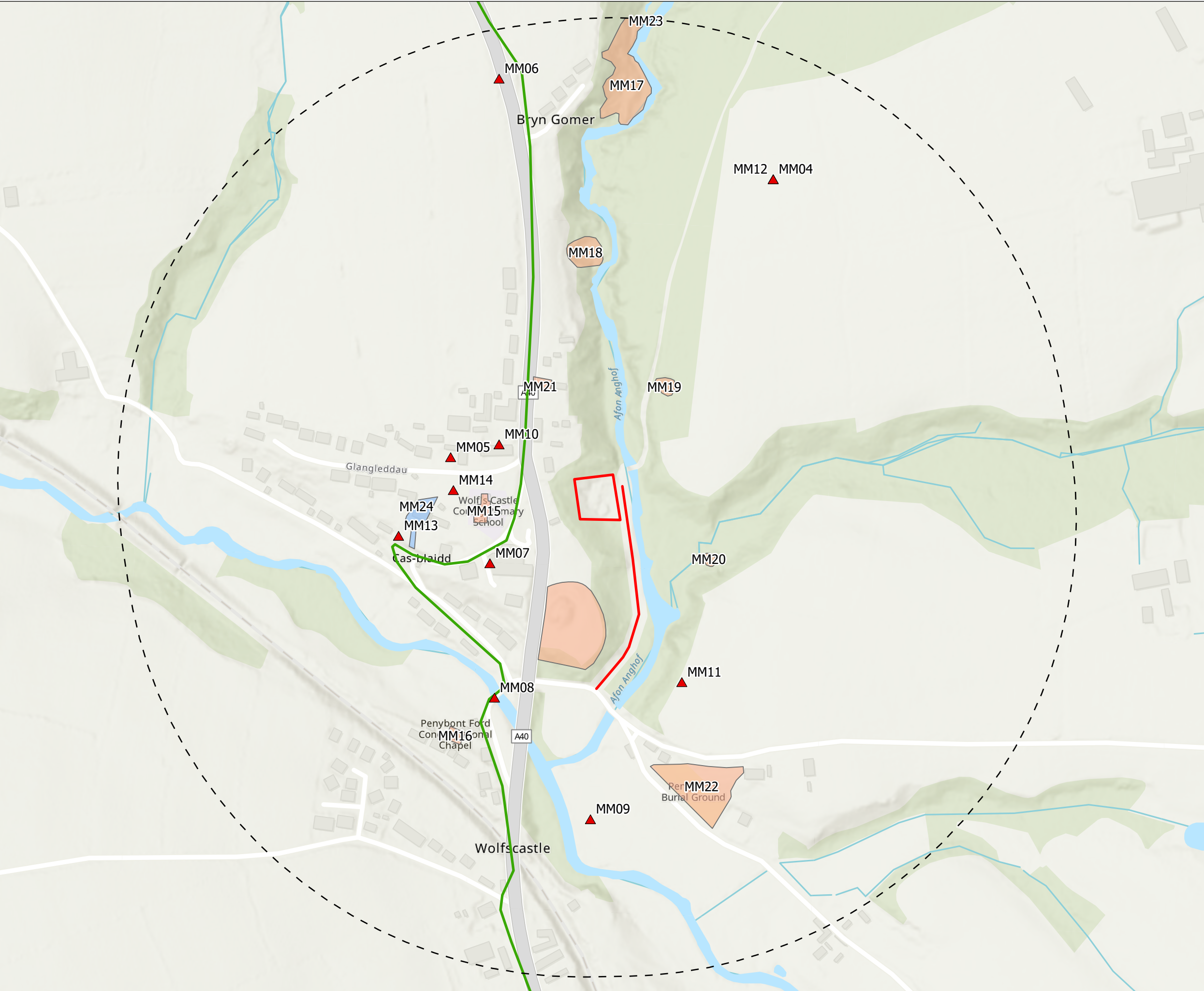
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Wolfscastle Wastewater Treatment Works Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment Designated Historic Assets			
Drawn I Lyons	GIS Checked	Checked J Groarke	Approved K Luker-Ward
Scale at A3 1:4,000	Status INF	Revision 01	Security STD




100381175-006-MMD-00-HE-GIS-Y-0001



- 500m Study Area
- Site Boundary
- Access Track
- HER Monument (point)
- HER Monument (Polygon)
- Historic Toll Road (MM13)
- Archaeological Event (MM24)

Coordinate system: British National Grid; Datum: OSGB 1936

Data sources: Sources: Esri, Airbus DS, USGS, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, N Robinson, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NMA, Geodatastyrelsen, Rijkswaterstaat, GSA, Geoland, FEMA, Intermap and the GIS user community, Esri Community Maps Contributors, Esri UK, Esri, HERE, Garmin, Foursquare, GeoTechnologies, Inc, METI/NASA, USGS, Esri UK, Esri, HERE, Garmin, Foursquare, METI/NASA, USGS, Historic Environment Record Data from the Dyfed Archaeological Trust, received July 2023.

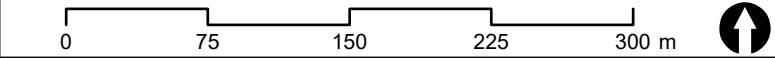


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Wolfscastle Wastewater Treatment Works Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment Historic Assets

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Scale at A3 1:4,000	Status INF	Revision 01	Security STD



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