



**Mynydd Llanhilleth
Wind Farm**

FINAL DRAFT

**Archaeological and
Heritage Baseline
Assessment**

Prepared by:
**The Environmental Dimension
Partnership Ltd**

On behalf of:
Pennant Walters

August 2024

Report Reference
edp6367_r002e

Document Control

DOCUMENT INFORMATION

Client	Pennant Walters
Report Title	Archaeological and Heritage Baseline Assessment
Document Reference	edp6367_r002e_FINAL DRAFT

VERSION INFORMATION

	Author	Formatted	Peer Review	Proofed by/Date
002_DRAFT	RSk	FMi	ESt	-
002a_DRAFT	RSk	FMi	-	-
002b_DRAFT	RSk	VSk	-	-
002c	RSk	-	-	CLa 211122
002d_FINAL DRAFT	RSk	CTi	CJo	CRo 190824
002e_FINAL DRAFT	RSk	-	-	FMi 300824

DISCLAIMER TEXT

No part of this report may be copied or reproduced by any means without prior written permission from The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd. If you have received this report in error, please destroy all copies in your possession or control and notify The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd.

This report (including any enclosures and attachments) has been prepared for the exclusive use and benefit of the commissioning party and solely for the purpose for which it is provided. No other party may use, make use of or rely on the contents of the report.

We do not accept any liability if this report is used for an alternative purpose from which it is intended, nor to any third party in respect of this report.

Opinions and information provided in the report are those of The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd using due skill, care and diligence in the preparation of the same and no explicit warranty is provided to their accuracy. It should be noted, and it is expressly stated that no independent verification of any of the documents or information supplied to The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd has been made.

Contents

Executive Summary	5
Section 1 Introduction	7
Section 2 Methodology	13
Section 3 Legislation and Planning Guidance	17
Section 4 Archaeological and Historical Overview.....	22
Section 5 Setting Assessment	44
Section 6 Conclusion	99
Section 7 References	102

APPENDICES

Appendix EDP 1 Photographs

Appendix EDP 2 Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation (edp6367_r011)

PLANS

Plan EDP 1: Designated Historic Assets and ZTV Within the Setting Study Area
(edp6367_d099d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 2: HER Monument Records Within the Archaeological Study Area
(edp6367_d100e 30 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 3: NMRW Records Within the Archaeological Study Area
(edp6367_d101d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 4: HER Event Records Within the Archaeological Study Area
(edp6367_d102d 30 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 5: Tithe Maps of the Parish of Llanhilleth (1841) and the Parish of Trevethin (1841)
(edp6367_d105c 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 6: Historic Map: OS 1880 – 1881
(edp6367_d106d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 7: Historic Map: OS 1901
(edp6367_d107d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 8: Historic Map: OS 1920 – 1921
(edp6367_d108d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 9: Historic Map: OS 1964 – 1965
(edp6367_d109c 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 10: Historic Map: OS 1977 – 1979

(edp6367_d110d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 11: Aerial Photograph: RAF 3GTUD_T19 094 3rd August 1945

(edp6367_d111d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 12: Aerial Photograph: OS 63_074 035 31st May 1963

(edp6367_d112d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 13: LiDAR Data

(edp6367_d103c 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 14: Historic Landscape Value Areas

(edp6367_d113d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Executive Summary

- S1 This Archaeology and Heritage Baseline Assessment concludes that the Site does not contain any world heritage sites, scheduled monuments, historic parks and gardens or listed buildings, where there would be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation *in situ*.
- S2 Potential for effects upon the settings of designated historic assets in the wider landscape, whereby significance may be affected, up to a 10km radius have been assessed. It is notable that this assessment does not consider the potential for effects on the Blaenavon Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site (BILWHS), historic assets within the BILWHS, and the Blaenavon Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest (BLOHI) any effect in respect of these assets are considered within a separate Heritage Impact Assessment report (EDP, 2022, edp6367_r017).
- S3 The settings assessment within this report has followed Cadw guidance (2017a) to Stages 1 and 2. This assessment concludes that the majority of historic assets within the 10km radius Settings Study Area (SSA) will not be affected by the Proposed Development. Two scheduled monuments, one Grade II* listed building, one Grade II* Registered Park and Garden and three Grade II listed buildings were assessed at Stage 2 of the process as these were the only assets within the SSA considered to have the potential to receive an effect.
- S4 All of the assets will be fully assessed, as per Stages 3 and 4 of the Cadw assessment process, in the ES Chapter and any impacts upon their significance articulated in that document in respect of planning legislation and policy.
- S5 This assessment also examined the potential for effects on the significance of non-designated historic buildings from change within their settings. In that regard, six non-designated historic buildings were deemed potentially susceptible to an impact from the Proposed Development and any impacts to these will be considered in full within the ES Chapter.
- S6 This assessment also considered the potential for the Site to contain previously unrecorded archaeological remains, with a key consideration being that a large proportion of the Site was subject to opencast coal mining in the mid-20th century. This has resulted in a broad swath of the upland common that lies within the Site being formed of 'made ground' following the mine's remediation. As such, for a large proportion of the Site there are no extant historic assets and no potential for archaeological remains.
- S7 Areas of the Site that were unaffected by the opencast mining primarily contain remains related to the post-medieval and modern landscape such as the remnants of post-medieval agriculture and 19th and 20th century coal mining. Some areas possess a degree of integrity in that they represent areas where the post-medieval landscape is preserved, and several discrete areas of low historic landscape value have been identified.
- S8 Otherwise, the only historic asset that potentially predates the post-medieval period is the alignment of a possible former Roman road which crosses the northern part of the Site and is potentially of moderate heritage significance.

- S9 There is only a low potential for unrecorded archaeological remains dating from any of the pre-medieval periods and in limited areas of the Site. From later periods there is a high potential for buried remains related to agriculture, such as in filled ditches or furrows, or mining, such as pits or tips, that would be of low or very low significance in parts of the Site that were unaffected by opencast mining.
- S10 In conclusion, the assessment has not identified any potential for archaeological remains within the Site that might be of national importance that might constrain the Site's development for wind turbines. The Proposed Development will only affect discrete parts of the Site where the turbines and associated infrastructure will be located. It is anticipated that no non-designated historic assets will be directly affected by the Proposed Development, such that the turbine locations would not need to be archaeologically evaluated. It is deemed that, if required, archaeological mitigation of possible effects on unrecorded archaeological remains from turbines positioned in previously undisturbed areas could be dealt with via an appropriately worded planning condition.

Section 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Archaeological and Heritage Baseline Assessment has been drafted by The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd (EDP) for Pennant Walters (hereafter referred to as 'the client') to support the preparation and submission of a planning application for the proposed Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm (hereafter referred to as 'the Site').
- 1.2 This assessment aims to identify historic environment baseline conditions at the Site, in that its objective is to understand and document the nature, extent, condition and significance of historic assets at and in the vicinity of the Site, and, where relevant, the contribution made to their significance by their settings, including that made by the Site.
- 1.3 This report employs Welsh Government guidance in Planning Policy Wales (PPW) Edition 11 and Technical Advice Note 24 (TAN 24), as well as best practice guidance from Cadw set out in *Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales* (Cadw 2017a) and *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (Cadw 2017b), and makes reference to the *Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties* (ICOMOS, 2011), to investigate these heritage issues and provide a robust evidence base to inform the subsequent assessment of development impacts and the determination of the planning application.

LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION

- 1.4 The Site is centred approximately at National Grid Reference (NGR) 323767 201638 and is illustrated on **Plans EDP 1–14**.
- 1.5 For the purpose of this baseline assessment, the Site comprises seven turbine locations located within a wider area that encompasses related development infrastructure. The majority of this area is located on Mynydd Llanhilleth, a large hill of the Glamorgan Uplands situated between three river valleys, that of the Ebbw and Ebbw Fach to the west, the Glyn to the south and the Lwyd to the east. To the north are further hills to the east of Abertillery.
- 1.6 The Site mainly comprises open mountain upland at and around the peak of Mynydd Llanhilleth and is immediately adjacent to coniferous plantations on the southern side of the hill that are set around former quarry pits. Around the Site's margins, on the lower slopes, are irregular fields representing pastoral farming landscapes at the upland edge.
- 1.7 To the west, south and east streams cut the hillside forming steep sided valleys. These are defined by farms and farmsteads as well as remains related to the area's former industry. The main river valleys to the west, south-west, north-west and east are densely populated with the urban edge of the town of Abertillery located c.1km to the north-west and the edge of the town of Pontypool located c.2km to the east, and with various smaller towns and villages located in the adjacent valleys.

- 1.8 The Site also includes an access track. This follows an existing road to the north-east of the Site which drops down into a steep sided valley at Pant-glas to the west of Abersychan. The road passes the derelict and overgrown site of the former British Ironworks before joining the B4246 at Abersychan.
- 1.9 The Site also includes a grid connection corridor where a buried grid connection cable would be located. This corridor runs east from the Site along the top of the ridge that separates Mynydd Llanhilleth from Byrgwm to the south of an existing Public Right of Way before dropping down south into the Cwm Du valley.

TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 1.10 The highest point in the Site is at the apex of Mynydd Llanhilleth at the north-western edge c.440m above Ordnance Datum (aOD). The north-eastern part of the Site occupies the north side of the steep sided valley of the Nant Ddu with its upper slopes also at c.440 aOD and its lowest point at c.330m aOD.
- 1.11 The eastern part of the Site mainly comprises upland common, forming a plateau that slopes gently to the east although the south-eastern fringe comprises steeply sloping farmland above the deeply incised valley of the Nant Y Caws where the lowest point is at c.350m aOD.
- 1.12 At its centre the Site is adjacent to coniferous plantation and former quarry pits to the south that are now lakes. The Site includes an access track that runs through and around the plantation to link the northern part of the Site with land to the south-west. This part of the Site includes part of an upland common at Cefn Crib at c.380m aOD and steeply sloping farmland on the south-east side of the valley of the Nant Y Cnyw, with its lowest slopes at c.250m aOD, probably the lowest part of the Site.
- 1.13 The western edge of the Site comprises access tracks with the Site ending at the edge of the upland common, above farmland occupying steeply sloping land on the north side of the valley of the Nant Cyffin.
- 1.14 As recorded by the British Geological Survey¹ the bedrock geology at the Site comprises siltstone, mudstone and sandstone of the Hughes and Grovesend Formations. In the northern part of the Site a superficial deposit of Glacial Till is also recorded. Much of the central, eastern and south-eastern parts of the Site are also recorded as possessing an artificial ground surface related to the landscape's historic use for quarrying. The extent of this quarried area is illustrated on the historic map at **Plan EDP 9** and indicated on **Plans EDP 2 and 3**.

¹ <https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/>

THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- 1.15 The Proposed Development is a wind farm consisting of a maximum of seven wind turbines, each with a three-bladed rotor with a diameter of up to 150m, a hub height of up to 122m and maximum height to blade tip of 180m.
- 1.16 The application also comprises associated infrastructure including:
- Access works – improvements to the existing access together with new and improved internal wind farm tracks off the main internal access road;
 - Crane pads at each turbine location;
 - Turbine foundations;
 - Underground power cables linking the turbines and the on-site substation;
 - Temporary construction compounds, laydown, and storage areas; and
 - Grid connection infrastructure, including the on-site substation, control building and underground cables linking the Site to the distribution network, together with construction enabling works.

CONSULTATION

- 1.17 This consultation section is based on consultation responses received as part of the now withdrawn Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm DNS Application (DNS/3273368). These responses have been retained within this resubmission following the removal of Turbine 5 from the development and the minor alteration of the grid connection location as they remain relevant to the assessment and application as a whole. These responses will be updated through the pre-application consultation phase.
- 1.18 Following submission of an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report (2021) a DNS Scoping Direction was issued by the Planning Inspectorate² (3273368: Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm August 2021).
- 1.19 In respect of the historic environment the Inspector commented that: *“The applicant should prepare the ES in accordance with the advice contained in Cadw’s consultation response and the comments received from GGAT in the BGCBC response regarding the carrying out of archaeological work”*.
- 1.20 Cadw’s response was via a letter issued to the Planning Inspectorate on 05 July 2021. In this letter they address a series of questions asked within Chapter 8 Cultural Heritage and Archaeology within the Scoping Report. In summary the responses ascertained the following:

² As of October 2021 the staff and function of Planning inspectorate Wales transferred to Welsh Government becoming Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW).

- a. That the application should consider designated historic assets within a 10km study area around the Site to ascertain any impacts upon their settings in accordance with Cadw setting assessment guidelines (Cadw, 2017a) and that this assessment should be appended to the EIA;
 - b. That the application should include a Heritage Impact Assessment (HIA) in relation to the Blaenavon Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site (BILWHS) which should reference the documents *Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties* (ICOMOS, 2011) and *Managing Change in World Heritage Sites in Wales* (Welsh Government 2017);
 - c. That due to the similar extent of the BILWHS and the Blaenavon Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest (BLOHI), as an HIA is being carried out, an assessment of impacts upon the BLOHI following the ASIDHOL2 methodology (Cadw, 2007) would not also be required;
 - d. That walkover survey is only carried out after the desk-based assessment research has been completed including the study of LiDAR datasets; and
 - e. That a potential need for archaeological evaluation should not be discounted until after the desk-based assessment and walkover are completed.
- 1.21 This present report contains Stages 1 and 2 of the assessment requested at (a) with Stages 3 and 4 detailed in the Environmental Statement at Chapter 7. Item (b) is addressed in a separate report (EDP, 2022, edp6367_r017). The desk-based assessment is also presented in the current report and has followed the methodological suggestion in (d). In accordance with I the present report also concludes with a recommendation on whether further archaeological evaluation is required.
- 1.22 The Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) response, as detailed within a general response from Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council (BGCBC), states the following:
1. That an archaeological desk-based assessment in accordance with the Standards and Guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) is an appropriate response;
 2. That the desk-based assessment will need to be carried out according to a submitted and approved Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI); and
 3. That depending on the results of the DBA, further archaeological works may be required that, depending on the nature of the works may be appropriate to be completed either pre- or post-determination and that are recommended to be carried out by a Registered Organisation (RO) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, or by a full Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCIfA).
- 1.23 The present report contains the archaeological desk-based assessment requested at (1) which has been carried out in accordance with the methodology set out in a WSI agreed with GGAT in April 2022 and which is appended at **Appendix EDP 2**. This WSI was agreed

prior to the following changes to the scheme and thus the report deviates from the WSI in some aspects:

- The Site Study Area referred to in the WSI (as reproduced on the Study Area plan at Appendix EDP 1 of the WSI) is referred to in the current report as the 'Site' and has changed in boundary. The Site boundary is as shown on the figures that accompany this report; and
- The Proposed Development now includes the access track and grid connection and thus these are assessed in the current report. As such the statement at paragraph 1.3 in the WSI is erroneous.

- 1.24 As noted above the report concludes with recommendations regarding the need for and scope of further archaeological work.

Responses to Pre-Application Consultation (PAC)

- 1.25 A further response was received from Cadw following Pre-Application Consultation (PAC). The response dated 18 January 2023, stated that Cadw concur with the conclusions of the ES chapter regarding impacts on designated historic assets and on the BILWHS.
- 1.26 The response also stated a: *"need for more detailed information on the archaeological sites located in the replacement land area, along with an assessment of the impact of the area being included in the common on them, to be provided before the submission of the application"*, with specific reference to the known archaeological features recorded by the GGAT Historic Environment Record (HER) in this area, including EA135, an area of quarrying identified by the Southeast Wales Ironworks Project as Blaen-cnwc Quarry and GGAT06416g, an air shaft of 18th or 19th century date.
- 1.27 A separate Heritage Briefing Note has been prepared to address Cadw's request for an impact assessment on historic assets from the Replacement Common Land aspect of the proposals. This report is referenced in the assessment set out in the ES chapter.

Responses to Planning Application DNS/3273368

- 1.28 In terms of the historic environment the previously submitted planning application was received favourably by consultees.
- 1.29 Cadw issued a letter dated 9 January 2024 stating as per their PAC response that they concur with the conclusions of EDP's assessment regarding effects on heritage assets including the BILWHS.
- 1.30 A response from Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council stated that they agree with EDP's assessment of effects on historic assets. They also reproduced a response from the Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) stating that due to the potential for encountering archaeological remains that *"a condition requiring the applicant to submit a detailed written scheme of investigation for a programme of archaeological work to protect the archaeological resource should be attached to any consent granted by your Members"*.

1.31 The response concluded by stating that:

“Based on the submission and the comments provided by Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust it is anticipated that subject to conditions, the impact of the development upon the historic environment within the Borough will be neutral.”

1.32 A response was also received from Torfaen County Borough Council. This stated that the Council’s Conservation Officer agreed with the EDP assessment regarding effects on the BILWHS.

1.33 It also stated that the Conservation Officer agreed with the assessment of effects on historic assets and that *‘The development is considered to have an overall neutral impact on heritage’*.

Section 2

Methodology

- 2.1 This section identifies the methodology that was used to identify the historic environment baseline position at the Site and in its immediate zone of influence.

METHODOLOGY

Assessment Standards

- 2.2 This assessment has been undertaken in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment* issued by ClfA (ClfA 2020), with which EDP is an RO.
- 2.3 It also is in accordance with the agreed WSI (EDP, 2022a) which is appended at **Appendix EDP 2**.

Study Areas

- 2.4 This assessment adopts two study areas.
- 2.5 The first of these relates to baseline data for archaeology (hereafter referred to as the Archaeology Study Area or ASA). It extends 500m from the Site. Given the upland context of the Site, this was deemed adequate to capture all known assets within the Site and its immediate vicinity, and to understand its archaeological potential.
- 2.6 A wider study area was adopted to enable the assessment of potential changes to the settings of heritage assets, such that could affect their significance (hereafter referred to as the Setting Study Area or SSA). This was not rigidly defined, but in practice extended to a maximum of 10km from the Site – a distance which was considered adequate to capture all heritage assets that could be potentially affected by the Site’s development and that is in accordance with Cadw’s consultation response.

Data Sources

- 2.7 The assessment initially involved the consultation of publicly available sources of information from the following repositories:
- GGAT Historic Environment Record (HER), which holds information on known archaeological sites, monuments and finds, as well as previous archaeological investigations (GGAT Enquiry Ref. 9025; 23/07/2024);
 - The National Monuments Record of Wales (NMRW);
 - Recent and historic air photographs obtained from the Central Register of Aerial Photography for Wales (CRAPW) at Cardiff;
 - Aerial photography from Google Earth;

- The Natural Resources Wales LiDAR datasets³; and
- Historic cartographic material from online sources.

Site Visit

- 2.8 The assessment included a walkover of the Site, coupled with visits in the surrounding landscape. These site visits refined the desktop study and (1) confirmed the historic assets which could be affected by the site's development, (2) informed a robust understanding of these assets' significance and the contribution made to that by their setting and (3) described any contribution made by the land within the Site.
- 2.9 Visits were undertaken on 08 and 13 June 2022 and on 18 August 2022. On both days in June weather conditions were dry and visibility was good. On the day in August conditions were generally dry but distant visibility was restricted due to low cloud cover.

ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

- 2.10 Where relevant, the assessment of significance for historic assets makes reference to the four 'heritage values' which are defined by Cadw in its *Conservation Principles* document referenced as Cadw (2011). These comprise:
- The asset's *evidential value*, which is defined as those elements of the historic asset that can provide evidence about past human activity, including its physical remains or historic fabric;
 - The asset's *historical value*, which is defined as those elements of an asset which might illustrate a particular aspect of past life or might be associated with a notable family, person, event or movement;
 - The asset's *aesthetic value*, which is defined as deriving from the way in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from the historic asset; and
 - The asset's *communal value*, which is defined as deriving from the meanings that a historic asset has for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory.

SETTING OF HERITAGE ASSETS

- 2.11 In addition to the potential for direct impacts on the fabric of an asset, when assessing the impact of proposals on historic assets, it is important to ascertain whether change within their 'setting' would lead to a loss of 'significance'. This assessment of potential indirect effects (in terms of 'setting') is made according to Cadw's guidance *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* which was published in May 2017.

³ Home | DataMapWales (gov.wales)

- 2.12 In simple terms, the guidance states that setting “includes the surroundings in which it is understood, experienced and appreciated, embracing present and past relationships to the surrounding landscape”. It must be recognised from the outset that ‘setting’ is not a heritage asset and cannot itself be harmed. The guidance states that the importance of setting “lies in what it contributes to the significance of a historic asset”.
- 2.13 As such, when assessing the indirect impact of proposals on heritage assets, it is not a question of whether their setting would be affected, but rather a question of whether change within the asset’s ‘setting’ would lead to a loss of ‘significance’.
- 2.14 Set within this context, where the objective is to determine the potential for development to have an indirect effect on heritage assets beyond the boundary of a development site, it is necessary to first define the significance of the asset in question - and the contribution made to that significance by its ‘setting’, in order to establish whether there would be a loss, and therefore harm.
- 2.15 The guidance identifies that change within a heritage asset’s setting need not necessarily cause ‘harm’ and that it can be positive or in fact neutral.
- 2.16 Cadw’s guidance (Cadw, 2017a) sets out a four-stage approach to the identification and assessment of setting effects; i.e.:
- Stage 1: Identify the historic assets which might be affected;
 - Stage 2: Define and analyse the setting, to understand how it contributes to the asset’s heritage significance;
 - Stage 3: Evaluate the potential impact of development; and
 - Stage 4: Consider options to mitigate or improve that potential impact.
- 2.17 The current baseline assessment considers only Stages 1 and 2 of this process. Stages 3 and 4 will be considered in the assessment of development impacts within the ES Chapter.

BLAENAVON INDUSTRIAL LANDSCAPE WORLD HERITAGE SITE AND THE BLAENAVON LANDSCAPE OF OUTSTANDING HISTORIC INTEREST

- 2.18 Regarding the assessment of the Site’s contribution to the Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) of the BILWHS, this is dealt with entirely within a separate HIA report (EDP, 2022, edp6367_r017). The HIA makes reference to the *Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties* (ICOMOS, 2011), the *Blaenavon Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site Design Guide* (TCBC, 2011) and to the *Blaenavon World Heritage Site Management Plan 2011 – 2026* (TCBC, 2011).
- 2.19 In terms of the BLOHI, Cadw stated that an ASIDHOL2 assessment would not be required. As such, given their similar extents the BLHOI is considered alongside the BILWHS within the HIA rather than in this current report.

LIDAR ANALYSIS

- 2.20 Existing Welsh Government LiDAR data was analysed with the specific aim of clarifying the extent of any potential archaeological remains. Airborne LiDAR data (light detection and ranging) was utilised as a source of primary data for the current assessment. LiDAR scanning records height data and has applications in the recording of archaeological earthworks.
- 2.21 Natural Resources Wales LiDAR Digital Terrain Model (DTM) tiles were obtained from the DataMapWales platform under the Open Government Licence for Public Sector Information (OGL). The data was available at 2m resolution, surveyed between 2020 and 2022, for most of the Study Area.
- 2.22 The tiles were downloaded in ASCII (.asc) format, with each .asc file covering an area measuring 100 x 100m-square. The Environment Agency state that their specifications for LiDAR data requires absolute height error to be less than $\pm 15\text{cm}$, and relative error to be less than $\pm 5\text{cm}$ (EA, 2016). The planar accuracy of the data is guaranteed to $\pm 40\text{cm}$ (absolute), while relative planar accuracy depends on the altitude of the survey aircraft but can generally be said to be $\pm 20\text{cm}$ (ibid).
- 2.23 The LiDAR .asc files contain British National Grid as the 'native' coordinate reference system.
- 2.24 Where necessary, the tiles were combined into a mosaic raster dataset using QGIS 3.34.5 and exported as a TIFF.
- 2.25 The DTM was processed using the Relief Visualisation Toolbox plugin for QGIS (RVT; version 1.3 ZRC SAZU, 2016) to create a number of visualisations including a multi-direction hillshade and local relief model following Historic England guidelines (HE 2010) and guidance in Airbourne Laser Scanning Raster Visualisation: A guide to good practice (Kokalj and Hesse 2017). The parameters were set to those appropriate for the topography of the area. The output images from the RVT software were then imported into the QGIS 3.28 where further settings manipulation was undertaken to enhance the visualization for archaeological feature detection.
- 2.26 This software allows for a range of visualisation techniques to be applied to the data. Different techniques have varying degrees of successful application, depending on the nature of the environment where the data was collected. As such, the whole suite of visualisations was produced and then the individual images appraised as to their usefulness in the current context. This appraisal identified that of the visualisation techniques, multiple direction hill-shades produced the best quality and most useful imagery for the archaeology assessment.

Section 3

Legislation and Planning Guidance

- 3.1 This section sets out existing legislation and planning policy, governing the conservation and management of the historic environment, of relevance to this application.

LEGISLATION

- 3.2 In March 2016, the *Historic Environment (Wales) Act* came into force. Whilst providing a number of new provisions to existing legislation, the changes do not specifically affect the planning process or the way in which archaeology and heritage matters are addressed.

Archaeology

- 3.3 The *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979* addresses the designation and management of scheduled monuments, providing for a schedule of monuments (and archaeological remains) which are protected. The designation of archaeological and historic sites as scheduled monuments applies only to those that are deemed to be of national importance and is generally adopted only if it represents the best means of protection.
- 3.4 The 1979 Act does not address the concept of ‘setting’, just their physical remains and, therefore, for scheduled monuments the protection of ‘setting’ is a matter of policy only.
- 3.5 In Wales, Scheduled Monument Consent, the written consent of the Welsh Minister, is required for development that would directly impact upon a scheduled monument. Scheduled Monument Consent applications are submitted to Cadw, the Welsh Government’s Historic Environment Service.

Listed Buildings

- 3.6 The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 is the primary legislative instrument addressing the treatment of listed buildings and conservation areas through the planning process in Wales.
- 3.7 Section 66(1) of the 1990 Act concerns listed buildings and states that:
- “...in considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the local planning authority or, as the case may be, the Secretary of State shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses”.*
- 3.8 The ‘special regard’ duty of the 1990 Act has been tested in the Court of Appeal and confirmed to require that “considerable importance and weight” should be afforded by the decision maker to the desirability of preserving a listed building along with its setting. The relevant judgement is referenced as *Barnwell Manor Wind Energy Ltd v East Northants DC, English Heritage and National Trust (2014) EWCA Civ 137*.

3.9 However, it must be recognised that Section 66(1) of the 1990 Act does not identify that the local authority or the Secretary of State must preserve a listed building or its setting; and also neither does it in any way indicate that a development which does not preserve them is unacceptable or should therefore be refused.

3.10 This point is made very clearly in Paragraph 54 of the judgement regarding *Forest of Dean DC v Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government (2013)*, which identifies that:

“...Section 66 (1) did not oblige the inspector to reject the proposal because he found it would cause some harm to the setting of the listed buildings. The duty is directed to ‘the desirability of preserving’ the setting of listed buildings. One sees there the basic purpose of the ‘special regard’ duty. It does not rule out acceptable change. It gives the decision-maker an extra task to perform, which is to judge whether the change proposed is acceptable. But it does not prescribe the outcome. It does not dictate the refusal of planning permission if the Proposed Development is found likely to alter or even to harm the setting of a listed building.”

3.11 In other words, it is up to the decision maker (such as a local authority) to assess whether the proposal which is before them would result in “acceptable change”.

Conservation Areas

3.12 Section 72(1) of the *Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act* of 1990 sets out the statutory duty for a decision-maker where a proposed development would have an impact on the character and appearance of a conservation area. This states that:

“...with respect to any buildings or other land in a conservation area, of any powers under any of the provisions mentioned in subsection (2), special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character or appearance of that area.”

3.13 As far as Section 72(1) of the Act is concerned, it has previously been established by the Courts (*South Lakeland DC v Secretary of State for the Environment, [1992] 2 WLR 204*) that proposed development which does not detract from the character or appearance of a conservation area is deemed to be in accordance with the legislation. In other words, there is no statutory requirement to actively enhance.

3.14 The preservation of the setting of a conservation area is not a statutory duty, and it is a matter of planning policy only.

NATIONAL PLANNING POLICY

Planning Policy Wales

3.15 National planning guidance, concerning the treatment of the historic environment across Wales, is detailed in Section 6.1 of Chapter 6 Distinctive and Natural Places of Planning Policy Wales Edition Twelve, which was published on 07 February 2024 (PPW 2024).

- 3.16 At paragraph 6.1.2, it identifies the historic environment as comprising individual historic features, such as archaeological sites, historic buildings and historic parks, gardens, townscapes and landscapes, collectively known as ‘historic assets’.
- 3.17 At Paragraph 6.1.6 the Welsh Government’s objectives for the historic environment are outlined. These seek to: “*conserve archaeological remains, both for their own sake and for their role in education, leisure and the economy*’ and ‘*safeguard the character of historic buildings and manage change so that their special architectural and historic interest is preserved*”.
- 3.18 At Paragraph 6.1.7, it is stated that:
- “It is important that the planning system looks to protect, conserve and enhance the significance of historic assets. This will include consideration of the setting of an historic asset which might extend beyond its curtilage. Any change that impacts on an historic asset or its setting should be managed in a sensitive and sustainable way”.*
- 3.19 As such, with regard to decision making, it is stated 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”.
- 3.20 Regarding listed buildings, PPW (2024) states, at Paragraph 6.1.10, that: “...there should be a general presumption in favour of the preservation of a listed building and its setting, which might extend beyond its curtilage” and then adds that “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, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses”.
- 3.21 It then adds that: “*The aim should be to find the best way to protect and enhance the special qualities of listed buildings, retaining them in sustainable use*”.
- 3.22 Regarding conservation areas, it is stated at paragraph 6.1.14 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*”.
- 3.23 Paragraphs 6.1.15 and 6.1.16 of PPW state that:
- “There will be a strong presumption against the granting of planning permission for development, including advertisements, which damage the character and appearance of a conservation area or its setting to an unacceptable level. In exceptional cases the presumption may be overridden in favour of development deemed desirable on the grounds of some other public interest”, and that: “Preservation or enhancement of a conservation area can be achieved by a development which either makes a positive contribution to an area’s character or appearance, or leaves them unharmed.”*
- 3.24 It is apparent that PPW does not state that any damage to the character and appearance of a conservation area would result in the refusal of planning permission. It is only damage that is of an “*unacceptable level*” which would result in a strong presumption against the

granting of planning permission. The required judgement is concerned with what constitutes an ‘unacceptable’ level of harm not whether there is any harm at all.

Technical Advice Note 24

3.25 Additional heritage guidance in Wales is set out in *Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment* (Welsh Government, 2017).

3.26 TAN 24 (see Welsh Government 2017) outlines that it provides “*guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan preparation and decision making on planning applications*”. It clarifies the policies and distinctions made in PPW.

3.27 A definition for a ‘historic asset’ is given as: “*An identifiable component of the historic environment. It may consist or be a combination of an archaeological site, a historic building or area, historic park and garden or a parcel of historic landscape. Nationally important historic assets will normally be designated*”.

3.28 Effects through changes within the settings of designated historic assets are covered in TAN 24 at paragraphs 1.23 to 1.29. These paragraphs define the setting of an historic asset as comprising the:

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

3.29 TAN 24 also advises on factors to consider when assessing setting. Paragraph 1.26 notes that it is: “...for the applicant to provide the local planning authority with sufficient information to allow the assessment of their proposals in respect of Scheduled Monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, registered historic parks and gardens, World Heritage Sites, or other sites of national importance and their settings”.

3.30 Paragraph 1.29 goes on to state that:

“The local planning authority will need to make its own assessment of the impact within the setting of a historic asset, having considered the responses received from consultees as part of this process. A judgement has to be made by the consenting authority, on a case-by-case basis, over whether a Proposed Development may be damaging to the setting of the historic asset, or may enhance or have a neutral impact on the setting by the removal of existing inappropriate development or land use.”

LOCAL PLANNING POLICY

3.31 The Site is partly situated in the jurisdiction of Torfaen County Borough and partly within Blaenau Gwent.

- 3.32 Planning policy for Torfaen is contained within the Torfaen Local Development Plan (LDP) to 2021 which was adopted in December 2013.
- 3.33 The LDP contains planning policies relevant to the Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC) administrative area, excluding parts that are within the Brecon Beacons National Park. Policies are either strategic, outlining the broad strategy and outcomes that the LDP expects to deliver, or topic based and concerned with specific aspects of the borough.
- 3.34 Of relevance to this report is Strategic Policy S7 Conservation of the Natural and Historic Environment. This states the following:
- “Development proposals should seek to ensure the conservation and enhancement of the Natural, Built & Historic Environment of Torfaen, in particular:*
- a. Biodiversity resources;*
 - b. Geodiversity resources;*
 - c. Water environment;*
 - d. Landscape setting;*
 - e. Character of the built environment; and*
 - f. Historic assets.”*
- 3.35 Planning policy for Blaenau Gwent is contained within the Blaenau Gwent Local Development Plan 2006 to 2021 which was adopted in November 2012.
- 3.36 Of relevance to this report is Strategic Policy S11 Protection and Enhancement of the Historic Environment. This states the following:
- “Blaenau Gwent’s distinctive built environment will be protected, preserved and, where appropriate, enhanced. This will be achieved through:*
- Safeguarding nationally designated sites from inappropriate development and also protecting locally designated buildings of significant importance and conservation areas;*
 - Enhancing sites of historic or archaeological value; and*
 - The promotion of heritage tourism.”*
- 3.37 These planning policies, at the national and local levels, have been taken into account in the preparation of this assessment.

Section 4

Archaeological and Historical Overview

INTRODUCTION

- 4.1 The following section sets out the designated and non-designated historic assets within the Site, ASA and SSA. These assets are described below and shown on **Plans EDP 1–3**.
- 4.2 Of particular note within this discussion is the extensive opencast mining which took place on Mynydd Llanhilleth between the 1940s and the 1970s. These works partially coincided with the Site and will have erased any archaeological or built heritage remains that previously existed within their footprint.

DESIGNATED ASSETS

- 4.3 The Site does not contain any designated heritage assets (listed buildings, scheduled monuments, historic parks and gardens), nor is it part of any area designation such as a conservation area, Registered Historic or Outstanding Landscape or World Heritage Site, such that might preclude development within it.
- 4.4 Three scheduled monuments and eight listed buildings are located within the ASA. Of these, all but one listed building is located within or adjacent to the settlement at Abersychan. The relevance of these assets to the Site's archaeological potential is discussed within the relevant period section below.
- 4.5 All designated heritage assets within the SSA are discussed in **Section 5**.

NON-DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS

- 4.6 The GGAT HER contains 272 monument records within the ASA and the Royal Commission for the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) NMRW contains 45 monument records. There is a degree of overlap of these datasets, with some records being duplicates recorded by both the HER and NMRW.
- 4.7 In addition to the HER, GGAT curate a separate database derived from the South-east Wales Industrial Ironworks Project, undertaken by GGAT between 2005–2010. This project assessed the current state of survival/preservation of the ironworks landscape of south-east Wales. Eight records are noted in relation to this study within the ASA.
- 4.8 The GGAT HER also includes 13 event records within the ASA.
- 4.9 All HER and NMRW records are shown on **Plans EDP 2 and 3**.

Records Within or Intersecting the Site

- 4.10 The GGAT HER contains 17 monument records within or intersecting the Site. These range in date from the Roman period (a possible but unproven road) to the pre-industrial

post-medieval era, through to the later industrial era of the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries. The latter records comprise a mix of pastoral features and the relics of the substantial industrial activity that took place on Mynydd Llanhilleth. Workings for coal (and to a lesser extent for iron) were particularly prevalent around the interface between the lower enclosed farmland and the unenclosed upland common reflecting a change in geology with the higher sandstone sitting above the coal measures.

- 4.11 **Table EDP 4.1** provides a list of the HER records within the Site. The table also notes those which are within the footprint of 20th century opencast mining, and thus are known to have been destroyed (where presumably the record was derived from historic maps). The extent of opencast mining is known from a 1964-1965 Ordnance Survey (OS) map (**Plan EDP 9**) and from a series of aerial photographs taken in May 1963 (OS/63/74) which show the mine in operation. Both of these sources equate closely with an area identified by the British Geological Survey as comprising ‘artificial ground’. Any historic assets in the whole of this area are likely to have been affected by mining, by either being in the footprint of the opencast pits or spoil tips or in areas traversed and disturbed by mining vehicles. This area is defined on **Plans EDP 2** and **3**.
- 4.12 The table also makes reference as to whether the features located outside of the former opencast area are notable on LiDAR data (see subsection below).
- 4.13 Consequently, it is necessary to be mindful of the fact that the baseline of surviving heritage features within the Site is rather smaller than the HER dataset implies.

Table EDP 4.1: Monument Records for Historic Assets on the GGAT HER within the Site

GGAT Reference Number	Name	Summary	Within C20 Opencast?	Notable on LiDAR Data?
GGAT05408g	Farmhouse, Pen Tranch	Historic post-medieval farmhouse site derived from 19 th century mapping.	Yes – presumed destroyed.	
GGAT05420g	Blaenserchan (1)	Historic 18 th or 19 th century drift mine site derived from 19 th century mapping.	Yes – presumed destroyed.	
GGAT13316g	Level, Blaen-serchan Colliery	Former mining level located just below the drift mine referenced above.	Yes – presumed destroyed.	
GGAT06416g	Air Shaft	18 th or 19 th century airshaft related to mining.	No.	Slight expression in field.
GGAT06902g	Building, Pen Tranch	Ruinous probably post-medieval building within rectangular embanked enclosure.	No.	No expression.
GGAT07034g	Ridgeway Llanhilleth	Ridgeway. Runs concurrently with eastern border of Parish of Llanhilleth. Could be post-medieval in date but likely to have been rebuilt in mid-20 th century.	No.	Yes – modern road is visible.
GGAT08667g	Mynydd Llanhilleth Roman Road II	Part of a possible Roman road crossing Mynydd Llanhilleth that may have linked the fort at Usk with that at Gelligaer shown as passing through the northern part of the Site on the 1 st edition OS map (1888). Described in a Transco Environmental Statement as a “well-preserved earthwork some 9.0m wide comprising a central roadway 3.5m in width, flanked by ditches. The southern ditch is 2.5m wide and 0.50m deep, the northern ditch is 3.0m wide and 0.75m deep. The feature crosses the moor from SW to NE and then follows the 470m contour northwards along the former boundary of the parishes of Llanhilleth and Trevethin”. This was subject to a small-scale evaluation in 2002 at the point where its supposed course coincided with the Gilwern to Hafodyrynys Pipeline (GGAT Events E004902 and E004903). No archaeological remains were revealed with the conclusion being	No – but possibly damaged by mining.	Yes – visible as a well-defined track.

GGAT Reference Number	Name	Summary	Within C20 Opencast?	Notable on LIDAR Data?
		that the road had been destroyed in this location by opencast mining although, but this does not preclude a road having originally been present.		
GGAT12986g	Blaen-cnwc Quarry	Former quarry located at the head of the Cwm Cnyw valley	Yes – presumed destroyed.	
GGAT13221g	Rock Cottage, Cwm-sychan	Former post-medieval cottage located at the very edge of the access route	No – but this is no longer extant	No -located in quarried area suggest that it has been totally removed.
GGAT13207g	Rectangular feature, Cwm-sychan Place	Possible earthwork located within a grassed area in the verge at the side of the access track. Not seen during site walkover.	No – but possibly no longer extant.	No – no rectangular feature is shown in this location.
GGAT13206g	Rectangular feature, Cwm-sychan Place	Second possible earthwork located within a grassed area in the verge at the side of the access track. Not seen during site walkover.	No – but possibly no longer extant.	No – no rectangular feature is shown in this location.
GGAT13216g	Small Pond, Cwm-sychan Place	Depression amongst undergrowth in the verge at the side of access track.	No	Not clearly discernible.
GGAT04013g	Old Castle, The British	Site of a former post-medieval house located on the edge of The British industrial site and adjacent to the access track. No longer extant.	No – but this is no longer extant	Slight expression suggests rubble related to this former house may be present within area overgrown with trees.
From the GGAT HER Monument Polygon Layer				
Grouped under a single HER polygon that partially intersects with the west-central site boundary: Only one element of this group appears to be within the boundary comprising a mine and rubbish tip (GGAT06407g) however it is apparent that on the ground the feature is in fact adjacent to the Site rather than within it.			No – some older industrial features were outside of the extent of the opencast mine.	Tips evident on LiDAR.

GGAT Reference Number	Name	Summary	Within C20 Opencast?	Notable on LIDAR Data?
Also within this polygon, but outside the site boundary are the following: 18 th or 19 th century mine and rubbish tip (GGAT06408g) and tramroad (GGAT06299g), Blaen Cyffin ruined farmstead (GGAT04910g), shop (GGAT06287g); mine, slag heap (GGAT06421g); adit (GGAT06422g); adit (GGAT06423g).				
A group record comprising three separate HER records. These comprise the route of the former Talywain Railway (GGAT03276.1g) which ran from Pontypool to Abersychan which is crossed by the modern road that the access route follows. This feature includes a pair of bridge abutments located either side of the road which are discussed in the access route section under 'Site Walkover' below. Also included are the Grade II listed Big Arch (GGAT04597g) and the site of the former British Ironworks (GGAT02515g) neither of which actually intersect with the access route or any other part of the Site.			No.	N/A
GGAT06417g	Adit (condition unknown).	Mainly located beyond the site boundary with the mine entrance extending a short distance into the Site beneath a modern road.	Yes.	

4.14 In addition to the HER Monument records within the Site, there are three areas of historic quarrying identified by the Southeast Wales Industrial Ironworks Project:

- **EA125** Ty-Dafydd Quarry;
- **EA134** Blaen-cyffin Quarry; and
- **EA135** Blaen-cnwc Quarry.

4.15 All three are partially within the area of opencast mining with **EA125** almost entirely within it. As such, it is anticipated that the quarries will have been for the most part infilled.

4.16 Intersecting with the access route and a part of the grid connection corridor are a further two areas identified by the Southeast Wales Industrial Ironworks Project that relate to 'extractive areas' presumably for coal and iron mining. These comprise:

- **EA112** The British Ironworks Extractive Area; and
- **EA093** Varteg Hill Extractive Area.

4.17 These areas define areas of former mine working but do not necessarily relate to extant features in the modern landscape. Nevertheless, for both areas it was noted that these broad areas do contain earthworks, most notable the remains of spoil tips, some of which are present as HER monument records. The presence of these features within the footprint of the access route and grid connection corridor is described in the section below entitled 'Site Walkover'.

4.18 The RCAHMW NMRW contains records for six assets within the Site. These are described in **Table EDP 4.2**.

Table EDP 4.2: NMRW Records for Historic Assets Within The Site

NMRW Reference Numbers	Name	Summary	Within C20 Opencast?	Notable on LiDAR Data?
10394	Cwm Frwdd-Oer Mission (Un-denominational)	Chapel.	No.	No - Presumed destroyed or record is mislocated.
535594	Cefn Crib, Track 1	Historic trackway set in deep cutting following west edge of the common.	No.	Yes – track appears abraded.
535593	Blaen-y-cwm Road: Bank and Ditch 1	Bank and ditch defining edge of common following Blaen Y Cwm Road.	No.	Possible but likely a modern feature.

NMRW Reference Numbers	Name	Summary	Within C20 Opencast?	Notable on LiDAR Data?
421322	Sheep Pens, Mynydd Llanhilleth	Historic sheep pens still in use.	No.	Yes – enclosures are visible.
29551	Lymore (dwelling)	No description.	Yes – presumed destroyed.	
85078	Lower Navigation Colliery: Railway bridge	A bridge carrying the modern road across a watercourse. The bridge is almost entirely modern although it is likely that the upper modern parts are built up from an older structure that now cannot be easily seen from the roadside.	No.	No.

Within the Archaeological Study Area

- 4.19 Within this section, HER and NMRW monument and Ironworks records within the ASA are discussed in the context of their relevant chronological period.

Prehistoric (BC 500,000–AD 43)

- 4.20 There is one monument record on the HER that dates from the prehistoric period which relates to a cairn that is ascribed a speculative Bronze Age date.
- 4.21 No other prehistoric records are recorded on any of the databases consulted within the ASA. Comprising high upland and land on the fringes of the uplands it is unlikely that the land in the ASA was subject to intensive activity during the prehistoric periods. The stream valleys at the edge of the upland would have been locations that offered a sheltered location, with water as a resource for early hunter gatherers and probably later settled communities, however, no archaeological remains related to such activity are known.
- 4.22 Archaeological remains dating to the Bronze Age are often found in upland locations in Britain as a warmer climate during this period enabled the agricultural exploitation of what later became marginal landscapes. Due to the abandonment of such landscapes by later agriculture, archaeological remains have sometimes been well preserved in upland locations. Commonly found are prehistoric field boundaries as well as settlement sites and funerary remains such as cairns.
- 4.23 The cairn (**GGAT06896g**) is distinct from a group of probable clearance cairns located just beyond the ASA to the west (**GGAT06892g**, **GGAT06893g** and **GGAT06894g**) and is recorded by the HER as comprising an ovoid stone mound and is interpreted as most likely

a Bronze Age cairn. The feature is located c.400m north-west of the Site, just on the edge of the extent of the 20th century opencast mining on north-facing slopes overlooking Cwm Llwydrew, above Abertillery.

- 4.24 Prior to the opencast mining, it is possible that further Bronze Age features were present on Mynydd Llanhilleth, however none have been recorded. Considering that most of the Site was subject to mining disturbance there is only a low potential for remains of this era to be present within parts of the Site that were not affected by mining. Such features might comprise fully or partially extant remains or entirely buried remains most likely related to funerary cairns or field boundaries. Any surviving Bronze Age features would be considered of between low and high value depending on their nature and state of preservation.

Roman (AD 43–AD 410)

- 4.25 The only Roman feature, as recorded by the HER, is a possible Roman road which crosses the ASA and the Site in the north on an east-west alignment and was discussed above (**Table EDP 4.1**).
- 4.26 During this period there may have been contemporary native Romano-British settlement in the stream valleys surrounding the upland represented by the Site although there is no known evidence for such activity. No further features related to Roman military activity (as might be associated with the road) are known from the ASA. Such features might include remains related to temporary camps or even watchtowers, due to the presence of the possible road. It is assessed that there is a low potential for features of this nature either as partially extant remains or entirely buried remains to be present within the undisturbed areas of the Site. Such remains would be considered of between low and moderate value depending on their nature and state of preservation.

Early Medieval – Medieval (AD 410–1485)

- 4.27 The HER contains five records that are ascribed a medieval date within the ASA. The NMRW contains a further two records. One of these is the trackway located within the Site that has already been noted in **Table EDP 4.2 (535594)**.
- 4.28 Of the five HER records one relates to the site of a former boundary cross (**GGAT02092g**) located on the boundary between the parishes of Llanhilleth and Trevethin adjacent to the east-west road (possibly a Roman road) which crossed the site, c.40 from the site boundary. The HER records the cross as no longer extant.
- 4.29 Three of the records relate to undated (but presumed potentially medieval) enclosures (**GGAT08668g** and **GGAT08669g**) and a platform (**GGAT06904g**) on Mynydd Llanhilleth. The platform was destroyed by the opencast mining, but the enclosures (defined by low banks) are extant on open upland c.200m to the north-west of the Site. It is likely that the enclosures were related to historic livestock management.
- 4.30 The other record comprises a holy well located on the very south-eastern edge of the ASA (c.470m from the site boundary) on the slopes above the valley of the Glyn. It is not known whether any extent remains are located at the well site, but it would have been a resource for settlement in the valley to the south and its presence has no relevance to the Site's potential for archaeological remains.

- 4.31 The single medieval NMRW record relates to the southern extent of the Cefn Crib Path, with the northern extent recorded within the Site (**535594**). The NMRW records the route as a sunken path running across the common roughly from south-west to north-east, at 3m wide and 0.3m deep. The route is presumably the same as the ridgeway route recorded by the HER (**GGAT07034g**) which follows the parish boundary.
- 4.32 It is likely that the Site during the medieval period was open or semi-wooded upland that may have been used as common grazing land, crossed by old trackways that linked the valleys adjacent to the upland. Land around its edges may have been farmed although the enclosed fieldscapes presently within adjacent valleys most likely date from the post-medieval period when land became subject to private enclosure. The settlement at St. Illtyd, located just west of the ASA, originated in the medieval era with its church a 16th century successor to a much older church possibly of the 9th or 10th centuries. In this regard land to the west of the Site, beyond the edge of the opencast mining area, may have been part of the agricultural hinterland of that settlement in the early medieval and medieval periods.
- 4.33 This assessment concludes that there is a low potential for buried remains related to medieval agriculture in the undisturbed areas at the edges of the Site that are characterised by post-medieval agricultural enclosures. However, remains of this era might be more likely to be located in the western part of the Site due to the proximity of the settlement at St. Illtyd.
- 4.34 Medieval agricultural remains might comprise buried infilled ditches, pits or furrows and if present would have limited evidential value as historic assets of low or very low significance depending on their state of preservation.

Post-medieval and Modern (AD 1485–Present)

- 4.35 The GGAT HER contains 226 records within the ASA that relate to historic environment features that are ascribed a post-medieval date and five that relate to the modern period. In addition, the NMRW contains 35 records that are ascribed a post-medieval date and seven with a 19th or 20th century date.

Post-Medieval Agriculture

- 4.36 Of the 226 HER records, 24 relate to features of the post-medieval agricultural or domestic landscape. Of the NMRW records three relate specifically to agriculture with a further ten related to either extant or former buildings of the post-medieval era that are probably products of the agricultural landscape rather than the later industrial era.
- 4.37 The records relate to features derived either from field evidence or historic maps that are elements of a well-populated agricultural landscape on the upland margin. Four of the records related to former dwellings at the edge of the settlement of Abersychan, to the north-east of the Site.
- 4.38 Key characteristics are enclosed fields located at the upland margins or on the slopes of the stream valleys which run downwards from the plateau. The field systems are interspersed with a dispersed pattern of settlement comprising isolated small cottages and

farmsteads as well as associated features such as wells, trackways or clearance cairns. Key farmsteads recorded on the HER and NMRW are summarised below.

- 4.39 At the head of the Nant Cyffin, c.20m west of the Site was the farmstead Blaen Cyffin (**GGAT04910g**; NMRW **538**) which is now a ruin, although modern barns are still present nearby. The fields in the western part of the Site that avoided loss through opencast mining were probably associated with this farmstead.
- 4.40 A large farm c.280m to the south-west of the Site is at Maes-y-cnyw, recorded by both the HER and NMRW as a large two-room plan farmhouse (**GGAT02093g**; NMRW: **422090**). Close to the southern boundary of the Site (c.180m) was the farmstead of Blaen-y-Cwm (**GGAT04914g**; NMRW: **539**), with the 1888 OS maps suggesting that associated buildings were located within the Site. Similarly, c.280m to the east of the Site was Pen-rhiw-fid (**GGAT07304g**; NMRW: **620**) a now-ruinous farmstead that historic maps suggest had a connection with the dwelling at Blaen-nant-y-caws that was within the Site. Houses are also located close to the site boundary to the north-west (c.60–100m) at the head of the Cwm Llwydrew at Gilfach-wen (**GGAT06399g**; NMRW: **422091**) and Ty-Dafydd (**GGAT06401g**), both of which are still the locations of dwellings.
- 4.41 The HER attests that most of the post-medieval assets identified above are now destroyed either through industrial activity or decline in farming in upland areas. The section above has described the post-medieval archaeology that still exists within the Site in its areas that were not disturbed by opencast mining.
- 4.42 In this regard, most of the Site's potential for post-medieval archaeology is in respect of upstanding features in the landscape. The degree to which a post-medieval agricultural historic landscape is preserved at the Site, and its significance, is discussed further below in the section on the site walkover survey.
- 4.43 Buried archaeological remains related to the post-medieval agricultural landscape are probably present within parts of the Site undisturbed by opencast mining or other earlier mining activity. There is a high potential in these areas for unrecorded remains of very low evidential value such as infilled boundary or drainage ditches, clearance cairns, or furrows. There is also a low potential for unrecorded settlement sites (although most such sites within the Site are known from extant remains) that would comprises remains of low evidential value depending on their state of preservation.

18th and 19th Century Industrial Activity

- 4.44 Of the 226 HER records most relate to features of the industrial era of the late 18th and 19th centuries. Of these, the majority relate directly to the coal mining industry comprising records of historic mine entrances, colliery buildings, air shafts, spoil tips, ponds and winding engines. A further group relate to the former courses of tramways that were directly related to the coal and other industries. The remaining records relate to other industrial activity such as clay extraction, brick works or quarrying.
- 4.45 The NMRW contains 18 records associated with industrial era features.
- 4.46 Whilst Mynydd Llanhilleth is formed of siltstone, mudstone and sandstone of the Hughes and Grovesend Formations, located beneath this cap of sedimentary rock are coal seams

of the South Wales coal field. As such, in order to meet the demands of South Wales's metallurgical industries, from the late 18th century coal mines were frequently dug into the side of hills across the region below the interface with the sedimentary rock cap. A common practice was to cut adits or levels at a slight upward angle into the hillsides to follow the coal seams. Later, as accessible seams were exhausted, deeper mines utilising shafts were sunk, typically from mining complexes located on the lower slopes. The summits of the hills, including the majority of the Site (prior to the opencast mining of the 20th century) were generally unaffected as it was not practical or economical to dig down through the harder sandstone cap.

- 4.47 Mining remains within the Site have been discussed previously and further detail is provided in a separate section below in respect of historic maps. Within the ASA were several collieries. Of these, at least five were located within the Cwm Du valley that is enclosed by the north-eastern parts of the Site. This valley was intensively mined as testified by the 1880 OS map (**Plan EDP 6**), with mining activity on its southern side encroaching slightly into the Site. On the south side of the valley was the Blaenserchan colliery (c.200m from the Site) with three shafts identified by the HER and NMRW (**GGAT05423g**, **GGAT13315g** and **GGAT05422g**; NMRW: **434**) as well as a weighbridge (**GGAT05425g**) and tramway (**GGAT05421.0g**). The former mining level within the Site (**GGAT05420g**) was also associated with this colliery.
- 4.48 On the northern side of the valley was the Nant-Ddu Colliery (**GGAT05411g**: c.150m from the Site), the Cwm Serchan Colliery (**GGAT05409g**: c.250m from the Site) and the Ty-troed-rhiw Ffranc colliery (**GGAT13277g**: **124m** from the Site). These were associated with mechanical winding engines (**GGAT05410g** and **GGAT05412g**) as well as ponds recorded at Nant-Du, various earthworks, tips and shafts and tramroads. None of the collieries extended far enough to the north so as to intersect with the Site. Further east in the valley (c.200-500m from the Site) were other coal mines and tramroads (i.e. **GGAT05426g**) and, at the very edge of the ASA buildings, a clay pit, water course and tramway associated with the Craig-Ddu Brickworks (**GGAT05438g**).
- 4.49 The lower slopes above the Glyn valley at the southern edge of the ASA were occupied by the Ty Gwyn and Tirpentwys collieries (both c.500m south of the Site; **GGAT11104g** and **GGAT03694g**). On the higher slopes to the north were various mining levels on the slopes around the Blaen yr Cwm farmhouse (**GGAT04914g**: c. 200m from the Site) with tramways running up the slopes and with mining spoil and other activity recorded on the map of 1888 within the southern part of the Site. The NMRW also records the earthwork remains of a mining level in this area (NMRW: **535595**).
- 4.50 On the slopes to the south-west of the Site was the Farm Colliery, where the HER records (all c.200-250m from the Site) an airshaft, buildings associated with an incline plane and spoil tips (**GGAT06409g**, **GGAT06251g** and **GGAT06414g**). The NMRW also records a pit in this area associated with the colliery (NMRW: **535596**).
- 4.51 The farmland to the west of the Site was less heavily mined, with concentrations of coal mining activity near Blaen Cyffin farm (c.30–170m from the Site; **GGAT06426g**, **GGAT06407g**) and near the farmstead at Hafod Arthan near St Illtyd (c.500m west of the Site; **GGAT06421g**, **GGAT06422g**, **GGAT06423g**). From this location an incline plane ran south towards Llanhilleth (**GGAT06299g**, **GGAT06253g**). To the north-west of the Site,

above the valley-bottom settlement of Six Bells, was another concentration of mining activity with an incline plane running north-west to the village (c.500m to the Site; **GGAT09436.0g**, **GGAT09437g** and **GGAT06432g**).

- 4.52 Quarrying was also a local industry with the sandstone located above the coal measures the target of such activity. The HER records quarries at various locations around the edge of the upland plateau at Mynydd Llanhilleth, notably to the east (c.100m) at Pen-rhiw-fid (**GGAT07299.0g**) and Pen-tranch (**GGAT07300g**), and, to the south-west (c.200m) near Blaen yr cwm (**GGAT04914g**).
- 4.53 Approximately 110m south-east of the access route was an area of intensive industrial activity. Here the British Ironworks (**GGAT02515g**; **EA112**) was established and operated between 1827 to 1883. Most of the works' buildings were demolished although some remain extant and are listed (e.g. **14870**, **18595**, **14871**) with an air furnace and pumping engine house (the core buildings are located c.400m south-east of the access track) and also scheduled monuments (**MM216** and **MM221**). The HER describes how the works were designed with high architectural pretensions and on a monumental scale. A large group of 117 HER records and 10 NMRW records record individual features of the works and the related settlement of 'British'. These include extant and former buildings and also features of the works that are shown on historic maps including bridges, coke ovens, kilns, reservoirs, chimneys and tramways.

Modern Industry and Development

- 4.54 Industrial activity continued to have a major impact upon the landscape at Mynydd Llanhilleth through the 20th and 21st centuries. Opencast coal mining during the mid-20th century affected a large swath of the Site. This aspect is best understood from historic maps and aerial photographs and is discussed in more detail in the sections below. Some features associated with the opencast mining are recorded by the HER (presumably so as they are not mistaken for archaeological features). These are not historic assets and those in the Site have been discussed already above.
- 4.55 Otherwise, quarrying for stone continued throughout the 20th century with the quarries at Pen-rhiw-fid (**GGAT07299.0g**) and Pen-tranch (**GGAT07300g**) both operating throughout the modern period. A 20th century drum house (c.460m east of the Site) is located in association with the quarries at the top of an incline tramway that ran north to Cwm Du (**GGAT07298g**).

Previous Archaeological Investigations

- 4.56 The HER records 13 archaeological events within the ASA. Of these, four are within or intersect with the Site.
- 4.57 Two of the records comprise broad areas that extended across the wider landscape beyond the ASA. One of these is a record related to the South-east Wales Industrial Ironworks Project (**GGATE000954**), undertaken by GGAT between 2005-2010. As previously described, this project assessed the current state of survival/preservation of the ironworks landscape of Southeast Wales covering part of the Site and the ASA. Specific features within the Site related to this survey have been discussed previously. The other, is in respect of a desk-based assessment related to Blaenserchan Colliery undertaken in 1992

(GGATE003704), covering an area beyond the extent of the Site and thus of little relevance to it.

- 4.58 Two of the records within the Site relate to archaeological evaluation undertaken in 2002 in advance of the Gilwern to Hafodyrynys High Pressure Natural Gas Pipeline (which crosses the Site roughly from north-south). Both records (**GGATE004902** and **GGATE004903**) relate to the investigation of the course of the possible Roman road. Trenching did not reveal any archaeological remains and it was concluded that prior disturbance by opencast mining had destroyed any remains of the road in this location.
- 4.59 The third record (**GGATE003947**) within the Site is in respect of a desk-based assessment carried out in 1993 in advance of land reclamation of former industrial land to the west of Abersychan at the former British Iron Works.
- 4.60 Of the remaining records located beyond the Site, two relate to site visits to assess the provenance of cairns on the north-western side of Mynydd Llanhilleth carried out as part of GGAT's Prehistoric Funerary and Ritual Site's project in 2006 (E001142 and E001222). This project did not identify any such features within the area of the Site. The third record (E003642) relates to a building survey carried out at Gilfach Wen farm in 2008, in advance of its re-development.
- 4.61 Five records relate to topographic surveys, desk-based assessment, archaeological evaluation and a field visit carried out at the British Ironworks by GGAT (**GGATE003948**, **GGATE002182**, **GGATE003946**, **GGATE004514** and **GGATE000037**) in order to further information on the remains of the former works. A further nearby record relates to a watching brief carried out in 2010 at the site of a former brickworks in Snatchwood (**GGATE003119**).
- 4.62 The South-east Wales Industrial Ironworks Project identified possible areas of archaeological interest within the Site, and the evaluation of the Roman road, (which concluded that it had been destroyed) provided information directly relevant to the archaeological potential of the Site. None of the other archaeological events, as recorded by the HER have any relevance to understanding the archaeological potential of the Site.

Historic Maps

- 4.63 The earliest known depiction of the Site is across two Tithe maps, that of the Parish of Llanhilleth (1841) and that of the Parish of Trevethin (1841). The Tithe maps are both shown on **Plan EDP 5**.
- 4.64 On both maps the majority of the Site comprising its higher, central parts is shown as an open expanse named either 'common' or 'mountain'. This expanse is depicted as featureless, although it is crossed by several tracks which are shown, most notably two tracks running from the valleys to the south then merging onto the upland and then heading north. One of these is the old route across Cefn Crib common as recorded by the NMRW. The postulated Roman road is not shown.
- 4.65 The Tithe maps for the area show that enclosure of the lower slopes of the mountain had taken place by the mid-19th century, with many of the field boundaries still recognisable in

the present-day landscape. The map shows field systems at the edge of the upland, farmed from the various farmsteads and small holdings on the upper slopes. The fields vary with some very regular in size and shape and occupying well-defined blocks, with others irregular and curved. Within these enclosed areas, a few small farms were present, notably Blaen-cnyw (**GGAT04914g**) and Blaen-cyffin (**GGAT04910g**), both on the south-west margins of the Site, Blaen-nant-y-caws on the south-east side, and Blaen-nant-ddu in the north.

- 4.66 Some of the groups of fields are clearly associated with specific farmsteads. In these cases, it is likely that the fields were established around the house as an encroachment onto the common land, probably within the post-medieval period but possibly earlier in the medieval period. Successive, periodic intakes are likely to have been made into the common 'waste' reflected in the irregular curved boundaries against the edge of the common. This can best be seen in the fields around Blaen-nant-ddu, where a seemingly curve-edged plot can be made out with the farm at the centre that then appears to have expanded to the east (and possibly the west) with additional curve-boundary fields reflecting successive land takes.
- 4.67 Many of the fields in the valleys around the edge of the upland are fairly regular with dog-leg field boundaries and some which curve. These are characteristics of former medieval open fields that were then enclosed in the late medieval or post-medieval periods usually through private agreement to better accommodate livestock farming.
- 4.68 The road followed by the proposed access route is depicted on the Trevethin Tithe Map as a faint path. It follows its present course down into Cwm Byrgwm but then connects to a series of local routes through an area of terraced housing before running north-east into Abersychan past the British Ironworks. It is apparent that part of the modern route was not present in the 19th century.
- 4.69 A detailed depiction of the Site is given on the OS map of 1880 (**Plan EDP 6**). The map shows that for the most part the field boundaries shown on the Tithe maps were still present at this time, albeit with occasional boundary removal or further subdivision of existing fields. No further extensive intake from the common land is shown suggesting that this process predated the 19th century.
- 4.70 Particular detail is shown in respect of the various tracks that crossed the common illustrating how the valleys and farmsteads were interconnected across the expanse by a complex network of footpaths and tracks. Amongst these the former Roman road alignment is clearly marked. An inn is shown (that is not on the Tithe map) named as the 'Traveller's Rest' located within a rectangular enclosure close to several other dwellings. The inn was located in the northern part of the Site at a junction of several tracks and is no longer extant.
- 4.71 The OS map is particularly illustrative of the extent of industrial activity across the common and at its edges. In addition to those elements recorded by the HER (as discussed above) the map shows old coal levels near to Blaen-nant-y-caws near the eastern edge of the Site as well as an air shaft. Levels are also shown in the south-eastern part of the Site above Ty Gwyn with colliery tips, mine entrances and buildings labeled as the Blaen-y-cwm Colliery just beyond the site boundary to the south. Old levels are illustrated in the western part of the Site on slopes around the Nant-y-Cnyw and near Blaen-cyffin. An 'old tramway' is shown

connecting the mines at Blaen-nany-y-caws to the colliery at Blaen-serchan, beyond the Site to the north.

- 4.72 It is noteworthy that the levels in the Site and at its edges are mostly labeled as 'old'. This is indicative of them having been in use early in the industrial era (probably late 18th and early-mid 19th centuries) when the mountain's coal reserves were initially exploited. By 1880 the more easily accessible reserves will have been mostly exhausted, and coal was being mined from larger collieries located further down in the valleys reaching deeper reserves with shafts (although some levels are still evident associated with these collieries). The central areas of the Site were not mined due to the upper layer of harder stone, however the 1880 map shows several 'air shafts' in the open areas probably associated with the mines accessed from the levels at the edges of the common.
- 4.73 The 1880 map illustrates how Mynydd Llanhilleth was at this time a busy industrial landscape within mining activity in all of the adjacent valleys as well as spoil tips, quarries and old mine workings evident around its edges. The tracks crossing the common would probably have been busy with workers and other traffic related to this industry.
- 4.74 The access route is shown as per the Tithe map in that once the track is down into the valley its modern form is not apparent and it merges with a number of routes around a former settlement to the west of the British Ironworks, named simply as 'British' of which now only a few rows of houses remain. Further to the north-west the track is more consistent with the modern form passing works to the north before heading into Abersychan.
- 4.75 The 1901 OS map (**Plan EDP 7**) illustrates a very similar picture to the map of 1880. Slight changes in the local mining industry are evident with further indication that mining levels higher up the slope were increasingly disused and the larger collieries in the adjacent valley were expanding. The Blaen-y-cwm Colliery appears to have expanded over this period with further tips and mine entrances shown within the Site.
- 4.76 The 1920 OS map (**Plan EDP 8**) illustrates further decline of industry around the edges of Mynydd Llanhilleth. By this time, the Blaen-y-cwm Colliery is shown as 'disused', as is the Blaen-cyffin Colliery located just at the western edge of the Site and the Farm Colliery further to the south-west. However, it is evident that the mining industry continued to be a major presence in the landscape with the valley bottom collieries adjacent to the Site (such as those in Cwm Du to the north-east and Tir-pentwys to the south) shown as large fully operational industrial complexes accessed by railways.
- 4.77 The next available map dates from 1964–1965 (**Plan EDP 9**). This map illustrates substantial change at the Site with most of the former common occupied by opencast mine working. These works evidently removed all of the former trackways and other features of the common that were in their footprint. The 20th century mining also destroyed remains related to much of the 19th century mining at the edge of the common for example above Cwm Du, to the west of Blaen-nany-y-caws and the remains of the Blaen-y-cwm Colliery and mining remains near to Blaen-cnyw. The map indicates, however, that mining activity via levels was restarted along the valley adjacent to Blaen-cyffin (including within the Site) and at Cwm Cnyw, activity that may have been directly related to the adjacent opencast mine.

- 4.78 A house named Ty-Shewy located close to Blaen-y-cwm Colliery is shown as having been removed as is the farmstead at Blaen-cnyw in the western part of the Site. However, the opencast mine appears to have repurposed some of the buildings within the Site with the former public house the 'Traveller's Rest' labeled as 'offices' along with additional, adjacent buildings. Farmsteads around the edge of the mine workings are retained including an enclosed house in the northern part of the Site labeled as 'Crossfence House' which would have sat as an island within the mine workings, although the nearby Blaen-nant Du farmstead appears to have become disused.
- 4.79 The 1964–1965 map illustrates new roads crossing the mountain broadly replacing the function of the lost tracks and connecting to older routes to the north and south. These routes have since been retained in the modern landscape. The modern course of the proposed access route also first appears on this map suggesting that the route, direct to Abersychan and skirting around the remaining buildings of the settlement at 'British', was consolidated at the same time as the mountain roads, possibly to better facilitate access to the upland for traffic related to the opencast mine.
- 4.80 An OS map of 1977–1979 (**Plan EDP 10**) gives only partial coverage of the Site but is the first map to show the opencast mines having been partially remediated. This map indicates that the opencast works went out of use in the early to mid-1960s. The map shows the northern, western, eastern and central parts of the former mine reinstated as open grassland. The southern part is shown with large quarry pits still present but within an enclosed area that is in use for forestry plantations accessed via a network of tracks.
- 4.81 The map no longer shows the former 'Traveller's Rest' public house or the other mine offices depicted in 1964–1965. 'Crossfence House' is however shown and labeled as such suggesting that it was at this time still inhabited.
- 4.82 Later maps show no further changes at the Site although maps after 2006 no longer label 'Crossfence House' suggesting that it had ceased to be inhabited after this date.
- 4.83 The historic maps document accurately the 19th and 20th century history of the Site illustrating its evolution from a marginal semi-upland agricultural landscape, that evolved from a post-medieval settlement pattern to a landscape that was increasingly industrialised through mining and thus exploited for its mineral wealth. The ultimate expression of this exploitation was the opencast mining of the mid-20th century which destroyed most of the former mountain top at Mynydd Llanhilleth. The least affected areas are around the Site's margins where post-medieval fields are preserved as well as earthwork remains of the 19th and early 20th century mining industry. The best-preserved part of the Site is the northern/north-eastern part which maps demonstrate was unaffected by the opencast mining.

Aerial Photographs

- 4.84 Aerial photographs were consulted from the Welsh Government archive the CRAPW. Images were viewed dating from 1945 to 1991.
- 4.85 A single image dates from August 1945 (**Plan EDP 11**). The image shows the Site prior to opencast mining as it is shown on the OS maps of the early 20th century. A notable feature

is a large bund in the eastern part of the Site. This bund corresponds to a feature first shown on an OS map of 1938 (not shown) and again on the map of 1964-1965 (**Plan EDP 9**) that is labelled as an 'aerial ropeway'. Aerial ropeways were typically employed in industry to transport raw materials or spoil and it is likely that the one shown was designed to transport coal or other materials from the opencast mine to the railway transport system in Cwm Du to the north. It is possible that the ropeway was constructed in 1938 but then mining was delayed due to the Second World War. The aerial photograph may in this regard have captured the very beginnings of the opencast mining operations, with the ropeway in place and with the spoil heap related to this activity.

- 4.86 An aerial photograph of May 1963 (**Plan EDP 12**) shows the opencast mining underway. The image closely corroborates the map of 1964-1965. Mining disturbance is shown across all of the areas defined on the map as part of the opencast mine suggesting the ground disturbance across all of these areas was total and that any archaeology in the footprint of the mine will have been destroyed. A central island of land appears undisturbed presumably as this was remaining land earmarked for later removal. The image illustrates how mining activity disturbed areas located beyond the extent of the mine as shown on the map of 1964-1965. For example, a compound is shown to the north as well as road construction along the route of an existing trackway and some other localised disturbance. It is noteworthy that the north-eastern part of the Site where the alignment of a Roman road is recorded was evidently unaffected by the mining.
- 4.87 Other mining disturbance corresponds to the newly re-opened mines at Blaen-cyffin at the western edge of the Site and further to the west.
- 4.88 A series of images from 1972 and from 1975 (not reproduced) appear to show the land of the opencast mine prior to remediation or possibly partly remediated, with various abraded areas, channels and rough looking ground across the former opencast areas highlighted on the 1972 images by a light covering of snow.
- 4.89 The images of 1991 (not reproduced) only partly show the southern end of the Site. These suggest that remediation had taken place by that time but also show the pits adjacent to the southern part of the Site in use for quarrying. This late 20th century use explains why this land adjacent to the Site was never infilled due to its ongoing exploitation for stone quarrying.

LiDAR

- 4.90 LiDAR data comprising a DTM at 2m resolution was downloaded for the Site and its environs. The data covers most of the Site (**Plan EDP 13**) with the exception of the northern corners.
- 4.91 The LiDAR data does not add any significant archaeological information to the baseline. The remediated former opencast area is clearly defined, as are the retained quarries adjacent to the southern part of the Site.

Site Walkover and Historic Landscape

- 4.92 The Site was visited on 08 June 2022 and again on the 16 August 2022. The visit confirmed the assessment of desk-based sources as set out above in that it was clear that the majority of the Site comprises ground that has been reinstated following the opencast mining. Modern tracks cross this area that are of tarmac, gravel, stone and across grass. The southern part of the Site is an active quarry that was not visited directly as logging was underway across that area within a fenced enclosure.
- 4.93 Key observations regarding the historic environment were:

Roman Road (GGAT08667g)

- 4.94 The possible Roman road alignment that is thought to cross the northern part of the Site and which follows the northern edge of the proposed grid connection corridor was seen as a relict abraded trackway running along the northern edge of field systems following the contour. It follows a route just above steep slopes down to the Nant Ddu valley before crossing the adjacent ridge to the north-west. The route is clearly an old track and is defined primarily by multiple abraded paths (**Image EDP A1.1**) although otherwise it is not clearly defined, i.e. no roadside ditches or banks were observed.
- 4.95 Nevertheless, in some places the route appears to run along a raised surface (**Image EDP A1.2**) which could reflect a deliberately built-up foundation for a road (i.e. a possible *agger*). Whilst the 2002 evaluation was inconclusive and whilst it is likely that any part of the road that was within the footprint of opencast mining was destroyed it is apparent that an old trackway exists in this location that could have originated in the Roman period, albeit clearly used for a long period of time since.
- 4.96 As such, the route should be considered to represent a historic asset potentially of moderate significance were it to contain the buried remains of a Roman road such as an *agger*, metalled surface or side ditches.

Historic Mining Activity

- 4.97 The only location where extant archaeological evidence was seen for pre-modern mining activity was on the steeply sloping fields around Cwm Cnyw in the south-west part of the Site. Remains comprising a probable level entrance and associated tips were apparent (**Image EDP A1.3**) with the air shaft recorded by GGAT (**GGAT06416g**) on the hillside above. Remains of this nature possess a low degree of evidential and historical value and represent a historic asset of low significance.
- 4.98 Otherwise, historic mining remains were only apparent beyond or at the very edge of the Site boundary. For example, along the southern edge of Cwm Du mining tips are present at the very edge of the Site (**Image EDP A1.4**) but otherwise mining remains and earthworks (of which many are present within the valley) are located beyond the Site boundary. A similar situation is present at Blaen Cyffin in the western part of the site, where spoil tips and probable former mine entrances are visible in the valley just beyond the site boundary (**Image EDP A1.5**), but do not appear to extend into the Site itself.

- 4.99 In this regard, there is a clear delineation between the valley landscape and the reinstated open upland and historic mining remains have clearly not survived in the latter environment. Remains of tips at the edge of Cwm Du are of very limited evidential value and are not considered to represent a historic asset.

Cefn Crib Common

- 4.100 The very southern end of the Site encompasses a part of Cefn Crib Common, an area of open upland used for common grazing (**Image EDP A1.6**). As noted previously the NMRW records a historic trackway running south across the common (**535594**). During the visit this trackway was seen to comprise an array of abraded tracks at the edge of the common across a broad area evidently reflecting a long history of use as a route.
- 4.101 This historic route ran along the boundary between the Parish of Llanhilleth and that of Trevethin and probably represented a drove way between upland and lowland pastures. As such the route could potentially be possibly medieval or older in date. As such, the route should be considered to represent a historic asset of low significance. Buried remains associated with it might comprise infilled boundary ditches or possibly a metaled surface.
- 4.102 No other archaeological features were seen at Cefn Crib Common within the site boundary

Post-medieval Agricultural Features – Historic Landscapes

- 4.103 Around the edges at Mynydd Llanhilleth's lower margins, in the west, north-central, south and south-eastern parts of the Site, enclosed fields are present in the valley sides beyond the extent of the opencast mine. The map regression undertaken above indicates that these boundaries had been established no later than the mid-19th century, when the Tithe maps were surveyed, and probably date from post-medieval or even medieval enclosure around farmsteads.
- 4.104 In addition to field systems other elements of the post-medieval agricultural landscape are preserved within the Site including the extant working farm at Blaen-nant-y-caws in the eastern part and a ruined building (Pen Tranch – **GGAT06902g**) and sheep pen enclosure complex (**421322**, **Image EDP A1.7**) at the head of the Nant Duu valley (Cwm Du), and another former farm enclosure just to the west of the valley (Blaen Nant Ddu Enclosure I-**GGAT08668g**) as well as various trackways.
- 4.105 The older field boundaries are mainly marked by lines of mature trees (**Image EDP A1.8**), sometimes with hedgerows and, where required, modern post and wire fences. The important boundaries between the upland common and the farmland (such as at the northern edge of Cwm Du and on the edge of Cefn Crib Common) comprise substantial drystone walls (**Image EDP A1.9**). As they are depicted on the Tithe maps these boundaries meet the 1997 Hedgerow Regulations criteria for an 'important' boundary in historic terms, being part of a field system predating the Inclosure Act of 1845.
- 4.106 The field boundaries and other relict features such as ruined buildings and enclosures possess limited intrinsic evidential value. The discrete features such as the ruined former farmhouse of Pen Tranch (**GGAT06902g**), sheep pens (**421322**) and the enclosure and former dwelling to the west (**GGAT08668g**) possess a low degree of evidential and historical

value, whereas on their own, as individual features, the field boundaries possess negligible value.

- 4.107 Nonetheless, the mature trees of the field boundaries and remains of farms and former farmsteads represent areas where the post-medieval agricultural landscape is preserved and together they form distinct interrelated groups of assets of low significance but with a shared history and character and, a degree of aesthetic quality and value, mainly due to the mature trees on the boundaries. These areas are identified on **Plan EDP 14** and represent historic assets of low significance.
- 4.108 Some of these areas are quite distinct such as the landscape at the head of Cwm Du (**Image EDP A1.8**), others join with wider tracts of countryside that developed in the post-medieval period, such as the fields around Blaen-nant-y-caws (**Image EDP A1.10**), and those around Blaen-y-cwm (**Image EDP A1.11**) just south of the Site. Other areas are more mixed but also possess a degree of landscape character such as the common land at Crib Cefn and the farmland to the west of this (i.e. **Images EDP A1.3** and **5**) which illustrates a mix of historic industrial activity and post-medieval field systems.

Site of Former Buildings at the 'Traveller's Rest'

- 4.109 As discussed above the site of the former 19th century Inn the 'Traveller's Rest' was later occupied by buildings associated with the opencast mining operation. The location of these buildings (**Image EDP A1.12**) was seen to comprise a terraced platform adjacent to the roadside at the head of Cwm Du. No building remains are now present.
- 4.110 Buried remains in this location, such as those of the Inn, would be of very low evidential value and are a historic asset of negligible significance.

Access Route and Grid Connection

- 4.111 The access route was walked on 18 August 2022. As noted previously, the route passes through an area of former industrial activity recorded by the HER as the route of the former Talywain Railway (**GGAT03276.1**) and **EA112** The British Ironworks Extractive Area and, **EA093** Varteg Hill Extractive Area.
- 4.112 So as to accommodate road widening works for the Proposed Development, the route encompasses land take from the edges of the existing modern road mainly at corners. The most notable historic asset within this footprint is the south-eastern bridge abutment of the route of the former Talywain Railway (**GGAT03276.1**). This stone-built structure (**Image EDP A1.39**) comprises an abutment and retaining walls built of rock-faced, random coursed sandstone. To the south-east of the structure is an earthwork embankment that formerly held the railway.
- 4.113 The structure defines the former course of the railway which was a feature of the 19th century industrial landscape containing a low degree of evidential value in its built fabric and historical value, illustrating the appearance of the 19th century landscape. In this regard it comprises a historic asset of low significance.
- 4.114 The areas of land take along the route pass through areas of former industrial earthworks mainly composing upcast tips that are heavily overgrown with vegetation. As noted in

Table EDP 4.1 the HER records various features in the verges near which are in the Site. However, apart from a small former pond of very low significance (**GGAT13216g**) none of these features are extant. As such, it is concluded that the remaining land take areas do not contain any extant historic assets. In addition to the known former pond, it is likely that these areas contain buried remains related to historic mining activity such as infilled ditches or layers of spoil. Such remains would be of very limited evidential value and would be either historic assets of very low significance or should not be considered to represent historic assets.

- 4.115 As described previously the proposed grid connection corridor crosses land to the south of the former Roman road alignment, now a track, described above forming a 50m corridor with the track running along its northern edge. At its eastern end the proposed route corridor drops to the south, down the slope into the Cwm Du valley passing through an area of historic mining activity (part of **EA112** The British Ironworks Extractive Area). This area was visited from the roadside to the south and was seen to contain some low earthworks presumed to be spoil tips (**Image EDP A1.40**).
- 4.116 The earthworks illustrate the appearance of the former industrial landscape and contain a very limited degree of evidential value in their fabric. As such, they would be considered to be historic assets of very low significance. The grid connection route would probably be cut across these features but comprising a single trench would have little impact upon their general appearance as they are large features.

ASSESSMENT OF THE SITE'S ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

- 4.117 The existing records suggest that there is very limited evidence for activity within the Site spanning the Bronze Age and Roman periods, the dominant imprint is of the 19th century. Here, the enclosure process is evident in the post-medieval fieldscapes around Mynydd Llanhilleth, while the later intensive mining industry is also prominent, culminating in the 20th century opencast mining which had dominated the mountain, and which dominates the Site.
- 4.118 This section assesses the potential for unrecorded buried archaeological remains to be present within the Site. The assessment of archaeological potential is based on the data available and takes into consideration the known archaeological assets within the Site and 500m study area, together with the other data gathered for this study. This exercise is predictive only, and the lack of archaeology of a given period may in fact reflect a lack of data, rather than a genuine absence of activity.
- 4.119 In all cases, the comments below refer to the areas of the Site not subject to former opencast mining. Within the opencast mining footprint there is considered to be no archaeological potential. Nonetheless, successive use of the landscape, even where undisturbed by the opencast mining of the 20th century, for agriculture and then mining, is also likely to have disturbed any earlier buried archaeological remains within its footprint.

Paleoenvironmental

- 4.120 There is no evidence for discrete peat deposits within the Site. The paleoenvironmental potential is therefore considered as nil.

Palaeolithic, Mesolithic and Neolithic

- 4.121 There is no evidence for archaeology of these periods within the Site or ASA, and indeed such evidence is rare at a regional level. The potential for archaeology of these periods to exist within the Site is considered to be very low.

Bronze Age

- 4.122 There is a degree of evidence for archaeology of this period within the ASA. However, given that most of the upland areas within the Site where Bronze Age cairns and field systems might be expected have been disturbed and that no extant features of this period were seen during the site visit or in any other situation, the potential for unrecorded Bronze Age archaeology to exist within the Site is considered to be low. However, if present, buried remains from this period could potentially be of moderate or even high significance (such as funerary remains).

Iron Age and Roman

- 4.123 There is no evidence for archaeology of the Iron Age within the Site or ASA. While this does not preclude it being present, the potential for archaeology of this period is considered to be very low. Of the Roman period it is possible that the Site is crossed by a Roman road although this has not been archaeologically proven. However, there remains a high potential for unrecorded remains associated with the road to be present within the Site that could be of moderate significance.

Medieval

- 4.124 The agricultural landscape at the margins of the Site may have originated in the medieval period as farmsteads utilising the upland edge, probably following a pattern of seasonal transhumance. The potential for medieval archaeology to be present is considered to be high. However, the greatest likelihood is for infilled ditches and furrows related to agriculture rather than settlement remains, which would be of low or very low significance.

Post-medieval and Modern

- 4.125 As described, the post-medieval and modern periods are represented by either areas where elements of the post-medieval agricultural landscape are preserved or by historic mining remains that predate the modern opencast mining of the 20th century. There is a high likelihood that the Site contains buried remains related to these eras such as boundary or drainage ditches, or previously unrecorded, buried remains related to coal mining. Such remains would be of very low heritage significance.

Section 5 Setting Assessment

DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS

- 5.1 No World Heritage Sites, scheduled monuments, listed buildings, registered parks and gardens, registered historic landscapes or conservation areas lie within the Site. None will therefore be physically affected by the development of the Site.
- 5.2 In accordance with advice issued by Cadw, the following section details and contextualises the known designated historic assets within a 10km SSA from the site boundary. In doing so, it represents Stages 1 and 2 of the Cadw setting assessment process set out in Cadw (2017b). Designated assets within the SSA are shown on **Plan EDP 1**.

STAGE 1 OF THE ASSESSMENT (CADW 2017B)

- 5.3 Stage 1 of the setting assessment process was based on the application of a Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) to the Site. This was projected from the tip height of the proposed turbines. The projection is based on a DTM generated by LiDAR survey and thus represents a projection which takes no account of trees, buildings and other features of the landscape that could reduce visibility.
- 5.4 Furthermore, the ZTV is from a fixed point in time, is relative to the resolution of the LiDAR data and does not therefore account for the dynamic nature of the landscape, nor does it account for all landscape features or atmospheric factors that affect visibility. Hence, it should thus be considered an absolute worst-case scenario for visibility between the historic assets considered for assessment and the Site. The ZTV is shown on **Plan EDP 1**. On this plan the ZTV is colour graded by precisely how much of the development may be visible from that location (notwithstanding local screening factors such as trees, etc.).
- 5.5 The land at the Site comprises both farmland at the edge of upland and broad open upland. The land is either common land or farmland historically, associated with the farmsteads around the edge of the Site. The farmland, which is derived from post-medieval field systems, has no historical or functional associations with any more distant heritage assets, rather the land was farmed from, and set out around, nearby farmsteads. The common land, in its present form, is a product of remediation carried out following the use of the mountain for opencast mining and thus it has no archaeological features that might retain a non-visual association with any distant historic assets. Whilst the mountain itself might reflect a feature of the wider setting of a historic asset (such as a prehistoric barrow) that association would be based on a line of sight visibility and thus would be captured by the ZTV.
- 5.6 Therefore, all of the assets scoped out of the assessment, due to not being within the ZTV and thus not visible from or to the Site, do not possess or exhibit any non-visual historic associations or other relationships with the Site which could contribute to their significance.
- 5.7 As such, following the application of the ZTV, only the designated historic assets which are located within it have been assessed as to determine whether or not these might have the

potential to be affected by the Proposed Development (as per Stage 1 of the Cadw Settings Assessment guidance) as a result of changes within their setting. These assets are discussed in the paragraphs below.

WORLD HERITAGE SITES

5.8 As noted previously the Blaenavon Industrial Landscape World Heritage Site (BILWHS) was considered separately in a stand-alone HIA report (EDP, 2022b).

5.9 That report sets out in detail the significance of the BILWHS which as a World Heritage Site is 'Very High', and the HIA should be read as a full document of its significance and assessment of impacts from the Proposed Development.

5.10 In summary this significance comprises its OUV. The Blaenavon Industrial Landscape was inscribed as a World Heritage Site for the following reasons:

"Criterion C (iii): The Blaenavon Landscape constitutes an exceptional illustration in material form of the social and economic structure of 19th century industry; and

Criterion C (iv): The components of the Blaenavon Landscape together make up an outstanding and remarkably complete example of a 19th century industrial landscape."

5.11 The OUV is summarised below:

- *"The area has international importance in iron making and coal mining in the late 18th and early 19th centuries;*
- *Well preserved mining sites are present at Blaenavon Ironworks and Big Pit coal mine which include furnaces, kilns and other structures;*
- *Parts of the surrounding landscape contain elements of an outstanding relict landscape of mineral exploitation, manufacturing, transport and settlement, an integrated and authentic landscape representing all the crucial elements of industrialisation;*
- *The landscape reflects the development of early industrial society with distinctive terraced housing and other built elements (such as churches, chapels and schools) that reflect the industrial culture of the south-Welsh valleys, particularly in the town of Blaenavon; and*
- *Taking all these elements together, the WHS provides one of the prime areas in the world where the full social, economic and technological process of industrialisation through iron and coal production, can be studied and understood."*

SCHEDULED MONUMENTS

- 5.12 **Table EDP 5.1** provides information on the 14 scheduled monuments that are located within 10km of the Site, and which intersect with the ZTV. It seeks to address Stage 1 of the assessment process in determining whether the assets might be affected by the Proposed Development.
- 5.13 In that regard the final two columns of the table were informed by a comprehensive site visit to each asset (as best as possible from public rights of way) undertaken to refine the data presented by the ZTV. For some locations reference is also made to Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) photoviewpoints and wireframe views/montages.

Table EDP 5.1: Scheduled Monuments Considered for Stage 1 Settings Assessment

	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Potential for Significance to be Affected by Development?
Cefn Man Moel cros-ridge Dyke	MM345	6.5km to NW	Historic Asset	No – potentially a very distant view to wind turbines would be possible. This view would be of no relevance to the experience of the asset or its associative relationships.
Y Domen Fawr Round Cairn	GM588	7.8km to NW	Prehistoric ritual/funerary mound located at crest of ridge. Set on open upland hill summit with openness and associations with topography and other contemporary monuments contributing to its significance.	No – potentially a very distant view to wind turbines would be possible. This view would be of no relevance to the experience of the asset or its associative relationships – no related barrows are known to the south-east whereby the presence of turbines might affect the view.
Site of Tegernacus Stone	GM339	8.8km to W	Concrete pillar marking location of early medieval inscribed standing stone (since removed). Adjacent to ridgeway path from where stone was meant to be seen. All other aspects of setting irrelevant as the feature is modern.	No – setting of little relevance to the modern marker. Potentially a very distant view to wind turbines which would not change the associative relationship with the adjacent ridgeway.
Pen y Fan Canal Reservoir	MM269	2.7km to W	18 th century dam related to the Monmouthshire canal. Functional, industrial feature where its associations with related industrial features (such as the canal) and local topography contribute to its significance.	No – views out to the wider countryside are of no relevance to the asset's significance and development will not affect its associated features.
St Illtyd Castle Mound	MM141	750m to W	Earthwork remains of a medieval motte and ditch comprising a steep sided mound. Views out from the mound area of relevance to its significance, as well as its relationship with nearby medieval church and other assets nearby.	Yes – considered for further, more detailed assessment (in respect of Stage 2 of the assessment process) in the section below.

	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Potential for Significance to be Affected by Development?
Rectangular Earthworks 530m SSW of Heol-Ddu-Uchaf	GM164	9km to W	Earthwork remains of two Roman marching camps. Situated on upland on a hill with openness and associations with topography and other contemporary monuments and routeways contributing to its significance.	No – potentially a very distant view to wind turbines would be possible. This view would be of no relevance to the experience of the asset or its associative relationships with more local contemporary assets or locations.
Fort South of Pen-Llwyn Fawr	MM096	7.7km to SW	Earthwork remains of a Roman fort. Situated within a modern built-up landscape at Penllwyn. Setting now largely compromised by modern development but associations with topography and other contemporary monuments and routeways still contribute to its significance.	No - distant view to wind turbines unlikely due to adjacent buildings and of no relevance to the experience of the asset or its associative relationships with more local contemporary assets or locations.
Twm-Barlwm Mound and Bailey Castle	MM044	7.7km to S	Earthwork remains of a medieval motte and bailey and earlier hillfort. Hilltop location affords panoramic views in all directions including towards the distant summit of Mynydd Llanhilleth (Image EDP A1.13 and Photoviewpoint 21 (LVIA Figure 6.12)). These broad views across most of the Glamorgan Uplands and beyond were evidently intended in the castle's location and are an element of its significance.	No – whilst the proposed wind turbines would be visible from the monument (see wireframe associated with Photoviewpoint 21 (LVIA Figure 6.12)), they would be distant and thus would not distract from the monument's prominence. Furthermore, their presence would not reduce the breadth and extent of the view nor screen any element of it, it would not be any less dramatic. As it is the broad scope of the view that is the contributing factor to the asset's significance rather than its specific content, the proposed turbines would not affect the monument's significance.

	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Potential for Significance to be Affected by Development?
Iron Ore Scours at Upper Race, Pontypool	MM256	2.9km to SE	Extraction pits associated with early iron ore extraction dating from the 16 th century. Located in open upland landscape where the openness of its surroundings and its associations with related industrial features and the local topography and geology contribute to its significance.	No - views out to the wider countryside are of no relevance to the asset's significance and development will not affect its associated features.
Old Beam Pump and Winding Engine	MM192	1.7km to SE	Remains of a winding engine house, shafts and a pond related to a 19 th century mine. Functional, industrial feature where its associations with related industrial features and the local topography and geology contribute to its significance.	No - views out to the wider countryside are of no relevance to the asset's significance and development will not affect its associated features.
Abersychan Railway	GM597	2.8km to E	Remains of part of an unusual 19 th century railway. Located on a valley side but in woodland. Functional, industrial feature where its associations with related industrial features (such as the British Ironworks which it served) and local topography contribute to its significance.	No - views out to the wider countryside likely to be affected by adjacent tree cover and regardless are of no relevance to the asset's significance. Development will not affect its associated features.
Cwmbyrgwm Colliery	MM163	650m to NE	Structural remains of colliery. Located in valley bottom, between high hills but with wider, more open landscape to the east. The remains are closely associated with other industrial remains of the British Ironworks at Abersychan and can be seen in various glimpsed views from the east across the valley with the listed chimney that is part of the monument a prominent feature (Image EDP A1.14).	Yes – considered for further, more detailed assessment (in respect of Stage 2 of the assessment process) in the section below.

	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Potential for Significance to be Affected by Development?
Air Furnace at British Ironworks	MM221	1km to NE	Structural remains of a very rare type of air furnace, significant primarily for its evidential value. Setting comprises scrub vegetation and woodland which restrict an experience of the assets from beyond its immediate vicinity.	No – asset is associated with the surrounding former industrial landscape in the valley bottom and is not especially visible from beyond its immediate locality. Turbines located on distant upland are of no relevance to its significance.
British Colliery Pumping Engine House	MM216	1.1km to NE	Structural remains of an engine house associated with the British Ironworks. Significant primarily for its evidential value. Setting comprises scrub vegetation and woodland which restrict an experience of the assets from beyond its immediate vicinity.	No – asset is associated with the surrounding former industrial landscape in the valley bottom, is not especially visible from beyond its immediate locality. Turbines located on distant upland are of no relevance to its significance.

5.14 In summary the following scheduled monuments have been taken forwards for more detailed assessment:

- Cwmbyrgwm Colliery (**MM163**); and
- St Illtyd Castle Mound (**MM141**).

LISTED BUILDINGS

5.15 **Table EDP 5.2** provides information on the listed buildings that are located within 10km of the Site, and which intersect with the ZTV. These comprise 22 listed at Grade II* and 244 at Grade II. It seeks to address Stage 1 of the assessment process in determining whether the assets might be affected by the Proposed Development. Where many buildings are clustered together the table address them as a group, and the table covers buildings to the north of the Site moving clockwise around it.

5.16 In that regard the final two columns of the table were informed by a comprehensive site visit to each asset (as best as possible from public rights of way) undertaken to refine the data presented by the ZTV. For some locations reference is also made to LVIA photoviewpoints and wireframe views/montages.

Table EDP 5.2: Listed Buildings Considered for Stage 1 Settings Assessment

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
Grade II* Office and Foundry Quadrangle	14870	1.4km to NE, c.320m from the access route.	A building related to the former British Ironworks comprising the Grade II* Office and Foundry Quadrangle. This large stone building has considerable architectural detailing but is in a derelict and ruinous state. The building is located immediately west of the town of Abersychan amongst other relics of the ironworks and is situated within an area of semi-disused grassland, scrub and woodland which screens views to the asset.	No – the listed building is only just in the ZTV and its setting, such that its contribution to its significance is defined by its association with related industrial features and with the town to the east and its industrial history, rather than the land within Site. A very limited view south-west to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the building. The building is far enough from the access route so that works along this route would not be experienced from or in relation to this asset.
Two Grade II* Buildings in Registered Park and Garden Pontypool Park: Entrance Gates to Pontypool Park and Shell Grotto	3112, 18466	3.5km to E	Grade II* listed Entrance Gates to Pontypool Park, dating to the 18 th century, with Grade II* Shell Grotto. The assets hold a group value through their associations with the Registered Park and Garden and other historic features within it. The wider setting of the park is defined by the built form of the town of Pontypool but views are possible from higher locations towards the Site.	No – during the site visit it was determined that no views are possible from either of the individual listed buildings to the Site due to adjacent tree cover and its screening effect. The most elevated asset, the Shell Grotto (Image EDP A1.16) was seen to be screened in views to the west by trees and instead overlooks the landscape to the east, away from the Proposed Development.
Grade II* Valley Inheritance Museum	3120	3.5km to E	The Grade II* Valley Inheritance Museum comprises large early 19 th century stable block with a quadrangle plan and Classical style that was once associated with Pontypool Park House. The building is now a municipal museum. It is closely associated with adjacent buildings such	No – the building is only on the edge of the ZTV, and as such a view of the whole development would not be possible. Its setting, such that it contributes to its significance, is defined by its relationship with the park and town of Pontypool itself and its

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			as the St Albans school which also relate to the history of the park and the park itself which lies to the south. Otherwise, it is surrounded by the modern urban area of Pontypool and is only experienced from adjacent areas of the town.	19 th century buildings and streetscapes. A potential limited view west to distant wind turbines situated on a distant hilltop would have no impact on the experience of these adjacent spaces or the relationship with nearby buildings, and its significance would be unaffected.
Grade II* Llanddewi Court	2676	7.3km to SE	The Grade II* Llanddewi Court dates to the 16 th century, with its ancillary buildings dated to the 17 th century. The buildings are located within a secluded farmstead, which includes modern agricultural buildings, and are surrounded by agricultural land with which they are functionally and historically associated.	No – while the house is located within the ZTV, its setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by its relationship with the associated buildings forming Llanddewi Court, as well as the immediately adjacent rural land, rather than a distant parcel of land. A potential limited view north-west to very distant wind turbines would have no relevance to this more immediate setting and views out from the farmstead have little relevance to its significance anyway. As such the development would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Five Grade II* listed buildings at Navigation Colliery	21267, 16428, 16425, 16427, 16426.	2.7km to SW	A grouping of listed buildings at the former Navigation Colliery, immediately north of the small village of Crumlin. These comprise the Grade II* North and South Winding Engine Houses, Colliery Chimney, Fan House and Fan Drift, Power House and Pump House with other Grade II listed buildings in the group. The Navigation Colliery was built by the firm of Partridge Jones and Co., between 1907 and	No – While the Colliery buildings are within the ZTV, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance is defined by their relationship with the surrounding associated industrial buildings of the Navigation Colliery, as well as with the towns to the north and south with its industrial history. A limited view north east to distant wind turbines would

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			1911. The firm was one of the largest coal companies in South Wales, owning nine collieries in the Gwent valleys. The listed buildings are dilapidated and located either in a modern works compound (Image EDP A1.18) or in woodland where they are experienced as a group, allowing an appreciation of the site as a rare nearly complete Colliery. The wider setting of the buildings are the settlements of Crumlin to the south and Swyffryd to the north, with which they have a historical association. Other elements of their setting such as then modern compound, vegetation and adjacent concrete road bridge have a negative influence on their significance.	have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Two Grade II* buildings at Newbridge: Celyn Collieries Workmen's Memorial Hall and the Church of Our Lady of Peace	82346, 21499	4km to SW	A grouping of listed buildings within the settlement of Newbridge including the Grade II* Celyn Collieries Workmen's Memorial Hall, and the Grade II* Church of Our Lady of Peace (Image EDP A1.19), a tall basilica style church with attached campanile style bell tower built in the 1930s. These buildings, located within the built up valley town of Newbridge, have settings that are defined by the streetscapes of the town, as well as by the built remnants of its industrial and social history.	No – while the listed buildings are located within the ZTV, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with surrounding streetscapes of Newbridge and its historic associations as an industrial town, and with associated assets. A limited view north-east to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of these buildings. The Church Our Lady of Peace has degree of prominence with its Italianate tower, being locally prominent across the adjacent valley to the east. The proposed turbines would not be visible from ground level at the church due

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
				to adjacent mature trees to the east (Image EDP A1.20) and the turbines would be distant enough and at an elevated location on Mynydd Llanhilleth so as not to compete visually with the church in views across the valley, being well removed from the valley on the hilltops. As such their presence would have no implication for the significance of either of these buildings.
Grade II* Penllwyn	1881	7.3km to SW	The Grade II* listed Penllwyn, former manor house, which is now the Penllwyn Arms public house (currently closed), and its associated Garden Wall (Image EDP A1.21). The manor house was constructed in the 16 th century and was the seat of the Morgan Family. The building is located within the modern built up area of Pontllanfraith with an adjacent park to the east.	No – the Penllwyn Manor house is well-enclosed by its high boundary wall and trees and thus views out from it towards the development would be mostly screened and would be dominated in the foreground by a modern play park that lies adjacent to the building. As such a potential very distant view to wind turbines would be in the context of considerable modern development and would have no impact upon the significance of the listed building.
Grade II* Gelli-groes Mill	1880	8km to SW	The Grade II* Gelli-groes Mill, built in the 17 th century the mill has historic interest, being possibly the last one to function commercially in Monmouthshire. It is associated with the adjacent 18 th century Bridge over Sirhowy River and a 19 th century millhouse. The buildings are located on the southern edge of modern	No – while the listed building is located within the ZTV, its setting, such that it contributes to its significance, is defined by its historic associations with other built assets. Furthermore, views out from the asset are screened by adjacent woodland and so it is unlikely that the turbines would be visible.

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			development within woodland and are well-enclosed from the surrounding landscape.	
Grade II* Church of St Tudor Mynyddislwyn	1882	7.8km to SW	The church has origins dating back to the 12 th century, although it appears the majority of the church was rebuilt in the 19 th century. The church served a large community of rural farmsteads and early industrial development in the valleys before the eventual creation of separate parishes in the later 19 th century. The church is located to the south of Pontllanfraith and is situated within a churchyard defined by a boundary wall and trees and is adjacent to other buildings and surrounded by agricultural land. It has a low tower that has a local degree of prominence.	No – while the church is located within the ZTV, its setting, such that it contributes to its significance, is principally defined by its experience from adjacent spaces and across adjacent open land, where it is a locally prominent building. At most the turbines would be visible in the very distance to the north-east although direct views from the church would not be possible due to the adjacent trees and walls and the turbines would be seen with distant modern development in the foreground. The development would be far enough so as not to compete with the church tower which would remain locally prominent. As such the development would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Grade II* Miners Welfare Institute	26710	6.4km to SW	Within the settlement of Blackwood is the Grade II* Miners Welfare Institute, which was built in 1925 in a free-classical style characteristic of industrial South Wales. The setting of the asset is defined by the streetscapes of Blackwood, allowing their associations with the industrial history of the town to be understood.	No – while the building is within the ZTV, views to the Proposed Development would be curtailed by adjacent buildings and most likely screened. Their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with the streetscapes of the town and its industrial history.

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
Grade II* listed St Illtyd's Church	1866	700m to W	The Grade II* listed medieval church is first mentioned in the 10 th century, although its structure largely dates to the 16 th century, including the Saddleback Tower, possibly with earlier masonry incorporated, although it has undergone later alterations. The church is situated within its associated church grounds, surrounded by agricultural land and woodland, preserving its rural nature and allowing its function as a church serving the rural community to be understood.	Yes – the church is located at a relatively close distance to the Site and is within the ZTV. Considered for further, more detailed assessment (in respect of Stage 2 of the assessment process) in the section below.
Grade II* Church of St Sannan	25522	6.2km to W	Located on a hill top site, the Church of St Sannan has medieval origins, with details in the present building dating it from the 13 th century, while the present tower is possibly 17 th century. However, much of the church was rebuilt during the early 20 th century. A late medieval churchyard cross is also listed in association, the cross was modified in 1925 when it was refashioned as a memorial. The church is located within rural agricultural land immediately east of the settlement of Bargoed. This setting allows its function as a church serving the rural local community to be appreciated.	No – while the church is located on a hilltop within the ZTV, to the east views are screened by the church's boundary wall and trees (Image EDPA1.24) and more heavily by a row of dense mature trees on the boundary of the adjacent road. As such, views east towards the Proposed Development would be screened. Furthermore, the setting of the assets is defined by the adjacent cemetery and rural land, as well as by the adjacent town of Bargoed, rather than by distant land within the Site. As such, the proposed turbines would not affect the significance of this historic asset.
Three Grade II* Buildings at Roundhouse Farm	1863, 17086, 17087	8.5km to NW	Three closely related buildings on a former industrial ironmaster's estate, two of which are the remains of fortified round houses. Located on the edge of the settlement at Nant y Glo	No – the houses are only just in the ZTV and are well enclosed. Their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with the town to the north

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			overlooking the town to the north-east with which there is a close historical association.	and its industrial history. A potential very limited view south to very distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Grade II Abertillery War Memorial	22505	1.5km to N	War Memorial commemorating losses of the First World War. The memorial, comprising a bronze figure of a soldier, was unveiled in 1926. The memorial is located within the heart of Abertillery, and so its setting is defined by the surrounding built form which makes up the street scene of the town centre.	No – the War Memorial is only just in the ZTV and its relationship is with the immediate street scene of Abertillery town centre, acting as a focal point for the community. A very limited view south to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the memorial.
Grade II The Dog Stone	87618	4km to N	A cast iron memorial slab erected to the memory of Carlo, a setter owned by Henry Martyn Kennard, who ran the Blaenavon Company during the mid-19 th century. The memorial is located on the peak of Mynydd Fareg Fawr at the location where Carlo was accidentally killed during a shooting party. This location is immediately south of the BWHS, with which it has a historical association.	No – the War Memorial has no historical associations with the distant land within the Site, instead its relationship is with the adjacent open land where it is appreciable, as well as the industrial centre of Blaenavon to the north. The potential view south to distant wind turbines is illustrated in Photoviewpoint 15 (LVIA Figure 6.12) which is from adjacent to the stone. It is apparent that whilst visible, the turbines wouldn't distract from an appreciation of the stone from its setting and would have no impact on the significance of the memorial.
Grade II Former Colliery Engine House at ETM Steel Fabrication	14869	1.4km to NE	Former colliery engine house (Photograph EDP 41), built in c.1900 for Lower Navigation Colliery. The Engine House contains a unique surviving waddle fan base. The Engine House is located east of the town of	No – the access track passes directly adjacent to the building but is a part of the route where no widening works are proposed. As such the development will result in no change to the building's setting that might

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			<p>Abersychan and is situated within an area of overgrown scrub woodland that was formerly heavily industrialised. The building is in a derelict condition and is adjacent to dilapidated modern buildings and caravans and a metal fence. It has evidently been subject to anti-social behaviour and has been heavily graffitied.</p> <p>Furthermore, the building is encroached upon by unmanaged vegetation. In all, its setting is very negative and all aspects of it detract from its significance to a considerable degree. The building once had associative relationships with other features of the industrial landscape although these are now destroyed and its stands as a lone surviving building experienced from the adjacent road.</p>	affect its significance. The presence of wind turbines in the background in views to the building will have little relevance to the experience of it, especially as its setting is already heavily degraded by its immediate surroundings.
Two Grade II Buildings at the British Ironworks	14871, 18595	1.4km to NE; c.400m–600m from the Site access track	These buildings relate to the former British Ironworks and comprise the Pumping Engine House, as well as the 'Big Arch' which formed the entrance to the Ironworks. The arch carried the Monmouthshire Railway to a junction with the London and North-Western Railway Blaenavon branch, as well as connecting the Monmouthshire railway to the Ironworks. The buildings are located immediately west of the town of Abersychan and are situated within an area of semi-disused grassland, scrub and woodland which screens views to the assets.	No – the listed buildings are only just in the ZTV and their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their association with related industrial features and with the town to the east and its industrial history, rather than the land within the Site. A very limited view south-west to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings. The buildings are far enough from the access route so that works along this route would not be experienced from or in relation to these

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
				assets. A general view of the development from the area of the former ironworks is given in Photoviewpoint 7 (LVIA Figure 6.12) which illustrates, using a montage, how the turbines would be just visible above the adjacent hillside.
Five Grade II Buildings at Abersychan	18585, 3151, 18582, 18581, 83195	1.8km to NE	A group of listed buildings within the town of Abersychan comprising a Former Goods Shed and a Railway Viaduct at Garndiffaith, as well as domestic buildings of two churches (St Thomas and High Street Baptist) and Waterloo Cottage. The assets are surrounded by the built form of Abersychan, and so their setting is defined by the street scenes of the town centre.	No – the buildings are only just in the ZTV and their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with the town in which they are situated, illustrating both its industrial history as well as its domestic development. A view south-west to wind turbines (Image EDP A1.15) would have no impact to the experience of these buildings within the townscape and would not affect the significance of the buildings. An impression of the general view from Abersychan to the development is given in Photoviewpoint 9 (LVIA Figure 6.12) which is taken from close to the Grade II Church of St Thomas.
Four Grade II Listed Cottages West of Varteg	18583, 18592, 18593, 18594,	2.5km to N	Four cottages, Numbers 1–4 The Bungalows. This row of cottages was converted from a mine building of the Lower Varteg Colliery. The cottages are located within a wooded area immediately west of the town of Varteg, with which they have a historical connection.	No – the cottages are only just in the ZTV and their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with the town of Varteg to the east and its industrial history and they are experienced in a wooded context to the north. A potential view south-west to distant wind turbines would have no impact on their more

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
				immediate setting or associations in the wider landscape and would not affect the significance of the buildings.
Two Grade II Buildings at the Bank of the Afon Llyn, immediately East of Victoria Village	18580, 18579	2.7km to NE	Grade II listed Lasgarn Cottage, a Tudor Gothic style lodge built for the Pontypool Park Estate in the early 19 th century situated on the bank of the Afon Llyn. The Cottage is located on the edge of Lasgarn wood, with the built form of Victoria Village to the west. The 19 th century Grade II listed Rising Sun Bridge crosses the river in this location, the route of which defines its setting.	No – while these assets are located within the ZTV their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their location on the river as well as with the immediately adjacent settlement at Victoria Village, with historical links between the Cottage and the land to the south-east which formerly led to Pontypool Park. A potential limited view south-west to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Grade II Penlasgarn Farmhouse	18457	3.5km to NE	A 17 th century farmhouse, located north of the town of Trevethin and east of Lasgarn wood. The farmhouse is situated within a range of additional agricultural buildings and is surrounded by agricultural land, with which it is historically associated.	No – whilst the farmhouse is located within the ZTV, its setting, such that it contributes to its significance, is defined by its relationship with the immediately adjacent farmstead complex (which probably would screen views to the turbines anyway) and agricultural land with which it is historically associated, rather than a distant parcel of land. A potential limited view south-west to very distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the building.
Grade II Railway Viaduct at Cwm Ffrwd-oer	81925	1.2km to E	A disused railway viaduct that carried the 'top line' to Blaenavon from Pontnewynydd Junction, thought to have been constructed in c.1870 by the Monmouthshire Railway and Canal Company.	No – this asset is on the edge of the ZTV and its setting, such that it contributes to its significance, is focused on its location along the wider railway route, as well as on the

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			The viaduct is situated along the disused railway route, with which it is historically related, surrounded by agricultural land and woodland to the west, and the built settlement of Pontnewynydd to the east.	wider industrial transport network and industrial history of the area. A limited view west to distant wind turbines would have no relevance to these historical associations and would result in no impact on the significance of the viaduct.
Six Grade II Buildings at Pontnewynydd	18454, 81924, 3111, 18455, 18456, 20741	2.5km to E	A cluster of listed buildings within the settlement of Pontnewynydd, including the structure of Pont Newynydd itself, which lies over the River Lwyd, which defines its setting. The group also includes a 17 th century farmhouse, Ty Gwyn, with associated stable and beast shelter, and the Merchants Hill Baptist Church. While the setting of Ty Gwyn and its associated buildings is defined by the group value provided by this agricultural range, and a small amount of open green land, with which it was historically associated, it is predominantly defined by the surrounding built form of Pontnewynydd. The church, at the centre of the town, is also defined by the surrounding streetscapes, forming a focal point for the local community.	No – whilst the buildings are located within the ZTV, they have no historical or functional relationship with the land within the Site. Instead, their setting is defined by their location on the river, and within the built settlement of Pontnewynydd, as well as the immediately adjacent farmstead complex and small area of green land with which the assets are historically associated. A potential view west to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the aspects of the setting that contribute to the significance of the buildings.
Two Grade II Listed Churches at Wainfelin	81921, 18830	2.5km to E	Two churches located within the settlement of Wainfelin. These comprise the Church of Saint John the Divine, an Anglican church constructed in c.1911-12 by John Coates Carter, a leading Welsh Arts and Crafts architect, and St. Alban's R.C. Church, built in 1844-46 in a Neo-Norman style, to the design of prolific	No – while the churches are within the ZTV, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with the town in which they are situated, where they form a focal point for the community. A potential view west to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			Catholic architect J J Scoles. The two churches are located within the centre of the town of Wainfelin. As such, their settings are defined by the streetscapes formed by the surrounding built form.	significance of the buildings and the turbines would be so distant as to not compete with the prominence of the churches.
Five Grade II Buildings at the Church of St. Cadoc, Trevethin	3113, 18462, 18461, 18453, 18463, 18465	3.4km to E	Five listed buildings located at the southern edge of the settlement of Trevethin. This includes the Church of St Cadoc, the medieval parish church for Trevethin, although the church is largely of 18 th century date, with a surviving 16 th century Tower. It also includes the church vicarage, which dates to the mid-19 th century, and three chest tombs located within the church yard. The setting of these assets is thus defined predominantly by their group value, as well as by their roadside location on the edge of Trevethin, where they form a focal point for the local community. Also to the east is Church Farm, a late 16 th century farmhouse with historic connections to the Church of St Cadoc as well as the immediately surrounding agricultural land.	No – while the church and its associated buildings are within the ZTV, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with the town in which they are situated, where they form a focal point for the community, as well as the associated agricultural land in the case of Church Farm. A potential view west to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings inasmuch as the turbines would not compete with the local prominence of the buildings.
Four Grade II Buildings in Registered Park and Garden Pontypool Park	18811, 3119, 18458, 3130	3.5km to E	Grade II Double Ice Houses. The Listed Rustic Lodge And Tanyard Cottage Are Also Located Within The American Gardens Of The Park. St. Alban's R.C. School Is Also Located On The Western Extent Of The Park. The Assets Hold A Group Value Through Their Associations With The Registered Park And Garden And Its History In Respect Of The Pontypool Park Estate. The	No – during the site visit it was determined that no views are possible from any of the individual listed buildings to the Site due to adjacent tree cover and its screening effect. Furthermore, the land at the Site has no functional or historical association with the assets in the park.

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			Wider Setting Of The Park Is Defined By The Built Form Of The Town Of Pontypool But Views Are Possible From Higher Locations Towards The Site	
33 Grade II Buildings within Pontypool	18838, 18839, 18840, 87641, 3146	3.5km to E	A large grouping of listed buildings within the settlement of Pontypool. This includes 14 domestic buildings including Maesderwen Villa and Lodge associated with Pontypool Park. There are also two industrial buildings with a warehouse and truckhouse, as well two transport features of a milepost and coach house. The remaining buildings have civic functions and comprise the West Monmouth School, Public Library and registry office, as well as religious buildings of the Tabernacle Baptist church and associated listed tombs, St James Church and associated Vicarage, entrance gates and hall, and Upper Troisant Baptist Church. These buildings are associated with the domestic and industrial growth of Pontypool. As such, their settings are defined by the streetscapes formed by the surrounding built form.	No – many of the buildings are on the edges of the ZTV, however their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship is with the town of Pontypool itself and its 19 th century streetscapes. A potential limited view west to distant wind turbines, where possible, between buildings would have no impact on the significance of the listed buildings.
Six Grade II Buildings at the South of Pontypool	18733, 18833, 3135, 3136	4km to E	A group of buildings at the southern edge of Pontypool, comprising an aqueduct, a bridge, a tramroad and leat tunnels, as well as a milepost and junction house. These features date to the 18 th century and reflect the growth of transport routes to serve the growing industrialisation of the region. Several are associated with the	No – while the buildings are within the ZTV, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with their associated industrial transport features. Moreover, their wider setting is defined by the substantial built form of Pontypool town. A limited view west (where

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			Monmouthshire and Brecon canal which is within a conservation area and is discussed below. Their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their group associations and associations with transport features, as well as by the built form of Pontypool.	the distant wind turbines might be visible) is only possible from the aqueduct over the Afon Lwyd (Image EDP A1.17) with views from all of the other assets screened by adjacent trees. As such, the Proposed Development would have no impact on the significance of the listed buildings.
Two Grade II Buildings at Tympath	81926, 81927	2.5km to E	Two listed buildings within the settlement of Tranch, immediately west of Pontypool. These comprise Tympath House and Tympath Farm. Tympath House comprises a 19 th century Villa in Gothic style, whereas the farm comprises an 18 th century vernacular farmhouse. The buildings at Tympath are now entirely surrounded by the built form of Tranch, as well as the route of the A472, and no longer have an appreciable association with the former agricultural land they were once associated with.	No – the houses are only just in the ZTV and their setting is defined by the surrounding built form of Tranch. A very limited potential view west to very distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Two Grade II Buildings at Twyn-Gwyn	18459, 18460	4.3km to E	Two listed buildings located immediately east of Pontypool. These comprise Twyn-Gwyn Farm, a 17 th century Farmhouse, and its associated 18 th century Barn. The buildings at Twyn-Gwyn are located within a farmstead with modern agricultural buildings and surrounded by agricultural land with which they are historically associated.	No – while the farm buildings are located within the ZTV, their relationship is with the immediately adjacent agricultural land, rather than a distant parcel of land. A potential limited view west to very distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the building.

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
Three Grade II Listed Farmhouses East of Pontypool	2647, 2654, 25142	7km to E	Three listed farmhouses to the east of Pontypool, these comprise the 17 th century Beech Tree Farmhouse, Hill Farmhouse, also with 17 th century origins, and Lower Trosta, which possibly dates back to the 16 th century. Each of the buildings is located within a farmstead with modern agricultural buildings and surrounded by agricultural land with which they are historically associated.	No – while the farm buildings are located within the ZTV, their relationship is with the immediately adjacent agricultural land, rather than a distant parcel of land. A limited view west to very distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Grade II Listed The Mount	18843	3.2km to SE	A 17 th century house located at the outskirts of Griffithstown, immediately south of Pontypool. The house is surrounded by woodland to the east and open fields to the east. This setting preserves the rural nature of the house.	No – while the house is located within the ZTV, its relationship is with the immediately adjacent rural land, rather than a distant parcel of land. A limited view north-west to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the building.
Four Grade II Buildings at Church of St Mary	3116, 18731, 18730, 18746	6.2km to SE	A grouping of listed buildings around the Church of St Mary, including two tombs and a 17 th century Church Farmhouse. The church itself dates mostly to the 19 th century, although its tower contains 16 th century remains. The Church and its church yard, as well as the farmhouse, are located surrounded by agricultural land, with the settlement of New Inn immediately to the north. This land preserves the rural origins of the church, and has functional historic relationship with the farmhouse, the adjacent town also illustrates the church's function to serve the local community.	No – while the Church is located within the ZTV, its setting, such that it contributes to its significance, is defined by its relationship with the immediately adjacent rural land, and its historic associations with the adjacent town of New Inn, rather than a distant parcel of land. A limited view north-west to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the building and their presence would not compete with the church's role as a focal point in the local landscape.

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
Two Grade II Buildings at Llanddewi Court	2677, 2678	7.3km to SE	The listed Barn and Oxhouse date to the 17 th Century. The buildings are located within a secluded farmstead, which includes modern agricultural buildings, and are surrounded by agricultural land with which they are associated.	No – while the agricultural buildings are located within the ZTV, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with the associated buildings forming Llanddewi court, as well as the immediately adjacent rural land, rather than a distant parcel of land. A potential limited view north-west to very distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Five Grade II Agricultural Buildings to the East of Sebastopol	18740, 18741, 18750, 2666, 2683	6.8km to SE	Five buildings located within the rural land immediately east of the settlement of Sebastopol. These include the 17 th century Race Farmhouse and its associated 18 th century hay or threshing Barn, the 18 th century threshing Barn at Ty Coch, the 17 th century Croeswen Farmhouse and the 16 th century cruck house Pentwyn Farmhouse. Each of the buildings is located within a small farmstead, including modern agricultural buildings, and surrounded by agricultural land with which it is historically related.	No – while the buildings are located within the ZTV, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with the immediately adjacent rural land, rather than a distant parcel of land such as the Site. A potential limited view north-west to very distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Three Grade II Buildings at Pontrhydyrun Baptist Church	3125, 81749, 81750	6.6km to SE	The Grade II listed Pontrhydyrun Baptist Church, which dates to the early 19 th century and was founded by George Conway, who opened the Pontnewydd Tin Plate Works and the Pontrhydyrun Works. The associated listed buildings include the 19 th century enclosure railings and walls of the burial ground, which	No – while the church and associated buildings are located within the ZTV and their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with the town of Pontnewydd in which they are situated and its industrial history. A potential very limited view north-west to very

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			served the Conway family, and a memorial to commemorate lives lost in the First World War. The church is located on the edge of town of Pontnewydd, with which it has a historical association, and is surrounded by built form.	distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Six Grade II Domestic and Agricultural Buildings to the East of Llanyrafon	2661, 2660, 3138, 3141, 25494, 3139	8.7km to SE	A grouping of domestic and agricultural buildings within the rural land immediately west of the settlement of Llanyrafon. This includes the c.1600 House Cefn Tila Bach, the 17 th century house Celynen, the 17 th century Farmhouse Cwm Aaron and attached barn, the 16 th century Glansirhowy Farmhouse, the mid-19 th century country house Llanfrechfa Grange and the 16 th century Waun-y-pwll House. These buildings are located within farmhouse ranges of modern ancillary ranges and surrounded by agricultural land. This land has historical and functional associations with the agricultural buildings, and preserves the rural nature of the domestic buildings.	No – while the buildings are located within the ZTV, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with the immediately adjacent rural land, rather than a distant parcel of land such as the Site. A potential limited view north-west to very distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Three Grade II buildings at the Former Church of St David	2670, 2671, 2672	9.5km to SE	The Grade II listed Former Church of St David, and associated tombs. The church itself dates to the mid-19 th century, although it is a construction of an earlier medieval church. The church has since been converted into a cottage. The church and its church yard are located surrounded by agricultural land and woodland. This land preserves the rural origins of the	No – while the church is located within the ZTV, its setting, such that it contributes to its significance, is defined by its relationship with the immediately adjacent rural land, and its historic associations with this rural community, rather than a distant parcel of land. A limited view north-west to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the building.

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			church and illustrates the church's function to serve the local rural community.	
Two Grade II Buildings at Swffryd-ganol	22673, 22674	1.5km to SW	The Grade II listed Swffryd-ganol Farmhouse and its associated Barn Range. The farmhouse dates to the 17 th century, while the Barn is an 18 th century addition. The farm is located within a farmstead including modern agricultural buildings, and is surrounded by agricultural land with which it is historically associated.	No – while the buildings are located within the ZTV, their relationship is with the immediately adjacent rural land. A potential limited view north-east to the proposed wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings or distract from an appreciation of them in their setting.
Nine Grade II Listed Buildings at Navigation Colliery	18-9 - 1897	2.7km to SW	A grouping of listed buildings at the former Navigation Colliery, immediately north of the small village of Crumlin. These comprise the Grade II listed Baths, Offices, Workshop and Storage Rooms and Revetement Walls. The Navigation Colliery was built by the firm of Partridge Jones and Co., between 1907 and 1911. The firm was one of the largest coal companies in South Wales, owning nine collieries in the Gwent valleys. The listed buildings are dilapidated and located either in a modern works compound (Image EDP A1.18) or in woodland where they are experienced as a group, allowing an appreciation of the site as a rare nearly complete Colliery. The wider setting of the buildings are the settlements of Crumlin to the south and Swyffryd to the north, with which they have a historical association. Other elements of their setting such as the modern compound, vegetation and adjacent concrete	No – while the Colliery buildings are within the ZTV, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with the surrounding associated industrial buildings of the Navigation Colliery, as well as with the towns to the north and south with its industrial history. A potential limited view north-east to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			road bridge have a negative influence on their significance.	
Four Grade II Buildings at Crumlin Viaduct	21254, 21255, 21256, 21262	3km to SW	A grouping of buildings at the Crumlin Viaduct, built in the mid-19 th century, including the north-east, south-west and west abutment. The group also includes the late 19 th century industrial housing Viaduct Cottage. The viaduct is located within an area of woodland on the northern edge of the settlement at Crumlin. The cottage is located within the town and is surrounded by adjacent built form. The setting of these features is defined by the group value of these industrial features, as well as the town itself with which it has historic associations and the surrounding industrial features such as the Navigation Colliery.	No – while the Viaduct buildings are within the ZTV, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with the surrounding associated industrial buildings related to the Viaduct, as well as industrial features in the wider area such as the Navigation Colliery, and the town of Crumlin itself with its industrial history. A potential limited view north-east to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Five Grade II Buildings at Newbridge	21500, 21502, 21503, 1883, 21498	4km to SW	A grouping of listed buildings within the settlement of Newbridge. This includes a number of industrial and community buildings including a dancehall and cinema dating to 1924, with the early 20 th century Celyn Collieries Workmen's Institute adjacent. Two tramways with railway tunnels are also located at Newbridge, illustrating its industrial nature. The town has three religious buildings including the 19 th century Beulah Baptist Church and the early 20 th century Gothic style Church of St Paul. The mine manager's house Preswylfa, dating to the early 20 th century is also included in this grouping.	No – while the listed buildings are located within the ZTV, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance is defined by their relationship with surrounding streetscapes of Newbridge and its historic associations as an industrial town, illustrated by this grouping of associated assets. A potential limited view north-east to distant wind turbines (which is likely to be at least partially screened by buildings) would have no impact on the significance of these buildings.

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			These buildings, located within the built form of Newbridge, have settings that are defined by the streetscapes of the town, as well as by its industrial history.	
Grade II Pentwyn-isaf	21504	4.5km to SW	A 17 th century farmhouse located immediately north of the settlement of Newbridge. The farmhouse is situated adjacent to an agricultural range, including modern farm buildings, and is surrounded by agricultural land with which it is historically associated.	No – while the farmhouse is located within the ZTV, its setting, such that it contributes to its significance, is defined by its relationship with the immediately adjacent farmland, with which it is historically associated. A potential limited view north-east to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the building.
Five Grade II Buildings at the North of Pontllanfraith	21630, 21620, 21621, 1906	7.3km to SW	Grouping of listed buildings within the northern part of the settlement of Pontllanfraith. This includes the 19 th century industrial workers cottage Cwmbraenar Cottage, the Former Mynyddislwyn Urban District Council Offices, built in the 20 th century, the 1930's Art-deco house Shangri-la, and a War memorial to both the First and Second World War. These buildings, located within the built form of Pontllanfraith have settings that are defined by the streetscapes of the town, as well as by its history, and notable rapid growth during the industrial period.	No – while the listed buildings are located within the ZTV, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with surrounding streetscapes of Pontllanfraith and its historic associations as an industrial town. A potential limited view north-east to very distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Five Grade II Buildings at the	1904, 1905, 21623, 21624, 21625	8km to SW	A grouping of listed buildings at the southern edge of the settlement of Pontllanfraith. This includes the 18 th century Bridge over Sirhowy River and 19 th century millhouse. Also in this	No – while the listed buildings are located within the ZTV, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their immediate associations with nearby

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
South of Pontllanfraith			grouping are the 19 th century Siloh Presbyterian Church, with historic links with poet Islwyn and his mentor Aneurin Jones, and an associated pair of chest tombs, as well as the 19 th century Heather Cottage. The buildings are located on the southern edge of the town, so are defined by modern buildings and are shrouded by woodland.	buildings and their relationship with the town to the north. A limited view north-east to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Ten Grade II Buildings at the New Bethel Chapel	21626, 21627, 1887, 21637, 21636, 21635, 21633, 21638, 21632, 21634	6.7km to SW	Grouping of listed buildings at the New Bethel Chapel. The Chapel itself (Photograph EDP 22) dates to the mid-18 th century, and its walls and railings and former school room are separately listed. Seven memorial monuments within the churchyard are also listed. The church is located east of the settlement of Pontllanfraith and is surrounded by agricultural land overlooking lower land to the north. This setting is appropriate for a rural church, and it can be seen in the context of the attendant town of Pontllanfraith in the valley below.	No – while the listed buildings are located within the ZTV, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with the surrounding rural land and their historic associations with the town to the north. A limited view north-east to very distant wind turbines may be possible but they would be seen with other modern elements in the view and their presence would not affect the prominence of the chapel and its associations in the local landscape. As such, they would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Grade II Listed Ty Mynydd	21002	6.5km to SW	17 th century farmhouse located to the south of Newbridge. The farmhouse is surrounded by agricultural land with which it was historically associated.	No – while the farmhouse is located within the ZTV, its setting, such that it contributes to its significance is defined by its relationship with the surrounding agricultural land. A potential limited view north-east to very distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the building.

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
Grade II Lychgate at the Church of St Tudor Mynyddislwyn	22315	7.8km to SW	The church has origins dating back to the 12 th century, although it appears the majority of the church was rebuilt in the 19 th century. The church served large community of rural farmsteads and early industrial development in the valleys before the eventual creation of separate parishes in the later 19 th century. The associated Lychgate dates to 1820. The Lychgate's setting is entirely related to its function in respect of the churchyard and church and the wider landscape beyond its immediate surroundings has little relevance to its significance.	No – while the Lychgate is located within the ZTV, its setting, such that it contributes to its significance is defined by its relationship with its immediate surroundings, specifically the church and churchyard. A potential limited view north-east to very distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Two Grade II Listed Buildings at Tyle-gwyn	21628, 21629	9km to SW	Tyle-gwyn is listed as a medium sized mid-19 th century country house, with an associated 19 th century Stable Range. The house is located to the south of Pontllanfraith and is surrounded by agricultural land, with which it is historically associated.	No – while the house is located within the ZTV, its setting, such that it contributes to its significance, is defined by its relationship with the surrounding rural land. A potential limited view north-east to very distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Eight Grade II Listed Buildings at Oakdale	18723, 21511, 21512, 1888, 21265, 21266, 21258, 1902, 1898	4km to SW	A grouping of listed buildings within the Garden village, created to serve workers of Tredegar Iron and Coal Co, and Oakdale Steam Navigation Coal Co of Oakdale. These buildings are primarily domestic agricultural or communal in function, including Oakdale Hospital, built in 1914, and its associated Walls and Railings and the Oakdale Public house, built in the early 20 th century. The	No – while the listed buildings are located within the ZTV views to the proposed turbines would probably be screened by adjacent buildings and, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with the town of Oakdale and its creation as a result of the growing industry of the region rather than due to distant views across the wider landscape.

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			17 th century Pentref-y-Groes farmhouse and associated barn, 16 th century Penrhiwlas farmhouse, 17 th century Penmaen House, 16 th century Cyncoed Farm Cottage and 17 th century Crumlin Old Farmhouse are also included in this group. The settings of these buildings are defined either by their experience within the streetscape of Oakdale, or the surrounding agricultural land on the outskirts of the village, with which they are historically associated.	Photoviewpoint 14 (LVIA Figure 6.12) illustrates using wireframes on one particular view from Oakdale (but not from any listed building) to the development giving an idea of the distance of the turbines in the view.
Nine Grade II Buildings at Maes Manor	267-1 - 26709	5.6km to SW	Grouping of listed buildings within the Maes Manor Hotel Registered Park and Garden. The Manor itself was built in the early 20 th century for Captain Edmund Williams, local mine owner and Sheriff of Monmouthshire, in a Tudor Gothic style. It reflects the prominence of the mining industry at this point. Its associated North and South Lodge, Coach house, Gatepiers, Kitchen Garden Walls and Terrace Revetements are also listed. The setting of these buildings is defined by the park itself, with wider associations with the industrial nature of the local area.	No – while the Manor and associated buildings are within the ZTV views out are curtailed by the park's wooded boundaries, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by the relationship formed by the group value of these buildings within the Registered Park. Development on distant land to the north-east, even if visible, would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Two Grade II Buildings at Gelli-Dywyll	18425, 18426	6km to SW	The Gelli-Dywyll Farmhouse dates to c.1600 and its 18 th century T-plan agricultural range at Gelli-Dywyll Farm is listed in association. The buildings are located to the north of the settlement of Blackwood and are surrounded by	No – while the farm is located within the ZTV, its setting, such that it contributes to its significance, is defined by its relationship with the surrounding agricultural land. A potential limited view northeast to very distant wind

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			agricultural land, with which they are historically associated.	turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Grade II War Memorial	26700	6.4km to SW	Within the settlement of Blackwood is a War Memorial commemorating the two World Wars. The asset is defined by the adjacent streetscapes of Blackwood, allowing its association with the history of the town to be understood.	No – while the memorial is within the ZTV, views to the Proposed Development would probably be curtailed by adjacent buildings. Furthermore, the memorial's setting, such that it contributes to its significance, is defined by its relationship with the adjacent streetscapes of the town and its history rather than distant views to the wider landscape.
Four Grade II Buildings at Pen-peclair-heol	25527, 25529, 25528, 25535,	8.8km to SW	A grouping of listed buildings on the eastern edge of the village of Pen-peclair-heol. This includes Cascade House; the building is thought to have 17th century origins, although it was extended in the early 20th century as a mine owners residence. An associated Stable and Farm Building are also listed. Also in this grouping is the mid-19th-century Tir Pengam farmhouse. The buildings are located on the outskirts of Pen-peclair-heol, surrounded by agricultural land with which they are associated. Cascade House also has wider historical associations with the industrial nature of the adjacent towns and local area.	No – while the buildings are within the ZTV, their setting, such that it contributes to their significance, is defined by their relationship with the rural land surrounding them as well as the industrial history of the local towns. A potential very limited view north-east to very distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Grade II Listed Hafod-arthen	1867	420m to W	The 16 th – 17 th century Hafod-arthen consists of a 16 th –17 th century pair of 'unit' farmhouses set at right angles to one another. The Tithe map records the farm to have a large land holding of c.27 hectares (ha). The Farm building is located	Yes – Hafod-arthen is located at a relatively close distance to the Site and is within the ZTV. Considered for further, more detailed

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			within a larger farm range, including modern agricultural buildings and is surrounded by agricultural land with which it is historically associated.	assessment (in respect of Stage 2 of the assessment process) in the section below.
Grade II Listed Ty-llwyd	22672	600m to W	An early 17 th century farmhouse, possibly with earlier origins as a Hall House. The house was used as the parish vicarage after the Reformation. The farmhouse is in an isolated position within a small wedge of woodland and is surrounded by densely agricultural land with which it is historically associated.	Yes – Ty-llwyd is located at a relatively close distance to the Site and is within the ZTV. Considered for further, more detailed assessment (in respect of Stage 2 of the assessment process) in the section below.
Three Grade II Buildings at Abertillery Hospital	87580, 21261, 87579	1.7km to W	A group of three listed buildings including Abertillery and District Hospital. The hospital was founded in 1920 and was commissioned and paid for by the miners of the Abertillery area. The associated Memorial gates to the Hospital are listed in association. Also in this group is the Church of Christ Church Aberbeeg. The church was built in 1909, constructed with a large tower at the south-east, and took the place of St Illtyd's as the new parish church. The hospital and church are located within the semi-rural area immediately east of Llanhilledd and Abertillery with which they have historical associations.	No – while the church and hospital are located within the ZTV, the hospital buildings are entirely screened from the east by a dense band of mature trees which would block any views to the proposed turbines. The church has a prominent tower that is visible across the adjacent valley landscape from certain locations (Image EDP A1.23) but at ground level it is enclosed by mature trees and so a view to the development from it would be unlikely and at least mostly screened by trees. Whilst some of the turbines would be visible in conjunction with the church in views across the valley, they would not be seen directly behind it in views towards it and would be at a much more elevated level on Mynydd Llanhilleth and so would have little influence over views within

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
				the valley in which the church is prominent. As such, the turbines would not compete with the prominence of the church and its significance would be unaffected.
Grade II Listed Former Colliery Workmen's Institute	22671	1.2km to W	The Former Colliery Workmen's Institute was built in 1904. After the closure of the local collieries, it was reused as the local library, doctor's surgery, and headquarters of Llanhilleth Football Club. The Institute's architectural detail and large size are testament to the importance of the local coal industry at this time. The Institute is located within the town of Llanhilleth, where it is experienced from adjacent streetscapes.	No – while the Institute is located within the ZTV, and views to it to some of the turbines would be possible, its setting, such that it contributes to its significance, is defined by its relationship with the surrounding built form and streetscapes of the town of Llanhilleth, with which it has historic associations. The presence of the turbines would not affect the local prominence of the building within the town and thus they would not affect its significance.
Two Grade II Buildings at Gelli Farm	21259, 21260	2.7km to W	The two listed buildings at Gelli Farm include a 17 th century farmhouse with attached farm range, probably with a byre loft, as well as an associated 18 th century barn. The buildings are located within a larger farm complex including modern agricultural buildings, and are surrounded by agricultural land, with which they are historically associated.	No – while the farm is located within the ZTV, its setting, such that it contributes to its significance, is defined by its relationship with the surrounding agricultural land. A potential limited view east to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Two Grade II Buildings at Llanerch-uchaf	21263, 21264	1.8km to W	The two listed buildings at Llanerch-uchaf include an 18 th to early 19 th century farmhouse comprising a T-shaped farmhouse and attached farm range, as well as an associated barn of the same date. The buildings are located within a larger farmstead including modern agricultural	No – while the farm is located within the ZTV, its setting, such that it contributes to its significance, is defined by its relationship with the surrounding agricultural land. A potential limited view east to distant wind turbines

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
			buildings, and are surrounded by agricultural land, with which they are historically associated	would have no impact on the significance of the buildings.
Grade II Argoed Baptist Church	21427	5.2km to W	A 19 th century small rural chapel with historical connections with well-known nonconformist preachers including Revs John and Thomas Jenkins. The church is located within the small village of Argoed, surrounded by minimal built form and rural agricultural land. This setting allows its function as a church serving the rural local community to be appreciated.	No – while the church is located within the ZTV, its setting, such that it contributes to its significance, is defined by its relationship with the surrounding village and rural land, rather than distant land within the Site. A potential limited view east to very distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the buildings. Photoviewpoint 17 (LVIA Figure 6.12) illustrates using wireframes in a view from the village, from just to the south of the church (rather than from it) and at a slightly higher elevation. This view illustrates how the turbines at most would be only just visible above adjacent hills.
Grade II Cross at the Church of St Sannan	26495	6.2km to W	Located on a hill top site, the Church of St Sannan has medieval origins, with details in the present building dating it from the 13 th century, while the present tower is possibly 17 th century. However, much of the church was rebuilt during the early 20 th century. A late medieval churchyard cross is also listed in association, the cross was modified in 1925 when it was refashioned as a memorial. The cross is experienced as part of the churchyard and it is this setting that contributes to its significance. The wider landscape has little relevance to its setting.	No – the wider landscape beyond the churchyard has little relevance to the setting of the cross. Furthermore, views towards the Site are screened by adjacent hedgerows. As such, the proposed turbines would not affect the significance of this historic asset.

Historic Asset	Cadw Reference Number	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely to be Affected by Development?
Grade II Listed Pigsty at Cefn-y-Brithdir	25497	8km to W	A large, corbelled pigsty situated opposite the Cefn-y-Brithdir farmhouse. The pigsty likely dates to the 18 th century, although represents the use of an ancient technique. The Pigsty is located within a larger farmstead including modern agricultural buildings, and are surrounded by agricultural land, with which it is historically associated.	No – while the Pigsty is located within the ZTV, its setting, such that it contributes to its significance, is defined by its relationship with the surrounding farm and agricultural land. A potential limited view east to distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the building.
Grade II Listed Chapel Farm	22384	8.5km to NW	Small cruck-framed farmhouse dating to the mid-16 th and 17 th century, although with possible mid-15 th century origins. Located on the edge of settlement between Nant y Glo and Blaina and at the foot of Mynydd Carn-Y-Cefn, the farmhouse is situated surrounded by agricultural land, with which there is a close historical association.	No – the farmhouse is only just in the ZTV and its setting, such that it contributes to its significance and is defined by its relationship with the immediately adjacent agricultural land, rather than a distant parcel of land. A potential very limited view south to very distant wind turbines would have no impact on the significance of the building.

5.17 In summary, the following listed buildings have been taken forwards for more detailed assessment:

- St Illtyd's Church (Grade II*; Cadw Ref. **1866**);
- Hafod-arthen (Grade II; Cadw Ref. **1867**); and
- Ty-Ilwyd (Grade II; Cadw Ref. **22672**).

CONSERVATION AREAS

5.18 **Table EDP 5.3** provides information on the five conservation areas that are located within 10km of the Site, and which intersect with the ZTV. It seeks to address Stage 1 of the assessment process in determining whether the assets might be affected by the Proposed Development.

Table EDP 5.3: Conservation Areas Considered for Stage 1 Settings Assessment

Historic Asset	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely To Be Affected by Development?
Pontypool Conservation Area	3km to E	Encompasses the urban centre of the town and its built heritage in the valley bottom and is surrounded by built development. A key element of its setting is the adjacent Pontypool Park to the east.	No – the Appraisal and Management Plan (TCBC) does not identify any key views to the west, important views are along the area's streetscapes and across the park to the east. Views towards the development likely to be screened from most areas due to adjacent modern buildings.
Monmouth and Brecon Canal Conservation Area	4km to E	Focussed on the surviving parts of the Monmouth and Brecon Canal, its special interest is predominantly with regard to the canal itself, heritage features along it and the experience of the canal-side.	No - although in some locations views out to the west are part of the experience of the conservation area. The part that passes through the ZTV (Photograph EDP 25) is within Pontypool and the experience looking north-west towards the Proposed Development is contained by adjacent buildings and trees, with only glimpsed views to the more distant landscape available (Photograph EDP 17). It is

Historic Asset	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely To Be Affected by Development?
			unlikely that the proposed turbines would be visible and even if so, they would not influence the character of the canal-side in this location which is defined by its more local environment rather than the distant landscape.
Newbridge Conservation Area	4.5km to SW	Comprises a small area of historic buildings within the town of Newbridge, surrounded on all sides by urban development. Its setting is defined by the adjacent urban landscape rather than by distant views to upland.	No – the development would be very distant in views and located on distant upland of no relevance to the experience of the buildings that define the conservation area.
Gelligroes Conservation Area	8km to SW	Comprises a small area of historic buildings and former industrial structures on the edge of the town of Gelligroes with urban development to the north. Its setting is defined by the adjacent urban and former industrial landscape rather than by distant views to upland.	No – the development would be very distant in views and located on very distant upland of no relevance to the experience of the buildings, spaces and structures that define the conservation area.
Oakdale Village Conservation Area	4.5km to W	The conservation area comprises an area of early 20 th century planned development that was unique in South Wales as an early Modern housing estate, and which has a distinctive architectural character.	No - views out to the surrounding countryside are of little relevance to the conservation area's character and appearance. Furthermore, from most parts of the conservation area the Site would not be visible due to screening by buildings.

REGISTERED HISTORIC LANDSCAPES

5.19 There are no Registered Historic Landscapes coincident with the Site.

- 5.20 Two historic landscapes lie partially within the Site's ZTV, and within meaningful visual range of the Proposed Development (**Plan EDP 1**). The nearest is Blaenavon (HLW (Gt) 1). The boundary of the landscape, as drawn in the *Register of Outstanding Historic Landscapes* (Cadw 1998) lies c.3.8km to the north of the Site. However, the detailed historic landscape characterisation defined a somewhat larger area which extended further to the south: the nearest historic landscape character area (HLCA) lies 2.5km to the north of the site boundary. The Blaenavon historic landscape encompasses all of the World Heritage Site (WHS), as well as substantial additional areas, especially to the east and west.
- 5.21 Due to the coincidence of the BLOHI with the BILWHS, the historic landscape is considered within the HIA that is concerned with potential effects on the WHS (EDP, 2022b).
- 5.22 C.8.8km to the west, is the Gelligaer registered historic landscape (HLW (MGI) 4; special; Cadw 2001; GLSHI). The GLSHI is only just located within 10km of the Site and only a small part of it is located within the ZTV comprising the very eastern edge of Capel Gwladys Open Common (HLCA 002: **Image EDP A1.26**). The common slopes down to the south-east and is characterised by open upland that includes remains related to Roman practice camps and an early church.
- 5.23 Given the distance from the Site, views of the development from the GLSHI would be restricted to views to very distant wind turbines from the western edge of the HLCA (**Image EDP A1.27**). Mynydd Llanhilleth is only just visible in these views and is indistinct from other hills. Furthermore, there are other turbines present in the views to the east and north-east that are much nearer and of far greater prominence (**Image EDP A1.28**). The development would have little implication for the elements of the HLCA which define its character, nor would there be any effect on the more immediate countryside setting of the HLCA. As such, given its very limited presence in the wider setting of the GLSHI the Proposed Development would not result in any impacts upon the character of the special historic landscape, and it is not considered any further in this report.

REGISTERED PARKS AND GARDENS

- 5.24 **Table EDP 5.4** provides information on the two Registered Parks and Gardens that are located within 10km of the Site, and which intersect with the ZTV. It seeks to address Stage 1 of the assessment process in determining whether the assets might be affected by the Proposed Development.

Table EDP 5.4: Registered Parks and Gardens Considered for Stage 1 Settings Assessment

Historic Asset	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely To Be Affected by Development?
Grade II* Pontypool Park (GT26)	3km to E	19 th century landscaped park in urban area of Pontypool. Key features are a shell grotto, walled kitchen garden ice houses and arboretum. The historic	Yes – the Appraisal and Management Plan (TCBC) does not identify any key views to the west, however views to Mynydd Llanhilleth were noted during the site

Historic Asset	Approximate Distance from Turbine Locations	Brief Description of Asset and Setting	Likely To Be Affected by Development?
		main drive approaches the former house from the south-east. much of the park is located on steep slopes that rise to the north-east and north-west, with a peripheral American Garden in a valley to the north and a detached area to the north-east and around a folly on the hill summit.	visit. Considered for further, more detailed assessment (in respect of Stage 2 of the assessment process) in the section below.
Grade II Maes Manor Hotel (GT54)	5.5km to SW	Edwardian formal garden around house. Situated on a south facing slope. The garden is experienced from two axis, a north-south axis and an east-west approach from the entrance which approaches the house from the east. The essential setting is described as the land to the south, south-east and west of the site with views identified to the south from the house.	No - the development would be situated a considerable distance to the north-east of the garden away from the key views, the park's essential setting and would have no presence in any view on the approach to the house from the east. As such, whilst a distant view of a turbine may be possible it would have no implication for any aspect of the park or its setting that contributes to its significance.

NON-DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS

5.25 Non-designated historic assets that might be susceptible to change within their settings by the proposed turbines can be defined within two categories: assets of the post-medieval agricultural landscape, and assets of the 18th, 19th and 20th century industrial landscape. Due to the commonality of non-designated historic assets in the landscape only assets located within the ASA have been considered for this part of the setting assessment.

Post-medieval Agricultural Assets

5.26 As described previously in **Section 4**, the land adjacent to the Site is predominantly defined by post-medieval enclosures around contemporary or more modern farmsteads located on the high valley slopes. Many of these historic farmsteads and other features such as relict enclosures are defined by the HER and NMRW and represent historic assets of low or negligible value. Also, as described in **Section 4** these assets lie within areas where the post-medieval agricultural landscape is preserved with adjacent fields defined by rows of

mature trees or drystone walls, and where old tracks across the landscape are preserved. These areas within the Site have been defined as historic landscape areas (**Plan EDP 14**) and are ascribed a low degree of heritage value.

5.27 Beyond the boundaries of the Site, various historic farmsteads or former farmsteads are present which share similar characteristics, in that they are located on the upper valley slopes adjacent to the upland areas, are within land defined by old field boundaries lined with mature trees or drystone walls and accessed by old trackways. The assets in question are listed below and are located on **Plan EDP 2**.

- Gilfach Wen Farm and Barn (**GGAT06399g**);
- Ty-Dafydd (**GGAT06401g**);
- Blaen Cyffin (now ruinous) (**GGAT04910g**);
- Maes-y-Cnyw Farm (**GGAT02093g**);
- Blaen-y-cwm (**GGAT04914g**); and
- Gelli-Deg (**GGAT04917g**).

5.28 All of these are farmsteads which have historic built elements or cores, generally of the post-medieval period, are historic assets of low significance. All of them are also set within historically associated farmland comprising post-medieval fields typically defined by mature hedgerows and mature trees, but also by drystone walls partially where the boundary delineates the upland common from private farmland. All also have outbuildings, some of which are modern, and area accessed via historic trackways. These areas define their settings and contribute to a small degree to their significance.

5.29 All of these assets could potentially be subject to change to an effect as a result of changes within their settings from the Proposed Development and will be assessed for the potential for an effect within the ES Chapter.

18th, 19th, and 20th Century Industrial Features

5.30 As described previously, the slopes around the upper parts of Mynydd Llanhilleth were mined for coal in the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries with more substantial and later collieries becoming developed in the valley bottoms. Numerous relict features of the industrial landscape are recorded by the HER and NMRW, some of which are just within or on the edge of the Site (as described in **Section 4**).

5.31 Non-designated industrial remains contain a limited degree of evidential and historical value, but none should be considered as more than low significance. Most remains of an insubstantial or commonly found nature would be considered of negligible significance. As functional features related to past mining, the setting of these remains is defined by their relationships with other extant, relict feature of the former industrial landscape which together might form a group of historically interrelated remains. An example would be the various remains that exist at the base of Cwm Du enclosed by the boundary of the Site at its northern end, which are remnants of the various collieries and tramways that once

populated that valley. Industrial remains were not designed to be seen and all are part of former landscapes that are now primarily derelict and archaeological. It is only prominent features of the industrial landscape, such as large buildings, chimneys or partially large spoil tips, that might be considered to possess any aesthetic value.

- 5.32 Consequently, the nature of their settings of these assets is defined by group value and associative relationships. The proposed turbines would not have any direct impact upon any historically or functionally related features of the landscape that might contribute positively to the significance of non-designated industrial remains in the wider landscape. Nor are any especially prominent non-designated industrial features located within or around the Site that might have settings that are sensitive to visual change (such as from wind turbine development).
- 5.33 As such, it is concluded that there are no industrial era, non-designated assets within or in the vicinity of the Site that could have their significance affected by the Proposed Development due to change within their setting, and this type of historic asset is not considered any further within the setting assessment process.

STAGE TWO OF THE ASSESSMENT (CADW 2017B)

- 5.34 This section of the report will consider each of the designated assets assessed at Stage 1 as having potential to be affected by the Proposed Development as per **Tables EDP 5.1–5.4**. The contribution which the land within the Site as part of their wider setting makes to their significance will be assessed, and whether that could be affected by the form of development proposed.

Scheduled Monuments

Cwmbyrgwm Colliery (MM163) (including Grade II listed building Chimney to Cwmbyrgwm Colliery)

Description of the Asset

- 5.35 The scheduled monument Cwmbyrgwm Colliery (**MM163**) lies c.600m to the north-east of the nearest turbine and c.50m from the access track. Its location is illustrated on **Plan EDP 1** and in detail on **Image EDP 5.1**.

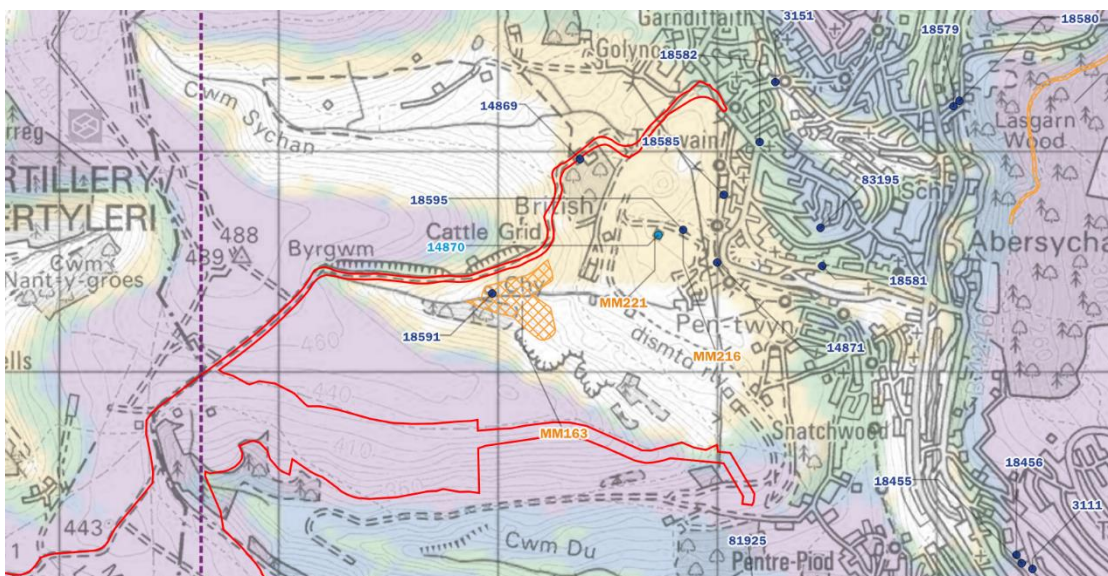


Image EDP 5.1: Insert showing the location of the Cwmbyrgwm Colliery (**MM163**) in relation to the Site.

- 5.36 The monument (**Image EDP A1.29**) consists of the archaeological remains of a coal and ironstone mine, dating from the early 19th century and continuing in operation until the early 20th century. Mining began at the location before 1820 and expanded to feed the adjacent British Ironworks after 1827. The remains include water balance gear, a brick chimney (Grade II listed; Cadw Ref. **18591**), watercourses, two reservoir dams, levels, three oval shafts and a tramroad incline.
- 5.37 The Grade II listed chimney dates from 1870-79 and was built over a ventilation shaft. It is constructed in yellow Ebbw Vale or Blaendare bricks and tapers with a slightly larger section cap and coping.
- 5.38 The Cadw scheduling citation describes the asset as having been designated on account of:
- “...its potential to enhance and illustrate our knowledge and understanding of the development of the coalmining industry in Wales. It retains significant archaeological potential, with the strong possibility of the presence of associated archaeological features and deposits. A coal mine may be part of a larger cluster of industrial monuments and their importance can further enhanced by their group value.”*
- 5.39 The chimney is listed on account of it being: *“a rare surviving colliery ventilation shaft in an area of deep mining, relics of which have now almost disappeared”*.
- 5.40 It is apparent that the monument and listed building both are primarily of high evidential value with their structural fabric and associated archaeological remains containing information about the function and appearance of the mine and of the wider coal mining industry of the 19th and 20th centuries. The assets also have a high degree of historical value illustrating the appearance of the industrial landscape and through their association with the British Ironworks.
- 5.41 Whilst the archaeological elements of the monument do not possess much aesthetic value, the chimney is a large, striking structure that is impressive to view and thus possesses a

moderate degree of aesthetic value. The monument and listed building also possess a moderate degree of communal value as they are features related to the industrial history and development of the adjacent town of Abersychan and its people, and the chimney is a local landmark.

The Setting of the Asset and its Contribution to its Significance

- 5.42 The assets are located within a steeply incised valley cut by a stream into the hillside of the large hill Byrgwm, which is adjacent to Mynydd Llanhilleth to the north. In this regard, the monument sits above the valley landscape to the east where the land slopes gently down towards the Afon Llwyd at Abersychan. **Image EDP 5.1** shows an extract from **Plan EDP 1** illustrating the monument's location in greater detail.
- 5.43 Representing the archaeological remains of a coal mine the monument has associations with other historic assets in the locality. To the immediate east and north-east were the sprawling works of the British Iron Company at Abersychan which produced iron from 1826 to 1889 as well as workers houses. The mine fed coal directly to the works and there is a strong associative historical and functional relationship between the remains of the monument and the various extant buildings, ruins and archaeological features that remain of the Ironworks (which include two scheduled monuments, a Grade II* listed building and two Grade II listed buildings). As such the various archaeological remains and extant buildings of the works are an element of the setting of the monument that contributes to a moderate degree to its significance.
- 5.44 As noted above, the listed chimney that is part of the monument is a large and prominent structure that is visible from various locations across the valley to the east (**Photograph EDP 14**). The chimney symbolises the industrial history of the locality and its prominence and visibility are an aspect of its significance that contributes highly to its significance. The chimney is set in an open area surrounded by the lower-lying remains of the colliery and fields of the valley sides. The openness of the monument's surroundings facilitates its prominence and therefore this openness is an aspect of its setting that contributes highly to its significance.
- 5.45 Even though it is a locally prominent feature in the adjacent valley landscape, as a functional structure, built in its location because of its role within the coal mine, the chimney was not designed to be seen from any specific location or viewpoint. As such, although it is eye-catching from various locations, specific locations from where the chimney is visible do not in and of themselves contribute to its significance. It is the fact that it is visible that is relevant to its significance rather than the nature of the locations where it can be seen from.

The Site and its Relationship to the Setting of the Asset

- 5.46 The majority of the Site occupies higher land to the south-west of the monument and is located on the far side of a ridge of land; a south-eastern spur from Byrgwm. As such, the monument cannot be seen from most of the Site. An exception is the access route which passes it to the north. From ground level at the monument there is no experience of the main part of the Site and turbines are unlikely to be visible apart from possibly at the very northern edge of the monument where a view of a blade tip might be possible.

- 5.47 The land at the Site has no historical or functional association with the monument. As such, in its current form the Site makes no contribution to the significance of the monument.
- 5.48 As noted, the wind turbine development is unlikely to have anything more than the slightest visibility in views from the monument. Nonetheless, a consideration in the assessment presented in the ES Chapter will be as to what effect the turbines might have on views to the chimney from the east and whether their presence and associated movement will distract from an appreciation of the chimney.

St Illtyd's Castle Mound (MM141)

- 5.49 St Illtyd's Castle Mound (**MM141**) is located c.850m to the west of the site boundary. The monument's location is illustrated on **Plan EDP 1** and in detail on **Image EDP 5.2**.

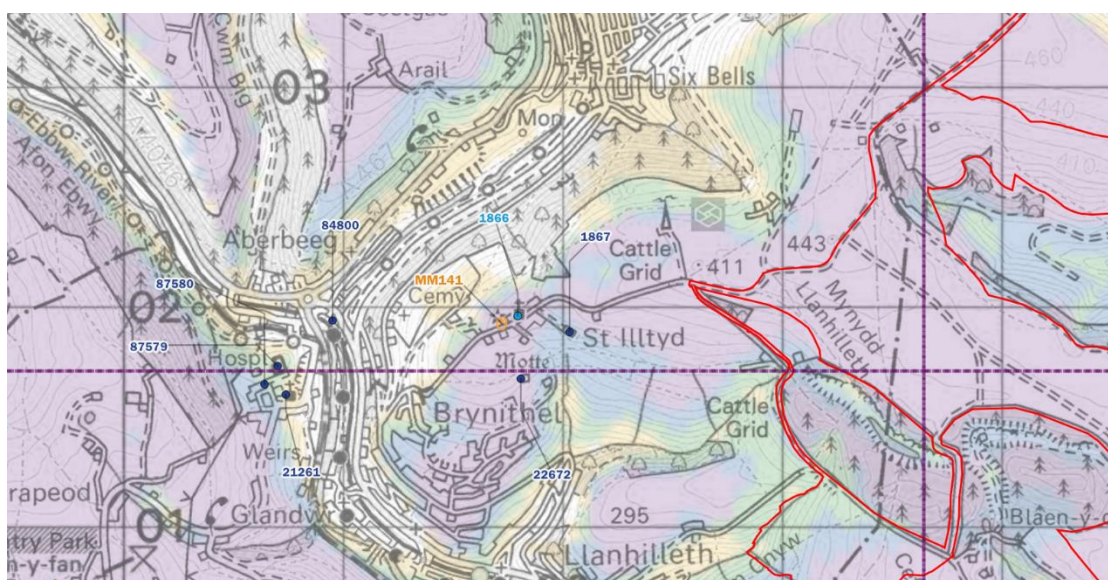


Image EDP 5.2: Insert showing designated historic assets at St Illtyd.

- 5.50 The monument (**Image EDP A1.30**) comprises the remains of a castle motte and ditch recorded by Cadw as dating to the medieval period, possibly to the early medieval era, as a fort of the lords of the Cantref of Gwynllwg. It consists of a steep-sided mound 35m in diameter, with a flat summit 17m in diameter. At its highest, the west side is 5m high and at its base is a partial ditch 4m wide and 1m deep as well as several quarry pits.
- 5.51 The motte overlooks the Ebbw Valley to the west and sits at the top of a ridge. It is one of a group of related historic assets of the medieval era in the immediate locality. To the east (c. 50m) is the Grade II* listed church of St Illtyd which may also have pre-Conquest origins, and which may have been located in the outer bailey of the motte. Adjacent to the church further east are the buried remains of the footings of a later 13th and 14th century castle Castell Taliorum.
- 5.52 The Cadw scheduling citation describes the asset as having been designated on account of:
- "...its potential to enhance our knowledge of medieval timber castles and the Norman invasion of the south-Wales uplands. It is well-preserved and an important relic of the medieval landscape and shares group value with the adjacent church and later masonry castle site, the ambiguous relationship between early ecclesiastical and successive secular*

sites reflecting that at nearby Mynyddislwyn (MM035). It forms one of a series of undocumented and similarly located early castles across the uplands of the former Welsh lands of Gwynllwg and Senghenydd that could equally be interpreted as Norman or Welsh. It retains significant archaeological potential, with a strong probability of the presence of both structural evidence and intact associated deposits.”

- 5.53 The mound is primarily of evidential archaeological value with its remains containing archaeological evidence related to its construction and function. The monument also has historical value illustrating the nature and appearance of the early medieval/medieval landscape and the architecture and landscapes created by its elites. It is associated with the medieval and early medieval history of the settlement at Llanhilleth.
- 5.54 As an earthen mound and ditch the monument has limited aesthetic value. The mound has a degree of local prominence as an impressive earthwork which is enhanced by its ridgetop location, amounting to a low degree of aesthetic value. As a relic of the medieval era the monument has limited communal value.

The Setting of the Asset and its Contribution to its Significance

- 5.55 The mound is situated on rough ground immediately adjacent to a group of modern agricultural sheds which lie to the east between it and the ground of the St Illtyd's Church (**Image EDP A1.30**). Trees lie to the north-west beyond which and to the west are agricultural fields located on steeply sloping land.
- 5.56 The monument is passed to the south by a lane from where it is best experienced. In views from the lane, it is a prominent mound and its relationship with the local topography and with the nearby church can be readily appreciated. It is also apparent that it is incorporated within the modern field system, situated within an enclosed area defined by banks and stone walls and adjacent to large modern buildings. These buildings impose upon the mound and compete with its prominence also blocking the spatial and visual link between the mound and the church. As such, the modern buildings are a negative feature of the mound's setting that detract from its significance to a moderate degree.
- 5.57 As a remnant of the medieval landscape the mound is principally experienced as part of a small group of historic assets that define the historic core of the village. In this regard, the church and the buried remains of the later castle are elements of the monument's setting that provide it with key historic context and contribute positively to a moderate degree to its significance.
- 5.58 The mound was probably designed with military strategy in mind and positioned so as to give a broad overview of the valley landscape to the west. Whilst such views from the mound would now be partially screened by trees, they must still be possible and thus the mound's historic function can still be appreciated from it and in views to it from the adjacent roadside and fields where it is easy to understand the strategic thinking behind its location. As such the topographic situation of the mound, that it can be seen locally and that views are probably possible from its summit are all elements of its setting that contribute to its significance to a moderate degree.

- 5.59 Otherwise, the surrounding landscape of fields, field boundaries and the road, whilst allowing views of the mound through their openness, are of later periods and have little relevance to the mound's history or historic function. As such, these elements are neutral factors in its setting and make no contribution to, nor do they detract from, the mound's significance.

The Site and its Relationship to the Setting of the Asset

- 5.60 The Site cannot be seen from the mound or in conjunction with it. The land in question is screened from the mound by trees and buildings located to the east of the church. Furthermore, the land at the Site has no historical or functional association with the monument. As such, none of the land in the Site makes any contribution to the monument's significance.
- 5.61 The wind turbine development is unlikely to have anything more than the slightest visibility in views from the monument, where it is possible that turbine blade tips may be visible in the distance above trees to the east, the presence of such features would have no implication for the elements of the monument's setting that contribute to its significance and the turbines would be very unlikely to distract from an appreciation of the monument from the local area or the understanding of its historic purpose and strategic position. Nonetheless, the impact of the turbines on the setting of the monument will be assessed in the ES Chapter.

Listed Buildings

St Illtyd's Church (Grade II*; Cadw Ref. 1866)

- 5.62 The church is situated c.780m to the west of the site boundary, in close proximity to the scheduled St Illtyd's Castle Mound (**MM141**). The church (**Image EDP A1.31**) is built in rubble stone with a stone tiled roof. In plan, it comprises a nave and chancel with a low, saddleback tower at its west end.
- 5.63 The building's fabric mainly dates from the late medieval period (c.1500) although there is evidence that earlier masonry has been incorporated. 16th century elements include the tower and barrel roof. The church is located within a circular churchyard, an indicator of probable early medieval origins, and the building is referenced in documentary sources of the 9th and 10th century which relate it to the burial place of a 6th century Welsh prince Owain son of Urien. Cadw state that further documentary sources suggest that the church was rebuilt in the 12th century by the Cistercian monastic order (abbey unknown) which may be the source of the building's earliest fabric.
- 5.64 The church was subject to extensive restoration in the 1880s and many of its windows date from that time as well as its interior furnishings, and it was re-roofed. The church suffered subsidence due to coal mining and closed in the 1930s before being repaired and reopened in 1943, only to be closed again in 1957 due to the adjacent opencast mining which badly damaged the building. During the 1980s the church was fully restored and reopened and now has a community function including as a music venue.

- 5.65 The Cadw listing citation states the reason for the church's designation: "as a well-preserved medieval parish church retaining much original detail, including roofs and saddleback tower, as well as fine provincial late C18-early C19 memorials".
- 5.66 The church possesses a broad range of heritage values. It has a strong degree of evidential value, particularly due to its preserved medieval fabric and potential for evidence within the building and, as buried archaeological remains, related to its early medieval origins. The church has a high degree of historical value through its associations with various medieval and early medieval documentary sources and historical figures as well as with the history of the Cistercians in Wales. It also illustrates the appearance of the medieval Welsh landscape and the architectural legacy of its power structures.
- 5.67 As an attractive and locally prominent building, the church has a moderate degree of aesthetic value. It also has a moderate degree of communal value as a functioning church and centre for music used by the modern public.

The Setting of the Asset and its Contribution to its Significance

- 5.68 The church is situated within a churchyard enclosed by a stone wall and trees. Cadw indicate that the churchyard had a historic circular form although it has since been extended north-westwards forming a wider enclosure. A circular enclosure with the church in the centre is apparent in plan, with the churchyard's curving southern boundary reflecting this original extent. The churchyard has a strong historical and functional association with the church, possibly even predating it and is a key part of its setting that contributes highly to its significance.
- 5.69 Located to the rear of the public house that lies adjacent to the church to the east, archaeological investigation recorded the bases of two towers that were within earthen mounds thought (as recorded by the HER – **GGAT02103g**) to be remains of the medieval Castel Taliorum. The 13th and 14th century castle post-dates the Castle Mound motte to the west but was also closely associated with the adjacent church. As such, the remains of the castle are part of the church's setting that has a close historical and functional association with it and contribute to its significance to a moderate degree.
- 5.70 The church's wider setting comprises the buildings of the village and, to the west of adjacent buildings, the Castle Mound that is a scheduled monument. The mound has a strong historical and functional association with the church, with the two assets representing secular and spiritual centres of local power in the medieval period. As such the mound is part of the church's setting that contributes to a moderate degree to its significance.
- 5.71 The village's buildings are generally of much later periods than the church. Most are set well away from the church and churchyard and have little influence on how the church is experienced. In general, the village buildings provide historic context to the church, as the settlement developed around it and the former castle. This context is best expressed by the public house located c.35m to the east, it also being a public building with a central position within the village. In this regard, the public house makes a minor positive contribution to the church's significance with the surrounding village buildings to the east and south and the roadside at the centre of the village making a very minor contribution.

- 5.72 An exception are the large agricultural sheds to the west. Unlike the castle mound these do not directly impose upon the church or churchyard although their large size compared with other nearby domestic buildings and functional, agricultural appearance detracts from the character of the village and to a very minor degree the prominence of the church. As such, these sheds form a negative feature of the church's setting detracting from its significance to a very minor degree.
- 5.73 The church is generally screened from the wider setting beyond the village by mature trees to the north and north-east, and buildings to the south, east and west with its low tower only just rising above them. As such the building has little prominence within the wider landscape and is only fully appreciable when entering the village. As such, the wider landscape of agricultural land has little relevance to the experience of the church and has no historical or functional associations with it and does not make any contribution to its significance.

The Site and its Relationship to the Setting of the Asset

- 5.74 The Site cannot be seen from the church or in conjunction with it. The land in question is screened from the church by trees and buildings located to the east. Furthermore, the land at the Site has no historical or functional association with the listed building. As such, none of the land in the Site makes any contribution to the listed building's significance.
- 5.75 The wind turbine development is unlikely to have anything more than the slightest visibility in views from the listed building, where it is possible that turbine wing tips may be visible in the distance above trees to the east, the presence of such features would have no implication for the elements of the church's setting that contribute to its significance although their presence may distract slightly from an appreciation of the church and its architecture in views to it from the west. The impact of the turbines on the setting of the church will be assessed fully in the ES Chapter.

Hafod-arthen (Grade II; Cadw Ref. 1867)

- 5.76 The listed building is located c.570m to the west of the site boundary. The building comprises what was originally a pair of joined 'unit' farmhouses. Both parts are of rubble stone construction that has been rendered and whitewashed and have slate roofs. Cadw state that the older, west unit probably originated as a hall house in the 16th century. Presumably, with the element 'Hafod' in its name, it was a farmstead related to pastoral transhumance, with the house used as a residence when livestock were grazed in the summer, in the uplands.
- 5.77 Analysis of the building by the RCAHMS suggested that the house was remodelled with a chimney and passage inserted probably at the same time as the adjoining house was built, estimated at around 1600. At some point in their history the buildings were connected via a small lobby to form a single farmhouse. The building was renovated in the 1980s after becoming derelict.
- 5.78 The Cadw listing citation states the reason for the house's designation:
- "...as an unusual survival of two 'unit' farmhouses in one farmstead, with substantial early remains to interiors."*

- 5.79 The building's significance is primarily derived from the evidential value contained in its fabric, layout and internal architectural details. It also has a degree of historical value illustrating the nature and function of the post-medieval agricultural landscape and the transhumance system. As a functional farmhouse with limited architectural detailing, it possesses a lesser degree of aesthetic value although it does have some attractive internal features. As a private residence the house only has a low degree of communal value.

The Setting of the Asset and its Contribution to its Significance

- 5.80 The farmhouse is situated adjacent to large modern outbuildings to the west within an enclosed farmyard and gardens defined by trees, hedges and fencing. These immediately adjacent spaces and buildings have a strong historical and functional association with the farmhouse and contribute highly to its significance.
- 5.81 More widely, the farmhouse is surrounded by agricultural fields of pasture (**Photograph EDP 32**) that are set on land that slopes to the south. In this regard it is situated on the upper slopes of a western spur of Mynydd Llanhilleth and overlooks the wider landscape to the south comprising the Ebbw Valley. The house can be experienced in views across the surrounding farmland, principally from the north as views from the south are screened by adjacent trees. In such views the house can be appreciated as a farmhouse set within tracts of historically and functionally associated farmland although there is nothing architectural about the house that stands out visually and the relationship is principally functional. As such the surrounding farmland that is part of the house's landholding and from across which it can be seen and experienced is an element of its setting that makes a minor positive contribution to its significance.

The Site and its Relationship to the Setting of the Asset

- 5.82 The Site is located c.570m east of the listed building comprising trackways running to the east of fields that are associated with the farmhouse. The farmhouse is not readily experienced in views from the Site due to intervening landform and field boundaries and thus is not experienced with or in conjunction with the farmhouse.
- 5.83 It is likely that wind turbines would be visible in views eastwards from the listed building. However, the presence of turbines, on the distant hilltop, would be of a sufficient distance from the farmhouse so that they would have no implication for the experience of the farmhouse from and across adjacent farmland and the building's setting would be largely unaffected. The presence of the turbines may distract slightly from an appreciation of the farmhouse in views in which the turbines form part of the backdrop (i.e. from the west), however, as a functional building that was not intended to possess any aesthetic qualities, this effect would have little implication for its significance and furthermore, to the immediate west of the farm are large modern agricultural buildings that dominate any view to the house from that direction. The impact of the turbines on the setting of the listed building will be assessed fully in the ES Chapter.

Ty-Ilwyd (Grade II; Cadw Ref. 22672)

- 5.84 The listed building is located c.880m to the west of the site boundary. The building comprises a former farmhouse (now disused outbuilding) built in rubble stone with a slate roof which now only partially remains and has had its chimneys removed. It is built into a

north slope with a parlour at the upper end and former byre at the southern end below a cross passage. The Cadw citation describes it as primarily a 17th century domestic structure, possibly with 16th century origins as a hall house, remodelled in the 17th century with a chimney added and parlour extended. The house was used as the parish Vicarage after the reformation.

- 5.85 The Cadw listing citation states the reason for the house's designation: "as a well-preserved C17 upland farmhouse, retaining unusual and early plan, and original internal detail".
- 5.86 The building's significance is primarily derived from the evidential value contained in its fabric, layout and internal architectural details. It also has a degree of historical value illustrating the nature and function of the post-medieval agricultural landscape and the history of the village. As a simple vernacular house with limited architectural detailing, it possesses a lesser degree of aesthetic value, although it does have some attractive internal features. As a private outbuilding the house only has a low degree of communal value.

The Setting of the Asset and its Contribution to its Significance

- 5.87 The listed building is located in an overgrown area enclosed by trees between fields of pasture on slopes that face south-east down towards the Ebbw Valley. The disused building is surrounded by encroaching vegetation and is hard to experience from any distance (**Image EDP A1.33**). This heavily vegetated setting compromises the experience of the building and is a negative aspect of its setting that detracts from its significance to a high degree.
- 5.88 The building once had a historical and functional association with the adjacent agricultural land, which is documented by the Tithe Apportionment, however, with the disuse of the building this has been lost and amounts to only a historic association. Nevertheless, although the building is screened by vegetation and set in a field scape defined by dense field boundaries lined by mature trees, which screen views across the fields from adjacent areas, the only place to experience it in the landscape is from the adjacent historically associated fields. As such, the surrounding fields comprise a part of the building's setting that contribute to a minor degree to its significance.

The Site and its Relationship to the Setting of the Asset

- 5.89 The listed building is located c.880m to the west of the Site. Due to adjacent vegetation and trees, views to the Site are screened from the building and the land within it is not appreciable from or in conjunction with the listed building. Due to the landform and the screening effect of trees and field boundaries the house is not visible from the Site. Furthermore, there is no known historic or functional association between any of the land in the Site and the listed building. Consequently, the Site contributes nothing to the significance of the listed building.
- 5.90 Due to the surrounding trees and vegetation, it is unlikely that the proposed wind turbines would be visible from the listed building and their presence would have no implication for the building's setting or distract from an appreciation of it from adjacent fields. However, the impact of the turbines on the setting of the building will be assessed fully in the ES Chapter.

Registered Parks and Gardens

Grade II* Pontypool Park (PGW (Gt) 26)

- 5.91 Pontypool Park is a 19th century landscaped park located c.2.4km to the east of the Site, that is now, for most of its extent, a modern public park. A description of the park, the historic assets within it and its history is given in a Cadw 'Site Dossier' issued when the park was included in the *Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales*. The park is shown in relation to the Site and in detail on **Image EDP 5.3**.

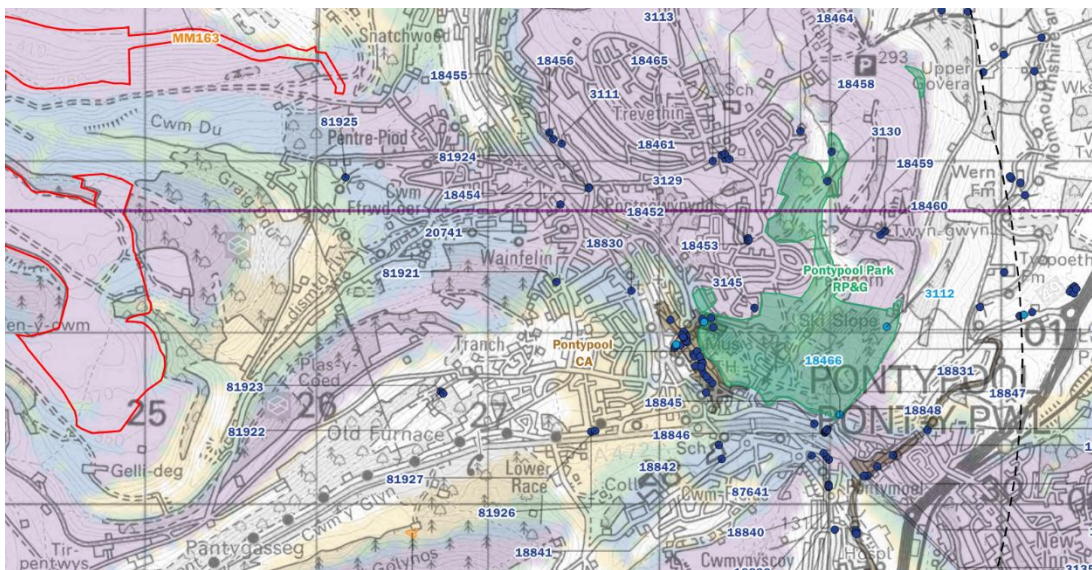


Image EDP 5.3: Map showing Pontypool Park in detail.

- 5.92 The park was laid out around Pontypool House in the early 19th century. The house (a Grade II listed building; **3119**) is a large Georgian/Regency house and is located in the south-west corner of the park. The oldest parts of the house date from the late 17th century when it was constructed by the ironmaster Richard Hanbury. The house was extended at various times in the 18th and 19th centuries and partially rebuilt in 1872. In the early 20th century, the house was let to a religious order before being sold to the local authority after which it became a school, which is its current use, and which has led to it being subject to various modern extensions.
- 5.93 A former stable block lies to the west of the house that is a Grade II* listed building (**3120**). This large Regency style building dates from c.1800 and is contemporary with the park's main phase of landscaping replacing a former stable to the east as well as a chapel and dovecote.
- 5.94 The park is located across steep, undulating land that generally rises to the north-east from the Afon Llwyd which forms its southern boundary. The Nant Golem stream runs through the park into the Llwyd forming a valley down its centre. The land was originally acquired in the 17th century by the Hanburys and was maintained as a deer park retaining its natural landscape of grassland and woodland with only the area around the house laid out with formal gardens.
- 5.95 Development of the park began in the 18th century with drives laid out. Major changes were made to the park from c.1800 by Capel Hanbury Leigh and then throughout the 19th century.

Initially works aimed to create a picturesque landscape at the park with key works being the removal of the old formal gardens and replacement by a lawn and the Nant Golem being dammed to form a lake. A large bank was also formed and planted along the southern edge of the park so as to screen it from the town and its ironworks.

- 5.96 In 1830 a shell hermitage was constructed which is still present on the high, north-eastern edge of the park and which is a Grade II* listed building (**3112; Image EDP A1.16**). The building is well-preserved and has an interior that is highly decorative with decoration composed of shells, stones, bone, teeth and various other materials which was carried out over seven years by the wife of Capel Hanbury Leigh. Presently the building is shut and inaccessible and is surrounded by a modern fence, which has a negative influence on its setting detracting from its significance.
- 5.97 The hermitage is posited on a high hill summit on the edge of woodland within the park and provides sweeping views to the east, with woodland screening views to the west. As such, Mynydd Llanhilleth (and the Site) is not visible from the building and does not form part of the landscape that is experienced from it, contributing nothing to its significance. Wind turbine development in the Site would not be visible from the building and would not result in any changes to its setting.
- 5.98 Other 19th century developments include the erection of the Pontmoel Gates which were set at the eastern entrance to the park. The gates are Grade II listed (**16072**) and are of the 18th century, with the gate having been moved to their present position in the 19th century from the older house.
- 5.99 In 1851 a large arboretum was created at the northern end of the valley of the Nant Golem known as the American Gardens. A lodge was also built at the park's northern entrance, Rustic Lodge, that is also Grade II listed (**3130**). Around the house a kitchen garden was constructed as well as an ice house which is also extant and listed at Grade II (**18811**).
- 5.100 In a detached part to the north of the main part of the park and at the summit of the hill on which the park lies is a folly (**Image EDP A1.34**). The present folly is a modern rebuild and comprises a castellated viewing tower. The original tower was built in 1837 replacing an earlier structure but was demolished in 1940 as it was thought to have potentially functioned as a marker for German aircraft. The folly was rebuilt in the 1990s as a replica of the original design. From this location very expansive views are possible across the landscape to the west, south and east.
- 5.101 After 1920 the park was transferred to public ownership and since then has been subject to various recreation developments including a bandstand, sports pitches, tennis courts, a bowling green, children's play facilities and in the 1970s a dry ski slope and leisure centre. These features now dominate the lower, southern end of the park. Also, in the 1970s the park's lake was reformed into two smaller lakes.

Significance and Views

- 5.102 The parks' significance is primarily defined by its extant historic assets and its various mature trees and wooded areas interspersed with open areas of rough grassland, which reflect its original, naturalistic landscape setting prior to its 19th century development.

- 5.103 The Cadw Dossier describes how the southern part of the park is the most municipalised in so much as it contains various historic buildings and mature trees, and views across it are dominated by modern buildings and sport facilities (**Image EDP A1.35**). These features reduce the historic character of this part of the park, screening an appreciation of its historic elements and reducing the clarity of its pre-20th century layout.
- 5.104 Further northwards the park becomes wilder with dense woodland (partially on its eastern side) interspersed with open areas of rough grassland, generally set on steep slopes. These areas are more in keeping with the park's original design and strongly reflect its historic character. From these open areas views are possible across to the hills to the west (**Image EDP A1.36**) which include a clear view of Mynydd Llanhilleth.
- 5.105 The northern part of the park is dominated by the American Gardens which are primarily an area of woodland, mostly mixed deciduous but also containing various exotic specimen trees. Distinct from other areas of the park the well-preserved arboretum reflects a specific period in the park's history.
- 5.106 The detached area around the folly is distinct in its own right as comprising an open hilltop form where expansive views are possible including towards Mynydd Llanhilleth (**Image EDP A1.37**). Such views are the defining characteristic of this area which otherwise possess very little of the park's intrinsic heritage significance.
- 5.107 The Cadw Dossier defines the parks 'Essential setting' as comprising: "*Farmland to the E of the Nant y Gollen stream in the northern half of the park*".
- 5.108 It also defines key viewpoints as: "*E from the shell hermitage (A) and all around from the site of the Folly (B)*".

The Site and its Relationship to the Setting of the Asset

- 5.109 The Site occupies land that has no historical or functional association with the land at the park. It is only visible from certain parts of the park where it (comprising the part of the Site which occupies the eastern side of Mynydd Llanhilleth) is visible as part of the general backdrop of hills that lies to the west (**Image EDP A1.36**).
- 5.110 Locations where these views are possible comprise the area around the folly and open areas on the slopes at the eastern part of the park and open areas at the southern end.
- 5.111 At the lower southern part of the park views out are most restricted due to screening by trees (**Image EDP A1.35**). Open areas in the centre of the park (such as near to the sports pitches) do allow for a view to Mynydd Llanhilleth although the views are generally partially screened and the viewscape is more focused on adjacent areas rather than the more distant wider landscape. From the main entrance drive from the south-east entrance, no views to Mynydd Llanhilleth are possible due to the screening effect of adjacent trees (**Image EDP A1.38**).
- 5.112 The western parts of the park slope to the east and south-east and thus away from the Site and views are not possible from these areas. This includes the American Garden which is located on the western side and bottom of the valley of the Nant Golem, with views from it only to the east, to farmland that comprises the essential setting.

- 5.113 Where visible Mynydd Llanhilleth is a prominent feature and its presence provides, along with adjacent hills, an attractive backdrop in views of the west from within the park. The most complete views are from the pockets of open space on the higher eastern part of the park (**Image EDP A1.36**). In such views the hills provide a naturalistic backdrop albeit with modern built development also commonly seen reflecting the built-up character of the surrounding town which occupies the valley bottom.
- 5.114 At the folly, far reaching views are possible in all directions and Mynydd Llanhilleth is just one of many hills that are part of the vista (**Image EDP A1.37**). This vista includes many different landscape types including large areas of modern urban development.
- 5.115 Wind turbines in the Site would be very prominent in the places at Pontypool Park where views to Mynydd Llanhilleth are possible. Presently, no other turbines are visible in these views, (although distant turbines can be seen in other directions from the higher part of the park at the folly). Consequently, the turbines would introduce a new modern element into specific views outwards from the park.
- 5.116 In understanding the impact of the turbines in views from the park, it should be considered that the views are not of a landscape devoid of modern features, modern built development is present in all views from the park to some extent. It should also be considered that the turbines would only be visible from certain areas and, from most of the park, they would not be visible. This includes from the various designated historic assets within the park, as from none of these assets would the turbines be visible and thus potentially change their settings. As such, no negative impacts upon the significance of any of the individual designated assets in the park are likely to occur.
- 5.117 As such, the presence of turbines in views to the west from the park would have little implication for the elements of the park which contribute most highly to its significance. Any impact upon the park's significance from the change to its setting brought about by the turbines would be only to the park itself and the change would be limited in the extent to which it could be experienced, it being change to just one part of the park's wider backdrop of hills which is only visible from certain locations. The potential impact upon the park's significance will be fully considered within the ES Chapter.

Section 6

Conclusion

- 6.1 This Archaeology and Heritage Baseline Assessment concludes that the Site does not contain any world heritage sites, scheduled monuments, historic parks and gardens or listed buildings, where there would be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation *in situ* and against development.
- 6.2 Potential impacts upon the settings of historic assets in the wider landscape have been considered using a 10km radius SSA and through the application of a ZTV to determine which assets may be intervisible with the Proposed Development. It is notable that this assessment doesn't consider the potential for effects on the BILWHS and the BLOHI from change to their wider landscape setting. Effects on these assets is considered within a separate HIA report (EDP, 2022, edp6367_r017).
- 6.3 The settings assessment has followed Cadw guidance (2017) to Stages 1 and 2, in that (1) assets have been identified that might be subject to an effect on their settings from the development of the Site, and (2) their settings, and the contribution made by them to their significance, have been identified, including any contribution made by the land at the Site.
- 6.4 This assessment concludes that the majority of historic assets within the 10km radius SSA are not likely to be affected by the Proposed Development. The following designated assets were assessed at Stage 2 of the process:
- Cwmbyrgwm Colliery (**MM163**) (including Grade II listed building Chimney to Cwmbyrgwm Colliery: Cadw Ref. **18591**);
 - St Illtyd's Castle Mound (**MM141**);
 - St Illtyd's Church (Grade II*; Cadw Ref. **1866**);
 - Hafod-arthen (Grade II; Cadw Ref. 1867);
 - Ty-Ilwyd (Grade II; Cadw Ref. 22672); and
 - Grade II* Registered Park and Garden Pontypool Park (PGW (Gt) 26).
- 6.5 Of these assets, only the scheduled monument Cwmbyrgwm Colliery and Chimney, the Grade II* listed building St Illtyd's Church and the Grade II* Registered Park and Garden Pontypool Park were assessed at Stage 2 of the settings assessment process. All of the assets listed above will be fully assessed, as per Stages 3 and 4 of the Cadw assessment process, in the ES Chapter and any impacts upon their significance articulated in that document in respect of planning legislation and policy.
- 6.6 The assessment also examined the potential for effects on the significance of non-designated historic assets from change within their settings. In that regard the following non-designated historic buildings or former buildings were deemed potentially susceptible

to an impact from the Proposed Development and will be considered in full within the ES Chapter:

- Gilfach Wen Farm and Barn (**GGAT06399g**);
- Ty-Dafydd (**GGAT06401g**);
- Blaen Cyffin (**GGAT04910g**);
- Maes-y-Cnyw Farm (**GGAT02093g**);
- Blaen-y-cwm (**GGAT04914g**); and
- Gelli-Deg (**GGAT04917g**).

- 6.7 The assessment also considered the potential for the Site to contain non-designated historic assets including previously unrecorded archaeological remains. Following a consideration of desk-based sources of historic environment information and a site visit it was concluded that a key factor in the assessment is that a large proportion of the Site was subject to opencast coal mining in the mid-20th century with a broad swath of the upland common that lies within the Site formed of made ground following the mine's remediation. As such for a large proportion of the Site there are no extant historic assets and no potential for archaeological remains or extant.
- 6.8 Areas of the Site that were unaffected by the opencast mining lie at the fringes of the Site with the broadest area in its northern part. Within these areas the landscape primarily contains remains related to the post-medieval and modern landscape comprising remains related to post-medieval agriculture and 19th and 20th century coal mining. Individual historic features within these areas (such as ruined farmhouses, mining levels and tips, enclosures, old track ways and sheep folds) are historic assets of low or very low significance. Some areas possess a degree of integrity in that they represent areas where the post-medieval landscape is preserved, and several discrete areas of low historic landscape value have been identified.
- 6.9 Otherwise, the only historic asset that probably predates the post-medieval period is a possible Roman road which crosses the northern part of the Site and which runs along the northern edge of the grid connection corridor. This feature has not been archaeologically dated but is cleared an old, abraded track with evidence for raised sections which could represent the *agger* of a Roman road. If this feature contains Roman period archaeological evidence for a road, it is considered to potentially be of moderate heritage significance.
- 6.10 Mainly due to the Site's history of coal mining and its associated ground disturbance, there is only a low potential for unrecorded archaeological remains dating from any of the pre-medieval periods. From later periods there is a high potential for buried remains related to agriculture, such as in filled ditches or furrows, or mining, such as pits or tips, that would be of low or very low significance in parts of the Site that were affected by opencast mining.
- 6.11 In conclusion the assessment has not identified any potential for archaeological remains within the Site that might be of national importance and thus constrain the Site's

development for wind turbines. Given that the Proposed Development will only affect discrete parts of the Site that would be occupied by turbines and their associated infrastructure, it is not expected that any non-designated historic assets will be directly affected by the Proposed Development.

- 6.12 Given the limited potential for significant archaeological remains within the Site it is not anticipated that turbine locations would need to be archaeologically evaluated. It is deemed that if required, archaeological mitigation of possible effects on unrecorded archaeological remains from turbines positioned in previously undisturbed areas could be dealt with via an appropriately worded planning condition.

Section 7 References

Blaenau Gwent Local Development Plan 2006 to 2021

Cadw, 2003. Technical Annex: A Staged process for the Assessment of the Significance of Impact of Development on the Historic Landscape Areas on the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales (ASIDOHL), in Guide to good practice on using the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales in the Planning and Development Processes, Cardiff

Cadw CCW and ICOMOS UK, 1998. The Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales. Part 2.1: Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales, Cardiff

Cadw CCW and ICOMOS UK, 2001. The Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales. Part 2.2: Register of Landscapes of Special Historic Interest in Wales, Cardiff

Cadw, 2011. Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable management of the Historic Environment in Wales (Cardiff)

Cadw, 2017a. Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (Cardiff)

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020. Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment (Reading)

Environment Agency (EA), 2016. Environment Agency LiDAR data Technical Note

Historic England (HE), 2010. The Light Fantastic: Using Airbourne LiDAR in Archaeological Survey

Klemen Zakšek, Krištof Oštir and Žiga Kokalj, 2011. Sky-View Factor as a Relief Visualization Technique. Remote Sensing 3(2): 398-415

Kokalj, Žiga and Maja Somrak, 2019. Why not a single image? Combining Visualizations to Facilitate Fieldwork and On-Screen Mapping. Remote Sensing 11 (7): 747

Kokalj, Žiga and Ralf Hesse, 2017. Airbourne Laser Scanning Raster Visualisation: A guide to Good Practice

Torfaen Local Development Plan to 2021

HISTORIC MAPS

Tithe map of the Parish of Llanhilleth 1841

Tithe Map of the Parish of Trevethin 1841

1:25k Ordnance Survey Map of 1880

1:25k Ordnance Survey Map of 1901

1:25k Ordnance Survey Map of 1920

1:25k Ordnance Survey Map of 1962

1:25k Ordnance Survey Map of 1966

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHS

03 August 1945: 3G/TUD/T19; Part II 5094

31 May 1963: OS 63_074 033 – 036

12 March 1972: 72112 MAL 13_72 100 – 108, 115-117, 119, 121, 123

24 April 1975: OS 75_037 009-011, 061 – 062

26 August 1991: Geonex 8691 018, 020, 022, 024

Appendix EDP 1 Photographs



Image EDP A1.1: View westwards along the possible Roman road illustrating its general appearance.



Image EDP A1.2: View eastwards along the possible Roman Road illustrating a raised surface – a possible agger.



Image EDP A1.3: View across Cwm Cnyw illustrating mining remains on the far valley side.



Image EDP A1.4: Remains of historic mining tips located at the edge of the Site above Cwm Du.



Image EDP A1.5: Relict mining tips and in the foreground a level entrance at Blaen Cyffin.



Image EDP A1.6: View south across Cefn Crib Common with historic abraded trackways apparent.



Image EDP A1.7: View south towards the ruined building and sheep enclosures at Pen Tranch illustrating the general appearance of the landscape in this location.



Image EDP A1.8: The head of the Cwm Pit valley illustrating the nature of the post-medieval agricultural landscape with a ruined farmstead and old boundaries marked by rows of, and solitary, mature trees.



Image EDP A1.9: Part of the boundary wall between agricultural fields and upland common at Cwm Du.



Image EDP A1.10: Post-medieval agricultural land on the eastern edge of the Site at Blaen-nant-y-caws.



Image EDP A1.11: Post-medieval agricultural land to the south of the Site at Blaen-y-cwm.



Image EDP A1.12: Terraced platform marking the site of former office buildings and the 'Traveller's Rest' Public House.



Image EDP A1.13: View north to Mynydd Llanhilleth (the central hill in the distance) from Twm-Barlwm Mound and Bailey Castle illustrating the potential visibility but distance to the Proposed Development.



Image EDP A1.14: View towards the remains of Cwmbyrgwm Colliery from a hill to the south-east illustrating the prominence of the chimney on the east-facing valley sides.



Image EDP A1.15: View towards Mynydd Llanhilleth from one of the listed buildings in Abersychan illustrating the modern character of the view.



Image EDP A1.16: The Shell Grotto at Pontypool Park illustrating its appearance, fencing and the presence of woodland to the west in the direction of the Site.



Image EDP A1.17: View from the aqueduct over the Brecon and Monmouth Canal at Pontypool illustrating a very limited view between trees in the general direction of Mynydd Llanhilleth.



Image EDP A1.18: View illustrating the setting of the listed buildings at Navigation Colliery illustrating its modern character and surrounding tree cover.



Image EDP A1.19: The Our Lady of peace Church at Newbridge illustrating its appearance.



Image EDP A1.20: Mature trees located behind the church that screen views towards the Site.



Image EDP A1.21: View of the eastern boundary of the Grade II* listed Penllwyn, former manor house illustrating its wall and screening trees.



Image EDP A1.22: View of the New Bethel Chapel illustrating its appearance and hillside setting.



Image EDP A1.23: View of the Church of Christ Church, Aberbeeg illustrating its setting and the local prominence of its tower.



Image EDP A1.24: View in the direction of the Site from the Grade II* Church of St Sannan illustrating the screening effect of adjacent boundary features.



Image EDP A1.25: View along the Monmouth and Brecon Canal illustrating the character of the stretch at Pontypool including its enclosing mature trees.



Image EDP A1.26: Image illustrating the general character of Capel Gwladys Open Common (HLCA 002).



Image EDP A1.27: View towards the Site from the Gelligaer registered historic landscape. Mynydd Llanhilleth is one of the distant hills visible in glimpsed views.



Image EDP A1.28: View north-east from the Gelligaer registered historic landscape showing the presence of nearby wind turbines.



Image EDP A1.29: Image illustrating part of the Cwmybyrgwm Colliery scheduled monument and its setting within a steep sided valley.



Image EDP A1.30: St Illtyd Castle mound illustrating its appearance and the presence of a large agricultural building to its immediate east.



Image EDP A1.31: Image illustrating the appearance and setting of the Grade II* St Illtyd's Church.



Image EDP A1.32: View towards the farmstead Hafod-arthan illustrating its setting.



Image EDP A1.33: View towards Ty-llwyd along the track to the east illustrating the overgrown nature of its setting.



Image EDP A1.34: General view of the folly at Pontypool Park illustrating its setting.



Image EDP A1.35: View towards Mynydd Llanhilleth across part of the southern part of Pontypool Park with modern sports facilities in the foreground.



Image EDP A1.36: View towards Mynydd Llanhilleth (the central hill) from one of the open areas in the north-eastern part of Pontypool Park.



Image EDP A1.37: View towards Mynydd Llanhilleth from the folly at Pontypool Park.



Image EDP A1.38: View along the drive from the main entrance at Pontypool Park illustrating the screening effect of adjacent trees.



Image EDP A1.39: The south-eastern bridge abutment of the route of the former Talywain Railway located within the footprint of the access route.



Image EDP A1.40: View across the field crossed by the southern extent of the grid connection corridor illustrating how it contains earthworks that are probably former spoil tips.



Image EDP A1.41: View of the Grade II listed Former Colliery Engine House at ETM Steel Fabrication from the adjacent road that is part of the access route. The image illustrates the building's derelict condition and part of its poor quality setting.

Appendix EDP 2
Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation
(edp6367_r011)



**Mynydd
Llanhilleth Wind
Farm**

**Written Scheme
of Investigation
for an
Archaeological
and Heritage
Assessment**

Prepared by:
**The Environmental
Dimension
Partnership Ltd**

On behalf of:
Pennant Walters

November 2022
Report Reference
edp6367_r011a

Contents

Section 1	Introduction.....	1
Section 2	Methodology.....	3
Section 3	Report Content.....	5
Section 4	Bibliography	7

Appendix

Appendix EDP 1	Study Area – Revised (edp6367_d038a 13 May 2021 MJC/KH)
-----------------------	--

This version is intended for electronic viewing only

	Report Ref: edp6367_r011			
	Author	Formatted	Peer Review	Proofed by/Date
011_DRAFT	RS	FM	AP	-
011a	RSk	-	-	CLa 171122

Section 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd (EDP) for review and consideration by the Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT), the archaeological advisors to the Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council (BGCBC) and the Torfaen County Borough Council (TCBC), who are the relevant Local Planning Authorities (LPAs).
- 1.2 The WSI is concerned with the proposed development of the Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm, which is located on Mynydd Llanhilleth, a large hill of the Glamorgan Uplands. The proposed development will encompass eight wind turbines located within a general area that includes all potential turbine locations, associated infrastructure and part of the route of a grid connection. As such, the focus of the assessment is therefore on a broad area containing the proposed development which will be defined in the Archaeological and Heritage Assessment as the 'Site Study Area'. The extent of this area is illustrated on the plan at **Appendix EDP 1**.
- 1.3 The remaining extent of the grid connection will be subject to an additional application distinct from the present Site Study Area.
- 1.4 The WSI's aim is to set out the scope and methodology to be employed in the preparation of an Archaeological and Heritage Assessment Report for the Site Study Area. This follows on from a Scoping Report submitted to the LPAs in 2021 and respects a request made by GGAT in a DNS Scoping Direction issued by the Planning Inspectorate (3273368: Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm August 2021). Within this document GGAT's advice was detailed within a general response from BGCBC.
- 1.5 The proposed report would have the specific aims of identifying whether the Site Study Area contains or is likely to contain archaeological features, deposits and/or remains requiring consideration and conservation (either physically, in situ, or by record) within the planning process and detailing an appropriate and proportionate response in accordance with the aims of relevant national and local policies and guidance.
- 1.6 The assessment will address the relevant policies contained within *Planning Policy Wales Edition Eleven*, published in February 2021 (PPW 2021) and local policies within the *Torfaen Local Development Plan* (adopted December 2013) and the *Blaenau Gwent Local Development Plan* (adopted November 2012) (as appropriate).
- 1.7 The report will also take into account the additional guidance for archaeological assessment in Wales which is set out in *Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment* (Welsh Government 2017), as well as best practice guidance from Cadw set out in *Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales* (Cadw 2017a).

- 1.8 The report will be combined with a heritage settings assessment that will be in accordance with Cadw guidance *The Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (Cadw 2017b). This aspect will accord with Cadw advice issued within the DNS Scoping Direction which requested for all designated historic assets within a 10km radius of the Site Study Area to be considered at Stage 1 of the assessment process.

Site Description

- 1.9 The Site Study Area is located on the hill Mynydd Llanhilleth, situated between three river valleys, that of the Ebbw and Ebbw Fach to the west, the Glyn to the south and the Lwyd to the east. To the north are further hills to the east of Abertillery.
- 1.10 The Site Study Area mainly comprises open mountain upland at and around the peak of Mynydd Llanhilleth with coniferous plantations on the southern side set around former quarry pits. Around the area's margins, on the lower slopes, are irregular fields representing pastoral farming landscapes at the upland edge.
- 1.11 To the west, south and east streams cut the hillside forming steep sided valleys. These are defined by farms and farmsteads as well as remains related to the area's former industry. The main river valleys to the west, south-west, north-west and east are densely populated with the urban edge of the town of Abertillery located c.1km to the north-west and the edge of the town of Pontypool located c.2km to the east, and with various smaller towns and villages located in the adjacent valleys.
- 1.12 As recorded by the British Geological Survey (2022) the bedrock geology at the Site Study Area comprises siltstone, mudstone and sandstone of the Hughes and Grovesend Formations. In the northern part of the Site Study Area a superficial deposit of Glacial Till is also recorded. Much of the central, eastern and south-eastern parts of the Site Study Area are also recorded as possessing an artificial ground surface related to the landscape's historic use for open-cast quarrying.

Section 2

Methodology

- 2.1 The report will be produced in accordance with the *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment* issued by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA, 2020). These guidelines provide a national standard for the completion of desk-based assessments.

Study Area

- 2.2 The report's preparation will involve the consultation of publicly available archaeological and historic information gathered from relevant documentary, cartographic and aerial photographic sources. The archaeological study area to be adopted will be a 500m buffer around the Site Study Area boundary.
- 2.3 The Site Study Area is defined as a broad area surrounding the actual locations of development and thus already includes a buffer around the turbine locations and infrastructure. Given the upland context of the Site Study Area, the additional 500m radius study area is deemed adequate to capture all known assets within the Site Study Area and its immediate vicinity, and to thus understand the Site Study Area's archaeological potential.
- 2.4 A 500m radius study area encompasses the upland zone of Mynydd Llanhilleth comprising a similar landscape to that at the Site Study Area and does not extend to the settlements within the adjacent valley floors. This avoids the need to integrate the substantial number of non-designated built historic assets within these settlements into the assessment baseline (particularly those included on the National Monuments Record of Wales (NMRW)) which are of little relevance to the Site Study Area's archaeological potential.
- 2.5 The 500m radius study area is a similar approach to that as set out in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report at Paragraph 8.19 and will achieve the same objective.

Sources and methodology

- 2.6 The following baseline sources are each expected to be consulted and reviewed:
- Known archaeological sites, monuments and findspots from the GGAT Historic Environment Record (HER);
 - The NMRW;

- Cadw's Historic Environment Service for information on designated historic assets;
 - Historic maps held by the Gwent Archives and from online sources;
 - Aerial photographs which are held by the Central Register of Aerial Photography for Wales (CRAPW) at Cardiff;
 - Environment Agency LiDAR datasets; and
 - Relevant books, articles and previous assessment reports on the Site Study Area.
- 2.7 The Site Study Area has been subject to a site visit/walkover survey as part of an exercise to inform the EIA Scoping Report and will be subject to an additional visit once the baseline sources listed above have been fully appraised.
- 2.8 The site visits/walkovers aim to consider the presence, nature and significance of any known and/or potential archaeological assets within the Site Study Area, as well as to identify visible historic features and to identify and assess possible factors which may affect the survival or condition of below ground archaeological remains.
- 2.9 The resulting baseline report will therefore conclude with an assessment of the Site Study Area's likely archaeological interest or potential, made with regard to current best practice guidelines, in order to understand the likely impact of development on the archaeological resource, whether directly or indirectly.

Section 3

Report Content

3.1 The report structure will differ dependent on the findings of the research, the needs of the project and the stage within the planning process. The report will however, as a minimum, contain the following sections.

- Non-technical summary, including a translation of the summary into Welsh;
- Introduction;
- Context of project;
- Site location and description;
- Geological and topographical description;
- Aims and purpose of the assessment;
- Methodology;
- Review of current legislation and planning policy;
- Baseline archaeological and heritage information presented as a period based archaeological and historical background, consisting of:
 - Designated heritage assets;
 - Non-designated heritage assets;
 - Historic map regression;
 - A review of LiDAR data;
 - Aerial photographic evidence; and
 - Site walkover results.
- Identification and assessment of the potential for archaeological remains within the Site Study Area considering previous/known impacts, including consideration of the significance of any remains which are known or expected to be present within the boundary;
- Conclusions;

- Supporting illustrations; and
 - References.
- 3.2 The report will be submitted to GGAT for approval. Following approval, it will be submitted to the GGAT HER, with a digital copy submitted to the National Monuments Record (NMR) in accordance with the *RCAHMW Guidelines for Digital Archives* (RCAHMW, 2015).
- 3.3 With respect to archiving, as well as the relevant ClfA guidance, the *National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales* will be followed (National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales, 2017).
- 3.4 Should new data be generated, this will be provided to the HER. The data will conform with the requirements of the *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (Welsh Archaeological Trusts and Cadw, 2018).

Section 4

Bibliography

BGCBC, 2012 *Blaenau Gwent Local Development Plan 2006 - 2021*

Cadw 2011 *Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable management of the Historic Environment in Wales.*

Cadw 2017a, *Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales.*

Cadw 2017b, *The Setting of Historic Assets in Wales.*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), 2020, *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment.*

National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales, 2017, *National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales.*

RCAHMW 2015, *RCAHMW Guidelines for Digital Archives*

TCBC 2017 *Torfaen Local Development Plan 2013*

Welsh Archaeological Trusts and Cadw, 2018, *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs).*

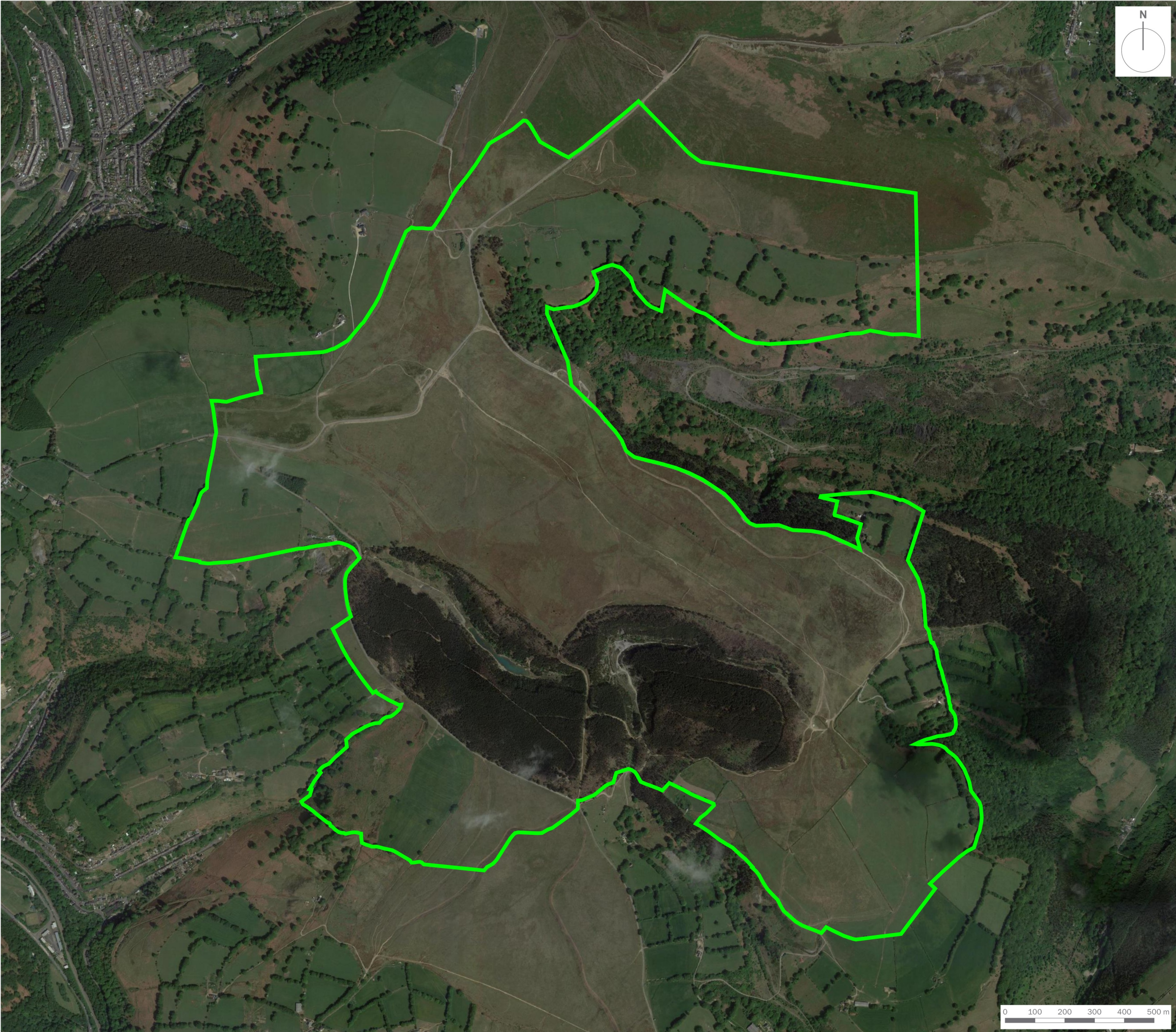
Welsh Government, 2017, *Technical Advice Note 24 (TAN 24) The Historic Environment.*

Welsh Government, 2021 *Planning Policy Wales Edition Eleven.*

This page has been left blank intentionally

Appendix EDP 1
Study Area – Revised
(edp6367_d038a 13 May 2021 MJC/KH)

This page has been left blank intentionally



Study Area - Revised

client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

drawing title

Study Area - Revised

date

13 MAY 2021

drawn by

MJC

drawing number

edp6367_d038a

checked

KH

scale

1:12,500 @ A3

QA

GY



the environmental
dimension partnership

CARDIFF
02921 671900

CHELTENHAM
01242 903110

CIRENCESTER
01285 740427

info@edp-uk.co.uk
www.edp-uk.co.uk

The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd. Registered as a Limited Company in England and Wales. Company No. 09102431. Registered Office: Quarry Barn, Elkstone Studios, Elkstone, Gloucestershire GL53 9PQ



**URBAN
DESIGN
GROUP** REGISTERED
PRACTICE



**Landscape
Institute**
Registered practice

Plans

Plan EDP 1: Designated Historic Assets and ZTV Within the Setting Study Area
(edp6367_d099d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 2: HER Monument Records Within the Archaeological Study Area
(edp6367_d100e 30 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 3: NMRW Records Within the Archaeological Study Area
(edp6367_d101d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 4: HER Event Records Within the Archaeological Study Area
(edp6367_d102d 30 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 5: Tithe Maps of the Parish of Llanhilleth (1841) and the Parish of Trevethin (1841)
(edp6367_d105c 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 6: Historic Map: OS 1880 – 1881
(edp6367_d106d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 7: Historic Map: OS 1901
(edp6367_d107d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 8: Historic Map: OS 1920 – 1921
(edp6367_d108d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 9: Historic Map: OS 1964 – 1965
(edp6367_d109c 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

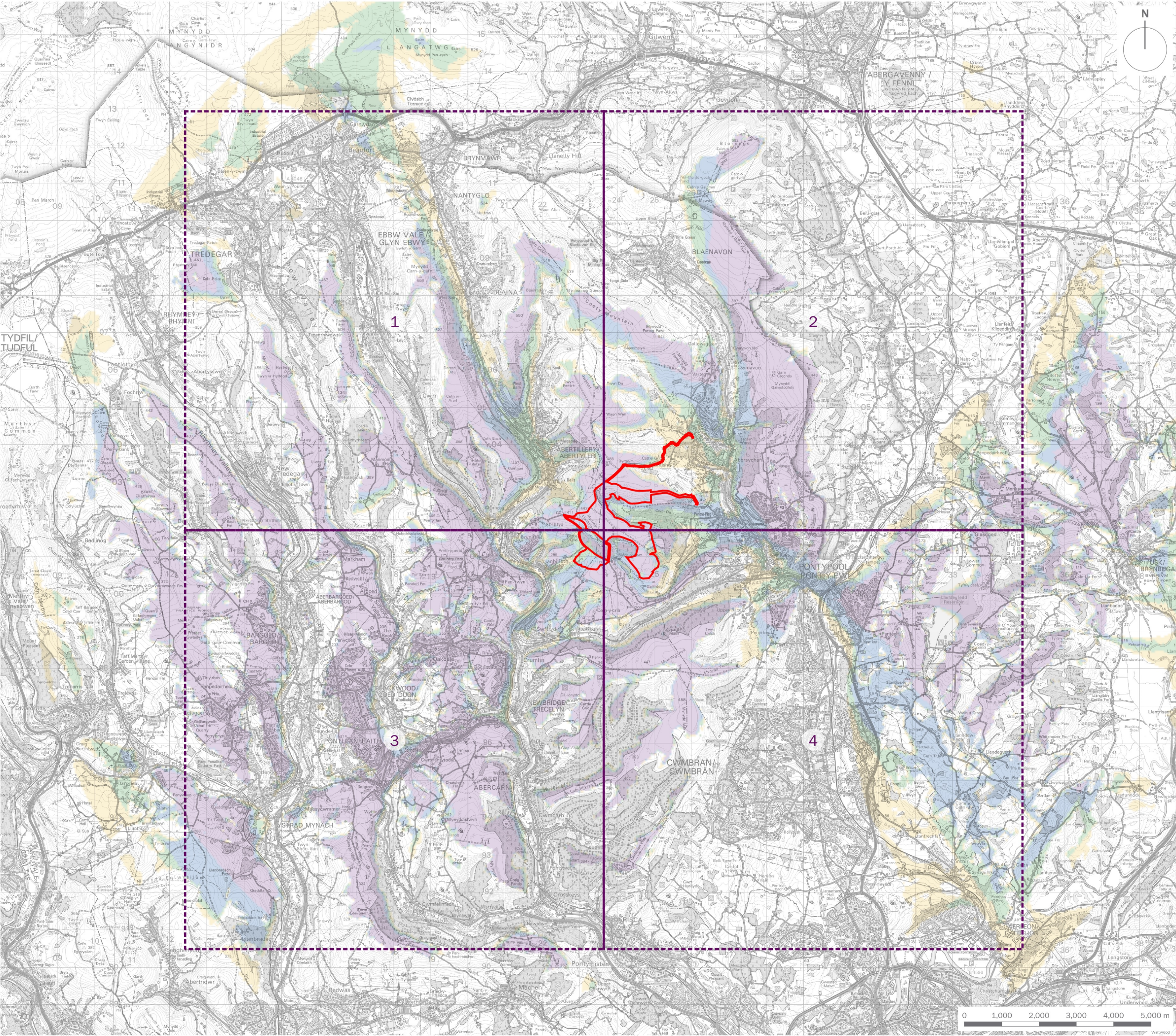
Plan EDP 10: Historic Map: OS 1977 – 1979
(edp6367_d110d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 11: Aerial Photograph: RAF 3GTUD_T19 094 3rd August 1945
(edp6367_d111d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 12: Aerial Photograph: OS 63_074 035 31st May 1963
(edp6367_d112d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 13: LiDAR Data
(edp6367_d103c 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)

Plan EDP 14: Historic Landscape Value Areas
(edp6367_d113d 13 August 2024 SWa/RSk)



Site Boundary

Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)

1 - 2 Blade Tips Visible

3 - 4 Blade Tips Visible

5 - 6 Blade Tips Visible

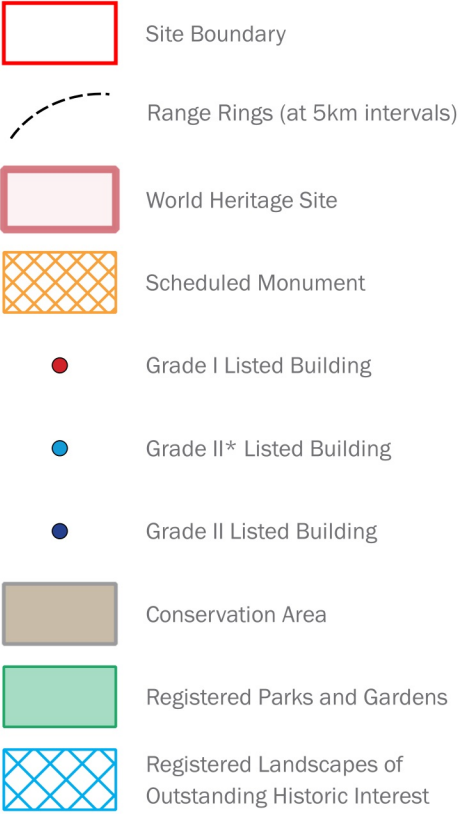
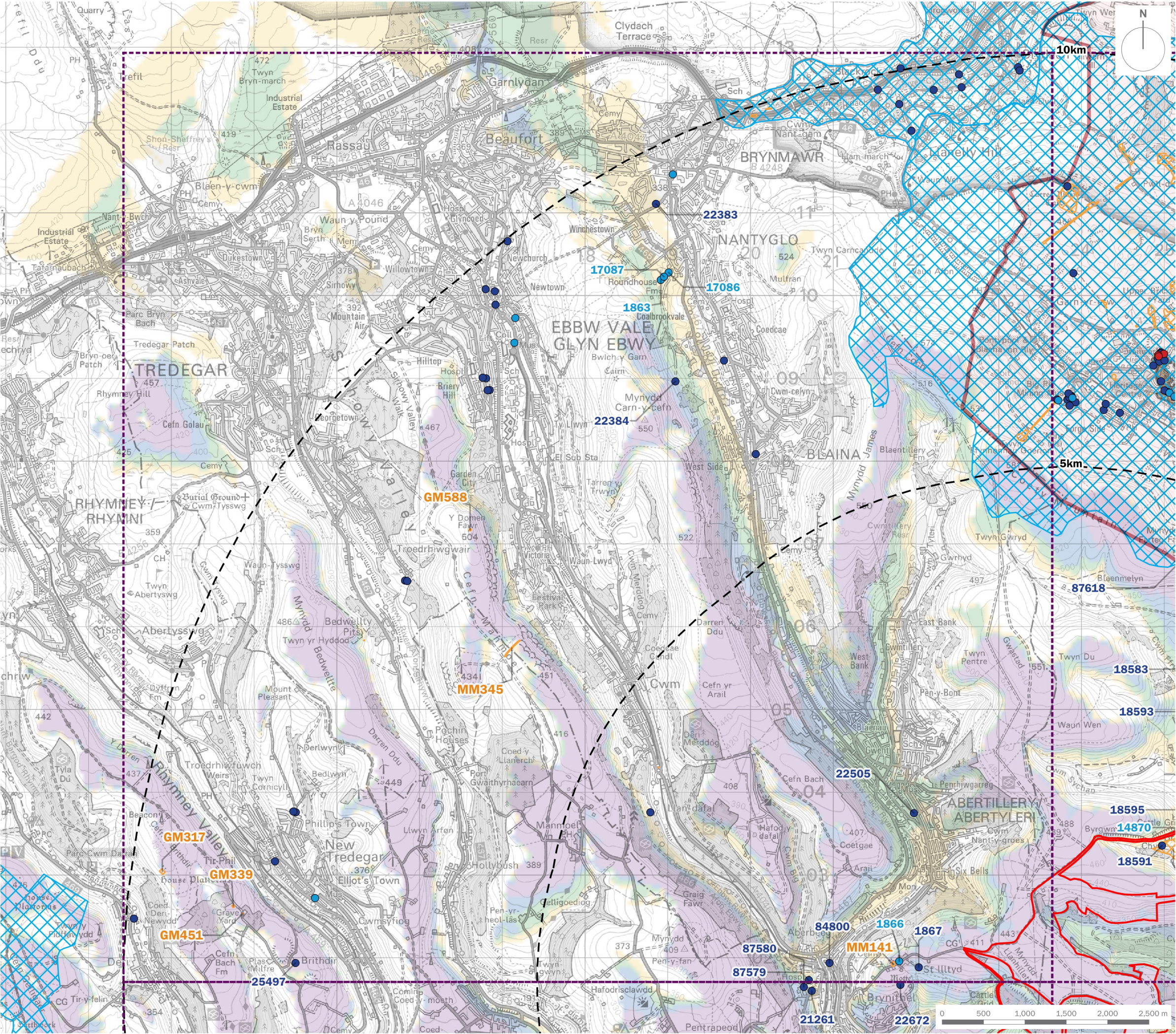
7 - 8 Blade Tips Visible

Note

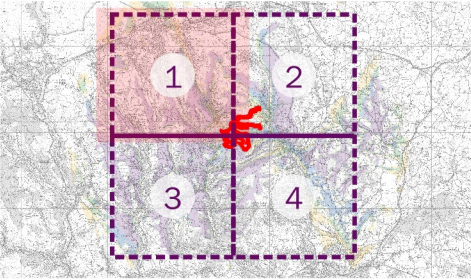
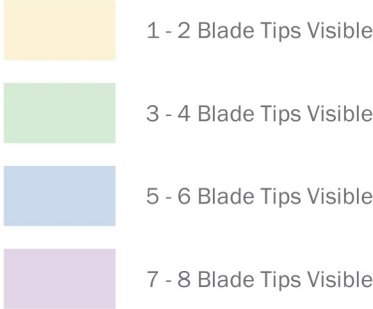
Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) was calculated using a spatial modelling algorithm which considers the following parameters:

- 1.6m Receptor Elevation (Observer Height)
- 180m Proposed Turbine (Blade Tip Height)
- 360 Degree Field of View
- LiDAR 50m Digital Terrain Model (DTM) (vertical accuracy of +/- 4m)

client	Pennant Walters		
project title	Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm		
drawing title	Designated Historic Assets and ZTV within the Setting Study Area (Overview)		
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d099d	checked	RSK
scale	1:100,000 @ A3	QA	GYo



Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)



client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

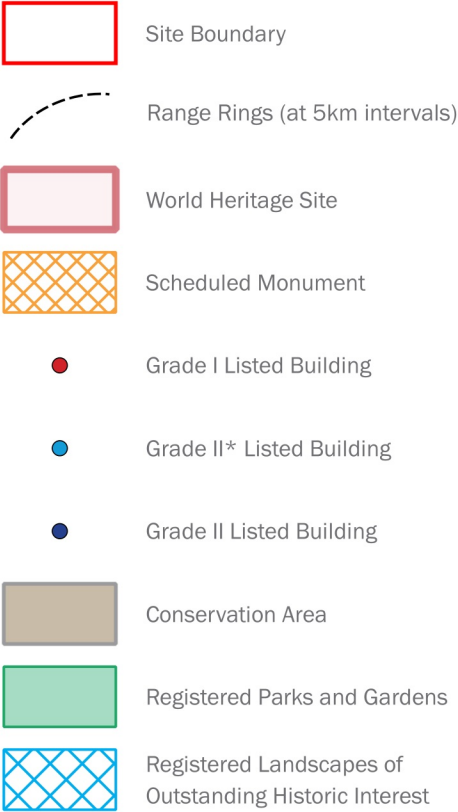
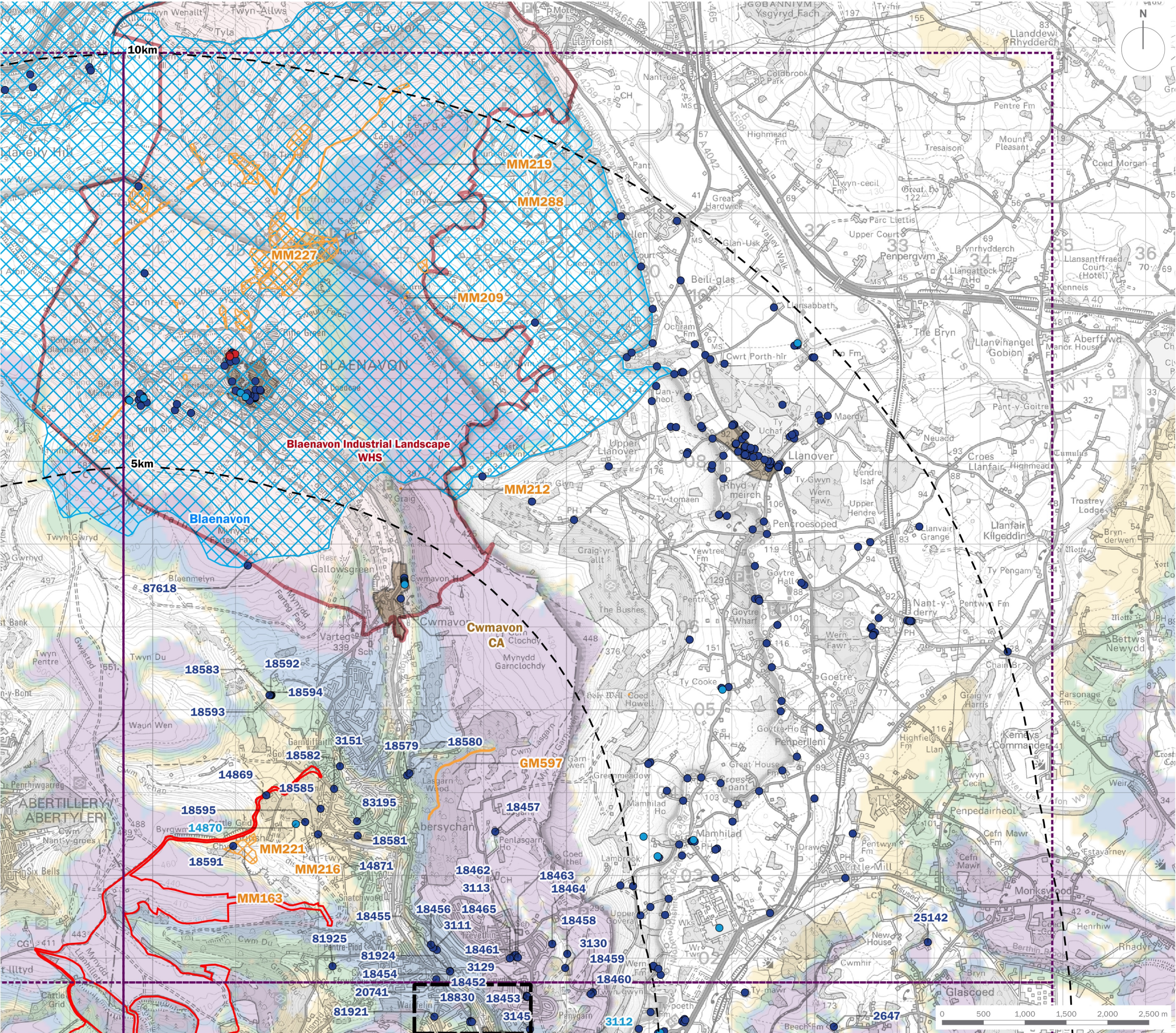
drawing title

Designated Historic Assets and ZTV within the Setting Study Area (Sheet 1 of 4)

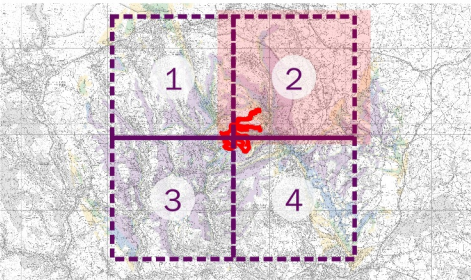
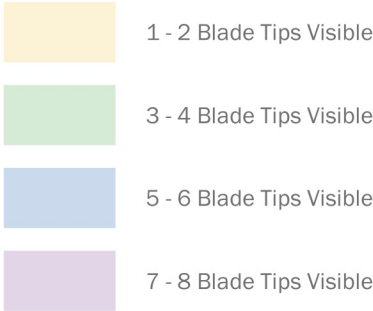
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d099d	checked	RSK
scale	1:45,000 @ A3	QA	GYo



Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)



client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

drawing title

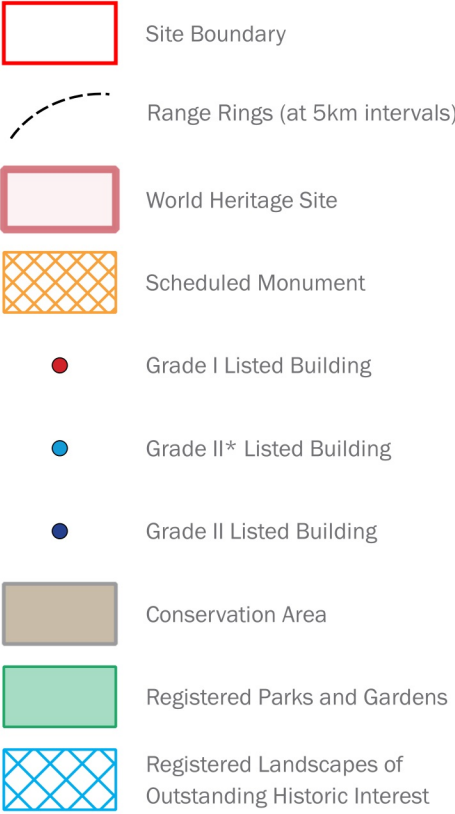
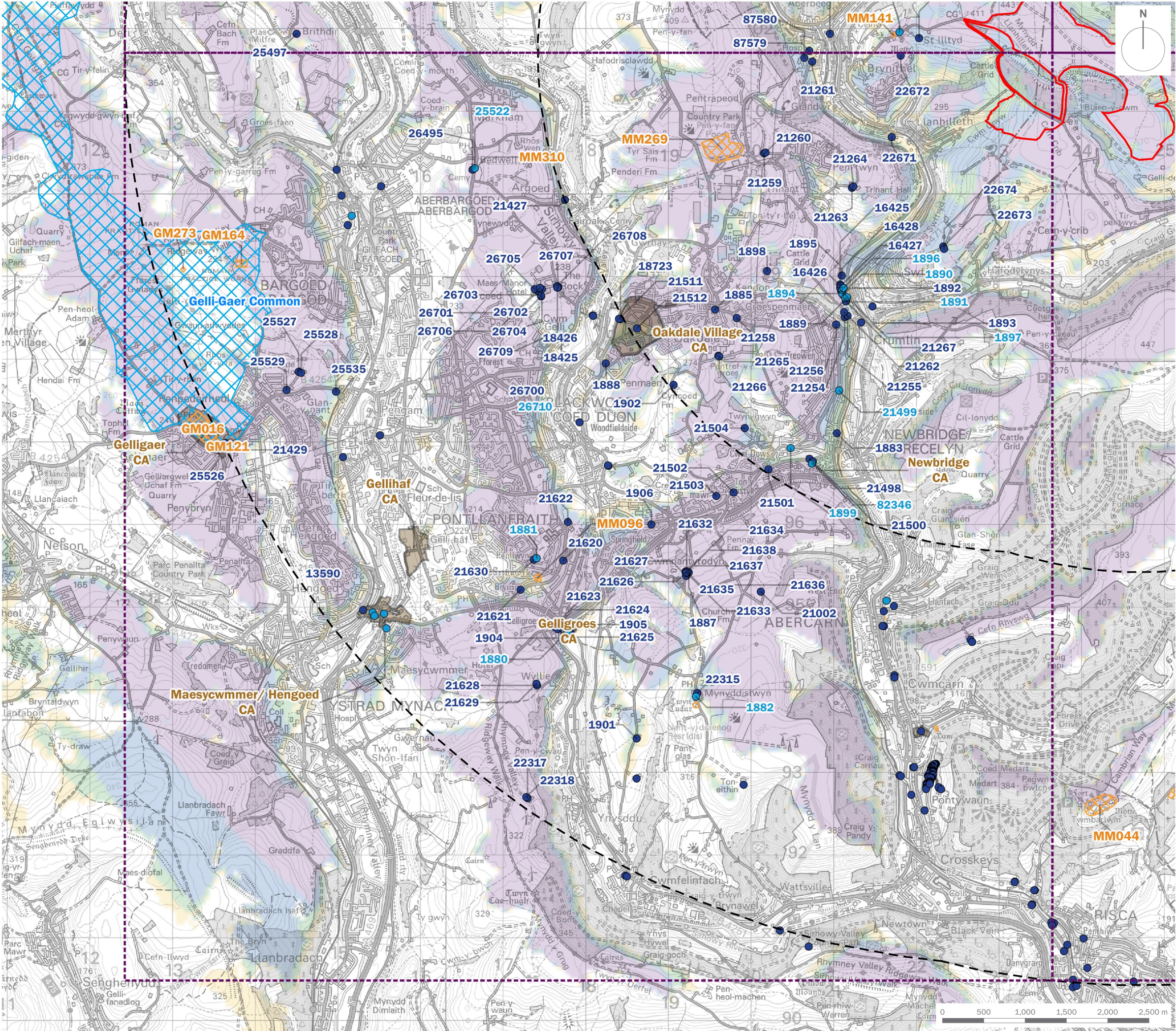
Designated Historic Assets and ZTV within the Setting Study Area (Sheet 2 of 4)

date **13 AUGUST 2024**
drawing number **edp6367_d099d**
scale **1:45,000 @ A3**

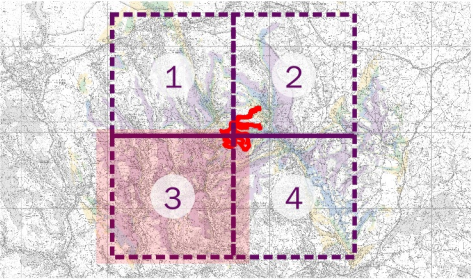
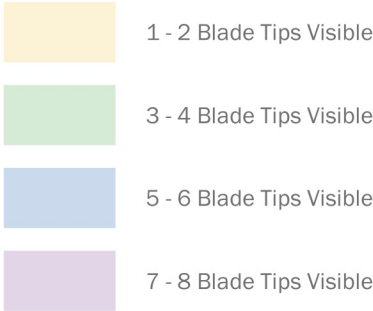
drawn by **SWa**
checked **RSk**
QA **GYo**



Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV)



client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

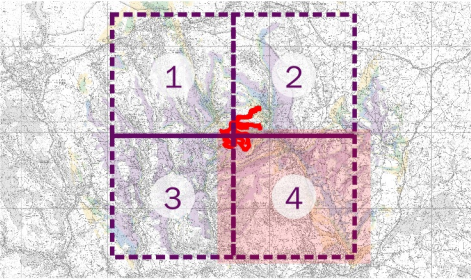
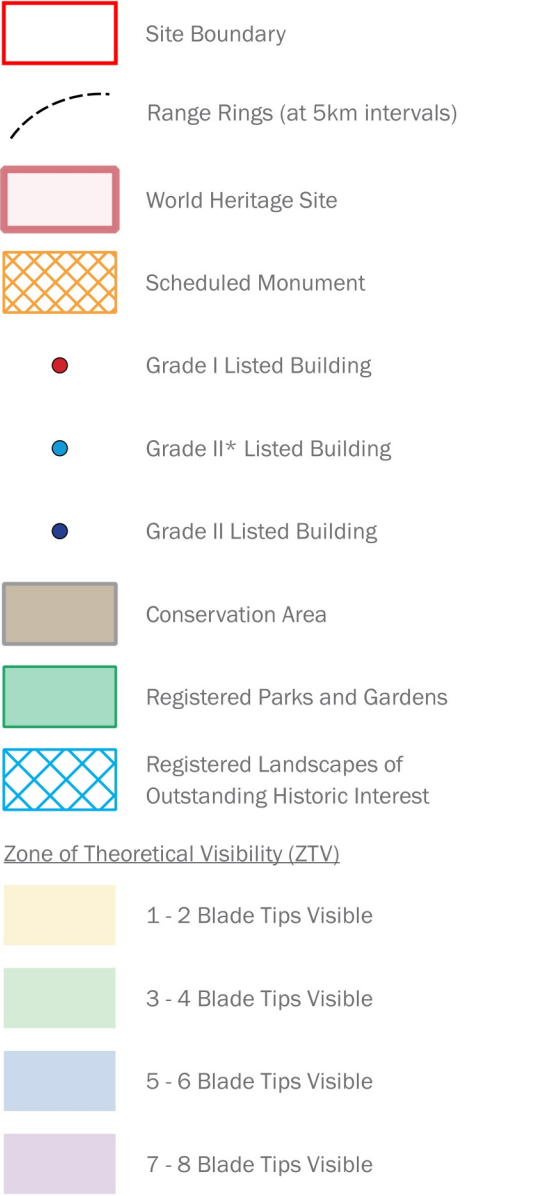
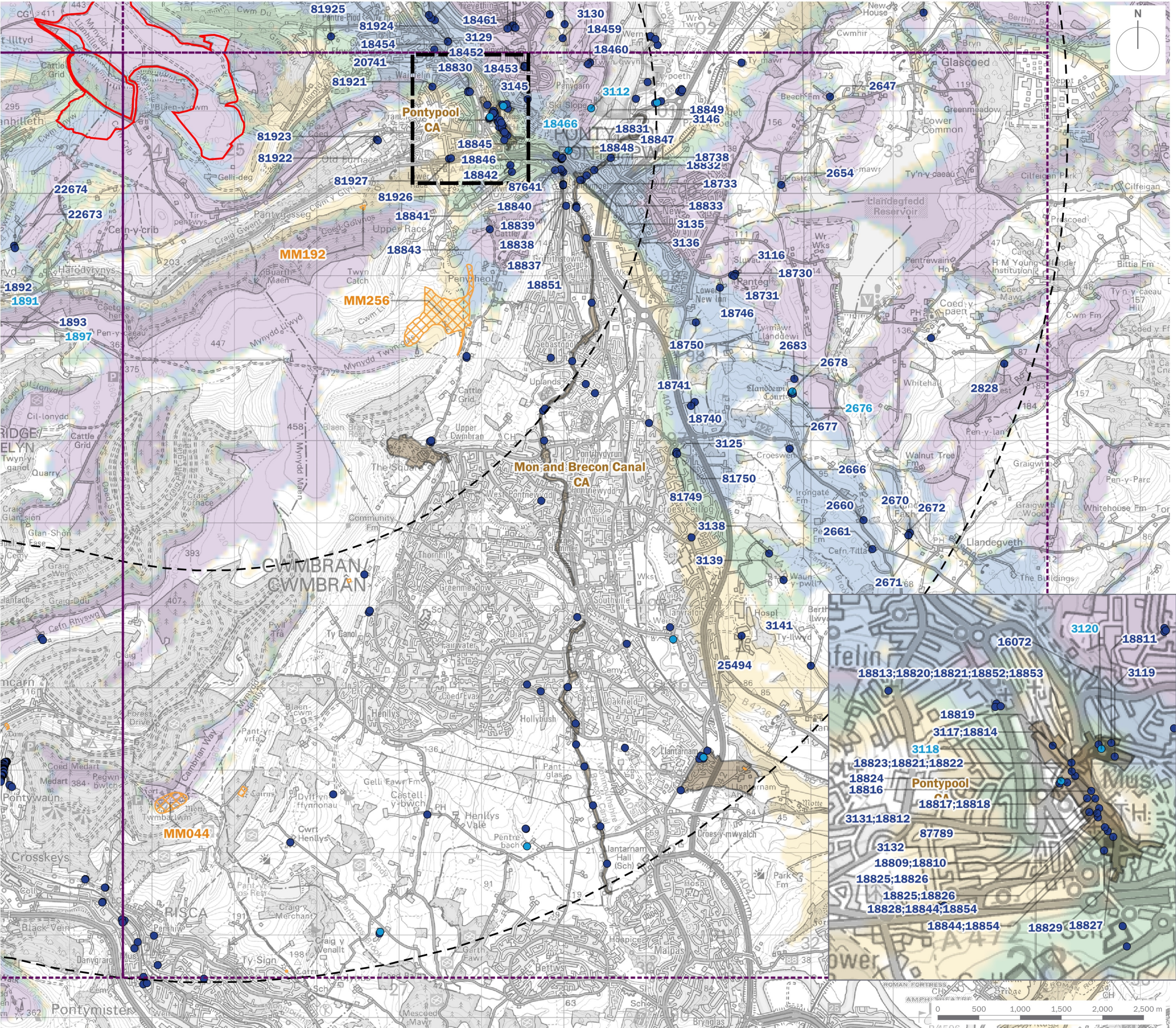
drawing title

Designated Historic Assets and ZTV within the Setting Study Area (Sheet 3 of 4)

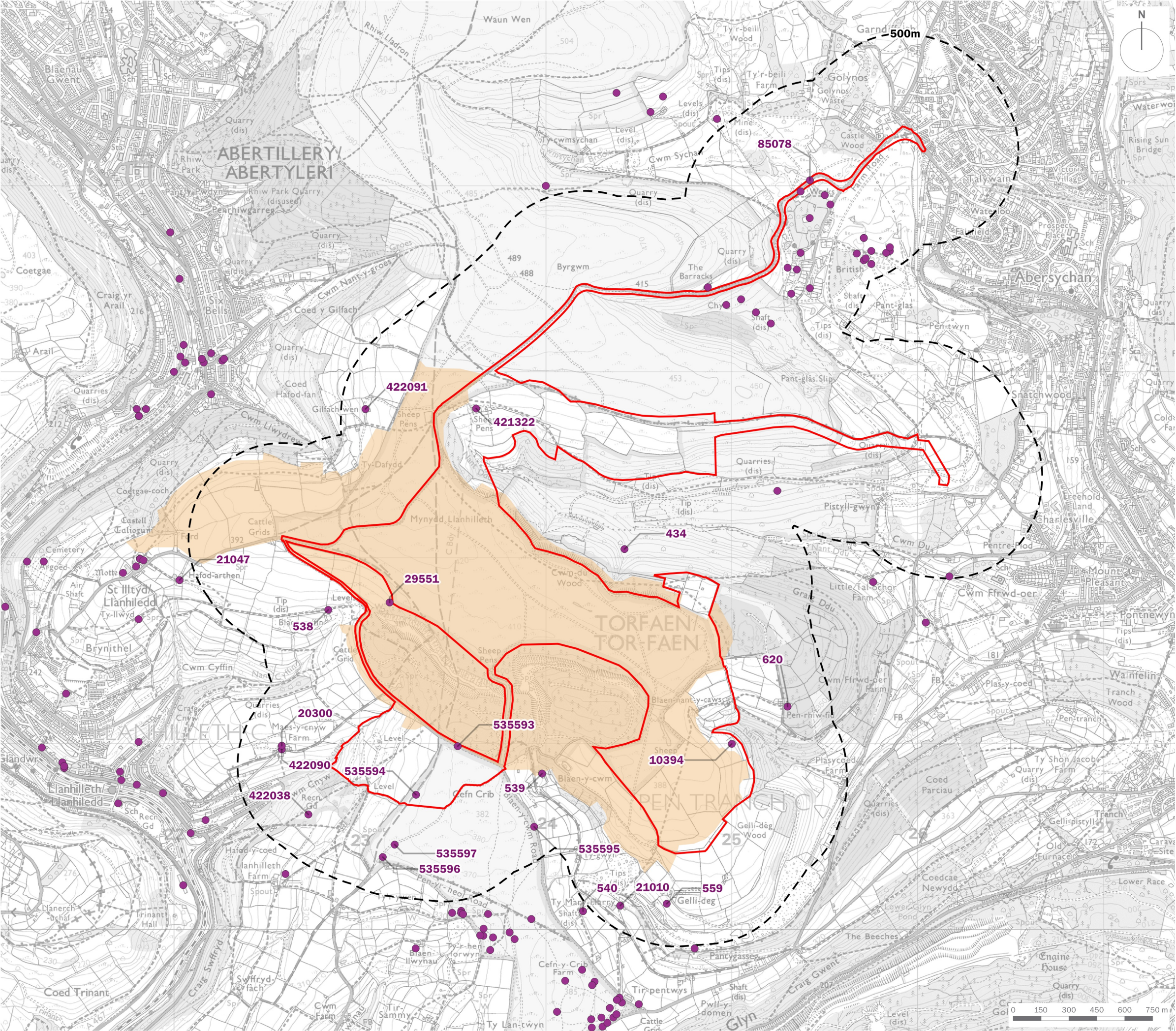
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d099d	checked	RSK
scale	1:45,000 @ A3	QA	GYo



Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



client	Pennant Walters		
project title	Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm		
drawing title	Designated Historic Assets and ZTV within the Setting Study Area (Sheet 4 of 4)		
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d099d	checked	RSK
scale	1:45,000 @ A3	QA	GYo



Site Boundary

Range Rings (at 500m intervals)

National Monument Record of Wales (NMRW)

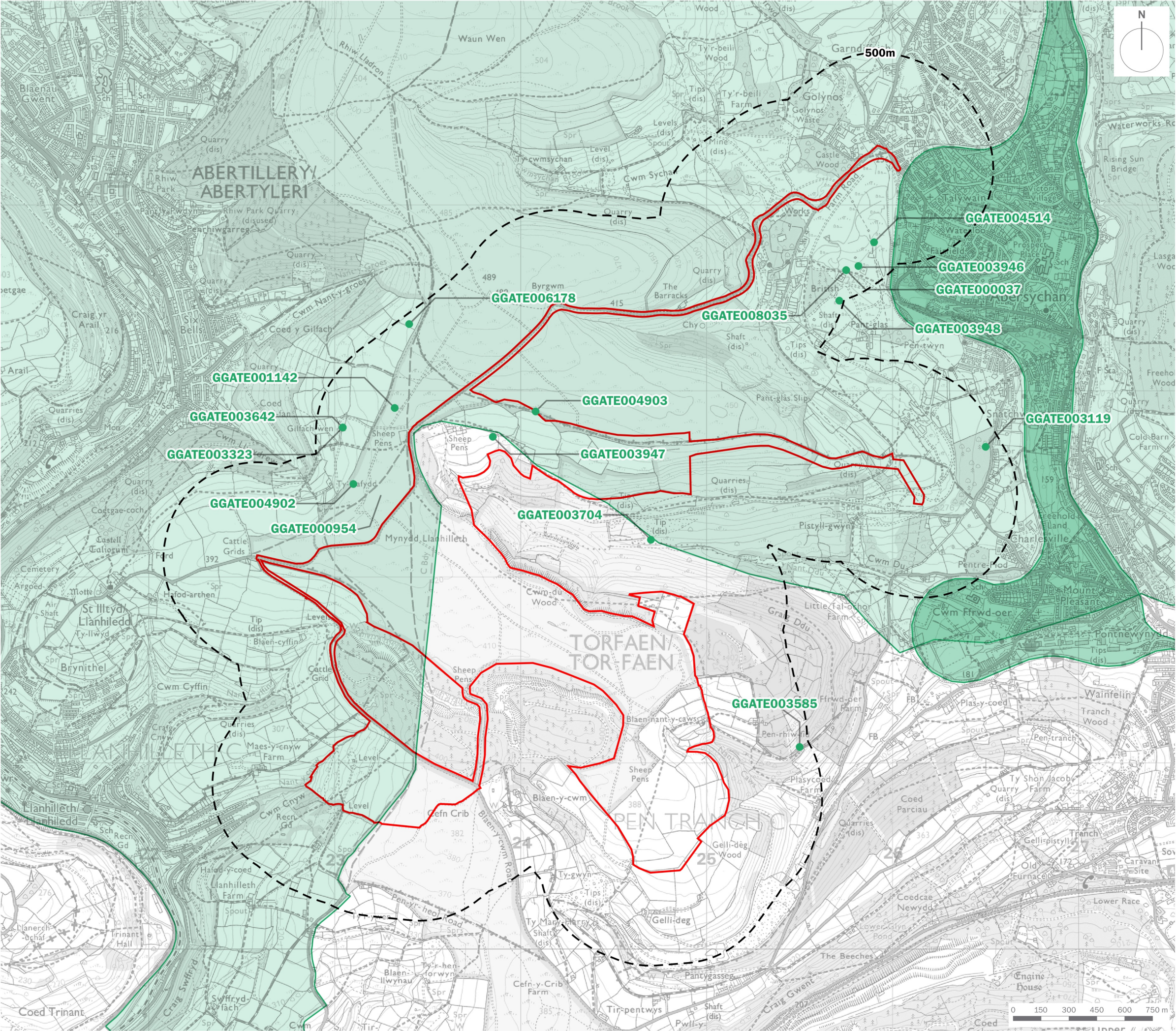
Area of Former Opencast Mining

client	Pennant Walters		
project title	Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm		
drawing title	NMRW Records within the Archaeological Study Area		
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d101d	checked	RSk
scale	1:20,000 @ A3	QA	GYo

edp

the environmental dimension partnership

Registered office: 01285 740427 · www.edp-uk.co.uk · info@edp-uk.co.uk



Site Boundary

Range Rings (at 500m intervals)

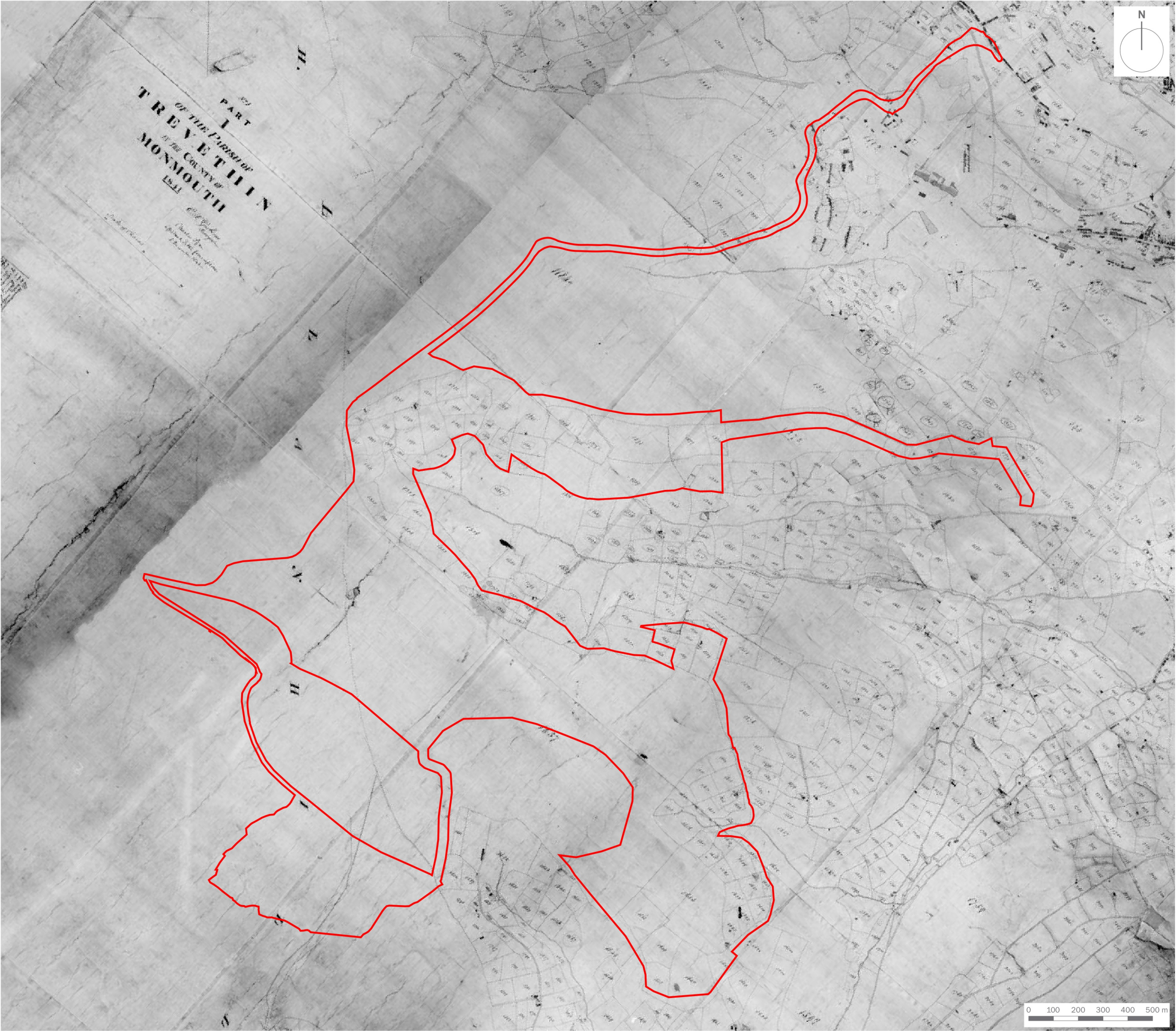
HER Event

client			
Pennant Walters			
project title			
Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm			
drawing title			
HER Event Records within the Archaeological Study Area			
date	30 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d102d	checked	RSK
scale	1:20,000 @ A3	QA	Gyo

edp

the environmental dimension partnership

Registered office: 01285 740427 · www.edp-uk.co.uk · info@edp-uk.co.uk



 Approximate Site Boundary

client

Pennant Walters

project title

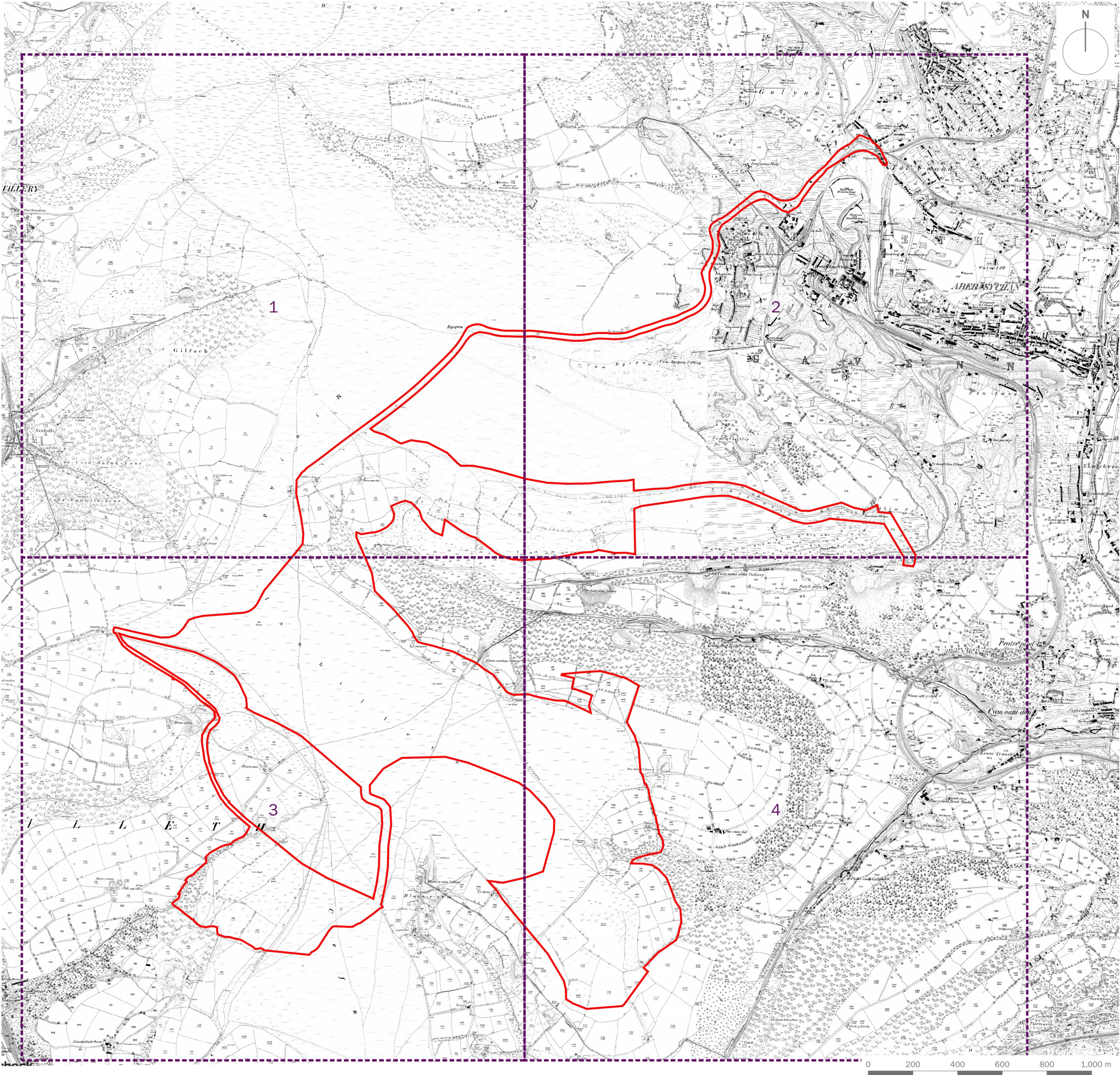
Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

drawing title
**Tithe Maps of the Parish of Llanhilleth (1841)
and the Parish of Trevethin (1841)**

date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d105c	checked	RSk
scale	1:15,000 @ A3	QA	GYo



Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



 Approximate Site Boundary

client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

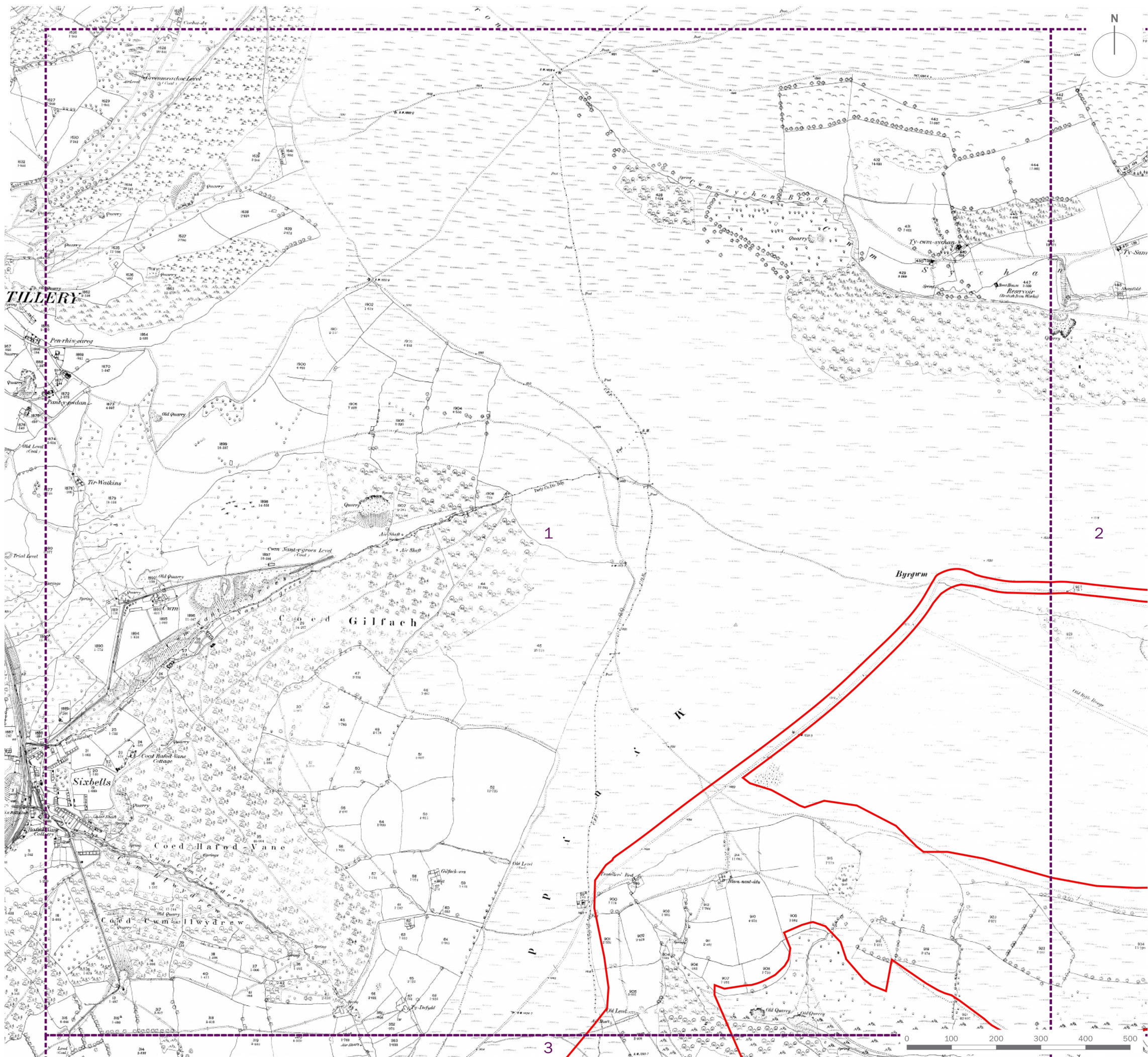
drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1880 - 1881 (Overview)

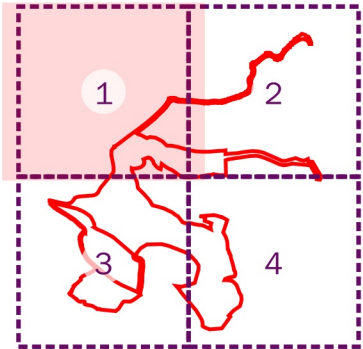
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d106d	checked	RSk
scale	1:17,500 @ A3	QA	GYo

 the environmental
dimension partnership

Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



Approximate Site Boundary



client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1880 - 1881 (Sheet 1 of 4)

date

13 AUGUST 2024

drawn by **SWa**

drawing number

edp6367_d106d

checked **RSK**

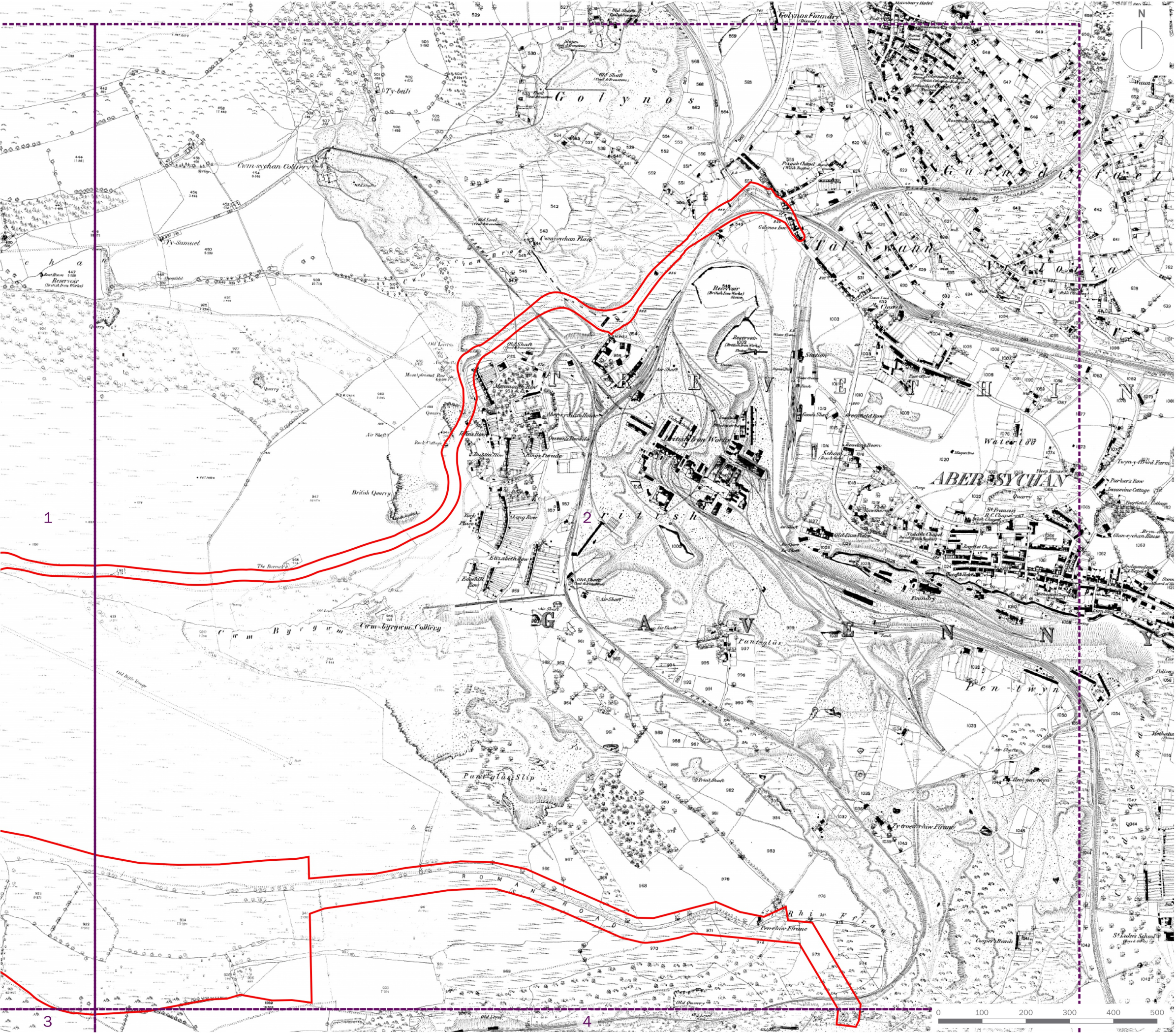
scale

1:8,500 @ A3

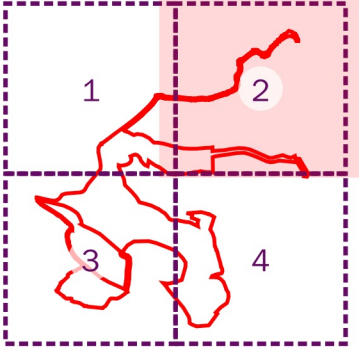
QA **GYo**



Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



Approximate Site Boundary



client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

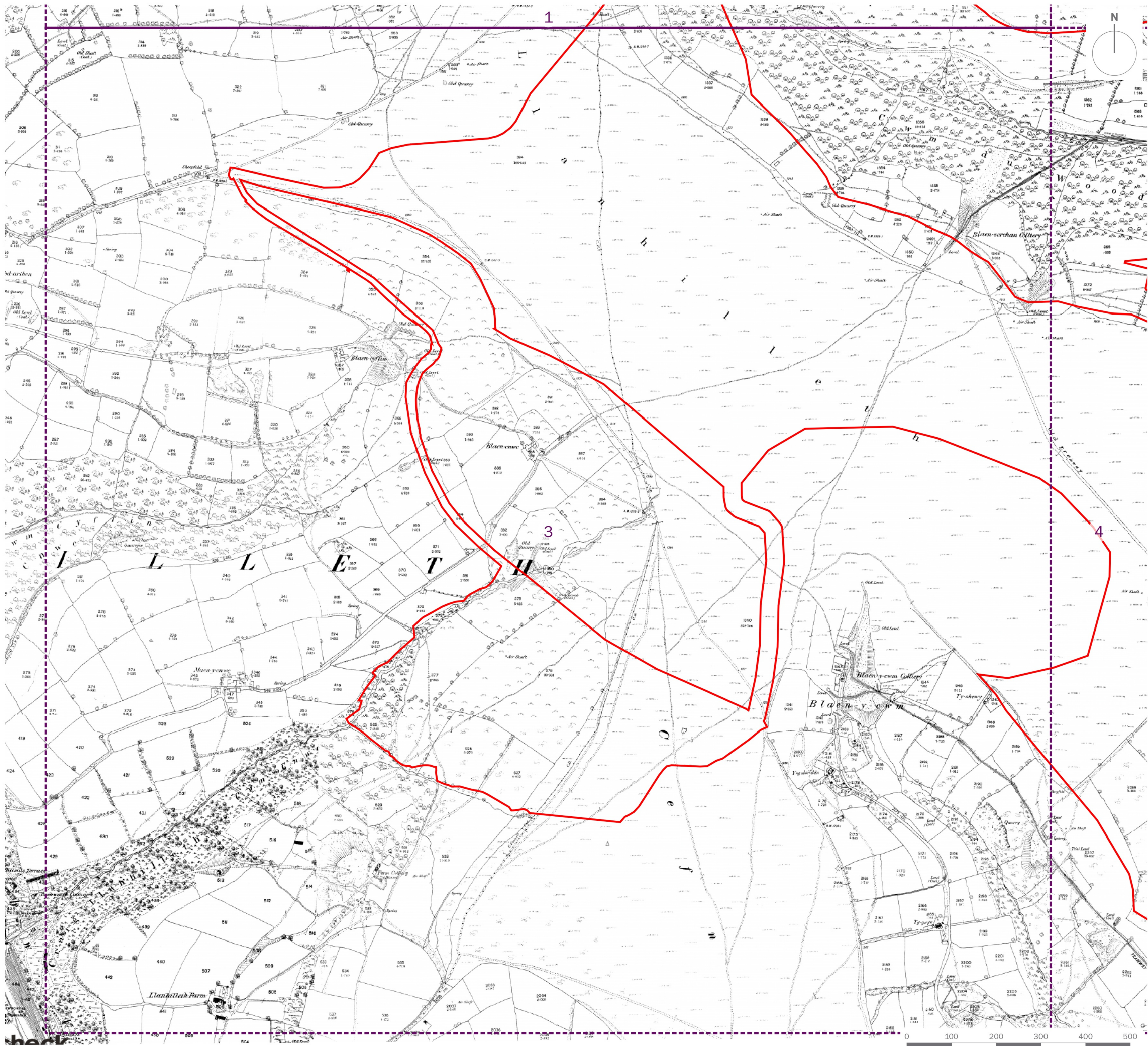
drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1880 - 1881 (Sheet 2 of 4)

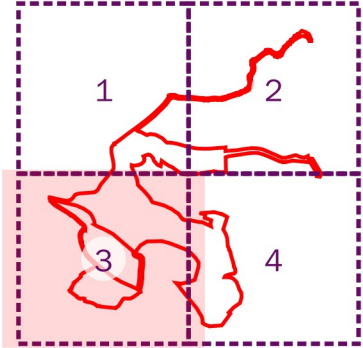
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d106d	checked	RSk
scale	1:8,500 @ A3	QA	GYo

edp the environmental dimension partnership

Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



Approximate Site Boundary



client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1880 - 1881 (Sheet 3 of 4)

date

13 AUGUST 2024

drawn by **SWa**

drawing number

edp6367_d106d

checked **RSK**

scale

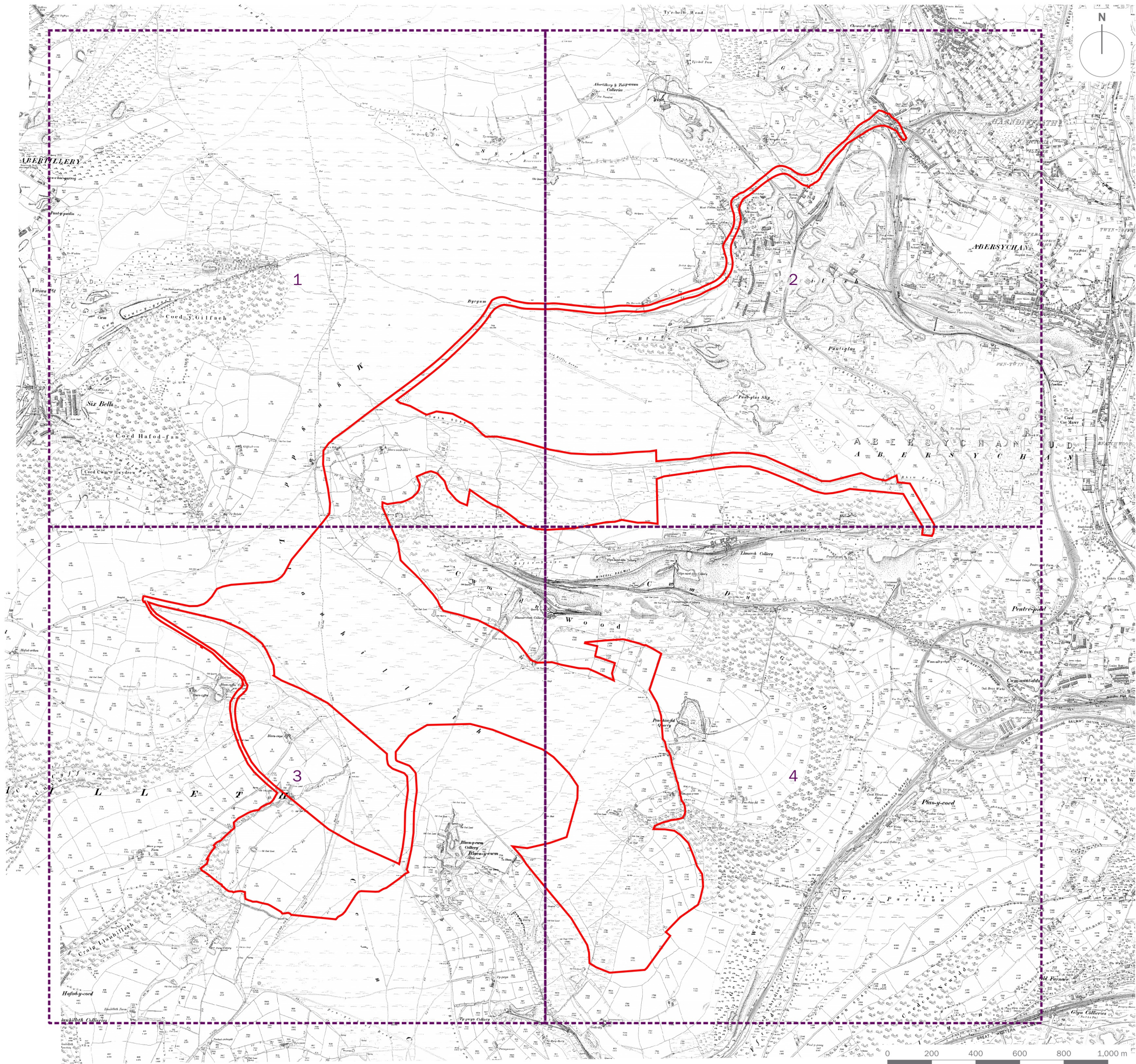
1:8,500 @ A3

QA **GYo**



the environmental
dimension partnership

Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



Approximate Site Boundary

client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1901 (Overview)

date

13 AUGUST 2024

drawn by **SWa**

drawing number

edp6367_d107d

checked **RSK**

scale

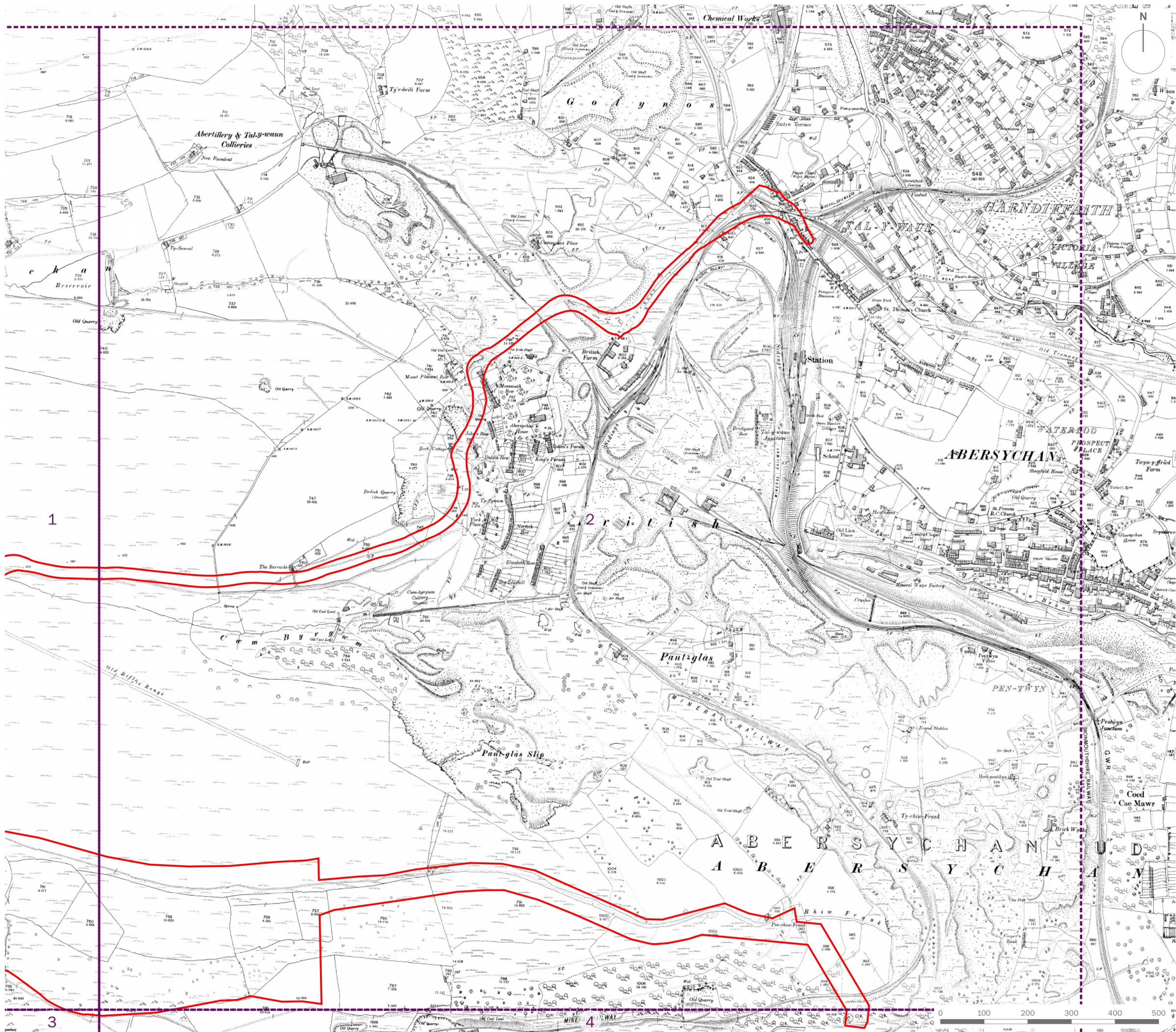
1:17,500 @ A3

QA **GYo**

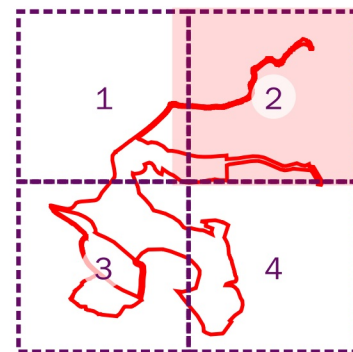


the environmental
dimension partnership

Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



Approximate Site Boundary



client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

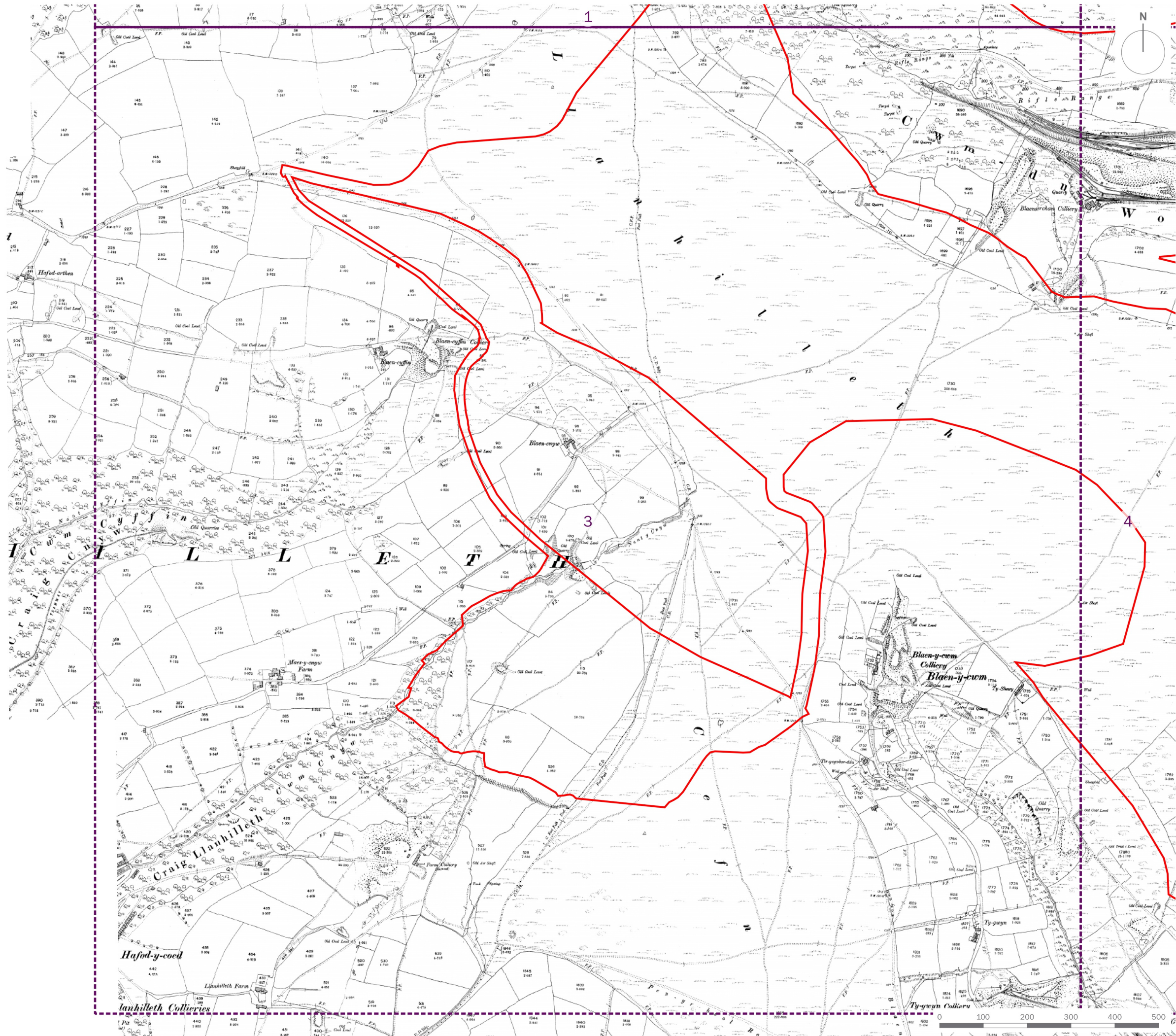
drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1901 (Sheet 2 of 4)

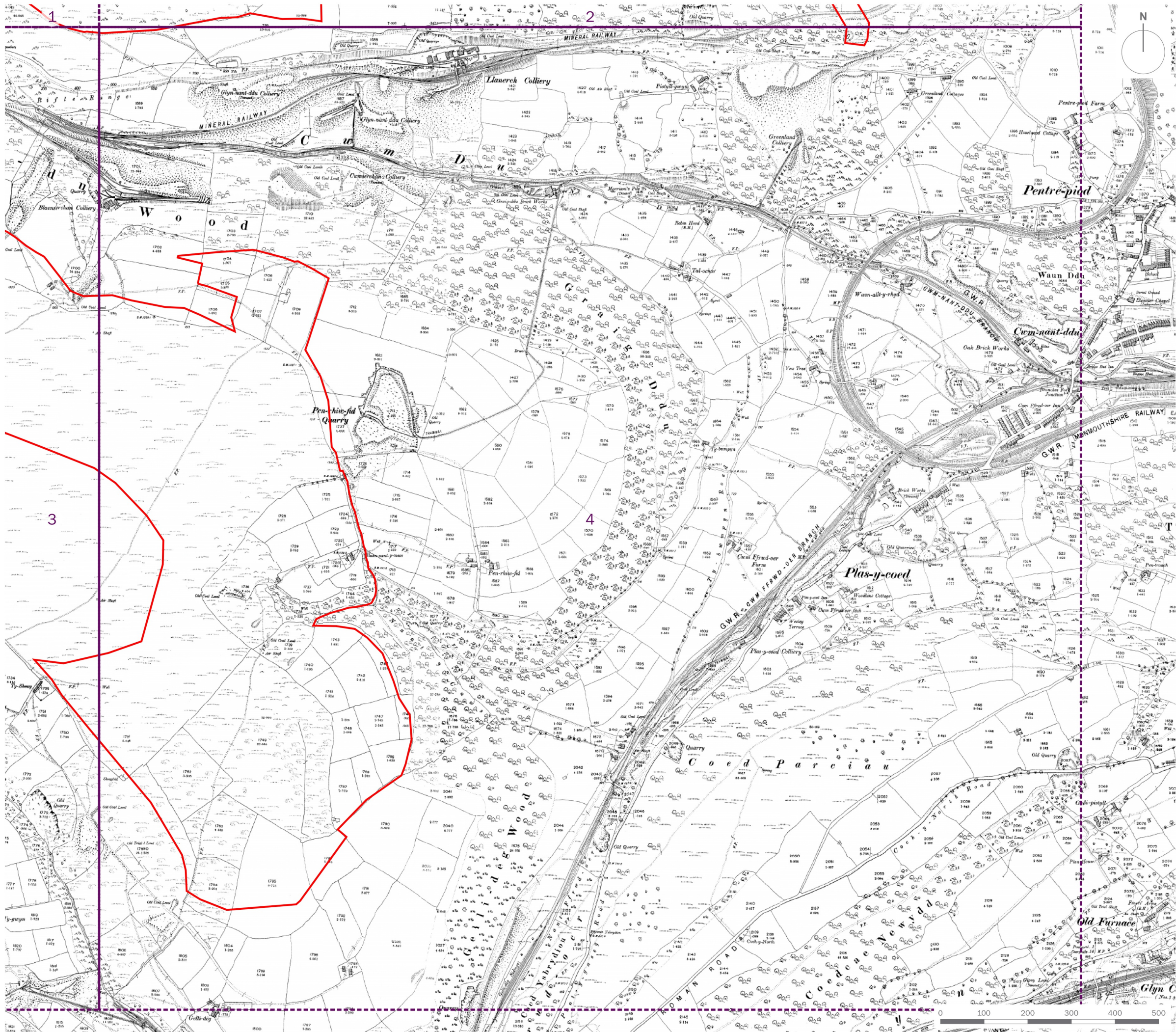
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d107d	checked	RSK
scale	1:8,500 @ A3	QA	GYo

edp the environmental dimension partnership

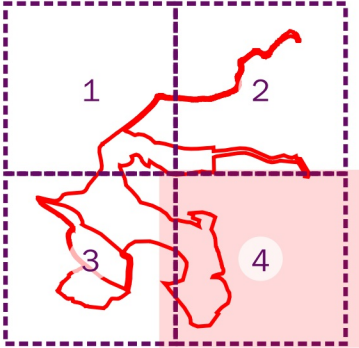
Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



client	Pennant Walters		
project title	Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm		
drawing title	Historic Map: OS 1901 (Sheet 3 of 4)		
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d107d	checked	RSK
scale	1:8,500 @ A3	QA	GYo



Approximate Site Boundary



client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1901 (Sheet 4 of 4)

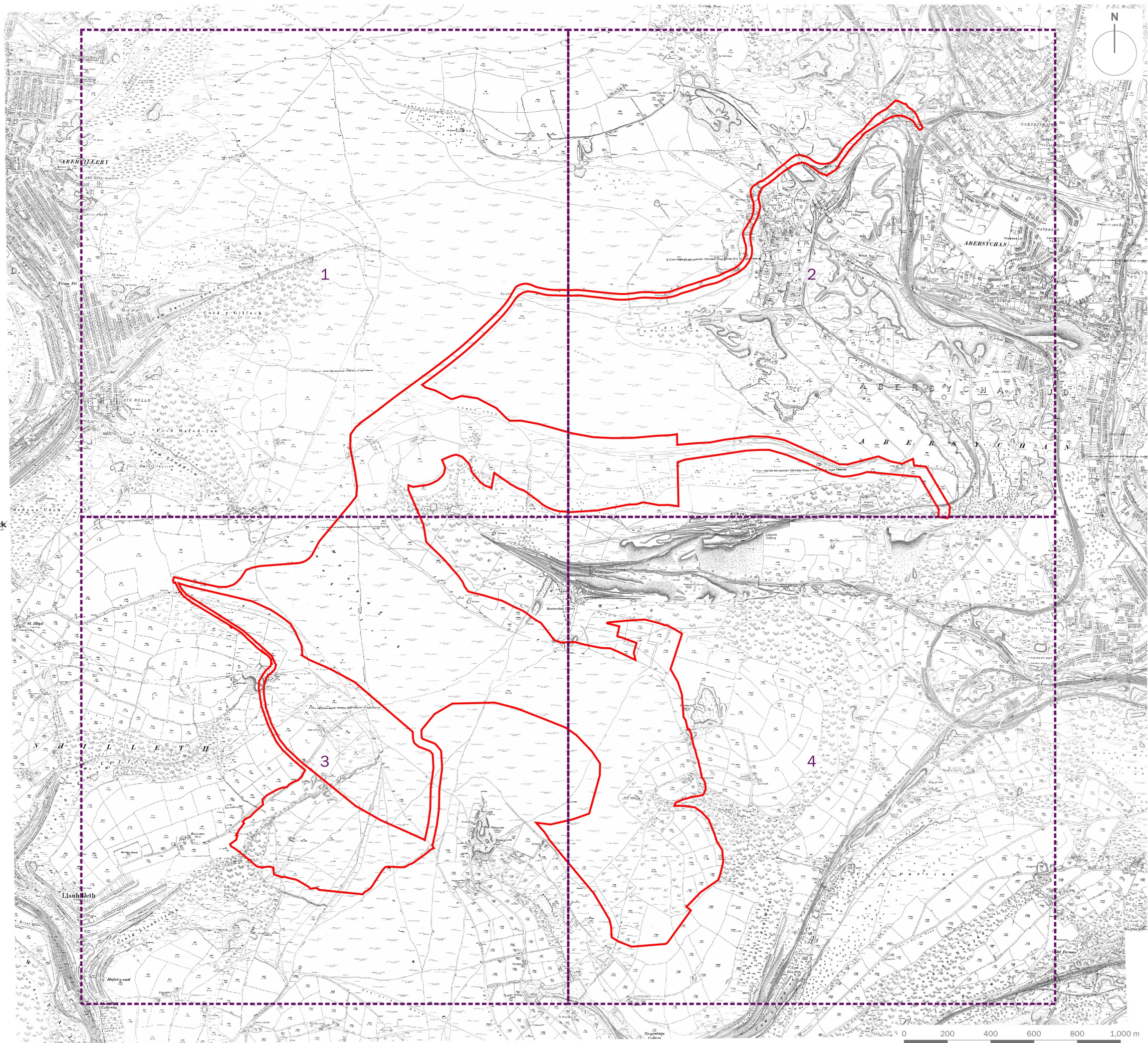
date
drawing number
scale

13 AUGUST 2024
edp6367_d107d
1:8,500 @ A3

drawn by **SWa**
checked **RSK**
QA **GYo**



Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



Approximate Site Boundary

client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1920-1921 (Overview)

date

13 AUGUST 2024

drawn by **SWa**

drawing number

edp6367_d108d

checked **RSk**

scale

1:17,500 @ A3

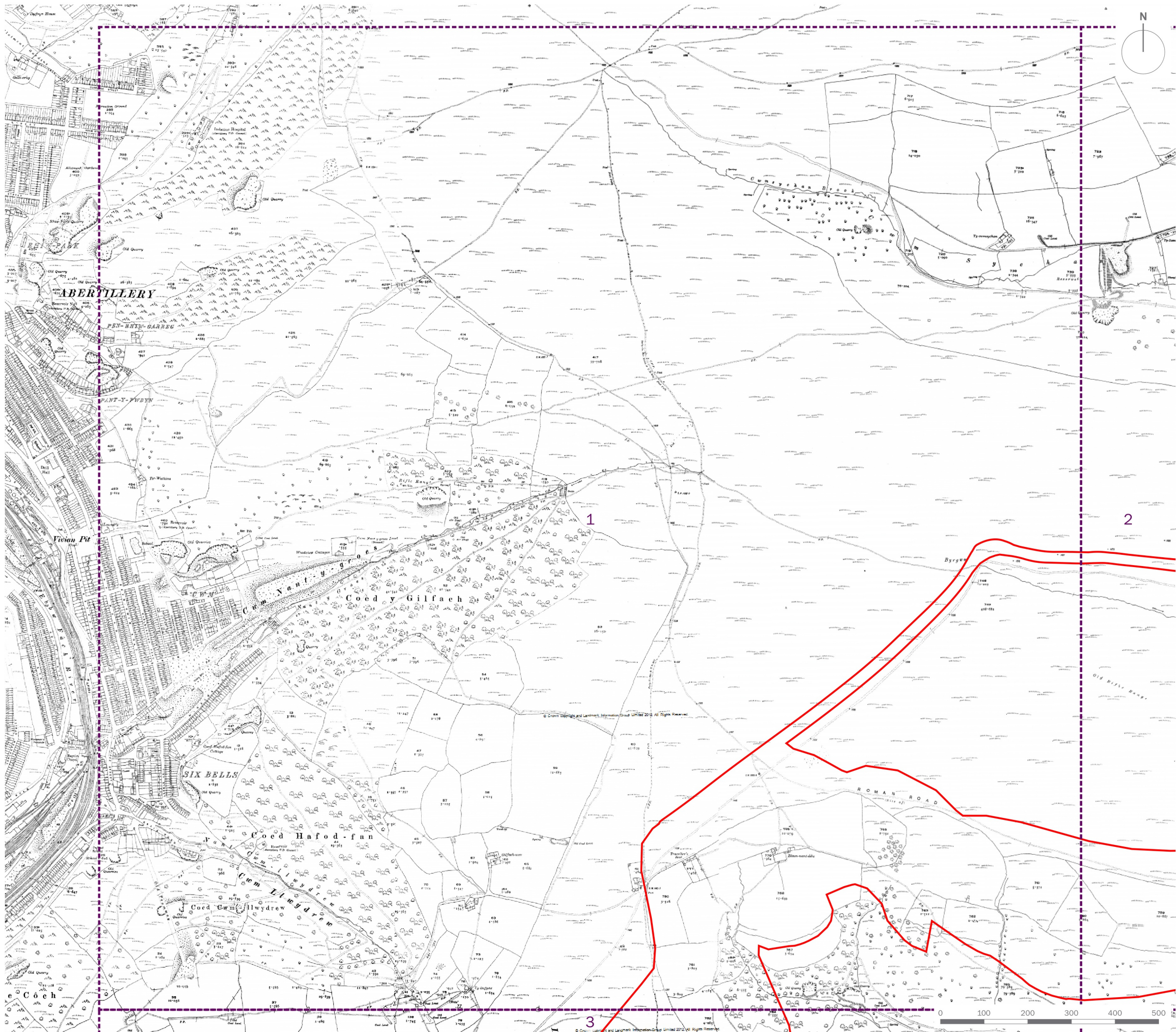
QA

GYo

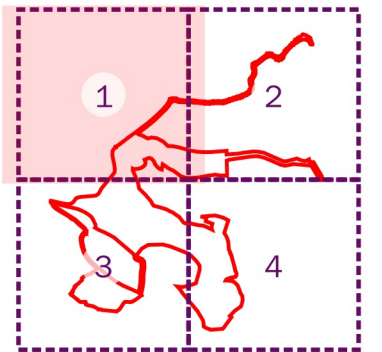


the environmental
dimension partnership

Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



Approximate Site Boundary



client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1920-1921 (Sheet 1 of 4)

date
drawing number
scale

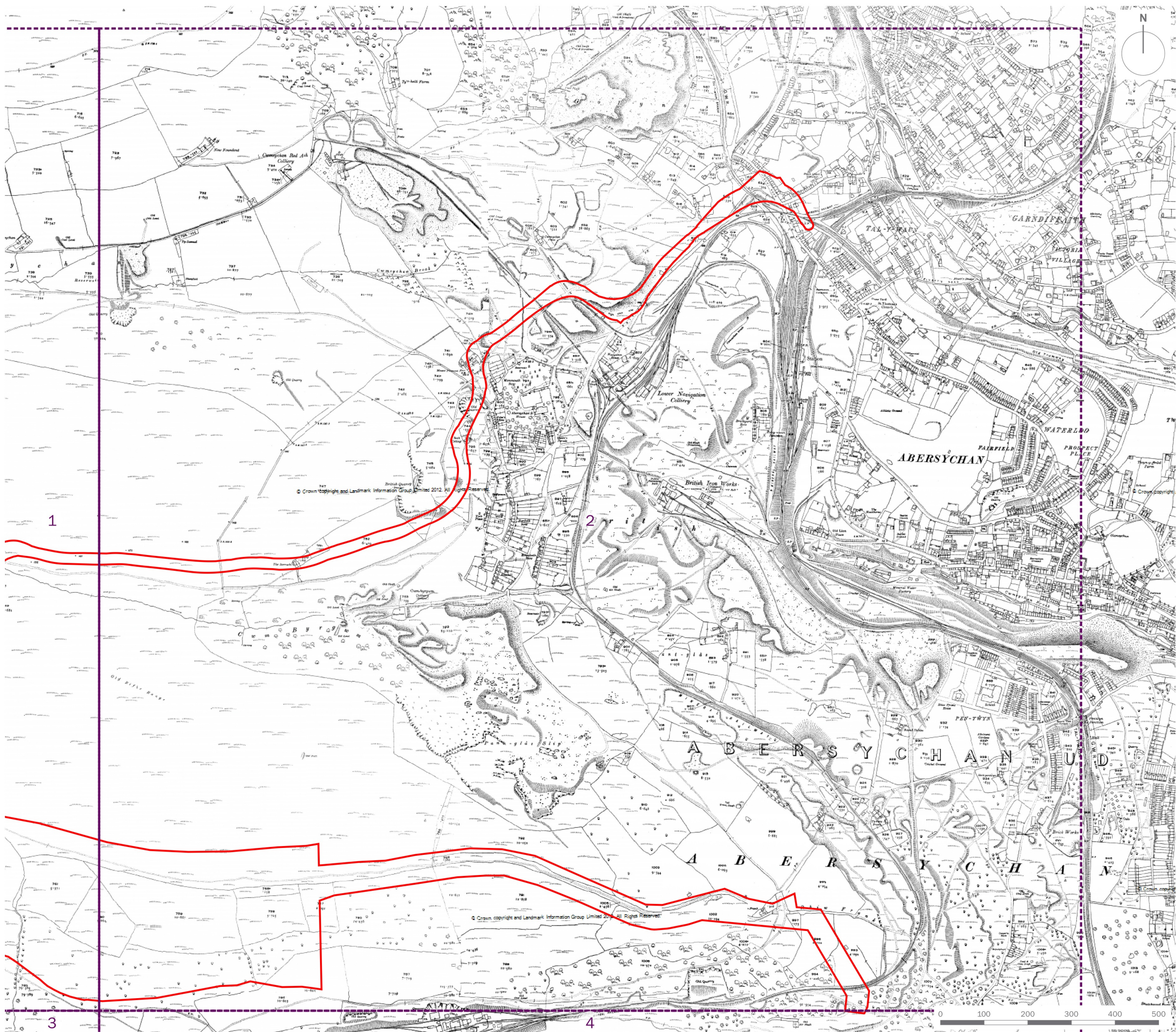
13 AUGUST 2024
edp6367_d108d
1:8,500 @ A3

drawn by
checked
QA

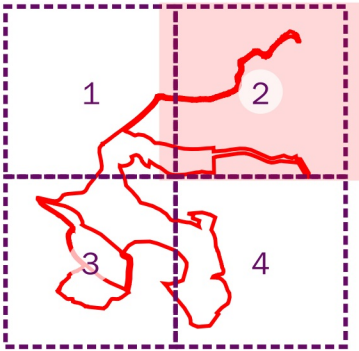
SWa
RSK
GYo

edp the environmental
dimension partnership

Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



Approximate Site Boundary



client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1920-1921 (Sheet 2 of 4)

date

13 AUGUST 2024

drawn by **SWa**

drawing number

edp6367_d108d

checked

scale

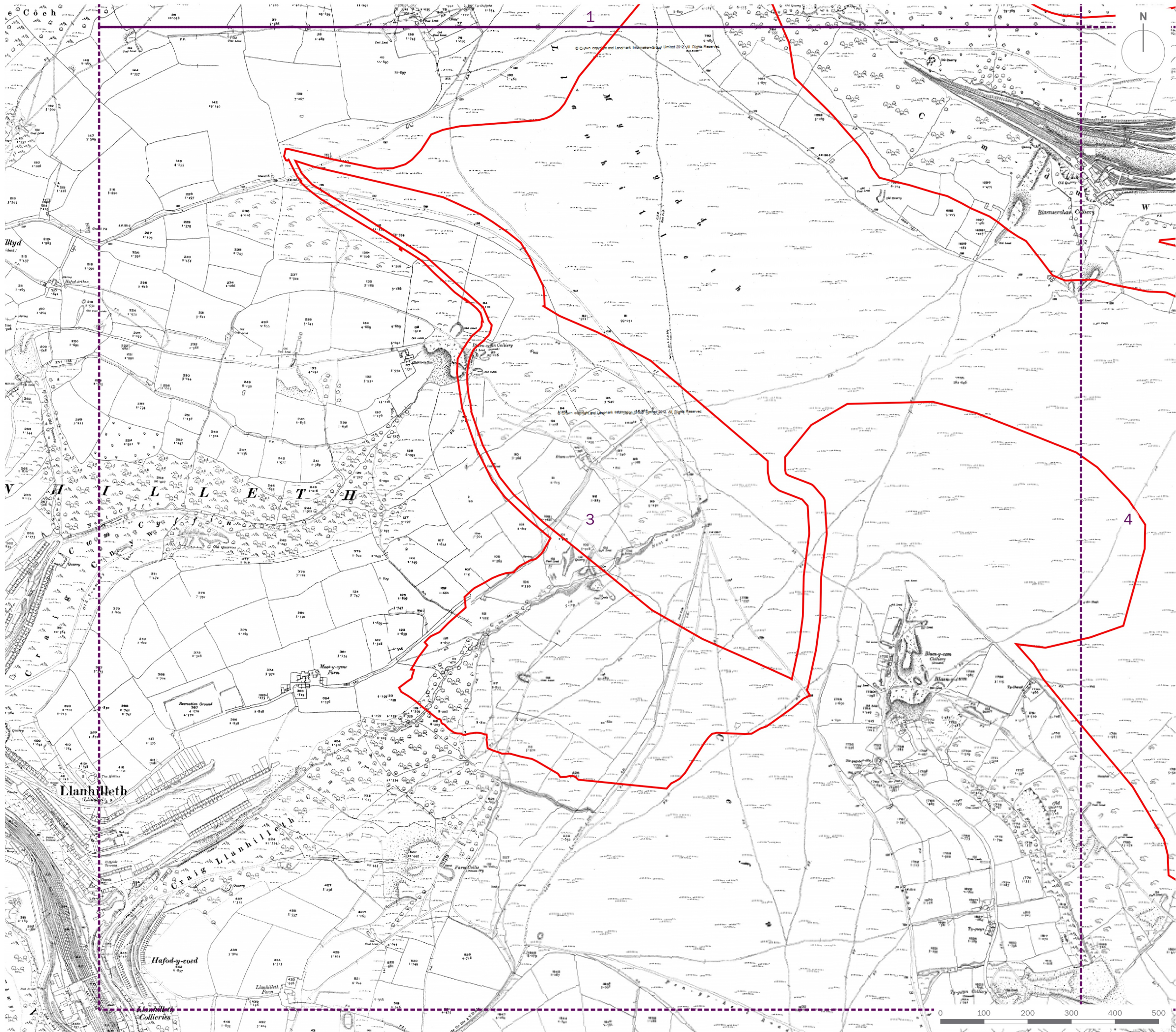
1:8,500 @ A3

QA GYo

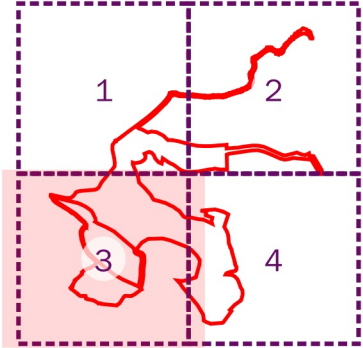


the environmental
dimension partnership

Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



Approximate Site Boundary



client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1920-1921 (Sheet 3 of 4)

date

13 AUGUST 2024

drawn by **SWa**

drawing number

edp6367_d108d

checked

RSK

scale

1:8,500 @ A3

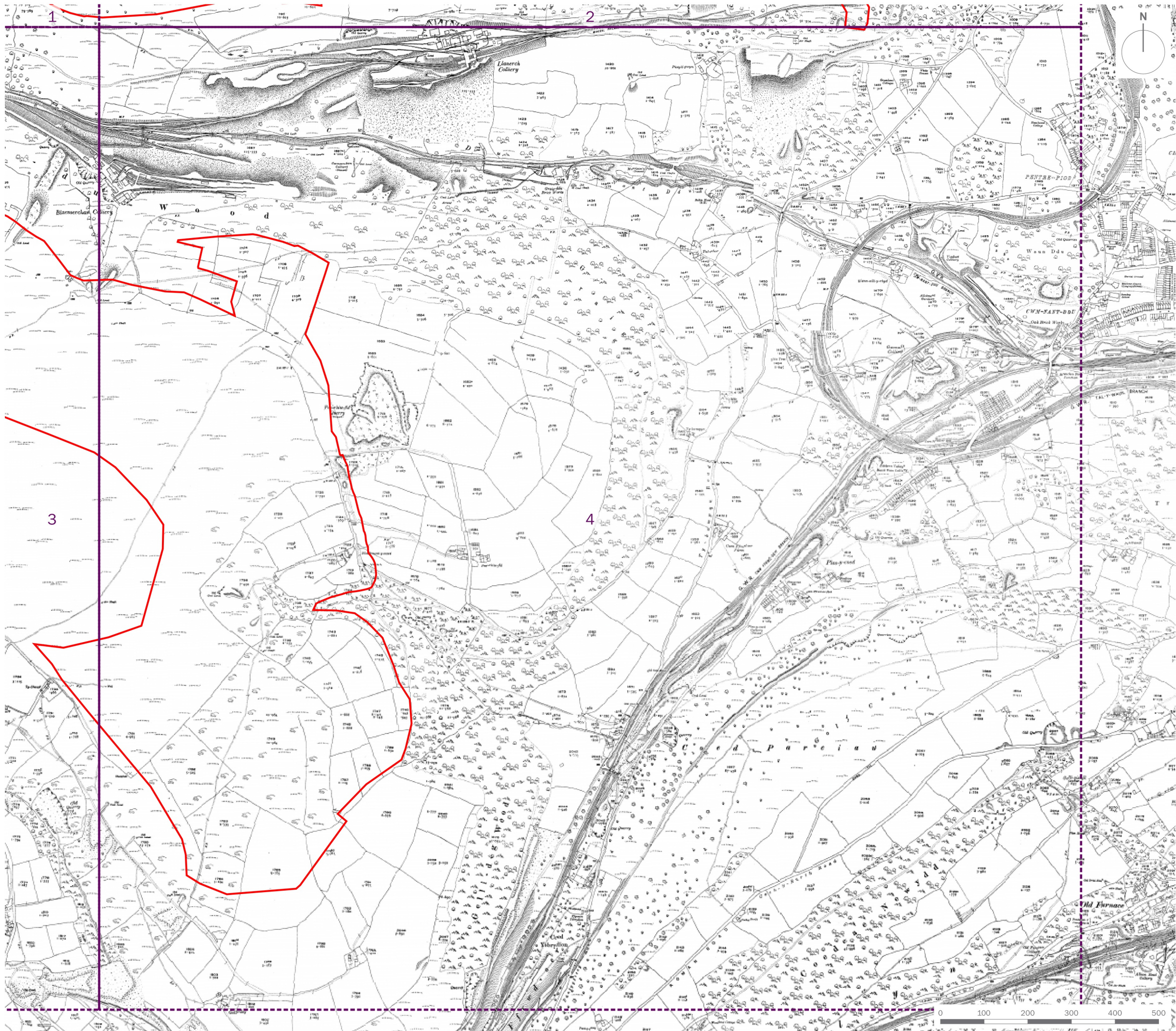
QA

GYo

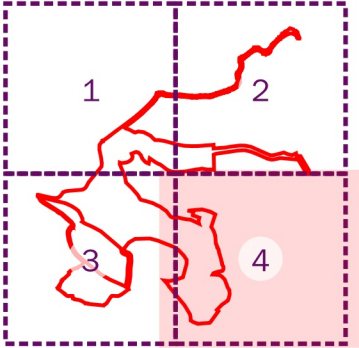


the environmental
dimension partnership

Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



Approximate Site Boundary



client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1920-1921 (Sheet 4 of 4)

date

13 AUGUST 2024

drawn by **SWa**

drawing number

edp6367_d108d

checked **RSK**

scale

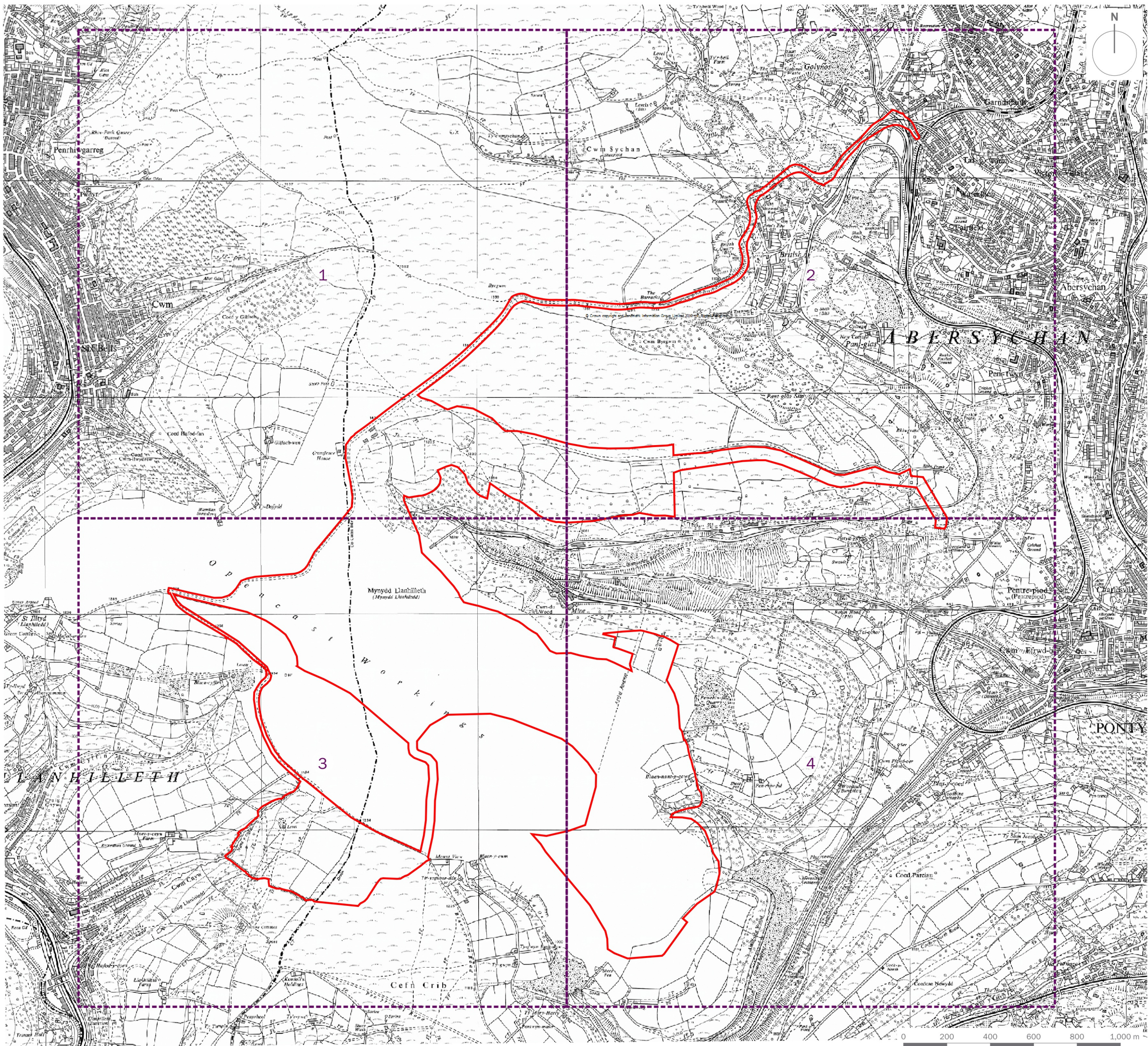
1:8,500 @ A3


QA **GYo**



the environmental
dimension partnership

Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



 Approximate Site Boundary

client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

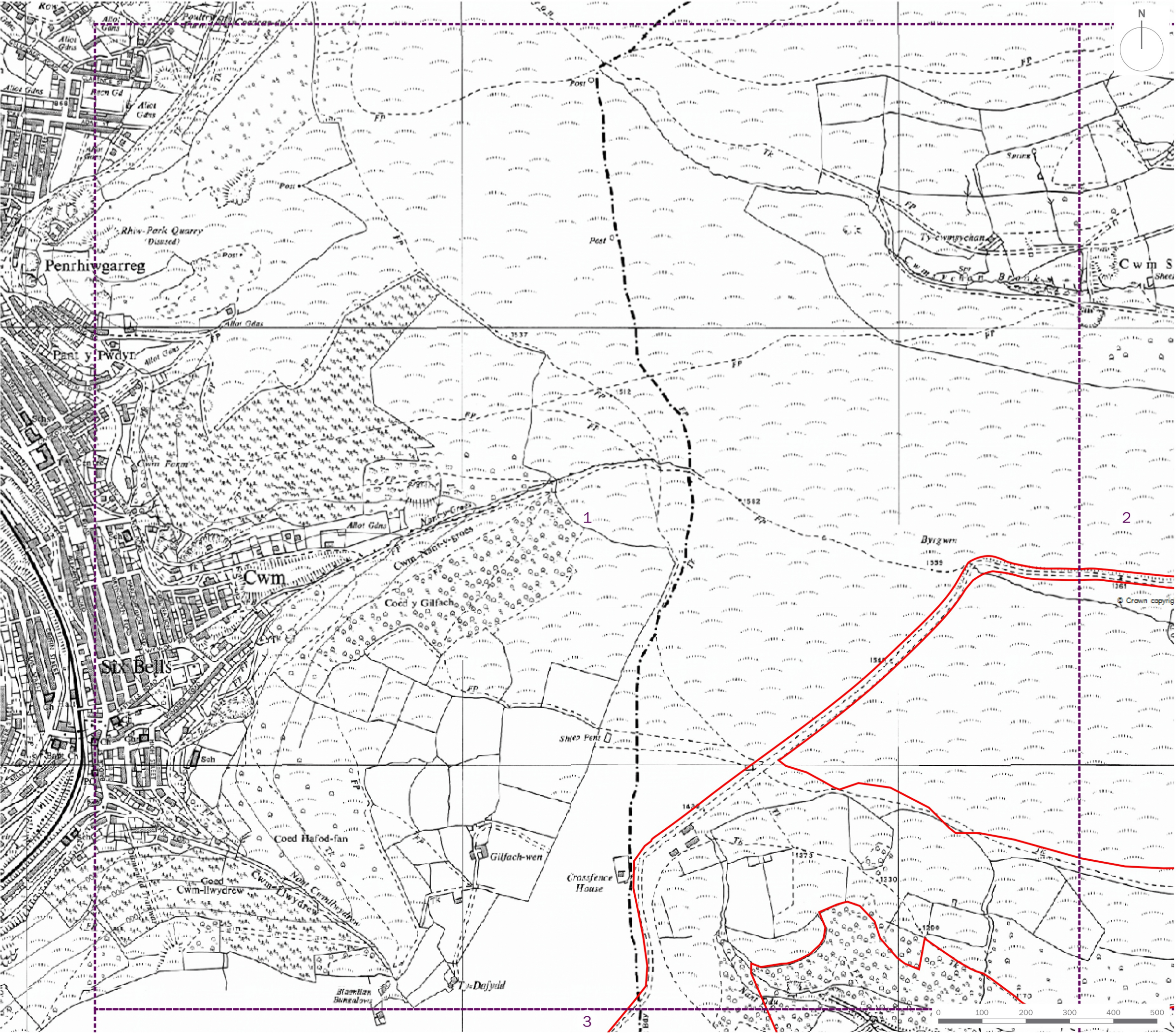
drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1964-1965 (Overview)

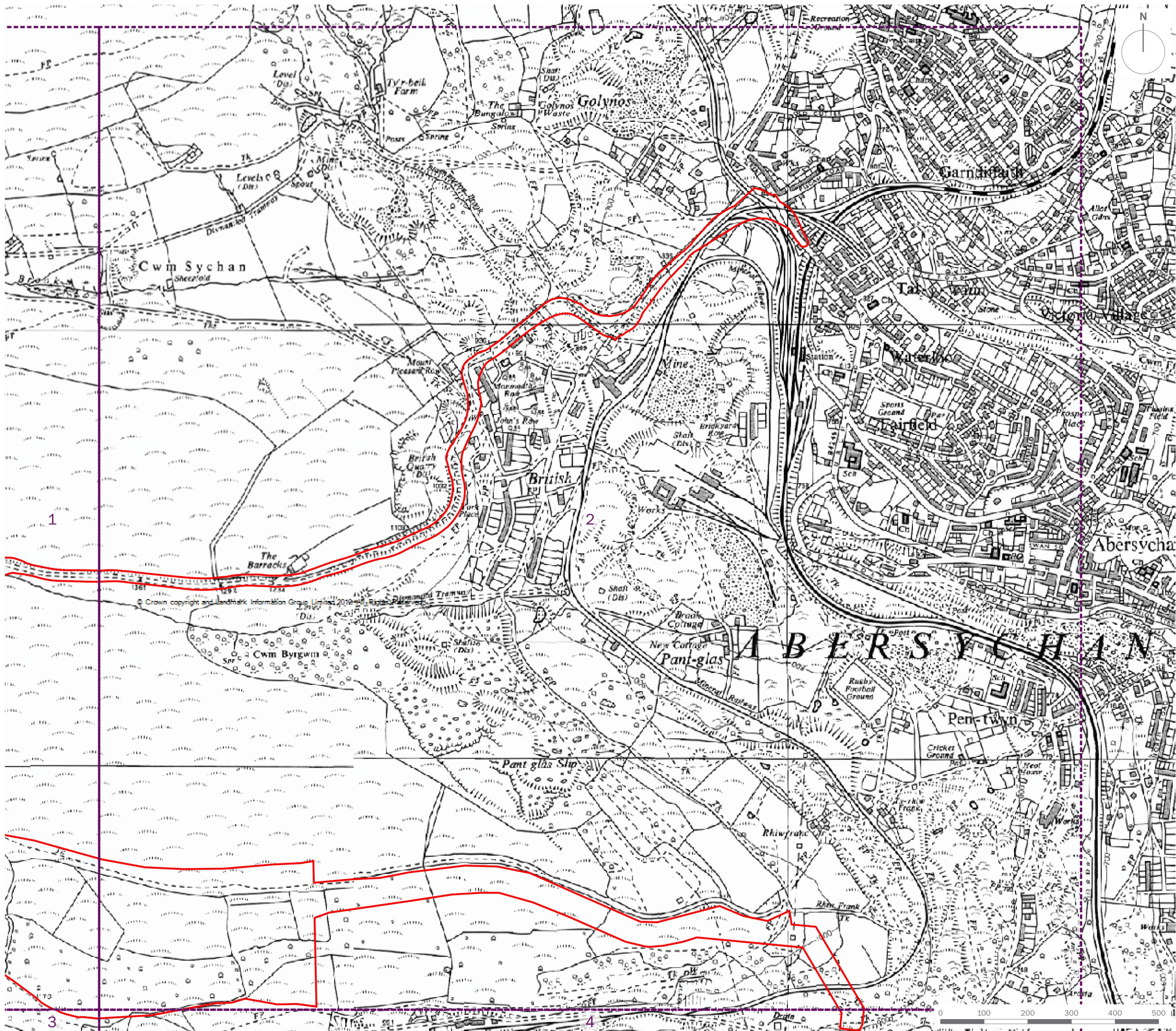
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d109d	checked	RSK
scale	1:17,500 @ A3	QA	GYo

 the environmental
dimension partnership

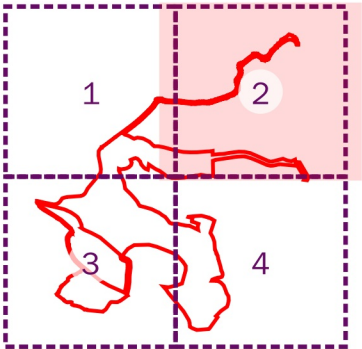
Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



client	Pennant Walters		
project title	Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm		
drawing title	Historic Map: OS 1964-1965 (Sheet 1 of 4)		
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d109d	checked	RSK
scale	1:8,500 @ A3	QA	GYo



Approximate Site Boundary



client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

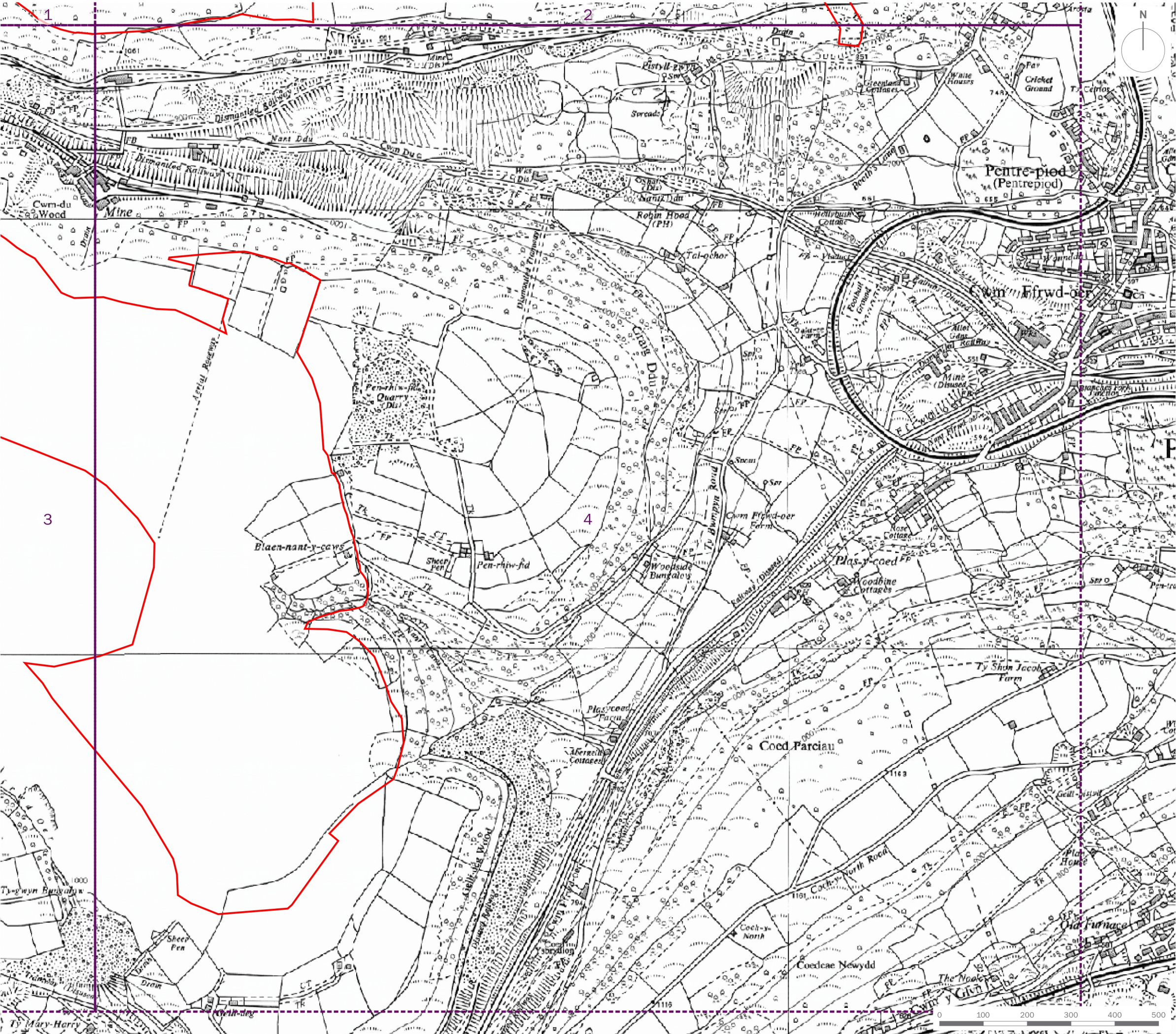
drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1964-1965 (Sheet 2 of 4)

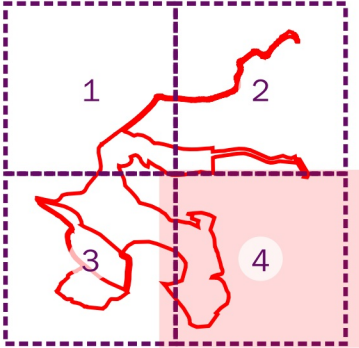
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d109d	checked	RSK
scale	1:8,500 @ A3	QA	GYo

edp the environmental dimension partnership

Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



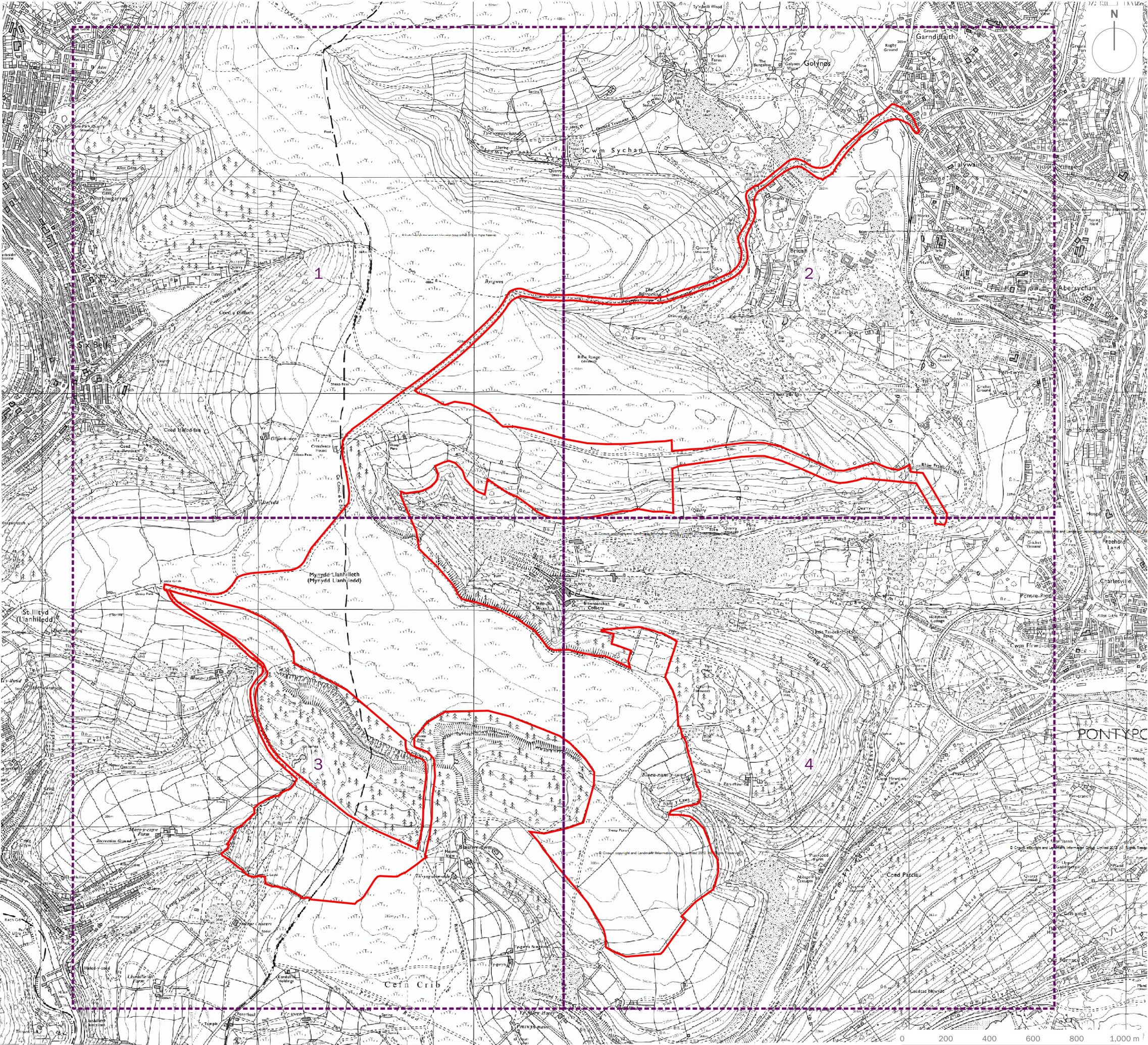
Approximate Site Boundary



client	Pennant Walters		
project title	Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm		
drawing title	Historic Map: OS 1964-1965 (Sheet 4 of 4)		
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d109d	checked	RSK
scale	1:8,500 @ A3	QA	GYo



Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



Approximate Site Boundary

client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

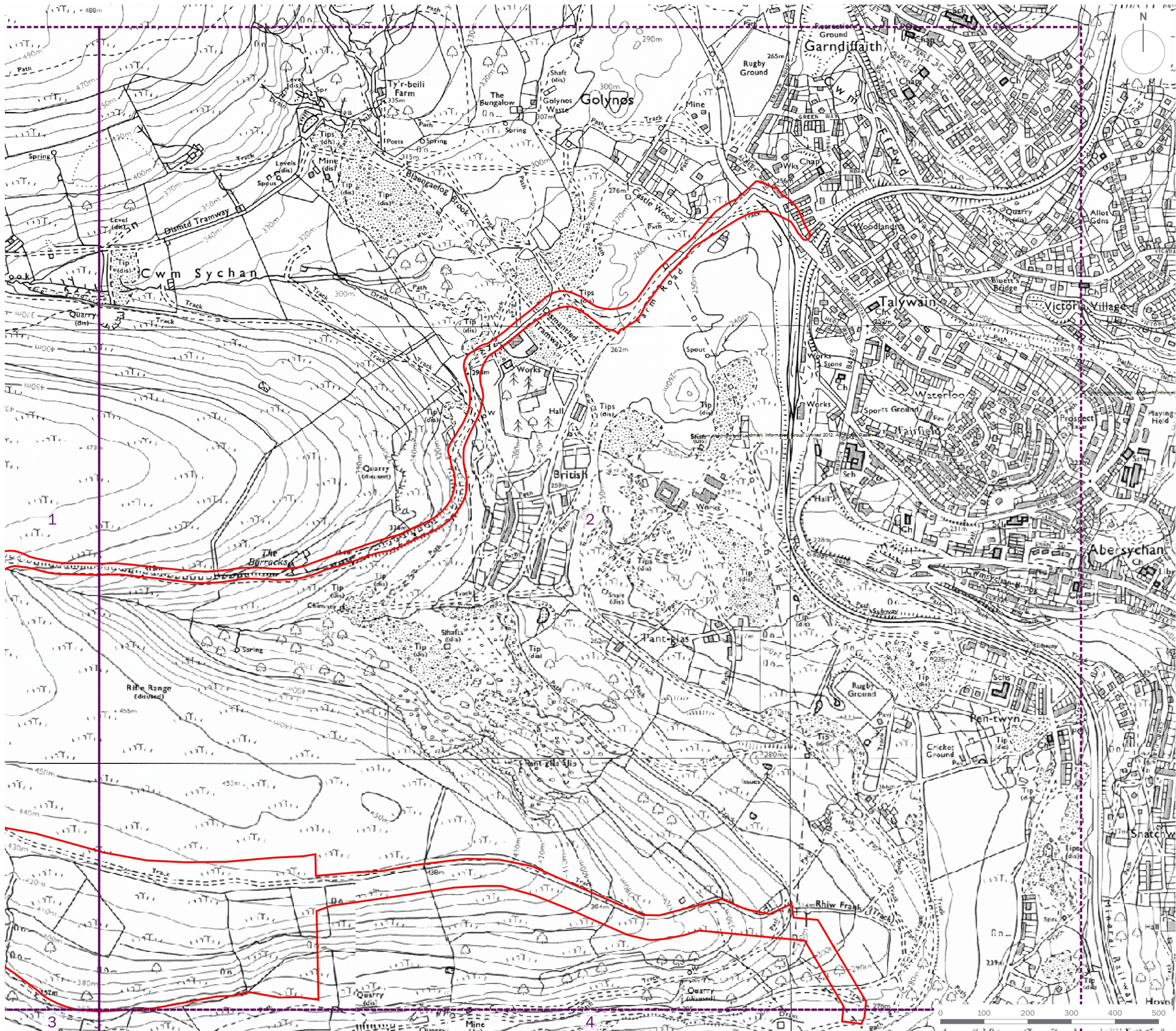
drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1977-1979 (Overview)

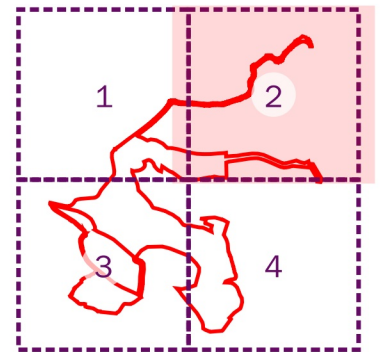
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d110d	checked	RSK
scale	1:17,500 @ A3	QA	GYo

edp the environmental dimension partnership

Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



Approximate Site Boundary



client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

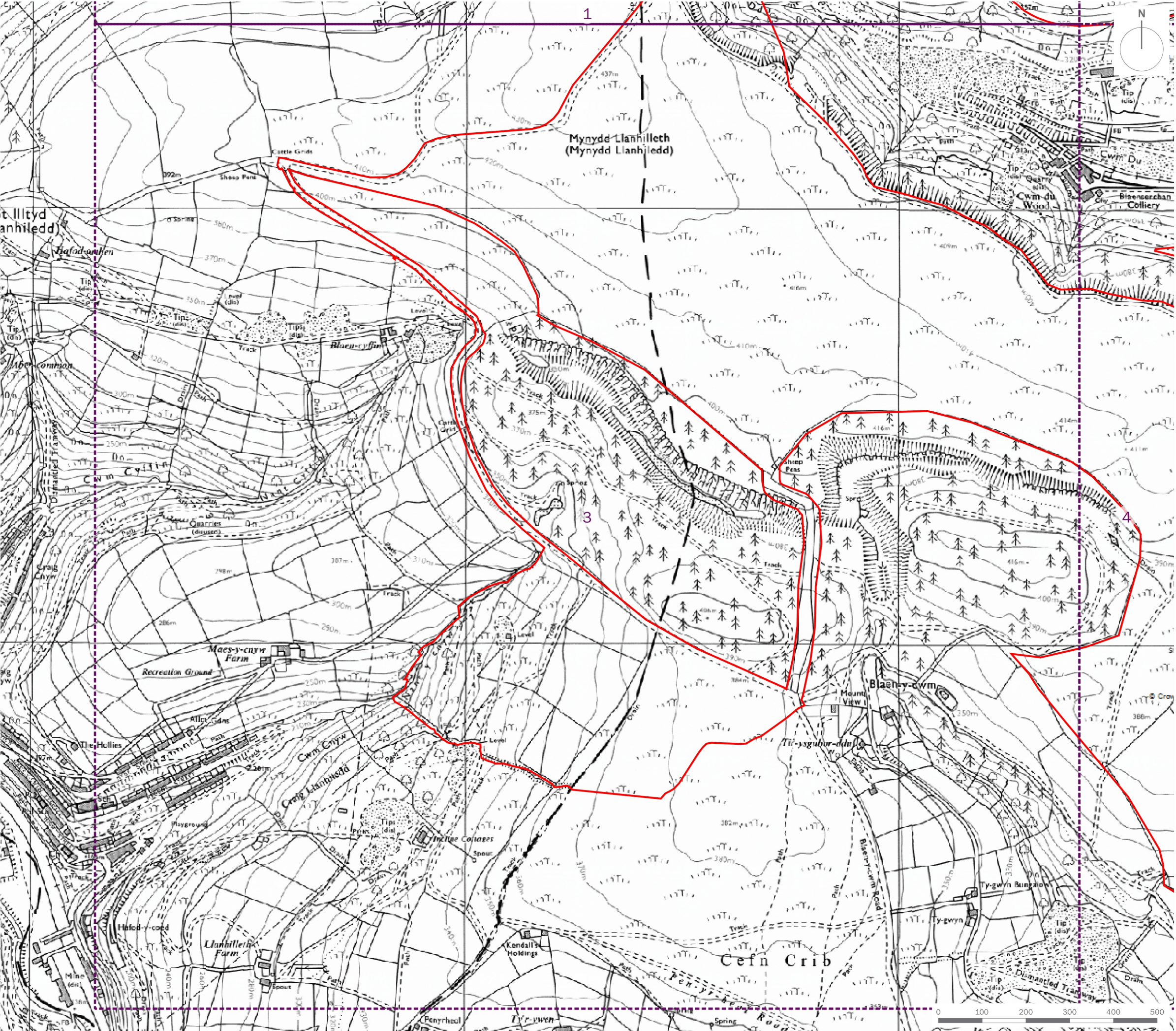
drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1977-1979 (Sheet 2 of 4)

date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d110d	checked	RSK
scale	1:8,500 @ A3	QA	GYo

edp the environmental dimension partnership

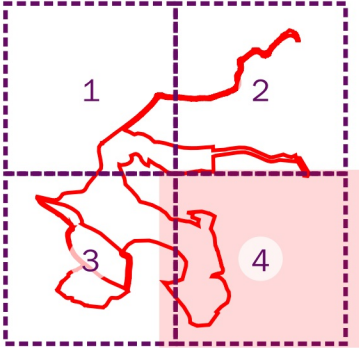
Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



client	Pennant Walters		
project title	Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm		
drawing title	Historic Map: OS 1977-1979 (Sheet 3 of 4)		
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d110d	checked	RSk
scale	1:8,500 @ A3	QA	GYo



Approximate Site Boundary



client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

drawing title

Historic Map: OS 1977-1979 (Sheet 4 of 4)

date
drawing number
scale

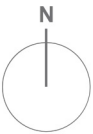
13 AUGUST 2024
edp6367_d110d
1:8,500 @ A3

drawn by
checked
QA

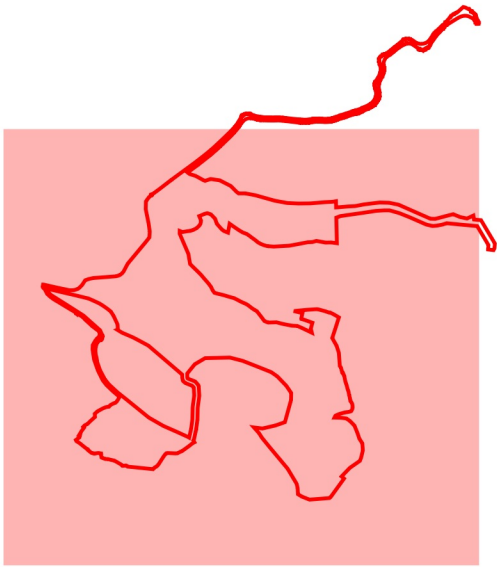
SWa
RSK
GYo



Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



Approximate Site Boundary



client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

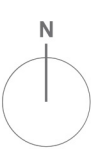
drawing title

Aerial Photograph: RAF 3GTUD_T19 094 3rd August 1945

date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d111d	checked	RSk
scale	1:12,500 @ A3	QA	GYo



Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk



Approximate Site Boundary

0 125 250 375 500 625 m

client

Pennant Walters

project title

Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm

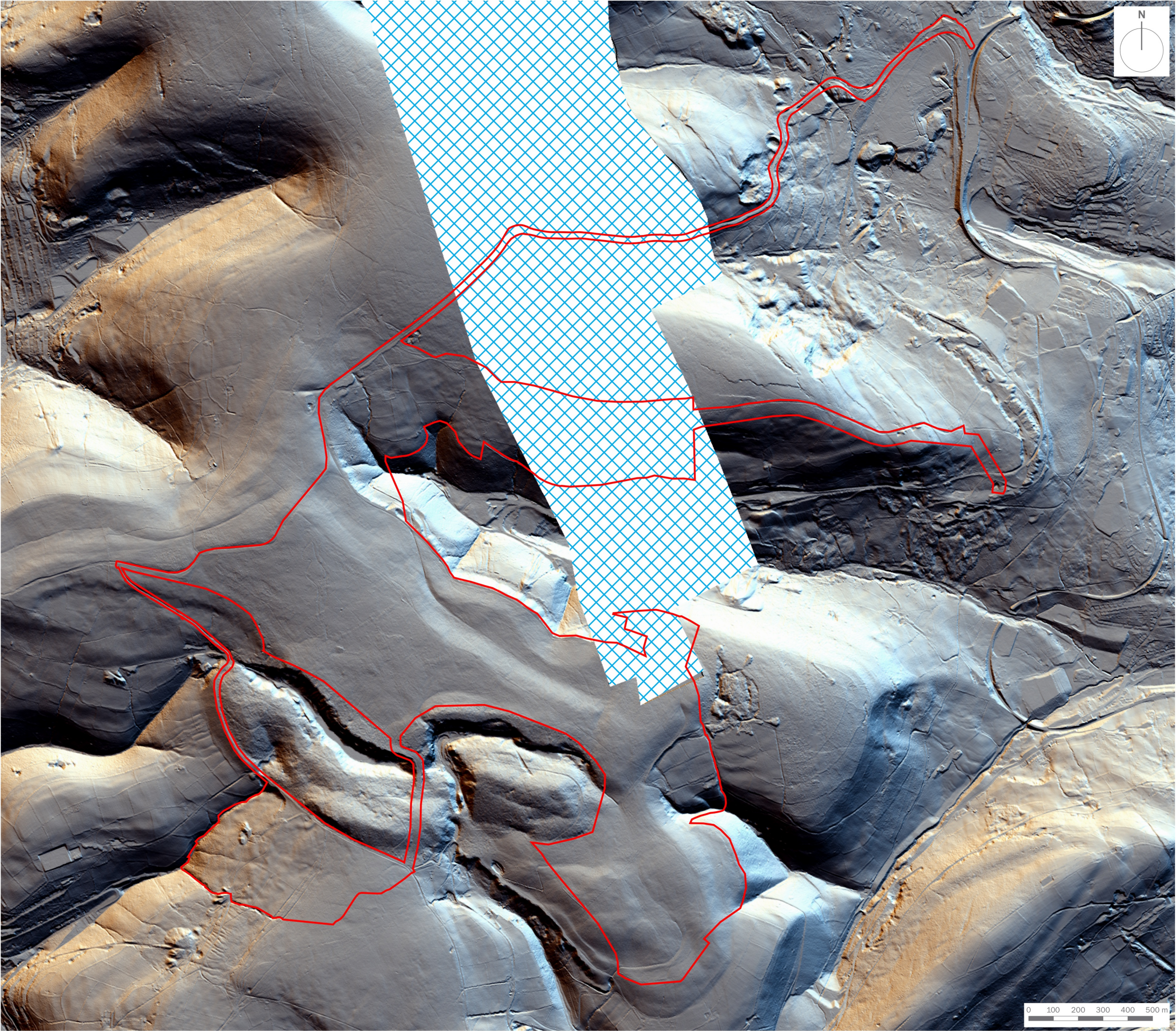
drawing title

Aerial Photograph: OS 63_074 035 31st May 1963

date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d112d	checked	RSk
scale	1:15,000 @ A3	QA	GYo

edp the environmental
dimension partnership

Registered office: 01285 740427 - www.edp-uk.co.uk - info@edp-uk.co.uk

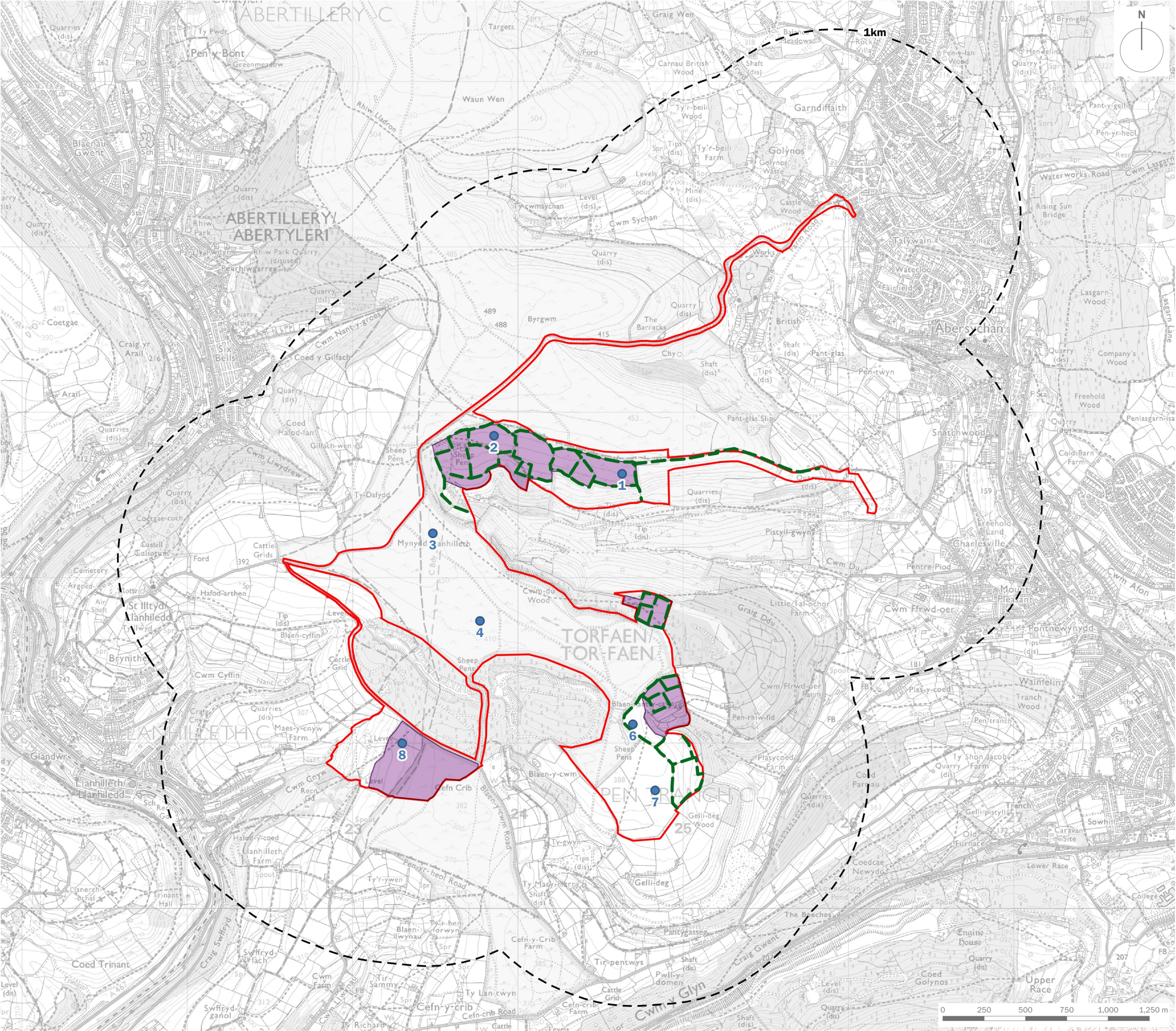


Site Boundary

LiDAR Data Using 2m Digital Surface Model (DTM) with Multidirectional Azimuth Shading

Area of No Coverage

client			
Pennant Walters			
project title			
Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm			
drawing title			
LiDAR Data			
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d103c	checked	RSk
scale	1:15,000 @ A3	QA	GYo



- Site Boundary
- Range Rings (at 1km intervals)
- Historic Landscape Character Areas
- Historic Hedgerow
- Final Turbine Locations

client			
Pennant Walters			
project title			
Mynydd Llanhilleth Wind Farm			
drawing title			
Historic Landscape Value Areas			
date	13 AUGUST 2024	drawn by	SWa
drawing number	edp6367_d113d	checked	RSK
scale	1:22,500 @ A3	QA	Gyo



the environmental
dimension partnership

CARDIFF
02921 671900

CHELTENHAM
01242 903110

CIRENCESTER
01285 740427

info@edp-uk.co.uk
www.edp-uk.co.uk

The Environmental Dimension Partnership Ltd. Registered as a Limited Company in England and Wales. Company No. 09102431. Registered Office: Quarry Barn, Elkstone Studios, Elkstone, Gloucestershire GL53 9PQ



**URBAN
DESIGN
GROUP** REGISTERED
PRACTICE



**IEMA
CORPORATE
PARTNER**

**Landscape
Institute**
Registered practice