

Heritage Statement.

Land North and South of National Road, Cilfynydd

On behalf of REWE 2

Date: 17/02/2025 | Pegasus Ref: P22-2733

Document Management.

Version	Date	Author	Checked / Approved by:	Reason for revision
1	22/10/2024	J. Henderson Principal Heritage Consultant	L. Garcia Senior Director – Heritage	
2	17/02/2025	J. Henderson Principal Heritage Consultant	L. Garcia Senior Director – Heritage	Updated inline with RLB

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. Pegasus Group have been commissioned by REWE 2 to prepare a Heritage Statement in relation to the proposed installation of battery storage units and with associated infrastructure, Earthworks including on-site substation, access, drainage, landscaping and underground cable route connection at Land North and South of National Road, Cilfynydd, as shown on the Site Location Plan in plate 1 below.



Plate 1: Site Location Plan.

- 1.2. The Site is not located within a Conservation Area, or Historic Landscape, nor are there any designated historic assets located within the bounds of the Site. There are, a

number of designated historic assets within the wider surrounds.

- 1.3. The aims of the Heritage Statement are:

- To assess any contribution that the Site makes to the heritage significance of proximate designated historic assets; and
- To identify any harm or benefit to known and potential historic assets, which may result from the implementation of the development proposals, along with the level of any harm caused if relevant.

- 1.4. These objectives are in line with Sections 6.1.9 and 6.1.26 of the Welsh Planning Policy Wales, Edition 12, Chapter 6 (February 2024; PPW12), which provide that:

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

"Where archaeological remains are known to exist or there is a potential for them to survive, an application should be accompanied by sufficient information, through desk-based assessment and/or field evaluation, to allow a full understanding of the impact of the proposal on the significance of the remains...."

- 1.5. This Heritage Desk-Based Assessment has been informed by the Standard and guidance published by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014).

2. Proposed Development

2.1. The proposed Site comprises the installation of a battery storage facility with associated infrastructure, including substation, access, drainage and landscaping and underground cable route connection. The facility will mainly comprise of the following components:

- 71 inverter/transformer stations;
- 142 battery containers;
- 7 auxiliary transformers;
- Access tracks;
- Substation;
- Underground cable connection;
- 3 spare parts containers; and,
- Associated infrastructure.

2.2. The lifespan of the scheme is anticipated to be 40 years from energisation at which point all infrastructure associated with the scheme would be removed. Therefore, this is a temporary, though long-term scheme with any identified adverse effects upon setting fully reversible upon the end of the operational period.

2.3. The proposals are detailed on the following plans which form the application package and which this assessment considers:

- WIN-BES-02-DR-01-01-01
- WIN-SOL-02-DR-03-01-01

2.4. **Section 6** of this report presents an analysis of the impact of the proposed development on identified historic assets.

3. Site Description and Planning History

Site Description

- 3.1. The Site comprises a number of areas of agricultural land totalling 24ha in area c. 270m apart with the non designated Trefechan farm and cottages to the south west of both areas and National Road running between them. The Site is predominantly pastoral land divided by hedges and wire and post fences.
- 3.2. A proposed cable route extends for c. 600m, via a cable corridor, allowing for an agreed route of minimised impacts, through the fields to the north east of the proposed BESS development connecting to Ciliynydd Substation as shown on plate 2.

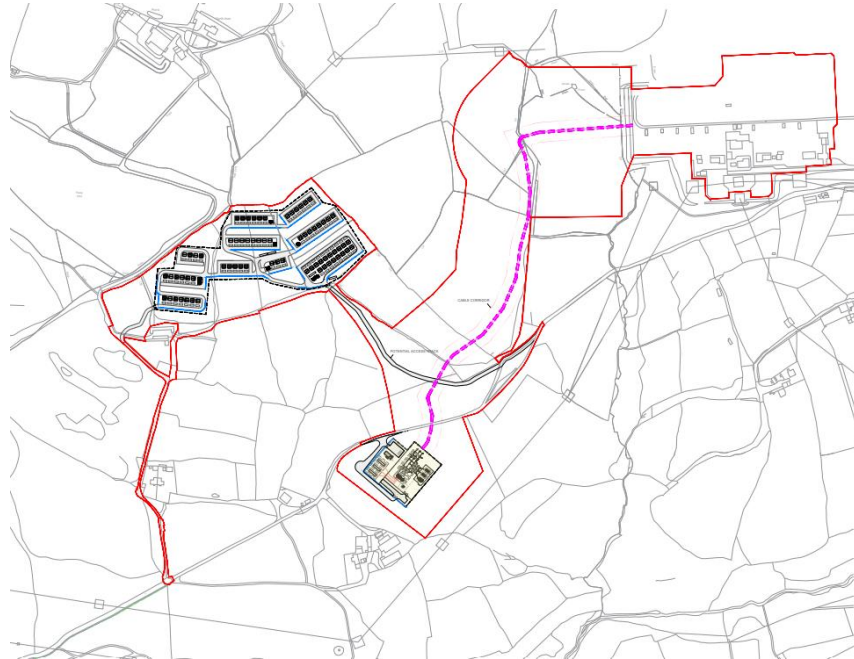


Plate 2: Proposed site plan detailing the location of the battery storage site with associated cabling.

Planning History

- 3.3. No previous planning applications relating to the Site have been identified within the site boundaries.
- 3.4. Immediately south of site at its closest permission has been granted for 14 wind turbines with associated infrastructure (22/1272/DNS) the closest of these turbines is approximately 1.7km south of site at its closest.

4. Methodology

- 4.1. The aims of this Report are to assess the significance of the heritage resource within the Site/ and a 1km study area for non designated assets and 3km study area for designated assets, as agreed with The Glamorgan- Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) and Cadw, to assess any contribution that the Site makes to the heritage significance of the identified historic assets, and to identify any harm or benefit to them which may result from the implementation of the development proposals, along with the level of any harm caused, if relevant.

- 4.2. This assessment considers potential impacts on designated historic assets within the surrounds of the Site, via a change in setting.

Sources

- 4.3. The following key sources have been consulted as part of this assessment:
- Cadw data regarding designated historic assets;
 - GGAT's Historic Environment Record (HER) data;
 - Historic Tithe and Ordnance Survey maps from the National Library of Wales – available online;
 - Historic aerial photographs within the collections of the Welsh Government Aerial Photography Unit – available online; and

- Google Earth satellite imagery.

Zone of Theoretical Visibility

- 4.4. The Landscape Consultants to the project produced a Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) figure which has been used to assist in the assessment of the scheme. This figure provides an indication of the likely areas within a given study area where the proposed scheme may be visible from. This figure takes into account existing topography only and therefore does not take into account all vegetation or built form and thus presents a worst-case scenario.

- 4.5. The ZTV has been used to identify which heritage assets would not have visibility of the proposed scheme and could therefore be removed from assessment. It is acknowledged that setting is not a purely visual concept so those assets which do not have visibility of the scheme have been checked to ensure there are no historic, functional or other associations between the asset and the Site which could be sensitive to change.

Site Visit

- 4.6. A site visit was undertaken by a Heritage Consultant from Pegasus Group on 8th August 2024, during which the Site and relevant historic assets and their surrounds were assessed. Condition on the assessment date were sunny and dry.

Photographs

- 4.7. Photographs included in the body text of this Report are for illustrative purposes only to assist in the discussions of historic assets, their settings, and views, where relevant. Unless explicitly stated, they are not accurate visual representations of the Site or development proposals, nor do they conform to any standard or guidance i.e., the Landscape Institute Technical Guidance Note 06/19. However, the photographs included are intended to be an honest representation and are taken without the use of a zoom lens or edited, unless stated in the description or caption.

Assessment of Significance

- 4.8. The Welsh Government's *Technical Advice Note 24* defines heritage significance as:

"the sum of the cultural and natural heritage values of a place, often set out in a statement of significance."

- 4.9. Cadw's *Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales* defines significance as deriving from a combination of any, some or all of the following four component values:

- ***Evidential value: deriving from the potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity;***
- ***Historic value: deriving from the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present;***

- ***Aesthetic value: deriving from the ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place; and***
- ***Communal value: deriving from the meaning of a place for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory.***

- 4.10. This approach allows for a detailed and justifiable determination of significance and the values from which that significance derives.

- 4.11. In relation to designated historic assets, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas are designated for their special architectural and historic interest, while Scheduled Monuments are primarily (but not exclusively) designated for their archaeological interest, i.e. their evidential value.

Setting and significance

- 4.12. Setting is defined in TAN24 as:

"the surroundings in which [an historic asset] is understood, experienced, and appreciated embracing past and present relationships to the surrounding landscape. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surrounding evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect [the] ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral."

- 4.13. Setting can thus contribute to, detract from or have a neutral effect upon significance. In addition, whilst a physical or visual connection between a historic asset

and its setting will often exist, it is not essential or determinative.

4.14. Of particular relevance, TAN24 further provides that:

"setting is not a historic asset in its own right but has value derived from how different elements may contribute to the significance of a historic asset."

4.15. As such, any impacts will be described in terms of how they affect the significance of a historic asset, and any heritage values that contribute to that significance, through changes to setting.

Settings assessment methodology

4.16. Settings assessments will be undertaken in accordance with industry-standard methodology provided by Cadw's *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales*. This guidance promotes a 'staged' (iterative) approach, as follows:

- ***Stage 1: Assess which assets would be affected and identify their setting;***
- ***Stage 2: Define and analyse the settings to understand how they contribute to the significance of the historic assets and, in particular, the ways in which the assets are understood, appreciated and experienced¹;***

¹ The guidance includes a (non-exhaustive) check-list of elements that may contribute to a historic asset through setting including: functional and physical relationships, topographic features, physical surroundings, original layout, buried or archaeological elements, views to/from/across, formal or planned vistas, prominence, views associated with aesthetic / functional / ceremonial purposes, historical /

- ***Stage 3: Assess the effects of the proposed development, whether beneficial or harmful, on that significance or on the ability to appreciate it;***

- ***Stage 4: Consider options to mitigate or improve the potential impact of a proposed change or development on that significance.***

4.17. Levels of significance

4.18. Under TAN24, an 'historic asset' is defined as:

"An identifiable component of the historic environment. It may consist of or be a combination of an archaeological site, a historic building or area, historic park and garden or a parcel of historic landscape. Nationally important historic assets will normally be designated."

4.19. Designated historic assets include World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites and Conservation Areas². Registered historic assets include Registered Historic Parks and Gardens and Registered Historic Landscapes. Listed Buildings are designated in three grades as follows:

- ***Grade I – buildings of exceptional, usually national interest.***

artistic / literary / place name / cultural / scenic associations, noise, smell, tranquillity / remoteness / wildness.

² TAN 24: Appendix

- ***Grade II* – particularly important buildings of more than special interest.***
- ***Grade II – buildings of special interest which warrant every effort being made to preserve them.***

- 4.20. Registered Parks and Gardens are also registered Grade I, II* or II, depending on their comparative significance. In a similar way, Historic Landscapes are registered as either 'outstanding' or 'special'.
- 4.21. Archaeological remains that are not designated may still be nationally important, i.e. of a significance commensurate to a Scheduled Monument, these are referred to as non-scheduled nationally important archaeological remains.
- 4.22. Other historic assets include those of special local interest and non-designated historic assets of less than national importance.

Assessment of harm

- 4.23. Potential development effects (impacts) upon the significance of known and potential historic assets

identified within the Site have been determined with reference to 'harm' and/or 'benefit', consistent with PPW12.

- 4.24. The identification of harm would apply where the proposals would be anticipated to reduce an historic asset's significance. An attempt is made to qualify more precisely the level of any identified harm, taking into account the significance of the asset affected and the nature of any impact.
- 4.25. The identification of benefits would apply where the proposals would be anticipated to enhance (i.e. increase) significance. It is also possible that the proposed Site would cause no harm or that they would preserve significance.
- 4.26. The assessments of the proposed Site effects have been undertaken in accordance with a robust methodology, formulated within the context of current best practice, relevant policy provisions, and key professional guidance.

5. Policy Framework

Legislation

- 5.1. Legislation relating to the built historic environment is primarily set out within the Historic Environment Wales Act 2023, which provides statutory protection for Listed Buildings and their settings and Conservation Areas.³
- 5.2. Full details of the relevant legislation are provided in **Appendix 2**.

National Planning Policy Guidance

Planning Policy Wales, Edition 12 (February 2024)

- 5.3. National policy is set out within the Welsh Government's Planning Policy Wales, Edition 12 (PPW12). PPW12 Chapter 6 deals with the historic environment and its contribution to the Welsh Government's seven well-being goals for a sustainable Wales. PPW12 emphasises that the positive management of change in the historic environment is based on a full understanding of the nature and significance of historic assets and the recognition of the benefits that they can deliver in a vibrant culture and economy.
- 5.4. Full details of the relevant national policy guidance is provided within **Appendix 2**.

Technical Advice Note 24

³ UK Public General Acts, Historic Environment Wales Act 2023

- 5.5. Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (TAN24) provides a detailed supplement to PPW12, and as such is consistent with those national policies. It contains detailed guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan preparation and decision making on planning and listed building consent applications. It replaces Welsh Office Circulars 60/96, 61/96, and 1/98.

The Development Plan

- 5.6. Planning applications within Rhondda Cynon Taf will be considered against the 2011 Local Development Plan⁵ (LDP) as well as Rhondda Cynon Taf's Supplementary Planning Guidance: The Historic Built Environment (March 2011)⁶. Planning Guidance: The Historic Built Environment (March 2011)⁷.
- 5.7. The development boundary also includes a portion of land within the boundary of Caerphilly County with planning applications considered against the Adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan

⁵ <https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Resident/PlanningandBuildingControl/LocalDevelopmentPlans/RelateddocumentsLDP20062021/AdoptedLocalDevelopmentPlan.pdf>

⁶ <https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Resident/PlanningandBuildingControl/LocalDevelopmentPlans/RelateddocumentsSupplementaryplanningGuidanc/TheHistoricBuiltEnvironmentSPG.pdf>

⁷ <https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Resident/PlanningandBuildingControl/LocalDevelopmentPlans/RelateddocumentsSupplementaryplanningGuidanc/TheHistoricBuiltEnvironmentSPG.pdf>

- 5.1. Full details of the relevant local policy guidance is provided within **Appendix 2**.

6. The Historic Environment

- 6.1. This section provides a review of the recorded heritage resource within the Site and its vicinity in order to identify any extant heritage assets within the Site and to assess the potential for below-ground archaeological remains.
- 6.2. Designated heritage assets are referenced using their five-digit NHL number or the prefix GM, HER 'event' numbers have the prefix EOO and HER 'monument' numbers have the prefix GGAT.
- 6.3. A gazetteer of relevant heritage data is included as Appendix 1. Designated heritage assets and HER records are illustrated on Figure 2 in Appendix 2.

Previous Archaeological Works

- 6.4. A geophysical survey was carried out over the site in January 2024, the results of this are discussed below where relevant.
- 6.5. Desk-based assessments have been carried out as part of the Aberthaw to Upper Boat to Cilfynydd, Overhead Electricity Line project by AMEC Earth and Environment and Uplands Survey East Glamorgan by Trsor covering the Site. Neither of these identified any new assets within the Site.

Topography and Geology

- 6.6. The Site is predominantly comprised of agricultural land used for sheep grazing and sits between 238m aOD in the north and 150m aOD in the south west.
- 6.7. The recorded bedrock geology of the site consists of Hughes Member – Mudstone, siltstone and sandstone. Sedimentary bedrock. The superficial geology consists of Till, Devensian.⁸
- 6.8. The soils covering the Site comprise of a freely draining acid loamy soils over rock.⁹

Archaeological Baseline

Prehistoric (pre-43 AD)

- 6.9. There are no records of prehistoric assets within the Site boundaries. The Sites wider environs to the south contains records for prehistoric assets, comprised predominantly of Bronze Age cairns and ridge dykes with these features located along ridge lines and hill tops in the area.

⁸ British Geological Survey, *Geology of Britain Viewer*, <https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/geology-of-britain-viewer/>.

⁹ Cranfield University, *Soilscapes*, <http://www.landis.org.uk/soilscapes/>.

6.10. Throughout the prehistoric period the known sites in the south Wales area show a distinction between settlements in the lowlands with funerary practices and displays of wealth on areas of high ground. This was noted to extend to dykes and other boundary features demarcating territories, though it is acknowledged that preservation bias and the latter reuses of these boundaries may hamper their survival in lowland areas which have undergone a greater level of redevelopment.

Romano-British (AD 43 – 410)

6.11. There are no Roman assets within the Site boundaries. The wider study area contains one known Roman asset, a find spot for a Roman coin of unknown date.

6.12. Research in the southeast Wales has previously focused on major Roman settlements and military sites leading to an under representation of the areas rural economies, however there was also a reliance on imported grain from the south of England highlighting the limited nature of Roman rural settlement in this area.

Early medieval – Medieval (410 AD – 1539)

6.13. There are no known heritage assets from the early medieval period or Medieval periods within the Site or the wider study area.

6.14. Across the wider southwest region, land uses are poorly understood outside of the Bristol Channel areas in early Medieval times, with this lack of research in the valleys extending into the Medieval period.

Post-medieval – present (1540 – present)

6.15. There is one Post-medieval asset recorded within the Sites boundaries (GGATO2203m) which is the Site of a now demolished Post-medieval domestic building. This asset sits outside the proposed location for any battery storage units or associated infrastructure and is therefore unlikely to be disturbed by construction.

6.16. The Sites wider environs contain assets associated with the agricultural economy of the area such as steadings, field boundaries and quarries (GGATO2220m, GGATO2302m, GGATO2198m, GGATO1853m, GGAT10256m, GGAT10255m, GGATO1384m, GGATO4878m and GGATO4875m).

6.17. There has been little research into land uses in the Post-medieval to modern periods with typologies for field boundary types in the area still to be established however the Site does not sit in an area considered of high potential for further landscape studies.

6.18. The proposed Site has comprised pastoral land from at least the late-19th century through to the present day. The 1842 Tithe Map shows the area as agricultural land with National Road on a straighter alignment than its current route.

6.19. The 1885 OS map shows National Road on its current alignment with a quarry now present to its south, in the Sites southern parcels northern extents. Trefechan Quarry was later shown reclaimed as agricultural land on the 1978 OS map (Plates 3–6).

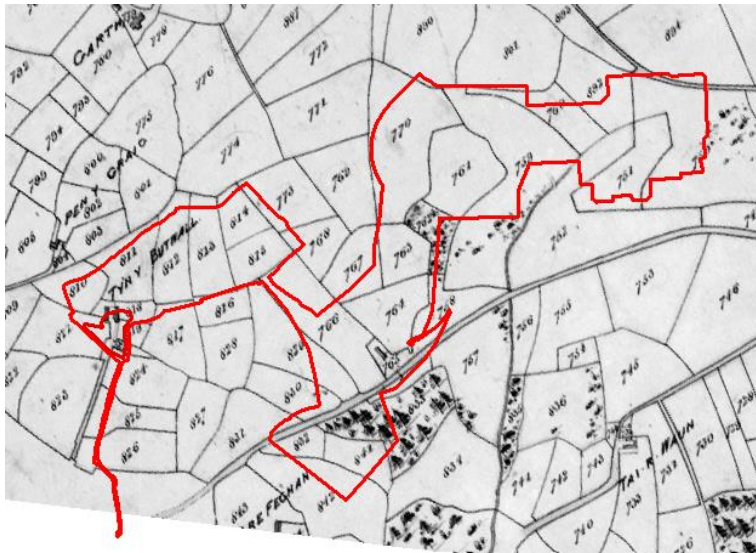


Plate 3: 1842 Llanvabon in the County of Glamorgan (c)
National Library of Wales

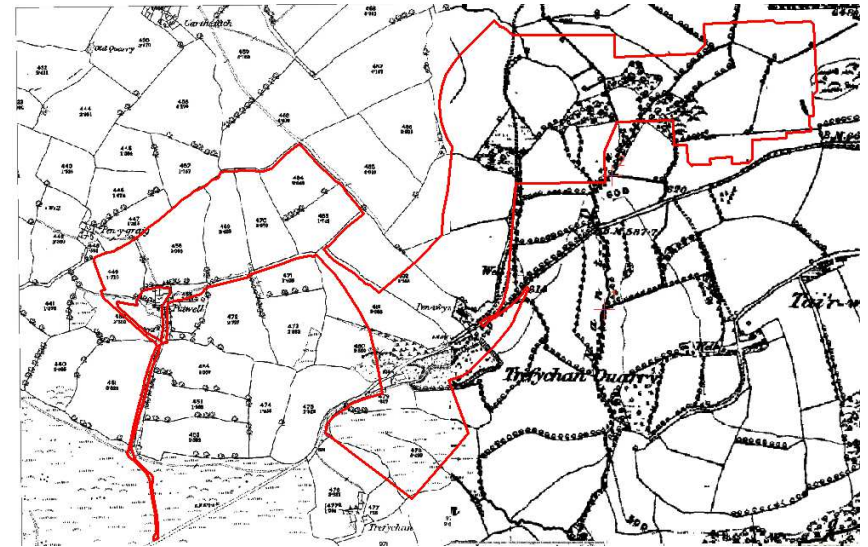


Plate 4: Extract from 1885 OS Map

Statement of Archaeological Potential and Significance

- 6.20. The geophysical survey revealed little of archaeological potential with potential paleochannels and field boundaries with quarrying activity leaving much of the southern portion of the site.¹⁰

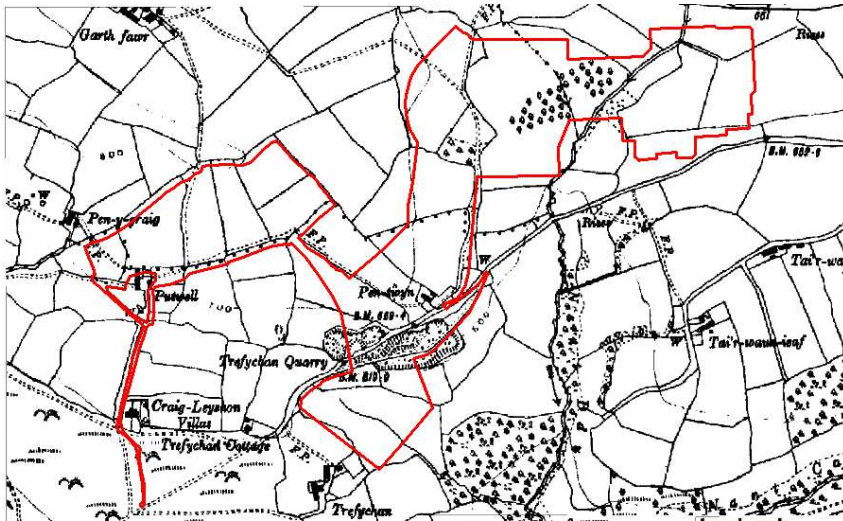


Plate 5: Extract from 1921 OS map

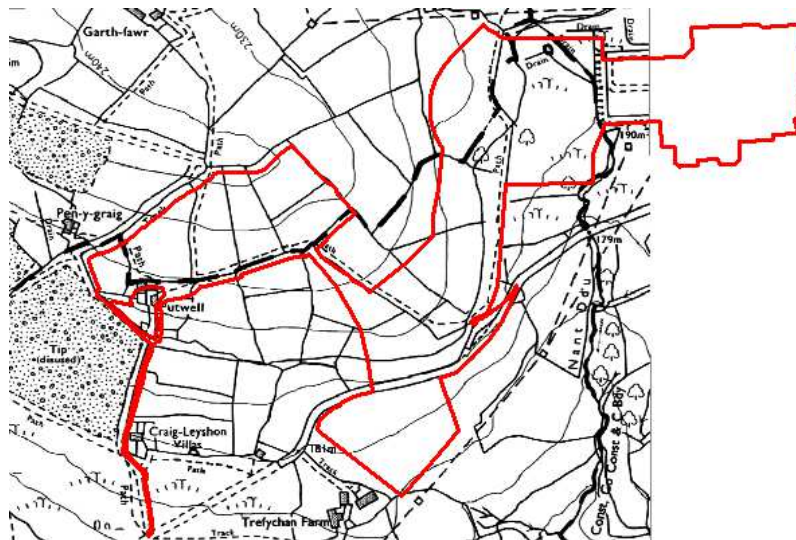


Plate 6: Extract from 1978 OS map

¹⁰ Ailen Archaeology (2023)

7. Setting Assessment

7.1. The proposed Site may adversely impact historic assets where they remove a feature that contributes to the significance of a historic asset or where they interfere with an element of a historic asset's setting that contributes to its significance, such as interrupting a key relationship or a designed view.

7.2. In line with guidance issued by Cadw, consideration was made as to whether any of the designated historic assets within a 3km radius of the Site include the Site as part of their setting and therefore may be affected by the proposed Site.

Stage 1

7.3. Stage 1 of the methodology recommended by Cadw's guidance *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (see Section 2 above) is to identify which assets and their settings might be affected by a proposed development.

7.4. All designated historic assets within a 3km radius of the Site have been considered, and are listed in Appendix 1 and illustrated on Figure 1. These assets are comprised of:

- Four Grade II* Listed Buildings;
- 17 Grade II Listed Buildings; and
- Eight Scheduled monuments.

Listed Buildings

7.5. The significance of each of the identified Listed Buildings is derived principally from the special architectural and historic interest of their built form and fabric, with elements of setting making a lesser contribution.

7.6. The ZTV highlighted the following four Listed Buildings are located on the boundaries of the ZTV of the site;

- Pen-y-waun (24824), Grade II Listed Building, c. 2.7km north east of the Site (excluding cable route);
- Church of St Mabon (24825), Grade II Listed Building, c. 1km north east of the Site (excluding cable route);
- Berthlwyd (80906), Grade II Listed Building, c. 2.3km north east of the Site (excluding cable route); and
- Albion Colliery Disaster Memorial (82672), Grade II Listed Building, c. 1km north east of the Site (excluding cable route).

7.7. The site visit found that despite the above listed buildings existing within the ZTV none had a direct line of sight to the proposed scheme. The ZTV indicates a worst case scenario only, with the site visit finding that, existing mature foliage across the wider landscape, the distances of the assets from the Site and the existing substation

and associated pylons that the Site presented no impact to the setting of these assets (see Appendix 5).

7.8. No historic or functional association was noted between the Site and any of the surrounding listed buildings and therefore it is considered that the Site did not form part of the setting of these assets.

7.9. Therefore, no changes are anticipated to the listed buildings or their setting as a result of the proposed scheme.

Scheduled Monuments

7.10. The significance of each of the identified Scheduled Monuments is derived predominantly from the evidential and historic values of their above- and below-ground archaeological deposits. Their topographical and geographical position, association with and/or intervisibility with similar assets, and views towards and from them, may contribute to their significance but to a lesser degree than the intrinsic value of their physical remains.

7.11. The ZTV highlighted the following 2 Scheduled Monuments were located on the boundaries of the ZTV of the site;

- Prehistoric Rock Art at Tai'r Waun Isaf (GM637), c. 350m west of the Site (excluding cable route); and
- Cairnfield on Mynydd Eglwysilan (GM352) c. 1.8km south of the Site (excluding cable route).

7.12. The site visit carried out found that because of the screening provided by the mature woodlands forming field boundaries in the vicinity of the scheme, the distance from the Site, the presence of the substation and associated pylons, no historic association was noted between the Site and these scheduled monuments. Therefore, the Site is not considered to form part of the setting of these monuments.

7.13. There would, therefore, be no change arising from the proposed scheme.

Cumulative effects

7.14. As no change is anticipated to the setting of the above assets, when viewed in combination with the impacts of the consented site 22/1272/DNS there would be no cumulation to the impacts on the assets.

8. Conclusions

- 8.1. There are no designated historic assets within the Site, nor is the Site located within a Conservation Area.
- 8.2. The geophysical survey revealed little to no potential for substantial known archaeology to exist within the site boundaries with those features uncovered likely relating to historic field boundaries, possible paleochannel and mining activities.
- 8.3. With regard to designated historic assets within the surrounds of the Site, on-site assessment and professional judgment has been utilised to determine if the scheme would result in a change that would impact upon the overall heritage significance of such assets, via a change in setting.
- 8.4. The ZTV highlighted that four Grade II Listed buildings and two scheduled monuments were within the ZTV of the site or on its boundaries with a site visit carried out to assess any potential impacts the site may have on the assets setting.
- 8.5. The ZTV for the site presents a worst case scenario with the site visit finding that due to the established woodlands across the area and the existing substations and associated overhead pylons, the Site would not impact upon any assets overall heritage significance. Such conclusions are derived from the assessment as to how the setting of an asset may contribute to its significance, intervening distance and the level of perceptibility of the proposals.
- 8.6. The proposals are thus in accordance with the Historic Environment Wales Act 2023, along with national and local policies.

Appendix 1: Gazetteer

HER Event Data

Ev UID	Name	Event Type
E006005	Uplands West Glamorgan	Field Survey
E005468	Aberthaw - Upper Boat - Cilfynydd	Desk Based Assessment
E005916	Llwynceilyn Farm, Porth, Rhondda Cynon Taf	Desk Based Assessment

HER Monument Data

Mon UID	Pref Ref	Name	Mon Type	Period
GGATO3253m	GGATO3253m	FID-GELYN	Coin	Roman
GGATO1384m	GGATO1384m	CWM ELDEG	House	Post Medieval
GGATO1682.0s	GGATO1682.0s	GLAMORGANSHIRE CANAL	Canal	Post Medieval

GGATO1853m	GGATO1853m	PANT-DU	House	Post Medieval
GGATO2198m	GGATO2198m	LLECHWENLYDAN	House	Post Medieval
GGATO2203m	GGATO2203m	PUTWELL	House	Post Medieval
GGATO2220m	GGATO2220m	GARTH FAWR FARM	Farm	Post Medieval
GGATO2302m	GGATO2302m	Trefychen House	House	Post Medieval
GGATO4873m	GGATO4873m	FFYNNON RHINGYLL	Field boundary	Post Medieval
GGATO4874m	GGATO4874m	FFYNNON RHINGYLL	Trackway	Post Medieval
GGATO4875m	GGATO4875m	FFYNNON RHINGYLL	Field boundary	Post Medieval
GGATO4876m	GGATO4876m	FFYNNON RHINGYLL	Sheep crawl	Post Medieval
GGATO4877m	GGATO4877m	FFYNNON RHINGYLL	Field boundary	Post Medieval
GGATO4878m	GGATO4878m	FFYNNON RHINGYLL	Level	Post Medieval
GGATO4879m	GGATO4879m	FFYNNON RHINGYLL	Trackway	Post Medieval
GGAT10255m	GGAT10255m	Quarry, Cilfynydd	QUARRY	Post Medieval
GGAT10256m	GGAT10256m	Lower Cwm-eldeg, Cilfynydd	BUILDING	Post Medieval

SOO415706811	SOO415706811	Glamorganshire Canal	Canal	Post Medieval
2422	2422	Old coal level	Mining feature	Post Medieval
3471	3471	Sluice & Weir	Sluice	Post Medieval
GGAT07167g	GGAT07167g	Quarry, Devauden	Quarry	Modern
GGAT07930m	GGAT07930m	Welsh regimental War memorial, Pontypridd	War memorial	Modern

Cadw Data

Cadw Listed Buildings

List Entry	Name	Grade	Eastings	Northings
11514	Quakers Yard Railway Viaduct	II*	308853	196473
13574	Handball Court	II	311312	195638
15669	Lock House	II	309009	195995
21960	Parc Mawr, with attached stable and barn	II	310987	191054
24824	Pen-y-waun	II	312429	194520
24825	Church of St Mabon	II	310837	193843

24826	War Memorial	II	311346	195555
24848	White Bridge (also known as Berw Bridge)	II*	307749	191043
24849	Taff Vale Railway Viaduct over River Taff	II	307805	191072
24853	Railway Viaduct over Nant Clydach (partly in Abercynon Community)	II	308005	192810
24854	Cilfynydd War Memorial	II	308767	192737
24889	Railway Bridge over Graig-yr-Hesg Road, including integral stone drainage channel	II	307560	191070
80761	Memorial Clock	II	308183	194989
80762	Road bridge over Nant Clydach	II	308051	192861
80763	Taff Vale Railway Bridge at Abercynon	II	308352	194911
80764	Taff Vale Railway bridge over Cwm Clydach	II	308000	192826
80906	Berthlwyd	II	309775	196064
80907	Greenfield Bridge, Penydarren Tramroad	II*	309024	196544
80910	Victoria Bridge, Penydarren Tramroad	II*	309423	196281
81031	Taff Vale Railway bridge over Cwm Clydach (partly in Abercynon Community)	II	307996	192825

82672	Albion Colliery Disaster Memorial	II	310774	193882
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Cadw Scheduled Monuments

List Entry	Name	Site Type	Eastings	Northings
GM359	Merthyr Tramroad: Pont y Gwaith section and associated bridges	Trackway	308148	197724
GM452	Cross Ridge Dyke & Earthwork on Cefn Eglwysilan	Cross Ridge Dyke	309987	190248
GM302	Carneddi Llwydion	Round Cairn	310507	192003
GM352	Cairnfield on Mynydd Eglwysilan	Round Cairn	311541	192277
GM456	Cross Ridge Dyke & Cairn on Twyn Hywel	Cross Ridge Dyke	310070	191111
GM462	Garnedd Lwyd	Round Cairn	310730	190375
GM628	Prehistoric Rock Art on Mynydd Eglwysilan Common	Cup Marked Stone	310797	192437
GM637	Prehistoric Rock Art at Tai'r Waun Isaf	Cup Marked Stone	310225	193477

Appendix 2: Policy Framework

Legislation

Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023 (November 2024)

The *Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023* came into full effect on 4th November 2024. It superseded the *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979* and the *Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990* as the legislative framework for the management and protection of Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas in Wales.

Part 2 of HEWA relates to Scheduled Monuments. Works affecting Scheduled Monuments must be authorised by way of Scheduled Monument Consent, and Chapter 3 provides full details of this. There is no duty, however, to have regard to the setting of a Scheduled Monument.

Part 3 of HEWA relates to Listed Buildings. Works affecting Listed Buildings must be authorised by way of Listed Building Consent, and decision-making requires consideration not only of the physical asset itself but of its setting. Section 96(2) states:

“In considering whether to grant listed building consent, a planning authority or the Welsh Ministers must have special regard to the desirability of preserving—

(a) the listed building to which the application relates,

(b) the setting of the building, and

(c) any features of special architectural or historic interest the building possesses.”

Part 4 of HEWA relates to Conservation Areas. Decision-making requires consideration only of the character and appearance of the Conservation Area and not its setting. Section 160(1) states:

“In exercising a planning function in relation to a building or other land in a conservation area, a person must have special regard to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of that area.”

National Planning Policy Guidance

Planning Policy Wales, Edition 12 (February 2024)

National policy is set out within the Welsh Government's Planning Policy Wales, Edition 12 (PPW12). PPW12 Chapter 6 deals with the historic environment and its contribution to the Welsh Government's seven well-being goals for a sustainable Wales. PPW12 emphasises that the positive management of change in the historic environment is based on a full understanding of the nature and significance of historic assets and the recognition of the benefits that they can deliver in a vibrant culture and economy.

Paragraph 6.1.5 of PPW12 provides that:

“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... 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.”

Paragraph 6.1.6 sets out the Welsh Government's specific objectives for the historic environment as follows:

Protect the Outstanding Universal Value of the World Heritage Sites;

Conserve archaeological remains, both for their own sake and for their role in education, leisure and the economy;

Safeguard the character of historic buildings and manage change so that their special architectural and historic interest is preserved;

Preserve or enhance the character or appearance of Conservation Areas, while at the same time helping them remain vibrant and prosperous;

Preserve the special interest of sites on the register of historic parks and gardens; and

Protect areas on the register of historic landscapes in Wales.

In relation to the setting of Listed Buildings, paragraph 6.1.10 provides that:

“There should be a general presumption in favour of the preservation or enhancement of a listed building and its setting, which might extend beyond its curtilage. For any development proposal affecting a listed building or its setting, the primary material consideration is the statutory requirement to have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building, its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses.”

In relation to Conservation Areas, Paragraph 6.1.14 provides that:

“There should be a general presumption in favour of the preservation or enhancement of the character or appearance of conservation areas or their settings. Positive management of conservation areas is necessary if their character or appearance are to be preserved or enhanced and their heritage value is to be fully realised.”

In relation to Historic Parks & Gardens, Paragraphs 6.1.18 and 6.1.19 provide that:

“Planning authorities should value, protect, conserve and enhance the special interest of parks and gardens and their settings included on the register of historic parks and gardens in Wales. The register should be taken into account in planning authority decision making.

“The effect of a proposed development on a registered park or garden, or its setting, is a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.”

In relation to archaeological remains, paragraphs 6.1.23–6.1.25 provide as follows:

“The conservation of archaeological remains and their settings is a material consideration in determining planning applications, whether those remains are a scheduled monument or not.

Where nationally important archaeological remains are likely to be affected by proposed development, there should be a presumption in favour of their physical protection in situ. It will only be in exceptional circumstances that planning permission will be granted if development would result in direct adverse impact on a scheduled monument (or an archaeological site shown to be of national importance) or has a demonstrably and unacceptably damaging effect upon its setting.

In cases involving less significant archaeological remains, planning authorities will need to weigh the relative importance of the archaeological remains and their settings against other factors, including the need for the proposed development.”

Technical Advice Note 24

Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (TAN24) provides a detailed supplement to PPW12, and as such is consistent with those national policies. It contains detailed guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan preparation and decision making on planning and listed building consent applications. It replaces Welsh Office Circulars 60/96, 61/96, and 1/98.

Local Planning Policy and Guidance

Planning applications within Rhondda Cynon Taf will be considered against the 2011 Local Development Plan¹⁶ (LDP) as well as Rhondda Cynon Taf's Supplementary Planning Guidance: The Historic Built Environment (March 2011)¹⁷.

The LDPs Policy AW 7 – relates to historic assets and archaeology

Policy AW 7 – Protection and Enhancement of the Built Environment

Development proposals which impact upon sites of architectural and / or historical merit and sites of archaeological importance will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that the proposal would preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the site. Development proposals which affect areas of public open space, allotments, public rights of way, bridleways and cycle tracks will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that :-

1. There is a surplus of such facilities in the locality, or;
2. The loss can be replaced with an equivalent or greater provision in the immediate locality; or
3. The development enhances the existing facility.

The Supplementary planning guidance was written to add further context to Policy AW 7 and is a material consideration in preparing planning applications and states that:

Where appropriate, conditions will be placed on planning permissions to ensure the archaeological resource is appropriately surveyed, preserved and recorded. Mitigation measures should also be put in place where appropriate.

The development boundary also includes a portion of land within the boundaries for Caerphilly County with planning applications considered against the Adopted Caerphilly County Borough Local Development Plan¹⁸ which stated that:

The County Borough has considerable potential for the development of recreation, tourism and access based on its natural resources and heritage for both local people and visitors and tourists to the immediate and surrounding area.

¹⁶ <https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Resident/PlanningandBuildingControl/LocalDevelopmentPlans/RelateddocumentsLDP20062021/AdoptedLocalDevelopmentPlan.pdf>

¹⁷ <https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Resident/PlanningandBuildingControl/LocalDevelopmentPlans/RelateddocumentsSupplementaryplanningGuidanc/TheHistoricBuiltEnvironmentSPG.pdf>

¹⁸ <https://www.caerphilly.gov.uk/caerphillydocs/ldp/written-statement.aspx>

Appendix 3: Stage 1 Assessment

The following provides an overview of designated historic assets within 3km study area and beyond where professional judgement has deemed appropriate.

Designated Historic assets Within the 3km Study Area		
Historic assets	SAM/Record Number	Assessment
Quakers Yard Railway Viaduct	11514	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to the Taff Vale railway line and the River Taff. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Handball Court	13574	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to its presence in the centre of Nelson. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Lock House	15669	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting is dominated by mature woodlands on the western bank of the River Taff. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Parc Mawr, with attached stable and barn	21960	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting is derived from the surrounding agricultural buildings and land. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Pen-y-waun	24824	The ZTV places the asset on the boundary of the theoretical visibility of the site. The assets setting is derived from its location in relation to the surrounding agricultural

		building and agricultural land parcel. Because of the wooded boundaries of the road Heol Fawr any views of the site would be highly screened from the asset. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Church of St Mabon	24825	The ZTV places the asset on the boundaries of the theoretical visibility of the of the site. On completion of the schemes site visit it was noted there was no intervisibility between the church and the site due to the mature woodlands surrounding the church with the skyline in the sites direction heavily dominated by pylons associated with the nearby substation. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
War Memorial	24826	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to its presence in the centre of Nelson. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
White Bridge (also known as Berw Bridge)	24848	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to Coed- Pen- Maen and the River Taff. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Taff Vale Railway Viaduct over River Taff	24849	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to Coed- Pen- Maen and the River Taff. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Railway Viaduct over Nant Clydach (partly in Abercynon Community)	24853	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to the Taff Vale railway line and the River Taff. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.

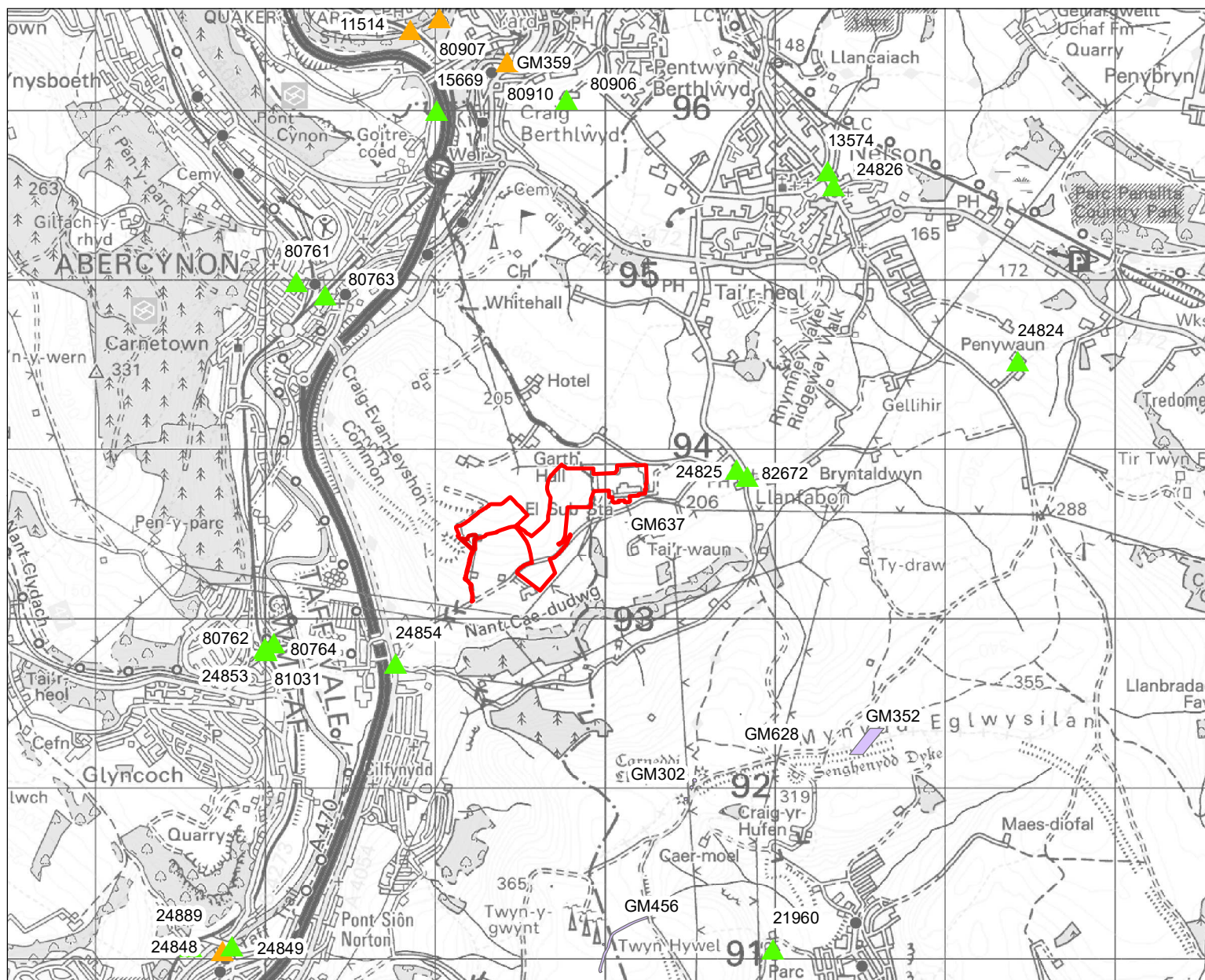
Cilfynydd War Memorial	24854	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting derives from its presence in association with the settlement of Cilfynydd with the site not forming part of the backdrop to the Memorial. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset
Railway Bridge over Graig-yr-Hesg Road, including integral stone drainage channel	24889	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to the Taff Vale railway line. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Memorial Clock	80761	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to its presence in the centre of Abercynon. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Road bridge over Nant Clydach	80762	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates surrounding settlement and other nearby infrastructure. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Taff Vale Railway Bridge at Abercynon	80763	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to the Taff Vale railway line. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Taff Vale Railway bridge over Cwm Clydach	80764	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to the Taff Vale railway line and the surrounding infrastructure. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Berthlwyd	80906	The ZTV places the asset on the boundary of the theoretical visibility of the site. The assets setting is derived from its location in relation to the associated agricultural buildings and agricultural land parcel. Because of the wooded boundaries of the A472 and

		the Cwm Mafon watercourse site would be highly screened from the asset. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset. The site was situated on private land and therefor views to the site could not be fully assessed.
Greenfield Bridge, Penydarren Tramroad	80907	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to the River Taff Vale and the residential developments the bridge connects. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Victoria Bridge, Penydarren Tramroad	80910	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to the River Taff Vale and the residential developments the bridge connects. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Taff Vale Railway bridge over Cwm Clydach (partly in Abercynon Community)	81031	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to the Taff Vale railway line and the surrounding infrastructure. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Albion Colliery Disaster Memorial	82672	The ZTV places the asset on the boundaries of the theoretical visibility of the of the site. On completion of the schemes site visit it was noted there was no intervisibility between the memorial and the site due to the mature woodlands surrounding the graveyard where the memorial is places with the skyline in the sites direction heavily dominated by pylons associated with the nearby substation. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Merthyr Tramroad: Pont y Gwaith section and associated bridges	GM359	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to the River Taff Vale and the residential developments the bridge connects. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.

Cross Ridge Dyke & Earthwork on Cefn Eglwysilan	GM452	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to its contemporary Bronze Age features the dyke demarcates. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Carneddi Llwydion	GM302	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to the landscape overlooked by the cairns. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Cairnfield on Mynydd Eglwysilan	GM352	The ZTV highlights that the cairn field is located on the limits of the theoretical zone of visibility with a portion of the asset out with the ZTV. Its contemporary features are located to its south with a group value associated to these features, the setting of the asset is therefore derives from the interconnected views between these assets. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Cross Ridge Dyke & Cairn on Twyn Hywel	GM456	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to the landscape to the south of the cairns, away from the site. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Garnedd Lwyd	GM462	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to the landscape overlooked by the cairns. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
Prehistoric Rock Art on Mynydd Eglwysilan Common	GM628	The ZTV indicates no intervisibility between the proposed development and the asset. The assets setting relates to its contemporary Bronze Age features and the landscape the cup marked stones overlook to the south, away from the site. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.

Prehistoric Rock Art at Tai'r Waun Isaf	GM637	The ZTV indicates the asset is within the theoretical zone of visibility. On completion of the site visit it was noted that there are mature woodlands along the Nant Ddu watercourse and field boundaries screen the site entirely from the asset with its environs dominated by modern agricultural buildings and overhead pylons meaning none of the assets original setting survives. The Site is not considered to contribute to the significance of this asset, therefore no impacts are anticipated to the asset.
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Appendix 4: Figures



KEY

Listed Buildings Grade

- ▲ II*
- ▲ II
- Scheduled Monuments
- Site Boundary

Revisions:
Third Issue- 05/02/2025 JLH

Figure 1 Desingated Heritage Assets

National Road BESS

Client: REWE 2

DRWG No: P22-2733_HTSheet No: - REV: -

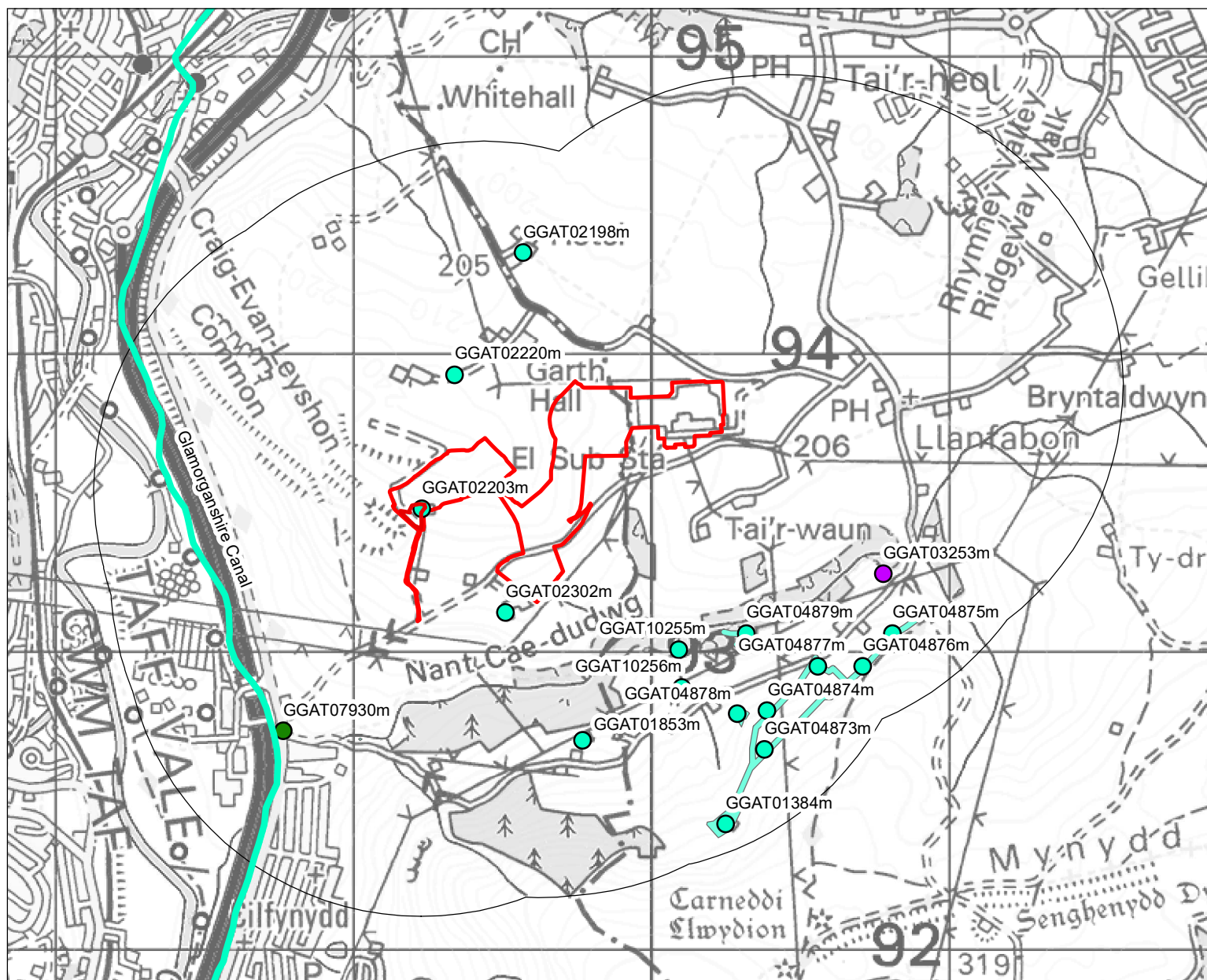
Drawn by: JLH

Approved by: LG

Date: 05/02/2025

Scale: 1:35,000 @ A4

PEGASUS
GROUP



KEY

- Roman
- Post Medieval
- Modern
- 1km buffer
- Site Boundary

Revisions:
Third Issue- 05/02/2025 JLH

Figure 2 Non Designated Heritage Assets

National Road BESS

Client: REWE 2

DRWG No: P22-2733_HTSheet No: - REV: -

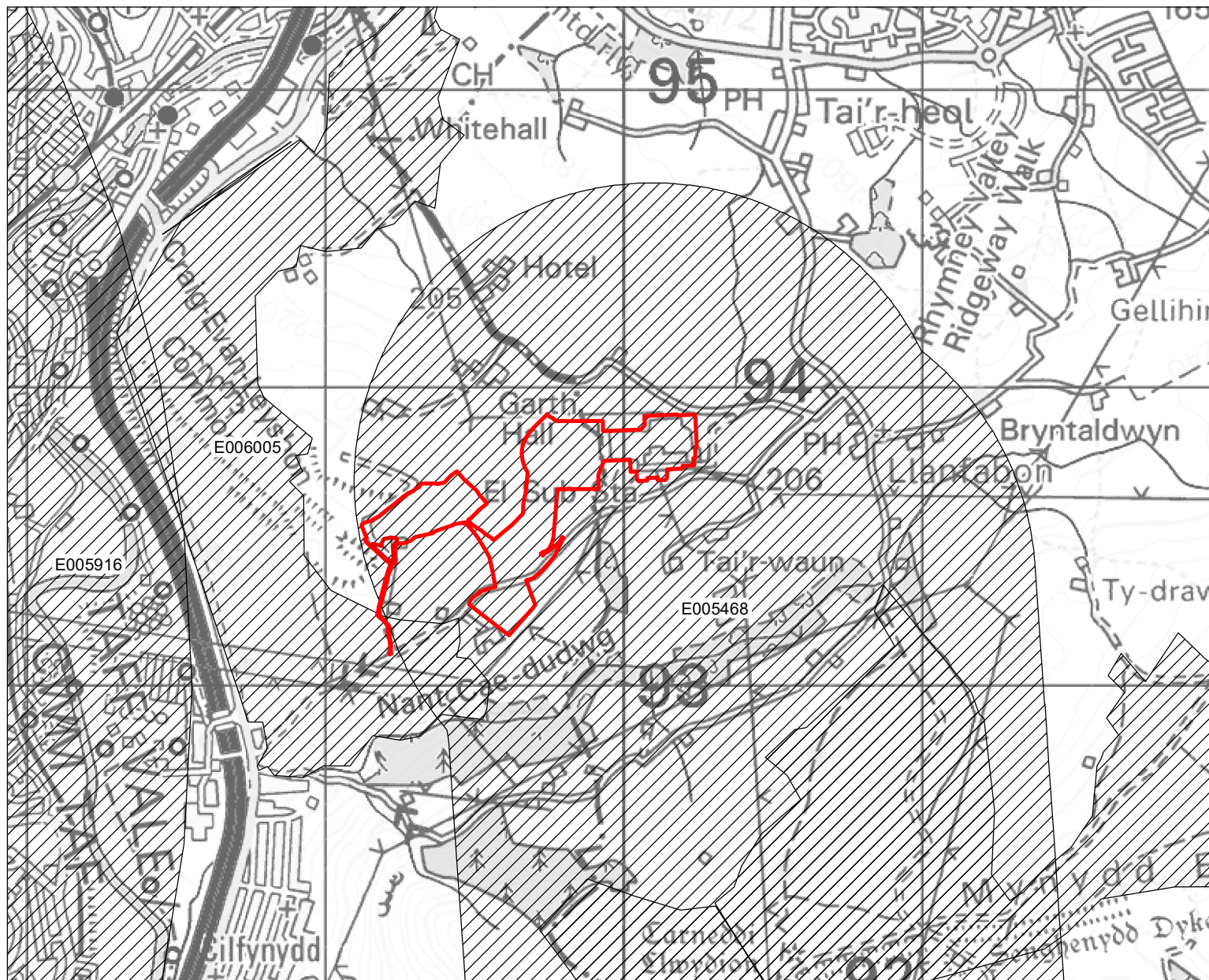
Drawn by: JLH

Approved by: LG

Date: 05/02/2025

Scale: 1:20,000 @ A4

PEGASUS
GROUP



KEY

- Site Boundary
- Events

Revisions:
Third Issue- 05/02/2025

Figure 3 Events

National Road BESS

Client: REWE 2

DRWG No: **P22-2733_HT** Sheet No: - REV: -

Drawn by: JLH

Approved by: LG

Date: 05/02/2025

Scale: 1:20,000 @ A4

PEGASUS
GROUP

Appendix 5: Photos from Site visit



Plate 7: View to site with Prehistoric Rock Art at Tai'r Waun Isaf (GM637) in the foreground with the site c.300m behind the treeline in the background.

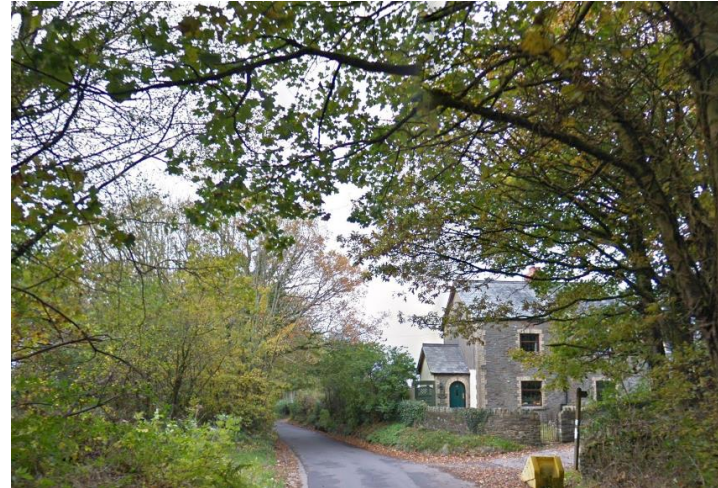


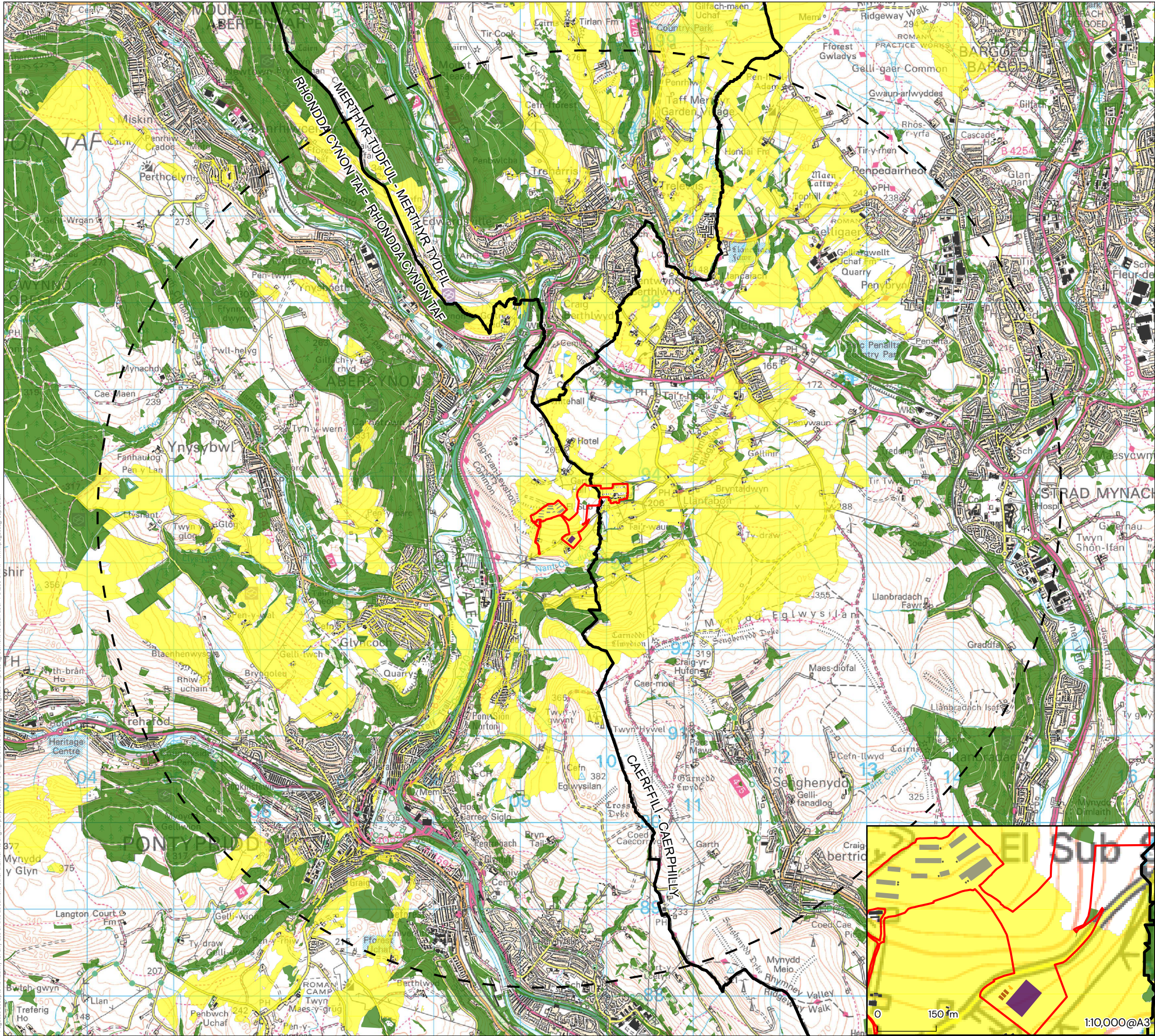
Plate 8: Pen-y-waun (24824) behind the trees to the left with site c.2.7km to the right



Plate 9: View towards site from Church of St Mabon (24825) and the Albion Colliery Disaster Memorial (82672)



Appendix 6: ZTV



- KEY**
- Site Boundary
 - 5km Buffer
 - District Boundary
 - OS Open Map Local Buildings
 - OS Open Map Local Woodland
 - Screened Zone of Theoretical Visibility – Multiple Development Heights

- Site Layout**
- BESS Units & Inverter/Transformer Station (SMA) – 2.9m
 - Auxiliary Transformer – 2.3m
 - Substation & Associated Infrastructure – 12m
 - Control Room – 5.9m
 - Switchgear – 3.1m

NOTES:

Screened ZTV Production Information

- DTM data used in calculations is OS Terrain 5 that has been combined with OS Open Map Local data for woodland and buildings to create a Digital Surface Model (DSM).
- Indicative woodland and building heights are modelled at 15m and 8m respectively.
- Viewer height set at 1.7m (in accordance with para 6.11 of GLVIA Third Edition)
- Calculations include earth curvature and light refraction

N.B. This Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) image illustrates the theoretical extent of where the development may be visible from, assuming 100% atmospheric visibility, and includes the screening effect from vegetation and buildings, based on the assumptions stated above.

SCREENED ZONE OF THEORETICAL VISIBILITY

NATIONAL ROAD BESS			
REWE 2		N ↑ O 1.5 km	
DATE	SCALE	TEAM	APPROVED
17/02/2025	1:45,000@A3	NC/CS	LS
SHEET	REVISION		
-	C		
DRAWING NUMBER			
P22-2733_EN_03			

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Historic Environment Wales Act 2023
Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)
Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

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