

## Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment



**Red Lane Reserve  
Land Off Red Lane  
Welshpool  
Powys  
SY21 8RJ**

On behalf of



**June 2023**

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*Cover: View NE of the site taken from the SW corner*

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## 1 Executive Summary

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Border Archaeology was instructed to carry out an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment with regard to Land off Red Lane, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 8RJ, NGR: SJ 22044 05958.

The development site is bounded to its west and north by Red Lane, now a National Cycle Route (No. 81). The Montgomery Canal flanks the east of the site, with Powis Estate Sawmill to immediate east of the canal. Just beyond the northern apex of the site, where the Red Lane and the canal meet, is Whitehouse Nature Reserve. A tributary of the River Severn, annotated on an early 17<sup>th</sup>-century map as Kyddrugen Brook, runs west-to-east across the centre of the development site.

Proposals focus on the creation of a body of water in the northern part of the development site, which would be accessible by a concrete slipway, and would have outlet channels into the Montgomery Canal and the brook crossing the centre of the site. The soil from this excavation would likely be relocated to the southern part of the site, therefore requiring re-landscaping in that area.

The results of the Desk-Based Assessment can be briefly summarised thus:

**Prehistoric:** The potential for encountering evidence of prehistoric archaeology has been assessed as **Moderate to High**. This assessment is based upon the high number of prehistoric features recorded within the vicinity of the site. The Sarn-y-bryn-caled cursus complex and associated features comprise a rare example of prehistoric structures within the wider Severn Valley. Given the size of these features and their spread over such a large area, there is a possibility that the proposed developments may encounter sub-surface prehistoric remains.

**Romano-British:** The potential for Romano-British activity has been assessed as **Low**. This assessment is based upon the low level of known Romano-British activity in the area, and relative paucity of evidence related to it. A small number of Romano-British finds have been identified, of which several have unknown findspots and unclear contexts. No Romano-British archaeology has been encountered within the immediate boundaries of the site.

**Medieval:** The potential for encountering medieval archaeology has been assessed as **Moderate**. This reflects the fact that the site is located close to Powis Castle, which may have late 13<sup>th</sup>-century origins, and was certainly extant as a masonry castle by the mid-14<sup>th</sup> century. Two other important sites of motte-and-bailey timber and earthwork fortifications, probably dating to the early 12<sup>th</sup> century, are also located at Domen Castle (NGR: SJ 23010 07400), and Ladies Mount (NGR: SJ 21230 06350). Available maps indicate that the proposed development site itself was likely to have been agricultural land throughout the period. However, given its proximity to other important sites, the potential for encountering medieval archaeological features and deposits is increased.

**Post-medieval:** The potential for encountering buried archaeological assets of a post-medieval date has been assessed as **Moderate to High**. This assessment largely reflects the later part of this period, specifically the construction and use of the Montgomery Canal from 1794 onwards. Given that the proposed development site is

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adjacent to this canal, there is a higher probability of encountering remains associated with its construction and use. Both prior to and since the building of the canal, the site has been used as agricultural land, and any future finds may therefore reflect this usage. However, there is also the potential that the site may contain features linked to earlier post-medieval landscaping as evidenced in historic maps.

**Overall Conclusion:** The archaeological potential of the site has been assessed in overall terms as **Moderate to High**, with particular reference to encountering archaeological remains associated with the Prehistoric and Post-medieval periods. Both these periods have significant potential in terms of encountering archaeological assets associated with them. It must also be considered that there is potential for encountering evidence of medieval agricultural activity within the site.

Nearby excavations at Coed y Dinas recorded topsoil to depths of between 0.3m-0.5m bgl, at which point they encountered gravel terracing, which showed signs of being scarred by medieval ploughing. Sections of prehistoric ring ditches were cut into the gravel terraces, and extended to a depth of 0.9m below the surface of the gravel. Consequently, the excavations associated with the proposed development will be undertaken to a depth roughly the same as the archaeological features identified at Coed y Dinas.

**Recommendations:** It is BA's considered opinion that, *prima facie*, the archaeological potential of the site does not present an impediment to the proposed development. Given the overall **Moderate to High** potential of the site in archaeological terms, it is recommended that an appropriate programme of archaeological work, the details of which to be agreed with the relevant planning archaeologist, will be necessary to determine the extent, depth and significance of buried archaeological features and deposits across the site.

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**Crynodeb:** Cyfarwyddwyd Border Archaeology i gynnal Asesiad Desg Archeolegol mewn perthynas â Thir oddi ar Lôn Goch, Y Trallwng, Powys, SY21 8RJ SJ 22044 05958.

Mae safle'r datblygiad wedi'i ffinio i'r gorllewin a'r gogledd gan Lôn Goch, sydd bellach yn Llwybr Beicio Cenedlaethol (Rhif 81). Mae Camlas Trefaldwyn yn ffinio ochr ddwyreiniol y safle, gyda Melin Lificio Ystâd Powis yn uniongyrchol i'r dwyrain o'r gamlas. Ychydig y tu hwnt i apig ogleddol y safle, lle mae Lôn Goch a'r gamlas yn cyfarfod, mae Gwarchodfa Natur Tŷ-gwyn. Mae is-afon Afon Haren, sydd wedi'i hanodi ar fap o ddechrau'r 17<sup>eg</sup> ganrif fel Kyddrugen Brook, yn llifo o'r gorllewin i'r dwyrain ar draws canol safle'r datblygiad.

Mae cynigion yn canolbwyntio ar greu corff o ddŵr yn rhan ogleddol safle'r datblygiad, y byddai modd cael mynediad iddo ar hyd llithrfa goncrit, a byddai ganddo sianeli arllwys i Gamlas Trefaldwyn a'r nant sy'n croesi canol y safle. Mae'n debygol y byddai'r pridd o'r cloddiaid hwn yn cael ei adleoli i ran ddeheuol y safle, ac felly byddai angen gwneud gwaith aildirlunio yn yr ardal honno.

Gellir crynhoi canlyniadau'r Asesiad Desg yn gryno fel a ganlyn:

**Cynhanesyddol:** Mae'r potensial ar gyfer dod ar draws tystiolaeth o archeoleg gynhanesyddol wedi'i asesu'n **Gymedrol i Uchel**. Mae'r asesiad hwn yn seiliedig ar y nifer uchel o nodweddion cynhanesyddol sydd wedi'u cofnodi yng nghyffiniau'r safle. Mae'r cyfadaill cwrsws Sarn-y-bryn-caled a'r nodweddion cysylltiedig gyda'i gilydd yn enghraifft brin o adeileddau cynhanesyddol o fewn dyffryn ehangach Afon Hafren. O ystyried maint y nodweddion hyn a'u dosbarthiad dros ardal mor fawr, mae posibilrwydd y gallai'r datblygiadau arfaethedig ddod ar draws adfeilion cynhanesyddol o dan yr wyneb.

**Brythonaidd-Rufeinig:** Mae'r potensial ar gyfer gweithgarwch Brythonaidd-Rufeinig wedi'i asesu'n **Isel**. Mae'r asesiad hwn yn seiliedig ar y lefel isel o weithgarwch Brythonaidd-Rufeinig hysbys yn yr ardal, a phrinder cymharol y dystiolaeth gysylltiedig. Mae nifer fechan o ddarganfyddiadau Brythonaidd-Rufeinig wedi'u nodi, y mae manau darganfod llawer ohonynt yn anhysbys a'u cyd-destunau'n aneglur. Nid oes unrhyw archeoleg Frythonaidd-Rufeinig wedi'i chanfod o fewn union ffiniau'r safle.

**Canoloesol:** Mae'r potensial ar gyfer dod ar draws archeoleg ganoloesol wedi'i asesu'n **Gymedrol**. Mae hyn yn adlewyrchu'r ffaith bod y safle wedi'i leoli'n agos at Gastell Powis, sydd o bosib yn tarddu o ddiwedd y 13<sup>eg</sup> ganrif, ac a oedd yn sicr yn bodoli ar ffurf castell cerrig erbyn canol y 14<sup>eg</sup> ganrif. Mae dau safle pwysig arall o amddiffynfeydd pren a chloddwaith mwnt a beili, yn dyddio o ddechrau'r 12<sup>fed</sup> ganrif yn ôl pob tebyg, hefyd wedi'u lleoli yng Nghastell y Domen (NGR: SJ 23010 07400), a Ladies Mount (NGR: SJ 21230 06350). Mae'r mapiau sydd ar gael yn dynodi mai tir amaethyddol oedd safle'r datblygiad arfaethedig ei hun drwy gydol y cyfnod, yn ôl pob tebyg. Fodd bynnag, o ystyried ei agosrwydd at safleoedd pwysig eraill, mae'r potensial ar gyfer dod ar draws nodweddion a dyddodion archeolegol ganoloesol yn uwch.

**Ôl-ganoloesol:** Mae'r potensial ar gyfer dod ar draws asedau archeolegol claddedig o ddyddiad ôl-ganoloesol wedi'i asesu'n **Gymedrol i Uchel**. Mae'r asesiad hwn yn adlewyrchu'n bennaf ran ddiweddarach y cyfnod hwn, yn benodol y broses o adeiladu a defnyddio Camlas Trefaldwyn o 1794 ymlaen. O ystyried bod safle'r datblygiad arfaethedig ger y gamlas hon, mae tebygolrwydd uwch o ddod ar draws gweddillion sy'n gysylltiedig â'i hadeiladu a'i defnyddio.

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Cyn ac ers adeiladu'r gamlas, mae'r safle wedi'i ddefnyddio fel tir amaethyddol, ac felly gallai unrhyw ddarganfyddiadau yn y dyfodol adlewyrchu'r defnydd hwn. Fodd bynnag, mae potensial hefyd y gallai'r safle gynnwys nodweddion sy'n gysylltiedig â thirlunio ôl-ganoloesol cynharach fel y tystiolaethir mewn mapiau hanesyddol.

**Casgliad Cyffredinol:** Mae potensial archeolegol y safle wedi'i asesu'n gyffredinol yn **Gymedrol i Uchel**, gyda chyfeiriad penodol at ddod ar draws gweddillion archeolegol sy'n gysylltiedig â'r cyfnodau Cynhanesyddol ac Ôl-ganoloesol. Mae gan y ddau gyfnod hwn botensial sylweddol o ran dod ar draws asedau archeolegol sy'n gysylltiedig â hwy. Rhaid ystyried hefyd fod potensial ar gyfer dod ar draws tystiolaeth o weithgarwch amaethyddol canoloesol o fewn y safle.

Cofnododd cloddiadau gerllaw yng Nghoed y Dinas uwchbridd i ddyfnderoedd o rhwng 0.3m-0.5m bgl, ac ar y pwynt hwn daethant ar draws terasau graean, a oedd yn dangos arwyddion o greithiau aredig canoloesol. Torrwyd adrannau o ffosydd cylch cynhanesyddol i mewn i'r terasau graean, a'u hestyn i ddyfnder o 0.9m o dan wyneb y graean. Yn sgil hyn, cynhelir y cloddiadau sy'n gysylltiedig â'r datblygiad arfaethedig i tua'r un dyfnder â'r nodweddion archeolegol a nodwyd yng Nghoed y Dinas.

**Argymhellion:** Ym marn BA, ar ôl ystyried popeth, *prima facie*, nid yw potensial archeolegol y safle'n rhwystr i'r datblygiad arfaethedig. O ystyried potensial **Cymedrol i Uchel** cyffredinol y safle mewn termau archeolegol, argymhellir y bydd angen rhaglen briodol o waith archeolegol, y mae ei manylion i'w cytuno gyda'r archeolegydd cynllunio perthnasol, i bennu graddfa, dyfnder ac arwyddocâd nodweddion a dyddodion archeolegol sydd wedi'u claddu ar draws y safle.

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## 2 Introduction

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Border Archaeology was instructed to carry out an Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment with regard to the Montgomery Canal Red Lane Reserve, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 8RJ, NGR: SJ 22044 05958.

The development site is bound to its W and N by Red Lane, now a National Cycle Route (No. 81). The Montgomery Canal flanks the E of the site, with Powis Estate Sawmill to immediate E of the canal. Just beyond the northern apex of the site, where the Red Lane and the canal meet, is Whitehouse Nature Reserve. A tributary of the River Severn, annotated on an early 17<sup>th</sup>-century map as Kyddrugen Brook, runs W-to-E across the centre of development site.

Proposals focus on the creation of a body of water in the N part of the development site, which would be accessible by a concrete slipway and would have outlet channels into the Montgomery Canal and the brook crossing the centre of the site. The soil from this excavation would likely be relocated to the S part of the site, therefore requiring re-landscaping in that area.

This ADBA assesses the impact of the proposed development on buried heritage assets (archaeological remains) and forms an initial stage of investigation of the proposed development site and may be required in relation to the planning process, so that the local planning authority can formulate an appropriate response in the light of the impact upon any known or potential heritage assets, defined as parts of the historic environment considered significant because of their historic, evidential or aesthetic and/or communal interest.

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## 3 Site Description

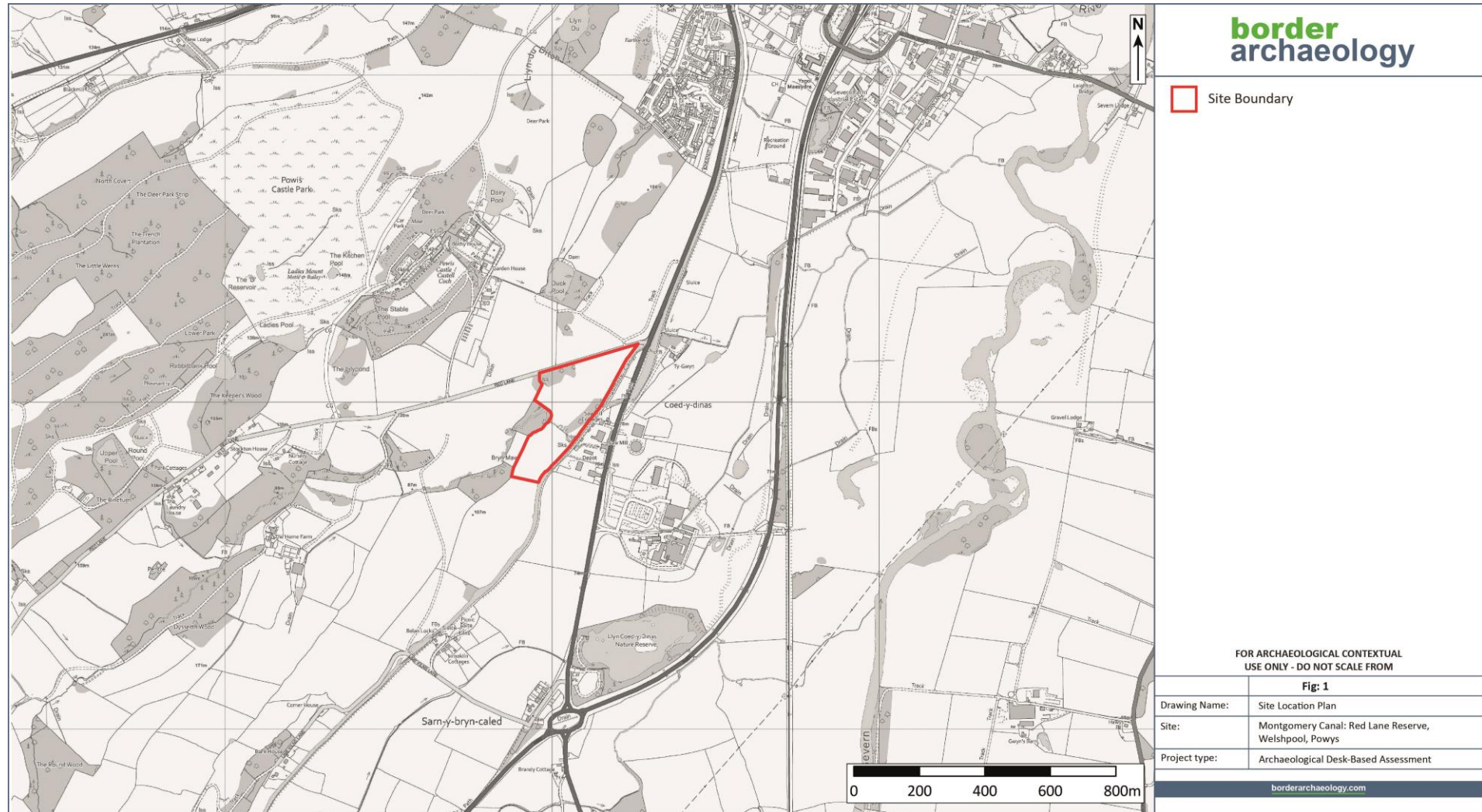
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The proposal site covers an area of approximately 5.2ha and is situated just S of Red Lane, off the A458, and is bound to the E by the Montgomery Canal. The land is currently undeveloped and is used as pasture for livestock. The majority of the site is relatively flat, except for raised sections in the NW and SW corner. Areas of trees are located around the boundaries of the site and a brook running W-E through the middle of the site. The site is centered on NGR: SJ 22044 05958. The site is not located within a Conservation Area and does not contain any designated (protected) heritage assets, such as Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs), listed buildings or registered parks and gardens.

### 3.1 Soils & Geology

The solid geology consists of two different formations. The Nant-ysgollon Mudstone formation, a sedimentary bedrock formed between 433.4 and 427.4 million years ago during the Silurian period, predominates within the S part of the site. The Nantglyn Flags Formation, a sedimentary bedrock formed between 433.4 and 423.6 million years ago during the Silurian period, occurs in the N of the site. As with the bedrock geology, there are two superficial deposits. To the E and with a band extending across the middle of the site, Devensian Glaciofluvial fan deposits, sedimentary superficial deposits formed between 116 and 11.8 thousand years ago during the Quaternary Period, predominate. To the E, Devensian till, a sedimentary superficial deposit formed between 116 and 11.8 thousand years ago, is found. There are no available borehole records within the vicinity of the site.

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## 4 Methodology

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### 4.1 Aims & Objectives

This ADBA seeks to identify any known or potential archaeological and built-heritage assets (both designated and undesignated) in the vicinity of the specific study area and to establish the importance of these archaeological and built heritage assets (including an assessment of their character, extent and quality) within a local, regional and national context.

### 4.2 Criteria for Assessment of Potential & Importance of Heritage Assets

- Potential

This assessment contains a record of the known and potential archaeological and built-heritage assets in the vicinity of the proposed development. The potential for encountering a particular resource in the vicinity of the site has been assessed according to the following scale:

**Low** – Very unlikely to be encountered;

**Moderate** – Possibility that features may be encountered in the vicinity of the site;

**High** – Remains highly likely to survive in the vicinity of the site.

- Importance (Value)

The criteria used to determine the importance of archaeological and built heritage assets in the vicinity of the proposed development (*Table 1*) has been informed by guidelines for assessing cultural heritage assets contained in *Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) Sustainability and Environment Appraisal LA 106: Cultural Heritage Assessment* (revised January 2020) and informed by relevant Historic England guidance regarding the assessment of archaeological assets, including: *The Setting of Heritage Assets Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning Note 3 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition* (Historic England 2017), *Statements of Heritage Significance: Analysing Significance in Heritage Assets Historic England Advice Note 12* (Historic England 2019) and *Preserving Archaeological Remains* (Historic England 2016).

BA is also fully cognisant of national and local planning policy guidelines with respect to heritage assets, including the following:

- *Planning Policy Wales*, Chapter 6 ('The Historic Environment') (Llywodraeth Cymru/Welsh Government 2016).
  - Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: The Historic Environment (2017) which supplements *Planning Policy Wales*.
  - Powys Local Development Plan 2011-2026 (Adopted April 2018) (Powys County Council 2018).
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This ADBA has also been informed by relevant local policy guidance on archaeological and historic environment assets contained in Powys Council’s Adopted Local Development Plan (2011-2026) with particular reference to the supplementary planning guidance on Archaeology (adopted July 2021) and the Historic Environment (adopted July 2021).

**Table 1: Factors for assessing the importance of archaeological and built heritage assets**

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

### 4.3 Consultation of Archaeological Records

In order to understand the full archaeological and historical context of the Site, information was collected on the known cultural heritage features within a 1km radius, the results of which are shown on a series of maps and accompanying gazetteers (*Figs. 2-4, Tables 2-4*). These maps show the location of known archaeological and built heritage features (including archaeological events and monuments) and previous archaeological interventions within the study area, which are listed in the gazetteer and referenced in the text.

The research carried out for this ADBA consists of the following elements:

- Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) Historic Environment Record (HER) - the HER includes information from past investigations, find spots and documentary and cartographic sources.
- Cadw – information on statutory designations including SAMs, registered parks and gardens and listed buildings along with identified Heritage at Risk.
- British Geological Survey (BGS) – solid and drift geology digital map; BGS geological borehole record data.
- Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru/National Library of Wales, The British Library, the National Archives and the Powys Archives – historic maps and published histories.
- Internet sources, including LPA local plan and information on conservation areas, archaeological priority areas and locally listed buildings.
- Photographs of the site and its setting were obtained to determine the presence of archaeological remains in the vicinity.
- Powys County Record Office and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW)

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## 5 Archaeological Assessment

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This section analyses the information available from historical sources and records of archaeological work carried out in the vicinity of the specific study area and discusses its implications regarding the nature and significance of the archaeological resource within the site and potential impact on archaeological features and deposits. These assessments are primarily based on archaeological information derived from the CPAT Historic Environment Record which is presented in Section 6. This data consists of sites and monuments (*Fig. 2; Table 2*), archaeological events (*Fig. 3; Table 3*), and Listed Buildings (*Fig. 4; Table 4*).

### 5.1 Previous Archaeological Investigations

The following descriptions of the previous archaeological investigation summaries the information found in their various reports. It is not an exhaustive list of all the investigations within the 1km search radius; instead, those investigations most closely related to potential archaeological assets on site have been referenced.

#### 5.1.1 Powis Castle

Many of the previous archaeological investigations in the vicinity of the site have been concerned with Powis Castle and its surrounding estate. The castle itself is located some 500m W of the site, but its estates and buildings cover much of the landscape within the designated study area. Due to the fact that the castle had its origins in the medieval period, it has been the subject of numerous archaeological investigations.

A standing building recording (E6) of the castle carried out in 1993 mentions multiple stages of building. The earliest phases of building may have been a shell keep constructed in the later 12<sup>th</sup> or early 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. The investigation determined that the W gate was likely a later masonry-built 13<sup>th</sup> or 14<sup>th</sup> century construction, and that there are possible 13<sup>th</sup>-century parts of the extant castle still extant (Arnold 1987).

A series of investigations were undertaken in 2001/2002 within the castle grounds (E36; E37; E38; E39; E40). In 2001, a geophysical survey was first carried out on the High Terrace, bowling green and an area of park immediately to the E of these structures. Among the results from the survey was the existence of pronounced line around 7.6m within the bowling green that followed the line of the proposed medieval curtain wall. Along this line, the survey also produced what seemed to show a structure that is purported to be a mural tower within the medieval curtain wall. Following the geophysical results, six trenches were dug which uncovered evidence of part structures and differing phases of construction within the High Terrace, all dated to the 17<sup>th</sup> century (Roseacre *et al* 2001). Another geophysical survey was carried out in 2008 on the Great Lawn. The main findings were three anomalies corresponding to three ponds that were part of the 18<sup>th</sup>-century water garden (Hankinson 2008). A watching brief (E54) carried out along a section of retaining wall in the NW of the Old Bowling Green revealed a below-ground section of the wall was built on top of the medieval curtain wall (Jones *et al* 2016).

Excavations at Powis Castle included a series of four trenches (E53) at the E front of the castle which produced pottery of varying dates: 19<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>-century-developed white ware, some 16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup>-century Midland purple ware, a

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single sherd of mottled ware (c.1690-1760), and 17<sup>th</sup>-century black glazed fine ware of potential significance to the development site, six fragments of floor tile were found, two of which matched the designs of tile dated to the first half of the 14<sup>th</sup> century found at the site of Strata Marcella Abbey (Watson & Pitt 2014). Excavations were also carried out within the former servants' quarters and beneath the site of the stable block (E3). The former found a substantial amount of refuse from the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The latter uncovered traces of a mid-to-late 17<sup>th</sup> century wall as well as the base of a 13<sup>th</sup> century corner tower formerly connected to the curtain wall (Arnold 1985).

### 5.1.2 Coed-y-dinas (ring-ditch monuments) & Sarn-y-bryn-caled (cursus monument)

Coed-y-dinas and Sarn-y-bryn-caled together form part of a complex of late Neolithic and early Bronze Age sites comprising a cursus, pit circle and four ring ditches. While barrows and ring ditches are known at various locations throughout the upper Severn valley, a greater concentration of these monuments appear to focus on the cursus at Sarn-y-bryn-caled, three ring ditches (NGR: SJ 2174 0499, NGR: SJ 2184 0502 and NGR: SJ 2179 0485), two horseshoe-shaped enclosures (NGR: SJ 2155 0465 and NGR: SJ 2182 0481) and a pit circle (NGR: SJ 2193 0491). A further two ring ditches have been identified c. 500m NE of the cursus on the farm at Coed-y-Dinas (NGR: SJ 2220 0529 and NGR: SJ 2198 0530) (Gibson 1993). The complex of prehistoric features was first discovered via aerial photography in 1975, the findings published in 1980, with new dates subsequently proposed for some features (e.g. Gibson 1992; 2010; 2013). An aerial photography project was undertaken in the area in 1998 that recorded much of the area including the prehistoric sites associated with Sarn-y-bryn-caled and Coed-y-Dinas (Blockley & Taverner 1999).

Numerous excavations have taken as a result of this prehistoric activity, largely relating to a cursus at Sarn-y-bryn-caled. Excavations in 1991 (E9), involved a trial trench (NGR: SJ 2172 0487), but no trace of the cursus ditch was located. Another trench was dug in November 1992 (E10; NGR: SJ 2178 0490) and oblique sections that cut through the two trenches of the cursus were obtained. There are five main phases to the complex, interpreted as being of ritual purpose: Phase 1 c. 3800 BCE associated with the cursus; Phase 2, c. 3000 BCE, saw the construction of penannular enclosure, free-standing posts and a ring-ditch; Phase 3, c. 2000 BCE, saw the construction of a timber circle and ring-ditch 1 at Coed-y-dinas, and possibly other ring ditches; Phase 4, post-200 BCE, was associated with ring-ditch 2 at Coed-y-dinas; Phase 5, Iron Age, saw metallurgical activity in the centre of the timber circle and possibly at Coed-y-dinas.

Further excavations were carried out prior to a planning application for gravel extraction to the NW of the Sarn-y-bryn-caled cursus (E10; E11; NGR: SJ 223 053) in February 1992. These investigations provided detailed information about the size and character of the cursus and related features. It found that the cursus was 12m in width and 380m long and consisted of two parallel ditches aligned NE to SW, with evidence of trackways along the line of the ditches. It also appeared that either end of the cursus was enclosed by ditches. The five ring ditches identified varies in diameter from 10-35m and were heavily truncated by ploughing. The pit circle identified in the aerial photography consisted of 20 pits in a circle with a diameter of around 18m along with a central feature. A horseshoe feature, later interpreted as a penannular ditch, was also investigated.

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The outer pits of the pit circle were evenly spaced and contained post-holes of around 30cm in diameter, with two much larger and deeper. These large post-holes were therefore likely to have held bigger posts and may represent an entrance or a focal point. All of the posts would have been of oak. The central feature consisted of a series of intersecting pits that contained carbonised posts around 60-70cm in diameter that were deeper than those of the outer circle. Two cremation burials were found in the fill of the central feature, with one lower than the other. This lower burial contained bones, four barbed and tined arrowheads that were unaffected by the fire that cremated the body. There is therefore the suggestion that the arrowheads may have been embedded in the body when it was cremated. The second burial contained the remains of a person that were held within a container prior to the body decomposing. It also contained a small, undecorated bipartite food vessel. The horseshoe feature was found to be a penannular ditch 8 x 7m across with an entrance causeway on the NW side. Two post-holes flanked the entrance and likely represent a formalised entrance into the feature (Gibson 1992). Four cremated deposits were found in the horseshoe, including a flint flake; some sherd of Mortlake style Peterborough Ware was also found.

Two ring ditches to the N of the cursus (NGR: SJ 2220 0529; NGR: SJ 2198 0530) were also investigated. Gibson noted that although somewhat removed from the main body of the cursus complex, these ring-ditches could be counted as part of it. Both were heavily razed by medieval and later ploughing. Ring-ditch 1 had an internal diameter of 19m with ditch itself being around 2m wide. Finds from it were almost exclusively ceramic, though some charcoal was also found. Ring-ditch 2 was located to the W of 1 and lacked to regular circularity of the main ring-ditch; it cuts into 1 at a later date, with ring-ditch 1 showing evidence that it had completely silted up by the time Ring-ditch 2 had been dug. Some charcoal from ring-ditch 2 has been carbon dated to around 100 BCE (revised dates: Gibson 2013; 2014), and is probably better linked with the nearby timber circle. Traces of a third ring-ditch were also found, but the remnants were very shallow and truncated, though it did contain a single sherd of Beaker pottery. The ring-ditches post-date the cursus complex (3930-2695 BCE) by around 2,000 years. Gibson stated that the cursus was a result of earlier Neolithic labour that tended towards grander, more intensive projects. The ring-ditches represent later Neolithic efforts, in which less manpower was used but still tended towards quality construction. The report also details that there is wider evidence within the Severn Valley of ring-ditch building for around 1,500 years (Gibson 1993).

Further excavations over 1998-99 (E35) were undertaken prior to construction work of the A483 and involved two areas (A and B) of excavations covering around 3000m<sup>2</sup>. The investigations uncovered a series of archaeological remains separate to those identified in the 1992 excavations that were split into five distinct phases. Phase 1 and 2 were associated with area A and uncovered a series of late Neolithic/Early Bronze Age features, along with some Romano-British ones. A circle of smaller pits and scatter of contemporary pits were found, along with various pottery sherds including Beaker, Peterborough and Corded ware. Area B did evidence Neolithic pottery, but this was found out of context. Phase 2 of Area A was associated with two pits containing Romano-British finds including some pottery and a spindle whorl. Phase 3, within Area B, was associated with a series of nine corn-drying ovens, three post-holes and a slot. The slot and post-holes were likely to represent a windbreak for the ovens, which were dated to 629 CE ±25yrs. It is thought that these ovens were almost certainly used for drying cereals and observed that the firing chambers were cut to different depths. Phase 4, again in Area B, consisted of a holloway defined by two roughly parallel wheel ruts along with some 18<sup>th</sup>-century pottery and animal bone. This phase was dated to the post-medieval period. Phase 5, area B, uncovered modern features, namely a track and two fence lines. The

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investigation thus found evidence not only of prehistoric activity, but also of early medieval activity in the area pre-dating the foundation of Strata Marcella Abbey (1170) by quite some time (Blockley & Taverner 1999).

Further investigation (E50) was undertaken at another ring-ditch closer to the cursus complex (NGR: SJ 21870 05020). The excavations involved two trenches cut across the ring-ditch, each was 1.5m wide and around 13m long and were cut into the SE and SW sides. Trench 1 revealed a portion of the ring-ditch. Trench 2 uncovered a ditch or gully to its S side. Around 1.5m N of this feature, another gully or elongated pit, orientated E-W, was found and was filled with post-medieval till and cattle bone. This gully was itself truncated by another linear feature (uninterpreted). A further three features were identified during the works, but they were not excavated and were likely of post-medieval date. Finds from the investigation included 17<sup>th</sup>- and 18<sup>th</sup>-century pottery, whilst a rapid fieldwalk conducted as part of the archaeological works found two worked flints (Grant 2012).

### 5.1.3 Other Investigations

In 2003, a desk-based assessment was carried out on the entirety of the Montgomery Canal (E41). The report largely centres on Powis Castle and the prehistoric monuments close to the canal (Jones *et al* 2003). A combined watching brief and building assessment was undertaken at Coed-y-dinas Farm in 2005 (E47; E48). Features were largely restricted to 20<sup>th</sup>-century ruts created by tractors and finds linked to the Royal Welsh Show that was held here. A section of mortared masonry footing was also found, believed to have belonged to a cottage that appears on OS maps until after 1900 (Appleton-Fox & Taverner 2005). Another archaeological desk-based assessment was carried out for the proposed development of an agricultural building at Coed-y-dinas (E55; NGR: SJ 22240 05890) (Hall & Sarnbrook 2016). Most recently (2017), a watching brief was undertaken as part of the installation of a new water main at Coed-y-dinas (E56; NGR: SJ 22030 05216). No features were found excepting some evidence of recent disturbances, likely linked to the previous upgrades on the A458 (Crooks 2017).

## 5.2 Prehistoric

No prehistoric features or finds have been made within the boundaries of the development site. There is however extensive evidence for prehistoric activity within the 1km search radius of the development site, largely due to the Sarn-y-bryn-caled cursus complex, located around 800m SSE of the site.

The cursus, running from NGR: SJ 21640 04800 to NGR: SJ 21870 05020, represents an extremely important and a relatively rare example of a monumental Neolithic structure and is scheduled by Cadw (Listing No.: MG167; Gibson 1993; 2014). Its closest extent is around 720m SSE of the proposed development site. The cursus is comprised of a two parallel ditches around 12m apart, running 380m NE-SW, and has many features that are counted as part of the wider complex including a pit circle and a horseshoe-shaped feature (a penannular ditch). It is argued that the two ring-ditches (and a possible third) to the NW of the cursus should be considered part of the complex. The compositions of these features have been described in greater detail in the Previous Archaeological Investigations section.

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The cursus itself has been dated to 3930-2695 BCE using radiocarbon dating from oak charcoal on the floor of the E ditch. This dating would make it one of the oldest cursus monuments in Britain, though there is the potential that the charcoal is from old wood (Gibson 2002). There is still no general consensus as to the function of cursus here, though the wider construction of other features including two burials indicates that it may have been a ritual centre. The construction of the cursus would have been a very labour-intensive task, something more typical of earlier Neolithic monument building (Gibson 1993). The cursus is of considerable significance, as it is relatively rare example within the Severn Valley. The site has been unaffected by the development of the A485 road, and remains as agricultural fields used for arable farming.

The timber circle/pit circle (HER: 320204; NGR: SJ 21925 04935), consisting of 20 evenly spaced pits and central series of interconnected pits, are associated with the Sarn-y-bryn-caled cursus. It is located around 810m SSE of the site and 85m W of the line of the cursus. Each of the outer pits contained evidence of timber posts, with two pits containing larger examples, and may represent an entrance. Finds within the pit circle included two cremation remains at different levels. The first contained some barbed and tinged arrowheads that were not burnt, and may have therefore been embedded within the body when it was cremated. The second, later, cremation was contained within a vessel that has since decomposed. This burial also contained a food vessel. Peterborough ware was found within the vicinity of the pit circle as well. Carbon-14 dating has placed the date of this feature to 2100 BCE later than that of the cursus (Blockley & Tavener 1999). These have been affected by the development of the A483, with the 1998-99 excavation taking place prior to development linked with the road.

The ring-ditches (HER: 3965; 17397; NGR: SJ 220 050) are thought to have been built far later than the cursus, likely around 2,000 years later, with the first being built some time before the second. They are located just S of the current A483 roundabout and c. 140m W of the Sarn-y-bryn-caled cursus. These ditches represent a different form of construction to the cursus itself. They reflect a less labour intense method that still produced spiritually important sites for the populace (Gibson 1993). A further possible prehistoric site within the search radius is a cropmark near Limekiln Cottages (HER: 2452; NGR: SJ 2177 0515). It is comprised of a series of long narrow enclosures running from around 100m NE-SW.

Another cluster of prehistoric features occurs around 280m to the W of site, W of the current Powys Estate Sawmill (NGR: SJ 22311 05752). The features consist of two ring-ditches Bronze Age, the first of which (HER: 7102) is reported as having 32m diameter as identified via aerial photography, although a CPAT site visit in 1998 could not find anything visible above ground (CPAT 1998). The second (HER: 32828) is a smaller ring-ditch, c. 11m in diameter, within which lies a central pit, 3.8m in diameter. A round barrow is also recorded within the vicinity, also listed as being Bronze Age, though there is no other information other than that is 18m in diameter. A flint find (HER: 17002) was recovered from a possible Bronze Age round barrow after it had been ploughed (HER: 17001). The site visit records note that the mound was visible and had a diameter of 25m and a height of 0.5m (CPAT 1998). The final feature in this small area is another round barrow that is scheduled by Cadw (Listing No.: MG281). The listing record states that it is a probable Bronze Age barrow and that it has significant archaeological potential, although it must be noted that the record is generic.

Whilst finds within the cursus are limited to a number of Neolithic lithics (HER: 17004; 17005; 5766; 5767), there have been other finds nearby. The 1998-1999 excavations found numerous prehistoric and Romano-British pottery

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sherds, including examples of Beaker, Mortlake style Peterborough and Beaker ware. Other finds include a palstave (HER: 70323; NGR: SJ 2207) and a rivetted-type spearhead (HER: 70324; NGR: SJ 22 07). It should be noted that these finds were not made within any archaeological context, and that general NGRs have been allocated to them in the HER.

**Conclusion:** The potential for evidence of prehistoric activity has been assessed as **Moderate to High**. This assessment reflects the fact that, whilst no known prehistoric archaeology has been found within the proposed development site, the wider area contains multiple features associated with this period. The Sarn-y-bryn-caled cursus, horseshoe- or penannular-ditched feature and pit circle, along with the Coed-y-dinas ring-ditches, together represent important multi-phase structures of high significance. The cursus especially represents a rare find in terms of prehistoric structures in the area. In addition to these features themselves, several material finds have also been made, including two cremations and a wide range of prehistoric pottery.

Given the number of Neolithic features in the area, it is likely that finds will be associated with this period, though there is also evidence and therefore the potential, of finding archaeological assets linked with the Bronze Age and Iron Age. If any archaeological assets were discovered during the proposed development, they would be of **High** significance due to their potential contribution in providing wider information on the nearby features, especially on the form and function of the cursus.

### 5.3 Romano-British

No finds relating to the Romano-British period have been made within the boundaries of the site. However, there have been several made within the 1km search radius, though to a far less extent than that of prehistoric finds. The proposed development site is not near any known areas of Romano-British settlement though there is some evidence of activity related to the period.

The previously mentioned Limekiln Cottages cropmarks may represent Romano-British activity. The cropmarks are laid out in a fashion similar to a villa. However, there is no further evidence to support this possibility, nor have any archaeological investigations been carried out. The pits (NGR: SJ 22067 04999) at Sarn-y-bryn-caled also relate to the Romano-British period as well as to prehistory. Two of the pits were Romano-British in date and contained metalworking slag, a nail and spindle whorl (Blockley & Tavener, 1999).

Evidence of Romano-British activity is otherwise limited to the find of a single brass of the Diocletian period (3<sup>rd</sup> century AD) from the mint of Alexandria (HER: 126; NGR: SJ 22 07). Another suggestion of Romano-British activity within the area is the fieldname 'Maes y Pavement' in Humfrey Bleaze's 1629 map of the Powis Castle estates (*fig. 9*). The name means 'field of the pavement', presumably a cobbled pavement; the field name element, 'pavement', may be indicative of a former Roman road running through the field and wider area. However, there is no further evidence of a Roman road in the area, nor is there any significant Romano-British sites within a wider context.

**Conclusion:** The potential for encountering evidence of Romano-British activity within the Site has been assessed as **Low**. This assessment has been made in light of the small number of Romano-British finds in the area. The Sarn-

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y-bryn-caled pits representing the best evidence for Romano-British activity in the area, but they are located some 760m SE of the site. The other archaeological features retain the possibility of not being Roman, either being post-medieval or prehistoric. The coin find also lacks detail to make it fully identifiable in terms of providing more information on Romano-British activity in the area. If any buried archaeological assets related to the Romano-British period were to be found on site, they would be of **Low** significance. This is due to the lack of wider evidence in the area alongside lack of knowledge of significant Romano-British settlement and activity.

## 5.4 Medieval

No finds relating to the medieval period have been found within the boundaries of the site and it seems most likely that the area formed part of the rural hinterland for Powis Castle and Welshpool. The majority of evidence for medieval activity is related to the castle's various phases of building in this period, along with other medieval earthwork and timber fortifications, which may have been constructed in the area.

The earliest medieval phase of activity in the area is related to the corn drying ovens located as part of the investigation S of the Sarn-y-bryn-caled roundabout (HER: 43134; NGR: SJ 22067 04999). The ovens were dated to 629 CE  $\pm$ 25 years. They appear to have most often been used to dry barley, but there is also evidence of oat and bread wheat drying (Blockley & Tavener, 1999). It is unclear if they are linked to any settlement as there is no record or evidence of an early-medieval settlement nearby. However, their purpose indicates that during this period and likely before (given their early dating), the area was used for arable farming.

Indeed, further evidence of farming comes in the form of areas of ridge and furrow near Ladies Mount (HER: 32835; NGR: SJ 2127 0625) and at Powis Castle (HER: 5023; NGR: SJ 2200 0700). Features within the landscape point towards medieval open-field farming systems, especially around Trehelyg and Belan, with later medieval and post-medieval enclosure in a piecemeal fashion (Jones *et al* 2003). There is also the site of The Lord's Mill, a windmill (HER: 37533; NGR: SJ 2230 0710), some 900m N of the site, just S of the outskirts of Welshpool. The mill, situated alongside what was known as Kyddrugen Brook, a tributary of the River Severn, in the 17<sup>th</sup> century (HER: 37463), is likely to have fallen into disrepair by the 1530s, though the continued use of the field name *Maes y vellin win'* was still in use in 1629 at the time of the Bleaze Map (*fig. 9*) (Hankinson & Silvester 2012).

Powis Castle and other (now) earthwork fortifications predominate the archaeological record for the area during the medieval period: Ladies Mount (HER: 122; NGR: SJ 2123 0635) represents the original motte-and-bailey build of the extant masonry-built Powis Castle, which is adjacent. Ladies Mount is comprised of a motte with an inner scarp and central platform and a bailey survives to the SW as a platform. English forces removed from Domen Castle, on the other hand (NGR: SJ 23010 07400), may have constructed a fortification here in 1196. However, there is no direct evidence for this.

As regards the mentions of other fortifications in the area, for which the locations are unknown, in 1257, Llywelyn ap Gruffudd, the ruler of Gwynedd and a native prince of Wales, invaded Powys Wenwynwyn and captured all but a 'Trallwg' castle, probably meaning a castle at Y Trallwng, which could well have referred to Powis Castle. Records from 1276 indicate that Gruffudd ap Gwenwynwyn, Prince of Powys Wenwynwyn, prepared Pola (Welshpool, from

its previous name in English, 'Pool') for attack by Llywelyn, who burnt the castle. However, in 1286 a 'la Pole castr' (again, referring to the pool) was still listed amongst Gruffudd's possessions. There is debate as to whether this sacking led to the complete destruction of the castle, or if the mention in 1286 is to the same castle. General consensus is that the castle was razed and that it was rebuilt. By c. 1300, it is believed the castle had an outer bailey, a curtain wall, an inner ward and a twin gate with towers to its W. After the death of Gruffudd, his son Owain ap Gruffudd ap Gwenwynwyn took possession of the castle. Owain supposedly surrendered Powys Wenwynwyn to Edward I, subsequently re-receiving it as a fee, also taking the name Owain de la Pole (taking this name from Welshpool). The castle then came into possession of John de Cherleton through his marriage to Hawys, Owain's daughter (Arnold 1993).

The curtain wall of Powis Castle survives in part underneath an area of post-medieval retaining wall, as discovered during a watching brief (Jones *et al* 2016). The outer bailey ditch (HER: 58166) was uncovered during a watching brief (Arnold 1990). It is noted that a number of field names in the 1840 tithe map that covers the NNW of Powis Castle include those relating to the former presence of a deer park. It is therefore likely that much of the land in that area was used for deer park in the medieval and post-medieval periods.

**Conclusion:** The potential for encountering remains associated with medieval activity has been assessed as **Moderate**. This assessment reflects the fact that site was likely rural land associated with Powis Castle. Even prior to the construction of a fortification here, the presence of corn drying ovens within the wider vicinity indicates that land use was agricultural. The proposed development site lies some 500m SE from Powis Castle. Given the medieval agricultural and military activity in the area, including periods of additional construction work at the fortification, there is a possibility of encountering archaeological assets related to these activities. Any finds made within the boundaries of the site would have **High** significance. Whilst most finds are likely to be agricultural in nature, anything associated with castle or other fortifications would provide valuable information on the relatively obscure medieval period of the castle and wider area.

## 5.5 Post-medieval

The site only contains one archaeological feature within its boundaries: a probable spoil heap associated with the construction of the Montgomery Canal though the HER records note the possibility it may be a Bronze Age barrow (HER: 17003). The feature was visible during BA's site visit (*Plate 4*) in the SE part of the site. Aside from this feature, no other post-medieval archaeological assets exist within the boundaries of the site. However, several important assets exist with the wider context, as summarised below.

As with the medieval period, Powis Castle dominates the area for the post-medieval period, only being rivalled in influence by the Montgomery Canal from the 1790s onwards. The castle is Grade I listed, and within the grounds there are eight other Grade I listed structures, two Grade II\* and fourteen Grade II buildings. The castle and its grounds, which developed over the post-medieval period, represents a significant heritage asset. The grounds of the castle and its surrounding area areas have seen extensive archaeological investigation as detailed earlier. Whilst somewhat removed from the proposed development site, the closest listed structure associated with the

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castle grounds is c. 500m to the NW; this does not discount the possibility of archaeological assets linked with the development of the castle being found within the bounds of the proposed development site.

Agricultural land use in and around the site seems to have continued into the early post-medieval period with open-field farming likely continuing for some time. It is likely that enclosure and clearance of the land continued piecemeal in this period, following its commencement in the late medieval period (Jones *et al* 2003).

The first documentary evidence of the site is formed by Humfrey Bleaze's 1629 estate map of Powis Castle (*fig. 9*). Field boundaries have altered considerably since the 17<sup>th</sup> century, most likely as the result of piecemeal enclosure and clearance, and especially during the process of building the canal. However, the site is discernible on the map within a series of fields, though the main body of the site is located within one named as 'Kay Britayne'. This name can be translated in two ways. It may first mean 'field of the Britons' if we are to take 'kay' as meaning *cae* (Welsh for field). It may also be translated as 'field of the lord' if 'Britayne' is derived from *brittai*, an Old English term denoting a lord or noble. Either translation is possible, with it feasible that within noble's estate being known as the 'field of the lord' and that with the castle formerly being in the possession of native Welsh princes it should be known as 'field of the Brittons' (i.e. the Welsh). It is particularly notable that the site of the former Lord's Mill (HER: 37533; NGR: SJ 2230 0710), would have been included within the boundaries of the 17<sup>th</sup>-century Kay Britayne field; the site of the mill is immediately to the east of the development site.

To the immediate NW of 'Kay Britayne' on Humfrey Bleaze's 1629 estate map of Powis Castle (*fig. 9*), are two fields that would now be located on the opposite side of Red Lane to the site. These show evidence of post-medieval landscaping: a series planted avenues of trees and a possible formal ride running SW-NE towards Welshpool. The field named 'Maes y Pavement' contains a series of tree-lined avenues forming its W and N boundaries as well as another avenue bisecting its NW corner and running into fields named 'Maes y Dafts' and 'Close y Hendy' at which point it seems to form a road into Welshpool, perhaps the 'pavement' part of the field name. To the SW of Maes y Pavement, along a projected line of the avenue, a field named 'Perth y Deon' existed, immediately W of the S portion of the site. A Welsh fieldname, it can roughly be translated to 'gate of the nobles' and may represent a former formalised entrance into the castle grounds. The map therefore points to the vestiges of a medieval and post-medieval elite landscape centred on Powis Castle, of which the development site once formed part.

The Humfrey Bleaze's 1629 estate map also contains references to a series of parks adjacent to the castle: to the SW, there is a 'Greate Parke'; to the N of this, there is a 'Neeve Park'; 'The Little Park' is NNE of the latter, and a 'Little Park Meadow' is to the E of The Little Park. The map also references some orchards immediately E of the castle gardens: 'Berlan Goghe' (likely meaning red orchard) was situated to the W of the site's boundaries, and a small portion named as an orchard, to the NW of this. This provides a picture that the land use closest to Powis Castle was for elite (i.e. the lord's) use, with agricultural land use predominating beyond it. The map also depicts a building at the SE corner of Kay Britayne field, just outside the site boundaries. It is unclear what this building is; there is no evidence of its survival beyond this map.

The OS 1817 Map of Newton and part of the Severn Valley (*fig. 10*) depicts several changes to the site and its wider context. The main difference is the appearance of the Montgomery Canal at its E boundary. The canal was proposed in 1792 as a route that would connect Llanymynech to Welshpool, with a further connection in the N to the

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Ellesmere Canal. The canal was built with the purpose of carrying agricultural lime to the farms in the Upper Severn Valley, helping to increase production (Hughes 1981). SW of the site, the map names a set of limekilns, likely to be set of limekilns some 480m S of the site. The banks of kilns are Listed separately as Grade II (List No.: 16747; 16748) The first set of banks were built in 1797 (the year this particular section of the canal was finished) with the others added by around c. 1800. By 1840, eight limekilns were in use, producing the agricultural lime carried by the Montgomery Canal. Next to these kilns, the map also seems to show the limekiln cottages, a set of four Grade II listed cottages linked to the limekilns (List No.: 16743; 16744; 16745; 16746).

Dysserth Hall (labelled as Disserth) and associated farm buildings are also depicted on the map to the SW of position of the site. A Grade II listed (List No.: 16802) gentleman's farmhouse first built in the early 18<sup>th</sup> century and remodelled in 1830 along with a set of former stables (List No.: 16803) probably also built in 1830. Dysserth had been a small estate independent of Powys until taken over in the 1930s. Powis Castle is not depicted in detail, though its dairy is shown. Likely a farmhouse and dairy, these buildings now form 'Dairy Square' and were built in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century. Both are Grade II listed (List No.: 167932; 16793).

The 1840 Pool Tithe Map (*fig. 11*) depicts the field boundaries largely as they are today with 'Cae Brittain' still forming the main body of the site and Red Lane now depicted at its northernmost extent. The area that the proposed development site now occupies is largely listed as being in use for pasture, though a few sections of tree cover are shown which largely correspond to what is found today. The fields in the area are listed as being owned by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Earl of Powys, Edward Herbert. The fields immediately surrounding the site are listed as belonging to Coed y Dinas farm, part of the Powys estate. Coed y Dinas Farm is depicted on the map as large series of buildings set around a courtyard with three outbuildings. The farm is still extant and working with a series of modern agricultural structures surrounding the older buildings. Many of the farm buildings are Grade II listed. The farmhouse (List No.: 16755) may have early 18<sup>th</sup>-century origins but is largely a later 18<sup>th</sup>- and early 19<sup>th</sup>-century building. The dovecote, slaughterhouse and smithy (List No.: 16760) likely date to c. 1840. The Eastern and Western Cart Sheds (List No.: 16761; 16759) appear to have been built in 1850. The other listed buildings of the farm appear to have been built in during a period of redevelopment in the 1870s when the farm became known as 'Lord Powis' Model Farm'. The redevelopment included a barn and granary range (List No.: 16756) and a set of cowsheds (List No.: 16757). It is worth noting that during the Second World War, the farm was the site of a Women's Land Army Hostel (HER: 1321187).

Further developments shown on the map include the Powys Estate Sawmill, to the E of the site, and on the opposite side of the Montgomery Canal. The sawmill is Grade II\* listed (List No.: 16797) and was likely built c. 1820; remnants of the original power system still survive, though much of the machinery originates from the 1890s.

Originally water-powered, the map appears to show a leat running past the sawmill buildings fed from a stream from the canal, which appears to link with a brook within the site boundaries; this is still visible today (*Plate 4*). The map appears to depict the streams as being connected via a weir under the canal that fed a feeder pond for the mill (Hughes 1981). The smithy, office and stores are also shown on the tithe map which is also Grade II listed (List No.: 16799). Further listed buildings include numbers 1 & 2 Timberyard Cottages (List No.: 16800; 16801), occupied at the time by John Bullock and Edward Turner, presumably mill workers. Hughes notes the importance of such

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timber yards up and down the canal, which was itself used to float the timber to the naval dockyards (Hughes 1981).

Just to the N of the sawmill a house is depicted, occupied by a John Croft. Although not listed as such in the tithe map, it is likely this sawmill house is the later White House and White House Wharf (HER: 85912), as listed on an 1808 poster advertising Powys Estate timber (Hughes 1981). Such wharves were crucial in determining the value of the timber; closer proximity meant it was easier to transport the timber to the dockyards (Hughes 1981). As such it is likely that the White House Wharf and Powys Estate Sawmill worked in tandem to create good prices for timber.

The 1885 OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition 6-inch (*fig. 12*) shows a few changes within the vicinity of the site as well as on it itself. A footpath is depicted across the N part of site, connecting its NW boundary with Red Lane to its E boundary with the Montgomery Canal (labelled as the Shropshire Union Canal). The brook (*Plate 7*; Kyddrugen Brook: HER: 37463) is shown clearly, indicating that it was larger than it is today, with a footbridge over it labelled just to the W of the site's boundary. It is definitively shown as a feed to the sawmill's mill pond on the E side of the canal, the former mill pond clearly evidenced on 1885 OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 6-inch Map (*fig. 12*).

The sawmill, smithy and the sawmill cottages are all labelled, as is the Whitehouse Wharf along with some distances denoting how far in miles away Welshpool (1.5km) and Newton (20kms) are from the wharf. To the S, the set of the limekilns near Belan are labelled, and some as 'old limekilns', indicating they were at that stage out of use. A wharf is also labelled next to the kilns. S of these features, Belan Locks are now labelled (HER: 10001767; 10001768). The two locks, Upper and Lower, still survive and are still in use. Just to the S of the locks, Bridge 121 over the canal is depicted. A Grade II listed structure (List No.: 16742), the bridge belongs to the original engineering works carried out by John and Thomas Dadford in 1794-7.

There is little change on the 1903 OS 2<sup>nd</sup> (*fig.13*) edition 6-inch map excepting a small barn and paddock depicted to the W of the site's W boundary in its S half. The limekilns are also no longer labelled to the S of the site near Belan. Small changes are depicted on the 1953 OS 3<sup>rd</sup> edition 6-inch map (*fig. 14*) as a small body of trees is depicted mirroring the E boundary along the canal around the middle of the site. Little more changes are depicted in the 1963 OS 10,000:1 map (*fig. 15*). The canal is now labelled as disused and the bridge across the canal (Red Lane) is labelled as Whitehouse Bridge.

**Conclusion:** The potential for encountering remains associated with post-medieval activity has been assessed as **Moderate to High**. This assessment largely reflects the later part of the post-medieval period during the construction of the canal. It is likely that archaeological assets associated with the digging of the canal will be uncovered. Remains associated with the earlier part of the period are less likely to be encountered, largely due to agricultural land use of the site. However, the possibility of encountering remains associated with the post-medieval landscaping of the Powys Estate lands should not be dismissed. Any archaeological assets encountered within the boundaries of the site are likely to have a **Medium** significance.

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## 6 Historic Environment Record Gazetteers & Maps

#	PRN	Name	Date	NGR
1	120765	Spindle Whorl, Sarn-y-bryn-caled	Prehistoric	SJ 2180 0505
2	17417	Palaeochannel, Sarn-y-bryn-caled	Prehistoric	SJ 2190 0480
3	85515	Relict Soil Horizon, Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction	Prehistoric	SJ 2201 0504
4	4025	Cropmark, Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction	Prehistoric-PM	SJ 2192 0514
5	17001	Coed Y Dinas Round Barrow I	Bronze Age	SJ 2234 0594
6	17002	Coed Y Dinas Flint Find I	Bronze Age	SJ 2234 0594
7	17397	Ring Ditch II, Coed-y-dinas	Bronze Age	SJ 2217 0530
8	32828	Sawmills Cottage Ring Ditch III	Bronze Age	SJ 2226 0578
9	32829	Sawmills Cottage Ring Barrow II	Bronze Age	SJ 2232 0593
10	32845	Pit, Sarn-y-bryn-caled	Bronze Age	SJ 2188 0506
11	3965	Ring Ditch I, Coed-y-dinas	Bronze Age	SJ 2219 0530
12	4928	Llwyn Wron Ring Ditch	Bronze Age	SJ 2178 0498
13	5026	Whitehouse Bridge Barrow	Bronze Age	SJ 2235 0596
14	70323	Findspot: Palstave	Bronze Age	SJ 2200 0700
15	70324	Findspot: Spearhead	Bronze Age	SJ 2200 0700
16	7102	Sawmill Cottage Ring Ditch	Bronze Age	SJ 2242 0593
17	8951	Ring Ditch, Sarn-y-bryn-caled	Bronze Age	SJ 2178 0486
18	17000	Findspot: Beaker, Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction	BA/Neo.	SJ 2188 0514
19	17004	Coed Y Dinas Flint Find II	BA/Neo.	SJ 2226 0562
20	17005	Coed Y Dinas Flint Find III	BA/Neo.	SJ 2225 0528
21	4546	Sarn-y-bryn-caled Ring Ditch	BA/Neo.	SJ 2187 0502
22	17003	Coed Y Dinas Round Barrow II	BA/PM	SJ 2203 0586
23	5766	Findspot: Flint Scraper, Welshpool Cursus	Neolithic	SJ 2177 0489
24	3482	Welshpool Cursus	Neolithic	SJ 2172 0487
25	38726	Pit, Sarn-y-bryn-caled	Neolithic	SJ 2190 0560
26	3994	Timber Circle, Sarn-y-bryn-caled	Neolithic	SJ 2192 0493
27	43130	Pit Circle, Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction	Neolithic	SJ 2209 0501
28	4929	Pit Circle, Sarn-y-bryn-caled	Neolithic	SJ 2190 0486
29	4930	Penannular Ring Ditch, Sarn-y-bryn-caled	Neolithic	SJ 2182 0479
30	5767	Findspot: Flint Scraper, Welshpool Cursus	Neolithic	SJ 2167 0481
31	85512	Pits, Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction	Neo./BA	SJ 2207 0500
32	7111	Dyserth Enclosure	Iron Age	SJ 2154 0553
33	5646	Limekiln Cottages Enclosure	IA/RB	SJ 2168 0509
34	2492	Coed y Dinas Enclosure	IA-Med.	SJ 2312 0582
35	126	Findspot: Brass Coin of Diocletian, Maes y Gareg	Romano-British	SJ 2200 0700
36	85513	Pits, Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction	Romano-British	SJ 2206 0499
37	2452	Limekiln Cottages Cropmark	RB/PM	SJ 2177 0515
38	5643	Maes Gwastad Platform	RB-PM	SJ 2229 0701



39	122	Powis Castle Park, Ladies Mount Castle	Medieval	SJ 2123 0635
40	122205	Powis Castle Quarry	Medieval	SJ 2159 0646
41	123	Powis Castle, Castle	Medieval	SJ 2158 0645
42	144208	Powis Castle, Curtain Wall	Medieval	SJ 2158 0649
43	32834	Ladies Mount Ridge & Furrow	Medieval	SJ 2115 0633
44	32835	Ladies Mount Hollow Way	Medieval	SJ 2127 0625
45	37533	The Lord's Mill	Medieval	SJ 2230 0710
46	43134	Ovens & Hearths, Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction	Medieval	SJ 2202 0504
47	58166	Powis Castle, Outer Bailey Ditch	Medieval	SJ 2170 0640
48	58169	Powis Castle, Outer Bailey	Medieval	SJ 2170 0640
49	72478	Powis Castle Park, 'Rabbit Bank'	Medieval	SJ 2101 0625
50	85517	Pits, Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction	Medieval	SJ 2201 0504
51	85525	Windbreaks, Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction	Medieval	SJ 2201 0504
52	85861	Powis Castle Park	Medieval	SJ 2164 0659
53	32981	Powis Castle	Med./PM	SJ 2157 0646
54	26952	Site Windmill	Med./PM	SJ 2229 0700
55	5023	Powis Castle Park Ridge & Furrow	Med./PM	SJ 2200 0700
56	1001767	Belan Upper Lock	Post-med.	SJ 2155 0520
57	1001768	Belan Lower Lock	Post-med.	SJ 2164 0528
58	123738	Romney Hut I, Maesydre,	Post-med.	SJ 2266 0669
59	123739	Romney Hut II, Maesydre,	Post-med.	SJ 2269 0667
60	126054	Pump, Park Cottages	Post-med.	SJ 2102 0571
61	126055	Building, Rabbitbank	Post-med.	SJ 2114 0605
62	126056	Powis Castle, Pheasantries	Post-med.	SJ 2099 0596
63	126057	Powis Castle, Glasshouses	Post-med.	SJ 2155 0636
64	126058	Powis Castle, Building I	Post-med.	SJ 2153 0634
65	126059	Powis Castle, Building II	Post-med.	SJ 2155 0635
66	126060	Powis Castle, Building III	Post-med.	SJ 2174 0640
67	126061	Powis Castle, Building IV	Post-med.	SJ 2178 0639
68	128648	Engine House, Coed-y-dinas Farm	Post-med.	SJ 2237 0558
69	132187	Women's Land Army Hostel, Coed-y-Dinas	Post-med.	SJ 2225 0557
70	144210	Powis Castle, Banqueting Hall	Post-med.	SJ 2158 0648
71	145270	Capt Viscount P R Clive War Memorial	Post-med.	SJ 2200 0700
72	145514	Welshpool Congregational War Memorial	Post-med.	SJ 2200 0700
73	145516	Welshpool Wesleyans War Memorial	Post-med.	SJ 2200 0700
74	185294	Farm Building, Coed-y-Dinas Farm	Post-med.	SJ 2238 0561
75	185295	Farm Building, Coed-y-Dinas Farm	Post-med.	SJ 2240 0553
76	185296	Farm Building, Coed-y-Dinas Farm	Post-med.	SJ 2240 0555
77	185297	Farm Building, Coed-y-Dinas Farm	Post-med.	SJ 2235 0563
78	185307	Farm Building, Dysserth Hall Farm	Post-med.	SJ 2114 0556
79	185308	Farm Building, Dysserth Hall Farm	Post-med.	SJ 2120 0551

80	190365	Coed-y-dinas Farm	Post-med.	SJ 2235 0557
81	190368	Dyserth Hall Farm	Post-med.	SJ 2115 0557
82	20313	Limekiln Cottages, Belan	Post-med.	SJ 2166 0524
83	20889	Belan Limekilns	Post-med.	SJ 2176 0534
84	20914	Powis Castle Estate Sawmills Smithy & Yard Office	Post-med.	SJ 2215 0593
85	20915	Coed y Dinas Sawmill/Whitehouse Bridge Sawmill	Post-med.	SJ 2216 0585
86	214464	Weir	Post-med.	SJ 2155 0520
87	214465	Weir	Post-med.	SJ 2164 0528
88	30602	Powis Castle, Gates	Post-med.	SJ 2161 0646
89	30603	Powis Castle Garden, Wall 1	Post-med.	SJ 2160 0644
90	30604	Powis Castle, Estate Offices	Post-med.	SJ 2177 0653
91	30605	Powis Castle Garden, Wall 2	Post-med.	SJ 2177 0649
92	30606	Powis Castle Estate Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages 1	Post-med.	SJ 2198 0512
93	30608	Powis Castle Estate Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages 3	Post-med.	SJ 2197 0511
94	30612	Powis Castle Estate Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages 7	Post-med.	SJ 2195 0509
95	30614	Powis Castle Estate Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages 9	Post-med.	SJ 2193 0505
96	32867	Cropmark Ditch, Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction	Post-med.	SJ 2182 0497
97	32982	Powis Castle Garden	Post-med.	SJ 2166 0636
98	36462	Montgomeryshire Canal Bridge 121	Post-med.	SJ 2156 0522
99	36463	3-4 Limekiln Cottages, Limekilns Lane, Belan	Post-med.	SJ 2168 0525
100	36464	Southern Lime-kiln Bank, Limekilns Lane, Belan	Post-med.	SJ 2172 0532
101	36465	Limekilns Lane Corner House, Belan	Post-med.	SJ 2129 0505
102	36471	House, Coed-y-Dinas Farm	Post-med.	SJ 2231 0557
103	36472	Barn, Coed-y-dinas Farm	Post-med.	SJ 2238 0557
104	36473	Cowsheds, Coed-y-dinas	Post-med.	SJ 2237 0553
105	36474	Stone Building, Coed-y-dinas	Post-med.	SJ 2234 0553
106	36475	Western Cartshed, Coed-y-dinas	Post-med.	SJ 2240 0560
107	36476	Building, Coed-y-dinas Farm	Post-med.	SJ 2241 0559
108	36477	Cart Shed, Coed-y-dinas Farm	Post-med.	SJ 2239 0558
109	36488	Powis Castle Park, Outer Gateway	Post-med.	SJ 2152 0639
110	36489	Powis Castle, Ballroom Range	Post-med.	SJ 2153 0642
111	36490	Powis Castle Garden, Marquess Gate with Steps Leading to E Entrance	Post-med.	SJ 2161 0646
112	36491	Powis Castle Garden, Raised Terrace to SE of Castle with Steps	Post-med.	SJ 2167 0647
113	36492	Powis Castle Garden, Aviary Terrace	Post-med.	SJ 2160 0642
114	36493	Powis Castle Garden, Orangery Terrace	Post-med.	SJ 2161 0642
115	36494	Powis Castle Garden, Apple Slope Terrace	Post-med.	SJ 2163 0640
116	36495	Powis Castle Garden, Statue of Fame in Entrance Courtyard	Post-med.	SJ 2154 0641
117	36496	Powis Castle Garden, Statue of Hercules at E of Top Terrace	Post-med.	SJ 2164 0649
118	36497	Powis Castle Garden, Peacock Statue to SW of Orangery Terrace	Post-med.	SJ 2155 0635
119	36498	Powis Castle Garden, Stone Vase on E Bank of Gardens	Post-med.	SJ 2173 0632
120	36499	Powis Castle Park, Ice House	Post-med.	SJ 2138 0621

121	36501	Powis Castle Garden, The Bothy with wall to gardens and outbuildings	Post-med.	SJ 2174 0650
122	36502	Powis Castle, Dairy Square 1	Post-med.	SJ 2175 0654
123	36503	Powis Castle Garden, The Garden House	Post-med.	SJ 2179 0641
124	36504	Powis Castle Garden, Fountain Garden, Gate	Post-med.	SJ 2182 0643
125	36505	Powis Castle Garden, Sundial in Fountain Garden	Post-med.	SJ 2182 0646
126	36506	Powis Castle Estate Sawmills Sawmill	Post-med.	SJ 2216 0585
127	36507	Powis Castle Estate Sawmills Timberyard, Wagon Shed, Cement Store & Boundary Wall	Post-med.	SJ 2217 0588
128	36508	Powis Castle Estate Sawmills Timberyard Cottages 1	Post-med.	SJ 2217 0593
129	36509	House, Dysserth Hall Farm	Post-med.	SJ 2115 0560
130	36510	Stable, Dysserth Hall Farm	Post-med.	SJ 2114 0556
131	36511	Stockton Cottage, Red Lane	Post-med.	SJ 2099 0585
132	36514	Berriew Road Traethllawn	Post-med.	SJ 2251 0711
133	37418	Powis Castle Estate Bone Mill	Post-med.	SJ 2220 0590
134	37419	Powis Castle Estate Sawmills	Post-med.	SJ 2215 0590
135	37463	Dysserth Mill Placename	Post-med.	SJ 2190 0600
136	42479	Limekiln Cottages 2, Belan	Post-med.	SJ 2167 0524
137	42480	Limekiln Cottages 4, Belan	Post-med.	SJ 2168 0525
138	42482	Powis Castle, Park Houses 2	Post-med.	SJ 2176 0652
139	42484	Powis Castle, Retaining Wall to Courtyard	Post-med.	SJ 2155 0640
140	42485	Powis Castle Garden, Bothy, Wall to Garden & Outbuildings	Post-med.	SJ 2172 0649
141	42486	Powis Castle, Dairy Square 2	Post-med.	SJ 2176 0654
142	42487	Powis Castle Estate Sawmills Timber Yard Cottages 2	Post-med.	SJ 2217 0593
143	42488	Powis Castle Estate Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages 2	Post-med.	SJ 2198 0511
144	42489	Powis Castle Estate Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages 4	Post-med.	SJ 2196 0510
145	42490	Powis Castle Estate Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages 5	Post-med.	SJ 2196 0510
146	42491	Powis Castle Estate Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages 6	Post-med.	SJ 2196 0509
147	42492	Powis Castle Estate Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages 8	Post-med.	SJ 2195 0508
148	48614	Bridge, Glanhafren	Post-med.	SJ 2254 0514
149	5644	Maes Gwastad bank	Post-med.	SJ 2230 0712
150	58170	Powis Castle, Servants' Hall	Post-med.	SJ 2170 0640
151	58171	Powis Castle, Stable Block	Post-med.	SJ 2170 0640
152	64581	White House Canal Drain	Post-med.	SJ 2252 0616
153	64582	Powis Castle Estate Sawmills Milestone	Post-med.	SJ 2222 0598
154	64634	Oldford Well	Post-med.	SJ 2245 0673
155	64635	Oldford Buildings	Post-med.	SJ 2266 0685
156	64636	Oldford Buildings	Post-med.	SJ 2254 0659
157	64686	Bron Llys & Close y Kiln	Post-med.	SJ 2141 0515
158	64687	Old Ford	Post-med.	SJ 2251 0702
159	67195	Powis Castle Park (PM Park)	Post-med.	SJ 2137 0636
160	67196	Powis Castle Park, Duck Pool	Post-med.	SJ 2201 0637

161	67197	Powis Castle Park, Icehouse Pool	Post-med.	SJ 2135 0616
162	67198	Powis Castle Park, Rabbitbank Pool	Post-med.	SJ 2100 0610
163	67205	Dyserth Park	Post-med.	SJ 2136 0565
164	67206	Dyserth Orchard	Post-med.	SJ 2122 0545
165	67207	Dyserth Pond	Post-med.	SJ 2122 0541
166	7020	Belan Locks Cropmarks	Post-med.	SJ 2140 0550
167	77932	Oldford Military Camp	Post-med.	SJ 2240 0710
168	80171	Coed y Dinas Argae	Post-med.	SJ 2232 0525
169	85516	Pits, Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction	Post-med.	SJ 2203 0506
170	85518	Trackway/Hollow Way, Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction	Post-med.	SJ 2198 0501
171	85519	Trackway, Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction	Post-med.	SJ 2198 0501
172	85524	Postholes, Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction	Post-med.	SJ 2199 0502
173	85912	White House Canal Wharf	Post-med.	SJ 2230 0609
174	87236	Powis Castle Estate Sawmills Pond	Post-med.	SJ 2207 0586
175	87237	Powis Castle Estate Sawmills Timber Yard	Post-med.	SJ 2214 0590
176	94073	Llyn du, pond	Post-med.	SJ 2207 0714
177	32827	Coed Y Dinas Enclosure	Undated	SJ 2211 0533
178	85514	Pits, Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction	Undated	SJ 2206 0499

**Table 2 (relates to fig. 2): Gazetteer of archaeological monuments recorded within a 1km radius of the Site based on consultation of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record (HER)**

#	PRN	Name	Date	NGR
E1	35048	Excavation: Powis Castle Outer Bailey	1984-1985	SJ 2170 0640
E2	58168	Excavation: Powis Castle Stable Block	1984-1985	SJ 2170 0640
E3	58167	Excavation: Powis Castle Servant's Hall	1985	SJ 2170 0640
E4	35050	WB: Powis Castle Outer Bailey	1985-1986	SJ 2170 0640
E5	35049	Petrology: Powis Castle	1986	SJ 2170 0640
E6	35051	SBR: Powis Castle	1987-1989	SJ 2170 0640
E7	34374	Excavation: Sarn-y-bryn-caled Timber Circle	1990-1991	SJ 2192 0493
E8	49242	Excavation: Sarn-y-bryn-caled Penannular Ring Ditch	1990-1991	SJ 2182 0479
E9	34323	Excavation: Welshpool Cursus	1991	SJ 2172 0487
E10	132185	Excavation: Welshpool Cursus	1992	SJ 2178 0490
E11	34327	Excavation: Coed-y-dinas Ring Ditches I & II	1992	SJ 2218 0528
E12	49139	Excavation: Powis Castle	1997	SJ 2157 0646
E13	320192	AP Plot: Ladies Mount Castle, Powis Castle Park	1998	SJ 2123 0635
E14	320195	AP Plot: Welshpool Cursus	1998	SJ 2172 0487
E15	320201	AP Plot: Coed-y-dinas Ring Ditch I	1998	SJ 2219 0530
E16	320204	AP Plot: Sarn-y-bryn-caled Timber Circle,	1998	SJ 2192 0493
E17	320207	AP Plot: Sarn-y-bryn-caled Ring Ditch	1998	SJ 2187 0502
E18	320212	AP Plot: Llwyn Wron Ring Ditch	1998	SJ 2178 0498

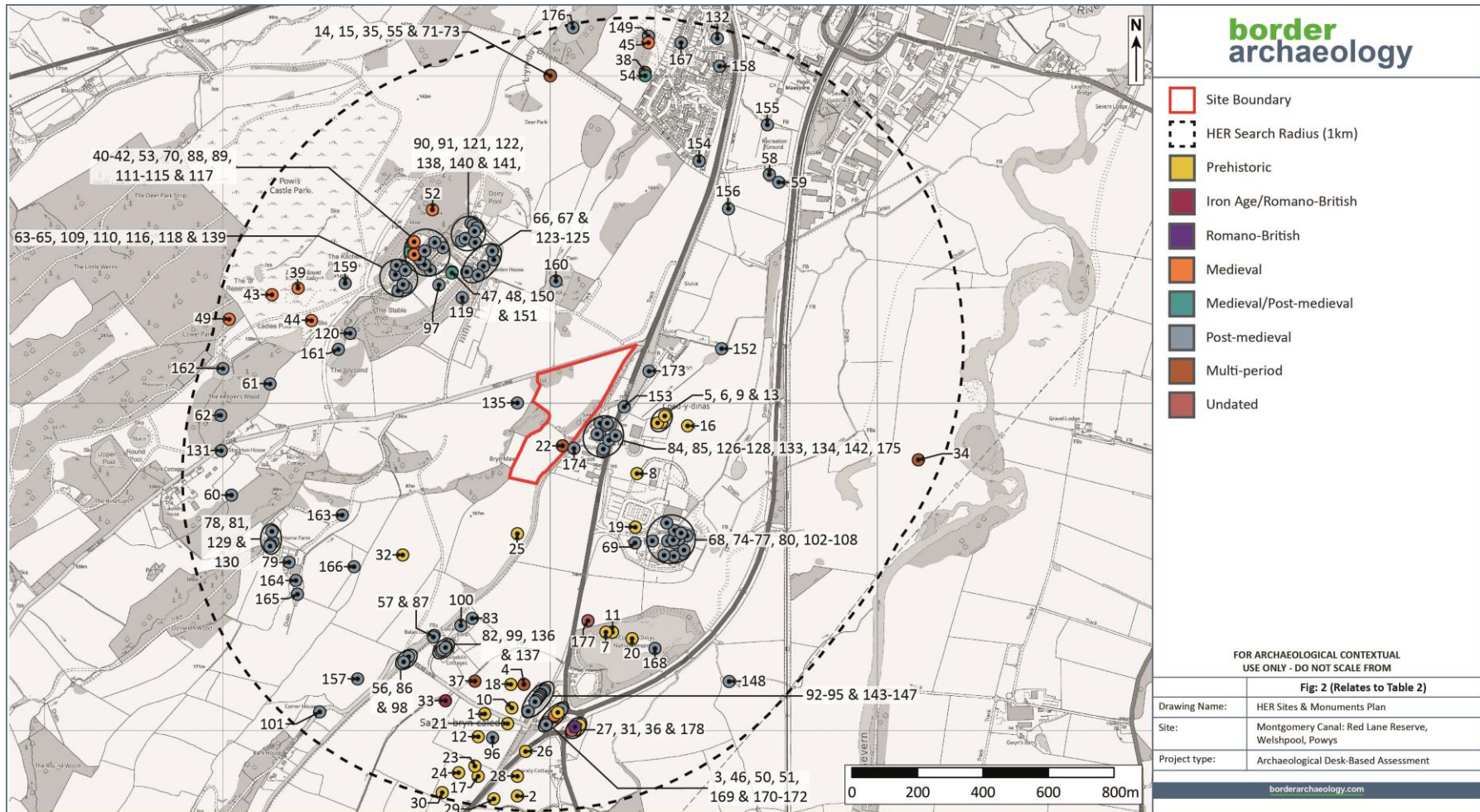
E19	320213	AP Plot: Sarn-y-bryn-caled Penannular Ring Ditch	1998	SJ 2182 0479
E20	320222	AP Plot: Belan Locks Cropmarks	1998	SJ 2140 0550
E21	320223	AP Plot: Sawmill Cottage Ring Ditch	1998	SJ 2242 0593
E22	320227	AP Plot: Sarn-y-bryn-caled Ring Ditch	1998	SJ 2178 0486
E23	320229	AP Plot: Coed Y Dinas Round Barrow I	1998	SJ 2234 0594
E24	320238	AP Plot: Coed y Dinas Enclosure	1998	SJ 2312 0582
E25	320248	AP Plot: Limekiln Cottages Enclosure	1998	SJ 2168 0509
E26	320250	AP Plot: Dysserth Enclosure	1998	SJ 2154 0553
E27	320257	AP Plot: Coed-y-dinas Ring Ditch II	1998	SJ 2217 0530
E28	320269	AP Plot: Coed Y Dinas Enclosure	1998	SJ 2211 0533
E29	320270	AP Plot: Sawmills Cottage Ring Ditch III	1998	SJ 2226 0578
E30	320271	AP Plot: Sawmills Cottage Ring Barrow II	1998	SJ 2232 0593
E31	320276	AP Plot: Ladies Mount Ridge & Furrow	1998	SJ 2115 0633
E32	320277	AP Plot: Ladies Mount Hollow Way	1998	SJ 2127 0625
E33	320335	AP Plot: Sarn-y-bryn-caled Pit	1998	SJ 2188 0506
E34	320336	AP Plot: Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction Cropmark Ditch	1998	SJ 2182 0497
E35	70271	Excavation: Sarn-y-bryn-caled Junction	1998-1999	SJ 2202 0504
E36	106335	Eval.: Powis Castle	2001	SJ 2161 0647
E37	123041	Assessment: Powis Castle	2001	SJ 2161 0647
E38	123042	ADBA: Powis Castle	2001	SJ 2161 0647
E39	123043	Geophys.: Powis Castle	2001	SJ 2161 0647
E40	213812	Assessment/Geophys./Excavation: Powis Castle	2002	SJ 2160 0649
E41	85750	Assessment: Montgomery Canal	2003	SJ 2191 0555
E42	85751	ADBA: Montgomery Canal	2003	SJ 2191 0555
E43	85752	Walkover Study: Montgomery Canal	2003	SJ 2191 0555
E44	85753	HLC: Montgomery Canal	2003	SJ 2191 0555
E45	130086	Dendro.: Powis Castle	2004-2005	SJ 2157 0646
E45	118700	Assessment: Coed-y-Dinas Farm	2005	SJ 2235 0567
E47	118701	WB: Coed-y-Dinas Farm	2005	SJ 2235 0567
E48	118702	SBR: Coed-y-Dinas Farm	2005	SJ 2235 0567
E49	112373	Geophys.: Great Lawn, Powis Castle Garden	2008	SJ 2165 0636
E50	123620	Eval.: Sarn-y-bryn-caled Ring Ditch	2012	SJ 2187 0502
E51	123621	Field Walking: Sarn-y-bryn-caled Ring Ditch	2012	SJ 2187 0502
E52	123701	Assessment: Sarn-y-bryn-caled Ring Ditch	2012	SJ 2187 0502
E53	144209	Eval.: Powis Castle East Front	2015	SJ 2158 0648
E54	140124	WB: Powis Castle East Front	2015-2016	SJ 2158 0649
E55	164180	ADBA: Coed y Dinas	2016	SJ 2240 0589
E56	151111	WB: Coed-y-Dinas Water Main Installation,	2017	SJ 2203 0521

*Table 3 (relates to fig. 3): Gazetteer of Archaeological Events recorded within a 1km radius of the Site based on consultation of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record (HER)*

#	Ref	Name	Grade	NGR
B1	7746	Powis Castle	I	SJ 2158 0645
B2	7747	Marquess Gate with steps leading to E entrance to Powis Castle, and flanking wall to N	I	SJ 2161 0646
B3	7748	Brick Wall to rear of Top Terrace at Powis Castle Gardens	I	SJ 2160 0644
B4	16775	Aviary Terrace in Powis Castle Gardens	I	SJ 2160 0642
B5	16776	Orangery Terrace in Gardens at Powis Castle	I	SJ 2161 0642
B6	16777	Apple Slope Terrace in Gardens at Powis Castle	I	SJ 2163 0640
B7	16780	Outer Gateway at Powis Castle	I	SJ 2152 0639
B8	16781	Retaining wall to courtyard at Powis Castle	I	SJ 2155 0640
B9	16782	Ballroom Range at Powis Castle	I	SJ 2153 0642
B10	16785	Statue of Fame in entrance courtyard at Powis Castle	II*	SJ 2154 0641
B11	16786	Statue of Hercules at E of Top Terrace in Powis Castle Gardens	II*	SJ 2164 0649
B12	16797	Powis Estate Sawmill with cast-iron launder	II*	SJ 2216 0585
B13	7749	No 1 Park Houses	II	SJ 2177 0653
B14	7750	Garden Wall to S of Nos 1 & 2 Park Houses	II	SJ 2177 0649
B15	7751	No 1 Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages	II	SJ 2198 0512
B16	7752	No 3 Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages	II	SJ 2197 0511
B17	7753	No 7 Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages	II	SJ 2195 0509
B18	7754	No 9 Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages	II	SJ 2193 0505
B19	16579	Traethllawn	II	SJ 2251 0711
B20	16742	Bridge 121 over the Montgomery Canal	II	SJ 2156 0522
B21	16743	No1 Limekiln Cottages	II	SJ 2166 0524
B22	16744	No2 Limekiln Cottages	II	SJ 2167 0524
B23	16745	No3 Limekiln Cottages	II	SJ 2168 0525
B24	16746	No4 Limekiln Cottages	II	SJ 2168 0525
B25	16747	Southern Lime-Kiln Bank	II	SJ 2172 0532
B26	16748	Northern Lime-Kiln Bank	II	SJ 2176 0534
B27	16749	Corner House	II	SJ 2129 0505
B28	16755	Coed-y-dinas Farmhouse	II	SJ 2231 0557
B29	16756	Barn and Granary Range at Coed-y-dinas	II	SJ 2238 0557
B30	16757	Cowsheds at Coed-y-dinas	II	SJ 2237 0553
B31	16758	Stone building at Coed-y-dinas	II	SJ 2234 0553
B32	16759	Western cartshed at Coed-y-dinas	II	SJ 2240 0560
B33	16760	Slaughter-house, dove-cot and smithy at Coed-y-dinas	II	SJ 2241 0559
B34	16761	Eastern Cartshed at Coed-y-dinas	II	SJ 2239 0558
B35	16778	No 2 Park Houses	II	SJ 2176 0652
B36	16783	Raised Terrace to SE of Castle with steps into garden	II	SJ 2167 0647
B37	16787	Peacock Statue to SW of Orangery Terrace in Powis Castle Gardens	II	SJ 2155 0635
B38	16788	Stone Vase on East Bank of gardens at Powis Castle	II	SJ 2173 0632
B39	16789	Ice House in Garden at Powis Castle	II	SJ 2138 0621

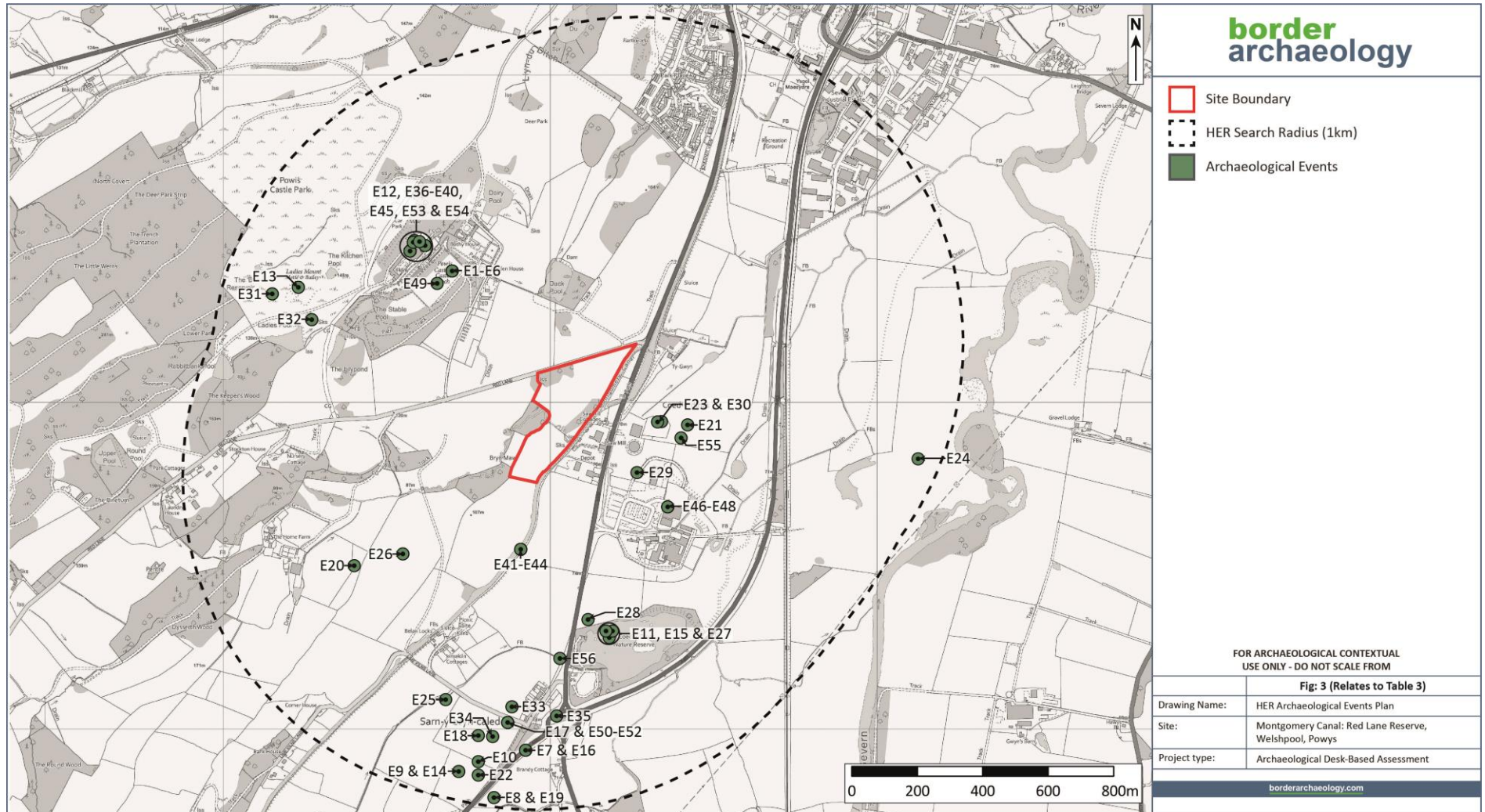
B40	16790	The Bothy	II	SJ 2174 0650
B41	16791	Wall to garden and outbuildings at the Bothy	II	SJ 2172 0649
B42	16792	No 1 Dairy Square	II	SJ 2175 0654
B43	16793	No 2 Dairy Square	II	SJ 2176 0654
B44	16794	The Garden House	II	SJ 2179 0641
B45	16795	Gate to Fountain Garden	II	SJ 2182 0643
B46	16796	Sundial in Fountain Garden at Powis Castle	II	SJ 2182 0646
B47	16798	Wagon shed, cement store and boundary wall to timber yard	II	SJ 2217 0588
B48	16799	Blacksmith's shop, office and stores at Powis Estate Timber Yard, with boundary wall to yard.	II	SJ 2215 0593
B49	16800	No 1 Timber-yard Cottages	II	SJ 2217 0593
B50	16801	No 2 Timber-yard Cottages	II	SJ 2217 0593
B51	16802	Dysserth Hall	II	SJ 2115 0560
B52	16803	Former stables and coach house at Dysserth Hall	II	SJ 2114 0556
B53	16804	Stockton House	II	SJ 2099 0585
B54	16807	No 2 Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages	II	SJ 2198 0511
B55	16808	No 4 Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages	II	SJ 2196 0510
B56	16809	No 5 Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages	II	SJ 2196 0510
B57	16810	No 6 Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages	II	SJ 2196 0509
B58	16811	No 8 Sarn-y-bryn-caled Cottages	II	SJ 2195 0508

*Table 4 (relates to fig. 4): Gazetteer of Listed Buildings Recoded within a 1km radius of the Site based on consultation of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Record (HER)*



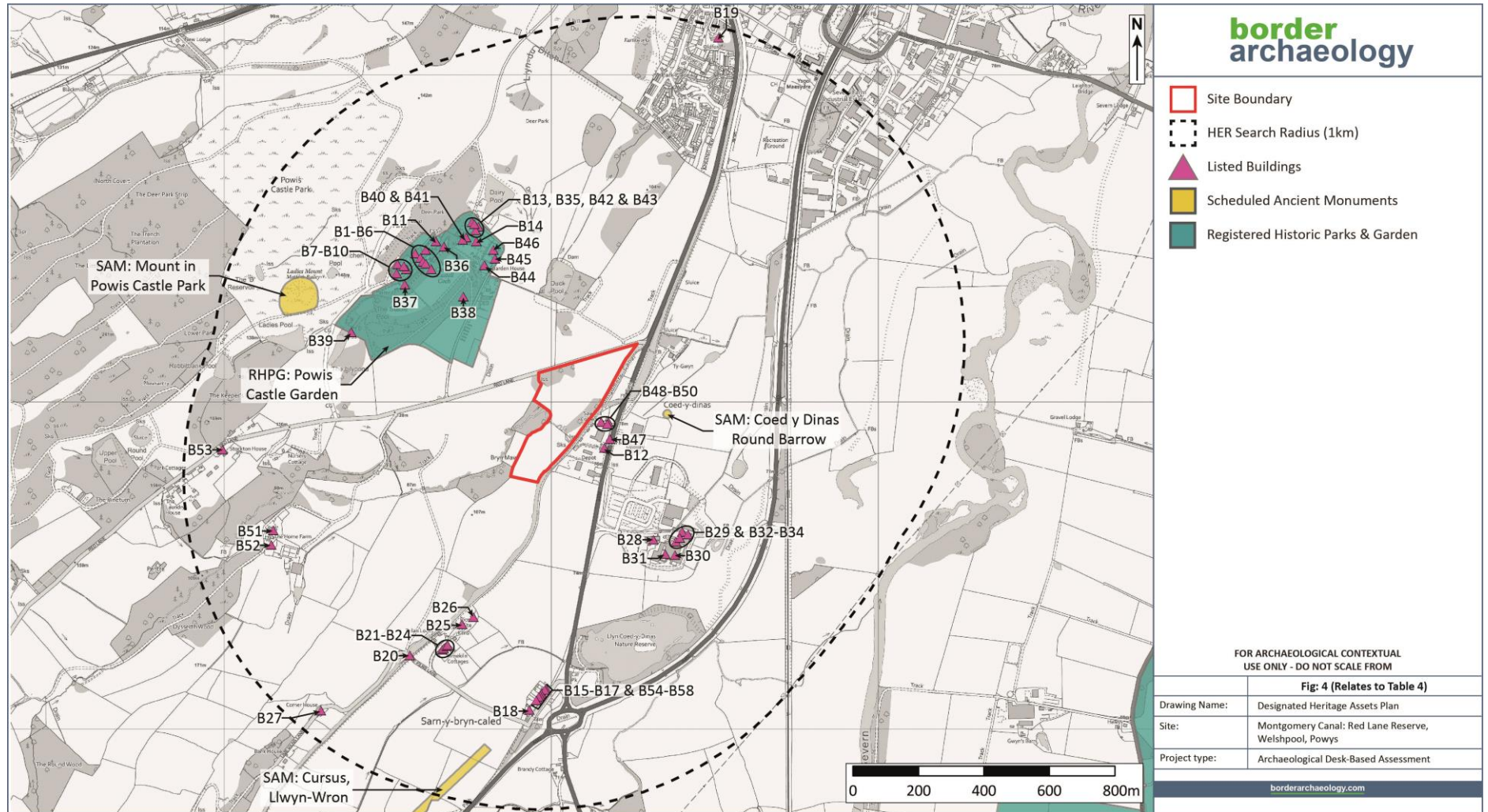
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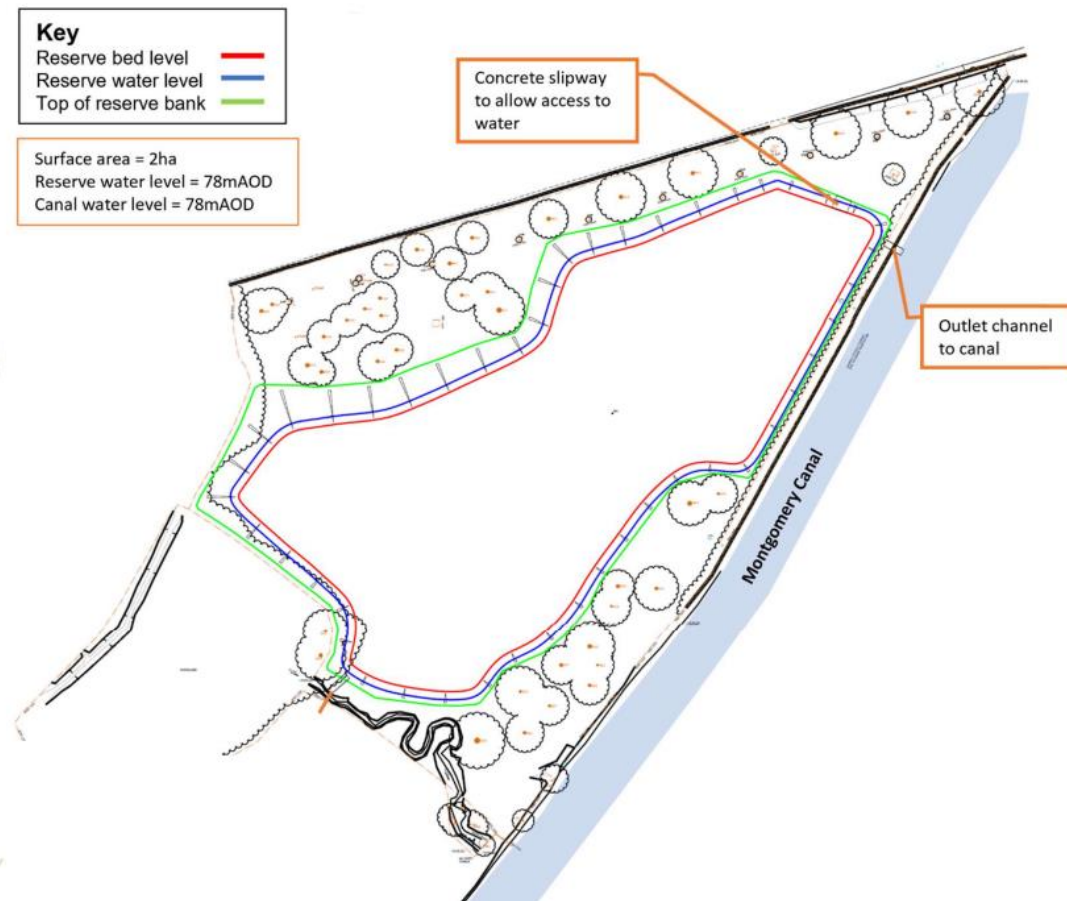


Fig. 5: Plan of Proposals for Red Lane Reserve



*Fig. 6: Plan of proposals overlaid on recent aerial photography of the site*



*Fig. 7: Area in blue showing where proposed development will occur within the site*



*Fig. 8: Area in red showing where the showing the area that may be leased for the disposal of soil from the proposals*

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## 7 Site Assessment

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A site visit was undertaken in June 2023 and photographs obtained from key vantage points in order to ascertain the potential presence of archaeological remains in the vicinity. The site at the time of the visit was in use as pasture for livestock and was split into two fields as indicated on the site location plan (*fig. 1*). The division between the fields was marked by a fence and gate, roughly in the middle of the site running W-E. The site is located on largely level land except for sloping sections towards the NW corner of the site and along the W boundary in the lower half of the site. The entirety of the N border is defined by a mature hedgerow that runs parallel to Red Lane and the entire E boundary is demarcated by the Montgomery Canal. The S border is marked by a fence acting as a field boundary. The W boundary is likewise marked by a fence, with some areas of mature hedgerow and trees. Areas of tree cover exist in the NW corner and along the E and W border of the site.

A footpath was noted extending E-W across the N portion of the site which appears to correspond with the footpath shown on the 1885 OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition map (*fig. 11*). A low oval earthwork feature was visible within the site in close proximity to the canal, (*Plate 4*) it seems likely that this relates to a spoil heap associated with the construction of the canal. The brook that formerly fed the mill pond and leat of the Powis Estate Sawmill was seen on the site visit (*Plate 3*). However, the footbridge and weir no longer exist and it seems that the brook is much reduced when compared with what is depicted on the historic maps.



*Plate 1: View SSW taken from the entrance to the site*

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*Plate 2: Looking N towards the entrance of the site on the left and NE corner of the on the right.*



*Plate 3: View E towards the canal with the Powys Estate Sawmill shown behind*

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*Plate 4: View SE with possible earthwork associated with the canal's construction*



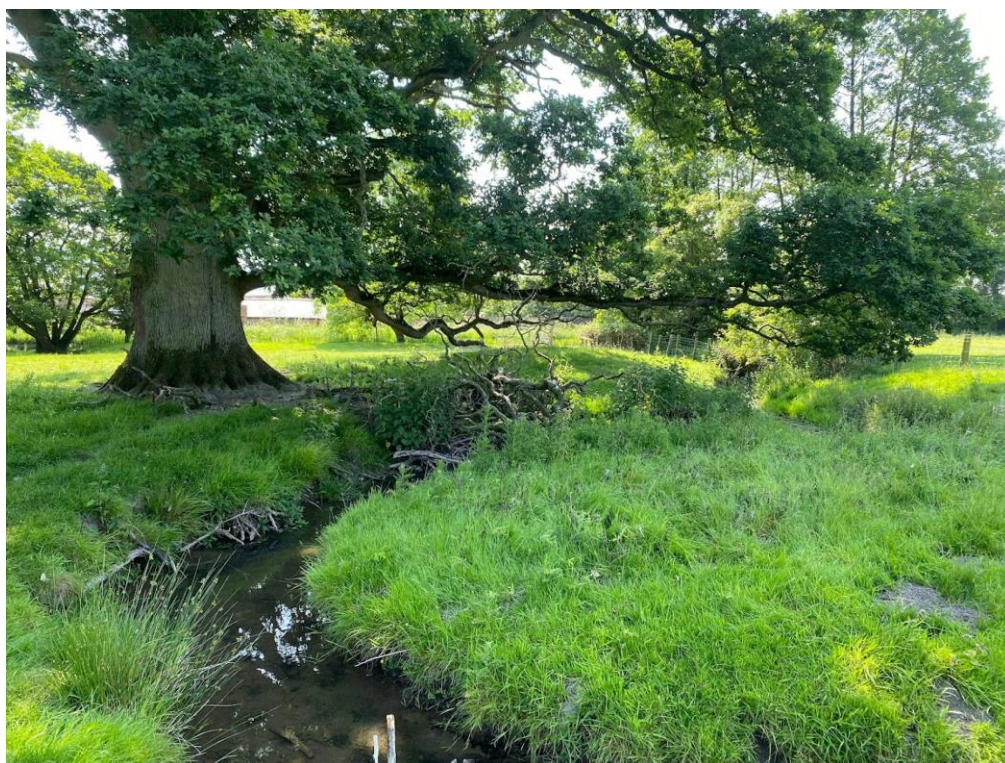
*Plate 5: View N from the S boundary of the site, canal shown to the right*

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*Plate 6: View E from the SW boundary of the site*



*Plate 7: View E showing the brook*

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*Plate 8: Looking S towards the S boundary of the site*



*Plate 9: View W towards the NW corner of the site*

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## 8 Conclusions

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### 8.1 Potential Impacts

The following description of the proposed development is based upon a series of plans provided to BA from the Canal & River Trust in May 2023. The proposals primarily consist of the creation of a body of water within the N part of the site which will involve excavation. The body of water is planned to cover an area of around 2ha and stand at a level of 78m AOD, the same as the water in the canal. At the NE part of this lake, an outlet channel will be dug allowing water to flow in and out. At the N end of the lake, a concrete slipway is proposed to allow access to and from the water. A further channel is proposed to connect the S end of the reserve to existing brook. The soil from this excavation will possibly be relocated to the S half of the site, therefore raising the area and requiring some re-landscaping.

The proposals indicate that the reserve will reach a maximum depth of 1.5m, with a further 0.5m needing to be excavated during its construction, meaning a total depth of 2m will be excavated during construction. Excavations at Coed y Dinas in 1992 (E11; SJ 2218 0528) of the series of prehistoric ring ditches represent the closest and therefore most indicative depth at which archaeology may survive on site. The excavations found topsoil to depths between 0.3-0.5mbgl at which point they encountered a gravel terrace and sections of Ring Ditch 1 (the oldest of the three identified). Sections of the gravel surface showed signs of being scarred by medieval ploughing. The ring ditch itself was found to extend to a depth of 0.9m below the surface of the gravel layer, and therefore 1.2-1.4mbgl. This means the proposed excavation will be happening at depths roughly the same as the found archaeology at Coed y Dinas. There is therefore the likelihood that prehistoric activity may be encountered during the excavations indicated by the proposals.

The sole feature within the boundaries of the site is the area of raised ground likely associated with the building of the Montgomery Canal (HER: 17003; *Plate 4*) which has an unclear exact location. Given this unclear location, there is the possibility that either the excavation for the lake or relocation of the spoil will directly affect it. However, the feature is of relatively little significance and should therefore not be a bar to the proposed developments, should an appropriate amount of archaeological work be undertaken.

The potential impacts on sub-surface remains include the bulk excavation of the N portion of the site as well as the construction of the slipway and outlets. In addition to this, the possible relocation of the spoil from the excavations also presents further potential impacts on sub-surface remains.

### 8.2 Overall Conclusions

The archaeological potential of the site has been assessed in overall terms as **Moderate to High**, with particular reference to encountering archaeological remains associated with prehistoric and post-medieval activity. The potential for encountering remains associated with the Romano-British and medieval period has been assessed as being **Low** and **Moderate** respectively.

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This assessment reflects the extensive and significant evidence for prehistoric ritual and funerary activity in this area, represented by the Sarn-y-bryn-caled cursus and other nearby prehistoric archaeological monuments. Given the extent and significance of these monuments, there is a **Moderate to High** potential that further archaeological assets from the prehistoric period may be encountered with the boundaries of the site. The potential for finding archaeological assets from the post-medieval period is also regarded as being **Moderate to High**. This is largely based on the proximity of the site to the Montgomery Canal and therefore is likely to contain features associated with its construction and use. The wider area contains numerous structures linked with the canal and there is a high possibility that further underground remains exist within the boundaries of the sites.

**Recommendations: It is BA's considered opinion that, *prima facie*, the archaeological potential of the site does not present an impediment to the proposed development. Given the overall Moderate to High potential of the site in archaeological terms, it is recommended that an appropriate programme of archaeological work, the details of which to be agreed with the relevant planning archaeologist, will be necessary to determine the extent, depth and significance of buried archaeological features and deposits across the site.**

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## 10.1 Cartography

(All maps were obtained from Llyfrgell Genedlaethol Cymru/National Library of Wales unless otherwise stated):

1629: Humfrey Bleaze's Powis Estate Survey (National Library of Wales)

1813: OS Surveyor's Drawing of Newton (British Library)

1840: Pool Tithe Survey

1885: OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 6-Inch Map

1903: OS 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 6-inch Map

1953: OS provisional edition 6-inch Map

1963: OS 1:10,000 National Grid Map

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11 Appendix 1: Historic Maps



Fig. 9: Humfrey Bleaze's 1629 Powis Estate Survey  
(Courtesy of the National Library of Wales)



Fig. 10: 1813 OS Surveyor's Drawing of Newtown and district  
(Reproduced by courtesy of the British Library)

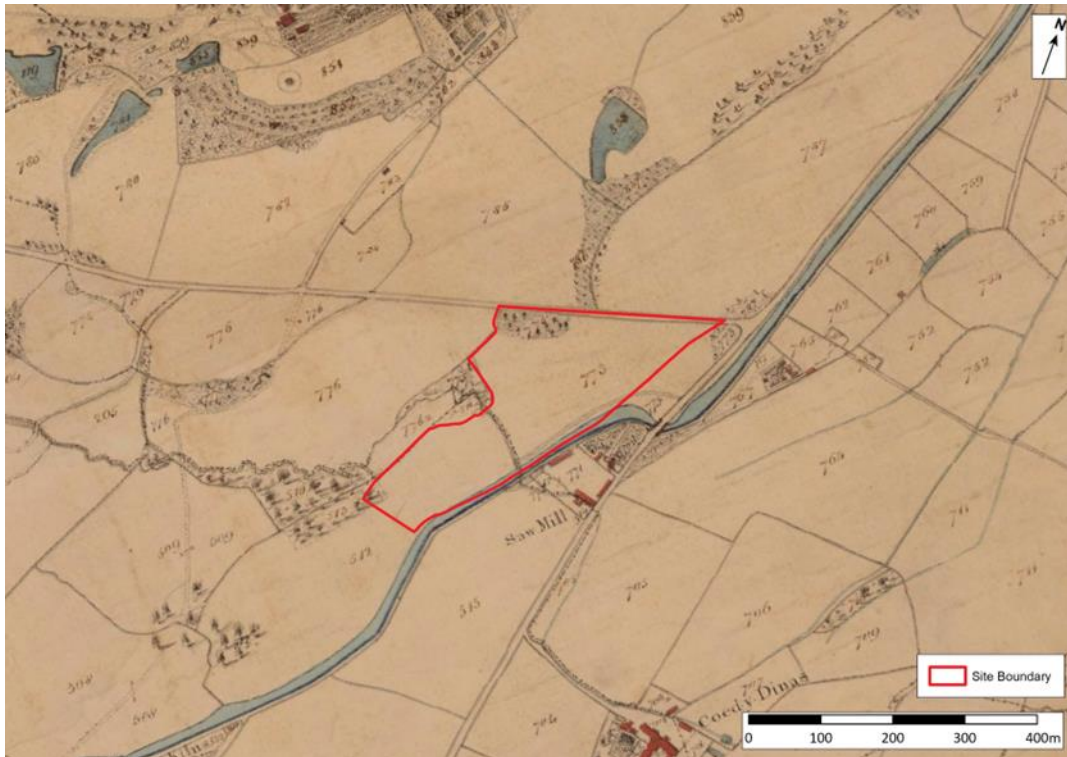


Fig. 11: Extract from the 1840 Tithe Survey of Pool (Lower Division)  
(Courtesy of the National Library of Wales)

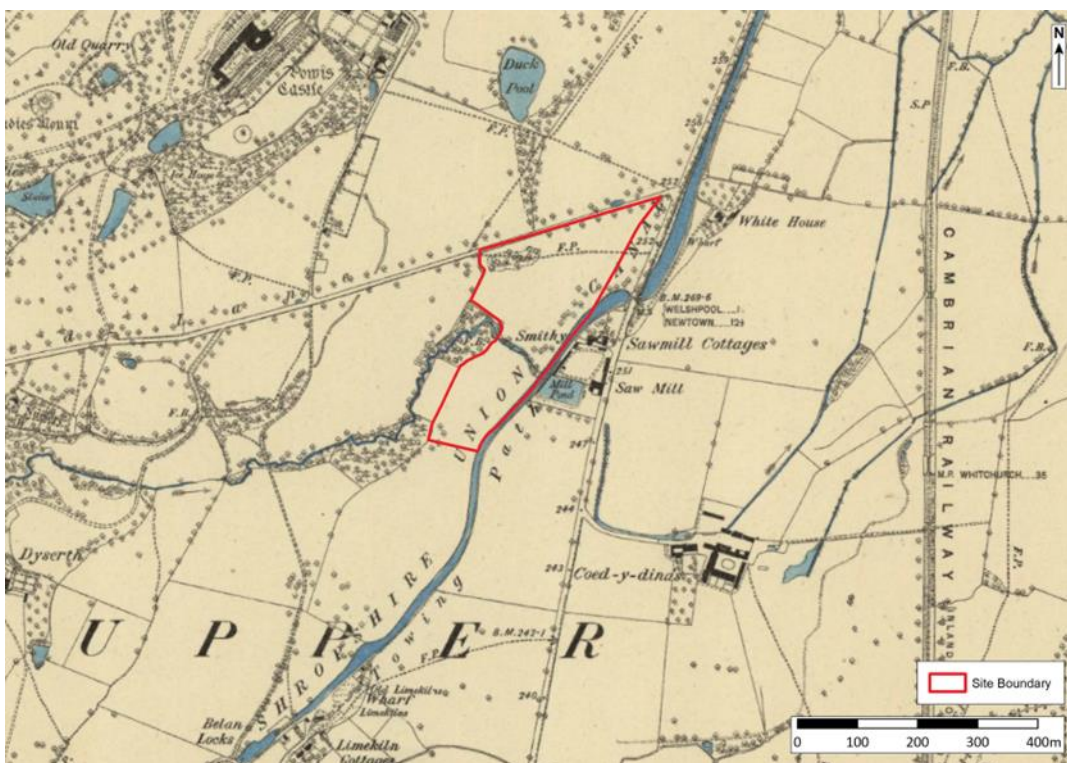


Fig. 12: Extract from the 1885 OS 1<sup>st</sup> Edition 6-inch Map  
(Courtesy of the National Library of Wales)



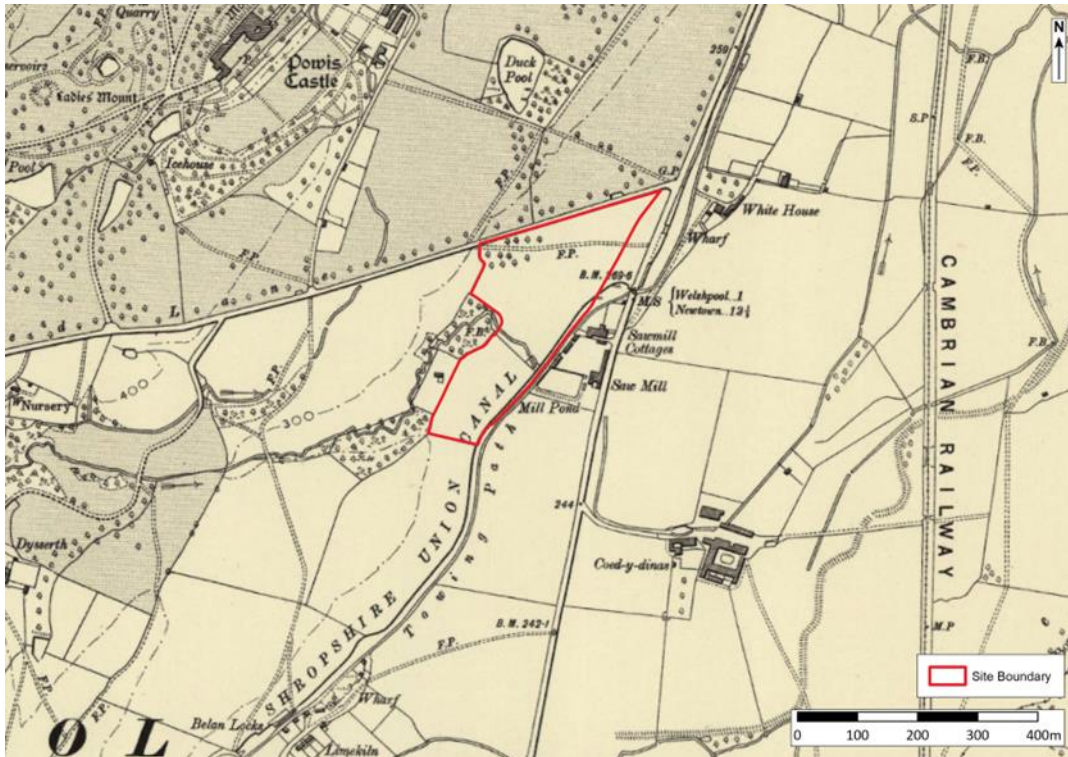


Fig. 13: Extract from the 1903 OS 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition 6-inch Map  
(Courtesy of the National Library of Wales)

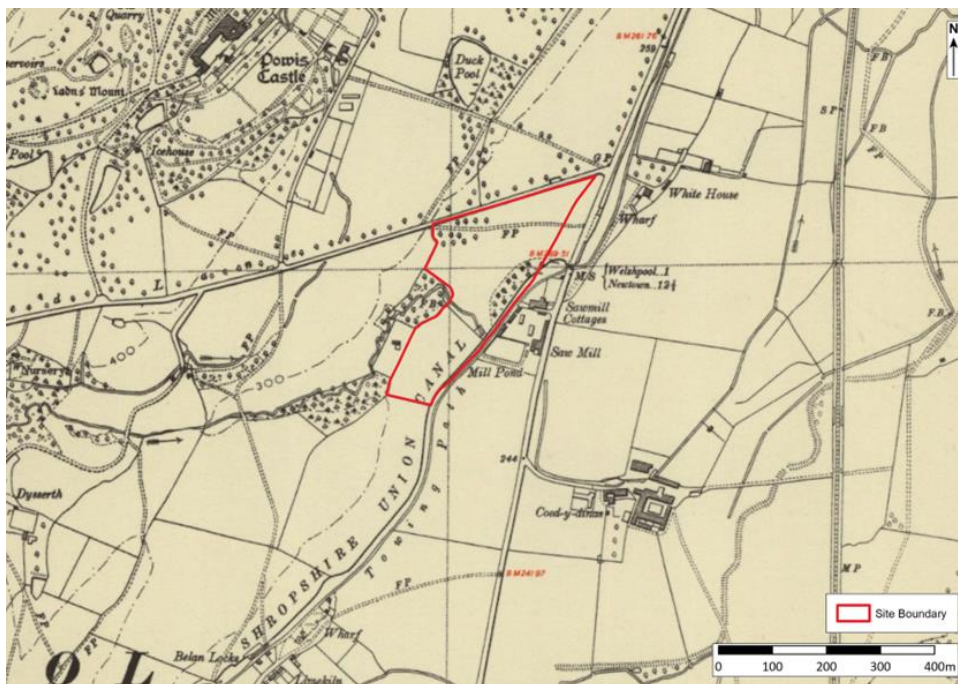


Fig. 14: Extract from the OS provisional edition 6-inch Map (1953)  
(Courtesy of the National Library of Wales)

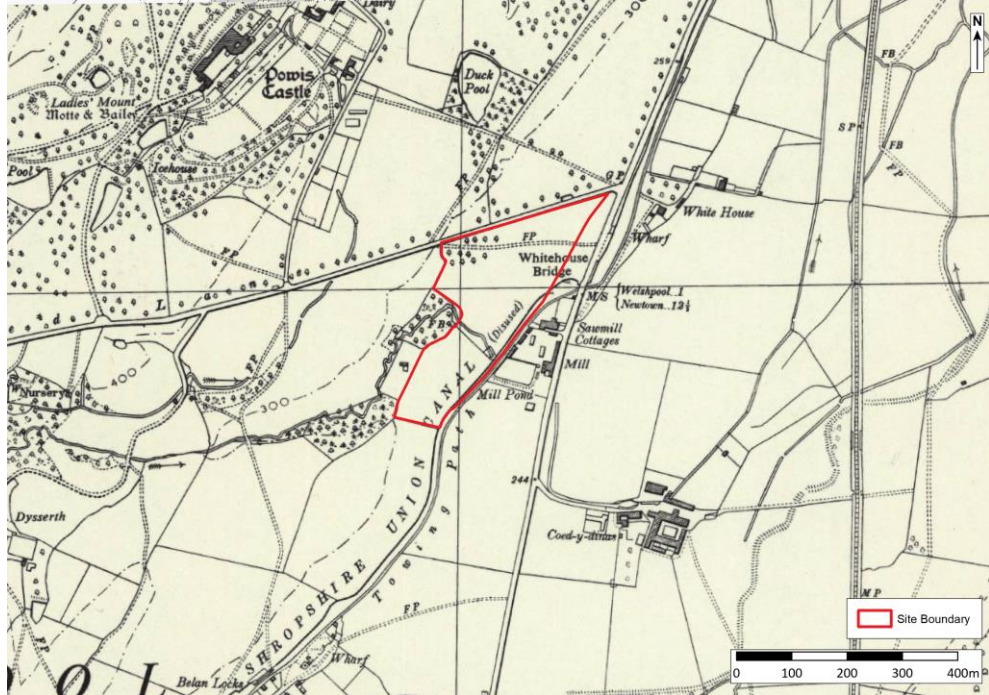


Fig. 15: Extract from the 1963 OS 1:10,000 National Grid Map  
(Courtesy of the National Library of Wales)

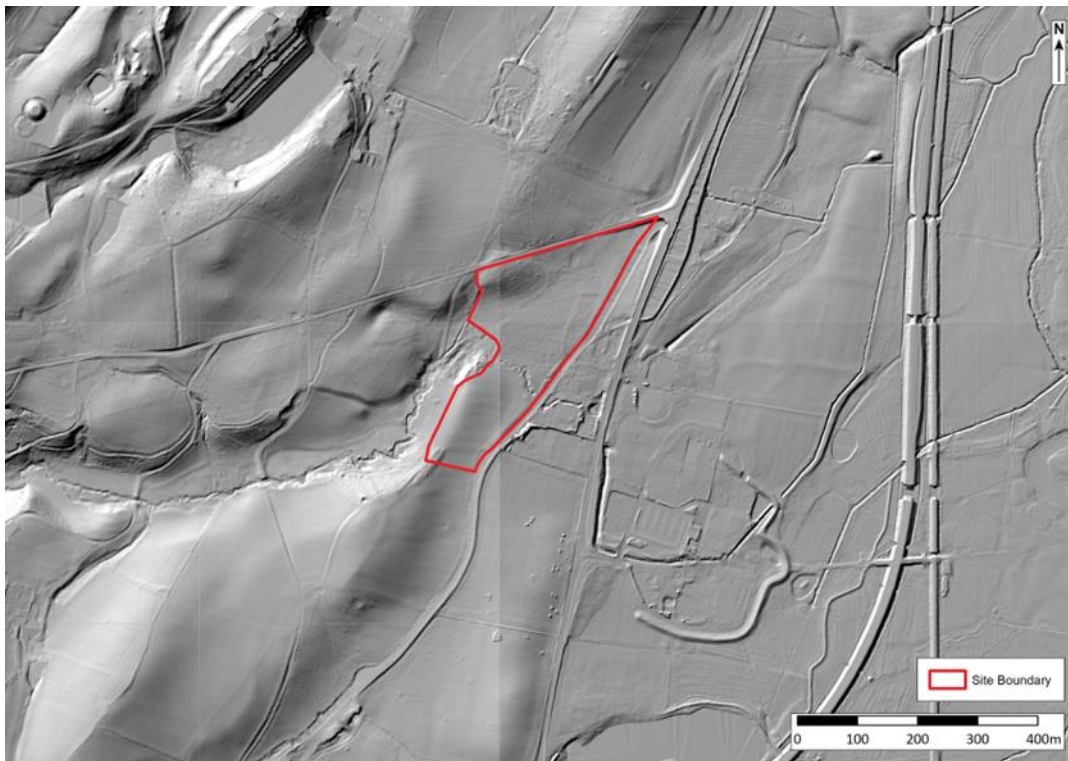


Fig. 16: LiDAR Image of the site and surrounding area  
(Reproduced by courtesy of the Welsh Government)

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