

Foel Trawsnant Windfarm Connection Revised Route

Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment & Assessment of the Significance of the Impact of the Development on the Historic Landscape (ASIDOHL2)



**Prepared
For**

Western Power Distribution Plc

By



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Comisiynwyd Archeoleg Mynydd Du Cyf gan Western Power Distribution i gwblhau Asesiad Desg ac Asesiad o Arwyddocâd Effaith y Datblygiad ar y Dirwedd Hanesyddol (ASIDOHL2) ar gyfer llinell cysylltiad pŵer arfaethedig am Fferm Wynt Foel Trawsnant, Castell-Nedd Port Talbot, sy'n croesi mewn i Dirwedd Gofrestredig o Ddiddordeb Hanesyddol Arbennig Mynydd Margam (PGW (WGI/MGI)2) (Ffigur 1).

Mae'r asesiad presennol yn dilyn Asesiad Effaith Amgylcheddol (EIA) ac ASIDOHL blaenorol a gynhaliwyd yn 2018 gan Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions Ltd ar Fferm Wynt arfaethedig Foel Trawsnant (P2014/0825/DA). Ystyriodd yr asesiad hwn ddeg o Henebion Cofrestredig a Thirwedd Hanesyddol Mynydd Margam ar gyfer effeithiau lleoliad posibl a achosir gan y fferm wynt ond ni chafwyd bod yr un ohonynt yn destun unrhyw effeithiau arwyddocaol. Cynhaliwyd asesiad desg archeolegol ac ASIDOHL2 gan Archeoleg Mynydd Du Cyf yn 2021 ar gyfer llwybr llinell pŵer cysylltiad fferm wynt arfaethedig (BMA Adroddiad Rhif 210). Ar ôl ymgynghori â thirfeddianwyr, diwygiodd Western Power Distribution aliniad llwybr arfaethedig y llinell bŵer. Roedd hyn yn gofyn am ailasesiad o'i effaith bosibl ar asedau treftadaeth a'r Dirwedd Hanesyddol Gofrestredig, ac mae'r canlyniadau yn ffurfio cynnwys yr adroddiad presennol.

Cyfanswm hyd y llinell bŵer arfaethedig yw 8km ac mae'n croesi lleoliad ucheldir ar y ffin rhwng Castell-nedd Port Talbot a Phen-y-bont. Mae'r llwybr yn rhedeg tua'r de-ddwyrain o fferm wynt yn Foel Trawsnant (NGR SS 83754 94105, 371mOD), ac yn ymylu ar ymyl dwyreiniol Parc Coedwig Afan yng Ngarn wen, o ble mae'n rhedeg yn gyfochrog yn fras ag Afon Llynfi ac aneddiadau Dyffryn, Nantylffyllon a Maesteg i'r dwyrain. Mae'n parhau tua'r de ar hyd cyfuchliniau'r Mynydd Bach a Mynydd Margam sy'n wynebu'r dwyrain, gan basio trwy blwyf Llangynwyd Ganol i'w ben terfynol ger Ffynnon y Gilfach (NGR SS 84185 87453, 279mOD). Mae gosodiad y llinell bŵer arfaethedig yn cynnwys codi nifer o bolion H ar hyd y llwybr.

Mae'r asesiad wedi nodi effeithiau uniongyrchol ac anuniongyrchol posibl y datblygiad arfaethedig ar asedau treftadaeth a'r Ardaloedd Cymeriad Tirwedd Hanesyddol (HLCA). Mae wedi asesu'r effaith ar osodiad ac arwyddocâd asedau dynodedig statudol, a thrwy broses ASIDOHL2, mae wedi asesu arwyddocâd yr effaith ar y Dirwedd Hanesyddol yn ei chyfanrwydd.

Mae'r asesiad desg archeolegol wedi'i baratoi i'r safonau proffesiynol y Sefydliad Siartredig Archeolegwyr a'i fwriad yw i cwrdd Safon a Chanllawiau ar gyfer Asesiadau Desg Archeolegol (2014, diwygiwyd 2020). Mae'r ASIDOHL2 wedi'i baratoi i safonau proffesiynol y Sefydliad Siartredig Archeolegwyr a'i fwriad yw i cwrdd a'r safon ac arweiniad a nodwyd gan Cadw yn Canllaw i Arfer Da ar Ddefnyddio'r Cofrestr Tirweddau o Ddiddordeb Hanesyddol yng Nghymru yn y Broses Gynllunio a Datblygu (2il argraffiad 2007).

Non-Executive Summary

Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Western Power Distribution to carry out an Archaeological Desk-based Assessment and an Assessment of the Significance of the Impact of the Development on the Historic Landscape (ASIDOHL2) for a proposed power connection line for Foel Trawsnant Windfarm, Neath Port Talbot, that crosses into the Mynydd Margam Registered Landscape of Special Historic Interest (PGW (WGI/MGI)2) (Figure 1).

The present assessment follows a previous Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and ASIDOHL carried out in 2018 by Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions Ltd on the proposed Foel Trawsnant Wind Farm (P2014/0825/ES). This assessment considered ten Scheduled Monuments and the Mynydd Margam Historic Landscape for potential setting effects caused by the wind farm but none were found to be subject to any significant effects. An archaeological desk-based assessment and ASIDOHL2 was carried out by Black Mountains Archaeology in 2021 for a proposed wind farm connection power line route (BMA Report No 210). Following landowner consultation, Western Power Distribution revised the alignment of the proposed route. This required a reassessment of its potential impact on heritage assets and the Registered Historic Landscape, the results of which form the content of the present report.

The proposed power line has a total length of 8km and crosses an upland location on the border between Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend. The route runs south-eastwards from a windfarm at Foel Trawsnant (NGR SS 83754 94105, 371mOD), and skirts the eastern edge of Afan Forest Park at Garn-wen, from which it runs broadly parallel with the River Llynfi and the settlements of Dyffryn, Nantyffyllon and Maesteg to the east. It continues southwards along the east-facing contours of Mynydd Bach and Mynydd Margam, passing through the parish of Llangynwyd Middle to its terminal end near Ffynnon y Gilfach (NGR SS 84185 87453, 279mOD). The installation of the proposed powerline includes the erection of a number of H poles along the length of the route.

The assessment has identified the potential direct and indirect impacts of the proposed development on heritage assets and Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCAs). It has assessed the impact on the setting and significance of statutory designated assets, and through the ASIDOHL2 process, it has assessed the significance of impact on the Historic Landscape as a whole.

The archaeological desk-based assessment has been prepared to the professional standards of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and is intended to meet Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments (2014, revised 2020). The ASIDOHL2 has been prepared to meet Standard and Guidance set out by CADW in 'ASIDOHL2 Guide to Good Practice on Using the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales in the Planning and Development Process' (2nd Edition 2007).

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Summary of Assessment

The archaeological desk-based assessment has identified the potential direct and indirect impacts of the proposed power line and assessed its potential impact on the setting and significance of statutory designated heritage assets. The present assessment follows a previous Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and ASIDOHL carried out in 2018 by Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions Ltd on the proposed Foel Trawsnant Wind Farm (P2014/0825/ES). This assessment considered ten Scheduled Monuments and the Mynydd Margam Historic Landscape for potential setting effects caused by the wind farm but none were found to be subject to any significant effects. An archaeological desk-based assessment and ASIDOHL2 was carried out by Black Mountains Archaeology in 2021 for a proposed wind farm connection power line route (BMA Report No 210). Following landowner consultation, Western Power Distribution revised the alignment of the proposed route. This required a reassessment of its potential impact on heritage assets and the Registered Historic Landscape, the results of which form the content of the present report.

At the northern end of the proposed power line the route runs parallel, in very close proximity, to Foel y Dyffryn Cross Ridge Dyke (HA1) and crosses directly over the recorded route of the Ffordd y Gifraith Roman Road (HA2). To the west of Maesteg the proposed route crosses a historic reservoir (New 6) and an associated watercourse/ possible leat (New 8) that may be associated with the water management system of the Early 19th Century Llynfi Ironworks (HA36). South of Maesteg Golf Course the proposed power line crosses the Cwmcerwyn Tramway/ Port Talbot Railway (HA3). Any H-poles or associated groundworks placed directly on these heritage assets has potential to damage both their physical remains and their overall integrity. The overall direct impact of H pole installation for all heritage assets has been assessed as ‘Low’ with a significance of ‘Slight Significance’. The potential direct impacts on these heritage assets can be avoided by ensuring that H pole locations are placed clear of their boundaries.

The proposed power line route crosses an area of substantial historic extraction activity at Garn Wen, with recorded heritage assets including disused coal levels, air shafts and quarries (HA5-15). Whilst the proposed route does not fall directly on any of these sites it is feasible that further extractive features are disturbed by groundworks associated with H-pole installation. The stretch of the proposed route within the Llangynwyd Historic Character Area (HLCA 005) crosses an archaeologically and historically significant landscape that includes Y Bwlwarcaw Hillfort (HA38) to the west and the wider landscape setting of Llangynwyd Castle (HA37) to the east. It is recommended that an archaeological watching brief is implemented on groundworks associated with H-pole installation to mitigate the potential risk of impact on buried deposits, particularly within the Llangynwyd Historic Character Area (HLCA 005).

*A total of 17 heritage assets were identified as being subject to potential indirect (visual) effects. The most significant of these is Y Bwlwarcaw Hillfort (HA38) which would have intervisibility with the proposed powerline that has been assessed as causing a **Very Slight** effect to the monument; whilst the proposed powerline will be noticeable it will cause little discernible severance of cultural links. The Church of St Cynwyd (HA43) and 15 non-designated assets (HAs 1-3, 12, 13, 19, 31, 33, 54-60) were also assessed as being subject to a potential **Very Slight** effect.*

The ASIDOHL2 process considered the potential effect to all Registered Historic Landscapes and resulted in the identification of just a single landscape being affected; Mynydd Margam Landscape of Special Historic Interest (PGW (WGI/MGI)2) with remaining landscapes on the Register being discounted as too distant. Four Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCAs) were identified for potential direct effects from the proposed scheme; Llangynwyd (HLCA005), Cwm Dyffryn and Cwm Farted Railway Corridor (HLCA009), Mynydd Margam Forest (HLCA 010) and Upper Cwm Kenfig (HLCA013).

*These HLCAs were assessed for both 'absolute' and 'relative' impacts. The assessment indicated that for all HLCAs the absolute direct impact of the proposed power line would be **Very Slight** and the Magnitude of Direct Impact would be **Slight**. The absolute direct impact on Llangynwyd (HLCA005) of 0.63ha of a total area of 705.27ha which is equal to 0.09%. Mynydd Margam Forest (HLCA010) would be subject to an absolute direct impact of 0.17ha of a total area of 1641.62ha which is equal to 0.01%. Upper Cwm Kenfig (HLCA013) would be subject to an absolute direct impact of 0.53ha of 95.83ha which is equal to 0.55%. Finally, Cwm Dyffryn and Cwm Farteg Railway Corridor (HLCA009) would be subject to an absolute direct impact of 0.006ha of 53.93ha which is equal to 0.01%. In total the absolute direct impact of the development on the Registered Historic Landscape as a whole is 1.34ha of a total 3233.57ha which is equal to 0.04%.*

*Stage 3 of the ASIDOHL2 process identified that a total of five HLCAs may be subject to potential indirect impacts from the proposed power line. The assessment concluded that due to the small scale of the proposed development, there would be no Indirect Physical Impact; there would be no physical change from an increased risk of exposure, increased management needs, severance or fragmentation of related elements, frustration of access leading to decreased opportunities for education and enjoyment of the amenity elements will occur. The assessment of Indirect Non-Physical (Visual) Impacts concluded that the Magnitude of Impact for all five HLCAs would be **Very Slight**.*

*Stage 4 of the ASIDOHL2 process assessed the relative importance of parts or elements of these HLCAs that may be directly or indirectly, wholly or partially, affected by the proposed development. The resulting overall averaged landscape value of the affected area as a whole was assessed as **Considerable**.*

*The final ASIDOHL2 assessment process (Stage 5) identified the overall significance of the impact of development and the effect that altering the Historic Landscape Character Area (HLCA) concerned has on the whole of the Historic Landscape on the Register (Cadw 2007, 28). The effect of the development on each HLCA was scored and the value assessed in relation to the likely loss and consequent reduction in value of the Registered Historic Landscape as a whole. The results indicated that the summary of overall significance of the impact of development on the historic landscape is **Very Low** for all HLCAs. The development impact on key elements is such that value of the historic landscape on the Register remains essentially unchanged.*

Acknowledgements and Copyright

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Abbreviations

AP:	Aerial Photograph
ASIDOHL2:	Assessment of the Impact of the Development on Historic Landscapes on the Register
CRAPW:	Central Register of Air Photography for Wales
GGAT:	Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust
HER:	Historic Environment Record (curated by Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust)
HLCA:	Historic Landscape Character Area
LB:	Listed Building
LPA:	Local Planning Authority
NGR:	National Grid Reference
NMR:	National Monuments Record (curated by RCAHMW)
NPRN:	National Primary Record Number (in NMR)
PRN:	Primary Record Number (in HER - curated by Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust)
RCAHMW:	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales
SM:	Scheduled Monument

1 Introduction

1.1 Project Background and Proposals

- 1.1.1 Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Western Power Distribution to carry out an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and an Assessment of the Significance of the Impact of the Development on the Historic Landscape (ASIDOHL2) for a proposed power connection line for Foel Trawsnant Windfarm, Neath Port Talbot, which crosses into the Mynydd Margam Registered Landscape of Special Historic Interest (PGW (WGI/MGI)2) (Figure 1).
- 1.1.2 The proposed power line has a total length of 8km and traverses an upland location on the border between Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend. The route runs south-eastwards from a windfarm at Foel Trawsnant (NGR SS 83754 94105, 371mOD), and skirts the eastern edge of Afan Forest Park at Garn-wen from which it runs broadly parallel with the River Llynfi and the settlements of Dyffryn, Nantyyffyllon and Maesteg to the east. It continues southwards along the east-facing contours of Mynydd Bach and Mynydd Margam, passing through the parish of Llangynwyd Middle to its terminal end near Ffynnon y Gilfach (NGR SS 84185 87453, 279mOD). The installation of the proposed powerline includes the erection of a number of H poles along the length of the route.
- 1.1.3 The present assessment follows a previous Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and ASIDOHL carried out in 2018 by Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions Ltd on the proposed Foel Trawsnant Wind Farm (P2014/0825/ES). The assessment considered ten Scheduled Monuments and the Mynydd Margam Historic Landscape for potential setting effects caused by the wind farm but none were found to be subject to any significant effects. An archaeological desk-based assessment and ASIDOHL2 was carried out by Black Mountains Archaeology in 2021 for a proposed wind farm connection power line route (BMA Report No **210**). Following landowner consultation, Western Power Distribution revised the alignment of the proposed route. This required a reassessment of its potential impact on heritage assets and the Registered Historic Landscape, the results of which form the content of the present report.

1.2 Objectives

- 1.2.1 The purpose of a desk-based assessment as set out by the *Chartered Institute for Archaeologists* (2014, revised 2020) is to gain an understanding of the historic environment resource in order to formulate as required:
- an assessment of the potential for heritage assets to survive within the Area of Study.
 - an assessment of the significance of the known or predicted heritage assets considering, their archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interests.
 - strategies for further evaluation whether or not intrusive, where the nature, extent or significance of the resource is not sufficiently well defined.
 - an assessment of the impact of proposed Development or other land use changes on the significance of the heritage assets and their settings.
 - strategies to conserve the significance of heritage assets, and their settings.

- design strategies to ensure new Development makes a positive contribution to the character and local distinctiveness of the historic environment and local place-shaping.
- proposals for further archaeological investigation within a programme of research, whether undertaken in response to a threat or not. [L]
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1.2.2 To this we can further add that the objectives of desk-based assessment are:

- An assessment of available information to determine the extent and character of heritage assets, in local, regional and national contexts.
- An assessment of the significance of heritage assets considering all of the cultural heritage values that people associate with it, or which prompt them to respond to it.
- An assessment of impact (physical or visual) on heritage assets and their setting.
- The careful consideration and presentation of mitigation recommendations aimed at reducing the impact of the Development on heritage assets and their setting.
- Finally, the presentation of this information in a written report and the preparation and deposition of an archive of data generated by the assessment in line with professional standards.

1.3 Legislative Framework

1.3.1 Planning legislation is set out in the *Town and Country Planning Act 1990*. *Planning Policy Wales (PPW 11th Edition)* sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government. Chapter 6 sets out the Welsh Government's policy towards the historic environment. It states "The planning system must take into account the Welsh Government's objectives to protect, conserve, promote and enhance the historic environment as a resource for the general well-being of present and future generations. The historic environment is a finite, non-renewable and shared resource and a vital and integral part of the historical and cultural identity of Wales. It contributes to economic vitality and culture, civic pride, local distinctiveness and the quality of Welsh life. The historic environment can only be maintained as a resource for future generations if the individual historic assets are protected and conserved. Cadw's published *Conservation Principles* highlights the need to base decisions on an understanding of the impact a proposal may have on the significance of an historic asset." (PPW 2021, 126). Underpinning PPW are a series of legislative powers and Technical Advice Notes (TANs).

1.3.2 *The Planning (Wales) Act 2015* sets out a series of legislative changes to deliver reform of the planning system in Wales, to ensure that it is fair, resilient and enables Development. The 2015 Act also introduces a mandatory requirement to undertake pre-application consultation for certain types of Development. The *Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016* defines in *Schedule 4(l)* the parameters and definitions for the requirement of pre-application consultation by Welsh Ministers, particularly in response to the effect of statutory designated monuments, buildings, and parks and gardens. Where Environmental Impact Assessment is required, detailed advice is contained within *Welsh Office Circular 11/99 Environmental Impact Assessment*.

- 1.3.3 Any works affecting an ancient monument and its setting are protected through implementation of the *Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979*. In Wales the 1979 Act has been strengthened by *The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016*. The 2016 Act makes important improvements for the protection and management of the Welsh historic environment. It also stands at the centre of an integrated package of secondary legislation (Annexes 1-6), new and updated planning policy and advice, and best-practice guidance on a wide range of topics (*TAN 24 Historic Environment*). Taken together, these will support and promote the careful management of change in the historic environment in accordance with current conservation philosophy and practice.
- 1.3.4 The *Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979* and the *Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016* sets out a presumption in favour of preservation in-situ concerning sites and monuments of national importance (scheduled/listed), and there exists in the current *Planning Policy Wales (Chapter 6)* a presumption in favour of preservation in-situ of all types of heritage assets.
- 1.3.5 Cadw are the Welsh Government body responsible for determining applications for Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) and is a statutory consultee for certain types of Developments affecting Scheduled Ancient Monuments, World Heritage Sites and Registered Historic Parks, Gardens and Landscapes, Strategic Environmental Assessments and scoping opinions for Environmental Impact Assessments (PPW 2021). Cadw published their *Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales* in 2011. These principles provide the basis upon which Cadw discharges its statutory duties, makes decisions or offers advice about changes to historic assets. Cadw further advise that the *Conservation Principles* should also be used by others (including owners, developers and other public bodies) to assess the potential impacts of a Development proposal on the significance of any historic asset/assets and to assist in decision-making where the historic environment is affected by the planning process (PPW 2021).
- 1.3.6 Important or historic hedgerows (and boundaries) are protected under *The Environment Act 1995 (section 95)*. The *Hedgerow Regulations 1997* (under the 1995 Act) provides protection and guidance for those development/agricultural activities outside of planning. The regulations permit the removal of any hedgerow (including any length of hedgerow) for ‘carrying out Development for which planning permission has been granted’ provided the loss of the hedgerow has been properly assessed against the benefits of the proposed Development.
- 1.3.7 Following review in 1998, a simplified set of assessment criteria was proposed where all substantially complete boundaries (hedgerows) that predate 1845 were to be afforded consideration/protection. The Environment, Transport and Regional Affairs Committee’s Report ‘The Protection of Field Boundaries’ 1999 was acknowledged by Government but no amendments were made to the 1997 regulations. Judicial Review of the application in 2002 of the regulations (*Flintshire County Council v NAW and Mr J T Morris*) has clarified the interpretation of some of the criteria (see *The Hedgerow Regulations 1997, Schedule 1, Part 2 Archaeology and History* and Section 1.5 below).

2 Assessment Methodology (heritage assets)

2.1 Identifying Heritage Assets for Assessment

2.1.1 The assessment of the historic environment includes the interrogation of a number of sources (but not limited to):

- Statutory designated monuments, buildings and landscapes (including conservation areas, parks, gardens and battlefields).
- Regional Historic Environment Record (HER).
- National Monuments Record (NMR).
- Aerial photographic archives.
- Local and national archives.
- Cartographic and documentary sources.

2.1.2 Information on statutory designated sites (World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Registered Landscapes, Battlefields, Parks and Gardens) was obtained from Cadw (Received 20/01/22 and accessed through Cof Cymru - National Historic Assets of Wales (a Welsh Government online mapping resource). Information recorded on the Regional Historic Environment Record (Received 20/01/22) and National Monuments Record (NMR Enquiry no. RCPL2/3/88/001 Received 18/01/22) were assessed as were the collections of aerial photographs held by the Central Register of Air Photography for Wales. Cartographic Archives held by The National Library of Wales were also consulted.

2.1.3 The assessment reviewed the existing information pertaining to the Historic Environment based on a primary 250m (radius) study area centred on the proposed windfarm connection line. A selection of statutory designated sites was assessed outside the study area (up to 1km radius) for the impact to their setting (see Figure 1).

2.1.4 Important or historic hedgerows were assessed according to current legislation that details the following criteria:

- The hedgerow marks the boundary, or part of the boundary, of at least one historic parish or township; and for this purpose, “historic” means existing before 1850.
- The hedgerow incorporates an archaeological feature which is (a) included in the schedule of monuments compiled by the Secretary of State under Section 1 (schedule of monuments) of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979(7); or (b) recorded at the relevant date in a Historic Environment Record.
- The hedgerow (a) is situated wholly or partly within an archaeological site included or recorded as mentioned in paragraph 2 or on land adjacent to and associated with such a site; and (b) is associated with any monument or feature on that site.
- The hedgerow (a) marks the boundary of a pre-1600 AD estate or manor recorded at the relevant date in a Historic Environment Record or in a document held at that date at a Record Office; or (b) is visibly related to any building or other feature of such an estate or manor.
- The hedgerow (a) is recorded in a document held at the relevant date at a Record Office as an integral part of a field system pre-dating the Enclosure Acts; or (b) is

part of, or visibly related to, any building or other feature associated with such a system, and that system (i) is substantially complete; or (ii) is of a pattern which is recorded in a document prepared before the relevant date by a local planning authority, within the meaning of the 1990 Act, for the purposes of Development control within the authority's Area, as a key landscape characteristic.

2.1.5 There are other criteria relating to rights of way and ecology.

2.2 Assessing the Value of Heritage Assets

2.2.1 Heritage assets are categorised according to the only values that are nationally agreed as defined in the Department of Transport/Welsh Office/Scottish Office *Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB): LA 106 Cultural Heritage Assessment Revision 1 (2020)*, which has replaced *DMRB: HA 208/07 Cultural Heritage (2007, amended 2009)*. A cultural heritage asset is an individual archaeological site or building, a monument or group of monuments, an historic building or group of buildings, an historic landscape etc., which, together with its setting, can be considered as a unit for assessment. Heritage assets are assessed according to the following criteria.

2.2.2 Understanding value is subjective beyond any statutory or registered designation and is based on the professional experience and knowledge of the assessor. Other factors do contribute to the overall assessment of value (and significance) of heritage assets and the assessment criteria below contributes to an overall robust assessment framework.

Value			Criteria
A*	Very High	International/National	World Heritage Sites (including nominated sites). Assets of acknowledged international importance. Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged international research objectives.
A	High	National	Scheduled Monuments (including proposed sites). Undesignated assets of schedulable quality and importance. Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged national research objectives.
B	Medium	Regional	Designated or undesignated assets that contribute to regional research objectives.
C	Low	Local	Designated and undesignated assets of local importance. Assets compromised by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations. Assets of limited value, but with potential to contribute to local research objectives.
D	Negligible	Local	Assets with very little or no surviving archaeological interest.
U	Unknown	Unknown	The importance of the resource has not been ascertained.

- 2.2.3 The criteria below is adapted from notes made in Annex 2 of the *DMRB Vol. 11 Section 3 Part 2: HA 208/07 Cultural Heritage (2007)*, (amended to *LA 106 Cultural Heritage Assessment Revision 1 (2020)*), that refer to the Scheduling Criteria as set out by the *Ancient Monument and Archaeological Areas Act 1979* and *The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016*.
- 2.2.4 The criteria also incorporates 'Stage 4: Evaluating Relative Importance' as set out in ASIDOHL2, *Guide to Good Practice on Using the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales in the Planning and Development Process (2nd Edition 2007)*. An ASIDOHL2 is a staged approach to assessing the significance of impact to historic landscapes (and constituent character areas) as characterised in the *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales (Pt 2.1, 1998)* and *Register of Landscapes of Special Historic Interest in Wales (Pt 2.2, 2001)* to the method set out in the *Guide to Good Practice on Using the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales in the Planning and Development Process (revised 2nd Edition 2007)*.
- 2.2.5 While comprehensive, the criteria should not be regarded as definitive, rather they are indicators which contribute to a wider judgement based on the professional experience of the assessor and the circumstance and context of the assessment and heritage asset.
- 2.2.6 **Rarity:** there are some monument categories, which in certain periods are so scarce that all surviving examples which still retain some archaeological potential should be preserved. This should be assessed in relation to what survives today, since elements of a once common type may now be rare.
- Very high: sole survivor of its type.
 - High: very few sites of this type are known.
 - Medium: the site is not unusual but cannot be considered common.
 - Low: the site is quite common.
- 2.2.7 **Documentation and association:** the significance of a heritage asset may be enhanced by the existence of records of previous investigations or, in the case of more recent monuments, by the supporting evidence of contemporary written records. Furthermore, any important historical associations relating to the heritage asset, such as institutions, cultural figures, movements or events, will enhance value. The survival of documentation and/or historic association that increases our understanding of a heritage asset will raise its importance, though this is difficult to quantify owing to the extremely varied nature of documentary and historical material. Therefore, a professional judgment is given based on the actual amount or importance of evidence and its academic value.
- Very High: a highly significant, authentic and nationally well-known association(s) and/or complete documentary record, or exceptionally important sources available.
 - High: a significant, authentic and regionally well-known association(s) and/or considerable quantity of relevant material, or highly important sources available.

- Moderate: an authentic, but less significant, perhaps locally well-known association(s) and/or some relevant material, or moderately important sources available.
- Low: unauthenticated or a little-known association(s) and/or little relevant material, or only modestly important sources available.
- None: no known associations and/or relevant material available.

2.2.8 **Group Value:** relates to the diversity (or similarity) of elements including their structural and functional coherence. The value of a single monument (such as a field system) may be greatly enhanced by its association with related contemporary monuments (such as a settlement and cemetery) or with monuments of different periods.

- Very high: largely complete interconnected complex of heritage assets or landscapes (e.g UNESCO World Heritage Site).
- High: significant survival of an interconnected complex of heritage assets.
- Moderate: some surviving elements of an interconnected complex of heritage assets; some disintegration has occurred.
- Low: single or unconnected/unrelated groups of heritage assets.

2.2.9 **Survival/Condition:** the survival of a monument's archaeological potential both above and below ground is a particularly important consideration and should be assessed in relation to its present condition and surviving features. The Historic Environment Records (HERs) of the four Welsh Archaeological Trusts note the condition of sites according to the following criteria:

- Intact: the site is intact.
- Near intact: the site is nearly intact.
- Damaged: the site has been moderately damaged.
- Near destroyed: the site has nearly been destroyed.
- Destroyed: the site has been destroyed.
- Restored: the site has been restored.
- Moved: the site has been moved (usually finds).
- Not known: the condition of the site is not known.

2.2.10 To these criteria, we can add the following assessment:

- Very Good: elements surviving in very good condition for their class.
- Good: elements surviving in good or above average condition for their class.
- Moderate: elements surviving in moderate or average condition for their class.
- Fair elements surviving in fair or below average condition for their class.
- Poor elements surviving in poor condition for their class.

2.3 Assessing Direct Impacts

2.3.1 **Direct (physical) impacts** are outcomes resulting from an assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the heritage asset or landscape. The direct impact of a course of action (e.g. development) can only be understood once the assessment criteria above has been completed and potential outcomes fully understood (as far as any development proposal or construction design is reasonably understood).

2.3.2 The direct impact of the proposed development on heritage assets has been assessed using the following criteria:

- Very high: total loss of the integrity of the heritage asset(s).
- High: significant loss of integrity to the heritage asset(s), significant reduction of group and rarity values.
- Moderate: some loss of integrity to heritage asset(s) and reduction in value.
- Low: slight loss of integrity to heritage asset(s) and value.
- None: no perceived or identified effect, or loss in value.
- Beneficial: Development will protect, preserve or enhance the heritage asset resulting in an increase in value.

Table 2. Significance of impact to heritage assets (matrix)

Impact	Category					
	A*	A	B	C	D	U
Very High	Very Significant	Very Significant	Very Significant	Significant	Significant	Unknown
High	Very Significant	Very Significant	Very Significant	Significant	Significant	Unknown
Moderate	Very Significant	Very Significant	Significant	Significant	Slight Significance	Unknown
Low	Very Significant	Significant	Significant	Slight Significance	Slight Significance	Unknown
None	None	None	None	None	None	None

2.4 Assessing Indirect Visual Impacts

2.4.1 Assessing **indirect (visual) impacts** to heritage assets is intrinsically linked to setting and significance (see section 1.6). The criteria below are adapted from standard EIA evaluation criteria and ‘Stage 3: Assessment of Indirect Impacts of Development’ as set out in *ASIDOHL2, Guide to Good Practice on Using the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales in the Planning and Development Process (2nd Edition 2007)*. Assessment is confined to sites of International, National and in some cases Regional value.

- Very severe: the key views and/or essential lines of sight to and from the heritage asset are dominated or obscured by the Development resulting in severance of cultural heritage links.
- Severe: the key views and/or essential lines of sight to and from the heritage asset are interrupted by the Development resulting in partial severance of cultural heritage links.
- Considerable: the key views and/or essential lines of sight to and from the heritage asset are significantly visible resulting in limited severance of cultural heritage links.
- Moderate: the key views and/or essential lines of sight to and from the heritage asset are visible resulting in some severance of cultural heritage links.
- Slight: the key views and/or essential lines of sight to and from the heritage asset are noticeable resulting in diminished cultural heritage links.
- Very slight: the key views and/or essential lines of sight to and from the heritage asset are noticeable resulting in little discernible severance of cultural heritage links.
- None: the key views and/or essential lines of sight to and from the heritage asset are not noticeable resulting in no severance of cultural heritage links.

2.5 Assessing Impact to Setting and Significance

2.5.1 The *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales 2017 (The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016, Annex 6)* explains what **setting** is, how it contributes to the **significance** of a historic asset and why it is important. It also outlines the principles used to assess the potential impact of development or land management proposals on the settings of World Heritage Sites, ancient monuments (scheduled and unscheduled), listed buildings, registered historic landscapes, parks and gardens, and conservation areas. These principles, however, are equally applicable to all individual historic assets, irrespective of their designation.

2.5.2 Certain major developments require pre-application consultation with the local planning authority and, where specialist advice is required, the Welsh Ministers through Cadw. Any Development likely to directly or indirectly (visual) effect a statutory designated heritage asset or high value undesignated heritage asset and its setting will likely require ‘consultation before grant of permission’ under the *Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016, schedule 4 (1)(i) and (ii)* if the proposed development meets any of the following criteria:

- Development likely to affect the site of a registered historic park or garden or its setting.
 - Development is within a registered historic landscape that requires an Environmental Impact Assessment and ASIDOHL2.
 - Development likely to have an impact on the outstanding universal value of a World Heritage Site.
 - Development is within a distance of 0.5 kilometres from any point of the perimeter of a scheduled monument.
 - Development is within a distance of 1 kilometre from the perimeter of a scheduled monument and is 15 metres or more in height, or has an Area of 0.2 hectares or more.
 - Development is within a distance of 2 kilometres from the perimeter of a scheduled monument and is 50 metres or more in height, or has an Area of 0.5 hectares or more.
 - Development is within a distance of 3 kilometres from the perimeter of a scheduled monument and is 75 metres or more in height, or has an Area of 1 hectare or more.
 - Development is within a distance of 5 kilometres from the perimeter of a scheduled monument and is 100 metres or more in height, or has an Area of 1 hectare or more.
- 2.5.3 An assessment of the impact of the proposed development on the **setting** of the statutory designated heritage asset or high value undesignated heritage asset will be required if any of the criteria above are met.
- 2.5.4 The assessment of the setting of heritage assets follows the four-stage approach detailed in the *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales 2017 (The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016, Annex 6)*:
- Stage 1: Identify the historic assets that might be affected by a proposed change or development and their significance.
 - Stage 2: Define and analyse the settings to understand how they contribute to the ways in which the historic assets are understood, appreciated and experienced.
 - Stage 3: Evaluate the potential impact of a proposed change or Development on those settings.
 - Stage 4: Consider options to mitigate the potential impact of a proposed change or Development on those settings.
- 2.5.5 The assessment of **significance** is intrinsically linked to the setting (see paragraphs 1.5.1 to 1.5.3 above) and value (see criteria in section 1.5 above) of a heritage asset/registered landscape, park and garden.
- 2.5.6 The significance of an historic asset embraces all of the cultural heritage values that people associate with it, or which prompt them to respond to it. These values tend to grow in strength and complexity over time, as understanding deepens and people's perceptions evolve (*Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the*

historic environment in Wales 2011, p10).

- 2.5.7 There are four values that need to be considered when assessing significance and these are set out in Cadw's *Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales*:
- 2.5.8 **Evidential value:** relates to those elements of a heritage asset that can provide evidence about past human activity, including its physical remains or historic fabric. These may be visible and relatively easy to assess, or they may be buried below ground, under water or be hidden by later fabric. These remains provide the primary evidence for when and how a heritage asset was made or built, what it was used for and how it has changed over time. The unrecorded loss of historic fabric represents the destruction of the primary evidence. Additional evidential values can be gained from documentary sources, pictorial records and archaeological archives or museum collections. To assess the significance of this aspect of an asset, all this evidence needs to be gathered in a systematic way and any gaps in the evidence identified.
- 2.5.9 **Historical value:** a heritage asset might illustrate a particular aspect of past life or it might be associated with a notable family, person, event or movement. These illustrative or associative values of a heritage asset may be less tangible than its evidential value but will often connect past people, events and aspects of life with the present. Of course, the functions of a heritage asset are likely to change over time and so the full range of changing historical values might not become clear until all the evidential values have been gathered together. Historical values are not so easily diminished by change as evidential values and are harmed only to the extent that adaptation has obliterated them or concealed them.
- 2.5.10 **Aesthetic value:** relates to the way in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a heritage asset. This might include the form of a heritage asset, its external appearance and how it lies within its setting. It can be the result of conscious design or it might be a seemingly fortuitous outcome of the way in which a heritage asset has evolved and been used over time, or it may be a combination of both. The form of an asset normally changes over time. Sometimes earlier pictorial records and written descriptions will be more powerful in many people's minds than what survives today. Some important viewpoints may be lost or screened, or access to them may be temporarily denied.
- 2.5.11 To assess this aspect of an asset, again the evidence of the present and past form must be gathered systematically. This needs to be complemented by a thorough appreciation on site of the external appearance of an asset in its setting. Inevitably understanding the aesthetic value of a heritage asset will be more subjective than the study of its evidential and historical values. Much of it will involve trying to express the aesthetic qualities or the relative value of different parts of its form or design. It is important to seek the views of others with a knowledge and appreciation of the heritage asset on what they consider to be the significant aesthetic values.
- 2.5.12 **Communal value:** relates to the meanings that a heritage asset has for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory. It is closely linked to historical and aesthetic values but tends to have additional or specific aspects. Communal value might be commemorative or symbolic. For example, people might draw part of their identity or collective memory from a heritage asset, or have emotional links to it. Such values often change over time and they may be important

for remembering both positive and uncomfortable events, attitudes or periods in Wales's history. Heritage assets can also have social value, acting as a source of social interaction, distinctiveness or coherence; economic value, providing a valuable source of income or employment; or they may have spiritual value, emanating from religious beliefs or modern perceptions of the spirit of a place.

- 2.5.13 The first stage of assessing significance is by understanding the value of the heritage asset by carefully considering its history, fabric and character and then comparing these values with other similarly designated or types of heritage asset locally, regionally or if necessary, nationally. The outcome of this process is a Statement of Significance, which is partly a subjective exercise based on the assessor's experience and knowledge.

3 Baseline

3.1 Location, Topography and Geology

- 3.1.1 The proposed power line has a total length of 8km and crosses an upland location on the border between Neath Port Talbot and Bridgend. The route runs south-eastwards from a windfarm at Foel Trawnsnant (NGR SS 83754 94105, 371mOD), and skirts the eastern edge of Afan Forest Park at Garn-wen from which it runs broadly parallel with the River Llynfi and the settlements of Dyffryn, Nantyyffyllon and Maesteg to the east. It continues southwards along the east-facing contours of Mynydd Bach and Mynydd Margam, passing through the parish of Llangynwyd Middle to its terminal end near Ffynnon y Gilfach (NGR SS 84185 87453, 279mOD). The present land use along the route comprises a mixture of heath and grassland common, forestry plantation and irregular enclosed fields predominantly laid to pasture. The installation of the proposed powerline includes the erection of a number of H poles along the length of the route.
- 3.1.2 The underlying geology along the route is varied. The bedrock at the northern end of the route at Foel Trawnsnant is Rhondda Member Sandstone with bands of Llynfi Member Mudstone, Siltstone and Sandstone, changing to Llynfi member sandstone further south before the route crosses the South Wales Middle Coal Measures at Garn wen, which continues as far south as Neath Road. The bedrock returns to Rhondda Member Sandstone as far as Moel Sychbant, where it changes to Brithdir Member Sandstone for the remainder of the route. All of these bedrock types represent sedimentary deposits dating to the Carboniferous period dating to between 318 - 309 million years ago. Overlying superficial deposits are isolated to the valleys where there are some accumulations of Devensian diamicton glacial tills formed during the Quaternary period between 116 – 11.8 thousand years ago (British Geological Survey 2021).
- 3.1.3 Soils follow a similar distribution with the summits of Foel Trawnsnant and Mynydd Margam having very acid loamy upland soils with a wet peaty surface, whilst the valley slopes feature freely draining acid loamy soils over sandstone and the valley bottom has slowly permeable waterlogged very acid upland soils with a peaty surface horizon. All of these upland soils support open grass moor and heath with some areas of flush and bog that is laid to rough grazing and forestry (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983). The proposed route crosses a single recorded surface peat deposit close to

Heol-y-moch, at the head of Cwm Nant-y-glo (British Geological Survey 2021).

3.2 Conservation Areas

3.2.1 There are no Conservation Areas within the development area, however two fall within 1km and will therefore be considered for assessment. These are Maesteg Town Centre (CA260) (0.9km E) and Llangynwyd (CA259) (0.85km E). Margam Park (CA151) Conservation Area (3.7km SW) was discounted as too distant and/ or having no intervisibility with the development area.

3.3 Registered Landscapes, Parks and Gardens

3.3.1 The proposed power line crosses into the Mynydd Mountain Registered Landscape of Special Historic Interest (PGW(WGI/MGI)2) (Figure 1) which is described in the Register as “a discrete block of the South Wales uplands situated at the south west fringe of the historical Glamorgan Blaenau, displaying continuity, density and diversity of human occupation from the prehistoric period to the recent past. The area includes: Bronze Age ritual and funerary monuments, large Iron Age hillforts, settlements, enclosures and trackways; a Roman road, a large and important group of Early Christian Inscribed Stone monuments and associations; medieval defensive works; Margam Abbey, later a site for gentry residences, a landscaped park, pleasure gardens and a magnificent Georgian orangery; Second World War defensive installations” (Cadw & ICOMOS 2001 p63).

3.3.2 The proposed power line route will cross four Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCAs); Llangynwyd (HLCA005), Cwm Dyffryn and Cwm Farteg Railway Corridor (HLCA009), Mynydd Margam Forest (HLCA 010) and Upper Cwm Kenfig (HLCA013) (Figure 2). The Registered Landscape contains thirteen HLCAs in total.

3.3.3 No further Historic Landscapes were considered for assessment as they were considered too distant; the nearest being Merthyr Mawr, Kenfig & Margam Burrows (HLW(MGI)1) (5.3km SW) and The Rhondda (HLW(MGI)5) (7.5km NE).

3.3.4 Margam Park Grade I Registered Park & Garden (PGW(Gm)52) which is the same as HLCA001, lies 2.2km to the SW.

3.4 Scheduled Monuments and Listed Buildings

3.4.1 The proposed power line route passes in close proximity (<500m) to two Scheduled Monuments; Y Bwrlwarcu (SMGm059) and Llangynwyd Castle (SMGm085) and therefore has potential to impact upon their settings. There are a further three Scheduled Monuments within a 1km radius that may also be subject to visual/ setting effects. The Scheduled Monuments included in the assessment are:

- Y Bwrlwarcu (SMGm059) 365m to the west
- Llangynwyd Castle (SMGm085) 325m to the east
- Maesteg Blast Furnace (SMGm418) 576m to the east
- Roman Camp (SMGm058) 898m to the west
- Cefn yr Argoed Camp (SMGm245) 770m to west

3.4.2 There are no Listed Buildings in close proximity of the proposed power line route, however there are seventeen Grade II and Grade II* Listed Buildings within 1km

including industrial workers' public buildings and chapels (x8), church and associated buildings in Llangynwyd village (x6) and three Post-medieval farmstead sites. Of these, only those nine that fall within the Registered Historic Landscape are included in the assessment. These are:

- The Hopcyn Cross (LB20429)
- Church of St Cynwyd (LB11243)
- Group of five tombs S of the tower of the Church of St Cynwyd (LB20431)
- Group of 4 Hopkin and Jenkins tombs within iron railings on the W side of the path to the S porch (LB20434)
- Group of nine memorials on the W side of the path to the S porch, Church of St Cynwyd (LB20435)
- Jenkins Monument in the churchyard, Church of St Cynwyd (LB20436)
- Pentre Farmhouse, with attached farm range (LB11373)
- Gilfach-ganol farmhouse (LB11375)
- Bee boles and stile in garden wall at Gilfach-uchaf farm (LB20432)

3.5 Non-designated sites of archaeological and historical interest

3.5.1 There are 24 sites within the Primary (250m radius) Study Area recorded on the local Historic Environment Record (HER) managed by Gwent Glamorgan Archaeological Trust (GGAT) and a further ten sites recorded in the National Monuments Record (NMR) held by RCAHMW. Eight additional unrecorded sites were identified during the walkover survey and included in the assessment.

3.6 Archaeological and Historical Background

3.6.1 The study area is situated within a remarkable relic archaeological landscape that displays a continuity of human activity from the Mesolithic to the present day. A detailed assessment of the Mynydd Margam Historic Landscape has been carried out by Gwent Glamorgan Archaeological Trust (Robertson 2003) and the wider landscape has been assessed as part of the LANDMAP Historic Landscape Assessment of Neath Port Talbot (Lewis 2004). Rather than repeat that information here, the summary below will be constrained to the present study area.

3.6.2 Mesolithic

3.6.3 The earliest evidence of human activity on Mynydd Margam is an assemblage of lithic tools (GGAT02102w) of more than one type dating from the Mesolithic to the Early Bronze Age (Locock 2000, p52). The findspot is fairly isolated with further scatters being recorded much further in land, however, it is an indication that in the post-glacial period these uplands were seasonal hunting grounds for the itinerant hunter-gatherer Mesolithic communities.

3.6.4 Neolithic

3.6.5 An assemblage of stone tools including an axe head (GGAT01277m) of Neolithic date was recovered at Gelli Lenor just 280m to the east of the proposed route. Little is known about the find except that its function was perceived at the time to be 'to crush corn into meal'. Further Neolithic findspots from further afield include a leaf-shaped

arrowhead (GGAT01646m) discovered on the slopes of Foel Gwilym Hywel and a polished flint axe (GGAT096m) recovered in Caerau. How these dispersed findspots relate to human activity in the area is difficult to determine since no settlement sites have been identified in the vicinity. The nearest funerary monuments are Long Cairn NW of Laleston (GGAT04574m) and Coity Burial Chamber (SMGm068; GGAT00374m), whilst a possible henge (GGAT01128m) was identified on historic aerial photographs near Llangewydd.

3.6.6 Bronze Age

3.6.7 The upland landscape of Mynydd Margam is home to an incredibly rich Bronze Age mortuary landscape. Environmental evidence from nearby Crug-yr-Afan (GGAT00722) indicates that by the Bronze Age the uplands had largely been cleared of the dense broadleaf woodland that dominated since the end of the last Ice Age, leaving a landcover of heathland with open tree cover dominated by oak (Crampton 1967, Robertson 2003); an environment that would have made these funerary monuments and megalith sites prominent in the landscape.

3.6.8 A distribution of round barrows is spread across the summit of Mynydd Margam, four of which are fairly unique in Glamorgan owing to the fact that they feature enough earth content in the mound to be classified as barrows rather than cairns (Evans 2004 p9). The most substantial of these sites is the Scheduled Monument Twmpath Diwlith (SMGm557) situated on the level summit of Mynydd Margam and falls on the Ffordd-y-Gilfraith routeway (HA2) about 1.3km to the west of the proposed route. The RCAHMW describe the site as “grass covered with dimensions of 22.9m in diameter and a maximum height of 1.5m” (1976, p84). Twmpath Dilwith was one of a number excavated by National Museum Wales in 1921 which revealed that “the barrow had been built of turves, covering a rough cist containing fragmentary burnt bones. Later it had been enlarged with earth; the secondary interment had been rifled” (*ibid*, Fox 1934; Wheeler 1923).

3.6.9 To the east of Twmpath Dilwith and only 470m to the west of the proposed power line route, a cairn field of thirteen cairns and a round barrow, are recorded within the Scheduled Monument curtilage of Y Bwlwarcau Hillfort (HA38). Whilst these monuments were identifiable by the Ordnance Survey in the late 19th century, they have since been almost completely lost as a result of ploughing. RCAHMW recorded that by the 1970s “only one example remains in a recognisable form... being an oval grass-grown mound measuring 6.4 x 4.9m and 0.6m high with fairly steep sides” (RCHAMW 1976 p117). Similarly, the round barrow was observed by RCAHMW as “a grass-covered mound 5.5m in diameter and 0.3m high” but was recorded as ‘substantially destroyed’ in 2002 (Evans 2002). The walkover survey confirmed that this to be the case.

3.6.10 Around 120m to the west of Twmpath Diwlith lies a Scheduled ring cairn known as Site of Bodvoc Stone (SMGm443), so named because it features an early medieval inscribed stone in its centre (described below). The ring cairn is recorded by RCAHMW as “12.8m in diameter with a stony bank about 3m wide and 0.3m high and a suggestion of a slight outer ditch” (RCAHMW 1976 p84, Evans 2002 p18). Llyndwr Fawr East (GGAT00752w) and Llyndwr Fawr Southeast (GGAT00751w) round barrows lie in close proximity to the historic Llyndwr pond. These survive as low grass covered mounds with a diameter of 21.3m and heights of 0.6-0.9m and appear to have

suffered damage from robbing and forestry activities (RCAHMW 1976 p84). Lastly, Rhyd Llechws round barrow (GGAT00750w) is recorded on historic mapping, however, it now lies under forestry and is recorded as destroyed by the RCAHMW and Evans (2002).

3.6.11 The site of a standing stone, Carreg Bica (GGAT00711w), lies in a prominent position on the Fordd-y-Gifraith/ Heol-y-moch routeway (HA2). The site is marked on historic mapping and described in 1956 as two upright stone slabs so placed that they form a 'T', however the site no longer survives as confirmed by the walkover survey.

3.6.12 Iron Age

3.6.13 Iron Age activity in the study area is represented by sites of occupation rather than burial, with a series of enclosures including Y Bwlwarcau Hill Fort (HA38), Caer Blaen-y-cwm/ 'Roman Camp' (HA39), Caer Cwm Philip/ Camp N of Tonmawr (SMGm057) and Danish Camp (SMGm056). These sites are understood to reflect the use of Mynydd Margam for upland pasture although a defensive and/ or administrative use is also probable considering their strategic location.

3.6.14 Y Bwlwarcau Hillfort (HA38) is the most substantial of these enclosures and lies in close proximity to the proposed route (c.700m W). The remains comprise a small, strongly defended central enclosure with an outer ring of slighter banks that protect a much larger area. The site has several phases of construction; the inner enclosure is pentangular with an area of 0.3ha with a bank and ditch and counterscarp bank, which seems to have been superimposed on an earlier enclosure. This is surrounded by an outer pair of banks and ditches encompassing an area of c.4.4ha that appears to have been superseded by a slightly larger bank and ditch enclosing a D-shaped area of c.7.2ha. The outer enclosure also encloses a contemporary 'yard' as well as several later platform houses (RCAHMW 1976b p61). Y Bwlwarcau formed part of Cyril and Lady Fox study of the upland settlement of Mynydd Margam (1934) in which it is categorised as a medieval 'farm' site (see below).

3.6.15 Caer Blaen-y-cwm/Roman Camp (HA39) lies almost immediately to the west of Y Bwlwarcau and consists of a quadrangular enclosure covering 0.1ha that has an overall width of 11-15m. It is defended by two banks (4-6m wide and 0.7m high) separated by a ditch (1.5m deep) with an entrance on the south side measuring 4.5m wide. Cyril and Lady Fox (1934) considered that the enclosure formed the centre of a much larger enclosure about 210m across, but RCAHMW argues that only the north side of this 'enclosure' is a genuine earthwork and should in fact be interpreted as an early-medieval cross-ridge dyke that runs from the River Kenfig westwards past Caer Blaen-y-cwm and continues into what is now forestry plantation (1976b p34). A hollow trail runs north to south through the site, appearing to utilise the southern entrance but then punches through the northern defences before meeting the cross-ridge dyke that appears to cut across the route. Whether the site is dated to the Iron Age, or to the Roman period as detailed below, is difficult to determine without excavation.

3.6.16 To the north of the study area lies Cefn yr Argoed Camp (HA33) which is described as "an oval/ sub-rectangular enclosure measuring 45m long by 33m wide enclosing an area of 0.1ha, and is bounded by a substantial bank and external ditch (Cadw 2021). The site is currently situated within dense forestry plantation.

3.6.17 Roman and Early Medieval

- 3.6.18 A proposed Roman road, Ffordd y Gyfraith/ Heol y Moch Routeway (HA2), follows a N/S alignment that sites roughly parallel to the west of the proposed power line route and is crossed by the proposed route at Foel Trawsant. The historic routeway is recognised by RCAHMW as a possible Roman road (RRN23) due to the typically Roman engineering found on a section of the road near Laleston. This road would have acted as a spur running north from RR60 at Laleston towards the uplands via the strategically important area around Llangynwyd where a fort might be expected (RCAHMW 2010, p329, RCAHMW 1976b p5). Caer Blaen-y-cwm/ Roman Camp (HA39) is marked on historic mapping as 'Roman Camp', and is of a comparable size to known Roman fortlets in Wales. However as mentioned above, without excavation one can only speculate that it may have served this function in what is an important strategic location. There are no further known Roman sites in the vicinity, however, a large spread of Roman coin finds recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) indicates an ongoing presence, with dates ranging the full span of Roman occupation.
- 3.6.19 A number of cross-ridge dykes, believed to be of Early-medieval date, are recorded in the vicinity of the study area including Foel-y-Dyffryn (HA01) at the northern end of the proposed power line, and a further example north of Caer Blaen-y-cwm/Roman Camp (HA39). Cross ridge dykes are characteristic of the Glamorgan uplands and are generally situated across significant ridgeways, often on Early-medieval administrative boundaries. This observation is supported by environmental evidence gathered from a number of these sites which indicate that the dykes were excavated into a *sol brun acid* containing *Ericaceae* pollen that was formed in the early medieval period (Crampton 1966; Lewis 2006). The presence of these dykes in the vicinity of the study area is indicative once again of the continued strategic importance of this location in the Early-medieval period.
- 3.6.20 Margam is rich in Early-medieval ecclesiastical remains and the study area is no exception. The Church of St Cynwyd (HA41), located 1km to the east of the proposed route, is dedicated to the 6th century saint St Cynwyd and has a D-shaped enclosure. For these reasons it is considered likely that the church has an Early-medieval foundation. A stone cross base (GGAT00120m) is preserved within the fabric of the porch of the church, which features a rounded socket and is believed to date to between the 9th and 12th century (Redknap and Lewis 2007). A further decorated sandstone block (GGAT01616m) found at nearby Sychbant Farm and reused as a trough, is thought to originate from the shaft of an 11th century pillar cross and may also have originated from Llangynwyd Church (*ibid*). The Bodvoc stone is another significant example of an Early-medieval inscribed stone dated to the 6th century and originally situated in the centre of a ring cairn (SMGm443) as described above, although now replaced with a facsimile. The well-squared pillar stone measures 1.01 metres tall and 33cm narrowing to 28cm wide with a thickness of 22cm. The inscription on the stone is translated as 'Of Bodvocus – he lies here, the son of Catotigirnus and great-grandson of Eternalis Vedomavus' (RCAHMW 1976 p37). Roberts speculates that Bodvoc stone may be linked to the secondary construction phase and associated interment of Twmpath Dilwyth, which lies 120m to the east (2003 p32). The siting of this feature on a significant routeway (HA04), and the administrative and ecclesiastical boundary between the parishes of Margam and Llangynnd, points to a possible consolidation of administrative control in the period

(*ibid*; Knight 1995).

3.6.21 Medieval

3.6.22 Until the end of the 10th century the study area was situated within the cantref of Margam, however, following the Norman invasion of Wales the land was further divided with the study area then falling within the Norman Lordship of Tir Iarll (The Earl's Land); the demesne lands of the Lords of Glamorgan, which were administered from Llangynwyd Castle (HA37). The castle, which may have been constructed in the location of an earlier promontory fort, is attributed to Robert, Earl of Gloucester, giving it an early 12th century date, although there is no known documentary evidence earlier than the 13th century (RCAHMW 1991). Topographically the castle is not in a strong position, but it is acknowledged for its enormous strategic value due to its close proximity to the border of the Welsh Lordship of Afan located immediately to the west (Roberts 2003). Llangynwyd Castle was taken by Llywelyn ap Gruffydd in 1257 and an account dating to 1262 records that eighty houses were destroyed in the war (RCAHMW 1991 p259). The ensuing restoration of the castle is attributed to Gilbert de Clare based on strong comparisons between the Great Gatehouse, excavated in 1906 by Frederick Evans, and the extant gatehouse at Caerphilly Castle, which is dated to the 1260s (*ibid*, RCHAMW 1912). Other structural remains recorded include remnants of an earlier curtain wall and a three-quarter-round tower to the north. The castle was destroyed during the Welsh rebellion of 1294-5 and was probably never restored since the administration of Tir Iarll was from this point conducted from Kenfig (*ibid*).

3.6.23 The nucleated settlement of Llangynwyd is situated on the south-facing slope of Moel Troed-y-rhiw, quite separate from the castle and its immediate setting. The village is centred around the church of Sy Cynwyd (HA41) which retains a chancel and priest's door dating to the 14th century despite a substantial restoration in the 19th century. The layout of field boundaries surrounding the village core are suggestive of medieval strip fields and lidar imagery suggests the possibility of strip fields extending south towards Gadlys, and westwards towards Y Bwlwarcau (HA38) and Lluest-wen (GGAT00112-4), where there is further evidence of medieval settlement in the form of platform houses or *hafodau*. These platform houses form part of a wider distribution of such sites across the *blaenau* including local examples at Moel Ton Mawr (NPRN15364) to the south and Cefn-yr-Argoed 2 (GGAT00710w) to the north at Foel Trawsnant. Cyril and Aileen Fox completed a survey in 1934 which concluded that these platforms, which are generally found in pairs, represented a year round habitation rather than a seasonal one. Similar sites excavated at Gelligaer were found to contain 13th - 14th century pottery but no absolute dating has yet been undertaken (RCAHMW 2003, p33). It is unknown how these sites interacted with the other medieval sites found in the wider Margam area, such as Penhydd Grange, which was administered from Margam Abbey from the early 13th century, but they do appear to correlate with the expansion of monastic activity in the uplands at this time (*ibid*). The medieval period saw an expansion and monastic monopoly on the wool trade and sheep husbandry.

3.6.24 Post Medieval

3.6.25 The character of the uplands is little changed in the Post-medieval period although evidence of administration is represented by a series of thirteen boundary stones

marking the county boundary. The period sees a continuation of a rural economy with scattered farmsteads on valley slopes, such as the Grade II listed Gilfach-Ganol farmhouse (HA41) and a number of sheepfolds indicating the continuation of upland pasture in the local area. Some pre-industrial enclosure boundaries are also visible, however, the archaeological record for the Post-medieval period is dominated by sites related to extractive activity; a pattern that is representative of the huge expansion of industrial activity that occurred throughout Glamorgan at this time.

- 3.6.26 By the time of the 1842 Tithe Map of the parish of Llangynwyd, the nearby Llynfi/Cambrian Ironworks (HA36) were in operation. The Llynfi Ironworks was the second ironworks in the Llynfi valley and was in production from 1839 when it featured four blast furnaces of which three were operated with hot blast and one was cold blast (Cadw 2022 Accessed 25/04/22). By 1877 (First Edition Ordnance Survey (OS) map), the Llynfi Ironworks was much expanded with vast areas of quarrying evident, now laid to public amenity land and housing. Production at the ironworks is known to have ceased in 1889 following the introduction of the Bessemer Process, which rapidly supplanted the blast furnace. Today the site is preserved in the form of the Maesteg Blast Furnace Scheduled Monument (HA36) and adjacent blast engine house (LB11257) which was converted to a corn store following the ironworks' closure.
- 3.6.27 Just to the north was Dyffryn Pit which was sunk in 1831 to provide coal for the ironworks and was evidently well established by 1877, with several 'Old Levels' marked on the OS map, as well as several substantial quarries at Garn-wen (e.g. HAs 6-7), which communicated with the colliery by tramway (GGAT03378m). The 1900 OS map marks the Dyffryn Colliery as 'disused' with coal extraction activities being concentrated elsewhere. Further extractive features are marked on the 1877 map at Cae'r Mynydd (GGAT03976w, 03984w-03985w, 03987w-03988w), which were linked to the Bryn Colliery situated to the west on the Nant Ffwrdd Wyllt. However, the 1899 OS map shows the Cae'r Mynydd site to be disused by this date. Meanwhile, extractive activity began at Dyffryn Rhondda Colliery on Foel Trawnant (NPRN516682, 516689, 516679, 516680) by 1900, whilst quarrying activity also continued at Foel Trawnant (HA24-27) and to the south of the study area at Moel Tonmawr. Industrial sites in the Margam region were soon to be linked by the construction by 1900 of the Cwmcerwyn Tunnel (HA34) and the Cwmcerwyn Tramway (HA3) that was established as a branch of the Port Talbot Railway, described by Barrie as a 'fearsome line' on account of its steep gradient of 1:40. The railway, which was established by C.R.M Talbot of Margam, enabled the transport of industrial produce from the region to the newly founded Port Talbot Docks (1994 p190).
- 3.6.28 Further phases of expansion are marked on the 3rd Edition OS map with the establishment of Ton-hir Colliery which was linked to the Port Talbot Railway at the east end of the Cwmcerwyn Tunnel by tramway. The walkover survey for the previous study (Langlands 2021) confirmed that a number of features associated with the colliery are visible on the ground, including a shaft and possible ponds, and the 2m DTM lidar indicates that the fingertip spoil tips appear to be fairly *intact* beneath the forestry plantation. The Ton-hir Colliery was established in 1902 to mine for house and manufacturing coal, employing 160 men at its peak in 1914, however its activities were short-lived and the colliery is understood to have closed in 1918 (welshcoalmines.co.uk Accessed 12/04/21).

3.7 Previous Studies

- 3.7.1 In 1921 a number of excavations were carried out by National Museums Wales on sites in the vicinity of the development area including Rhyd Llechws Round Barrow (E000457) and Bodvoc Stone Ring Cairn (E000460) on the summit of Mynydd Margam. No records survive of these excavations.
- 3.7.2 A 2001 Field Visit by GGAT was undertaken at Llanfugeil Ydd Mound as part of the Funerary and Ritual Sites project (Evans 2002) (E001725). The site is situated within the curtilage of Caer Blaen-y-Cwm/ Roman Camp (HA39). The survey concluded that the site was not a cairn but possibly a mound associated with a holloway.
- 3.7.3 In 2001 a desk-based assessment was carried out by Archaeological Solutions Ltd for a proposed wind farm on Mynydd Margam (E002643) (Vice 2001). A subsequent resistivity survey (E004910) identified a number of sites in the vicinity of the current development area including a series of possibly prehistoric linear features and ditches to the east of Roman Camp (Boucher 2002).
- 3.7.4 A Historic Landscape Characterisation of Mynydd Margam Registered Landscape of Special Historic Interest was commissioned by Cadw and carried out by GGAT in 2003 (E004838). This detailed landscape study (LANDMAP Level 4) resulted in a total of 17 Historic Landscape Character Areas (Robertson 2003).
- 3.7.5 A wider landscape study was carried out in 2004 by GGAT to inform the LANDMAP Historic Landscape Aspect (Level 3) for Neath Port Talbot. This resulted in a total of 78 Aspect Areas (Lewis 2004).
- 3.7.6 In 2008 a desktop study of woodlands was carried out in Maesteg by GGAT to inform the 'Better Woodlands for Wales' Management Plan (E006622).
- 3.7.7 In 2009, BaRAS carried out archaeological excavations on the site of the Llynfi/ Cambrian Ironworks in advance of the construction of a Tesco store. Extensive remains were discovered included a puddling forge, mills, forges, casting house and boiler house (Longman 2009).
- 3.7.8 In 2012 the RCAHMW commissioned Trysor to undertake an Upland Survey to identify and assess heritage assets in four discrete upland areas of West Glamorgan including Foel Trawsnant which was included in Area 1 (Hall & Sambrook 2012).
- 3.7.9 In 2015 Cardiff Archaeological Consultants carried out an archaeological watching brief during groundworks at Castell House, Llangynwyd which is located adjacent to Llangynwyd Castle. No archaeological remains were found (E005555).
- 3.7.10 An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and ASIDOHL was carried out in 2018 by Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions Ltd on the proposed Foel Trawsnant Wind Farm that the current proposed power line will be servicing (P2014/0825/ES). The assessment considered ten Scheduled Monuments and the Mynydd Margam Historic Landscape for potential setting effects caused by the wind farm for but none were found to be subject to significant effects (Wood Environment & Infrastructure Solutions Ltd 2018).
- 3.7.11 An archaeological desk-based assessment and ASIDOHL2 were undertaken in 2021 by Black Mountains Archaeology on a proposed route for the Foel Trawsnant Windfarm Connection (Langlands 2021). The present study represents a revised route for the same scheme.

3.8 Cartographic & Aerial Photographic Evidence

- 3.8.1 The proposed power line runs through the western edge of the 1842 tithe map of the Parish of Llangonoyd in the County of Glamorgan which indicates that at this time the land was laid to upland pasture with some scattered farmsteads. The apportionment indicates that landholders such as the Cambrian Company and John Homfray indicate industrial investment with the Llynfi Cambrian Ironworks and associated housing present in the valley at Maesteg.
- 3.8.2 The 1877 First Edition Ordnance Survey Map shows a similar picture for the development area with the addition of areas of quarrying e.g. at Garn-wen, presumably workings related to the coal levels at Dyffryn to the east. The 1899 Second Edition shows the Cwmcwryn tunnel constructed to convey the Port Talbot railway beneath the mountain. The 1919 Third Edition marks the Ton-Hir Colliery with associated finger bar tips and tramway located on the proposed power line just north of the modern B4282 Neath Road. A rifle range is also marked to the east of the colliery with targets within the old Garn-wen quarry. The 1962 Edition indicates the establishment of the Maesteg Golf Course together with the wide introduction of forestry plantation on Mynydd Margam and Mynydd Bach that has had the effect of obscuring many pre-existing sites and continues to dominate large parts of the landscape today.
- 3.8.3 Aerial photographs (APs) of the development area were sourced from the Central Register of Aerial Photos Wales and were found to be largely in line with the map evidence. The Ton-Hir Colliery tips are particularly clear as are the numerous Scheduled camp sites.
- 3.8.4 The Natural Resources Wales LiDAR 1m digital terrain model (DTM) is incomplete for the study area but reveals the terrain that underlies the existing forestry plantation, particularly the Ton-Hir Colliery tips which appear to be fairly intact. Y Bwlwarcaw hillfort (HA38) is particularly well depicted. The survey does not extend to Caer Blaeny-cwm/ Roman Camp (HA39) and the other sites on the southern part of the proposed power line.

3.9 Site Visit (Plates 1 - 74)

- 3.9.1 A series of walkover surveys were conducted on 24th March 2022, 29th March 2022 and 3rd May 2022. The route of the proposed power line was visited together with key sites of interest. The proposed route was photographed from key views and heritage assets directly on the line of the route were assessed for potential direct impacts.
- 3.9.2 Heritage assets within the primary (250m radius) study area and statutory designated sites within a secondary (1km radius) study area were visited and assessed for indirect and setting effects and key views to and from the development area were photographed. Historic Landscape Character Areas were visited and key views to and from the development area were photographed.
- 3.9.3 The survey was undertaken in dry, overcast weather with good visibility.

4 Identified Heritage Assets

4.1.1 There are 42 heritage assets within the primary (250m radius) study area, only five of which fall directly on the proposed route of the power line. For the assessment of the potential impact to the setting and significance of statutory designated heritage assets, a further 18 sites have been identified within a 1km radius of which five are Scheduled Monuments, and thirteen are Grade II or II* Listed Buildings that are situated within a Registered Historic Landscape.

4.1.2 The proposed power line crosses three Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCAs) within the Mynydd Margam Historic Landscape of Special Historic Interest (HLW(WGI/MGI)2). These are Llangynwyd (HLCA005), Mynydd Margam Forest (HLCA010) and Upper Cwm Kenfig (HLCA013).

Fig ID	ID	Name	NGR	Period	Type	Designation	Designation ID	Value
In Development Area								
1	GGAT018 62m	Cross Ridge Dyke, Foel-Y-Dyffryn	SS841809386 0	Unknown	Dyke	None	n/a	C
2	GGAT010 77m	Ffordd-y-Gifraith Roman Road/ Heol y moch routeway	SS843099365 5	Roman/ Medieval	Road	None	n/a	C
3	GGAT014 35m; GGAT059 78w	Port Talbot Railway/ Cwmcerwyn Tramway	SS840739052 7	Post medieval	Tramway / Railway	None	n/a	C
58	New 6	Old Reservoir	SS841169201 7	Post- medieval	Reservoir	None	n/a	C
60	New 8	?Leat	SS841429172 7	Post- medieval	?Leat	None	n/a	C
In Primary (250m Radius) Study Area (All Heritage Assets)								
4	GGAT046 08m	Ffynnon Y Gilfach	SS84428756	Unknown	Well	None	n/a	C
5	GGAT033 88m	Garn Wen Coal Level V	SS844599268 2	Post Medieval	Colliery	None	n/a	C
6	GGAT033 86m	Garn Wen Quarry li	SS845679288 9	Post Medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C
7	GGAT033 87m	Garn Wen Quarry liii	SS846839291 5	Post Medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C
8	GGAT033 80m	Garn Wen Coal Level I	SS845559248 2	Post Medieval	Colliery	None	n/a	C
9	GGAT033 81m	Garn Wen Coal Level II	SS845339259 7	Post Medieval	Colliery	None	n/a	C
10	GGAT033 78m	Garn Wen Tramway I	SS843529254 9	Post Medieval	Tramway	None	n/a	C
11	GGAT033 79m	Garn Wen Tramway II	SS844859242 9	Post Medieval	Tramway	None	n/a	C

12	GGAT033 84m	Garn Wen Coal Level IV	SS846899275 6	Post Medieval	Colliery	None	n/a	C
13	GGAT033 85m	Garn Wen Air Shaft II	SS846429279 6	Post Medieval	Shaft	None	n/a	C
14	GGAT033 82m	Garn Wen Air Shaft I	SS844879267 1	Post Medieval	Shaft	None	n/a	C
15	GGAT033 83m	Garn Wen Coal Level III	SS845949269 8	Post Medieval	Colliery	None	n/a	C
16	GGAT014 33m	Ffynnon Iago	SS8490	Medieval	Holy Well	None	n/a	C
17	GGAT019 58m	Nantyyffyllon	SS84709230	Unknown	Earthwork	None	n/a	C
18	GGAT072 93w	British Trackway	SS843779239 0	Modern	Trackway	None	n/a	C
19	GGAT096 70w	Cwmcerwyn Farmstead	SS 83885 90759	Post Medieval	Farmstead	None	n/a	C
20	GGAT096 69w	Ty-Draw, Maesteg Farmstead	SS 83760 90862	Post Medieval	Farmstead	None	n/a	C
21	GGAT059 77w	Mount Pleasant	SS839919156 3	Post Medieval	Farm	None	n/a	D
22	GGAT064 57m	Road, Llangynwyd, Maesteg Valley	SS847618830 4	Unknown	Road	None	n/a	C
23	GGAT065 06m	Quarry, Bryn-Mawr, Maesteg	SS843259144 3	Post Medieval	Mineral Extraction Site	None	n/a	C
24	NPRN516 895	Foel Y Dyffryn, Quarry VIII	SS84521 93678	Post Medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C
25	NPRN516 754	Foel Trawsant, Quarry IV	SS837769399 7	Post Medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C
26	NPRN516 756	Foel Trawsant, Quarry II	SS837269401 8	Post Medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C
27	NPRN516 590	Foel Y Dyffryn, Quarry IV	SS845429367 3	Post Medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C
28	NPRN516 681	Foel Trawsant, Bank	SS841199392 6	Post Medieval	Bank (Earthwork)	None	n/a	C
29	NPRN516 704	Foel Y Dyffryn, Bank IV	SS844059386 6	Post Medieval	Bank (Earthwork)	None	n/a	C
30	NPRN516 589	Foel Y Dyffryn, Stone Mound	SS845629371 5	Bronze Age	Cairn (Possible)	None	n/a	C
31	NPRN516 682	Dyffryn Rhondda Colliery, Afan Valley, Upper Workings, Building II	SS840859393 9	Modern	Building	None	n/a	C
32	NPRN516 755	Foel Trawsant, Quarry III	SS837609400 3	Post Medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C
33	NPRN413 166	Y Bwlwarcu, Eastern Enclosure	SS844108834 0	Iron Age	Defended Enclosure	None	n/a	C

34	GGAT059 76w	Cwmcerwyn Tunnel	SS835109123 0	Post Medieval	Railway tunnel	None	n/a	C
53	New 1	Triangulation point, Foel Trawsant	SS839679377 4	Post- medieval	Triangulat ion Point	None	n/a	C
54	New 2	Quarry I	SS842399365 6	Post- medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C
55	New 3	Quarry II	SS842439359 4	Post- medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C
56	New 4	Quarry III	SS841899355 7	Post- medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C
57	New 5	Stone building	SS846499327 0	Post- medieval	Stone outbuildin g	None	n/a	C
59	New 7	Old Level	SS841619193 1	Post- medieval	Coal level	None	n/a	C
Designated sites within Secondary (1km Radius) Study Area								
35	SMGm245	Cefn yr Argoed Camp	SS832259405 6	Prehistori c	Enclosure	Scheduled Monument	SMGm245	A
36	SMGm418	Maesteg Blast Furnace (Llynfi Ironworks)	SS848591594	Post Medieval	Blast Furnace	Scheduled Monument	SMGm418	A
37	SMGm085	Llangynwyd Castle	SS851378869 2	Medieval	Castle	Scheduled Monument	SMGm085	A
38	SMGm059	Y Bwlwarcau	SS837788853 6	Iron Age	Hillfort	Scheduled Monument	SMGm059	A
39	SMGm058	Caer Blaen-y-cwm/ Roman Camp	SS833128803 1	Roman	Camp	Scheduled Monument	SMGm058	A
40	LB11373	Pentre Farmhouse, with attached farm range	SS857328883 0	Post Medieval	Farmhous e	Grade II Listed Building	LB11373	B
41	LB11375	Gilfach-ganol farmhouse	SS857328876 2	Post Medieval	Farmhous e	Grade II Listed Building	LB11375	B
42	LB20432	Bee boles and stile in garden wall at Gilfach-uchaf farm	SS857188877 8	Post Medieval	Farmhous e	Grade II Listed Building	LB20432	B
43	LB11243	Church of St Cynwyd	SS857018878 6	Medieval	Church	Grade II* Listed Building	LB11243	B
44	LB11352	The Old House Inn PH	SS857348882 4	Post Medieval	Dwelling	Grade II Listed Building	LB11352	B
45	LB11353	Telephone call box in front of the Old House PH	SS857228882 5	Modern	Telephon e Box	Grade II Listed Building	LB11353	B
46	LB20429	The Hopcyn Cross	SS857188880 5	Modern	Memorial	Grade II Listed Building	LB20429	B
47	LB20430	Two chest tombs on S side of the Church of St Cynwyd	SS857178880 1	Post Medieval	Tomb	Grade II Listed Building	LB20430	B

48	LB20431	Group of five tombs S of the tower of the Church of St Cynwyd	SS857248880 1	Post Medieval	Tomb	Grade II Listed Building	LB20431	B
49	LB20434	Group of 4 Hopkin and Jenkins tombs within iron railings on the W side of the path to the S porch	SS857568880 2	Post Medieval	Tomb	Grade II Listed Building	LB20434	B
50	LB20435	Group of nine memorials on the W side of the path to the S porch, Church of St Cynwyd	SS857328883 0	Post Medieval	Tomb	Grade II Listed Building	LB20435	B
51	LB20436	Jenkins Monument in the churchyard, Church of St Cynwyd	SS857328876 2	Post Medieval	Tomb	Grade II Listed Building	LB20436	B
52	LB20437	Churchyard walls around the graveyard, Church of St Cynwyd	SS857188877 8	Medieval	Churchyard Walls	Grade II Listed Building	LB20437	B

5 Assessment of Heritage Assets

5.1 Direct Impacts on Heritage Assets

- 5.1.1 The potential impact of the proposed power line on heritage assets has been assessed using the design information provided by Western Power Distribution (Figures 1-6). The plans are currently at a preliminary stage and therefore a number of assumptions have been made in order to carry out the assessment. The assessment assumes that an H-pole of 10 metres in height could be placed at any point along the proposed route and the route has been assigned a minimal width of 2m. The assessment concluded that the proposed power line poses the risk of a direct physical impact to known heritage assets and may require archaeological mitigation.
- 5.1.2 Foel-Y-Dyffryn Cross Ridge Dyke (HA1) is a possible Early-medieval administrative landscape feature that is situated at the northern end of the route and is crossed by the proposed powerline route. Also in this area the proposed powerline crosses the Ffordd-y-Gifraith Roman Road (HA2). Meanwhile towards the centre of the route, south of Maesteg Golf Course, the proposed powerline crosses the Cwmcerwyn Tramway/ Port Talbot Railway (HA3). Any H-poles or associated groundworks placed directly on these heritage assets would damage both their physical remains and their overall integrity. Since all three heritage assets are linear features, the overall direct impact of H pole installation has been assessed as '**Low**' with a significance of '**Slight Significance**'.
- 5.1.3 The proposed power line route runs through an area of intensive Post-medieval extractive activity at Garn Wen, featuring numerous heritage assets including quarries, coal levels, air shafts and tramways (HAs 5-15). Whilst the proposed route does not fall directly upon any recorded sites, it does fall within close proximity (<10m) of Garn Wen Airshaft II (HA13) and Garn Wen Coal Level I (HA8). Whilst it is worth noting that many of these heritage assets appear to have already been subject to ground remediation, any H-poles or associated groundworks placed in this location

may disturb further associated industrial heritage assets.

- 5.1.4 Further south the route crosses a historic reservoir (New 6) that may be associated with the water management system of the Early 19th Century Llynfi Ironworks (HA36). The route also crosses a watercourse that may represent a historic leat (New 8). The potential direct impact on both heritage assets has been assessed as '**Low**' with a significance of '**Slight Significance**'.
- 5.1.5 The stretch of the proposed route to the south of Cwm Cerdin, in the historic landscape character area of Llangynwyd (HLCA005), crosses an archaeologically and historically significant landscape that includes Y Bwlwarcau Hillfort (HA38) to the west and the wider landscape setting of Llangynwyd Castle (HA37) to the east. There is potential for direct impact on buried archaeological features and/ or deposits in H pole locations within this area.
- 5.1.6 The proposed power line route would have a direct impact on four Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCAs) within the Mynydd Margam Historic Landscape of Special Historic Interest (HLW(WGI/MGI)2). These HLCAs are Llangynwyd (HLCA005), Mynydd Margam Forest (HLCA010), Cwm Dyffryn and Cwm Farteg Railway Corridor (HLCA009) and Upper Cwm Kenfig (HLCA013). The potential impact on these HLCAs has been assessed using the ASIDOHL2 process (see Section 9.3).

5.2 Indirect Visual Impacts on Heritage Assets

- 5.2.1 For the purposes of the assessment of indirect visual impacts from the proposed power line on heritage assets, only assets within a primary (250m radius) study area and statutory designated heritage assets within a secondary (1km radius) study area have been assessed. The assessment concluded that eleven heritage assets within the primary (250m radius) could potentially be subject to an indirect visual impact from the proposed scheme.
- 5.2.2 Only two statutory designated sites within the secondary (1km radius) study area are subject to potential indirect visual impact. Y Bwlwarcau Hillfort (HA38) whose Scheduled Monument curtilage extends eastwards towards the proposed power line at a distance of only 380m and the east sloping topography means that visibility towards the power line route is enhanced. Depending on the height of the lines, there may be some interruption to the view between the hillfort and the Llangynwyd Village Conservation Area in the distance, however, due to the small scale of the proposed development the impact of that intervisibility is only **Very Slight** with very little severance of cultural heritage links.
- 5.2.3 On the basis of the above a **Very Slight** indirect impact has also been applied to St Cynwyd's Church (HA43) and Llangynwyd Conservation Area (CA259). Whilst little intervisibility with the proposed power line route was noted from the walkover survey within the village due to the visual intrusion of houses at street level, the village was noticeable from Y Bwlwarcau Hillfort situated on the opposite slope, suggesting there is also potential for intervisibility with the power line route. Having said this, the west facing views from Llangynwyd towards the proposed route are already affected by existing pylon power lines, meaning that any disturbance of cultural links is likely to have already occurred.
- 5.2.4 The heritage assets that were assessed as subject to potential direct impacts (HAs 1-3, 58, 60) were also assessed as being subject to **Very Slight** indirect visual impacts

from the proposed powerline route. An additional five C value heritage assets (HAs 12, 13, 19, 31 and 33) would also be subject to a **Very Slight** indirect visual impact.

- 5.2.5 In all cases listed above, whilst there is some intervisibility with the proposed power line, the effect on the historic environment is negligible with little discernible severance of cultural links.
- 5.2.6 Llangynwyd Castle (HA37) lies only 300m to the east of the proposed power line but the nature of local topography means that there is no risk of intervisibility.
- 5.2.7 The proposed power line has a potential indirectly impact on six Historic Landscape Character Areas within Mynydd Margam Historic Landscape of Special Historic Interest (HLW(WGI/MGI)2). The indirect impacts on the Historic Landscape will be determined through the ASIDOHL2 process (see section 7).

Table 4. Assessment of direct and indirect effects on heritage assets

Fig ID	ID	Name	NGR	Period	Type	Designation	Designation ID	Value	Rarity	Documentation /Association	Group Value	Survival/ Condition	Direct Effect	Significance of Direct Effect	Indirect Effect	Setting Effect Yes/No
In Development Area																
1	GGAT01862m	Cross Ridge Dyke, Foel Y Dyffryn	SS8418 9386	Earl medieval	Dyke	None	n/a	C	Medium	None	Moderate	Intact/ moderate	Low	Slight Significance	Very Slight	No
2	GGAT01077m	Ffordd y Gifraith Roman Road/ Heol y moch routeway	SS8430 993655	Roman/ Medieval	Road	None	n/a	C		Low		Moderate	Low	Slight Significance	Very Slight	No
3	GGAT01435m; GGAT05978w	Port Talbot Railway/ Cwmcerwyn Tramway	SS8407 390527	Post medieval	Tramway/ Railway	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Low	Damaged/ Moderate	Low	Slight Significance	Very Slight	No
58	New 6	Old Reservoir	SS84116 92017	Post-medieval	Reservoir	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Damaged/ Fair	Low	Slight Significance	Very Slight	No
60	New 8	?Leat	SS84142 91727	Post-medieval	?Leat	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Unknown	Low	Slight Significance	Very Slight	No
In Primary (250m Radius) Study Area (All Heritage Assets)																
4	GGAT04608m	Ffynnon Y Gilfach	SS8442 8756	Unknown	Well	None	n/a	C	Low	None	Low	Unknown	None	n/a	None	No
5	GGAT03388m	Garn Wen Coal Level V	SS8445 992682	Post Medieval	Colliery	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Near intact/ Fair	None	n/a	None	No
6	GGAT03386m	Garn Wen Quarry II	SS8456 792889	Post Medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Intact/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
7	GGAT03387m	Garn Wen Quarry III	SS8468 392915	Post Medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Intact/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
8	GGAT03380m	Garn Wen Coal Level I	SS8455 592482	Post Medieval	Colliery	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Damaged/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
9	GGAT03381m	Garn Wen Coal Level II	SS8453 392597	Post Medieval	Colliery	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Damaged/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
10	GGAT03378m	Garn Wen Tramway I	SS8435 292549	Post Medieval	Tramway	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Unknown	None	n/a	None	No
11	GGAT03379m	Garn Wen Tramway II	SS8448 592429	Post Medieval	Tramway	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Unknown	None	n/a	None	No
12	GGAT03384m	Garn Wen Coal Level IV	SS8468 992756	Post Medieval	Colliery	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Damaged/ Moderate	None	n/a	Very Slight	No
13	GGAT03385m	Garn Wen Air Shaft II	SS8464 292796	Post Medieval	Shaft	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Damaged/ Moderate	None	n/a	Very Slight	No
14	GGAT03382m	Garn Wen Air Shaft I	SS8448 792671	Post Medieval	Shaft	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Damaged/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
15	GGAT03383m	Garn Wen Coal Level III	SS8459 492698	Post Medieval	Colliery	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Damaged/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No

16	GGAT01433m	Ffynnon Iago	SS8490	Medieval	Holy Well	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Low	Unknown	None	n/a	None	No
17	GGAT01958m	Nantyyfflon	SS8470 9230	Unknown	Earthwork	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Low	Damaged/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
18	GGAT07293w	British Trackway	SS8437 792390	Modern	Trackway	None	n/a	C	Medium	Low	Low	Intact/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
19	GGAT09670w	Cwmcerwyn Farmstead	SS 83885 90759	Post Medieval	Farmstead	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Low	Intact/ Moderate	None	n/a	Very Slight	No
20	GGAT09669w	Ty-Draw, Maesteg Farmstead	SS 83760 90862	Post Medieval	Farmstead	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Low	Intact/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
21	GGAT05977w	Mount Pleasant Farmstead	SS8399 191563	Post Medieval	Farm	None	n/a	D	Low	Low	Low	Destroyed	None	n/a	None	No
22	GGAT06457m	Road, Llangynwyd, Maesteg Valley	SS8476 188304	Unknown	Road	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Low	Intact/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
23	GGAT06506m	Quarry, Bryn- Mawr, Maesteg	SS8432 591443	Post Medieval	Mineral Extraction Site	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Low	Intact/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
24	NPRN516895	Foel Y Dyffryn, Quarry VIII	SS8452 1 93678	Post Medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Intact/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
25	NPRN516754	Foel Trawsant, Quarry IV	SS8377 693997	Post Medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Intact/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
26	NPRN516756	Foel Trawsant, Quarry II	SS8372 694018	Post Medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Intact/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
27	NPRN516590	Foel Y Dyffryn, Quarry IV	SS8454 293673	Post Medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Intact/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
28	NPRN516681	Foel Trawsant, Bank	SS8411 993926	Post Medieval	Bank (Earthwork)	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Intact/ Good	None	n/a	None	No
29	NPRN516704	Foel Y Dyffryn, Bank IV	SS8440 593866	Post Medieval	Bank (Earthwork)	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Intact/ Good	None	n/a	None	No
30	NPRN516589	Foel Y Dyffryn, Stone Mound	SS8456 293715	Bronze Age	Cairn (Possible)	None	n/a	C	Medium	Low	Moderate	Unknown	None	n/a	None	No
31	NPRN516682	Dyffryn Rhondda Colliery, Afan Valley, Upper Workings, Building II	SS8408 593939	Modern	Building	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Damaged/ Poor	None	n/a	Very Slight	No

32	NPRN516755	Foel Trawsnant, Quarry III	SS8376 094003	Post Medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Intact/ Moderate	None	n/a	No	No
33	NPRN413166	Y Bwlwarcu, Eastern Enclosure	SS8441 088340	Iron Age	Defended Enclosure	None	n/a	C	Medium	None	High	Unknown	None	n/a	Very Slight	No
34	GGAT05976w	Cwmcerwyn Tunnel (Eastern Entrance)	SS8351 091230	Post Medieval	Railway tunnel	None	n/a	C	Medium	High	Moderate	Intact/ Restored	None	n/a	None	No
53	New 1	Triangulation point, Foel Trawsnant	SS83967 93774	Post-medieval	Triangulation Point	None	n/a	C	Low	Moderate	High	Intact/ Good	None	n/a	None	No
54	New 2	Quarry I	SS84239 93656	Post-medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Intact/ Moderate	None	n/a	Very Slight	No
55	New 3	Quarry II	SS84243 93594	Post-medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Intact/ Moderate	None	n/a	Very Slight	No
56	New 4	Quarry III	SS84189 93557	Post-medieval	Quarry	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Intact/ Moderate	None	n/a	Very Slight	No
57	New 5	Stone building	SS84649 93270	Post-medieval	Stone outbuilding	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Low	Near destroyed/ Fair	None	n/a	Very Slight	No
59	New 7	Old Level	SS84161 91931	Post-medieval	Coal level	None	n/a	C	Low	Low	Moderate	Unknown	None	n/a	Very Slight	No
Designated sites within Secondary (1km Radius) Study Area																
34	SMGm245	Cefn yr Argoed Camp	SS8322 594056	Prehistoric	Enclosure	Scheduled Monument	SMGm245	A	High	None	Low	Unknown	None	n/a	None	No
35	SMGm418	Maesteg blast furnace	SS8485 91594	Post Medieval	Blast Furnace	Scheduled Monument	SMGm418	A	High	Moderate	Low	Damaged/ Good	None	n/a	None	No
36	SMGm085	Llangynwyd Castle	SS8513 788692	Medieval	Castle	Scheduled Monument	SMGm085	A	High	High	Moderate	Damaged/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
37	SMGm059	Y Bwlwarcu	SS8377 888536	Iron Age	Hillfort	Scheduled Monument	SMGm059	A	High	Low	High	Near intact/ Moderate	None	n/a	Very Slight	No
38	SMGm058	Caer Blaen-y-cwm/ Roman Camp	SS8331 288031	Roman	Camp	Scheduled Monument	SMGm058	A	High	None	High	Damaged/ Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
39	LB11373	Pentre Farmhouse, with attached farm range.	SS8573 288830	Post Medieval	Farmhouse	Grade II Listed Building	LB11373	B	Medium	Low	Low	Intact/ Good	None	n/a	None	No
40	LB11375	Gilfach-ganol farmhouse	SS8573 288762	Post Medieval	Farmhouse	Grade II Listed Building	LB11375	B	Medium	Low	Low	Intact/ Good	None	n/a	None	No

41	LB20432	Bee boles and stile in garden wall at Gilfach-uchaf farm	SS8571 888778	Post Medieval	Farmhouse	Grade II Listed Building	LB20432	B	High	Low	Low	Intact/Good	None	n/a	None	No
42	LB11243	Church of St Cynwyd	SS8570 188786	Medieval	Church	Grade II* Listed Building	LB11243	B	Medium	Moderate	High	Intact/Good	None	n/a	Very Slight	No
43	LB11352	The Old House Inn PH	SS8573 488824	Post Medieval	Dwelling	Grade II Listed Building	LB11352	B	Medium	Low	High	Intact/Good	None	n/a	None	No
44	LB11353	Telephone call box in front of the Old House PH	SS8572 288825	Modern	Telephone Box	Grade II Listed Building	LB11353	B	Medium	Low	High	Intact/Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
45	LB20429	The Hopcyn Cross	SS8571 888805	Modern	Memorial	Grade II Listed Building	LB20429	B	Medium	Low	High	Intact/Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
46	LB20430	Two chest tombs on S side of the Church of St Cynwyd	SS8571 788801	Post Medieval	Tomb	Grade II Listed Building	LB20430	B	Low	Low	High	Intact/Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
47	LB20431	Group of five tombs S of the tower of the Church of St Cynwyd	SS8572 488801	Post Medieval	Tomb	Grade II Listed Building	LB20431	B	Low	Low	High	Intact/Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
48	LB20434	Group of 4 Hopkin and Jenkins tombs within iron railings on the W side of the path to the S porch	SS8575 688802	Post Medieval	Tomb	Grade II Listed Building	LB20434	B	Low	Low	High	Intact/Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
49	LB20435	Group of nine memorials on the W side of the path to the S porch, Church of St Cynwyd	SS8573 288830	Post Medieval	Tomb	Grade II Listed Building	LB20435	B	Low	Low	High	Intact/Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
50	LB20436	Jenkins Monument in the churchyard, Church of St Cynwyd	SS8573 288762	Post Medieval	Tomb	Grade II Listed Building	LB20436	B	Low	Low	High	Intact/Moderate	None	n/a	None	No

51	LB20437	Churchyard walls around the graveyard, Church of St Cynwyd	SS8571888778	Medieval	Churchyard Walls	Grade II Listed Building	LB20437	B	Low	Low	High	Intact/Moderate	None	n/a	None	No
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The last column "Setting Effects Y/N" identifies those heritage assets that may have indirect visual impacts to the setting of the monument (Stage 1 as set out in *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales 2017 (The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016, Annex 6)*).

5.3 Setting and Significance

5.3.1 Stage 1: Identified Statutory Designated Assets

5.3.2 The assessment of the potential impacts of the proposed power line on the setting and significance of heritage assets is confined to statutory designated sites (A* and A class), including Scheduled Monuments, Registered Landscapes, Parks and Gardens and sometimes Grade I Listed Buildings. Grade II and II* Listed Buildings (B class) are considered if their setting includes, or is included within, a Registered Landscape or Park and Garden, as is the case here.

5.3.3 Five Scheduled Monuments and thirteen Grade II Listed Buildings were identified for assessment within a secondary (1km radius) study area. Site visits confirmed that two of these sites, Y Bwlwarcu (HA38) and Church of St Cynwyd (HA41) had **Very Slight** intervisibility with the proposed power line.

5.3.4 Through the use of Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) analysis, six of the seventeen HLCAs within Mynydd Margam Historic Landscape of Special Historic Interest (HLW(WGI/MGI)2) were identified as being subject to a potential indirect impact from the proposed power line.

5.3.5 Stage 2 & 3: Defining and Evaluating the Setting and Significance of Heritage Assets

5.3.6 The heritage impact assessment thus far sets out the context and extent of the identified heritage assets, which contribute to the Stage 1 and 2 assessment of setting and significance. It has defined the value of heritage assets and has assessed the potential direct and indirect impacts of the Proposed Scheme, which also contribute to the overall understanding of heritage assets and their setting (Stage 2 assessment of setting and significance).

5.3.7 The assessment has considered the setting and significance of Y Bwlwarcu (HA38) and Church of St Cynwyd (HA41) in relation to the proposed power line and has concluded that there will be no impact to setting or significance at either site. Nevertheless these sites have been included in the ASIDOHL2 assessment as required by its methodology (see Section 8).

6 Mitigation Recommendations

6.1.1 The assessment has identified the potential direct and indirect visual impacts of the proposed development together with an assessment of the setting and significance of statutory designated heritage assets. Following the results of the heritage impact assessment the following mitigation strategies are recommended.

6.1.2 It is recommended that measures are put in place to ensure that the proposed power line does not directly impact upon the linear heritage assets Foel-Y-Dyffryn Cross Ridge Dyke (HA1), Ffordd-y-Gifraith Roman Road (HA2) and Cwmcercwyn Tramway (HA3), or the discrete heritage assets Old Reservoir (HA58) and Leat (HA60). This can be achieved by designing the power line route to ensure that H pole locations directly avoid these heritage assets.

6.1.3 It is recommended that an archaeological watching brief be placed on groundworks during the installation of H-poles along the full extent of the route in order to identify, record and mitigate any unknown archaeological features or deposits, particularly in the archaeologically sensitive area within the historic landscape character area of

Llangynwyd (HLCA 005).

- 6.1.4 There are no mitigation recommendations applied to the potential Very Slight indirect visual impacts caused by the proposed power line, which will remain for the duration of its operational lifetime.

7 Assessment of Residual Impacts

- 7.1.1 Provided the mitigation strategy noted in Section 6 above is implemented, and in consultation with Cadw and the archaeological advisors to the LPA (GGAT), the potential direct impacts to Foel-Y-Dyffryn Cross Ridge Dyke (HA1), Ffordd-y-Gifraith Roman Road (HA2) and Cwmcwern Tramway (HA3) can be reduced to **'None'**. The potential direct impact on Reservoir (HA58) and Leat (HA60) will also be reduced to **'None'**.
- 7.1.2 An archaeological watching brief on groundworks would reduce the potential direct impacts on unknown archaeological deposits to **'None'**.
- 7.1.3 The potential **Very Slight** indirect visual impacts caused by the proposed power line, for a small number of heritage assets, will remain for the duration of its operational lifetime.

8 Assessment of the Significance of the Impact of the Development on Historic Landscape Areas (ASIDOHL2)

8.1 Project Background

- 8.1.1 Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Western Power Distribution to carry out an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and an Assessment of the Significance of the Impact of the Development on the Historic Landscape (ASIDOHL2) for a proposed power connection line for Foel Trawsnant Windfarm, Neath Port Talbot, that partially crosses into the Mynydd Margam Registered Landscape of Special Historic Interest (PGW (WGI/MGI)2) (Figure 1). The proposed plans include a power line with a total length of 8km that runs south-eastwards from the windfarm at Foel Trawsnant (NGR SS 83754 94105), and skirts the eastern edge of Afan Forest Park at Garn wen, before continuing southwards along the contours of Mynydd Bach and Mynydd Margam to its terminal end at Fynon y Gilfach (NGR SS 84185 87453). The installation of the proposed powerline includes the erection of a number of H poles along the length of the route.
- 8.1.2 The plans are currently at a preliminary stage and therefore a number of assumptions have been made in order to carry out the assessment. The assessment assumes that an H-pole of 10 metres in height could be placed at any point along the proposed route and the route has been assigned a minimal width of 2m.
- 8.1.3 The proposed power line crosses into the Mynydd Mountain Registered Landscape of Special Historic Interest (PGW(WGI/MGI)2) (Figure 1 & Figure 2) and therefore requires an Assessment of the Significance of the Impact of the Development on the Historic Landscape (ASIDOHL2). Specifically, the proposed line will cross four HLCAs: Llangynwyd (HLCA005), Mynydd Margam Forest (HLCA010), Cwm Dyffryn and Cwm Farteg Railway Corridor (HLCA009) and Upper Cwm Kenfig (HLCA013) which will be assessed for potential direct physical impacts. The Registered Historic Landscape

contains a further thirteen HLCAs that will be considered for inclusion in the assessment for indirect visual impacts.

8.2 The Register of Historic Landscapes and Historic Landscape Characterisation

- 8.2.1 Cadw, and the Countryside Council for Wales (now Natural Resources Wales) with support from the four regional Welsh Archaeological Trusts (WATs), published together with the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS UK) the first part (2.1) of the *Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales*. Part 1 deals with Registered Parks and Gardens, Part 2.1 Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest and Part 2.2 regional Landscapes of Special Historic Interest.
- 8.2.2 Cadw note “...the Register is a means of recognising historic landscapes as one of the nation’s most valuable cultural assets, and as special, often fragile and irreplaceable, parts of our heritage”.
- 8.2.3 The *Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016* provides a statutory duty to maintain the registers and the registers are key factors in the planning process. Any development likely to directly or indirectly (visual) affect a statutory designated heritage asset or high value undesignated asset and its setting will likely require ‘consultation before grant of permission’ under the *Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) (Amendment) Order 2016*, schedule 4 (I)(i) and (ii) if the proposed development meets and of the following criteria:
- Development is likely to affect the site of a Registered Park or Garden or its setting
 - Development is within a Registered Historic Landscape that requires an Environmental Impact Assessment and ASIDOHL2.
- 8.2.4 In the early 2000s Cadw implemented an ambitious programme of Historic Landscape Characterisation, which was undertaken by the four regional Welsh Archaeological Trusts (WATs), and further refined the definitions and character of the constituent parts of the individual historic landscapes. Each historic landscape area being sub-divided into a number of Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCAs). These HLCAs provide the units for ASIDOHL2 assessment.
- 8.2.5 At a national level an all-Wales Landscape Characterisation Assessment, LANDMAP, was completed in 2012 by Natural Resources Wales and resulted in five datasets or ‘aspects’; Geological Landscape, Landscape Habitat, Visual and Sensory, Historic Landscape and Cultural Landscape. The Historic Landscape aspect, which compliments the work already carried out by GGAT, assessed landscape areas based on a hierarchy of four levels with the main LANDMAP Historic Landscape Aspect Areas being equal to a Level 3 assessment and the Registered Historic Landscape Characterisation being equal to a Level 4 as outlined in the table below.

Table 5. LANDMAP Historic Landscape classification hierarchy (Natural Resources Wales 2016, p4)			
Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Level 4
Dominant context	Dominant land use	Dominant landscape pattern	Historic landscape detail
At the most basic Level, in terms of human influence, the modern landscape can be divided between rural and built up areas.	At Level 2 the dominant land use in the modern landscape is defined. In the rural environment, this is either agricultural or non-agricultural. In the built environment, it is a choice between settlement, industrial or infrastructure.	At Level 3, the dominant visual pattern in the landscape, which has been created by the land use class identified in Level 2, should be selected. It is at Levels 3 and 4 that the physical remains in the landscape relating to past activities are actually defined and mapped.	The patterns in the landscape at Level 3 are further defined at Level 4 which is a finer grain, sometimes even site-specific, usually reflecting a specific historic activity in either space or time (or usually both). [e.g. Registered Historic Landscape Characterisation]

8.3 Methodology

- 8.3.1 The method of conducting an ASIDOHL2 assessment is set out by Cadw in Guide to Good Practice on using the *Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales in the Planning and Development Process (2nd Edition 2007)* (Appendix IV). The assessment utilises the HLCAs as a basic unit of measurement, which can be variable as each HLCA may not be entirely representative of the wider Historic Landscape character and value (e.g. an agricultural character area forming part of an industrial historic landscape). Nevertheless, the HLCAs contribute to the value of the wider historic landscape in ASIDOHL2 terms.
- 8.3.2 The ASIDOHL2 assessment is broken into five stages. Stage 1 is the compilation of contextual data, usually in the form of baseline information for an archaeological desk-based assessment (see above). Stages 2-4 assesses each HLCA for direct and indirect effects by the proposed development and Stage 5 combines the results of Stages 2-4 to produce an assessment of the overall impact on the Historic Landscape. (Cadw 2007, Table 1,15).
- 8.3.3 Heritage assets are categorised according to the only values that are nationally agreed as defined in the Department of Transport/Welsh Office/Scottish Office *Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB): LA 106 Cultural Heritage Assessment Revision 1 (2020)*, which has replaced *DMRB: HA 208/07 Cultural Heritage (2007, amended 2009)*.
- 8.3.4 Cadw published their *Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales (2011)*. These principles provide the basis upon which Cadw discharges its statutory duties, makes decisions or offers advice about changes to historic assets. Cadw further advise that the *Conservation Principles* should also be used by others (including owners, developers and other public bodies) to assess the potential impacts of a development proposal on the significance of any historic asset/assets and to assist in decision making where the historic environment is affected by the planning process (PPW 2021).

- 8.3.5 There are four values that need to be considered when assessing significance and these are set out in *Cadw's Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales*: Evidential value, Historic Value, Aesthetic Value and Communal Value.

8.4 Stage 1: Baseline (Established in Sections 4-6 above)

8.4.1 Registered Landscapes, Parks and Gardens

- 8.4.2 The proposed power line crosses into the Mynydd Margam Registered Landscape of Special Historic Interest (PGW(WGI/MGI)2) (Figure 1) which is described in the Register as “a discrete block of the South Wales uplands situated at the south west fringe of the historical Glamorgan Blaenau, displaying continuity, density and diversity of human occupation from the prehistoric period to the recent past. The area includes: Bronze Age ritual and funerary monuments, large Iron Age hillforts, settlements, enclosures and trackways; a Roman road, a large and important group of Early Christian Inscribed Stone monuments and associations; medieval defensive works; Margam Abbey, later a site for gentry residences, a landscaped park, pleasure gardens and a magnificent Georgian orangery; Second World War defensive installations” (Cadw & ICOMOS p63).
- 8.4.3 Specifically, the proposed line would cross four HLCAs: Llangynwyd (HLCA005), Mynydd Margam Forest (HLCA010), Cwm Dyffryn and Cwm Farteg Railway Corridor (HLCA009) and Upper Cwm Kenfig (HLCA013), which will be assessed for potential direct physical impacts in Stage 2 of the ASIDOHL2 (Figure 2).
- 8.4.4 The following HLCA ‘key characteristics’ are extracted from the Mynydd Margam Historic Landscape Characterisation Report (Roberts 2003).
- 8.4.5 **Llangynwyd (HLCA005)** is characterised as an “important diverse multi-period relict archaeological landscape, including: pre-historic and medieval settlement with associated field systems; prehistoric enclosures (upland agricultural landscape features); medieval military/defensive feature; post-medieval vernacular buildings; important well-documented historic associations; small, but important nucleated settlement with medieval (or earlier) origins, centred on medieval church and cemetery; dispersed scatter of settlement throughout the surrounding area; Ancient woodland” (Roberts 2003 p65).
- 8.4.6 **Mynydd Margam Forest (HLCA010)** is characterised as “extensive 20th century forestry plantation (Ancient and other broadleaved woodland); formerly open mountain and enclosed land; former monastic land: grange and chapel; relict multi-period archaeological landscape: prehistoric, medieval, and post-medieval settlement (loose dispersed settlement pattern) and fields, prehistoric funerary and ritual with a prehistoric defensive element; prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval communications corridor; accumulation of blanket peat with environmental potential; industrial archaeological features” (*ibid* p73).
- 8.4.7 **Cwm Dyffryn and Cwm Farteg Railway Corridor (HLCA009)** is characterised as “industrial/public railway/tramroad corridor; industrial raiiside settlement (terraced housing and large cemetery); former agri-industrial function” (*ibid* p72).
- 8.4.8 **Upper Cwm Kenfig (HLCA013)** is characterised as a “multi-period and multi-functional upland landscape with important relict archaeology: prehistoric and medieval settlement/fields, prehistoric funerary and ritual landscape, prehistoric enclosures

(upland agricultural landscape features); accumulation of blanket peat with environmental potential; important prehistoric and medieval communication corridor" (*ibid* p79).

- 8.4.9 The Registered Landscape contains a further thirteen HLCAs that were considered for inclusion in the ASIDOHL2. Zone of theoretical visibility (ZTV) analysis indicated that there was a potential for intervisibility with a total of six HLCAs. One of these Nant y Gadlys (HLCA012), was considered too distant for inclusion in the assessment. This left five remaining HLCAs which were included in Stage 3 of the ASIDOHL2 for potential indirect visual impacts (Figure 2).
- 8.4.10 No further Historic Landscapes were considered for assessment as they were considered too distant; the nearest being Merthyr Mawr, Kenfig & Margam Burrows (HLW(MGI)1) (5.3km SW) and The Rhondda (HLW(MGI)5) (8km NE).
- 8.4.11 Margam Park Grade I Registered Park & Garden (PGW(Gm)52; HLCA001), lies 1.4km to the southwest. ZTV analysis demonstrated that there would be no intervisibility with the proposed scheme resulting in this heritage asset being eliminated from the assessment.
- 8.4.12 Scheduled Monuments
- 8.4.13 The assessment identified five Scheduled Monuments within a secondary (1km radius) study area, three of which fall within the Registered Historic Landscape. These are Y Bwlwarcau Hillfort (HA38), Caer Blaen y Cwm/ Roman Camp (HA39) and Llangynwyd Castle (HA37). The site walkover concluded that only Y Bwlwarcau Hillfort would have intervisibility with the proposed power line; the remainder were therefore eliminated from the ASIDOHL2. The Grade II Listed Church of St Cynwyd (HA43) was also included within the assessment being situated within the Registered Historic Landscape and Llangynwyd Conservation Area (CA552). The church occupies a prominent position overlooking the proposed power line route and therefore may be subject to very slight visual impact.

8.5 Stage 2: Assessment of Direct Physical Impact on Registered Historic Landscape

- 8.5.1 The development area applied to the proposed power line (with an assumed width of 2m applied along its full length) has a total area of 1.6ha which is spread across four Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCAs) (Figures 1-2).
- 8.5.2 The proposed development has a potential absolute direct impact on Llangynwyd (HLCA005) of 0.63ha of a total area of 705.27ha which is equal to 0.09%. Mynydd Margam Forest (HLCA010) would be subject to an absolute direct impact of 0.17ha of a total area of 1641.62ha which is equal to 0.01%. Upper Cwm Kenfig (HLCA013) would be subject to an absolute direct impact of 0.53ha of 95.83ha which is equal to 0.55%. Finally, Cwm Dyffryn and Cwm Farteg Railway Corridor (HLCA009) would be subject to an absolute direct impact of 0.006ha of 53.93ha which is equal to 0.01%. In total the absolute direct impact of the development on the Registered Historic Landscape as a whole is 1.34ha of a total 3233.57ha which is equal to 0.04%.
- 8.5.3 The Stage 2 assessment of potential absolute direct impact (physical land loss) and of relative direct impact (loss of character) on each HLCA are outlined in Table 5 below.

Table 5. ASIDOHL2 Stage 2: Assessment of Direct Physical Impacts on Historic Landscape Character Areas				
Llangynwyd (HLCA005)				
Absolute Impact (Loss of Area)			Magnitude and Score	
0.63ha of a total area of 705.27ha = 0.09%.			Very Slight - 1	
Relative and Landscape Impacts (Loss of known characteristics or elements) and scores				
Element/ % of loss	Category	Magnitude	Landscape Value (c)	Landscape Visual Effect
<1% loss of upland agricultural landscape	C - 2	Very Slight -1	Very Low - 1	Very Slightly Reduced - 1
Summary of the Magnitude of Direct Physical Impact on (HLCA005)				
Score			Grading	
6			Slight	
Cwm Dyffryn and Cwm Farteg Railway Corridor (HLCA009)				
Absolute Impact (Loss of Area)			Magnitude and Score	
0.006ha of 53.93ha which is equal to 0.01%			Very Slight - 1	
Relative and Landscape Impacts (Loss of known characteristics or elements) and scores				
Element/ % of loss	Category	Magnitude	Landscape Value (c)	Landscape Visual Effect
<1% industrial/public railway/tramroad corridor	C - 2	Very Slight -1	Very Low - 1	Very Slightly Reduced - 1
Summary of the Magnitude of Direct Physical Impact on (HLCA005)				
Score			Grading	
6			Slight	
Mynydd Margam Forest (HLCA010)				
Absolute Impact (Loss of Area)			Magnitude and Score	
0.17ha of a total area of 1641.62ha = 0.01%			Very Slight - 1	
Relative and Landscape Impacts (Loss of known characteristics or elements) and scores				
Element/ % of loss	Category	Magnitude	Landscape Value (c)	Landscape Visual Effect
<1% of extensive 20 th century forestry plantation	C - 2	Very Slight -1	Very Low - 1	Very Slightly Reduced – 1
<1% of formerly open mountain and enclosed land	C - 2	Very Slight -1	Very Low - 1	Very Slightly Reduced – 1
Summary of the Magnitude of Direct Physical Impact on HLCA010				
Score			Grading	
6			Slight	
Upper Cwm Kenfig (HLCA013)				
Absolute Impact (Loss of Area)			Magnitude and Score	
0.53ha of a total area of 95.83ha = 0.55%			Very Slight - 1	

Relative and Landscape Impacts (Loss of known characteristics or elements) and scores				
Element/ % of loss	Category	Magnitude	Landscape Value (c)	Landscape Visual Effect
<1% prehistoric and medieval settlement/fields	C-2	Very Slight - 1	Very Low - 1	Very Slightly Reduced – 1
Summary of the Magnitude of Direct Physical Impact on HLCA013				
Score			Grading	
6			Slight	

Summary of Overall Direct Physical Impacts on Historic Landscape Character Areas		
HLCA	Score	Grading
HLCA005	6	Slight
HLCA009	6	Slight
HLCA010	6	Slight
HLCA013	6	Slight

8.6 Stage 3: Assessment of Indirect Impact on Registered Historic Landscape

- 8.6.1 Stage 3 describes and quantifies indirect impacts of the development on theoretically and physically visible Registered Landscapes, individual HLCAs and/ or HLCAs connected by setting to HLCAs in the development area. Indirect impacts are subdivided into two potential impacts; Indirect Physical impacts and Indirect (Non-Physical) Visual impacts.
- 8.6.2 Physical impacts can result from an increased risk of exposure, increased management needs, the severance or fragmentation of related elements, frustration or cessation of historic land-use practices and the frustration of access leading to decreased opportunities for education and enjoyment of the amenity elements (Cadw 2007, 20, i-v).
- 8.6.3 Visual impacts (non-physical) can occur as a result of impacts to elements of an HLCA from which the development can be seen (views to and from) or obstructed (direct line of site); the creation of inappropriate visual connections and finally the visual impact of the development area itself in relation to the existing historic character of the HLCA when considering its form and appearance (Cadw 2007, 21, i-v).
- 8.6.4 The Magnitude of Indirect Visual Impacts has been assessed using site visits, contour maps, aerial photographs and taking into consideration existing surface features such as forestry and built environment using Digital Surface Models (DSM) generated by LiDAR. Indirect Visual Impacts have been assessed utilising the criteria set out above in accordance with ASIDOHL2 guidelines.
- 8.6.5 Indirect Physical Impacts (a)
- 8.6.6 Based on the present assessment it is considered that the proposed development will have no permanent indirect physical impact on any of the statutory designated landscapes, sites and monuments noted above. As a result, the first part of Stage 3, (a), has not been carried out. No physical change from and increased risk of exposure, increased management needs, the severance or fragmentation of related elements,

frustration or cessation of historic land-use practices and the frustration of access leading to decreased opportunities for education and enjoyment of the amenity elements will occur (Cadw 2007, 20, i-v).

8.6.7 Indirect (non-physical) Visual Impacts (b)

8.6.8 The potential indirect visual impacts to sites that lie within the primary (250m radius) study area have been assessed above (Table 4). A secondary (1km radius) study area was also applied to identify potential impacts upon the **setting** of statutory designated heritage assets (Value A* and A), these include Scheduled Monuments, Registered Landscapes, Parks & Gardens, Grade I and II* Listed Buildings and sometimes Grade II Listed Buildings (if situated within a Registered Landscape or Park & Garden).

8.6.9 A single Scheduled Monument, Y Bwlwarcau (HA38), was considered to be at risk of a potential indirect visual impact from the proposed power line (Figures 7-8). Two further Scheduled Monuments within the Registered Historic Landscape were considered for assessment but the site walkover established that there was no intervisibility with these sites due to topography and/ or proximity.

8.6.10 Indirect Visual Impact to Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCAs) was assessed using site visits, contour maps, aerial photographs and taking into consideration existing surface features such as forestry and built environment using Digital Surface Models (DSM) generated by LiDAR. Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) analysis carried out on a worst case scenario assumption (10m height along full length of the route) indicated that a total of six HLCAs theoretically had intervisibility with the proposed power line (Figure 2).

8.6.11 Following the walkover survey, this number was reduced to just five for inclusion in the ASIDOHL2 assessment. These HLCAs are:

- HLCA005 Llangynwyd
- HLCA009 Cwm Dyffryn and Cwm Farteg Railway Corridor
- HLCA010 Mynydd Margam Forest
- HLCA 011 Waun-y-Gilfach
- HLCA013 Upper Cwm Kenfig

8.6.12 The only HLCA not already described in Stage 2 above is Waun-y-Gilfach (HLCA 011), which is characterised as “20th century forestry plantation; former unenclosed ‘Waun’; footpaths and tracks. Enclosed upland grazing: large regular enclosures; distinctive field boundaries; relict archaeology: prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval settlement/fields; prehistoric enclosures (upland agricultural landscape features); buried archaeology: parchmarks (Roberts 2003 p76).

Table 6. ASIDOHL2 Stage 3(b): Assessment of Indirect (non-physical) Impacts on Historic Character Areas

Impacts to...											Total Scores	
HLCA	Views to/from Element Partially Altered	Magnitude & Score	Visual Connections between Related Elements Occluded/ Obstructed	Magnitude & Score	(Inappropriate) Visual Connections between Elements not intended to be inter-visible	Magnitude & Score	Development Form (scale, distribution of features)	Magnitude & Score	Development Appearance (size, shape, colour of features)	Magnitude & Score	Assessment Score (Average)	Overall Magnitude of Indirect Impacts on 28 Point Scale (3(a)+3(b)) x 28 ÷ 20
HLCA005	A - 4	Very Slight - 1	None	0	None	0	1.25	Very Slight - 1	1.25	Very Slight - 1	1.9	2 – Very Slight
HLCA009	C - 2	Very Slight - 1	None	0	None	0	0.75	Very Slight - 1	0.75	Very Slight - 1	1.3	2 – Very Slight
HLCA010	C - 2	Very Slight - 1	None	0	None	0	0.75	Very Slight - 1	0.75	Very Slight - 1	1.3	2 – Very Slight
HLCA011	C - 2	Very Slight - 1	None	0	None	0	0.75	Very Slight - 1	0.75	Very Slight - 1	1.3	2 – Very Slight
HLCA013	C - 2	Very Slight - 1	None	0	None	0	0.75	Very Slight - 1	0.75	Very Slight - 1	1.3	2 – Very Slight
Combined Assessment Score and Overall Magnitude of Indirect (non-physical) Visual Impacts on HLCAs											1.42	2 – Very Slight

Note: Indirect Visual Effects (Magnitude and Score) have been assessed based on professional judgement utilising the criteria set out in Section 1.4 above

8.7 Stage 4: Evaluation of Relative Importance

8.7.1 Stage 4 evaluates the relative importance of parts and elements (sites, monuments and landscapes) of HLCA(s) which may be directly or indirectly, wholly or partially, affected by the proposed development in relation to:

- The whole of the HLCA(s) concerned, and or;
- The whole of the Registered Historic Landscape, followed by;
- An evaluation of the relative importance of the HLCA(s) concerned with the national context.

8.7.2 Stage 4 should then be completed with a determination of the average, overall value of all the HLCA(s) (or part thereof) affected (Cadw 2007, 23-28).

8.7.3 The criteria for determining the relative importance or value of HLCA(s) (and their constituent elements or parts) in Stage 4, steps (a), (b) and (c) are as follows (Cadw 2007, 24-5):

- Rarity
- Representativeness
- Documentation
- Group Value
- Survival
- Condition
- Coherence
- Integrity
- Potential
- Amenity
- Associations

Table 7. ASIDOHL2 Stage 4 Assessment of HLCA005						
Llangynwyd (HLCA005) Characterised as an "important diverse multi-period relict archaeological landscape, including: pre-historic and medieval settlement with associated field systems; prehistoric enclosures (upland agricultural landscape features); medieval military/defensive feature; post-medieval vernacular buildings; important well-documented historic associations; small, but important nucleated settlement with medieval (or earlier) origins, centred on medieval church and cemetery; dispersed scatter of settlement throughout the surrounding area; Ancient woodland" (Roberts 2003 p65).						
Evaluation of the Relative Importance of the HLCA						
Criteria ↓	Value →	V High/ Good (5)	V High/ Good (4)	Mod/ Med (3)	Low (2)	V Low/ Poor (1)
(a) Relative Importance of affected area* in relation to the whole Historic Landscape Character Area						
Rarity		✓				
Representativeness			✓			
Documentation			✓			
Group Value					✓	
Survival				✓		
Condition				✓		
Coherence				✓		
Integrity				✓		
Potential				✓		
Amenity					✓	
Associations			✓			
(b) Relative Importance of affected area* in relation to the whole of the Historic Landscape on the Register						
Rarity				✓		
Representativeness					✓	
Documentation			✓			
Group Value			✓			
Survival			✓			
Condition				✓		
Coherence				✓		
Integrity				✓		
Potential				✓		
Amenity					✓	
Associations				✓		
(c) Relative importance of affected area* in relation to the relative importance of the HLCA(s) concerned within the national context						
Rarity					✓	
Representativeness					✓	
Documentation				✓		
Group Value					✓	
Survival				✓		
Condition				✓		
Coherence				✓		
Integrity				✓		
Potential				✓		
Amenity					✓	
Associations				✓		
Overall Evaluation Scores						
(a)	(b)	(c)		Equation Score	Overall Score	
Total(a) = 36	34	29		60	60 High	
Total(a)/55x100=65.5	Total(b)/55x100=61.8	Total(c)/55x100=52.7				

*which may be directly, indirectly, wholly or partially affected by the proposed development.

Table 8. ASIDOHL2 Stage 4 Assessment of HLCA009						
Cwm Dyffryn and Cwm Farteg Railway Corridor (HLCA009) Characterised as “industrial/public railway/tramroad corridor; industrial rail side settlement (terraced housing and large cemetery); former agri-industrial function” (ibid p72).						
Evaluation of the Relative Importance of the HLCA						
Criteria ↓	Value →	V High/ Good (5)	V High/ Good (4)	Mod/ Med (3)	Low (2)	V Low/ Poor (1)
(a) Relative Importance of affected area* in relation to the whole Historic Landscape Character Area						
Rarity					✓	
Representativeness					✓	
Documentation					✓	
Group Value						✓
Survival				✓		
Condition				✓		
Coherence				✓		
Integrity					✓	
Potential						✓
Amenity						✓
Associations				✓		
(b) Relative Importance of affected area* in relation to the whole of the Historic Landscape on the Register						
Rarity		✓				
Representativeness						✓
Documentation					✓	
Group Value						✓
Survival				✓		
Condition			✓			
Coherence					✓	
Integrity					✓	
Potential						✓
Amenity						✓
Associations				✓		
(c) HLCAs which may be directly or indirectly, wholly or partially, affected by the proposed development in relation to the relative importance of the HLCA(s) concerned within the national context						
Rarity					✓	
Representativeness					✓	
Documentation					✓	
Group Value						✓
Survival				✓		
Condition				✓		
Coherence					✓	
Integrity					✓	
Potential						✓
Amenity						✓
Associations				✓		
Overall Evaluation Scores						
(a)	(b)	(c)		Equation Score	Overall Score	
23	25	22		42.4	42 – Considerable	
Total(a)/55x100=41.8	Total(b)/55x100=45.5	Total(c)/55x100=40				

*which may be directly, indirectly, wholly or partially affected by the proposed development.

Table 9. ASIDOHL2 Stage 4 Assessment of HLCA010						
Mynydd Margam Forest (HLCA010) Characterised as “extensive 20th century forestry plantation (Ancient and other broadleaved woodland); formerly open mountain and enclosed land; former monastic land: grange and chapel; relict multi-period archaeological landscape: prehistoric, medieval, and post-medieval settlement (loose dispersed settlement pattern) and fields, prehistoric funerary and ritual with a prehistoric defensive element; prehistoric, medieval and post-medieval communications corridor; accumulation of blanket peat with environmental potential; industrial archaeological features” (<i>ibid</i> p73).						
Evaluation of the Relative Importance of the HLCA						
Criteria ↓	Value →	V High/ V Good (5)	High/ Good (4)	Mod/ Med (3)	Low (2)	V Low/ Poor (1)
(a) Relative Importance of affected area* in relation to the whole Historic Landscape Character Area						
Rarity						✓
Representativeness						✓
Documentation						✓
Group Value						✓
Survival				✓		
Condition				✓		
Coherence						✓
Integrity						✓
Potential					✓	
Amenity						✓
Associations						✓
(b) Relative Importance of affected area* in relation to the whole of the Historic Landscape on the Register						
Rarity				✓		
Representativeness						✓
Documentation						✓
Group Value						✓
Survival				✓		
Condition				✓		
Coherence						✓
Integrity						✓
Potential					✓	
Amenity						✓
Associations						✓
(c) HLCAs which may be directly or indirectly, wholly or partially, affected by the proposed development in relation to the relative importance of the HLCA(s) concerned within the national context						
Rarity						✓
Representativeness						✓
Documentation						✓
Group Value						✓
Survival				✓		
Condition				✓		
Coherence						✓
Integrity						✓
Potential						✓
Amenity						✓
Associations						✓
Overall Evaluation Scores						
(a)	(b)	(c)	Equation Score		Overall Score	
16	18	15	29.7		30 - Moderate	
Total(a)/55x100=29.1	Total(b)/55x100=32.7	Total(c)/55x100=27.3				

*which may be directly, indirectly, wholly or partially affected by the proposed development.

Table 10. ASIDOHL2 Stage 4 Assessment of HLCA011						
Waun-y-Gilfach (HLCA011) Characterised as “20th century forestry plantation; former unenclosed ‘Waun’; footpaths and tracks” (<i>ibid</i> p76).						
Evaluation of the Relative Importance of the HLCA						
Criteria ↓	Value →	V High/ V Good (5)	High/ Good (4)	Mod/ Med (3)	Low (2)	V Low/ Poor (1)
(a) Relative Importance of affected area* in relation to the whole Historic Landscape Character Area						
Rarity						
Representativeness						
Documentation						
Group Value						
Survival						
Condition						
Coherence						
Integrity						
Potential						
Amenity						
Associations						
(b) Relative Importance of affected area* in relation to the whole of the Historic Landscape on the Register						
Rarity						✓
Representativeness					✓	
Documentation						✓
Group Value						✓
Survival				✓		
Condition				✓		
Coherence						✓
Integrity						✓
Potential					✓	
Amenity					✓	
Associations						✓
(c) HLCAs which may be directly or indirectly, wholly or partially, affected by the proposed development in relation to the relative importance of the HLCA(s) concerned within the national context						
Rarity						✓
Representativeness					✓	
Documentation						✓
Group Value						✓
Survival				✓		
Condition				✓		
Coherence						✓
Integrity						✓
Potential					✓	
Amenity					✓	
Associations						✓
Overall Evaluation Scores						
(a)	(b)	(c)	Equation Score		Overall Score	
-	18 Total(b)/55x100=32.7	18 Total(c)/55x100= 32.7	32.7		33 – Moderate	

*which may be directly, indirectly, wholly or partially affected by the proposed development.

Table 11. ASIDOHL2 Stage 4 Assessment of HLCA013						
Upper Cwm Kenfig (HLCA013) Characterised as a “multi-period and multi-functional upland landscape with important relict archaeology: prehistoric and medieval settlement/fields, prehistoric funerary and ritual landscape, prehistoric enclosures (upland agricultural landscape features); accumulation of blanket peat with environmental potential; important prehistoric and medieval communication corridor” (ibid p79).						
Evaluation of the Relative Importance of the HLCA						
Criteria ↓	Value →	V High/ Good (5)	V High/ Good (4)	Mod/ Med (3)	Low (2)	V Low/ Poor (1)
(a) Relative Importance of affected area* in relation to the whole Historic Landscape Character Area						
Rarity					✓	
Representativeness					✓	
Documentation						✓
Group Value					✓	
Survival				✓		
Condition				✓		
Coherence					✓	
Integrity					✓	
Potential					✓	
Amenity						✓
Associations						✓
(b) Relative Importance of affected area* in relation to the whole of the Historic Landscape on the Register						
Rarity					✓	
Representativeness					✓	
Documentation						✓
Group Value					✓	
Survival				✓		
Condition				✓		
Coherence					✓	
Integrity					✓	
Potential					✓	
Amenity						✓
Associations						✓
(c) HLCAs which may be directly or indirectly, wholly or partially, affected by the proposed development in relation to the relative importance of the HLCA(s) concerned within the national context						
Rarity					✓	
Representativeness					✓	
Documentation						✓
Group Value					✓	
Survival				✓		
Condition				✓		
Coherence					✓	
Integrity					✓	
Potential					✓	
Amenity						✓
Associations						✓
Overall Evaluation Scores						
(a)	(b)	(c)	Equation Score		Overall Score	
16	21	21	35.2		35 – Moderate	
Total(a)/55x100=29.1	Total(b)/55x100=38.2	Total(c)/55x100=38.2				

*which may be directly, indirectly, wholly or partially affected by the proposed development.

Table 12. Overall Evaluation Scores for Historic Landscape Character Areas Affected by the Development	
HLCA	Overall Value
HLCA005	60 - High
HLCA009	42 - Considerable
HLCA010	30 - Moderate
HLCA011	33 - Moderate
HLCA013	35 - Moderate
Average Evaluated Landscape Value in Relation to the Development	
Overall Total Value	Grade
40	40 - Considerable

8.8 Stage 5: Assessment of Overall Significance of Impact

8.8.1 The following stage combines the results of Stages 2 to 4 to produce an ‘assessment of the overall significance of the impact of development and the effect that altering the Historic Character Area(s) concerned has on the whole of the Historic Landscape area on the Register (Cadw 2007, 28). The effect of the development on each Historic Landscape Character Area (HLCA) is scored and the value assessed in relation to the likely loss and consequent reduction in value of the Historic Landscape on the Register. The results are set out in the following table.

Table 13. Summary of the Overall Significance of the Impact of Development on Landscapes of Historic Interest

HLCA	Value of affected part of Historic Character Area (based on stage 4 results)	Impact of Development (Based on stage 2 and 3 results)	Reduction of value of the Historic Landscape Area on Register	Overall Significance of Impact
HLCA005	6 - Medium Key elements of varying intrinsic importance and/or condition and/or group value and/or generally typical of this or other historic landscape areas on the Register	1 - Very Low Marginal land loss and consequent fragmentation and/or visual intrusion causing negligible changes to elements and their values.	1 - Very Low Development impact on key elements is such that the value of the historic landscape area on the Register remains essentially unchanged.	8 – Slight
HLCA009	4 - Medium Key elements of varying intrinsic importance and/or condition and/or group value and/or generally typical of this or other historic landscape areas on the Register	1 - Very Low Marginal land loss and consequent fragmentation and/or visual intrusion causing negligible changes to elements and their values.	1 - Very Low Development impact on key elements is such that the value of the historic landscape area on the Register remains essentially unchanged.	6 – Slight
HLCA010	3 - Low Key elements of low to moderate importance and/or condition and/or group value, and/or of generally low significance in this or other historic landscape areas on the Register	1 - Very Low Marginal land loss and consequent fragmentation and/or visual intrusion causing negligible changes to elements and their values.	1 - Very Low Development impact on key elements is such that the value of the historic landscape area on the Register remains essentially unchanged.	5 – Slight
HLCA011	3 - Low Key elements of low to moderate importance and/or condition and/or group value, and/or of generally low significance in this or other historic landscape areas on the Register	1 - Very Low Marginal land loss and consequent fragmentation and/or visual intrusion causing negligible changes to elements and their values.	1 - Very Low Development impact on key elements is such that the value of the historic landscape area on the Register remains essentially unchanged.	5 – Slight
HLCA013	3 - Low Key elements of low to moderate importance and/or condition and/or group value, and/or of generally low significance in this or other historic landscape areas on the Register	1 - Very Low Marginal land loss and consequent fragmentation and/or visual intrusion causing negligible changes to elements and their values.	1 - Very Low Development impact on key elements is such that the value of the historic landscape area on the Register remains essentially unchanged.	5 – Slight

8.9 ASIDOHL2 Concluding Statement

- 8.9.1 Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd was commissioned by Western Power Distribution to carry out an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment and an Assessment of the Significance of the Impact of the Development on the Historic Landscape (ASIDOHL2) for a proposed power connection line for Foel Trawsnant Windfarm, Neath Port Talbot, that partially crosses into the Mynydd Margam Registered Landscape of Special Historic Interest (PGW (WGI/MGI)2) (Figure 1).
- 8.9.2 The proposed plans include a power line with a total length of 8km that runs south-eastwards from the windfarm at Foel Trawsnant (NGR SS 83754 94105), and skirts the eastern edge of Afan Forest Park at Garn wen, before continuing southwards along the contours of Mynydd Bach and Mynydd Margam to its terminal end at Fynon y Gilfach (NGR SS 84185 87453). The installation of the proposed powerline includes the erection of a number of H poles along the length of the route.
- 8.9.3 The plans are currently at a preliminary stage and therefore a number of assumptions have been made in order to carry out the assessment. The assessment assumes that an H-pole of 10 metres in height could be placed at any point along the above ground section of the proposed route and the route has been assigned a theoretical width of 2m. Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) analysis (using Lidar 2m DTM) was carried out based on these assumptions.
- 8.9.4 Stage 1 of the ASIDOHL2 process identified a single landscape for assessment; Mynydd Margam Registered Landscape of Special Historic Interest (PGW(WGI/MGI)2) which would be crossed by the proposed power line. The Historic Landscape is described in the Register as “a discrete block of the South Wales uplands situated at the south west fringe of the historical Glamorgan Blaenau, displaying continuity, density and diversity of human occupation from the prehistoric period to the recent past. The area includes: Bronze Age ritual and funerary monuments, large Iron Age hillforts, settlements, enclosures and trackways; a Roman road, a large and important group of Early Christian Inscribed Stone monuments and associations; medieval defensive works; Margam Abbey, later a site for gentry residences, a landscaped park, pleasure gardens and a magnificent Georgian orangery; Second World War defensive installations” (Cadw & ICOMOS p63).
- 8.9.5 The remaining landscapes on the Register were discounted as being too distant. The closest landscapes are Merthyr Mawr, Kenfig & Margam Burrows (HLW(MGI)1) (5.1km SW) and The Rhondda (HLW(MGI)5) (8km NE).
- 8.9.6 **Stage 2** identified that the proposed power line had the potential to have a direct impact on four HLCAs; Llangynwyd (HLCA005), Cwm Dyffryn and Cwm Farteg Railway Corridor (HLCA009), Mynydd Margam Forest (HLCA 010) and Upper Cwm Kenfig (HLCA013). The magnitude of direct impact was assessed as **Slight** for all HLCAs.
- 8.9.7 The proposed power line would cause a direct impact to 0.04% of the Mynydd Margam Registered Historic Landscape (PGW(WGI/MGI)2) as a whole. This figure is based on the area of the entire proposed route through the Registered Landscape; the actual cumulative direct impact of individual H-pole locations would be considerably lower.
- 8.9.8 The ASIDOHL2 process identified that all four of the directly affected HLCAs, together

with neighbouring Waun-y-Gilfach (HLCA011), may be subject to a potential indirect impact from the proposed power line and would require assessment in **Stage 3**.

- 8.9.9 The assessment concluded that there would be no permanent indirect physical impact on any statutory designated landscapes, sites and monuments noted above. As a result, the first part of Stage 3 (a) was not carried out. No physical change from and increased risk of exposure, increased management needs, the severance or fragmentation of related elements, frustration or cessation of historic land-use practices and the frustration of access leading to decreased opportunities for education and enjoyment of the amenity elements will occur (Cadw 2007, 20, i-v).
- 8.9.10 Stage 3(b) assessed all five HLCAs for the potential for indirect (non-physical) Visual Impact. All five HLCAs, together with Y Bwlwarcaw (HA38), were assessed as being subject to a **'Very Slight'** impact.
- 8.9.11 The relative importance of parts or elements of HLCAs which may be directly or indirectly, wholly or partially, affected by the proposed development were considered in Stage 4. The remaining overall (combined) averaged landscape value was assessed as **Considerable**.
- 8.9.12 The final (Stage 5) ASIDOHL2 assessment process identified the assessment of the overall significance of the impact of development and the effect that altering the Historic Landscape Character Area(s) (HLCA) concerned has on the whole Historic Landscape area on the Register (Cadw 2007, 28).
- 8.9.13 The effect of the development on each HLCA was scored and the value assessed in relation to the likely loss and consequent reduction in value of the HLCA on the Register. The results indicated that the summary of overall significance of the impact of development on the historic landscape is **Slight** for all HLCAs. The development impact on key elements is such that value of the historic landscape on the Register remains essentially unchanged.

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9 Appendices

9.1 Appendix I Figures

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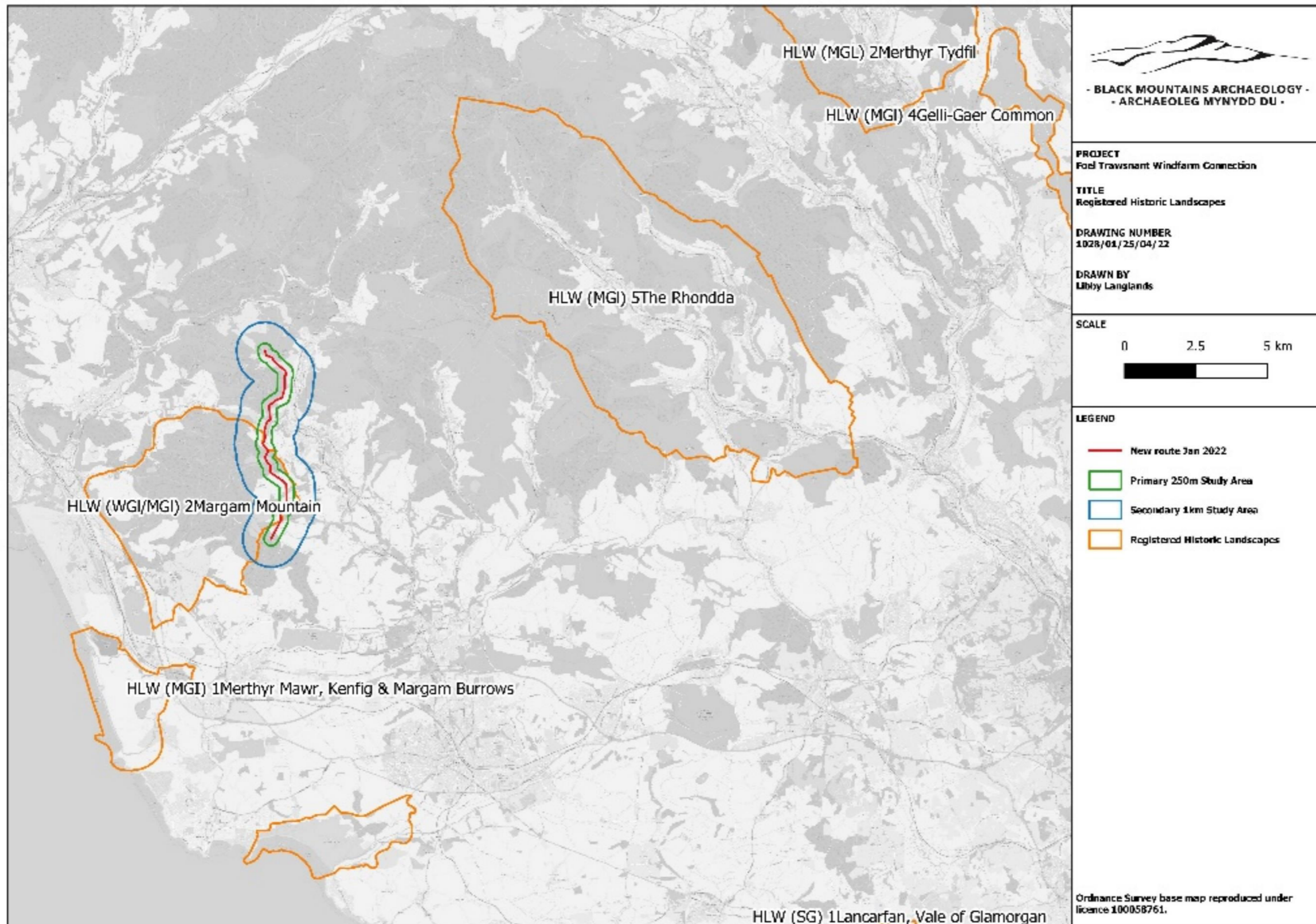


Figure 1. Plan showing the location of Registered Historic Landscapes

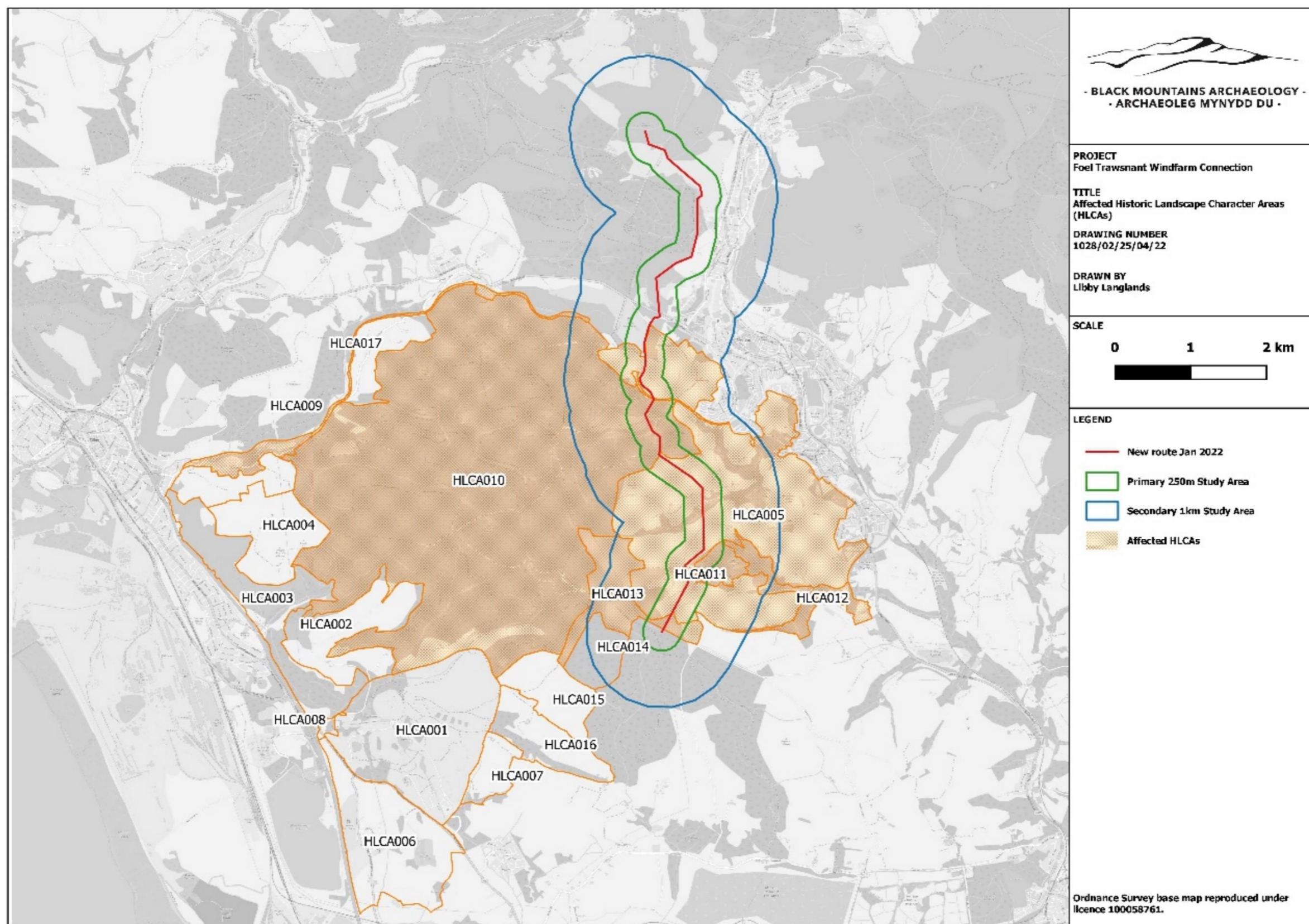


Figure 2. Plan showing affected Historic Landscape Character Areas

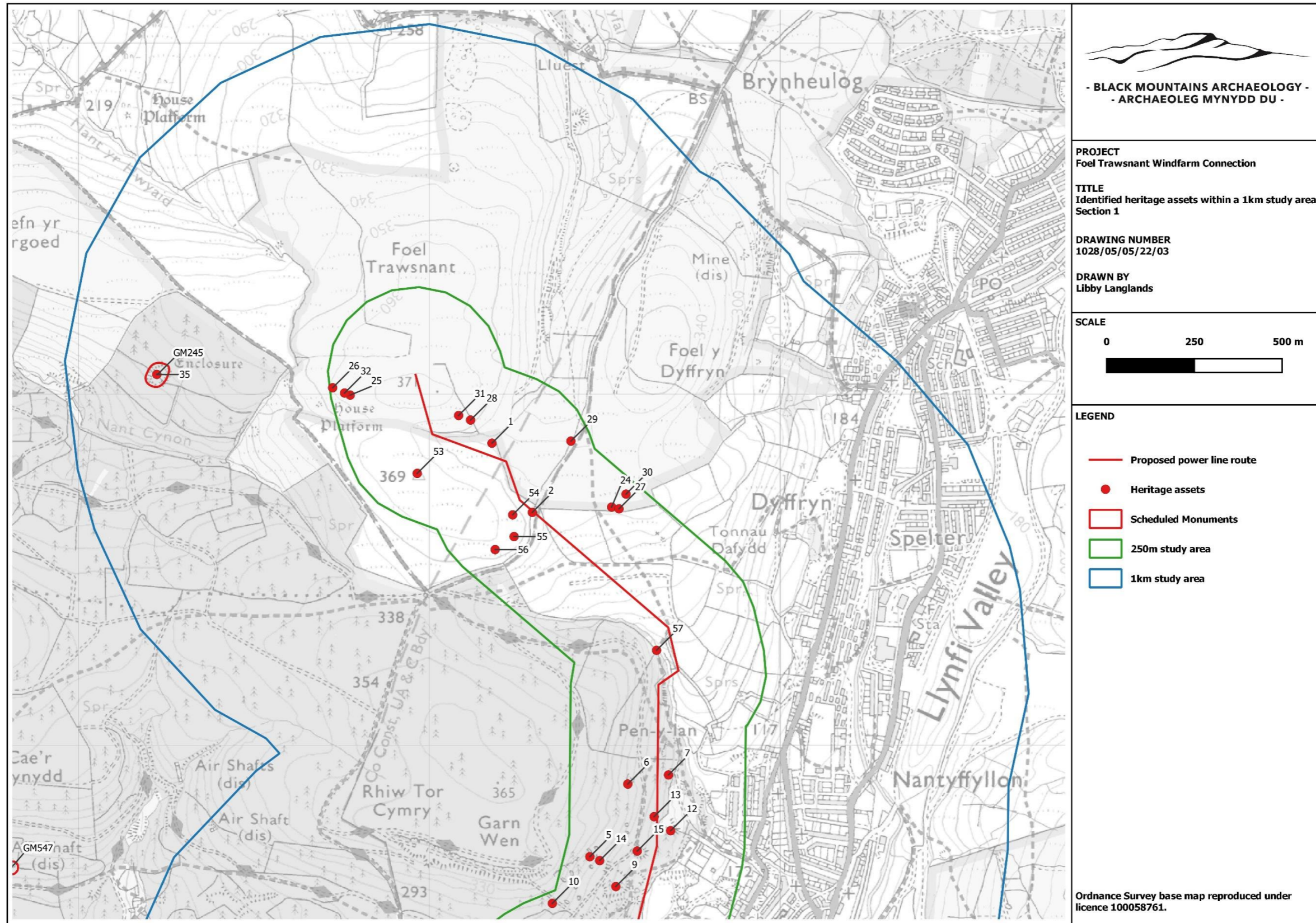


Figure 3. Plan showing the location of Identified Heritage Assets: Section 1

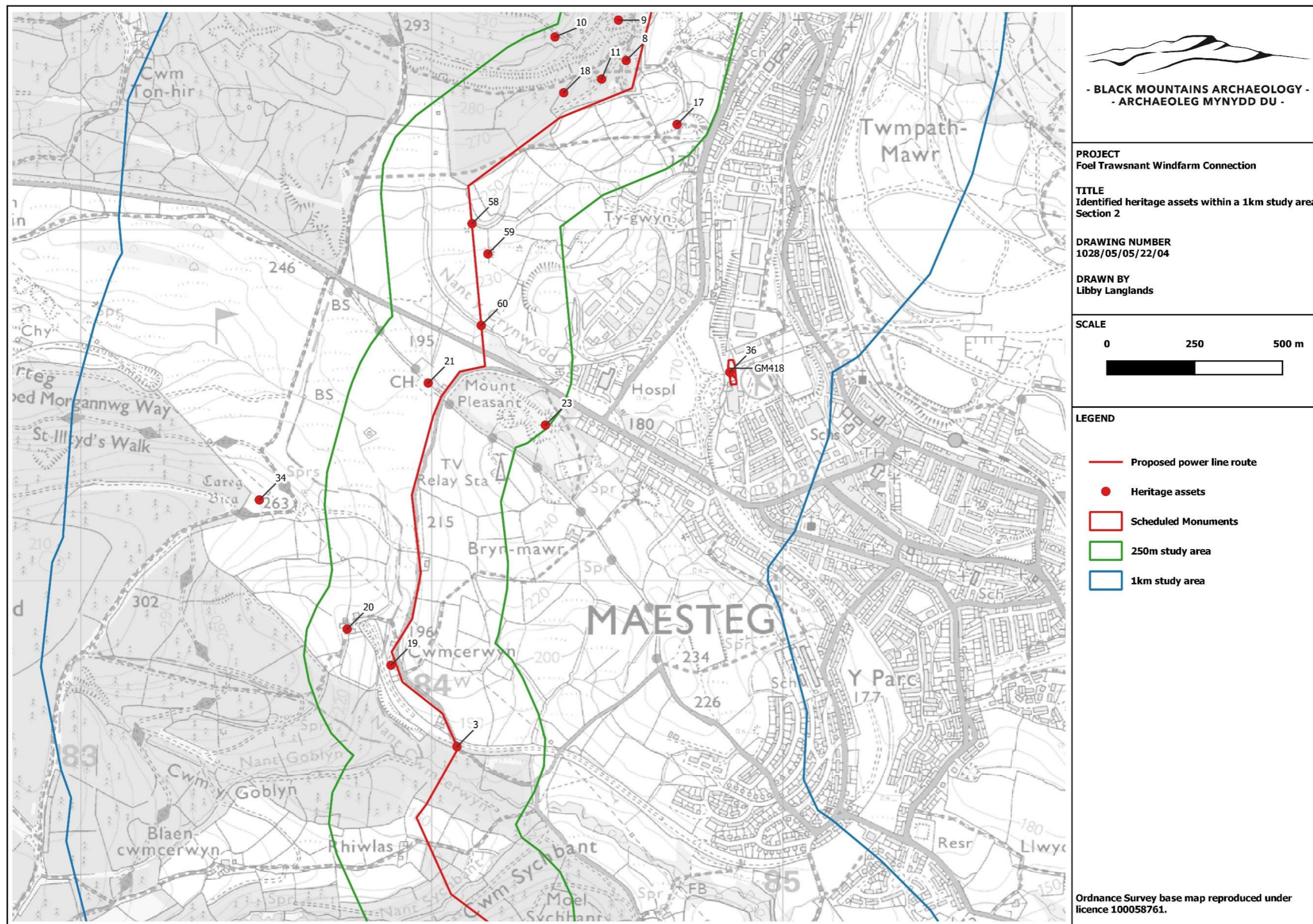


Figure 4: Plan showing the location of Identified Heritage Assets: Section 2

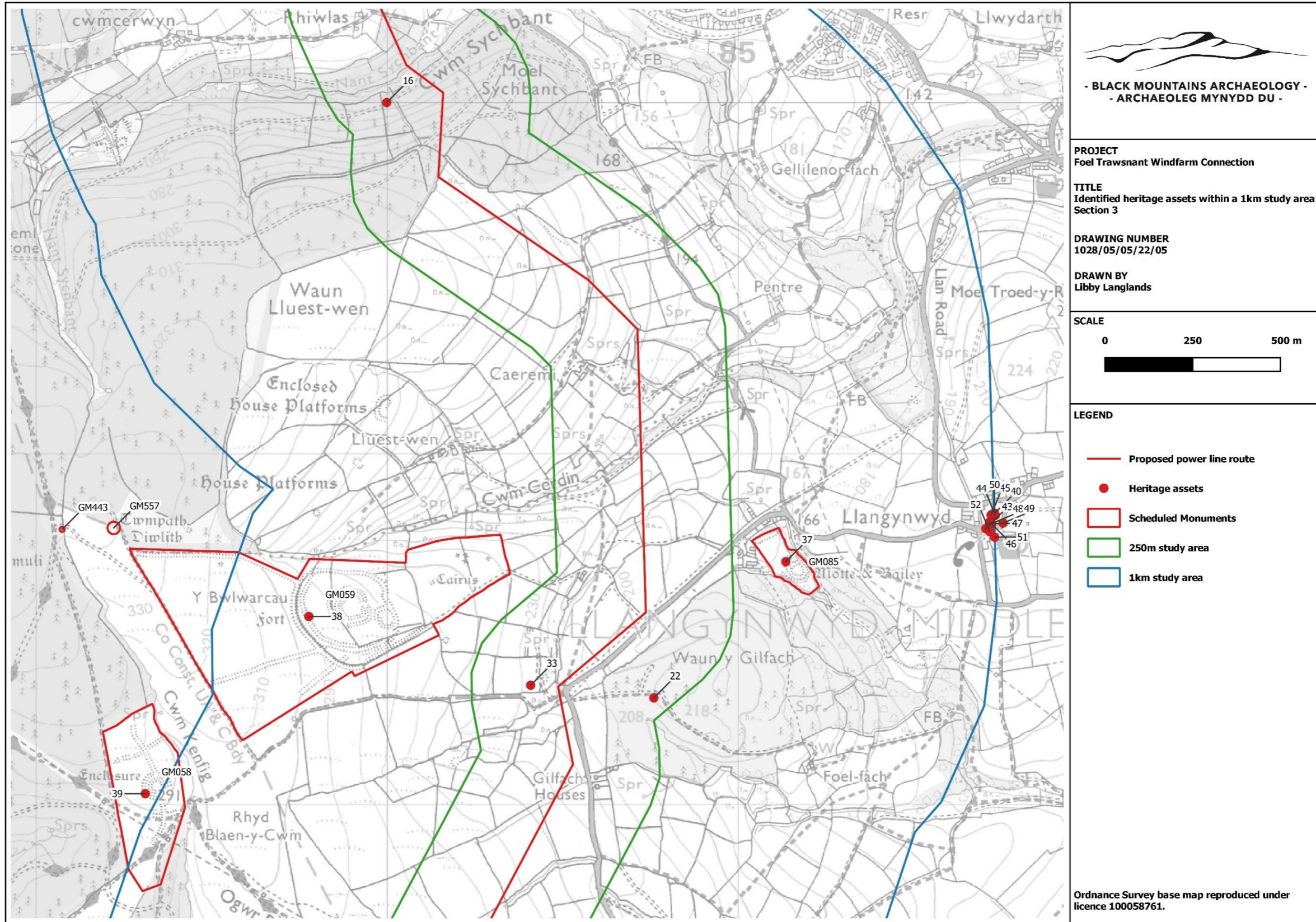


Figure 5. Plan showing the location of Identified Heritage Assets: Section 3

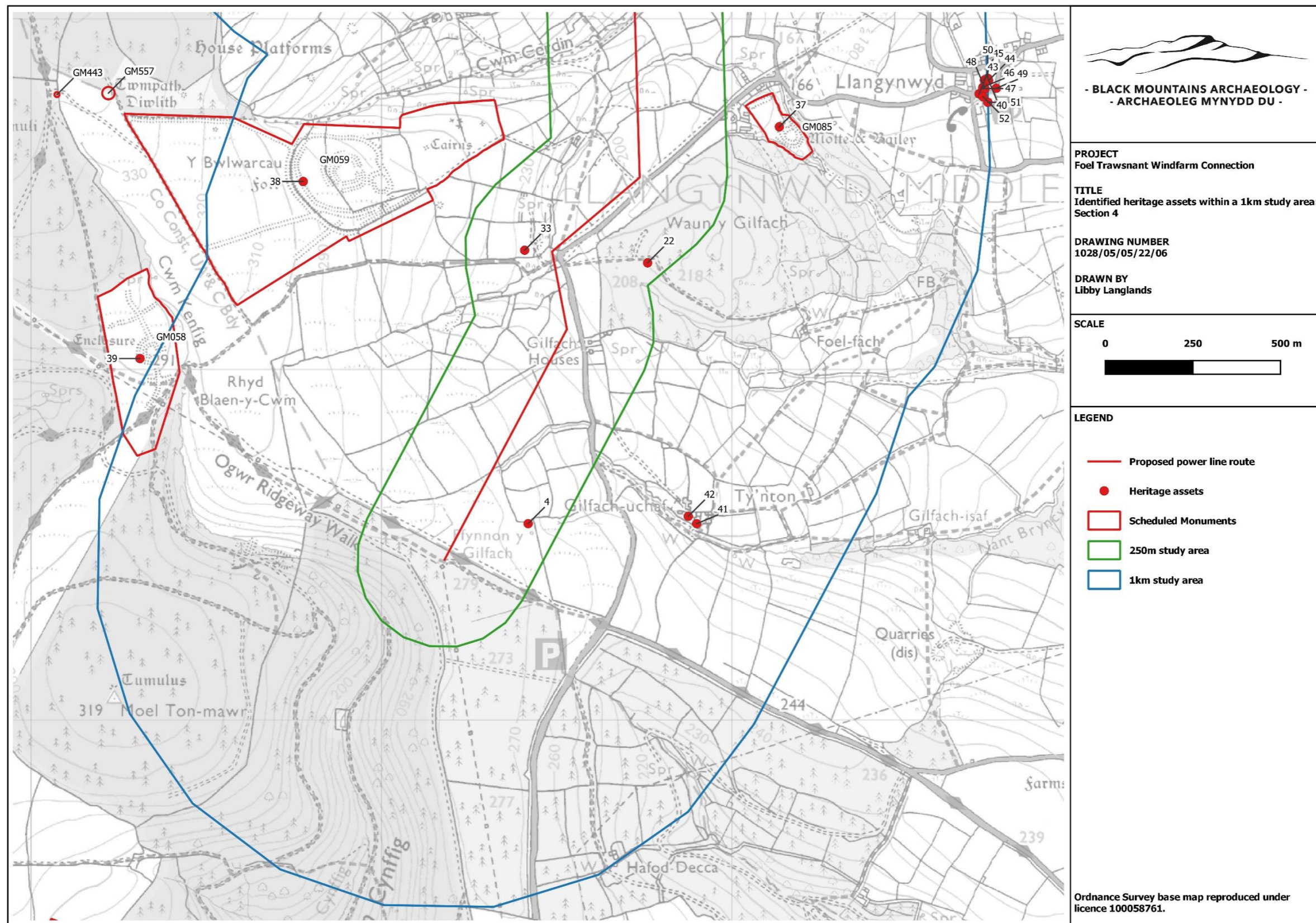


Figure 6. Plan showing the location of Identified Heritage Assets: Section 4

9.2 Appendix II Aerial Photographs

9.2.1 The following is a list of the aerial photographs with coverage of the Study Area held by the Central Registry of Air Photography for Wales (CRAPW). The images largely followed the chronology of historic maps.

WO no	Sortie No	Date	Ph type	Comment
1146	CPE/UK/1871	04/12/46	B&W	
1147	CPE/UK/1871	04/12/46	B&W	
1148	CPE/UK/1871	04/12/46	B&W	
1149	CPE/UK/1871	04/12/46	B&W	
2157	CPE/UK/1871	04/12/46	B&W	
2158	CPE/UK/1871	04/12/46	B&W	
2159	CPE/UK/1871	04/12/46	B&W	
3148	CPE/UK/1871	04/12/46	B&W	Shows Camps SAMGm057 and SAMGm056
3149	CPE/UK/1871	04/12/46	B&W	Shows Roman Camp SAMGm058 and Camp SAMGm057
3150	CPE/UK/1871	04/12/46	B&W	Shows Y Bwlwarcu SAMGm059 and Roman Camp SAMGm058
1110	CPE/UK/1997	13/04/47	B&W	Shows possible enclosure – unrecorded
1111	CPE/UK/1997	13/04/47	B&W	Shows possible enclosure – unrecorded
1112	CPE/UK/1997	13/04/47	B&W	Shows possible enclosure – unrecorded
1113	CPE/UK/1997	13/04/47	B&W	Shows Camp SAMGm057
2111	CPE/UK/1997	13/04/47	B&W	
2112	CPE/UK/1997	13/04/47	B&W	
2113	CPE/UK/1997	13/04/47	B&W	
2114	CPE/UK/1997	13/04/47	B&W	
3111	CPE/UK/1997	13/04/47	B&W	Shows Y Bwlwarcu SAMGm059
3112	CPE/UK/1997	13/04/47	B&W	Shows Y Bwlwarcu SAMGm059 and Roman Camp SAMGm058
3113	CPE/UK/1997	13/04/47	B&W	Shows Roman Camp SAMGm058
3114	CPE/UK/1997	13/04/47	B&W	
3115	CPE/UK/1997	13/04/47	B&W	Possible enclosure – unrecorded
4111	CPE/UK/1997	13/04/47	B&W	Shows Ton-Hir Colliery tips and railway tunnel

4112	CPE/UK/1997	13/04/47	B&W	Shows Ton-Hir Colliery tips and industrial remains poss SAMGm547
4113	CPE/UK/1997	13/04/47	B&W	Tips of Bryn Navigation Colliery
4223	540/525	05/06/51	B&W	
4224	540/525	05/06/51	B&W	Extensive tips presumably related to Maesteg
4225	540/525	05/06/51	B&W	
4226	540/525	05/06/51	B&W	
4227	540/525	05/06/51	B&W	
6202	OS/62/14	14/04/62	B&W	Possibly Ringwork at tunnel entrance – not recorded
006	OS/62/14	14/04/62	B&W	Shows all scheduled camps and ringwork mentioned above
0049	6954		B&W	
176	13/RAF/5767	19/05/80	B&W	
105	Ministry of Ag 8311/170		B&W	
115	Ministry of Ag 8311/170		B&W	
116	Ministry of Ag 8311/170		B&W	
166	Geonex 9139/6491	8/8/91	Col	
003	Geonex 9139/7991	19/8/91	Col	

9.3 Appendix III Plates



Plate 1. W facing view of *Foel Y Dyffryn Quarry IV (HA27)* towards *proposed power line route in distance*.



Plate 2. W facing view of *Foel Y Dyffryn Quarry VIII (HA24)* towards *proposed power line route in distance*.



Plate 3. N facing view of Ffordd y Gifraith Roman Road (HA2 – viewpoint 1) towards Foel Y Dyffryn.



Plate 4. W facing view from Ffordd y Gifraith Roman Road (HA2 – viewpoint 1) towards the proposed power line route in distance.



Plate 5. NW facing view along Foel Y Dyffryn Cross Ridge Dyke (HA1) from its intersection with Ffordd y Gifraith Roman Road (HA2). The proposed powerline route runs parallel to the SW (left) of the dyke.



Plate 6. SE facing view along Foel Y Dyffryn Cross Ridge Dyke (HA1). The proposed powerline route runs parallel to the SW (right) of the dyke.



Plate 7. SE facing view along Foel Trawsnant Bank (HA28) overlooking the proposed powerline route in the middle distance.



Plate 8. N facing view of Dyffryn Rhondda Colliery workings Building II (HA31)



Plate 9. S facing view of Dyffryn Rhondda Colliery workings Building II (HA31) overlooking the proposed power line route in the middle distance.



Plate 10. E facing view from Foel Trawsnant Quarry IV (HA25) towards proposed powerline route.



Plate 11. SE facing view of Foel Trawsnant Quarry III (HA32) towards the proposed power line route.



Plate 12. SE facing view of Foel Trawsnant Quarry II (HA26) towards the proposed power line route.



Plate 13. NE facing view of Triangulation Point (New 1)



Plate 14. N facing view from Triangulation Point (New 1) towards the proposed power line route in middle distance.



Plate 15. NE facing view from Triangulation Point (New 1) towards the proposed power line route in middle distance.



Plate 16. SE facing view of Quarry I (New 2) towards the proposed power line route in middle distance.



Plate 17. E facing view of Quarry II (New 3) towards the proposed power line route in middle distance.



Plate 18. E facing view of Quarry III (New 4) towards proposed power line route in far distance.



Plate 19. NE facing view along Ffordd y Gifraith Roman Road (HA2 – viewpoint 2)



Plate 20. E facing view from Ffordd y Gifraith Roman Road (HA2 – viewpoint 2) towards the proposed power line route in middle distance.



Plate 21. SE facing view along approximate proposed power line route as it crosses from Foel Trawsnant towards Pen-y-lan.



Plate 22. NE facing view along proposed power line route as it crosses from Foel Trawsnant towards Pen-y-lan Farm.



Plate 23. S facing view of proposed power line route as it crosses Nant y Ffyllon towards Garn-wen. Shows remains of stone building (New 5).



Plate 24. S facing detail view of historic stone building (New 5).



Plate 25. facing view of Garn wen Quarry II (HA6) from adjacent forestry track.



Plate 26. E facing view from forestry track adjacent to Garn-wen Quarry II (HA6) towards proposed power line route.



Plate 27. E facing view from forestry track adjacent to Garn-wen Quarry II (HA6) towards proposed power line route.



Plate 28. NW facing view from forestry track towards Garn-wen Coal Level V (HA5) and Garn wen Airshaft I (HA14).



Plate 29. SE facing view from forestry track adjacent to Garn-wen Coal Level V (HA5) and Garn wen Airshaft I (HA14), towards proposed power line route.



Plate 30. NW facing view of proposed power line route from Garn-wen coal level IV (HA12)



Plate 31. W facing view of Garn-wen Airshaft II (HA13) from proposed power line route.



Plate 32. E facing view from Garn-wen Coal Level I towards proposed power line route.



Plate 33. E facing view from footpath adjacent to Garn-wen Coal Level II towards proposed power line route.



Plate 34. NE facing view from footpath along proposed power line route at Garn-wen.



Plate 35. S facing view from footpath along proposed power line route at Garn-wen.



Plate 36. S facing view along proposed power line route where it runs through forestry at Garn-wen.



Plate 37. N facing view along proposed power line route where it runs through forestry at Garn-wen.



Plate 38. view of 'Old Reservoir' (HA58), 'Old Level' (HA59) and ?Leat (HA60) on line of proposed power line route N of Neath Road (Maps Data: Google © 2022)



Plate 39. N facing view from Maesteg Gold Club (site of Mount Pleasant Farmstead; HA21) towards proposed power line route.



Plate 40. N facing view from Quarry, Bryn Mawr (HA23) towards Garn-wen and proposed power line route.



Plate 41. W facing view of proposed power line route from Quarry, Bryn Mawr (HA23)



Plate 42. SE facing view along proposed power line route at boundary of Llangynwyd (HLCA005), Mynydd Margam Registered Historic Landscape.



Plate 43. Existing telegraph pole on proposed power line route respecting the extant stone wall field boundary between Maesteg Golf Club and Cwmcerwyn Farm.



Plate 44. S facing view along proposed power line route approaching Cwmcerwyn Farm.



Plate 45. SW facing view of Cwmceryn Tunnel eastern entrance (HA34).



Plate 46. NE facing view from Cwmceryn Tunnel eastern entrance (HA34) towards the proposed power line route.



Plate 47. S facing view along proposed power line route towards Cwmcerwyn Farm (HA19).



Plate 48. N facing view from location that proposed route crosses the Cwmcerwyn Tramway/ Port Talbot Railway (HA3).



Plate 49. E facing view of Cwmceryn Tramway/ Port Talbot Railway (HA3) embankment adjacent to the proposed power line route.



Plate 50. N facing view along proposed power line route adjacent to Rhiwlas. N of Cwm Sychbant, Mynydd Margam (HLCA010).



Plate 51. S facing view along proposed route adjacent to Rhiwlas. N of Cwm Sychbant, Mynydd Margam (HLCA010).



Plate 52. SW facing view towards proposed power line route where it crosses Cwm Sychbant and Moel Sychbant, within Mynydd Margam (HLCA010).



Plate 53. S facing view of approximate location of Ffynnon Iago (HA16), within Mynydd Margam (HLCA010).



Plate 54. E facing view from Ffynnon Iago (HA16) towards proposed power line route.



Plate 55. NW facing view along proposed route as it passes through farmland at Llest-wen and Caeremi, within Llangywyd (HLCA005).



Plate 56. SE facing view along proposed route as it passes through farmland at Llest-wen and Caeremi, within Llangywyd (HLCA005).



Plate 57. NE facing view along the proposed route as it follows the road between Llangynwyd Castle (HA37) and Y Bwlwarcu Hill Fort (HA38) within Llangynwyd (HLCA 005).



Plate 58. W facing view from Road (HA22) ,towards proposed route between Llangynwyd Castle (HA37) and Y Bwlwarcu Hill Fort (HA38) within Llangynwyd (HLCA 005).



Plate 59. E facing view from track adjacent to Y Bwlwarcau Eastern Enclosure (HA33) towards the proposed power line route.



Plate 60. W facing view of Y Bwlwarcau Hillfort (HA38).



Plate 61. NE facing view from eastern boundary of Y Bwlwarcu Hillfort (HA38) Scheduled Monument curtilage towards proposed power line route.



Plate 62. NE facing view of Gilfach Uchaf (HA42) and Gilfach Ganol (HA41) from road.



Plate 63. SE facing view of historic route to Gilfach Uchaf (HA42) and Gilfach Ganol (HA41) from road.



Plate 64. W facing view from historic route to Gilfach Uchaf (HA42) and Gilfach Ganol (HA41) towards proposed power line route.



Plate 65. NE view across Upper Cwm Kenfig (HLCA13) towards the proposed power line route.



Plate 66. SE facing view of Llangynwyd Castle (HA37).



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9.4 Appendix IV Cadw. 2007. Guide to the Good Practice on Using the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales in the Planning and Development Process. Revised 2nd Edition including Revisions to the Assessment Process (ASIDOHL2)

GUIDE TO GOOD PRACTICE ON USING
THE REGISTER OF LANDSCAPES OF
HISTORIC INTEREST IN WALES IN THE
PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

REVISED (2ND) EDITION INCLUDING REVISIONS TO THE
ASSESSMENT PROCESS (ASIDOHL2)



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Countryside Council for Wales



Llywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru
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Cover photograph: View east towards Angle bay in the Milford Haven historic landscape, with Angle village and its medieval strip fields (centre right) and Chapel Bay Fort (centre left) overlooking the coast (© RCAHMW).

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GUIDE TO GOOD PRACTICE ON USING THE REGISTER OF LANDSCAPES OF HISTORIC INTEREST IN WALES IN THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

This Guide to Good Practice relates to the non-statutory *Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales*. The Register's principal sponsors, Cadw and the Countryside Council for Wales, have prepared it with the assistance of the four Welsh Archaeological Trusts. The Guide is non-statutory and advisory only. It is intended to assist local planning authorities to decide how much weight to give to information in the Register when determining planning applications. It is also intended to assist others involved in the planning and development process in Wales, particularly developers preparing Environmental Impact Assessment statements, to bring forward plans and proposals that are likely to have the least possible adverse impact on historic landscape areas on the Register.

The Guide comes in two sections. The first, 'Planning for Historic Landscapes', describes the background to the Register, the follow-up programme of Historic Landscape Characterization in the areas identified on it, the general principles underpinning the identification and conservation of historic landscapes, and the suggested use of the Register within the planning process and other assessment decision procedures not promoted through the Town and Country Planning Acts. The second section of the guide consists of a Technical Annex that sets out a staged process for assessing the significance of the impact of development on historic landscape areas on the Register (ASIDOHL2). It is recommended that assessments be routinely undertaken in the circumstances described above and in accordance with the suggested use of the Register described in the Guide.

Note on the Revised (2nd) Edition

The experience gained since the publication of the first edition of the Guide in 2003 has necessitated the publication of a revised, second edition, containing amendments and improvements. Users of the Guide have also contributed a number of helpful suggestions that have been incorporated. The principal changes are to be found in the formulae and grading systems used in Stages 2–4 of the ASIDOHL process described in the Technical Annex in the second section of the Guide. To differentiate this from that in the first edition, this will now be known as ASIDOHL2. The changes have been introduced to ensure that development impacts are treated more fairly and consistently, because there were anomalies present in some of

the formulae and score ranges used in the first version of the process. The structure of the ASIDOHL process and the body of the text, however, remain essentially unchanged. The planning and development process, to which the advice in the Guide applies, also remains largely unchanged. The first section of the Guide, on Planning and Historic Landscapes, therefore, contains only minor changes and amendments to bring that section up to date.

The sponsors are pleased that in the four years since the first appearance of the Guide in 2003, the ASIDOHL process has become increasingly recognized and accepted as a useful tool in Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA). However, experience shows that misunderstandings can still arise later on in the planning process after Environmental Statements have been completed, for example when planning applications or appeals have

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become subject to Public Inquiries. These could have been avoided had more use been made of the advice available from the sponsors on the scope of the ASIDOHL assessments. The sponsors feel that their advice is best sought at the beginning of the planning process before an ASIDOHL assessment is commissioned (for example at the scoping stage in an EIA). This would ensure that agreement is reached on the nature and range of the impacts that should be considered in the assessment; which and how many Historic Character Areas should be taken into account, and whether there are any special elements or characteristics within them of which particular note should be taken.

The test by which the sponsors judge an ASIDOHL2 assessment when giving their advice to planning authorities is that it should contain sufficient information for the 'responsible authority', in the case of EIA, or an

Inspector in the case of a Public Inquiry, to come to a balanced view in determining the planning application or appeal concerned. This relates not only to the appropriate range of impacts and Historic Character Areas being identified at the start of the ASIDOHL process, but also to the provision of sufficient written justification for scores given in the various stages of the process as an assessment is compiled. The onus, therefore, is on developers to ensure that the sponsors consider the ASIDOHL assessment satisfies this test. The sponsors accept that further advice may be needed concerning particular stages or points in the ASIDOHL process as assessments are compiled, and reference is made to this in the Technical Annex. This or any other advice concerning the Guide can be sought at any time from the contacts listed in the Appendix.

LANDSCAPE AREAS



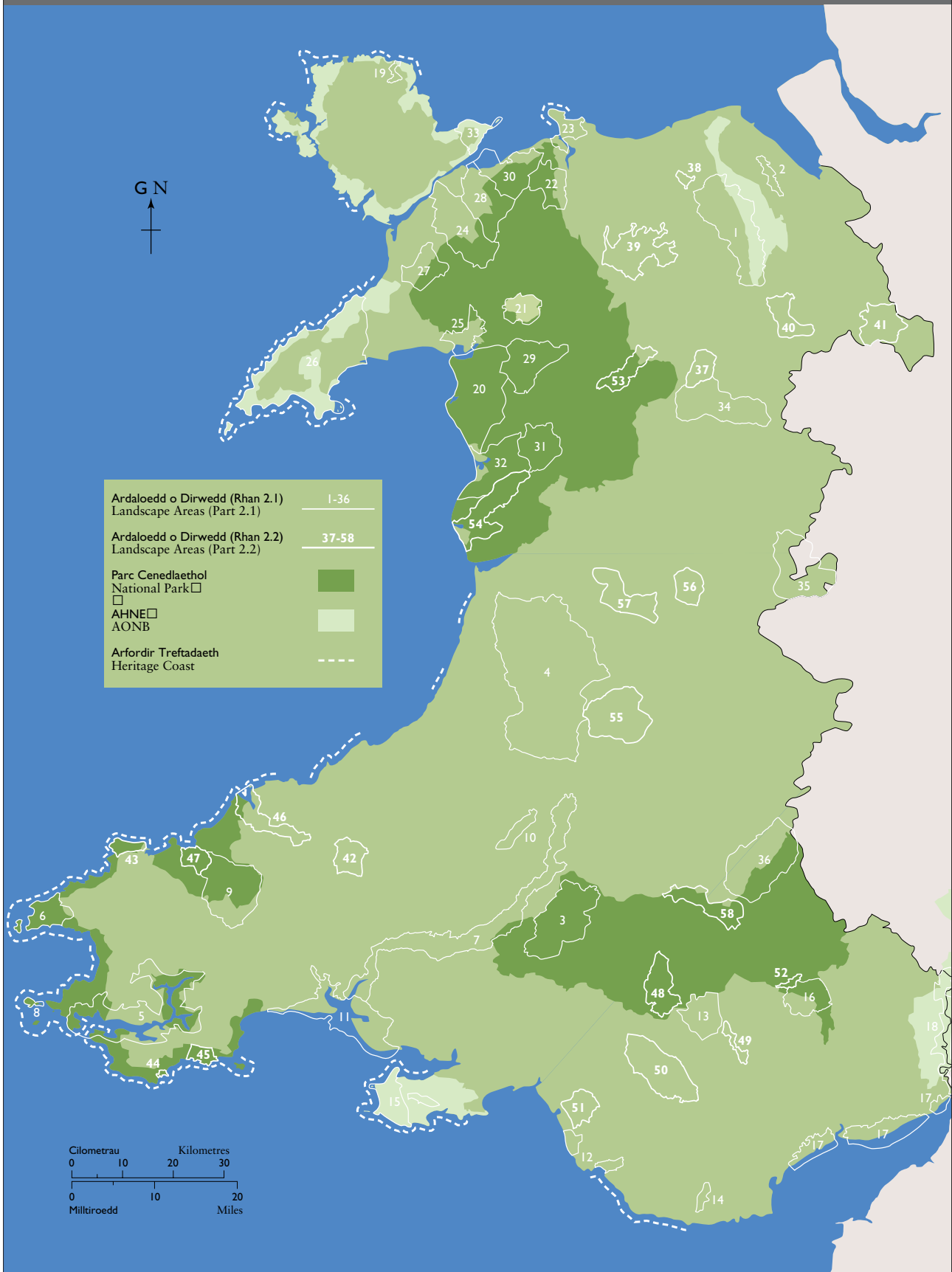
View across archaeological excavations in advance of developments at Parc Bryn Cegin, Llandygai, near Bangor, in the Ogwen Valley historic landscape. Behind can be seen the Llandygai Industrial Estate, where archaeological excavations in advance of its construction, in 1966–67, revealed important evidence of occupation and ceremonial activities dating back to the Neolithic period (© RCAHMW).

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Vale of Clwyd HLW (C) 1 2. Holywell Common and Halkyn Mountain HLW (C) 2 3. Black Mountain and Mynydd Myddfai HLW (D) 1 4. Upland Ceredigion HLW (D) 2 5. Milford Haven Waterway HLW (D) 3 6. St Davids Peninsula and Ramsey Island HLW (D) 4 7. Tywi Valley HLW (D) 5 8. Skomer Island HLW (D) 6 9. Preseli HLW (D) 7 10. Dolaucothi HLW (D) 8 11. Taf and Tywi Estuary HLW (D) 9 12. Merthyr Mawr, Kenfig and Margam Burrows HLW (MGI) 1 13. Merthyr Tydfil HLW (MGI) 2 14. Llanarf, Vale of Glamorgan HLW (SGI) 1 15. Gower HLW (WGI) 1 16. Blaenavon HLW (Gt) 1 17. Gwent Levels HLW (Gt) 2 18. Lower Wye Valley HLW (Gt) 3 19. Amlwch and Parys Mountain HLW (Gw) 1 20. Ardudwy HLW (Gw) 2 21. Blaenau Ffestiniog HLW (Gw) 3 22. Lower Conwy Valley HLW (Gw) 4 23. Creuddyn and Conwy HLW (Gw) 5 24. Dinorwig HLW (Gw) 6 25. Aberglaslyn HLW (Gw) 7 26. Llein and Bardsey Island HLW (Gw) 8 27. Nantlle Valley HLW (Gw) 9 28. Ogwen Valley HLW (Gw) 10 29. Trawsfynydd Basin and Cwm Prysor HLW (Gw) 11 30. North Arllechwedd HLW (Gw) 12 31. Vale of Dolgellau HLW (Gw) 13 32. Mawddach HLW (Gw) 14 33. Penmon HLW (Gw) 15 34. Tanat Valley HLW (P/C) 1 35. Vale of Montgomery HLW (P) 2 36. Middle Wye Valley HLW (P) 3 37. Berwyn HLW (C) 3 38. Lower Elwy Valley HLW (C) 4 39. Denbigh Moors HLW (C) 5 40. Vale of Llangollen and Eglwyseg HLW (C) 6 41. Maelor HLW (C) 7 42. Drefach and Felindre HLW (D) 10 43. Pen Caer: Garn Fawr and Strumble Head HLW (D) 11 44. Stackpole Warren HLW (D) 12 45. Manorbier HLW (D) 13 46. Lower Teifi Valley HLW (D) 14 47. Newport and Carningli HLW (D) 15 48. East Fforest Fawr and Mynydd-y-glôg HLW (MGI) 3 49. Gelli-gaer Common HLW (MGI) 4 50. The Rhondda HLW (MGI) 5 51. Margam Mountain HLW (WGI/MGI) 2 52. Clydach Gorge HLW (Gt) 4 53. Bala and Bala Lakesides HLW (Gw) 16 54. Dysynni Valley HLW (Gw) 17 55. Elan Valley HLW (P) 4 56. Caersws Basin HLW (P) 5 57. Clywedog Valley HLW (P) 6 58. Middle Usk Valley: Brecon and Llangorse HLW (P) 7 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dyffryn Clwyd HLW (C) 1 2. Comin Treffynnon a Mynydd Helygain HLW (C) 2 3. Y Mynydd Du a Mynydd Myddfai HLW (D) 1 4. Ucheldir Ceredigion HLW (D) 2 5. Moryd Aberdaugleddau HLW (D) 3 6. Penrhyn Tyddewi ac Ynys Dewi HLW (D) 4 7. Dyffryn Tywi HLW (D) 5 8. Ynys Selyf HLW (D) 6 9. Preseli HLW (D) 7 10. Dolaucothi HLW (D) 8 11. Aber Afonydd Taf a Thywi HLW (D) 9 12. Twyni Merthyr Mawr, Cynffig a Margam HLW (MGI) 1 13. Merthyr Tudful HLW (MGI) 2 14. Llanarf, Bro Morgannwg HLW (SGI) 1 15. Gŵyr HLW (WGI) 1 16. Blaenafon HLW (Gt) 1 17. Gwastadeddau Gwent HLW (Gt) 2 18. Pen Isaf Dyffryn Gwy HLW (Gt) 3 19. Amlwch a Mynydd Parys HLW (Gw) 1 20. Ardudwy HLW (Gw) 2 21. Blaenau Ffestiniog HLW (Gw) 3 22. Pen Isaf Dyffryn Conwy HLW (Gw) 4 23. Creuddyn a Chonwy HLW (Gw) 5 24. Dinorwig HLW (Gw) 6 25. Aberglaslyn HLW (Gw) 7 26. Llŷn ac Ynys Enlli HLW (Gw) 8 27. Dyffryn Nantlle HLW (Gw) 9 28. Dyffryn Ogwen HLW (Gw) 10 29. Bro Trawsfynydd a Chwm Prysor HLW (Gw) 11 30. Gogledd Arllechwedd HLW (Gw) 12 31. Bro Dolgellau HLW (Gw) 13 32. Mawddach HLW (Gw) 14 33. Penmon HLW (Gw) 15 34. Dyffryn Tanad HLW (P/C) 1 35. Bro Tefaldwyn HLW (P) 2 36. Canol Dyffryn Gwy HLW (P) 3 37. Y Berwyn HLW (C) 3 38. Pen Isaf Dyffryn Elwy HLW (C) 4 39. Mynydd Hiraethog HLW (C) 5 40. Dyffryn Llangollen ac Eglwyseg HLW (C) 6 41. Maelor Saesneg HLW (C) 7 42. Dre-fach a Felindre HLW (D) 10 43. Pen Caer: Garn Fawr a Phen Strwmwll HLW (D) 11 44. Cwningar Ystagwll HLW (D) 12 45. Maenorbŷr HLW (D) 13 46. Pen Isaf Dyffryn Teifi HLW (D) 14 47. Trefdraeth a Charningli HLW (D) 15 48. Dwyrain Fforest Fawr a Mynydd-y-glôg HLW (MGI) 3 49. Gwaun Gelli-gaer HLW (MGI) 4 50. Y Rhondda HLW (MGI) 5 51. Mynydd Margam HLW (WGI/MGI) 2 52. Cwm Clydach HLW (Gt) 4 53. Y Bala a Glannau Tegid HLW (Gw) 16 54. Dyffryn Dysynni HLW (Gw) 17 55. Cwm Elan HLW (P) 4 56. Bro Caersŵs HLW (P) 5 57. Dyffryn Clywedog HLW (P) 6 58. Canol Dyffryn Wysg: Aberhonddu a Llan-gors HLW (P) 7 |
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THE LANDSCAPE AREAS AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES



THE LANDSCAPE AREAS, NATIONAL PARKS,
 AREAS OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY AND HERITAGE COASTS



PLANNING FOR HISTORIC LANDSCAPES



An aerial view of the lagoons and reedbeds of the Gwent Levels Wetland Reserve created to replace habitats lost when the Cardiff Bay Barrage was constructed. The reserve has been successfully integrated into the pattern of the Gwent Levels historic landscape (© RCAHMW).

1.0 Background to the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales

1.1 The whole of the Welsh landscape can be said to be historic, with human activity often having been at the heart of its creation. The nature of its terrain, the stewardship exercised over the centuries by generations of landowners and farmers, along with only limited intensive cultivation and urbanization, have produced ideal conditions that have favoured the survival of much of the historic character of the Welsh landscape. However, since the beginning of the twentieth century, the scale and pace of change has intensified, and as we enter the twenty-first century, the historic character of the landscape is increasingly under pressure from a variety of new changes as older features are renewed or replaced, or when new features, often with very different characteristics, have to be introduced to meet modern needs.

1.2 Against this background and to be better informed about how to accommodate necessary change in a way that is sensitive to the historic character of landscape, Cadw, the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) and the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS UK) decided to collaborate to produce the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales as a means of identifying, and to provide information on, the most important and best-surviving historic landscapes in Wales. The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, the four Welsh Archaeological Trusts and the Welsh local authorities also collaborated in the project.

1.3 The Register has been issued in two parts, covering thirty-six 'outstanding' and twenty-two 'special' historic landscape areas, and forms Part 2 of the wider exercise to compile an overall Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales. For the purpose of this Guide, therefore, the term 'historic landscape' refers to an area identified on the *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales* (published as Part 2.1, by Cadw, in 1998, ISBN 1 85760 007 X), or on the *Register of Landscapes of Special Historic Interest in Wales* (published as Part 2.2, by Cadw, in 2001, ISBN 1 85760 187 4). The Guide does not deal with Part 1 of the Register, which is concerned with historic parks and gardens.

1.4 It is hoped that the greater account that has been taken of historic landscapes generally since the Register, and then the Guide, were first published, can be sustained in landscape planning, management, conservation, enhancement and interpretation, and in providing opportunities for access and recreation. In raising awareness of the historic significance and importance of the Welsh environment overall, use of the Register and this Guide should also encourage everyone

concerned to give greater weight to historic landscape issues alongside the more traditional and long-established conservation issues.

1.5 At the same time, the Register recognizes that landscapes are dynamic, living systems fashioned to meet current, mainly economic, needs and that what exists today is largely a created landscape, produced through human endeavour since the beginning of farming in this country. Landscapes, therefore, will continue to change, and need to change, so the intention is not to fossilize them, or to prevent them from being altered, but rather to manage them in ways that will allow the key historic elements or characteristics from the past to be retained while still meeting modern needs.

1.6 All landscape areas identified on the Register are of national importance in the Welsh context. The difference between the landscapes of outstanding historic interest featured in Part 2.1, and the landscapes of special historic interest featured in Part 2.2, therefore, is one of degree, and not quality of historic interest. The distinction was established by expert consensus following the scoring thresholds set for the selection of areas to be included on the Register. The scoring thresholds were verified by field assessments and are described in detail in the introduction to the Register. In summary, the distinction is intended to reflect the fact that the landscapes of special historic interest are generally smaller in size and have fewer selection criteria against which they could be justified, compared to the landscapes of outstanding historic interest. The distinction, however, should not cause the former to be considered of less value than the latter, and so far as the advice on the use of the Register is concerned, both categories should be treated in the same way.

1.7 Further information on the background to the creation of the Register, its methodology and its role, can be found in the introduction to Part 2.1, with a supplement of additional, updated information included in the introduction to Part 2.2.

1.8 Cadw has also published a more general guide to historic landscapes intended to raise awareness of their existence and importance amongst a wider audience (*Caring for Historic Landscapes*, Cardiff, 2003).

2.0 Suggested use of the Register within the planning and development process

2.1 This Guide and the following Technical Annex are primarily aimed at the assessment of individual projects and the development control process. They do not specifically apply to the assessment of development plans and the Strategic Environmental Assessment of plans and programmes, for example, Unitary or Local Development Plans,

Transport Plans, the Trunk Road Programme, and so on; nevertheless, such plans and programmes should acknowledge and make reference to the principles involved and the need to consider historic landscape issues. The Guide and Technical Annex do not, at this stage, address the issue of longer-term, cumulative impact of development or change in historic landscapes. This would require a process of strategic, long-term assessment and monitoring, enabling pressures, stresses and risks to be identified and, ultimately, the establishment of indicators and ‘limits of acceptability’ and ‘most favoured status’ of the landscape areas on the Register. The sponsoring bodies hope that this Guide and Technical Annex will be used as a tool to start and underpin that process.

2.2 Advice on listed buildings and conservation areas in the planning process is given in Welsh Office Circulars 61/96 *Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas* and 1/98 *Planning and The Historic Environment: Directions by the Secretary of State for Wales*; and in Welsh Assembly Government *Planning Policy Wales*, March 2002, paragraphs 6.5.7 to 6.5.13 and paragraphs 6.5.14 to 6.5.21. Listed buildings and conservation areas often form integral elements, or sometimes, key characteristics, in historic landscapes. However, the advice in this Guide does not affect or alter the provisions of these documents, which should continue to be applied to listed buildings and conservation areas within historic landscape areas on the Register.

2.3 Advice on the role of World Heritage Sites in the planning process is given in Welsh Office Circular 61/96 *Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas*, paragraphs 13, 14 and 15; and in Welsh Assembly Government *Planning Policy Wales*, March 2002, paragraphs 6.5.22. Most World Heritage Sites in Wales are within historic landscapes; however, the advice in this Guide does not affect or alter the provision of these documents, which should continue to be applied to the World Heritage Sites within historic landscape areas on the Register.

2.4 Advice on the role of archaeology in the planning process is given in Welsh Office Circular 60/96 *Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology*, and in Welsh Assembly Government *Planning Policy Wales*, March 2002, paragraphs 6.5.1 to 6.5.6. Archaeological sites often form integral elements, or sometimes, key characteristics, in historic landscapes. However, the advice in this Guide does not affect or alter the provisions of these documents, which should continue to be applied to archaeological sites within historic landscape areas on the Register.

2.5 Information on how the Register may be used is set out, in detail, in its introduction, with a supplement of additional,

updated information included in the introduction to Part 2.2. It is important, however, to emphasize that the Register does not impose statutory controls and areas on it are not ‘designated’. The latest guidance given to planning authorities on the use of the Register is set out in Welsh Assembly Government *Planning Policy Wales*, March 2002, paragraph 6.5.23 which states:

‘Information on the landscapes on the second part of the Register should also be taken into account by local planning authorities in preparing UDPs and emerging Local Development Plans, and in considering the implications of developments which are of such a scale that they would have more than local impact on an area on the Register.’

2.6 Such developments should be considered on a case-by-case basis, but generally may be defined as, but are not confined to:

- major communications schemes (road, rail, sea, air, or inland waterway);
- quarrying and opencast mining;
- major settlement;
- major leisure developments;
- large-scale industrial, processing, manufacturing or commercial expansion;
- large-scale landfill and reclamation, waste disposal or recycling schemes;
- major drainage, coastal defence and flood prevention works;
- power generation, storage and distribution projects;
- major water abstraction, treatment or supply schemes;
- other similar, large-scale infrastructure projects;
- afforestation or other extensive agricultural land use changes;
- intensive agriculture or aquaculture projects.

2.7 Information on the Register should also be taken into account when considering developments that are not in themselves large-scale or extensive, but are of a radical nature and likely to cause unacceptable change when considered in relation to the nature and quality of the existing key historic elements or characteristics in the landscape area on the Register.

2.8 Certain types of developments require Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be undertaken in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999–SI 1999 No 293 (EIA Regulations). Guidance on the application of the EIA Regulations in Wales is given in Welsh Office Circular 11/99 *Environmental Impact Assessment*. EIA Regulations Schedule 4 (as reproduced in Circular 11/99, p. 47, Annex C) sets out the information to be included in an Environmental Statement, section 3 of which requires:

‘A description of the aspects of the environment likely to be significantly affected by the development... including the architectural and archaeological heritage, and landscape.’

This includes the historic landscape areas on the Register.

2.9 With rare exception all developments of the type listed in 2.6 will *de facto* require EIA because of their nature and scale. In other cases, each development will be considered for EIA on its own merits, and the more environmentally sensitive the location, the more likely it is that the effects will be significant and will require EIA. The fact that a location occurs within a historic landscape area on the Register should be considered as increasing its overall environmental sensitivity and, consequently, the necessity for EIA as required in EIA Regulations Schedule 3 in respect of ‘landscapes of historical, cultural or archaeological significance’ (Circular 11/99, p. 46, Criterion 2 (c) (viii)). Planning or other competent authorities should take this into account when screening applications to determine the need for EIA with, if required, advice from Cadw, CCW and the Welsh Archaeological Trusts.

2.10 In the light of the Rochdale ruling (High Court: *Crown v. Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council, 7/5/1999*), when EIA is required, fixed development within a historic landscape area on the Register requires a meaningful assessment process that is identified when the EIA is scoped. When EIA is required for a development within a historic landscape area on the Register, therefore, planning or other competent authorities in agreeing the scope of works should require assessors to use the methodology set out in the Technical Annex for assessing the significance of the impacts of the proposal on the historic landscape area.

2.11 Where EIA is not necessary, it is a matter for the discretion of the planning or other competent authority to determine the level of an Assessment of the Significance of the Impact of Development on Historic Landscape areas on the Register (ASIDOHL2) it considers desirable when considering a development proposal which is of such a scale, or of a radical nature, that it is likely to have more than local impact on an area on the Register. A particular development may be considered to require the full ASIDOHL2 process outlined in the Technical Annex or, alternatively, the nature of the development may require the application of only part of the ASIDOHL2 process. Detailed advice should be obtained from Cadw, CCW and the Welsh Archaeological Trusts.

2.12 Whereas the advice in this Guide and Technical Annex is designed to assist the process of establishing interests and assessing the significance of impacts,

it does not provide options for the consideration of any mitigation or positive benefits that may be offered through the restoration or enhancement of elements. These issues should be separately assessed, preferably relying on the results of a completed ASIDOHL2 exercise (see Technical Annex, ‘Mitigation’, p. 30).

3.0 The Historic Landscape Characterization programme

3.1 In parallel with the creation of the Register, Cadw and the Welsh Archaeological Trusts are undertaking a follow-up programme of Historic Landscape Characterization in Wales. The programme gathers together more detailed information about each area on the Register, and it is designed to cater for a variety of needs, but primarily to provide information for landscape conservation and management as, for example, may be required in the Tir Gofal agri-environment scheme.

3.2 Information is gathered in such a way as to be compatible and interchangeable with the historic landscape aspect in CCW’s *LANDMAP* programme, so that the results of a characterization study can be directly fed into a *LANDMAP* exercise and vice versa. In so far as this Guide is concerned, information from characterization should always be used for an ASIDOHL2, as set out in the Technical Annex to this Guide.

3.3 CCW, University College, Dublin and Brady Shipman Martin, Dublin, working in partnership, with funds from the INTERREG II European Regional Aid Fund, have produced a *Guide to Best Practice in Seascape Assessment* (The Marine Institute, Dublin, 2001). Seascapes assessment takes account of historical and cultural issues and it is intended that assessment studies will eventually be available for the whole of the Welsh coastline. Organizations or individuals undertaking ASIDOHL2 in coastal areas should contact CCW for details of the latest seascape information available. Also relevant in this context is the *Guidance on the Assessment of the Impact of Offshore Wind Farms: Seascape and Visual Impact Report* (Report by Enviros Consulting for the Department of Trade and Industry, 2005).

4.0 How Historic Character Areas are identified

4.1 The characterization process divides each landscape area on the Register into a number of smaller, more discrete, geographical areas of broadly consistent historic character called ‘Historic Character Areas’. These areas are defined according to their key historic elements or characteristics, for example, an area might be physically characterized by

a particular form of historic settlement or land use pattern, or it might have distinctive historic buildings, archaeological sites or traditional field boundaries, or it might contain important ancient habitats, and so on. Alternatively, an area might not have any strongly definitive physical characteristics, but instead it might have significant historic documentary evidence relating to it, or have important historic associations, and so on.

4.2 All of these elements or characteristics can occur either singly or in combination. In some cases, an area might be characterized by a range of elements that are not necessarily similar, but together demonstrate a particular land use theme or process; for example, defence, industry, communications, land enclosure, landscape planning or ornamentation, and so on. One theme may be dominant or several might have been at work at the same, or at different times. Grouping elements and characteristics together under land use themes greatly increases our capacity to understand the historical development of the landscape. The understanding we gain is a key characteristic in its own right and one of the principles that underpins the identification of historic landscapes (section 6.2).

5.0 Getting information on Historic Landscape Characterization and Historic Character Areas

5.1 The characterization programme is progressing towards coverage of all areas on the Register. Its results are available on the Welsh Archaeological Trusts' websites, as well as in paper volumes available for inspection at the offices of the Welsh Archaeological Trusts and Cadw. Relevant addresses are given in the Appendix.

5.2 In the few historic landscape areas on the Register where characterization reports are not yet available, and where an ASIDOHL2 is required, it is recommended that an ASIDOHL2 should be undertaken in relation to 'Provisional Historic Character Areas'. Provisional Historic Character Areas are identified during the preparation of characterization reports and the Welsh Archaeological Trusts can supply details of these. Where characterization reports are not yet available, but a *LANDMAP* exercise has been undertaken, the Level 4 'historic landscape aspect areas' identified in *LANDMAP* may qualify as Provisional Historic Character Areas, subject to the endorsement of the Trust concerned. Where Provisional Historic Character Areas have not yet been identified, the Trusts can advise on a suitable methodology, or can be commissioned to identify Provisional Historic Character Areas as a prerequisite for an ASIDOHL2.

6.0 Key principles underpinning the identification of historic landscapes

6.1 This Guide and the advice in it have to be considered in the context of the three key principles underpinning the identification of historic landscape areas on the Register, namely:

6.2 The Register promotes the conservation of the key characteristics of historic landscapes as those landscapes evolve. While the Register recognizes that historic landscapes must inevitably evolve to meet the needs of the people who sustain and live in them, it is hoped that this can be achieved with the fullest possible regard for the conservation of their key historic characteristics. Here, the term 'characteristics' is taken in the broadest sense. It includes not only the physical elements of the past that survive, like individual sites, monuments or other features noted in section 4.0, but also the spaces in between and the resulting patterns formed in the landscape. The survival and appreciation of these spatial characteristics is crucial because, like the land use themes identified during characterization, they greatly increase our capacity to understand how individual sites or monuments functioned and how they were related physically, visually and through time. How much and how well we are able to understand and appreciate the historical meaning and significance of the landscape is a key characteristic in its own right. This ties in with the second principle.

6.3 The conservation of historic landscapes is about ensuring the transfer of maximum historic meaning and value when contemplating landscape change. Our capacity to understand and appreciate the historical development of the landscape should not be thwarted by inappropriate or insensitive change. This carries with it the need to assess the potential effects of a development, in terms of any lasting alteration it will cause, in relation to the whole of the historic landscape on the Register, not just the elements or characteristics directly affected in the 'footprint' area. This ties in with the third principle.

6.4 Key historic characteristics within historic landscapes, like historic buildings or archaeological sites, are irreplaceable. Their removal, loss, degradation, fragmentation, or dislocation cannot be mitigated in the same way as a habitat or a natural feature might be restored or recreated. The effects of direct, physical impacts are irreversible, but equally damaging, indirect impacts can occur through the severance or disruption of the functional or visual connections between elements, or

through the consequential degradation of the visual or other amenity of elements, or through a combination of these factors. This relates back to the second principle because, through indirect impacts, developments can have an adverse effect on the amenity and value of the landscape well beyond the site of the development itself. Piecemeal development over time can have an equally adverse effect resulting from a cumulation, or a combination of direct and indirect impacts.

7.0 Guidance on determining landscape edges and on the status of recent elements or characteristics in the landscape areas on the Register

7.1 It is widely accepted that it is difficult to determine precise edges to landscapes. Although landscapes are real in the sense that they are made up of solid objects and spaces, they are also subjective and their extents as humanly perceived, will invariably involve a degree of individual opinion or expediency. Towards the limits of any given area of interest in a landscape, therefore, the question can always be asked whether a particular element is included or excluded. These constraints apply to the landscape areas on the Register.

7.2 In order to assist planning authorities and others who require more precision in their work, this section gives guidance about determining the edges of the landscape areas on the Register, the edges of the Historic Character Areas identified by characterization and the relationship between the two.

7.3 A pragmatic and common sense approach was adopted for determining the broad extents of the landscape areas on the Register. The methodology is explained in detail in the introduction to the Register (Part 2.1, pp. xxx–xxxii, ‘Defining the areas’). In summary, the nature of the historic interest concerned determined the extent of the landscape areas on the Register and, in many cases, because of Wales’s varied topography, the landscape areas coincided with the physical limits of natural features like mountains, valleys, basins, promontories and so on.

7.4 By their very nature and much smaller scale, the edges of Historic Character Areas will be drawn to coincide with the geographical or physical limits of their characteristics. In most cases, this will have the effect of producing precise edges that can be shown as hard lines on maps. However, these should not be taken as representing the edges of the landscape areas on the Register.

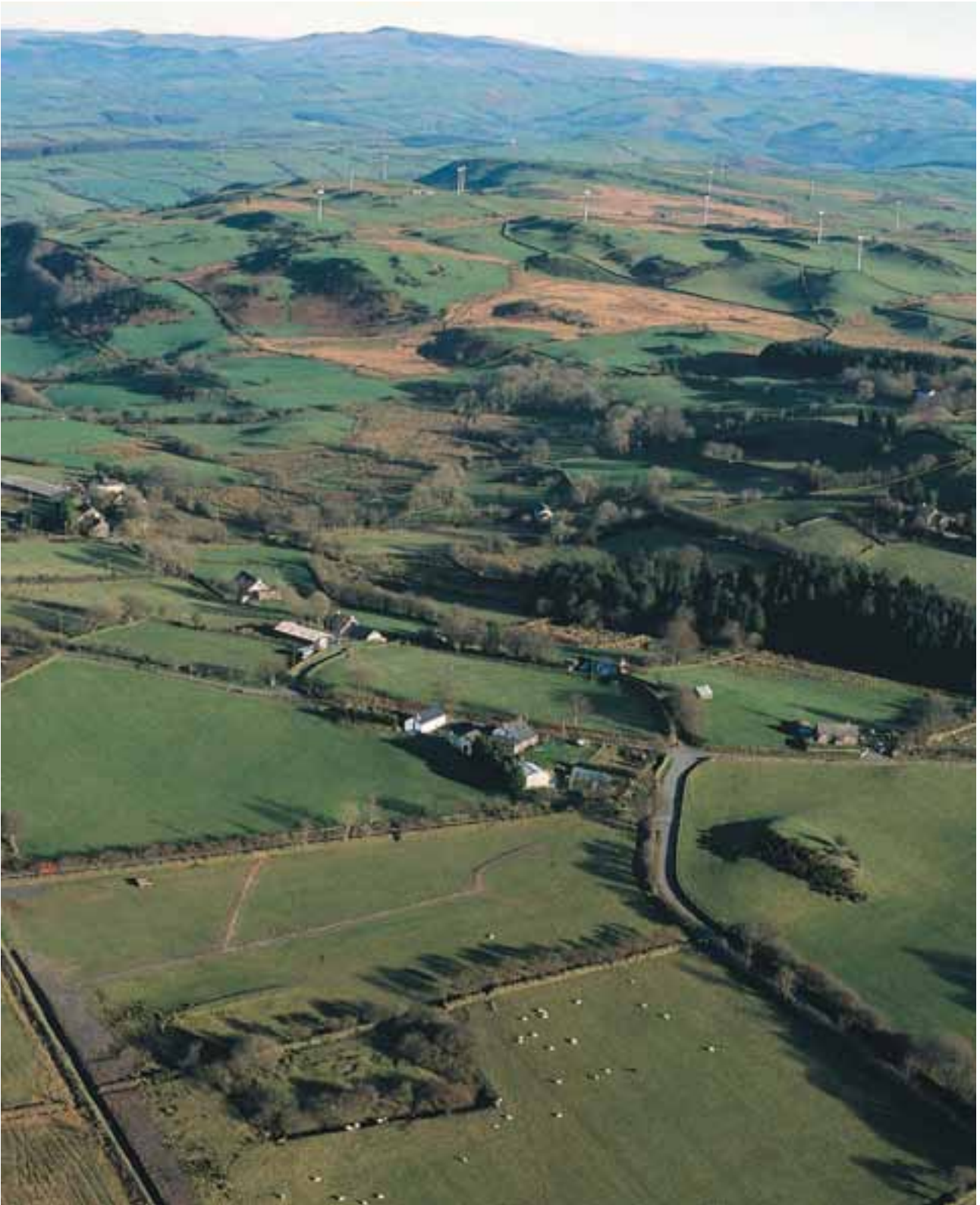
7.5 Although there may appear to be a coincidence in their edges, the characterization programme has shown that in some landscape areas on the Register, particularly those identified under Criterion 3 — Historic diversity/ Multiperiod, Historic Character Area edges can fall outside the extent of the landscape area on the Register. This is because Historic Character Areas are identified at a much smaller scale and at a much greater level of detail than was possible for the landscape areas on the Register, and where there is a great degree of diversity, edges can be drawn at a number of places depending on which characteristic is selected as being the most dominant.

7.6 In order to resolve this potential ambiguity, the following guidance is offered. In planning terms, the status of the Register is non-statutory, and this includes information from characterization that is intended to support the Register. The extent of the landscape areas on the Register and Historic Character Areas are, therefore, indicative and advisory only.

7.7 It will be a matter for the planning or other competent authority undertaking an EIA, or the Public Inquiry Inspector concerned, to determine where a precise edge should be drawn. All the evidence available in the Register, the relevant characterization report and any relevant work done subsequently should be carefully considered and weighed against the nature and extent of the proposed development and its predicted impact on the landscape area on the Register. The guiding principle is that where drawn edges are required, they should be as consistent as possible with the maintenance of those historic elements or characteristics that demonstrate the outstanding or special interest of the landscape area on the Register.

7.8 Another potential ambiguity or misunderstanding can arise over the presence in landscape areas on the Register of recent elements or characteristics that may be of little, if any, historic interest. As excluding these elements or characteristics would have been impossible and rather meaningless in landscape terms, the Register adopted a pragmatic approach by assuming that ‘history started yesterday’ (Part 2.1, p. xxii, ‘Criteria for landscapes of outstanding or special historic interest’). While this assumption may be theoretically correct, it is not really helpful in planning terms. Reference to recent elements or characteristics in landscape areas on the Register, therefore, should not be interpreted as placing undue weight on their intrinsic importance, but rather as focusing on their wider role in contributing to landscape diversity and continuity over a much longer time span. It will, therefore, be a matter for the planning or other competent authority undertaking an EIA, or the Public Inquiry Inspector concerned, to decide on a case-by-case basis what emphasis to place on the contribution made by recent elements or characteristics to the landscape areas on the Register.

TECHNICAL ANNEX



Windfarms, like this one at Llangwryfon in the Upland Ceredigion Historic Landscape, are one of the types of development within an area on the Register requiring an ASIDOHL2 assessment. The Trefenter medieval moated site, which is a scheduled ancient monument, can be seen in the foreground (© RCAHMW).

THE ASIDOHL2 PROCESS: A STAGED PROCESS FOR THE ASSESSMENT OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE IMPACT OF DEVELOPMENT ON HISTORIC LANDSCAPE AREAS ON THE REGISTER OF LANDSCAPES OF HISTORIC INTEREST IN WALES

Introduction

The staged process recommended in this Technical Annex for the assessment of the significance of the impact of development on historic landscape areas on the Register (ASIDOHL2), is intended to be used by archaeologists with historic landscape expertise or for landscape practitioners familiar with landscape approaches to the historic environment.

Guidance on the application of the process and on the technical steps involved should be sought in the first instance from the Welsh Archaeological Trusts. They will also be able to advise on the latest revisions and provide, through their websites, blank proformas of the tables used at each stage of the assessment process.

It is intended that the process will continue to be regularly updated to reflect practical experience gained.

To this end, the sponsoring bodies would welcome any comments or suggestions on its operation.

In most cases, an assessment can be primarily based on a desk-top study and analysis of all the relevant information, supported by site visit(s) (including, where necessary, fieldwork to establish the 'Provisional Historic Character Areas' noted in section 5.2) and the production of a written report. These guidelines apply to these cases only. In all other cases where, for example, substantial departures from the guidelines may be required, it is recommended that any changes and variations are discussed and agreed in advance with Cadw, CCW and the curatorial section of the relevant Welsh Archaeological Trust.

Taking the Historic Character Areas derived from the characterization programme as the 'building blocks' of the historic landscape areas on the Register, it is recommended that the ASIDOHL2 process and report should be structured into five main stages:

TABLE 1

ASSESSMENT OF THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE IMPACT OF DEVELOPMENT ON HISTORIC LANDSCAPE AREAS ON THE REGISTER OF LANDSCAPES OF HISTORIC INTEREST IN WALES — ASIDOHL2

SUMMARY OF STAGES

STAGE 1	Compilation of an introduction of essential, contextual information.
STAGE 2	Description and quantification of the direct, physical impacts of development on the Historic Character Area(s) affected.
STAGE 3	Description and quantification of the indirect impacts of development on the Historic Character Area(s) affected.
STAGE 4	Evaluation of the relative importance of the Historic Character Area(s) (or part(s) thereof) directly and/or indirectly affected by development in relation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) the whole of the Historic Character Area(s) concerned, and/or (b) the whole of the historic landscape area on the Register, followed by (c) an evaluation of the relative importance of the Historic Character Area(s) concerned in the national context, and a determination of the average overall value of all the Historic Character Areas (or parts thereof) affected.
STAGE 5	Assessment of the overall significance of impact of development, and the effects that altering the Historic Character Area(s) concerned has on the whole of the historic landscape area on the Register.

STAGE 1 Contextual information

The first stage of the ASIDOHL2 process is to gather essential, contextual information that should provide and form the introduction to the report. This information should include:

- (a) A brief summary description of the development, with a map at the appropriate scale showing its location in relation to the historic landscape area on the Register.
- (b) A statement about the context in which the ASIDOHL2 is being done, for example, as part of EIA, a feasibility study for development, as part of evidence to be presented at a Public Inquiry etc.
- (c) If relevant, a brief summary of the planning history of the site (details of any previous permissions, appeals etc.).
- (d) References to any related assessments, for example, a *LANDMAP* study, an archaeological assessment under the provisions of Welsh Office Circular 60/96, EIA, or a previous assessment etc.
- (e) A summary of the national, regional and local planning policies in relation to historic landscapes in the development area (Welsh Assembly Government planning guidance, Unitary Development Plans, emerging Local Development Plans, etc.)
- (f) In the relevant cases, an indication of the provisional status of any Historic Character Areas (see section 5.2).
- (g) An indication of the confidence levels of the data upon which the ASIDOHL2 is based and any resulting limits assigned to impact predictions, either because of techniques used or because of the limits of information available, timing or personnel used, inability to gain access to the land or data involved, and whether there are any contingent, or other, liabilities, issues of confidentiality, copyright relating to the data etc.
- (h) A statement on the qualifications and experience of the person(s) responsible for undertaking the ASIDOHL2 and a full declaration of the nature of any contractor–client relationships.
- (i) A description of the process used, work undertaken, the area over which impacts have been assessed, sources consulted, site visits etc., and an indication of the ASIDOHL2 stages undertaken.

Copies of the historic landscape citation in the Register, the descriptions of the Historic Character Area(s) affected and any other relevant supporting information, maps, photographs etc. should normally be included as appendices to the ASIDOHL2 report.

STAGE 2 Assessment of direct, physical impacts of development

The second stage of the ASIDOHL2 process and report should describe and, as far as possible, quantify the direct, physical impacts of the development on the Historic Character Area(s) affected using the following framework.

A map should be provided at the appropriate scale showing the precise location and extent of the development, including any preliminary site works or supporting infrastructure necessary, in relation to the Historic Character Area(s) directly affected.

Where there are large amounts of information or clarity is an issue, supplementary map(s) can be provided to show the location of Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, and any other coincident statutory, nature conservation or landscape designations; the location of any known, non-scheduled archaeological sites and monuments, non-listed historic buildings or structures; traditional boundaries, or any other key historic elements or characteristics identified in the characterization report. Wherever possible, the Primary Record Numbers (PRNs) assigned in the regional Historic Environment Records maintained by the Welsh Archaeological Trusts, should be quoted. (The distinction between elements and characteristics is not critical. In the context of an ASIDOHL2 exercise and its constituent stages, they are not mutually exclusive and reference is drawn to the definitions set out in sections 4.1, 4.2 and 6.2.) Direct, physical impacts should be described and quantified in three ways, namely:

(a) In absolute terms

This should be expressed as a statement indicating the actual percentage or proportion of the surface area of the Historic Character Area that is directly affected, for example, ‘55% (or just over half) of the area of Historic Character Area X will be permanently lost or removed by development.’ (In some cases, the percentage surface area affected could be greater than the physical extent of the development if, for example, a construction land-take greater in area than, or separate from, the development site is required for extensive preliminary site works, ancillary developments or supporting infrastructures.)

(b) In relative terms

This should be expressed with statements indicating the percentages or proportions of the known resource (i.e. the key elements or characteristics identified by characterization) that will be permanently lost or removed by development, for example, ‘In Historic Character Area X, 25% (or a quarter) of, for example, the number of known archaeological sites;

the extent of historic land use or pattern in area A; the length of linear feature B, and so on, will be permanently lost or removed by development.

In both (a) and (b), the overall magnitude of direct, physical impacts should be graded as:

TABLE 2

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 2: GRADES OF DIRECT PHYSICAL IMPACTS

75–100%	permanently lost or removed	Very Severe;
50–74%	permanently lost or removed	Severe;
30–49%	permanently lost or removed	Considerable;
15–29%	permanently lost or removed	Moderate;
5–14%	permanently lost or removed	Slight;
0–4%	permanently lost or removed	Very Slight.

The intrinsic importance or status of each element or characteristic affected should also be assessed and briefly described and recorded using the categories adopted by the Welsh Archaeological Trusts, namely:

Category A Sites and Monuments of National Importance

This includes Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs), Grade I and II* (and some Grade II) Listed Buildings and sites of similar quality, i.e. those which would meet the requirements for scheduling or listing at the top two grades. There is a presumption in favour of preservation of all such sites and their settings should they come under threat. Such sites might include those that survive principally as buried remains.

Category B Sites and Monuments of Regional Importance

This includes sites that would fulfil the criteria for listing at Grade II (if a building), but not for scheduling (if a relict archaeological site). Nevertheless, such sites are of particular importance within a regional context and, if threatened, should ideally be preserved in situ, although complete excavation and/or recording may be an acceptable alternative. Most sites of archaeological and/or historical interest will fall within this category.

Category C Sites / Features of Local Importance

This category includes components of the historic environment (such as walls, gateposts, tracks etc.) that help define local distinctiveness and character. They may not be of sufficient importance to justify a recommendation for preservation if threatened, but they nevertheless have an interest and

importance in their local context.

Category D Minor and Damaged Sites / Features

This category includes sites / features which are of minor importance or so badly damaged that too little remains to justify their inclusion in a higher category. Rapid recording, either before or during destruction, is usually sufficient for this category of site.

Category U Sites / Features Needing Further Investigation

Sites / features whose character, importance or location is undetermined are placed in this category. They include buried sites and known underground features identified from archival evidence and retrospective map analysis, sites with no defined physical presence such as find spots, sites noted but not accurately located in antiquarian references, sites known only from place-name evidence and other sites reported at the specified location, but cannot be verified by archaeological fieldwork. They will require further work before they can be allocated to Categories A–C.

Where large areas are involved, or where there is a high concentration of elements as, for example, in industrial or urban areas, it is suggested that groups of similar, or related, elements are brought together and considered as a single element or characteristic, provided this is clearly stated in the report. The emphasis should be on Category A and B and closely linked, or groups of, Category C sites.

(c) In landscape terms

As well as the intrinsic importance or value recorded in step (b), account should also be taken of the extrinsic importance of elements or characteristics within the landscape of the Historic Character Area. Extrinsic importance reflects the contribution the individual element or characteristic makes to the value of the Historic Character Area as a whole. The Historic Character Area will have a value in excess of the combined values of the individual elements or characteristics that make it up, on the basis that ‘the sum of the whole is greater than the sum of the individual parts’. Elements or characteristics need not necessarily be similar, and may even be quite diverse, but as part of a landscape, they will have a measure of extrinsic, as well as of intrinsic, importance.

Extrinsic importance is not to be confused with the ‘Group Value’ of closely related elements or characteristics in Historic Character Areas where a single land use theme or process is dominant. Group value relates to mainly functional links and interconnections that occur between individual elements, and will depend on how well the links have survived.

Examples would be groups consisting of elements with a similar morphology, chronology and function (e.g. a cairnfield), or of elements with a dissimilar morphology, but sharing a clear past interconnectivity (e.g. an ironworks and its related water management system, adits/levels/ mineshaft, tramroad/railway, waste tips and perhaps also workers' housing).

Clearly, the distinction between 'Extrinsic Importance' and 'Group Value' will to some extent depend on the scale and level of detail at which (a) elements or characteristics and (b) Historic Character Areas have been identified. However, in this stage of the ASIDOHL2 process, the emphasis should be on determining the extrinsic, or landscape value of elements or characteristics, whether or not they are individually made up of groups of smaller-scale features that have a high, intrinsic group value. However, high intrinsic group value may well enhance an element's extrinsic, or landscape importance overall, especially in areas with a high density of related features.

The extrinsic, or landscape importance of the elements identified should be graded as 'Very High'; 'High'; 'Considerable'; 'Medium'; 'Low', or 'Very Low'; together with an indication of the type of group to which it belongs, for instance, as in the examples given above.

The effect the development would have on the extrinsic importance of the element or characteristic as a whole should then be assessed. This should reflect what effects the loss of element X (or part thereof) would be on the landscape of Historic Character Area Y where X is found. In other words, by how much does the loss of X diminish the value of Y as a landscape? Effects should be graded as a 'Landscape Value' that is 'Lost'; 'Substantially Reduced'; 'Considerably Reduced'; 'Moderately Reduced'; 'Slightly Reduced', or 'Very Slightly Reduced'.

In order to determine the overall magnitude of direct, physical impacts on a Historic Character Area, and for the results to be transparent and meaningful for planning and development purposes, impact magnitudes should be weighed up with element sensitivity (i.e. an element's intrinsic and extrinsic importance or status), using the following scoring system:

TABLE 3
ASIDOHL2 STAGE 2: DIRECT PHYSICAL IMPACTS – GRADES AND SCORES
IMPACTS AND ELEMENT SENSITIVITY SCORE

Direct physical impacts – absolute	
Very Severe	6
Severe	5
Considerable	4
Moderate	3
Slight	2
Very Slight	1
Direct physical impacts – relative	
Very Severe	6
Severe	5
Considerable	4
Moderate	3
Slight	2
Very Slight	1
Site category	
A	4
B	3
C	2
D	1
U	1
Direct physical impacts – landscape value	
Very High	6
High	5
Considerable	4
Medium	3
Low	2
Very Low	1
Landscape value effect	
Lost	6
Substantially Reduced	5
Considerably Reduced	4
Moderately Reduced	3
Slightly Reduced	2
Very Slightly Reduced	1

The results for each Historic Character Area affected could be summarized in a table, for example:

TABLE 4

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 2: ASSESSMENT OF DIRECT, PHYSICAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA X

ABSOLUTE IMPACT (LOSS OF AREA)
48 ha, 55% area

MAGNITUDE & SCORE
Severe – 5

RELATIVE AND LANDSCAPE IMPACTS (LOSS OF KNOWN ELEMENTS OR CHARACTERISTICS) & SCORES

ELEMENT / % LOSS	CATEGORY	MAGNITUDE	LANDSCAPE VALUE	LANDSCAPE VALUE EFFECT
Tramway R – 0.3km length, 15%	B – 3	Moderate – 3	High – part of quarry complex G – 5	Slightly Reduced – 2
Field System Y – 2.3 ha, 85%	C – 2	Very Severe – 6	High – part of settlement cluster P – 5	Substantially Reduced – 5
Hut Platforms A – 4 sites, 30%	A – 4	Considerable – 4	Medium – part of settlement R – 3	Moderately Reduced – 3
Crop-mark complex B – 1.0 ha, 65%	A (SAM) – 4	Severe – 5	High – part of ritual complex T – 5	Lost – 6
Ancient Woodland C – 0.3 ha, 3%	B – 3	Very Slight – 1	Very low – 1	Very Slightly Reduced – 1

Template available at www.cadw.wales.gov.uk

The scores for each element (i.e. Status [Category] + Magnitude + Landscape Value + Landscape Value Effect) are added up to produce a combined total. This figure is then divided by the number of elements identified, in order to obtain an average figure. In the example shown above this would be:

$$(3+3+5+2) + (2+6+5+5) + (4+4+3+3) + (4+5+5+6) + (3+1+1+1)$$

Divided by 5 = 14.2

This average score is then added to the score for the magnitude of absolute impact, which in this case is 5:

$$14.2 + 5 = 19.2, \text{ rounded off to the nearest whole number} = 19$$

On a 28-point scale, which is the maximum possible, this figure provides a measure of the overall magnitude of direct, physical impacts on Historic Character Area X. Scores are then graded according to the following scale:

TABLE 5

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 2: OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF DIRECT PHYSICAL IMPACTS

SCORE	GRADING
24–28	Very Severe
19–23	Severe
14–18	Considerable
9–13	Moderate
4–8	Slight
0–3	Very Slight

In the example shown, therefore, a score of 19 equates with a ‘Severe’ overall magnitude of direct, physical impact on Historic Character Area X.

STAGE 3 Assessment of indirect impacts of development

Clearly, a finite area of land will be directly and physically affected by a development, but a much greater area will be indirectly affected through the fragmentation of Historic Character Areas, visual intrusion and encroachment that could devalue the historic landscape area on the Register as a whole. The importance of ‘setting’ is a well-established criterion in the assessment of the significance of impact of development on Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Listed Buildings, and the same criterion should be applied to Historic Character Areas and to historic landscape areas on the Register.

There is no statutory definition of setting, but it could be considered as having two principal dimensions. Firstly, there is the immediate or essential setting which, in the case of a building, would be the ancillary land used with it or the curtilage. Secondly, there is the wider setting that, in the case of a building, may or may not be legally attached to it, may or may not be used with it, and is often part of the built environment or part of the countryside. Settings may not be as easily defined for field monuments, but it may be possible to make reasonable inferences based on archaeological, or historical, information. Setting should not be interpreted too narrowly, and for the purposes of this process, impacts on settings will be categorized as ‘indirect’ impacts.

The third part of the ASIDOHL2 report should, therefore, describe and quantify as objectively as possible the indirect impacts of the development on all Historic Character Areas affected.

Indirect impacts can be categorized as being mainly physical or visual in nature.

(a) Indirect, physical impacts

These can occur to elements in a Historic Character Area

as a result of one, or a combination, of the following factors:

- (i) An increased risk of exposure, erosion, disturbance, decay, dereliction or any other detrimental physical change to elements, during or consequent to development.
- (ii) Related to (i), the likelihood of increased management needs to maintain elements as, for example, through altered habitats, water levels, increased erosion, new access provision etc., during or consequent to development.
- (iii) The severance, fragmentation, dislocation or alteration of the functional connections between related elements, for example, a field system becomes ‘severed’ from its parent farmstead by an intervening development. This includes ‘severance’ from related elements in adjacent, or other, geographically removed but still functionally linked, Historic Character Areas, which large-scale developments might cause in archaeologically or historically complex landscapes.
- (iv) The frustration or cessation of historic land use practices, for example, it becomes more difficult or impossible to manage an area in a traditional manner as a result of development.
- (v) The frustration of access leading to decreased opportunities for education, understanding or enjoying the amenity of elements, during or consequent to development.

Each category of indirect, physical impact identified should be described and an assessment made of its severity, based on professional judgement, and graded as follows: ‘Very Severe’; ‘Severe’; ‘Considerable’; ‘Moderate’; ‘Slight’, or ‘Very Slight’. In order to determine the overall magnitude of indirect, physical impacts on a Historic Character Area, impact magnitudes should be weighed up with element sensitivity (i.e. an element’s intrinsic importance or status), using the same grades and scores as for Stage 2 (i.e. the first three ranges in Table 3, p. 18).

The results for each Historic Character Area affected could be summarized in a table, for example:

TABLE 6

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 3: ASSESSMENT OF INDIRECT, PHYSICAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA Y

IMPACTS	CATEGORY & SCORE	MAGNITUDE & SCORE
Increased risk of erosion to element J	B — 3	Moderate — 3
Increased management needs for element K	C — 2	Slight — 2
Functional connection between elements J & K disrupted	A — 4	Severe — 5
Traditional land use of area L ceased	A — 4	Very Severe — 6
Amenity value of element M reduced	C — 2	Moderate — 3

The scores for each element (i.e. Status + Magnitude) are added up to produce a combined total. This figure is then divided by the number of elements identified in order to obtain an average figure. In the example shown above, this would be:

$$(3+3) + (2+2) + (4+5) + (4+6) + (2+3)$$

Divided by 5 = 6.8

This average score will be required at the end of Stage 3 in order to calculate the overall magnitude of indirect impacts on the Historic Character Area.

(b) Indirect (non-physical) visual impacts

These can occur to elements as a result of one, or a combination, of the following factors:

(i) Visual impacts on elements from which a development can be seen (considered up to its maximum height). The impact might be on 'views to' or 'views from' these elements, and it should be assessed with reference to key historic viewpoints and essential settings. These should be considered in relation to a site's original character and function, as well as to the vantage points and visual experience of a visitor today.

Determining these aspects in relation to field monuments can be difficult, especially where the key historic viewpoints and essential settings recognized today may be different to those that were important to the original builders or inhabitants of a site. However, it might be possible to make reasonable assumptions on the basis of what is known archaeologically, or historically, about how certain types of monuments originally functioned, or were regarded. Key viewpoints should also include those that subsequently became adopted as such, for example, the historic, artistic, viewpoints of a site, or those that were deliberately created as features in historic parks and gardens.

(ii) Impact on the visual connections between related elements, by occlusion, obstruction, etc., for example, an essential line of sight between historically linked defensive sites will become blocked or impaired by an intervening development.

(iii) Conversely, the creation of inappropriate visual connections between elements not intended to be inter-visible originally, by the removal of intervening structures, barriers, shelters, screening or ground.

(iv) Visual impact of the development itself in relation to the existing historic character of the area considering:

- its form — the scale, number, density, massing, distribution etc., and if appropriate, the movement of its constituent features;
- its appearance — the size, shape, colour, fabric etc. of its constituent features.

This section is aimed at assessing to what extent the development constitutes a visual intrusion or encroachment, and to what extent that affects the area's historic character.

NOTE: The Landscape Institute and the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment have jointly published *Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impacts Assessment* (E. & F. N. Spon Press, London, 2002, second edition). This may usefully be consulted; however, software packages are now available that can make use of OS digital data to produce 360-degree view-shed analysis, 3-D virtual representations and so on (e.g. Vertical Mapper for MapInfo; Visual Nature Studio 2 etc.). In complicated cases, or where the development is on a very large scale, it may be necessary to use the services of a professional landscape architect to undertake a full visual impacts assessment.

Each type of indirect, visual impact identified should be described using maps, figures, diagrams, elevations and photographs (photo montages may be particularly useful) as necessary. Assessment should be generally confined to the key elements identified during characterization within the affected area(s), i.e. Category A and B sites and closely linked, or groups of, Category C sites (as defined in Stage 2 above), with an assessment of the severity of impact based on professional judgement, and graded as follows: 'Very Severe'; 'Severe'; 'Considerable'; 'Moderate'; 'Slight', or 'Very Slight'. Development form and appearance should be similarly graded.

In order to determine the overall magnitude of the indirect, visual impacts on a Historic Character Area, impact magnitudes should be weighed up with element sensitivity (i.e. an element's intrinsic importance or status), using the same grades and scores as for Stage 2 (i.e. the first three ranges in Table 3, p. 18). Development form and appearance are graded in relation to the average value of element sensitivity for the Historic Character Area.

The results for each Historic Character Area affected could be summarized in a table, for example:

TABLE 7

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 3: ASSESSMENT OF INDIRECT, VISUAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA Y

IMPACTS	CATEGORY & SCORE	MAGNITUDE & SCORE
Views to element N partially blocked	A – 4	Slight – 2
Views from element P disrupted	B – 3	Severe – 5
Small-scale change to essential settings of element R	A – 4	Slight – 2
Visual connection between elements T and S occluded	B – 3	Very Severe – 6
Development form	3.5*	Severe – 5
Development appearance	3.5*	Moderate – 3

*Average value of element sensitivity – $(4+3+4+3) \div 4 = 3.5$

The scores for each element (i.e. Category + Magnitude) are added up to produce a combined total. This figure is then divided by the total number of elements identified, including development form and appearance, in order to obtain an average figure. In the example shown above, this would be:

$$(4+2) + (3+5) + (4+2) + (3+6) + (3.5+5) + (3.5+3)$$

Divided by 6 = 7.33

This average score is then added to the score for the indirect, physical impacts, which in the calculation on p. 21 came to 6.8:

$$7.33 + 6.8 = 14.13$$

This figure is on a scale of 1–20, which is made up of the 10 maximum possible average scores for indirect, physical impacts and the 10 maximum possible average scores for indirect, visual impacts. Unfortunately, this scale cannot conveniently be divided into six whole number ranges as is the case with the 28-point scale used in Stage 2 (Table 5, p. 19). To overcome this difficulty, the average score is simply multiplied by 28 and then divided by 20, to convert it to the 28-point scale.

The calculation is as follows:

$$14.13 \times 28$$

Divided by 20 = 19.78, rounded off to the nearest whole number = 20

This score provides a measure of the overall magnitude of indirect (physical and visual) impacts on the Historic Character Area, which is then graded according to the same scale as used in Stage 2, namely:

TABLE 8

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 3: OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT IMPACTS

SCORE	GRADING
24–28	Very Severe
19–23	Severe
14–18	Considerable
9–13	Moderate
4–8	Slight
0–3	Very Slight

In the examples shown, therefore, a score of 20 equates with a ‘Severe’ overall magnitude of indirect, physical impact on Historic Character Area Y.

The types of indirect impacts described above are by no means exhaustive, and there may be others specific to particular kinds of development that should also be taken into account and assessed. Each impact identified should be described and quantified as objectively as possible, with written descriptions supported by diagrams or photographs, particularly for visual impacts. Where accurate quantification is impossible, a professional judgement should be given.

Because there is the potential for the full range of indirect impacts not to be recognized and for some of the Historic Character Areas affected to be missed and not taken into account, it is strongly recommended that all the impacts and areas are identified and agreed in advance with Cadw, CCW and the curatorial section of the relevant Welsh Archaeological Trust.

STAGE 4 Evaluation of relative importance

The fourth stage of the ASIDOHL2 process and report should evaluate the relative importance of the Historic Character Area(s) (or part(s) thereof) directly and/or indirectly affected by development in relation to:

- (a) the whole of the Historic Character Area(s) concerned, and/or
 - (b) the whole of the historic landscape area on the Register;
- followed by,
- (c) an evaluation of the relative importance of the Historic Character Area(s) concerned in the national context.

Stage 4 should then be completed with a determination of the average, overall value of all the Historic Character Areas (or part(s) thereof) affected.

Which evaluation steps have to be done and how much input is required will depend on the scale of the development in relation to the nature and extent of the affected Historic Character Area(s) and the historic landscape area on the Register. For example, if a development directly affects an entire Historic Character Area, then only evaluation steps (b) and (c) need to be done. The complexity of the Historic Character Area(s) in terms of the variety of characteristics and numbers of elements affected will also influence the amount of input required.

In cases where both steps (a) and (b) have to be done, evaluating relative importance is necessary because it may well be that the relative importance of an element within the Historic Character Area differs from its relative importance within the overall historic landscape area on the Register. For example, a particular element could be abundant and fairly representative of the Historic Character Area as a whole, but might be quite rare in relation to the whole of the historic landscape area on the Register. Clearly, if an entire Historic Character Area is directly affected with the complete loss of all its constituent elements, then step (a) would not apply.

It is likely that evaluation scores (see 'Guidance on Evaluation' below) could be influenced by a number of factors. The relative size and number of Historic Character Areas within the historic landscape area on the Register, and the number of Historic Character Areas affected in relation to the total number of Historic Character Areas within the historic landscape area on the Register, could all have some bearing on the values determined.

Where the historic landscape area on the Register is very large and diverse, it may be difficult to reach an accurate assessment of value without undertaking extra work that may be beyond the scope of an ASIDOHL2. Under these circumstances, evaluation might be made simpler and easier by 'breaking up' particularly large historic landscape areas on the Register into a number of smaller areas comprising groups of Historic Character Areas. These smaller areas could be identified on the basis of the Register's selection criteria, topographical units or particular land use themes etc. Conversely, where a group of small, tightly drawn Historic Character Areas occurs as, for example, in an industrial or urban area, then for evaluation purposes, the group can be considered as a single Historic Character Area. Whatever means is chosen for the particular case concerned, this should be clearly explained and justified in the ASIDOHL2 report.

With regard to evaluation step (c), 'national context' should be taken to refer to the historic landscape areas on the Register, not the whole of Wales. Although all historic landscapes on the Register are of national importance, being either of outstanding or of special historic interest, some component Historic Character Areas may be of even greater significance, because of the range or the quality of the elements they contain, the presence of designated elements within them, their relationship with other Historic Character Areas, their status as a key component in the historic landscape area on the Register, or because of a combination of these factors. Generally, these Historic Character Areas will be pre-eminent and easily recognized, for example, they might be within a World Heritage Site or they might contain a large well-known monument in state care, Listed Building or Scheduled Ancient Monument and its settings, or a historic park or garden etc.

Evaluation step (c) should not be regarded as downgrading of certain areas: it is simply acknowledging that within a landscape that is all of national importance, some areas, elements or characteristics may well be of greater value than others. It should therefore be possible to determine Historic Character Area value as being somewhere in the range between what might be considered to be the 'baseline' value of the whole historic landscape area on the Register (i.e. a value on a par with their nationally important status) and the even higher value of the most significant or pre-eminent Historic Character Area(s) within the same historic landscape area.

Guidance on Evaluation

This section gives a list of criteria that may be applied in evaluation steps (a)–(c), although depending on individual circumstances, not all criteria will be universally applicable (Welsh Office Circular 60/96, *Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology*, p. 15, Annex 3, 'Secretary of State's Criteria for Scheduling Ancient Monuments').

However, because some Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) criteria are more relevant to sites than to landscapes, not all SAM criteria will be applicable to all the evaluation steps. For the same reason, not all SAM criteria will be applicable to all historic characteristics, or Historic Character Areas affected. As there are no hard and fast rules, it will be a matter of professional judgement as to which criteria to select and to apply. Further advice may be sought from Cadw, CCW and the Welsh Archaeological Trusts.

With respect to the evaluation of individual criteria, in most cases, the different grades of values will have to be qualitative as few, if any, national data sets exist to enable quantitative grades of values to be determined. This will be particularly true for evaluation step (c). There may also be cases where the ranges or the grades of values suggested below will require adjustment to reflect local conditions such as, for example, high numbers of elements present, etc. The ranges or grades of values selected will have to be based on professional judgement and justified in the ASIDOHL2 report.

The SAM-based evaluation criteria set out below are derived from criteria applied in a historic landscape assessment of part of the Gwent Levels landscape of outstanding historic interest (Welsh Office, M4 Relief Road Magor to Castleton – Stage 2 Assessment, Draft Report for Consultation by Ove Arup and Partners, April 1998/Amended October 1998, Appendix 2 – *The Historic Landscape* by S. Rippon), and from work by the Gwynedd Archaeological Trust.

N.B. Depending on which evaluation step is being undertaken, ‘elements’ include ‘characteristics’, and ‘landscape’ includes ‘Historic Character Area’ in the following list.

Criteria for determining relative importance or value in Stage 4, steps (a), (b) and (c)

Rarity in terms of period or date, and as a component of the landscape. This should be assessed in relation to what survives today, since elements of a once common type of landscape may now be rare.

Very High	sole survivor of its type in the landscape;
High	only two or three similar historic elements in the landscape;
Moderate	fewer than five broadly similar elements in the landscape;
Low	more than five broadly similar elements in the landscape;
None	commonplace throughout the landscape.

Representativeness should also be considered, in that an example of a landscape that is common can still be of national importance if, in the light of other criteria, it contains a particularly representative range of elements.

Very High	contains all the elements that characterize the landscape;
High	contains most of the elements that characterize the landscape;
Moderate	contains about half of the elements that characterize the landscape;
Low	contains some of the elements that characterize the landscape;
None	sole example of the element and, therefore, not representative.

Documentation The survival of documentation that increases our understanding of a landscape will raise its importance, though this is difficult to quantify owing to the extremely varied nature of documentary material. Therefore, a professional judgment is given based on the actual amount or importance of material and its academic value.

Very High	complete documentary record, or exceptionally important sources available;
High	a considerable quantity of relevant material, or highly important sources available;
Moderate	some relevant material, or moderately important sources available;
Low	little relevant material, or only modestly important sources available;
None	no relevant material available.

Group Value relates to the diversity (or similarity) of elements including their structural and functional coherence. To some extent, the group value of individual elements will have been taken into account in Stage 2, where the links between closely related elements as, for example, between the separate features that make up a quarrying or mining site, can enhance the intrinsic or landscape value of an element or characteristic. At Stage 4, the group value relationship is usually wider and more likely to be between whole groups of related elements as, for example, in a quarrying or mining complex that includes the associated settlements, transport systems as well as the processing sites etc. Clearly, there will be instances within Historic Character Areas in which elements or groups are linked to others not directly affected by development, or situated in adjoining Historic Character Areas. ‘Group Value’ is also likely to be more applicable to areas identified under the Register’s first and second selection criteria, namely, ‘Intensively developed or extensively remodelled’ or ‘Period’ landscapes.

Very High	contains six or more linked elements or groups;
High	contains four or five linked elements or groups;
Medium	contains three or four linked elements or groups;
Low	contains two or three linked elements or groups;
None	i.e. a single or any number of unlinked elements or groups.

Survival relates to the degree of survival of elements in the landscape. In instances where the original extent or numbers are known (for example, traditional field boundaries for which there may be detailed mapped evidence), it may be possible to measure this quantitatively.

- Very Good more than 80% of elements surviving;
- Good between 60% and 79% of elements surviving;
- Moderate Between 40% and 59% of elements surviving;
- Fair Between 20% and 39% of elements surviving;
- Poor Under 20% of elements surviving.

Condition relates to the condition of elements in the landscape.

- Very Good elements surviving in very good condition for their class;
- Good elements surviving in good or above average condition for their class;
- Moderate elements surviving in moderate or average condition for their class;
- Fair elements surviving in fair or below average condition for their class;
- Poor elements surviving in poor condition for their class.

Coherence relates to how well the historic meaning and significance of the landscape is articulated by the historic themes, that is the historical processes and patterns that have created the individual elements within it. It may well be that historical processes and patterns have been maintained, or continue, so that the landscape retains much of its original function, thus enhancing its coherence. Clearly discernible or dominant themes can increase the coherence and importance of a landscape.

- Very High dominant historic theme(s) present — landscape retaining its original function;
- High dominant historic theme(s) present — landscape of high articulation, but original function has ceased;
- Moderate historic theme(s) present, — landscape of moderate articulation;
- Low historic theme(s) present, but weak — landscape of low articulation;
- Very Low historic theme(s) suppressed by later changes.

Integrity The importance of a landscape may be enhanced by its integrity that relates to the survival of its original character or form. The resulting visibility and legibility of the landscape's component elements will enhance its amenity value. Greater visibility and legibility generally increase the potential for the historic landscape to be easily understood by the non-specialist.

- Very High elements retaining their original character, highly visible and easily understood;
- High elements retaining much of their original character, visible and fairly easily understood;

- Moderate elements retaining some of their original character, visible, but not easily understood;
- Low elements not readily visible and difficult to understand;
- Very Low elements hardly visible and very difficult to understand.

Potential relates to the potential within the landscape for future historic landscape study and analysis.

- Very High wide-ranging scope for future historic landscape study and analysis;
- High considerable scope for future historic landscape study and analysis;
- Moderate some scope for future historic landscape study and analysis;
- Low little scope for future historic landscape study and analysis;
- Very Low very little scope for future historic landscape study and analysis.

Amenity relates to the potential value of elements to be developed as a public educational and recreational amenity.

- Very High wide-ranging scope for elements to be developed as a public educational and recreational amenity;
- High considerable scope for elements to be developed as a public educational and recreational amenity;
- Moderate some scope for elements to be developed as a public educational and recreational amenity;
- Low little scope for elements to be developed as a public educational and recreational amenity;
- Very Low very little scope for elements to be developed as a public educational and recreational amenity.

Associations A landscape or an area or element within it might have important historic associations with, for example, particular institutions, cultural figures, movements or events etc. Often, however, there are no physical remains, or it may be difficult to tie an association to a particular place, feature or element, with only documentary or oral sources available. Owing to the complex nature of associations, therefore, they are impossible to quantify, so an assessment is made based upon professional judgement.

- Very High a highly significant, authentic and nationally well-known association(s);
- High a significant, authentic and regionally well-known association(s);
- Moderate an authentic, but less significant, perhaps locally well-known association(s);
- Low unauthenticated or a little known association(s);
- None no known association(s).

The evaluation of steps (a) and (b) should comprise written statements and justifications for the values ascribed to each criterion, followed by a concluding statement for either step (a) or (b). The statement should reflect the general level of values across all criteria, and note any particularly significant ‘Highs’ or ‘Lows’.

The evaluation of step (c) should comprise written statements and justifications for the values ascribed to each criterion, followed by a concluding statement. The statement should reflect the general level of values across all criteria, and note any particularly significant ‘High’ or ‘Low’ scores.

Evaluation results for steps (a) and (b) could be summarized in a table, for example:

TABLE 9

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 4: EVALUATION OF THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE PART OF HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA X DIRECTLY AND/OR INDIRECTLY AFFECTED BY DEVELOPMENT

VALUE:	V HIGH/ V GOOD	HIGH/ GOOD	MOD/ MED	LOW	V LOW/ POOR	V HIGH/ V GOOD	HIGH/ GOOD	MOD/ MED	LOW	V LOW/ POOR
in relation to:	(a) WHOLE OF HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA					(b) WHOLE OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPE AREA ON THE REGISTER				
CRITERION:										
RARITY	✓						✓			
REPRESENTATIVENESS		✓						✓		
DOCUMENTATION				✓					✓	
GROUP VALUE		✓					✓			
SURVIVAL		✓						✓		
CONDITION	✓					✓				
COHERENCE		✓						✓		
INTEGRITY	✓					✓				
POTENTIAL			✓					✓		
AMENITY		✓						✓		
ASSOCIATIONS				✓					✓	

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Evaluation results for step (c) could be summarized in a table, for example:

TABLE 10

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 4: EVALUATION OF THE RELATIVE IMPORTANCE IN THE NATIONAL CONTEXT, OF THE HISTORIC CHARACTER AREAS DIRECTLY AND/OR INDIRECTLY AFFECTED BY DEVELOPMENT

VALUE:	V HIGH/ V GOOD	HIGH/ GOOD	MOD/ MED	LOW	V LOW/ POOR	V HIGH/ V GOOD	HIGH/ GOOD	MOD/ MED	LOW	V LOW/ POOR
in relation to:	HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA X					HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA Y				
CRITERION:										
RARITY	✓						✓			
REPRESENTATIVENESS				✓				✓		
DOCUMENTATION		✓							✓	
GROUP VALUE			✓			✓				
SURVIVAL		✓					✓			
CONDITION		✓					✓			
COHERENCE			✓				✓			
INTEGRITY			✓					✓		
POTENTIAL	✓					✓				
AMENITY				✓				✓		✓
ASSOCIATIONS				✓						

Template available at www.cadw.wales.gov.uk

Criteria values in steps (a), (b) and (c) should be scored as follows:

TABLE 11

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 4: EVALUATION SCORES

CRITERION VALUE	SCORE
Very High / Good	5
High / Good	4
Moderate / Medium	3
Low	2
Very Low / Poor	1

In the examples (Tables 9 and 10 above), therefore, the relative importance, at the steps indicated, of Historic Character Areas X and Y would be:

Table 9, Historic Character Area X at step (a) –

$(3 \times \text{V High @ } 5) + (5 \times \text{High @ } 4) + (1 \times \text{Medium @ } 3) + (2 \times \text{Low @ } 2) = 42$ out of a possible maximum of 55 (i.e. $11 \times \text{V High @ } 5$)

and at step (b) –

$(2 \times \text{V High @ } 5) + (2 \times \text{High @ } 4) + (5 \times \text{Medium @ } 3) + (2 \times \text{Low @ } 2) = 37$ on the same scale.

Table 10, Historic Character Area X at step (c), i.e. its value in the national context –

$$(2 \times \text{V High @ } 5) + (3 \times \text{High @ } 4) + (3 \times \text{Medium @ } 3) + (3 \times \text{Low @ } 2) = 37 \text{ on the same scale;}$$

and for Historic Character Area Y at the same step –

$$(2 \times \text{V High @ } 5) + (4 \times \text{High @ } 4) + (3 \times \text{Medium @ } 3) + (1 \times \text{Low @ } 2) + (1 \times \text{V Low / Poor @ } 1) = 38 \text{ on the same scale.}$$

If ten, rather than the maximum of eleven, criteria had been applied, then the maximum score would have been 50 (i.e. 10 x V High @ 5); and in the case of nine criteria – 45 (i.e. 9 x V High @ 5); eight criteria – 40, and so on.

The final part of Stage 4 is to determine the average, overall value of all the Historic Character Areas (or part(s) thereof) affected.

This is done by combining the scores of steps (a), (b) and (c) together (or just (b) and (c) if (a) has not been applied). However, because of the disparity between score ranges that can result from different numbers of criteria being applied, the scores have to be converted to a scale of 1–100, which in the case of Historic Character Areas X and Y above would be as follows:

$$\text{Historic Character Area X at step (a): } (42 \div 55) \times 100 = 76.36$$

$$\text{Historic Character Area X at step (b): } (37 \div 55) \times 100 = 67.27$$

$$\text{Historic Character Area X at step (c): } (37 \div 55) \times 100 = 67.27$$

$$\text{Historic Character Area Y at step (c) = } (38 \div 55) \times 100 = 69.09$$

The average, overall value of all the areas (and parts thereof), affected in this example, on a scale of 1–100 would, therefore, be:

$$(76.36 + 67.27 + 67.27 + 69.09) \div 4 = 69.99, \text{ rounded off to the nearest whole number, i.e. } 70.$$

In a real case, the total number of areas (and parts thereof) affected could be considerably higher than the four hypothetical areas used in the examples above.

This average, overall value, or combined evaluation figure for Stage 4 would then be graded as follows:

TABLE 12

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 4: GRADES OF OVERALL VALUE

80–100	Very High
60–79	High
40–59	Considerable
20–39	Moderate
5–19	Low
0–4	Very Low

STAGE 5 Assessment of overall significance of impact

Once the direct and indirect impacts of development have been described and, as far as possible, quantified, in Stages 2 and 3, and the relative and the average overall values of the area(s) affected established in Stage 4, the fifth and final stage of the ASIDOHL2 process can be undertaken. This final stage should combine the results of Stages 2 to 4 to produce an assessment of the overall significance of the impact of development and the effect that altering the Historic Character Area(s) concerned has on the whole of the historic landscape area on the Register. This is determined by separately setting out and scoring the value of each of the Historic Character Areas affected in relation to the effect caused by the development and the consequent reduction in value of the historic landscape area on the Register, using the following model:

TABLE 13

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 5: SUMMARY OF THE OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE IMPACT OF DEVELOPMENT ON LANDSCAPE OF HISTORIC INTEREST ‘A’

VALUE OF HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA (based on STAGE 4 results)	IMPACT OF DEVELOPMENT (based on STAGES 2 & 3 results)	REDUCTION OF VALUE OF THE HISTORIC LANDSCAPE AREA ON REGISTER
<p>Very High Key elements of very high intrinsic importance and/or condition and/or group value, and/or not found elsewhere in this or other historic landscape areas on the Register. SCORE: 9 or 10</p>	<p>Very High Critical land loss and consequent fragmentation and/or visual intrusion causing key elements to be removed or so changed that detailed descriptions no longer apply, and/or amenity value is totally lost. SCORE: 9 or 10</p>	<p>Very High Development impact on key elements is such that the overall value of the historic landscape area on the Register is diminished to the point that its future inclusion on the Register may need to be reviewed. SCORE: 9 or 10</p>
<p>High Key elements of high intrinsic importance and/or condition and/or group value, and/or uncommon elsewhere in this or other historic landscape areas on the Register. SCORE: 7 or 8</p>	<p>High Substantial land loss and consequent fragmentation and/or visual intrusion causing key elements to be removed or changed so that group value and /or coherence and/or integrity are significantly diminished, and/or amenity value greatly reduced. SCORE: 7 or 8</p>	<p>High Development impact on key elements is such that the overall value of the historic landscape area on the Register is significantly reduced. SCORE: 7 or 8</p>
<p>Medium Key elements of varying intrinsic importance and/or condition and/or group value, and /or generally typical of this or other historic landscape areas on the Register. SCORE: 4, 5 or 6</p>	<p>Medium Moderate land loss and consequent fragmentation and/or visual intrusion causing some key elements to be removed or changed so that group value and/or coherence and /or integrity are diminished, and/or amenity value reduced. SCORE: 4, 5 or 6</p>	<p>Medium Development impact on key elements is such that there is some, but still appreciable, reduction in the overall value of the historic landscape area on the Register. SCORE: 4, 5 or 6</p>
<p>Low Key elements of low to moderate importance and/or condition and/or group value, and/or of generally low significance in this or other historic landscape areas on the Register. SCORE: 2 or 3</p>	<p>Low Slight land loss and consequent fragmentation and/or visual intrusion causing limited numbers of key elements to be removed or changed so that group value and/or coherence and/or integrity are slightly diminished, and/or amenity value slightly reduced. SCORE: 2 or 3</p>	<p>Low Development impact on key elements is such that there is slight reduction in the overall value of the historic landscape area on the Register. SCORE: 2 or 3</p>
<p>Very Low Elements untypical of the historic landscape area on the Register and/or changed through modern development. SCORE: 1</p>	<p>Very Low Marginal land loss and consequent fragmentation and/or visual intrusion causing negligible changes to elements and their values. SCORE: 1</p>	<p>Very Low Development impact on key elements is such that the value of the historic landscape area on the Register remains essentially unchanged. SCORE: 1</p>
<p>Total score for Historic Character Area:</p>	<p>Overall significance of impact for Historic Character Area:</p>	

In a real case, the Historic Character Areas and their key elements or characteristics should be named, with short statements justifying the values and scores given, based on the key results from Stages 2 to 4. However, the table should neither be too long nor complicated; its purpose is to provide an essential concluding summary and digest of the whole ASIDOHL2 process, as well as setting out the overall significance of impact of development on a landscape area on the Register.

Although scoring has been used extensively in Stages 2, 3 and 4, it is not recommended that the scores from these stages are directly combined or ‘converted’ to determine the final scores in this table. Rather, this should be a matter of professional interpretation and judgement, based on carefully weighing up all the scores in the preceding Stages, noting averages as well as any significant ‘Highs’ or ‘Lows’.

Excepting errors, it is generally expected that all parties using the results of an ASIDOHL2, including at a Public Inquiry, should be able to agree on the results of Stages 2 to 4, with any latitude for re-interpretation of results confined to Stage 5.

The score for the overall significance of impact of development on the historic landscape area, as calculated for each Historic Character Area listed in Table 13, is graded as follows:

TABLE 14

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 5: OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT

SCORE	GRADING
26–30	Very Severe
21–25	Severe
16–20	Fairly Severe
10–15	Moderate
4–9	Slight
0–3	Very Slight

The score and grade are entered into the last row in Table 13, p. 29 and the procedure repeated for every Historic Character Area affected. Scores should not be combined and averaged out for all the Historic Character Areas affected, but they should be shown separately, to allow developers, planning authorities or Public Inquiry Inspectors to guide development into those Historic Character Areas where the least reduction in the value of the historic landscape area on the Register is caused.

Mitigation

In Stage 5, ASIDOHL2 sets out to determine the gross (absolute) impact of development on a landscape area on the Register. It is critically important to establish this, as unlike a habitat or other forms of amenity, historic landscapes are a finite and irreplaceable resource. This is not intended to ignore or downgrade the fact that a development can offer mitigation or provide positive benefits that can be weighed up against the gross impact to achieve a lesser net (relative) impact on the historic landscape. Mitigation or positive benefits, advantages, improvements or amelioration that a development claims to offer in terms of conservation work, improving access and increasing opportunities for study, research etc., should be described, qualified and quantified in a separate section at the end of Stage 5. It will then be a matter for the planning authority or Public Inquiry Inspector concerned to determine what weight they should be given.

ASIDOHL2 Concluding Statement

The ASIDOHL2 report should be completed with a concluding statement drawing all the salient points together in a description that qualifies and quantifies the overall significance of impact of development on the historic landscape as accurately and as objectively as possible. This statement should reflect the range of impacts calculated for the individual Historic Character Areas in Table 13, p. 29, as well as a professional judgement as to how much the development would change our capacity to understand and appreciate the landscape’s historical meaning and significance, and thereby its overall value in line with the scores in the right hand column of Table 13, p. 29. The statement should also include any other important, or overriding, fact that was not, or could not be, mentioned or accounted for in the ASIDOHL2 process, for example, an extant planning permission for a similar development in an adjacent Historic Character Area.

The Concluding Statement will be a key part of the ASIDOHL2 report, to which most reference will be made, particularly in a Public Inquiry, when it may be part of a Proof of Evidence submitted to the Inquiry. It is essential, therefore, to write the concluding statement in a clear and concise style that can be easily understood by the non-specialist and the Public Inquiry Inspector alike. In complicated cases, or when it aids clarity, a glossary should be compiled to explain in simple language the meaning of the terms and words used in the ASIDOHL2 report to describe historic landscapes. Historic landscape terminology can be academically obscure to the non-specialist, or have an entirely different meaning in a planning context, which can cause unnecessary confusion. Brevity will also be essential with succinct statements summarising the overall results of the assessment.

APPENDIX

List of organizations from whom further information and advice may be sought about this Guide and the Register and the areas it includes:

Countryside Council for Wales

Maes y Ffynnon, Penrhosgarnedd, Bangor
Gwynedd LL57 2DW
Tel 01248 385500
www.ccw.gov.uk

Cadw

Welsh Assembly Government,
Plas Carew, Unit 5/7 Cefn Coed
Parc Nantgarw, Cardiff CF15 7QQ
Tel 01443 33 6000
www.cadw.wales.gov.uk

Dyfed Archaeological Trust (Cambria Archaeology)

The Shire Hall, Carmarthen Street, Llandeilo
Carmarthenshire SA19 6AF
Tel 01558 823131
www.acadat.com

Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust

7a Church Street, Welshpool
Powys SY21 7DL
Tel 01938 553670
www.cpat.org.uk

Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust

Heathfield House,
Heathfield
Swansea SA1 6EL
Tel 01792 655208
www.ggat.org.uk

Gwynedd Archaeological Trust

Craig Beuno, Garth Road, Bangor
Gwynedd LL57 2RT
Tel 01248 352535
www.heneb.co.uk



**- BLACK MOUNTAINS ARCHAEOLOGY -
- ARCHAEOLEG MYNYDD DU -**

Yn rhan o'n hawydd i wella ansawdd ein gwasanaeth, rydym yn croesawu unrhyw adborth y gallwch ei ddarparu.

As part of our desire to improve our quality of service we welcome any feedback you are able to provide.

Archaeoleg Mynydd Du Cyf/Black Mountains Archaeology Ltd

Swyddfa Gofrestredig/Registered Office. Unit 23, The Innovation Centre, Festival Drive, Victoria Business Park, Ebbw Vale NP23 8XA

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Gwefan/Web. <https://blackmountainsarchaeology.com/>

Cymdeithasol/Social. <https://twitter.com/bmarchaeology?lang=en-gb>