Archaeoleg Brython Archaeolog





Archaeological Desk Based Assessment Gwynedd & Anglesey Park & Share Sites: Four Crosses Document Number B1801C.01.01

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Archaeological Desk Based Assessment

Prepared for YGC

by Iwan G. Parry

March 2018

B1801C.01.01

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Appendix I – Client Drawing 6168/GA/101DRAFT

Crynodeb

Gofynnwyd i Archaeoleg Brython Archaeology gan Ymgynghoriaeth Gwynedd Consultancy i gwblhau asesiad ben-desk archaeolegol i gyfarwyddo cais gynllunio ar gyfer safle Parcio a Rhannu i'r gorllewin o gylchfan 'Four Crosses' ym Mhorthaethwy, Ynys Môn. Mae'r asesiad yn canolbwyntio ar glustogfa 1km o ffin y datblygiad arfaethedig.

Mae'r asesiad yn nodi dau ased o werth uchel yn y glustogfa. Mae Dinas Cadnant, anheddiad gydag amddiffynfeydd gynhanesyddol sy'n debygol o wedi bod mewn defnydd hyd at y canoloesoedd cynnar, tua 800m i'r gogledd-ddwyrain. Tua 800m i'r de-orllewin mae siambr gladdu Neolithig Tŷ Mawr. Ni fu'r datblygiad arfaethedig yn cael unrhyw effaith arnynt.Mae dau Adeilad Rhestredig Gradd II o fewn 500m i'r datblygiad arfaethedig, ni fu effaith ar unrhyw un ohonynt.

Mae ymchwil o fapiau Arolwg Ordnans cynnar a mapiau degwm yn dangos nad yw'r safle wedi newid yn sylweddol yn ers canol yr 19eg ganrif.

Os yw'r datblygiad yn parhau argymhellir bod briff gwylio archaeolegol cynhwysfawr yn cael ei gynnal yn ystod holl waith cloddio sy'n cymeryd lle ar gyfer y datblygiad.

Summary

Archaeoleg Brython Archaeology have been asked by Ymgynghoriaeth Gwynedd Consultancy to undertake an archaeological desk-based assessment to inform a planning application for a Park and Share site to the west of the Four Crosses roundabout in Menai Bridge, Anglesey. The assessment focused on a 1km buffer zone around the boundary of the proposed development.

The assessment identified two high value designated assets within the buffer zone. Dinas Cadnant, a prehistoric defended settlement which was probably in use until the Early Medieval period, is approximately 800m to the north-east. Approximately 800m to the south-west is Tŷ Mawr Neolithic burial chamber. Neither would be impacted by the proposed development.

Two Grade II Listed Buildings are located within 500m of the proposed development, neither would be impacted.

Map regression shows that there has been very little change at the site since the mid 19th century.

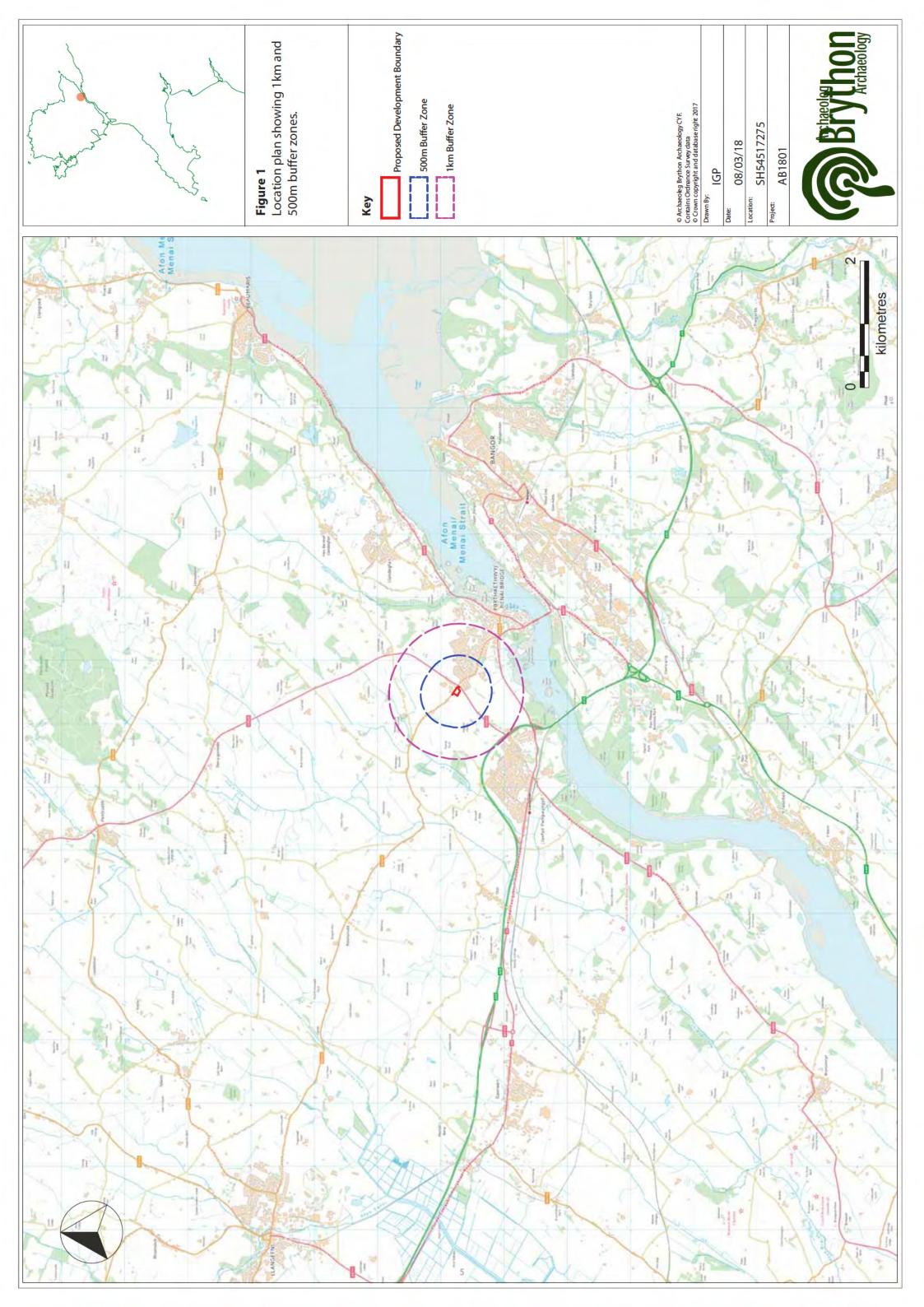
If the development proceeds it is recommended that a comprehensive archaeological watching brief is undertaken during all invasive groundworks associated with the development.

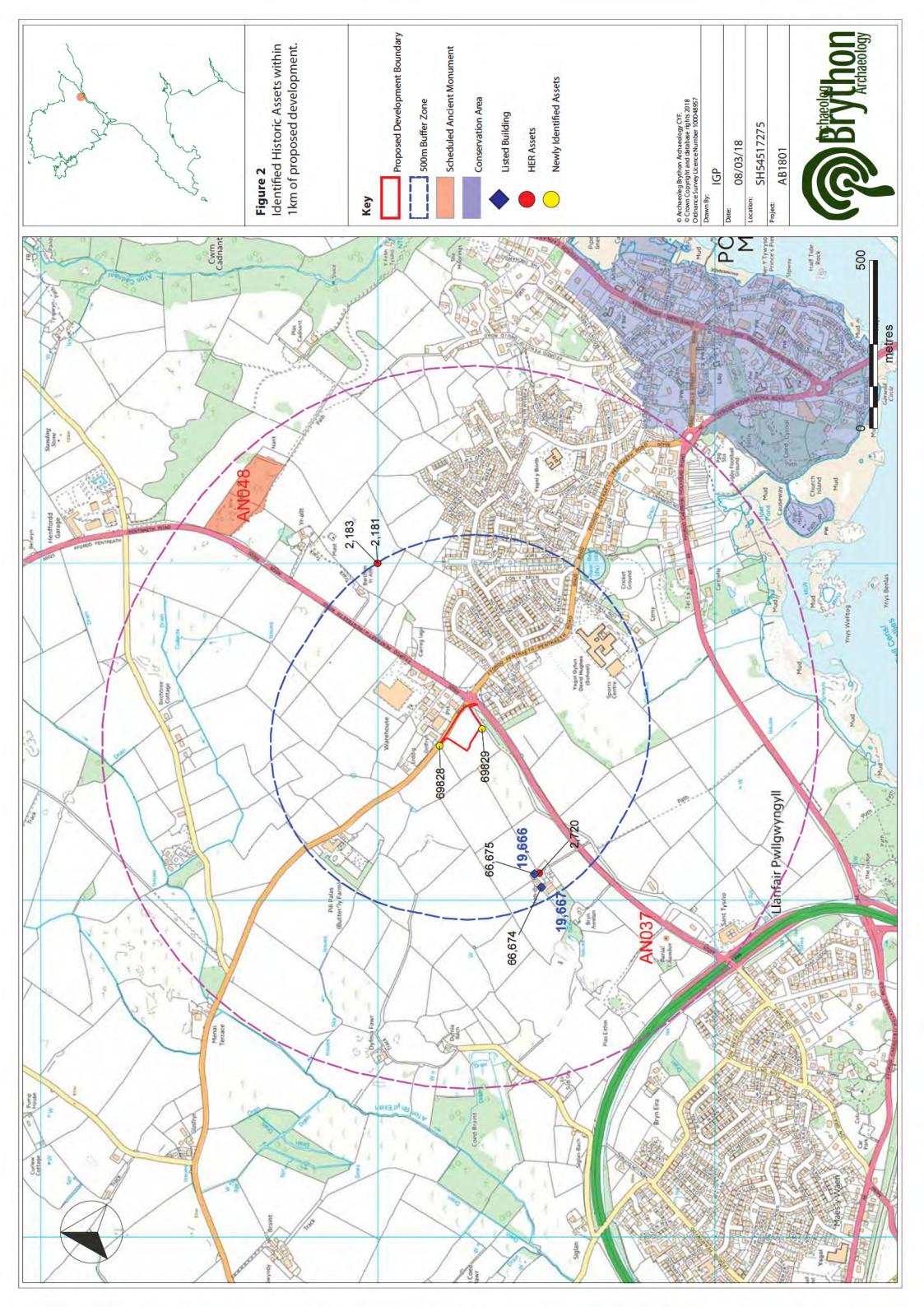
1 Introduction

Archaeoleg Brython Archaeology (ABA) have been asked by Ymgynghoriaeth Gwynedd Consultancy (YGC) to prepare an archaeological desk-based assessment (DBA) for a proposed park and share site to the north of Menai Bridge at Four Crosses, Anglesey (SH54517275). The development would create parking for approximately 212 vehicles and is intended to provide a dedicated hub for commuters to share lifts to and from their workplaces and help reduce the number of vehicles on the local road network.

The assessment is based on two catchment areas around the proposed development. A search was made of all non-designated heritage assets and Grade II Listed Buildings (LBs) within a 500m buffer of the development limits and all high value designated heritage assets including Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM), Grade I and II* Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens and Conservation Areas within a 1km buffer (Figures 1 & 2).

This DBA has been completed to meet the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) Standard and Guidance for Desk-Based Assessment (2017).





2 Methodology

2.1 Desk Based Research

The purpose of this DBA is to trace the development of the area and determine the potential for unknown archaeology by assessing available sources. The repositories consulted for this assessment were:

- Gwynedd Historical Environment Record, Craig Beuno, Ffordd Garth, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2RT
- Anglesey Archives, Ystad Diwydiannol Bryncefni, Llangefni, Ynys Môn, LL77 7JA
- Coflein.gov.uk Online database of the National Monuments Record of Wales (NMRW)
- Lle.gov.wales Geo-portal for government data including Natural Resources Wales LiDAR data
- National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth

After an initial search of the recorded archaeology within 3km of the proposed development area it was decided that research should focus on three buffer zones:

- A walkover survey was undertaken assess the condition of any recorded assets and to check for unrecorded assets within the proposed development area, all assets were assessed for potential impact and proposed mitigation measures suggested.
- All recorded assets within a 500m buffer of the proposed development area were assessed for potential impact. Where necessary mitigation measures are suggested.
- High value designated assets within a 1km buffer of the proposed development boundary were assessed for potential impact. These include Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings at Grade I or II* and Registered Parks and Gardens. Where necessary mitigation measures are suggested.

2.2 Walkover Survey

The site was visited to determine whether any evidence of assets identified during the desk based research were present and to identify any previously unrecorded assets which may have been present. Photographs were taken as a record of the site and of individual features of interest.

2.3 Assessment of Value and Impact

The value and importance of each identified heritage asset has been determined by assessing against the criteria in Table 1.

Value	Definition
Very High <i>(International)</i>	 World Heritage Sites <i>(including nominated sites)</i> Assets acknowledged of having international importance Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged international research objectives
High <i>(National)</i>	 Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM) <i>(including proposed sites)</i> Grade I and Grade II* Listed Buildings <i>(including proposed sites)</i> Unscheduled sites which are of schedulable importance or quality Unlisted buildings and some Grade II Listed Buildings which are of a standard or importance to warrant listing at Grade I or Grade II* Historic Landscapes of outstanding interest <i>(including designated and undesignated)</i>
Medium <i>(Regional)</i>	 Grade II Listed Buildings <i>(including proposed sites)</i> Archaeological sites which are not schedulable but are of regional importance Buildings which fulfil the criteria for listing at Grade II Designated special historic landscapes or those worthy of designation
Low <i>(Local)</i>	 Components of the historic environment which help define local distinctiveness and character <i>(including features such as walls, gateposts, tracks etc.)</i> 'Locally Listed' buildings Historic (unlisted) buildings of modest quality or historic association Historic landscapes of local interest
Negligible	 Sites of minor importance Sites which have been so badly damaged that not enough remains to justify their inclusion in a higher category Buildings of no architectural or historical note or buildings of an intrusive character Landscapes with little or no significant historic interest
Unknown	 Sites or features whose character, importance or location is undetermined Includes unevaluated buried archaeology Sites in this category will be allocated a value category from Very High to Negligible following evaluation

Table 1: Criteria for assessing the value of heritage assets

The likely impact of the proposed development on each identified heritage asset has been estimated using the assessment criteria for magnitude of impacts stated in Table 2.

Magnitude	Definition							
Major	 Change to most or all of the key archaeological materials or historical building elements such as the resource is totally altered Comprehensive changes to setting 							
Moderate	 Changes to many key archaeological materials or historic building elements, such as the resource is clearly modified Considerable changes to the setting that affect the character of the asset 							
Minor	 Changes to key archaeological materials or historic building elements, such as the asset is slightly altered Slight changes to setting 							
Negligible	Minor changes to archaeological materials, historic building elements or setting							
No Change	No change							

Table 2: Criteria for the assessment of magnitude of impact

The significance of effect is determined by considering the archaeological and historical importance of the asset and the magnitude of the impact upon it, this is done using the matrix in Table 3.

Table 3: Significance of Effect Matrix

	Cultural Asset Value									
Magnitude of Impact	Negligible	Low (Local)	Medium (Regional)	High (National)	Very High (International					
Major Change	Slight	Slight/ Moderate	Moderate/ Large	Large/ Very Large	Very Large					
Moderate Change	Neutral/ Slight	Slight	Moderate	Moderate/ Large	Large/Very Large					
Minor Change	Neutral/ Slight	Neutral/ Slight	Slight	Moderate/ Slight	Moderate/ Large					
Negligible Change	Neutral	Neutral/ Slight	Neutral/ Slight	Slight	Slight					
No Change	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral					

2.4 Recommended Mitigation

The most appropriate methods of mitigation for each identified asset will be determined to minimise adverse impact, where direct impact is unavoidable the mitigation will aim to gather the maximum amount of information. The offsetting of negative impacts with compensatory measures may also be considered suitable options in some circumstances.

3 Background

3.1 Project Background

The proposed Four Crosses site would form part of a wider network of park and share sites across Gwynedd and Anglesey. The sites would provide dedicated hubs for commuters to share lifts to and from their workplaces and reduce the number of vehicles on the local road networks and within key employment centres. As well as at Four Crosses, sites would also be located at Gaerwen on Anglesey and Llanwnda and Llandegai in Gwynedd.

The Gaerwen site would be located on a greenfield site to the west of the Four Crosses roundabout on the A5025, access to the site would be off the B5420 Penmynydd road.

3.2 Topographic Description

The study area lies in southern Anglesey at the western edge of Menai Bridge to the east, Llanfairpwll is located approximately 1km to the south-west. Countryside to the west is largely characterised by large enclosures of arable fields and improved pasture with associated scattered farmsteads. The area is generally flat, sloping east towards the Menai Strait.

3.3 Geology

The British Geological Survey's Geology of Britain Viewer shows that the superficial deposits consist of Devensian – Diamicton Till which formed 2 million years ago in Ice Age conditions during the Quaternary Period. The underlying bedrock consists of metamorphic Schist and Mica of the Central Anglesey Shear Zone and Berw Shear Zone. The bedrock formed during the Cambrian and Ediacaran periods approximately 508 to 635 million years ago. There is no interpretation for the original formation of the rocks which have undergone metamorphism or have been crushed in a fault or shear zone.

3.4 Historical and Archaeological

The information presented below has been compiled and summarised from the information gained during the desk-based research and walkover.

3.4.1 Palaeolithic (500,000BC – 10,000BC)

No sites of Palaeolithic date are recorded in the vicinity of the scheme, the nearest sites dating from this period are found on the Great Orme in Llandudno approximately 23km to the North East.

3.4.2 Mesolithic (10,000BC - 4,000BC)

No sites of Mesolithic date are recorded in the vicinity of the scheme but a scattering of sites from this period have been recorded in a number of locations, mostly coastal, around Anglesey. Evidence of activity from this period is often in the form of flint scatters which are identified in areas of coastal erosion, the nearest examples are from Llanfaes (PRN 24148) approximately 7.5km to the north east, others have been found at Newborough 12km to the south west (PRN 7065, PRN 7066, PRN 3080). Pits containing charcoal (PRN 59788) found during an archaeological evaluation in Penrhosgarnedd, Bangor were also found to date from this period demonstrates the presence of activity in areas further inland.

Although sites of this period haven't been recorded in the immediate vicinity of the proposed development it is likely that groups of hunter gatherers would have been active in the area during this period.

3.4.3 Neolithic (4,000BC – 2,300BC)

It is during the Neolithic that humans first build features that can still be seen in the landscape today, Anglesey is home to some of the best known Neolithic monuments in Wales.

Within the 500m study area evidence of Neolithic funerary activity within the 1km buffer at Tŷ Mawr burial chamber (PRN 2693, AN 037). The simple passage grave is mostly destroyed, a single upright remains in-situ, the large capstone and two other uprights have fallen.

A number of Neolithic ritual and funerary monuments are located in the wider area around the proposed development. The landscape along Afon Braint, 4.75km – 6km to the south west, is dotted with Neolithic monuments which suggest that this was a significant location for communities during this period. Two of these are henges, one at Bryn Celli Ddu (PRN 2694, AN 002) and a second at Castell Bryngwyn (PRN 3140, AN 015) would have been the focus of ritual activity, both sites have complex long lived histories which continue into later prehistory. Bryn Celli Ddu was later adapted into a chambered tomb, Bryn yr Hen Bobl (PRN 7172, AN 006) is another funerary monument which alludes to the ritual and funerary importance of this landscape during the Neolithic and beyond.

There is little to suggest that Neolithic archaeology would be present within the proposed development area but it is clear that there is extensive activity in the wider area during this period.

3.4.4 Bronze Age (2,300BC – 700BC)

Two sites dating to the Bronze Age lie within 500m of the proposed development, both being findspots where the exact location of discovery is not known.

During the construction of a road in 1825 it was reported that fragments of a Late Bronze Age urn (PRN 2181) were found about a mile from Menai Bridge on land owned by the Cadnant estate.

The second is a record for a Bronze Age stone axe hammer from Plas Cadnant (PRN 2183), no other details about the discovery of the item are included in the HER record.

The locations of two possible standing stones are recorded on the HER 650m to the north west (PRN 4309) and north east (PRN 4310). It appears that both were added following a letter received by a member of the public, further research has not confirmed whether the stones were Bronze Age monuments or more recent rubbing stones for livestock.

Burnt mounds are a common feature during the Bronze Age and a number are recorded in the wider area, the closest to the proposed development being PRN 31286 and PRN 59426 approximately 4km to the north west. These features, which consist of a mound of heat fractured stones which is usually accompanied by a trough for water, are probably the most common Bronze Age features encountered in north-west Wales yet their use is poorly understood and frequently debated. What can be said with certainty about the features is that they were used to boil water (and possibly other liquids) by repeatedly placing stones which were heated in a hearth into a container with the liquid to be heated, the process results in the stones fracturing and becoming unusable at which point they are discarded and over time form the mound. They are usually found close to water sources or in generally wet areas.

Although the presence of other monuments from this period demonstrate that communities were present in the area during the Bronze Age evidence of domestic sites is less visible. It is possible that some of the hut groups attributed to the Iron Age and Romano-British periods may have their origins in the Bronze Age but due to the limited amount of recent excavations this cannot be said with certainty.

3.4.5 Iron Age (700BC – 43AD)

None of the assets recorded within the 1km study area are attributed to the Iron Age.

Dinas Cadnant (PRN 1562, AN 048) is recorded in the HER as an Early Medieval defended settlement but the scheduling description classifies it as a prehistoric monument. A number of hut circles are noted within the interior as well as rectangular buildings. It is possible that the site was used during the Iron Age although no evidence for this has been presented.

Although a carved stone head (PRN 2720) is recorded in the HER as being of unknown date the style of the carving, and the fact that other carved stone heads are considered Iron Age in date, suggests that it dates to this period.

Two cropmark sites are recorded on the HER which have been interpreted as prehistoric settlement sites which may date from the Iron Age. PRN 5760 is located 570m to the west and is described as a possible circular enclosure, PRN 5759 is 750m west and is described as large round feature which could be natural.

3.4.6 Roman and Romano-British (43AD – 450AD)

No Roman period sites are recorded within the 1km buffer.

Some Iron Age settlements are likely to have continued to be in use during the Romano-British period but as all of the possible settlement sites within the study area cannot be firmly dated it can only be speculated that some were in use at this time. It is suggested in the scheduling information that Dinas Cadnant (AN 048) was probably occupied during this period.

Two Roman invasions of Anglesey are recorded by the historian Tacitus, the first in 60AD by Suetonius Paulinus and the second in 77AD by Agricola. The first invasion is interrupted by the Boudican revolt which led to withdrawal as the Roman army marched to London, the second was successful in conquering the island. It is likely that temporary marching camps would have been constructed by the Roman army during the campaign, no such sites have been identified to date but it is possible that such features may exist, especially around the Menai Strait which is where both invasions are focused.

An account is provided in the North Wales Gazette dated 30/12/1813 of the discovery of Roman copper cakes (PRN 2712) weighing around 100lbs and inscribed ROM, the location of the discovery is approximately 2.2km from the development area in Penmynydd.

3.4.7 Early Medieval & Medieval (450AD – 1547AD)

The only Early Medieval site recorded within the 1km study area is the defended settlement at Dinas Cadnant (PRN 1562, AN 048) which, as stated previously, is likely have been established in later prehistory. It is suggested in the HER record that the site was believed to be the residence of a 9th century lord of a commote. Further investigation of the reference provided has not provided any more information. Many excavated settlements and defended sites of Iron Age or Romano-British date have revealed evidence of occupation during the Early Medieval period, this may be the case at Dinas Cadnant.

A field system (PRN 34937) and associated mound and bank (PRN 34942) are recorded on the HER as probably being Medieval or earlier in date. Both features are likely to be associated with field systems which had been abandoned by the time the first available maps were surveyed, in this case the Llanfaipwllgyngyll tithe map of 1844. Such field systems were usually formed of irregular banks or walls enclosing small fields which were not compatible with modern farming techniques leading to abandonment during the late 18th and 19th centuries.

3.4.8 Post-Medieval and Modern (1547 AD - Present)

Two post-medieval features are recorded within the 500m buffer zone, Hen-dy farmhouse (PRN 66675, ID 19666) and its farm buildings (PRN 66674, ID 19667) both are Grade II Listed Buildings. All of the buildings have been listed as they form a complete group of buildings from a 19th Century farmstead. The farm buildings consist of a corn-barn with granary-cartshed, stable, feed-room, cowhouse, and pigsty.

The proposed development area lies on the boundary of the two parishes of Llandesilio and Llanfairpwllgyngyll, neither of which record any details. The Llanedsilio map shows the field as being larger, the field boundary to the north-west not being present. The field was divided in two, and to the current layout, by the time the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map was surveyed in 1887.

Since the construction of Thomas Telford's Menai Suspension Bridge (Grade I Listed Building, ID 18572) in 1826, the town of Menai Bridge has grown significantly. The 1st edition Ordnance survey map shows a sparse scattering of farmhouses between the bridge and the proposed development area, a distance of 1.3km, the edge of the suburban housing estates which have grown around the town are now only separated by the A5025.

The map regression does not suggest that any significant post-medieval features will be encountered within the development boundary.

4 Results

4.1 Map Regression

The proposed development area lies within the parish of Llandesilio on its boundary with Llanfairpwllgyngyll, the boundary actually places the southern corner of the field in the latter. The tithe map for Llandesilio does not number the field in which the proposed development would be located and as such the name, landowner, tenant and use of the field cannot be determined. The tithe for Llanfairpwllgwyngyll was also checked but only the parish boundary is shown. The field was divided in two, and to the current layout, by the time the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map was surveyed in 1887.

The following editions of the Ordnance Survey Anglesey XIX.SE & XIX.SW 6 inch maps were consulted to assess the development of the site from the late 19th century:

- 1st Edition, Surveyed 1887, Published 1889
- 2nd Edition, Surveyed 1899, Published 1901 (See Figure 3)
- 3rd Edition, Surveyed 1913, Published 1920
- 4th Edition, Surveyed 1949, Published 1953

There is no change within the proposed development boundary between each edition.

4.2 LiDAR

Both the 1m Digital Surface Model (DSM) and 1m Digital Terrain Model (DTM) were analysed to identify possible features within the proposed development area and in the surrounding area (Figures 4 & 5). The data was analysed in ASCII format, geographically registered in GIS software and manipulated to effectively alter the elevation and direction of the light source to highlight undulations in the terrain which may indicate the location of buried archaeology. Analysis of DTM data also allows possible features to be identified in wooded areas and undergrowth.

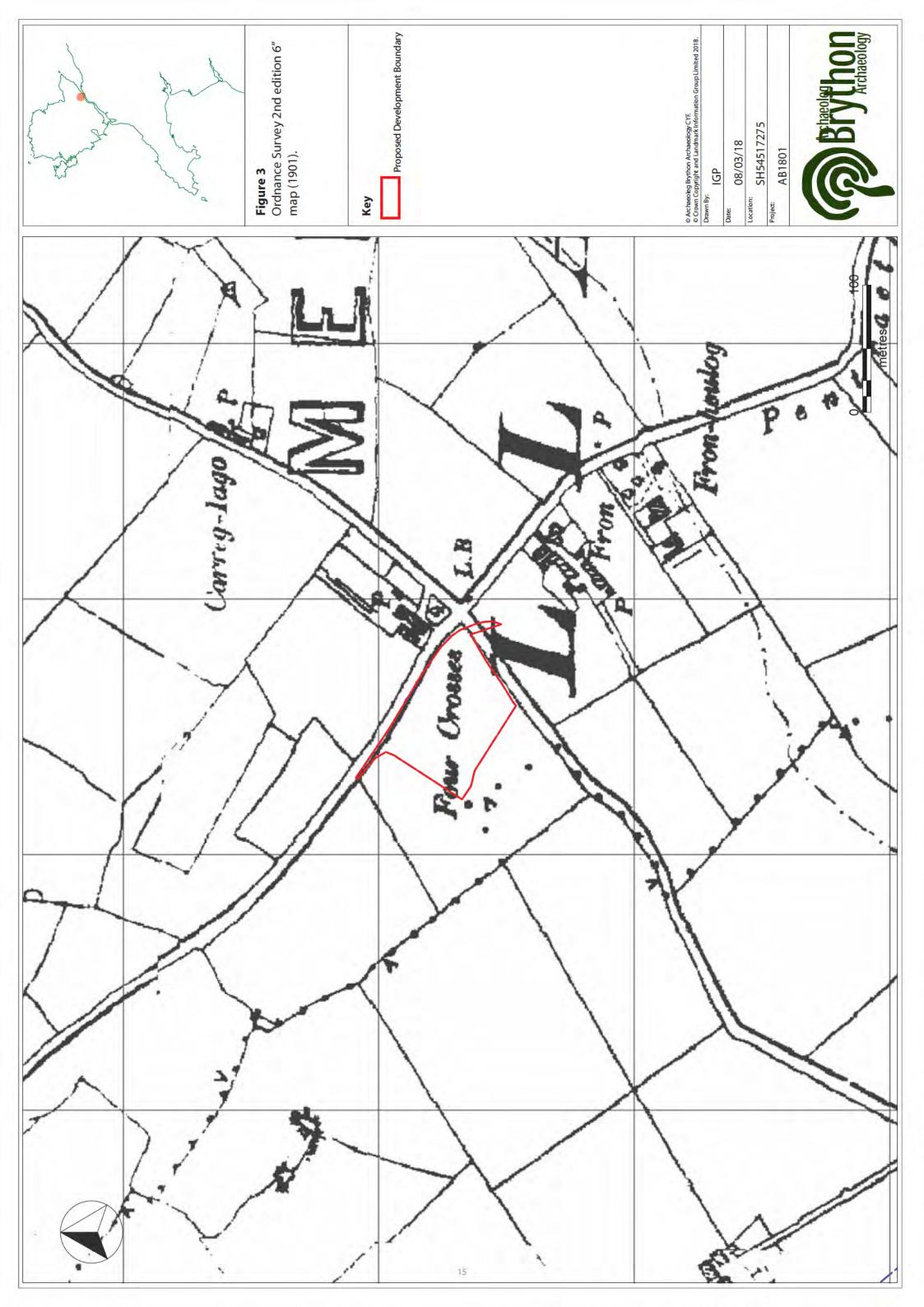
No features were identified on LiDAR within the proposed development area.

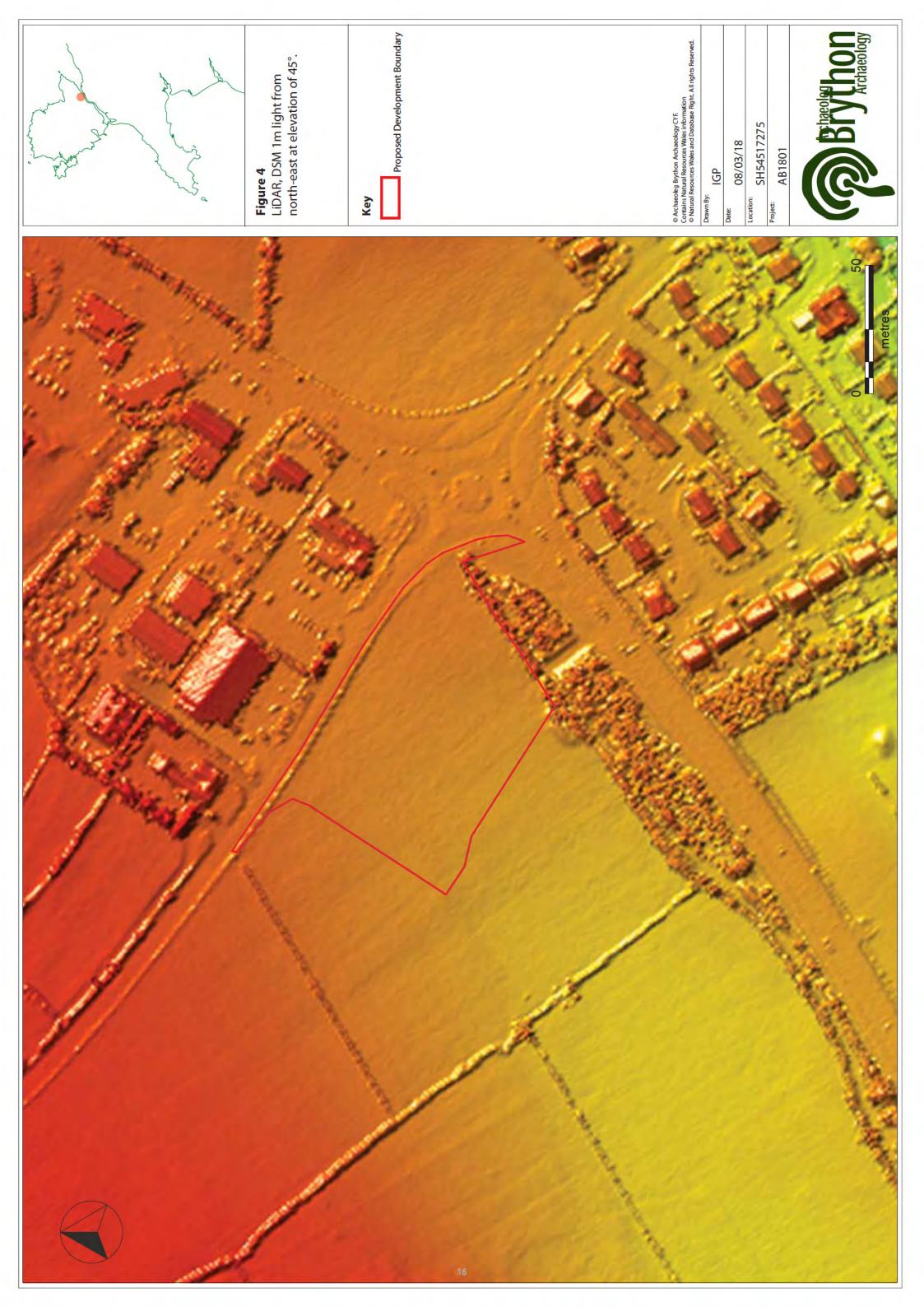
The LiDAR data was also utilised to assess intervisibility between the proposed development area and SAMs in the 1km buffer.

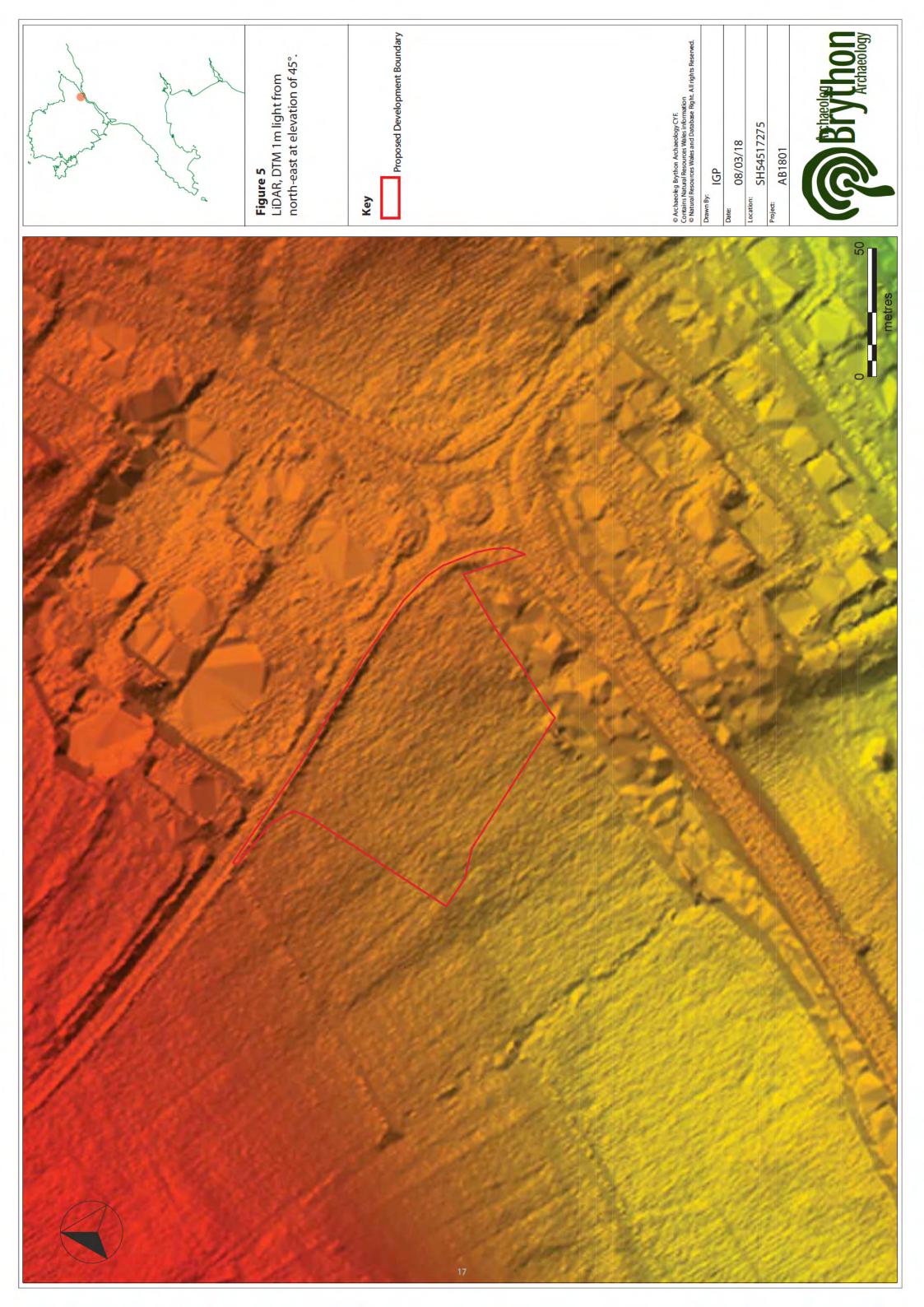
4.3 Walkover Survey

The site was visited in bright, sunny conditions with good visibility.

Two features were identified during the walkover survey, both are of low value and would be immediately outside the proposed development. A typical Anglesey style mortared field gate pier (PRN 69828) is located at the northern entrance to the field, and a mound of material which is probably associated with recent clearance (PRN 69829) is located next to the south-eastern boundary, immediately south of the proposed development boundary.







4.4 High Value Designated Assets

All high value designated assets within a 1km buffer of the proposed development area were identified and assessed.

4.4.1 Scheduled Ancient Monuments
PRN 1562 ID AN 048 NGR SH5520073400
Site Name
Dinas Cadnant, hillfort/defended enclosure
Description
The scheduling record for the site states the following:

A range of later Prehistoric style settlement features are set across a rocky ridge or platform, extending over an area 148m north-west to south-east by 100m. These can be resolved into three discrete clusters, each apparently constituting a separate enclosed settlement. At the craggy north-western end of the site is a cluster of perhaps five roundhouses, generally about 6.5m across, with a two cell rectangular structure. These appear to have been set within a walled enclosure of perhaps 65m by 35m, the wall partly following the edge of the crags. To the southeast is a rectangular complex, roughly 50m north-south by 30m, consisting of two rows of oblong compartments or buildings either side of a long central court. On the south-east is a group of three roundhouses set within a roughly 30m by 22.5m walled court in the shadow of the crags fringing the ridge on this side. The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of prehistoric/Romano British settlement and defence. It retains significant archaeological potential, with a strong probability of the presence of associated archaeological features and deposits. The structures themselves may be expected to contain archaeological information concerning chronology and building techniques. The scheduled area comprises the remains described and areas around them within which related evidence may be expected to survive.

As well as being used in later prehistory and the Romano-British period it is possible that the monument continued to be used during the Early Medieval period. The site is recorded as being Early Medieval in date on the HER which states:

'Remains believed to be those of the residence of the lord of a commote which was a going concern in AD 825'

No further information was found in relation to this reference but some comparable sites do show evidence of use during the Early Medieval period.

The development would be 840m from the south-western edge of the scheduled area. LiDAR data was used to confirm that there would be no intervisibility between both locations. The development would not have an impact on the monument.

 PRN
 2693
 ID
 AN 037
 NGR
 SH5388072140

Site Name

Tŷ Mawr burial chamber, Llanfairpwll

Description

The scheduling record for the site states the following:

The monument comprises the remains of a chambered tomb, dating to the Neolithic period (c. 4,400 BC - 2,900 BC). Chambered tombs were built and used by local farming communities over long periods of time. There appear to be many regional traditions and variations in shape and construction. The burial chamber has collapsed with the massive capstone overlying the

remaining stones. The capstone c. 3m in length and 2.1m wide, beneath it are two fallen uprights, which would have stood about 1.3m high, and a low sill-stone. The western end of the capstone rests on the ground and its eastern end rests on the sill-stone and the two fallen uprights. The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of prehistoric burial and ritual. The monument is an important relic of a prehistoric funerary and ritual landscape and retains significant archaeological potential, with a strong probability of the presence of both intact burial or ritual deposits and environmental and structural evidence, including a buried prehistoric land surface. Chambered tombs may be part of a larger cluster of monuments and their importance can further enhanced by their group value. The scheduled area comprises the remains described and areas around them within which related evidence may be expected to survive.

The development would have no impact on the monument.

4.5 Other Identified Assets

All historic assets within 500m of the proposed development were identified and assessed for potential impact.

4.5.1 Grade II Listed Buildings
PRN 66675 ID 19666 NGR SH5407872534
Site Name
Hen-dy
Description
A mid 19th century farmhouse, two storey, symmetrical, 3 window, stone under slate roof.

The proposed development would have no impact on the asset.

PRN 66674 ID 19667 NGR SH5403872514

Site Name Farm buildings of Hen-dy **Description** Part of the Hen-dy farm cor

Part of the Hen-dy farm complex. Includes a corn-barn with granary-cartshed, stable, feed-room, cowhouse, and pigsty.

The proposed development would have no impact on the asset.

4.5.2 Undesignated Assets

Table 4 provides the details of previously recorded undesignated heritage assets within 500m of the proposed development, there would be no impact to any of the sites listed. Table 5 provides details of the newly identified assets which lie within the proposed development boundary and may be impacted.

Table 4: Undesignated assets within 500m of the proposed development

PRN	Site Name	Period	Site Type	NGR
2720	Carved Stone Head, Findspot, Hendy, Llanfairpwll	Unknown	Findspot	SH54087252
2183	Stone Axe Hammer, Findspot, Plas Cadnant	Prehistoric	Findspot	SH55007300
2181	Urn, Findspot, Cadnant, Menai Bridge	Bronze Age	Findspot	SH55007300

PRN	Site Name	Period	Site Description	NGR
69828	Gate post	Post-medieval	A typical 'Anglesey' mortared gate post, circular, constructed of rubble and mortar. Approximately 1.5m tall, corresponding post not present.	SH5445872816
69829	Earth mound/ field clearance	Post-medieval	A large mound of stony earth which appears to be the result of clearance. No buildings are recorded in the area so the origin of the material is not known.	SH5450872690

Table 5: Newly identified assets within the proposed development area



Plate 1: Anglesey type gate post (PRN 69828), view from south, scale 1m



Plate 2: Earth mound/ field clearance (PRN 69829), view from north-west, scale 1m

5 Impact and Proposed Mitigation

None of the identified assets would be impacted by the proposed development. The only assets which might be impacted are those which aren't know, any such features would be in the form of buried archaeology.

In order to minimise potential negative impact to buried archaeology, appropriate mitigation measures would need to be in place during invasive groundworks. The desk-based assessment has not identified any features within the proposed development boundary or in the immediate vicinity but prehistoric to early-medieval activity has been demonstrated in the wider area.

Three programmes of archaeological work would be appropriate to mitigate against potential negative impact to buried archaeology:

- a) As the development site is relatively small at 7757m² the entire footprint could be subject to a programme of strip, map and record. This would involve the gradual removal of soil under constant archaeological supervision until archaeological deposits or the natural glacial subsoil was reached. All archaeological features would be surveyed and investigated to determine date and function. This method would remove all risk of delays to the construction programme as all archaeology within the development footprint would be investigated prior to construction commencing.
- b) Evaluation of the site prior to the commencement of clearance and construction could assist in the identification of buried archaeology and determine the likelihood of encountering further archaeology during construction. A combination magnetometer survey followed by evaluation trenching could be employed, this could then be supplemented by a watching brief during general clearance. This methodology could reduce potential delays to the construction programme by identifying archaeology early in the programme.
- c) Alternatively, a comprehensive watching brief could be undertaken during all invasive groundworks. An archaeologist would need to be present during all soil stripping and excavation for the main development area and all ancillary works. If archaeology was encountered it would need to be fully investigated at short notice, potentially causing delays to the main construction programme.

Providing that the client was willing to accept the associated risks option (c) would offer a proportionate level of mitigation given the results of the assessment.

6 Conclusion

An assessment of the available information has shown that the proposed development would not have an impact on any known archaeology.

Archaeological features from the Neolithic through to Post-medieval period are recorded in the wider area around the proposed development but there is no evidence to suggest that any would be present within the development footprint.

Providing that the client is willing to accept the possibility of delays to the construction programme if archaeology is encountered it is recommended that a comprehensive archaeological watching brief should be undertaken during all invasive groundworks associated with the development.

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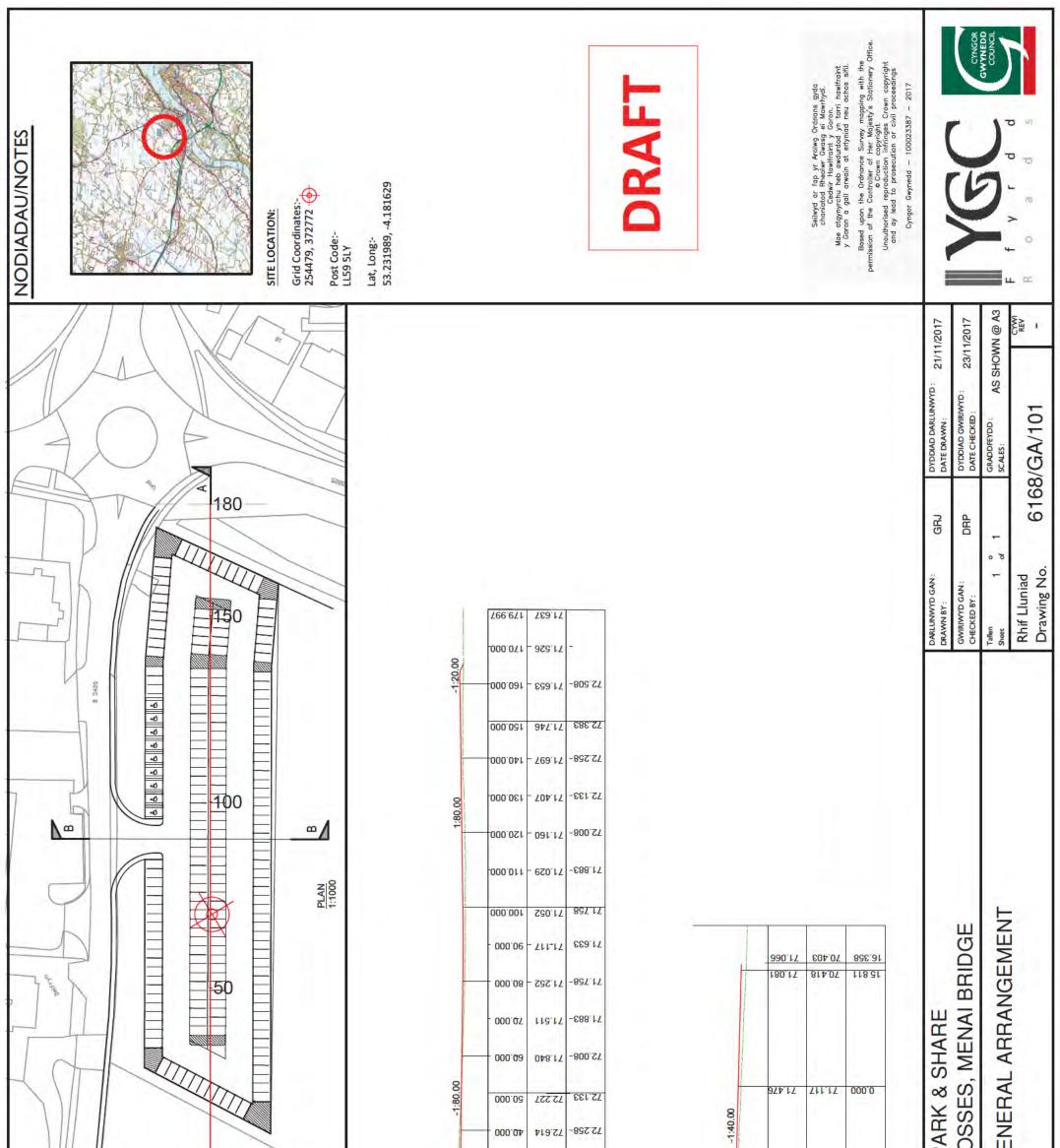
7.4 Websites

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Coflein

http://www.coflein.gov.uk/

Appendix I



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