

CPAT Report No. 1545

Gungrog Farm, Welshpool, Powys




Archaeological Desk-based Assessment



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CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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CONTENTS

SUMMARY	ii
1 INTRODUCTION.....	1
2 SOURCES OF INFORMATION & GUIDANCE	2
3 METHODOLOGY	6
4 THE CULTURAL HERITAGE HISTORY OF THE AREA	7
5 BASELINE ASSESSMENT	12
6 CONCLUSIONS.....	16
7 SOURCES	16
8 ARCHIVE DEPOSITION STATEMENT	17

Summary

The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) conducted an archaeological desk-based assessment in association with a proposed housing development on land near Gungrog Farm, Welshpool.

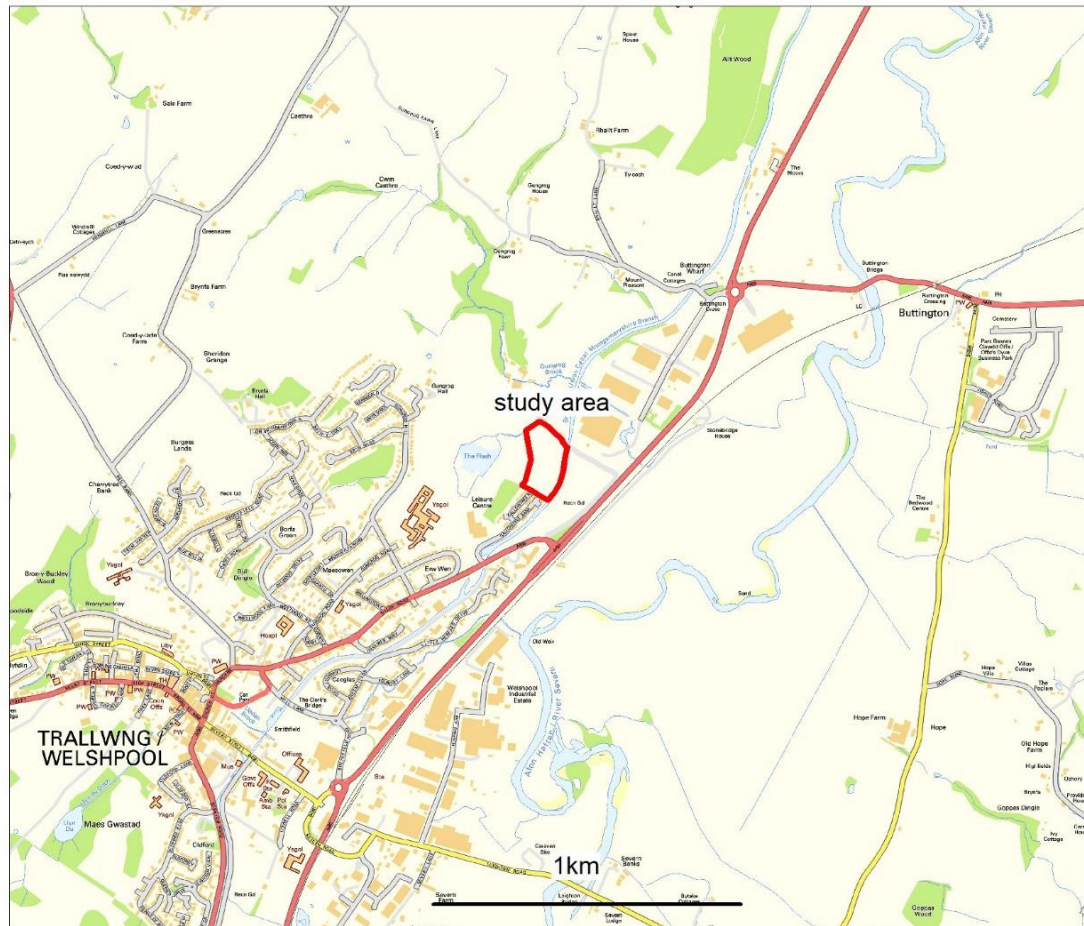
The assessment revealed that much of the development area was occupied by open field agriculture in the post-medieval period, which may have earlier origins, and is evidenced by field names recorded in the Tithe survey of the 1840s; traces of associated earthworks were also revealed on the LiDAR coverage for the area. The Tithe Survey also suggests the former presence of a possible wharf on the canal, although with no evidence for associated structures.

There are no designated heritage assets within the proposed development area and only two designated assets within 500m, both of which are Grade II listed buildings, but neither is intervisible with the development area.

On the basis of available evidence the archaeological potential of the Study Area is considered to be low.

1 Introduction

- 1.1. In December 2017 the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) were engaged by Pickstock Homes Ltd to conduct an archaeological desk-based assessment in advance of proposals for a development on land near Gungrog Farm, Welshpool (NGR: SJ 2362 0833; Fig. 1).



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Fig. 1: Location of the study area

- 1.2. The assessment considered existing data on heritage assets at the Historic Environment Record (HER), maintained by CPAT and cartographic evidence from the early 19th to the 20th centuries.
- 1.3. A plan of the proposed development was provided by the client (Fig. 2), indicating that a total of 56 dwellings are proposed, most of which are either detached or semi-detached, together with a single terrace of three dwellings.



Fig. 2: Plan of the proposed development, courtesy of Pickstock Homes Ltd

2 Sources of Information & Guidance

- 2.1. Cultural heritage is deemed to include the complete range of man-made features that have been introduced into the landscape from the Palaeolithic, more than two hundred and fifty thousand years ago, up to and including the 20th century. Some of these features will be visible as upstanding remains on the ground; others will be buried and only become apparent during ground disturbance, whilst others may be objects that have been discarded, lost or deliberately deposited. Some will have an archaeological interest and importance; others will be more historical in their origin. In addition, some natural features will be relevant because of the information they contain; peat bogs, for instance, hold pollen that can throw light on past human activity in the area. Collectively, all these features are known as heritage assets.

Administration

- 2.2. At a national level, it is Cadw, the historic environment service within Welsh Government, which holds the remit for the cultural heritage resource. Another national body, Natural Resources Wales, has a particular interest in historic landscapes.
- 2.3. At a regional level, the cultural heritage resource is monitored by the Heritage Sections of the regional archaeological trusts. The Curatorial Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) act as archaeological advisers to Powys County Council.
- 2.4. While the broad concern of all these bodies is with the preservation of the cultural heritage, there are inevitably differences in emphasis between regional and national

organisations, and in the laws and regulations that govern the ways in which they operate.

Legislation and guidance

- 2.5. The legislative framework for the historic environment in Wales was revised by The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016. The 2016 Act amended the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. It extended the definition of scheduled monuments and enhanced their protection, as well as making changes to the process of scheduled monument consent. Changes were also made to the protection of listed buildings. The 2016 Act also provided for statutory a register of historic landscapes, a statutory list of place names, and imposed a statutory duty on Welsh Ministers to compile and maintain Historic Environment Records (HERs). Most of the provisions of the 2016 Act had come into force by 31 May 2017.
- 2.6. Chapter 6 of Planning Policy Wales was revised and re-issued in November 2016. Technical Advice Note 24: *The Historic Environment* (TAN 24) came into force on 31 May 2017, and replaced previous Welsh Office Circulars 60/96 *Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology*; 61/96 *Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas*; and 1/98 *Planning and the Historic Environment: Directions by the Secretary of State for Wales*.
- 2.7. Information on local planning policies relating to the cultural heritage is provided in Annex 2.
- 2.8. The revised Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB), Volume 11 Section 3 Part 2, HA 208/07 (August 2007), though not specifically focused on developments of this nature, provides a suitable, general framework for assessing the cultural heritage. The approach to the cultural heritage which it promotes, although designed for road developments, is relevant as a methodology for the proposed development and has been adopted here. The relevant sections relating to determining the value of assets and the magnitude and significance of potential impacts is reproduced in Annex 3.
- 2.9. The desk-based assessment was undertaken with reference to the principles and methods for assessing heritage assets laid out in the *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessments* (2014) produced by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CifA), the regulatory body for the profession.
- 2.10. Welsh Government's (2017) *Heritage Impact Assessments in Wales* sets out the general principles to consider when planning changes to historic assets and applying for listed building, conservation area and scheduled monument consent. This document, together with Cadw's (2011) *Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales*, provides guidance on understanding historic assets, their significance and assessing potential impacts on them. The results of a heritage impact assessment should be summarised in a heritage impact statement and this process must be adopted in all cases where your proposals require listed building consent or conservation area consent.
- 2.11. Heritage impact statements are not required when applying for planning permission, including for development, in the following cases: within the setting of a listed

building; within the setting of a scheduled monument; in a registered historic park and garden, or its setting; in a conservation area; and in a World Heritage Site. Nevertheless, in these circumstances, it is good practice to adopt the principles of the heritage impact assessment. There is a separate process for considering the impact of development in registered historic landscapes.

- 2.12. Planning Policy Wales (9th edition, 2016) identifies the desirability of preserving the setting of a World Heritage Site, a nationally important ancient monument (whether scheduled or unscheduled), a listed building, a Conservation Area and a site on the Register of Historic Parks and Gardens in Wales. This desirability will be a material consideration when assessing the potential impact of a development proposal on the historic environment. Recent guidance published by Welsh Government (2017) in *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* defines the setting of a historic asset as including ‘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, negative or neutral contribution to the significance of an asset. Setting is not itself a historic asset, though land within a setting may contain other historic assets. The importance of setting lies in what it contributes to the significance of a historic asset . . . The setting of a historic asset can also include less tangible elements. These may include function, sensory perceptions or historical, artistic, literary and scenic associations’.
- 2.13. For the landscape in its entirety LANDMAP is the formally adopted landscape assessment tool for Wales, and is consulted in order to inform the baseline assessment of the study area. LANDMAP comprises of five evaluated Aspects, one of which – the Historic Landscape – is relevant to cultural heritage assessments, and a second – the Cultural Landscape – is partially relevant. All five aspects, the other three being Geological Landscape, Landscape Habitats and Visual & Sensory, are normally taken in conjunction (rather than individually) to assess the importance of a landscape under consideration (see CCW 2012), a process normally undertaken by a specialist in landscape and visual issues.

The categorisation and conservation of the cultural heritage resource

- 2.14. The cultural heritage resource is not a single body of equally significant assets, but an infinitely complex set of individual assets, the number of which increases and alters in form and relationships on a continual basis. They range in importance from internationally significant sites to features of minor and even negligible value, with those perceived to be of greater importance being categorised by designation (statutory) or registration (which may be statutory or non-statutory).

World Heritage Sites

- 2.15. This is the only category of international importance, although the designation of a World Heritage Site (WHS) does not confer additional statutory protection. Instead, the protection of World Heritage Sites in the UK is managed through existing designation (i.e. Conservation Areas) and planning regimes (i.e. Local Development Plans).

Scheduled Ancient Monuments

- 2.16. SAMs are designated features of national importance. They are protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act, 1979, as amended by the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016. The settings of SAMs are also protected, as articulated in Planning Policy Wales (9th edition, 2016), specifically Chapter 6 (Conserving the Historic Environment) which notes that ‘the desirability of preserving an ancient monument and its setting is a material consideration in determining a planning application’ (6.5.1). Setting in relation to all heritage assets, whether designated or not, is discussed further below.

Listed Buildings

- 2.17. These are protected under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, as amended by the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016. All listed buildings are nationally important, but are graded in order of significance as Grade I, II* or II. Grade I buildings are considered to be of equal status to Scheduled Ancient Monuments. Local planning authorities must have special regard to the desirability of preserving the setting of a listed building regardless of its grade, and it also requires planning proposals to meet the test of determining the extent to which a development affects views to and from a listed building. Planning Policy Wales (9th edition, 2016) requires a ‘general presumption in favour of the preservation of a listed building and its setting, which might extend beyond its curtilage’ (6.5.10).

Conservation Areas

- 2.18. These are protected under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. This Act requires local planning authorities to have special regard to the desirability of preserving the setting of a Conservation Area, and it also requires planning proposals to meet the test of determining the extent to which a development affects views to and from such an area. Planning Policy Wales (9th edition, 2016) states that there ‘will be a strong presumption against the granting of planning permission for developments ... which damage the character or appearance of a conservation area or its setting to an unacceptable level’ (6.5.19).

Registered Parks and Gardens, and Historic Landscapes

- 2.19. The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 provides for the creation of a statutory Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales. Parks and gardens are graded using the same categories as listed buildings (i.e. I, II*, II). Parks and gardens are therefore ‘registered’ rather than ‘designated’ assets, though for practical purposes this distinction appears to be of little significance. Planning Policy Wales (9th edition, 2016) states that local authorities should ‘protect and conserve’ registered parks and gardens and their settings, and that Cadw must be consulted on any development which is ‘likely to affect the site of a registered historic park or garden or its setting’ (6.5.24). Similarly, the inclusion of an area on the (non-statutory) Register of Historic Landscapes is a planning consideration, and again Cadw should be consulted on any development ‘within a registered historic landscape area that requires an Environmental Impact Assessment’ (6.5.25).

Battlefields

- 2.20. England has a Battlefields Register, but there is at present nothing comparable for Wales. A Welsh register is currently in preparation, but its form and composition is not known, nor when it will be made available.

Designated wrecks

- 2.21. The Protection of Wrecks Act 1973 allows the designation of a restricted area around a wreck to prevent uncontrolled interference. These protected areas are likely to contain the remains of a vessel, or its contents, which are of historical, artistic or archaeological importance. There are six designated wrecks in Wales.

Aircraft Crash sites

- 2.22. All military aircraft crash sites in the United Kingdom, its territorial waters, or British aircraft in international waters, are controlled by the Protection of Military Remains Act 1986. Under this act it is an offence to tamper with, damage, move, or unearth any remains without a licence from the Ministry of Defence.

Undesignated assets

- 2.23. These are undesignated heritage assets which may survive both above ground where they are still visible and/or buried beneath the surface. These could range in date from the prehistoric era through to the 20th century.

Historic Hedgerows

- 2.24. Various criteria have been used to classify historic hedgerows. In the context of a current cultural heritage assessment those that are most relevant are where a hedgerow incorporates or is part of an archaeological site and where it marks a pre-1850 parish or township boundary. In this region there is generally so little published information on estate or manorial boundaries, another pair of criteria, that assessment utilising them is not feasible.
- 2.25. A further criterion (as cited in The Hedgerows Regulations of 1997 – SI No.1160) is ambiguous in stating that the regulation applies to a hedgerow that is recorded in a document held ‘...at a Record Office as an integral part of a field system pre-dating the Enclosure Acts’. This was qualified in guidance issued by DEFRA in May 2002 which stated that 1845 was the accepted cut-off date.

3 Methodology

- 3.1. The assessment was conducted according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists’ (CifA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation* (2014) and *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment* (2014).
- 3.2. The assessment involved the examination of readily available primary and secondary sources at the following repositories:
- the regional Historic Environment Record
 - the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth
 - the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth

-
- Powys County Archives
 - Cadw, for designated assets in Wales
- 3.3. Information regarding scheduled ancient monuments, listed buildings, registered historic landscapes and registered parks and gardens, is based on a dataset provided by Cadw, dated April 2017.

4 The Cultural Heritage History of the Area

- 4.1. This section provides a brief summary of the archaeology and history of the study area and its immediate surrounds, the historical section of which is based on the work of Silvester *et al.* (2012); this has enabled the findings of the assessment to be placed in a wider context.

Prehistoric Era (10,000BC - AD 43)

- 4.2. The earliest activity of human activity in the general locality was revealed in excavations carried out at the former Smithfield stock market in Welshpool by CPAT in 2010, just over 1km to the south-west of the Study Area. The excavation revealed a significant assemblage of 161 flint and chert artefacts, which have been ascribed a Mesolithic date and were thought to represent evidence of a temporary, short-stay camp (Jones and Gwilt 2014, 13).
- 4.3. Prehistoric activity in the immediate locality of the proposed development is evidenced by a number of finds, including a partly polished stone axe (PRN 5924), possibly of Neolithic or Bronze Age date, which was discovered at Gungrog before 1911.
- 4.4. Further evidence for Bronze Age activity was revealed by excavations carried out by CPAT (Grant and Jones 2006) in advance of the construction of the new Smithfield stock market in 2006, less than 1km to the north-east. This revealed a cremation burial with associated flint and stone artefacts; other artefacts, including a complete stone axe and Neolithic pottery were also found nearby.
- 4.5. Evidence pointing to Iron Age agriculture was also revealed in the former Smithfield excavations, where a series of gullies defining a field system were identified; material from these was dated to the period between AD 390 - 50.

Roman Period (AD 43 - 410)

- 4.6. A group of high-status Romano-British artefacts was discovered at Welshpool Smithfield in 1959. These items included a glass jar and fragmentary bottle, sherds from two redware pottery vessels, three bronze *paterae*, and a bronze ewer, all of which had been placed within a bronze cauldron. Other finds in close proximity were a stave from a wooden bucket with a decorative bronze escutcheon, an iron fire-dog, and two ornate iron 'standards'. There was no evidence for an associated burial and this is now thought to be a cenotaph deposit. A limited number of Roman finds in the vicinity of Welshpool may hint at wider settlement in the period, but this has not been identified.

Medieval Period (410 - 1500)

- 4.7. Although, historically, the area of the proposed development falls within the parish of Guilsfield, it lies on the outskirts of Welshpool and it is the latter settlement which provides a relevant background to the archaeology of the immediate locality.
- 4.8. Welshpool is said to have been the location of two churches founded by St Cynfelyn and his brother Llywelyn in the 6th century. The precise position and form of these churches and any accompanying settlement remains unknown, but one of these churches should probably be equated with the 'Old Church' (see below). That being the case, the second could well have been on the site of the present parish church whose spur location hints at early medieval origins. The parish church lies on the opposite side of the valley of the Lledan Brook from the later borough (see below), from which it can be intuited that it was already in existence when the new town was laid out. Confirmation comes from Bleaze's map of 1629 which has the term 'Welshe town' printed adjacent to the church, and from this we can contend that the earliest settlement at Welshpool should be in the Salop Road/Mill Lane area, though excavations along Mill Lane in recent years have revealed no traces of early medieval activity and little of medieval date. The earliest reference to the settlement is as *yr trallwng* in about the year 1100. The church at Trallüg occurs in the Norwich Taxation of 1254 and *y trallwn* appears as late as c.1566. Pole and la Pole are first recorded in 1196 and 1197 respectively, but it was 1478 before Walshepole shows in documents and almost another century for Welshe Poole. The leading place-name authorities translate Welshpool as 'the muddy pool' and rather than associating it with Llyn Du in Powis Castle Park which has been traditional, they feel it may have been some wet place along the lower course of the Lledan Brook. However, such is the prominence given to 'The Poole' by Bleaze on his map of Welshpool in 1629, that the traditional view is probably correct. Pool is seen as a loose translation of *trallwng*.
- 4.9. The present town of Welshpool resulted from a deliberate policy by Gruffudd ap Gwenwynwyn, Prince of Powys, to establish a new borough. As such, this was a planned town which owed little to the existing settlement on the other side of the Lledan Brook. The burgesses received a foundation charter in the 1240s and a market was recorded there in 1252. Forty years later there were 106 taxpayers in the town, a total which had risen to 225 by 1322. The new town adopted a basically linear plan, centred on High Street and Broad Street, with some development also along Church Street, Berriew Street and Severn Street. The Glyndwr rebellion and the general decline apparent in many Welsh border towns in the 15th and 16th centuries, seem to have had a limited effect on Welshpool, to judge from the picture of the town on Bleaze's estate map of 1629.

Post-Medieval and Modern Periods

- 4.10. Leland thought Welshpool the best market in Powysland in the 1530s, replacing Montgomery as the regional centre because of its better location, and we could probably assume steady growth through the Tudor and Jacobean periods. It is known that the town was served by a major coach road in the 17th century as this was mapped by Ogilby in 1675, though it seems to be the case that it took a different course to the modern road and passed very close to Gungrog Farm. Incidentally, the name of the farm is a reference to a gallows and it seems fairly certain that this would have been located somewhere in the vicinity, though its actual site is not known; the

modern housing developments to the south incorporate the name 'Gallowtree', a name mentioned in a document relating to this area of 1810; 'Gungrog' dates back to at least 1620.

- 4.11. The growth of the flannel industry during the late 18th century added fresh impetus to the development of the town, though it has been argued that it failed to become a predominant urban focus in Wales because of competition from towns higher up the Severn Valley. The construction of the Montgomeryshire Canal in the 1790s added to its importance, and the railway arrived in 1866 (Baughan 1991, 192-3). It is possible that the placement of the Montgomeryshire Canal was a factor in the diversion of the coach road to the later route between Welshpool and Buttington Cross.
- 4.12. Open fields once covered a substantial area of lower ground between the town and the Severn and are depicted as such on an estate map of 1663 but these have been almost completely erased by modern industrial development. The map shows 'the Ould Field' near the later farm of Henfaes which is probably the earliest area of cultivation, most likely dating back to the medieval period. Nevertheless, ridge and furrow cultivation has been recognised in various places, both in Powis Park and in the hills surrounding Welshpool and it may be that some of this is of medieval origin, though perhaps more likely to be later. It seems likely that some of the areas of open field were enclosed in the early 19th century. Evidence in the HER suggests that the Study Area formed part of one of these areas of cultivation, the evidence being the identification of two instances of the field name 'maes y derwen' in the Tithe survey.



Fig. 3: Extract from the 1829 Ordnance Surveyors' Drawing, No. 328. The Study Area is circled in red

- 4.13. The earliest cartographic source that was examined for the Study Area was the 1829 Ordnance Surveyors' drawing (Fig. 3), but this is at a relatively small scale and only showed the routes of the minor road to Gungrog Farm and the canal.



Fig. 4: Extract from the 1846 Tithe map for Guilsfield parish, Gungrogfechan, Trelydan and Garth township, showing the study area outlined in red

- 4.14. The Tithe survey map (Fig. 4) and apportionment, respectively dated to 1846 and 1840, provide additional detail on the Study Area, showing that it was subdivided at that time. The names of the different fields are given below, and it is those called 'Maes y Dderwen' which imply that this area was once the site of open field agriculture. The bulge in the canal at this point is unexplained but it could signify a temporary wharf used for offloading lime to be spread in the adjoining fields.

- 776 Little Banky Field, mown. Owner, Sir James Bruce Chichester, Baronet, occupier David Rogers
- 777 Little Banky Field, mown. Owner, Sir James Bruce Chichester, Baronet, occupier David Rogers
- 778 Upper Maes y Dderwen, arable and mown. Owner Francis Allen, occupier Robert Sayce
- 779 Maes y Dderwen, arable. Owner Elizabeth Jones, executor of the late Morris Jones, occupier Robert Sayce

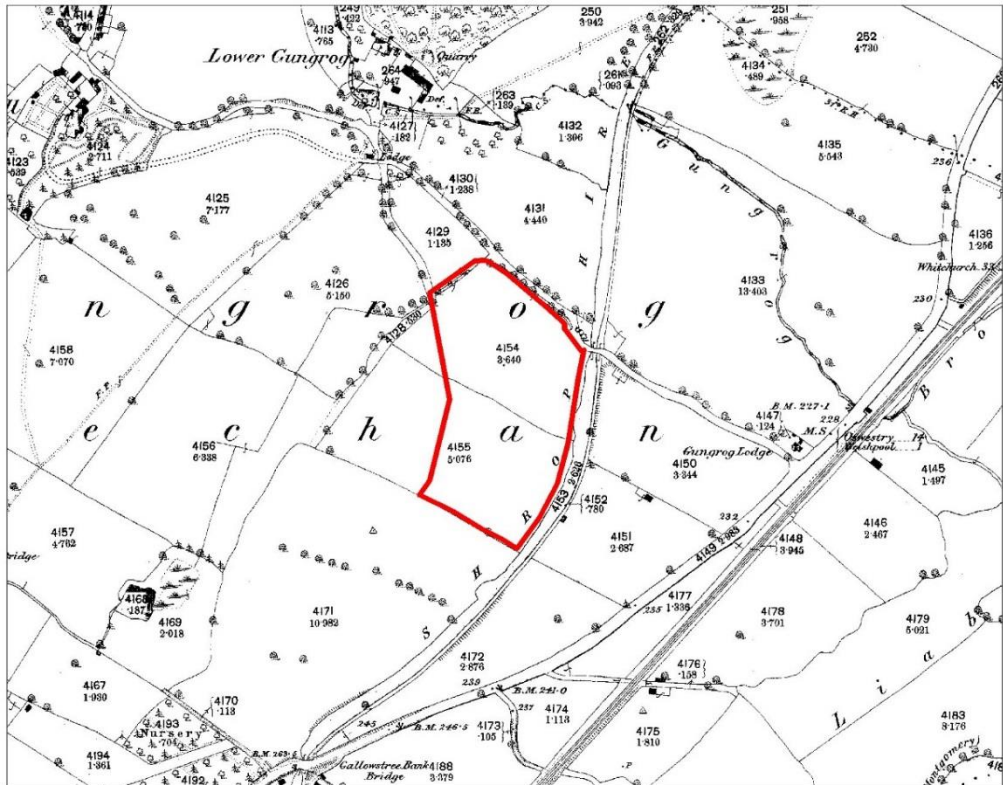


Fig. 5: Extract from the 1888 Ordnance Survey 1st edition 25" map, Montgomeryshire 23.08, showing the study area outlined in red

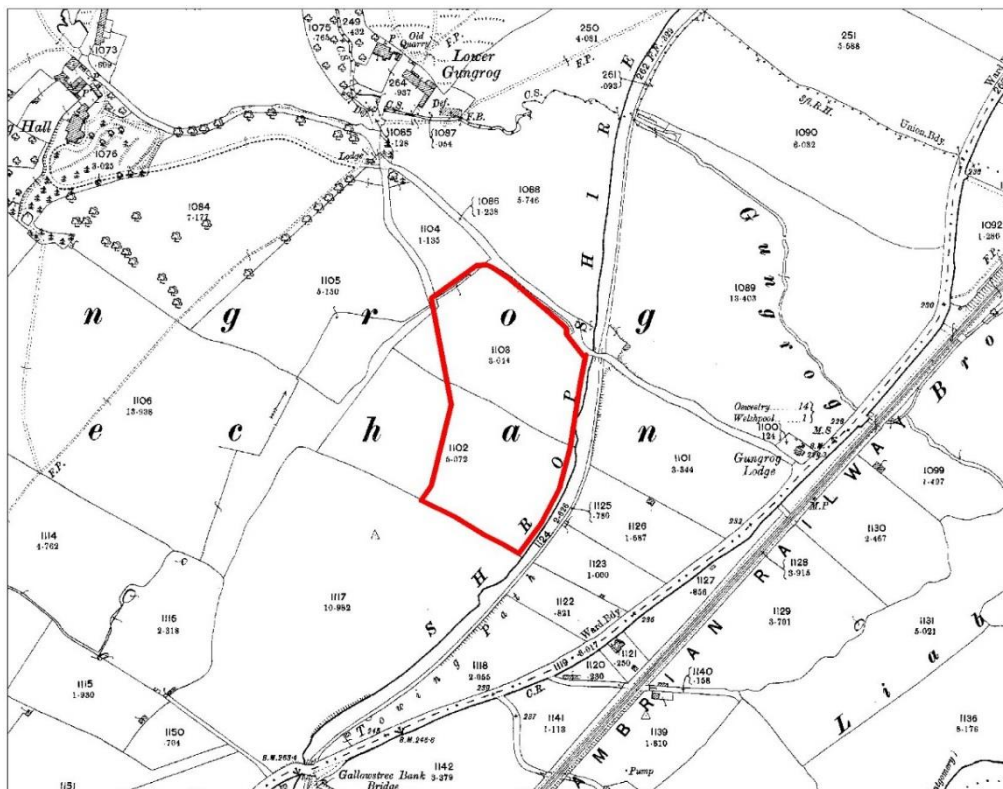


Fig. 6: Extract from the 1902 Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 25" map, Montgomeryshire 23.08, showing the study area outlined in red

- 4.15. Neither the 1st or 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps show any significant information that adds to our knowledge of the Study Area.

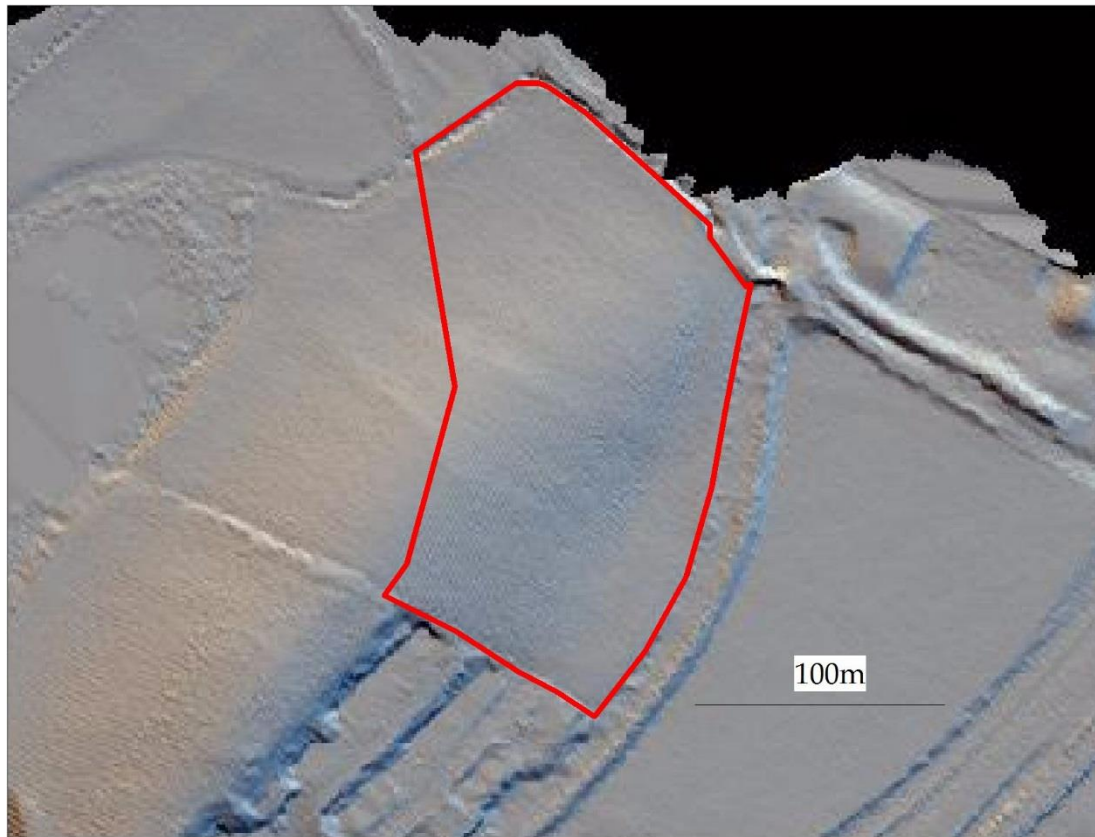


Fig. 7: 1m-resolution LiDAR digital terrain model. Contains Natural Resources Wales information © Natural Resources Wales and database right

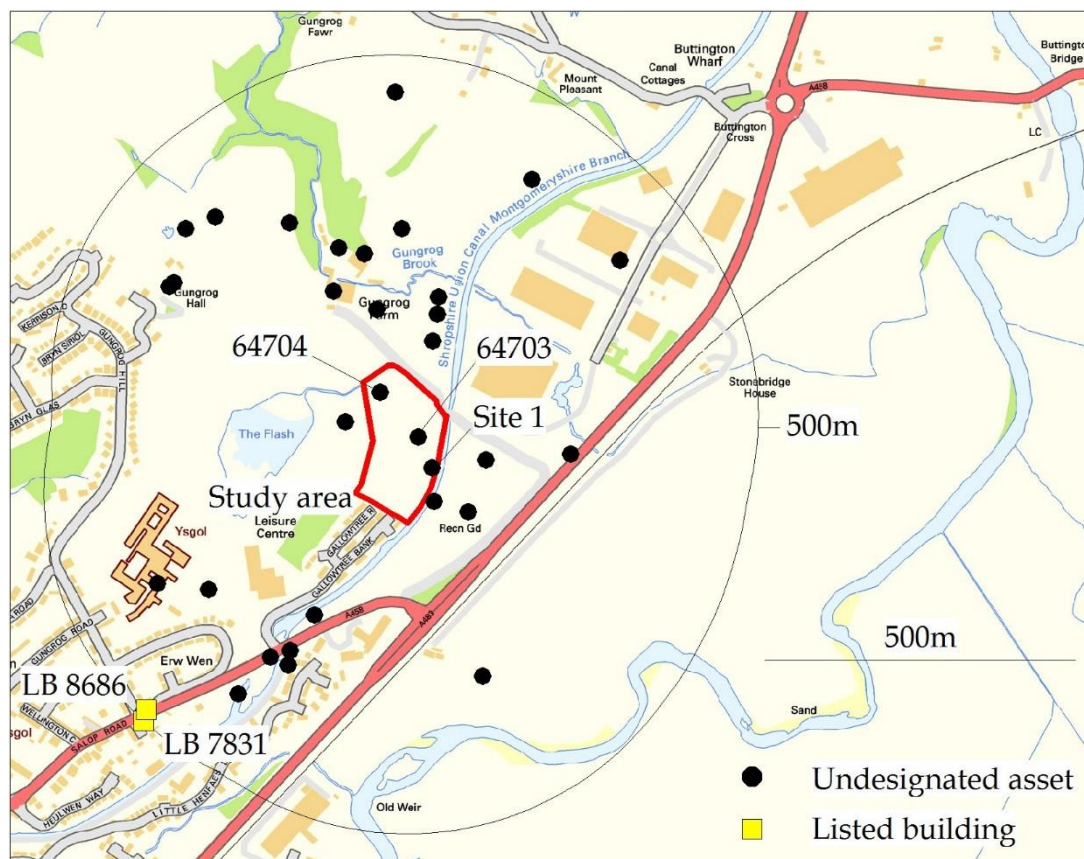
- 4.16. The LiDAR data for the Study Area (Fig. 7) shows two faint, broadly parallel, linear earthworks, running approximately north-west/south-east. One of these clearly represents traces of the former field boundary depicted on the historic mapping and it seems plausible that the other is evidence of ridge and furrow cultivation associated with the Maes y Derwen open field. Fainter evidence might indicate a pattern of similarly aligned ridges lying between there and the minor road to the north-east.
- 4.17. The area occupied the north-east end of a small hill and is currently a single pasture field; it slopes eastwards down to the canal and northwards to the minor road leading to Gungrog Farm.

5 Baseline Assessment

- 5.1. The baseline assessment has considered all heritage assets within the Study Area, together with designated and registered assets within 500m.

Designated and Registered Heritage Assets within 500m of the Study Area

- 5.2. The following provides details of all designated and registered cultural assets within 500m of the Study Area, summarised in Table 1 and depicted on Fig. 8. It should be noted at this stage that all nationally designated assets are automatically considered to be of high value (see Annex 3 Table 3.1).



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Fig. 8: Location of Study Area (outlined in red) and designated and undesignated heritage assets within 500m

Table 1: Summary of Designated and Registered Heritage Assets within 500m of the Study Area

Designated asset	Within the Development Area	Within 500m
World Heritage Sites	0	0
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	0	0
Listed buildings	0	2
Registered historic parks and gardens	0	0
Registered historic landscapes	0	0
Conservation areas	0	0

World Heritage Sites

- 5.3. There are no World Heritage Sites within 500m of the Study Area.

Scheduled Ancient Monuments

- 5.4. There are no Scheduled Ancient Monuments within 500m of the Study Area. The nearest is the Domen Castell Mound and Bailey Castle (MG019), 950m to the south-west.

Listed Buildings

- 5.5. There are two grade II listed buildings within 500m of the Study Area, which are depicted on Fig. 8 and listed in Table 2.

Table 2: Listed buildings within 500m of the Development Area

LB No	Name	Grade	NGR	Dist and direction
7831	Bodowen house	II	SJ 23195 07888	500m SW
8686	Pillar Box on corner with Erw Wen	II	SJ 23199 07906	490m SW

Registered Parks and Gardens

- 5.6. There are no Registered Parks and Gardens within 500m of the Study Area. The closest is Trelydan Hall Park (P039), 1.7km to the north-north-west.

Registered Historic Landscapes

- 5.7. There are no Registered Historic Landscapes within 500m of the Study Area. The nearest is the Vale of Montgomery (HLW (P) 2), 5km to the south.

Conservation Areas

- 5.8. There are no Conservation Areas within 500m of the Study Area. The closest is the Welshpool Conservation Area, at its nearest some 700m to the south-west of the Study Area.

Undesignated Assets within 500m of the Study Area

- 5.9. The regional HER records 33 undesignated assets within 500m of the Study Area, although none are of relevance to the proposed development.

Undesignated Assets within the Study Area

Table 3: Undesignated Assets within the development area.

PRN / asset no.	Type	Description	Value
64703	Field system	Welshpool, Upper Maes y derwen	Low
64704	Field system	Welshpool, Maes y Dderwen	Low
Site 1	Wharf?	Possible canal wharf	Low

LANDMAP

- 5.10. The significance of the area is reinforced by LANDMAP, the Welsh methodology employed in landscape assessment. This indicates that the proposed development lies within the character area of Trelydan (MNTGMHL129), which is considered to be of high value.
- 5.11. This area is characterised by mixed irregular and more regular fieldscapes of possibly medieval and later origin, sited on the low hills and ridges west of the floodplain of the Severn to the north of Welshpool and east of Guilsfield. There are areas of predominantly broadleaved woodland on the steeper slopes. Early settlement and land use is indicated by finds of later Bronze Age metalwork, by the later prehistoric hillfort at Crowther's Coppice and by possible smaller defended farmsteads. Dispersed farms and houses of medieval and later origin, medieval land use also being suggested by relict ridge and furrow cultivation and windmill sites. The 17th-century and earlier gentry house at Trelydan Hall is associated with a late 19th-century garden.

Historic Hedgerows

- 5.12. Parts of the perimeter of the development area are defined by hedges that appear on the 1846 Tithe map (Fig. 4) and are listed in the corresponding apportionment, dated 1840. As such, it seems likely that any surviving sections of these boundaries would be considered an important historic hedgerow under the regulations. Sections that appear to survive relatively intact lie on the north-west and north-east sides, and there may be some of the original boundary surviving on the south-west side, though some appears to have been removed when the adjoining housing development was constructed. There is no hedgerow on the east side of the development area, where it borders the canal.



Fig. 9: The development area from the north. Photo CPAT 4436-0005

6 Conclusions

- 6.1. The proposed development lies to the north-east of Welshpool, although, historically, it was within the parish of Guilsfield. As far as can be determined the immediate area was occupied by open field agriculture in the post-medieval period and this may have had origins in the medieval period. Of the three heritage assets within the development area, two are field names recorded in the Tithe survey of the 1840s, both of which suggest the presence of open field. These are of low value, though traces of earthworks relating to them do appear to be shown on the LiDAR coverage for the area (Fig. 7).
- 6.2. The study also identified the site of a possible wharf on the canal, which forms the eastern boundary of the proposed development. Perhaps this was intended to provide a mooring place that would allow for the offloading of lime that could then be spread on the adjoining fields. The evidence shows as a bulge in the canal on the Tithe map of 1846, but there are no associated structures and it seems to have subsequently been filled in.
- 6.3. Regular ploughing of the area as part of the typical agricultural activities associated with open field may well have impacted on any surface features that could have been present, so any residual archaeological evidence is more likely to be in the form of sub-surface features.
- 6.4. There are no designated heritage assets within the proposed development area and only two designated assets within 500m, namely Bodowen house and the pillar box at the junction of Erw Wen and Salop Road. Both of these are listed at Grade II, but neither is intervisible with the development area.
- 6.5. On the basis of available evidence the archaeological potential of the Study Area is considered to be low.

7 Sources

Written sources

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National Library of Wales, St Asaph Probate Records: Owen Jones, 1620.

Cartographic sources

1675 John Ogilby's *Britannia*: Plate 50, 'The Road from London to Shrewsbury, continued to Welshpool'.

c.1800 Inclosure of the common fields and waste lands within the Manors of Streetmarshal, Tyrymynech and Deytheur, in the County of Montgomery. National Library of Wales, Powis Castle M090.

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1829 Ordnance Surveyors Drawing No 328.

1840 Guilsfield Tithe Apportionment: Gungrogfechan, Trelydan and Garth townships.

1846 Guilsfield Tithe Map: Gungrogfechan, Trelydan and Garth townships.

1888 Ordnance Survey 1st edition 25" map, Montgomeryshire 23.08.

1902 Ordnance Survey 2nd edition 25" map, Montgomeryshire 23.08.

8 Archive deposition Statement

- 8.1. The project archive has been prepared according to the CPAT Archive Policy and in line with the CIfA *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives guidance* (2014). The digital archive only will be deposited with the Historic Environment Record, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust and the paper/drawn/digital archive with the National Monuments Record (RCAHMW). A summary of the archive is provided below.

Project Archive Summary

CPAT Event PRN: 140211

8 digital photographs, CPAT Film No 4436