

CPAT Report No. 1863




Hafod, Carno Road, Caersws

Heritage Impact Assessment



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 Project Name: Hafod, Carno Road, Caersws
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Summary

The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust conducted a heritage impact assessment on behalf of Mr & Mrs M. Cheshire in connection with a proposed extension and associated works at Hafod, Carno Road, Caersws in Powys. The assessment was carried out in April 2022 and included a desk-based study and a field visit.

The assessment considered the scheduled monument known as the Caersws Roman Site (MG001). It is considered that the area of the proposed development has a high potential to contain evidence relating to Roman military and possibly also civil settlement. The significance of the direct impact of the current proposals is considered to be **moderate/large**, although once the principle of proportionality within Cadw guidance, and appropriate mitigation measures are included in the assessment, a residual effect would be slight or neutral. There is a possibility that works on the associated drainage system could have a beneficial significance of the same degree, if done in a manner which avoids further disturbance to in-situ elements of the scheduled site and could allow for recording that assists Cadw in their knowledge of the site, thereby aiding future management. Although this option has not been proposed by the client, there is an area to the north-east of Hafod which lies outside the area of the scheduled monument and if this was taken, it has the potential to reduce the significance of the impact to **slight**. A negligible impact on the setting of the scheduled site from the slight increase in size of the building is predicted, which would have a **slight** significance.

Crynodeb

Bu Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Clwyd-Powys yn cynnal asesiad o effaith ar dreftadaeth ar ran y perchnogion, mewn cysylltiad ag estyniad arfaethedig a gwaith cysylltiedig yn Hafod, Ffordd Carno, Caersws ym Mhowys. Cynhaliwyd yr asesiad ym mis Ebrill 2022 ac roedd yn cynnwys astudiaeth wrth ddesg ac ymweliad maes.

Roedd yr asesiad yn ystyried yr heneb restredig o'r enw Safle Rhufeinig Caersws (MG001). Y farn yw bod gan ardal y datblygiad arfaethedig botensial uchel i gynnwys tystiolaeth yn ymwneud ag anheddu milwrol a hefyd, o bosibl, sifil y Rhufeiniaid. Ystyrir mai **cymedrol/mawr** yw arwyddocâd effaith uniongyrchol y cynigion presennol, ond unwaith y cynhwysir yr egwyddor cymesuredd yn unol â chanllawiau Cadw a'r mesurau lliniaru priodol yn yr asesiad, byddai'r effaith weddilliol yn ysgafn neu'n niwtral. Mae'n bosibl y gallai'r gwaith ar y system ddraenio gysylltiedig fod o fudd sydd yr un mor arwyddocaol, os y gwneir hwn mewn modd sy'n osgoi aflonyddu pellach ar elfennau o'r safle rhestredig sydd yn y fan a'r lle a phe bai'n caniatáu gwaith cofnodi sy'n cynorthwyo Cadw o ran eu gwybodaeth am y safle a, thrwy hynny, cynorthwyo â'i reoli yn y dyfodol. Er nad yw'r cleient wedi cynnig yr opsiwn hwn, mae yna ardal i'r gogledd-ddwyrain o Hafod sydd y tu allan i ardal yr heneb restredig ac, os dewisir yr opsiwn hwn, fe allai leihau arwyddocâd yr effaith i **ysgafn**. Rhagwelir y bydd cynyddu maint yr adeilad rhyw fymryn yn cael brin unrhyw effaith ar amgylchedd y safle rhestredig, a allai fod yn **ysgafn** ei arwyddocâd.

1 Introduction

- 1.1. The Field Services Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust was engaged by Charlotte Avara, acting on the behalf of the owners, Mr and Mrs M Cheshire, to carry out a heritage impact assessment (HIA) at Hafod, Carno Road, Caersws. Hafod lies on the north-western edge of Caersws, some 8km to the west of Newtown in Powys (NGR SO 0299 9209: SY17 5EF).
- 1.2. The assessment was conducted in association with a proposal for an extension (Planning application (No 21/1855/HH – subsequently withdrawn) to the existing dwelling. Will Davies, the regional Cadw Inspector, had provided pre-application advice that some elements of the proposal would affect the scheduled area of the Caersws Roman Fort and require scheduled monument consent (SMC). He stated that if an impact on the scheduled monument could not be avoided then a HIA would be required to identify the nature of any potential impacts of the proposal on its heritage values. Mark Walters, the archaeological advisor to the planning authority, had also suggested that any parts of the proposal outside the scheduled area should be subject to a planning condition for archaeological evaluation/excavation. This HIA is therefore intended to inform the representatives of Cadw and the Planning Authority as to the potential impacts of the proposal on the scheduled site in the immediate environs of Hafod.



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Fig. 1: Location of Hafod on the northern edge of Caersws

- 1.3. The HIA was conducted in April 2022 and this report written immediately thereafter. The three principal guidance documents that will be followed in this assessment are those produced by Cadw on behalf of the Welsh Government for managing historic assets:
- Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales (May 2017)
 - Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (2017); and
 - Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales (March 2011) to establish objective assessment of the value and significance of historic assets within the site of the proposed development.

Methodology

- 1.4. Cadw's *Conservation Principles* (page 18) states in Managing Change to an Historic Asset: "*Changes to historic assets are inevitable To ensure the long-term future of historic assets, change needs to be managed to ensure that their significance is not diminished as a consequence*" and paragraph 47 "*When considering the severity of potential impacts upon an historic asset, there should always be proportionality and reasonableness*". The heritage assessment has used these key aims of the guidance to ensure the results of the study are focused on a proportionate response to potential impacts on heritage significance from the degree of change that might result from the Proposed Development.
- 1.5. The Proposed Development would result in change to the existing baseline, and change has been considered as impacts according to the degree of change they may cause to heritage significance. As appropriate, the baseline survey has been guided by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment*. The assessment then identified impacts and effects as direct or indirect, adverse or beneficial, and short-term, long-term, reversible or permanent. Direct impacts are those which physically alter an asset and therefore its heritage significance; indirect impacts are those which affect the heritage significance of an asset by causing change within its setting.
- 1.6. Key aspects that might affect the historic environment, such as visual dominance, scale, intervisibility, vista and sight-lines, and unaltered setting, would form part of the criteria for assessment. More detailed guidance has also been issued by Cadw, including the *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (May 2017) and *Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales* (May 2017). These promote a staged approach to assessing assets, their historic significance and the potential impacts from development, and have been applied to undertake this assessment.

2 Historical Background of the Caersws Roman Site and the immediate area of Hafod

- 2.1. This section provides a brief summary of the surroundings of the proposed development and the Roman fort at Caersws, to enable the findings of the assessment to be better understood.
- 2.2. The Caersws II fort forms part of Scheduled Monument MG001 (Caersws Roman Site) and adjoins the village, which lies to its south-east. This was the successor to the Caersws I fort which had been placed just over 1km to the east-north-east on a prominent spur overlooking the River Severn. The second fort is believed to have been built in the early Flavian period (AD 69-96) and was originally constructed with a clay rampart fronted by at least one ditch and contained timber buildings and the normal road network in its interior. Subsequent phases

saw the infilling of the ditch and its replacement by a triple ditch system along with the construction of an annexe on the north side of the fort in the Trajanic (AD 98-117) or Hadrianic (AD 117-138) periods. The final main phase of activity involved the fronting of the rampart with a stone wall in the Hadrianic or later Antonine period, when the fort ditches adjacent to the annexe fell out of use and some of the buildings in the interior were rebuilt in stone. An extra-mural civil settlement, or *vicus*, containing domestic and industrial occupation was present on all sides of the fort bar the west, where the nearby watercourse of the Afon Carno would have rendered it impractical.

Roman Period (AD 43 – 410)

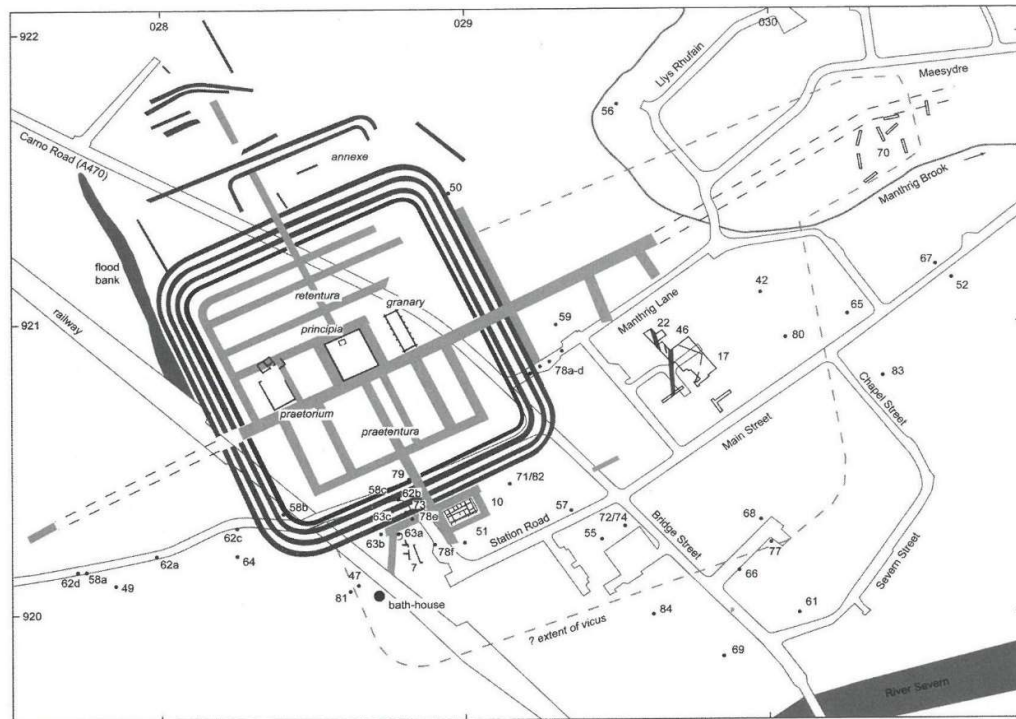


Fig. 2: Plan of the Roman fort and its environs showing the main features and selected (numbered) archaeological investigations up to 2011 (Jones 2011, 28).

- 2.3. Excavations alongside the A470 Carno Road in 1990 revealed the arrangement of the northern defences. Of the four ditches present, the innermost was found to underlie the front of the rampart and projected 1.0m beyond it. The other three ditches extended for a distance of 24m in front of the rampart (Jones 1993, 19-20) and it is reasonable to assume this general arrangement would hold true elsewhere in the defensive circuit.
- 2.4. At the north-eastern corner of the fort in Fig. 2, the number 50 identifies the approximate location of an excavation undertaken in 1995 (see Figs 3 and 4), which was carried out as a condition of the granting of scheduled monument consent for a previous extension to Hafod (Owen, 1995). The results of this work involved the excavation of a series of small trenches in an attempt to determine whether significant Roman layers were present. The location of these are depicted on Fig. 12 at the end of this report; their extents were largely restricted by the presence of services relating to Hafod and Meini-cochion.
- 2.5. In Trench A, the surface soil comprised 0.4m of friable grey soil which contained some Roman and later material. This overlay a stiff yellowish-grey clay which was over 0.6m in thickness,

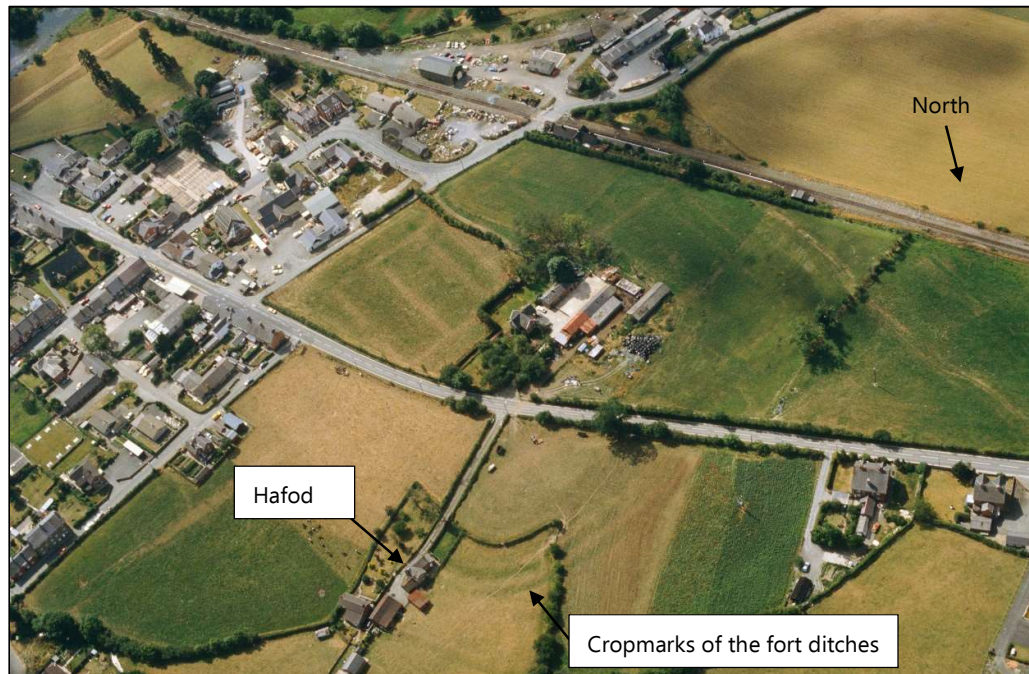
continuing to the maximum depth of the excavation at 1.0m from the surface. While the clay was thought to be of natural origin, the possibility that it represented backfilling of one of the Roman ditches was not discounted. Similar soils were apparently observed in Trench B, which was again 1.0m deep. Trenches C and D were excavated to a depth of 1.0m, but no significant features were observed.



Fig. 3: Hafod viewed from the south-west in 1995, when the excavations were carried out. CPAT CS95-042-0031



Fig. 4: Trench B from 1995, viewed from the north-west. CPAT CS95-042-0032



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Fig. 5. The north-eastern corner of Caersws Roman fort in 2007, with the ditches showing as cropmarks. Hafod can be seen to lie at least partly within the area of the defences

- 2.6. Reviewing the 1995 findings in the light of more recent aerial photography (Fig. 5) it is clear that the trenches fell within the area of the fort defences but that this was not recognised, most likely in large part owing to the very small scale of the excavations (see Fig. 12).
- 2.7. The results from 1995 demonstrated that at least 0.4m of soils overlie the Roman deposits within the immediate curtilage of Hafod. However, in the field to the north-west (Fig. 6) there are a series of earthworks relating to the ditches that can still be seen as surface features, where there is presumably a lesser covering of topsoil. The earthworks coincide with the cropmark evidence and as far as is known this is the only place where surface traces of the ditches can still be observed around the defensive circuit of the Caersws II fort. The low-lying nature of this area may have prompted the laying down of the clay deposit, presumably of late Roman origin, seen in 1995. Raising the level of the ground by this means may have helped to alleviate flooding.
- 2.8. Further to the west and within the northern annexe of the fort, a watching brief was carried out during excavations for a replacement mains water pipe, in the field marked 1184 on Fig. 9 to the north of the fort (Hankinson 2021). This revealed an archaeological layer 0.3m in thickness which was overlain by about 0.3m of topsoil and provides a convenient background against which the deposits at Hafod can be compared.



Fig. 6: Earthworks relating to the fort ditches, seen in the field to the north-west of Hafod, taken from the south-west (CPAT 4983-0019)

Post-Medieval and Modern Periods

- 2.9. The original house at Hafod was probably stone-built, with later modifications constructed using brick. Hafod appears on the earliest available cartographic source, the 1817 Ordnance Surveyors drawing (No 198, Fig. 8), though this is at a small scale and no details can be identified. The same is true of the 1836 Ordnance Survey map (not reproduced), that was based on the surveyors drawing.



Fig. 7: The north-east end of Hafod, showing the stone end wall, the later brick extension seen on the 1902 map is to the right. CPAT 4983-0001



Fig. 8: Buildings at Hafod, outlined in red, as depicted on the 1817 Ordnance Surveyors drawing

2.10. When the Tithe map was drawn in 1846 (Fig. 9), the house appeared to comprise two main parts placed end-to-end and aligned approximately north-east/south-west. The stone north-east end wall of Hafod (Fig. 7), is probably the only survivor from the north-east part of this 1846 building and the rest (see Fig. 3) represents what seems to have been a later, brick-built, south-western part. No other evidence for what is likely to have been an original stone house can be seen, but it seems likely that it would have extended to the north-east, beyond the current dwelling (see Fig. 12). A further structure is evident on the map to the south-west of the house, in the approximate location of the existing garage.



Fig. 9: Hafod, outlined in red, as depicted on the 1846 Tithe map

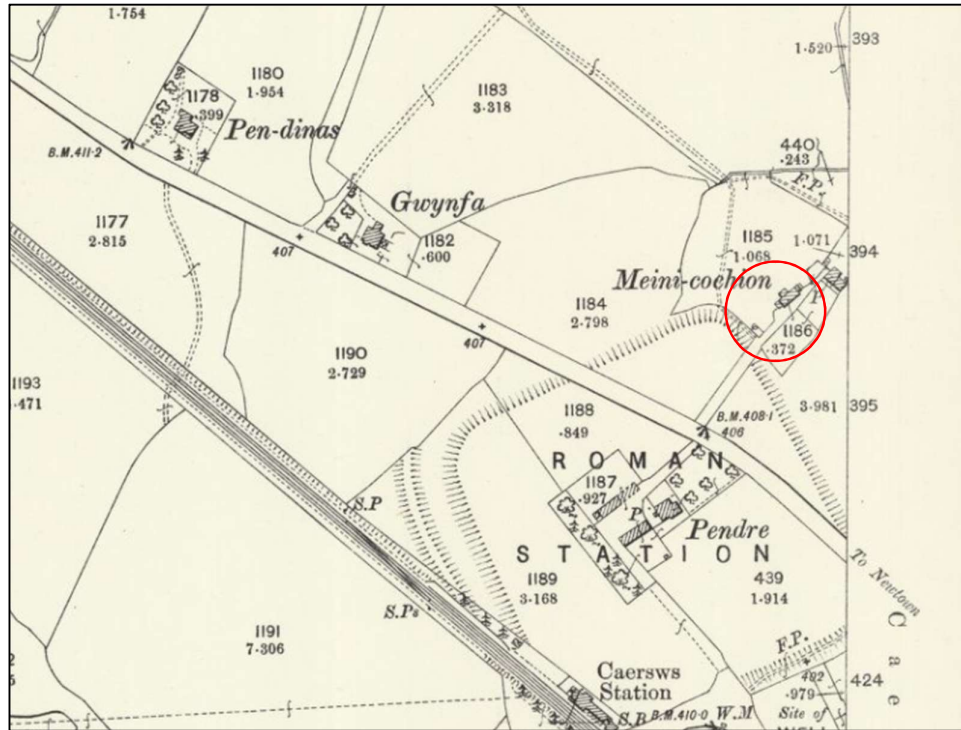


Fig. 9: Hafod, outlined in red, but named Meini-cochion on the 1902 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map

- 2.11. The situation is somewhat different on the 1902 Ordnance Survey map (Fig. 9), where the house was depicted extending to the north-east, north-west, and south-west. Of these, that to the north-east (seemingly shorter than in 1846) is no longer present, though the north-western and south-western ones survive, as the 19th-century brick extension and lean-to respectively marked on Fig. 12. Again, a structure of some form is depicted on the approximate site of the garage; CPAT have been informed that the garage was built relatively recently and was placed on a concrete slab that was already in position at the time, though what building this might have related to is unknown. The earthworks of the fort rampart lie immediately to the south-west and this can be readily appreciated from Fig. 9.

3 Impact Assessment

- 3.1. The current proposals are for an extension on the north-west and south-west sides of Hafod, extending the house about 2.4m in either direction (see Fig 10). Two of the 1995 trenches (C and D) were excavated within this area, and although no evidence for Roman features was observed it has become apparent that both trenches were placed on the line of the outer ditch of the fort defences. Just over half of the width of the proposed extension on both sides lies within the scheduled area of the Caersws Roman Site (MG001), which seems to have been redrawn around Hafod after the 1995 excavation. The detached garage lies wholly within the scheduled area.
- 3.2. The access track to Meini-cochion passes close by the south-east side of Hafod, and this area is currently not scheduled. To the north-east of the house, the scheduled area (see Fig. 12) is generally rather more distant than in the area of the proposed extension; it is here where an earlier part of Hafod appears to be shown on cartographic sources, though this seems to have been demolished in the 19th century.



Fig. 10: Hafod viewed from the west, showing the site of the proposed extension. CPAT 4983-0006



Fig. 11: The garage to the south-west of Hafod. CPAT 4983-0025

- 3.3. In addition to the proposed construction of the extension, it has also been suggested that the existing fence between Hafod and the field to the north-west be moved to create more space within the grounds. This is likely to fall within what seems to be a relatively untouched section of the defences, as noted in para 2.7 and seen on Fig. 6. There is, however, an existing septic tank in the field and its associated pipework extends from the house and across the garden;

what deposits were encountered during its construction and when that took place is not known. It could potentially be related to a brick-built tank that was seen in the 1995 excavations (Fig 12).

General

- 3.4. Paragraph 5.4 of Cadw's Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales states "When considering change, public authorities will give due importance to the heritage values of a site when considering the sustainability of proposals submitted to them". It is clear that the main heritage value of the Caersws Roman site lies in its physical remains, both on the surface and more particularly beneath it, and it is this that has led to the interventions mentioned above in the case of areas that are undesignated. In the case of the designated (scheduled) areas, the information on which these have been judged as sufficiently important to be designated is strong. This is based on a combination of the knowledge of the standard layouts of Roman military installations and projections from this based on evidence revealed by excavations in the past.
- 3.5. Conservation Principles also states that "Every reasonable effort should be made to eliminate or minimize adverse impacts on historic assets. Ultimately, however, it may be necessary to balance the benefit of the proposed change against the harm to the asset. If so, the weight given to heritage values should be proportionate to the importance of the assets and the impact of the change upon them. The historic environment is constantly changing, but each significant part of it represents a finite resource. If it is not sustained, its heritage values will be eroded or lost. In addition, its potential to give distinctiveness, meaning and quality to the places in which people live, and provide people with a sense of continuity and a source of identity will be diminished. The historic environment is a social and economic asset and a cultural resource for learning and enjoyment". Impacts have been assessed using the standard criteria detailed in Appendix 1.

Direct Impacts

- 3.6. The main impact of the proposals would be from the construction of the extension. As it is currently proposed, the excavation for the foundations would extend approximately 2.5m from the existing building and intrude into the scheduled area on both the north-west and south-west sides. The proposed depth of the excavations is understood to be 600-700mm and while excavations carried out in 1995 were taken to a depth of 1.0m and recorded little, they seem to have been insufficient in scale to properly identify the nature of the archaeological resource. As far as can be judged from the results in hindsight there was approximately 400mm of topsoil with disturbed Roman and later material, and a further 600mm of late- or post-Roman clay (ditch infill?) deposits in this area. There is little doubt from examining later aerial photographs that the defensive circuit of the fort is present beneath at least some parts of Hafod. Although the upper fills of the ditches are likely to be post-Roman in date, there is potential for direct impacts from the proposed development, as detailed in Table 1. Applying proportionality and severity of impact, however, as defined in page 18 of Cadw's Conservation Principles "*Changes to historic assets are inevitable To ensure the long-term future of historic assets, change needs to be managed to ensure that their significance is not diminished as a consequence*" and paragraph 47 "*When considering the severity of potential impacts upon an historic asset, there should always be proportionality and reasonableness*" the proposed depth (c.200-300mm below topsoil) and extent (2.5m x 25m) of groundworks would result in disturbance of the upper most deposits for a very minimal zone on the edge of the scheduled monument, namely a clay deposit which previous investigation has not identified as containing artefactual evidence. When these factors and

potential mitigation measures are assessed, a residual significance suggests a slight or neutral effect.

Table 1: Designated heritage assets with potential direct impacts

SM No	Name	Value	Magnitude of impact	Significance of impact
MG001	Caersws Roman Site	High	Moderate adverse	Moderate/large adverse
	Proportional damage to monument as percentage of total scale and depth of archaeological remains		Negligible	Slight adverse
	Potential mitigation 1: raise finished floor level and so reduce direct impact		No change	Neutral
	Potential mitigation 2: archaeological recording		Negligible	Slight beneficial

- 3.7. Without mitigation measures, the application of the standard assessment of impact matrix suggests that the potential impact of the construction of the extension and other works on this very small part of the scheduled site would be **moderate** and the significance **moderate/large** (adverse) and permanent. It is thus likely to be a material consideration in the decision-making process. Application of Conservation Principles proportionality and appropriate mitigation, however, would suggest a slight or neutral adverse or beneficial effect could be achieved from the proposed development re-design and archaeological recording.
- 3.8. Although the area to the west of the current building is scheduled, this is the site of the septic tank and drains serving Hafod. It may be possible to install any new services that are proposed within the existing extents of these services which would not only minimise the impact, if done carefully and under archaeological supervision, but with provision for the recording of any features that might be revealed, could provide information on the nature of the fort defences at this point and be beneficial to the understanding of the scheduled monument. If so, this would be an aid to Cadw in their management of the scheduled site and then the asset of **high** value would receive an impact of **moderate** (beneficial) magnitude, making the corresponding significance **moderate/large** (beneficial) and long term. The movement of the existing fence further to the north-west would involve the excavation of new holes for the supporting posts and this is assessed to have a potential for a **minor** impact on a well-preserved section of the scheduled site, giving a long term **moderate/slight** significance.

Indirect Impacts

- 3.9. Given that the construction of the extension would involve only a minor intrusion to the field of view from the scheduled site, it is suggested that the magnitude of this impact on the **high** value asset would be **negligible**, and the significance of impact therefore **slight** and long term.

Caersws Roman Site (MG001)

Evidential Value

- 3.10. This derives from those elements of an historic asset that can provide evidence about past human activity, including its physical remains or historic fabric. These may be visible and relatively easy to assess, or they may be buried below ground, under water or hidden by later fabric. These remains provide the primary evidence for when and how an historic asset was made or built, what it was used for and how it has changed over time. The unrecorded loss of historic fabric represents the destruction of the primary evidence.
- 3.11. As has already been noted, the immediate locality of the proposed development contains surface and sub-surface traces of the defences that protected the Roman fort. The 1995 excavations probably indicate that within the area of the extension itself, the uppermost 0.4m of the soils post-date the Roman period. Any foundations deeper than this are likely to have an impact on Roman deposits, whether these are in-situ ditches or the material that appears to have sealed them when they either became redundant or were hidden by material placed there to alleviate flooding. In the field to north-west, the earthworks of the ditches are still visible as surface features and the rarity of this level of survival in comparison to elsewhere around the fort at Caersws gives them an added significance which should be respected by the proposed development.
- 3.12. Nevertheless, the proposals would presumably involve some works relating to the existing septic tank in the field. As long as these utilised existing trenches and drainage pipe routes and did not create further disturbance to the Roman defences, observation and recording of this work might provide an opportunity to better understand the nature of the defences.
- 3.13. Some of the area surrounding Hafod is not currently scheduled, specifically to its north-east and south-east. While the latter is occupied by the access road that serves Meini-cochion, the former is a gravelled area and could provide an opportunity for an extension if the current proposals are rejected. This was the position which 19th-century cartographic sources suggest was occupied by part of the house that has since been demolished. It seems to lie outside the fort ditches and if any Roman deposits were originally here they are more likely to have been disturbed or removed as a result.

Historical Value

- 3.14. An historic asset might illustrate a particular aspect of past life or it may be associated with a notable family, person, event or movement. These illustrative or associated values of an historic asset may be less tangible than its evidential value but will often connect past people, events and aspects of life with the present and are not so easily diminished by change as evidential values and are harmed only to the extent that adaption has obliterated them or concealed them.
- 3.15. The Roman fort at Caersws is one of the more significant military sites of the period in central Wales and illustrates the nature of the occupation very well, particularly as there was an associated civil settlement (or vicus), extending to the south and east over an area of some 7ha. This is the second largest such settlement known within Powys (Jones, 2011, 35).
- 3.16. Notable characters in the history of Welsh antiquarian research visited the fort and performed early investigations into the locality. Prime among these was Thomas Pennant, who wrote of the site in the 1780s, and noted the presence of ditches on the north side of the fort. He was

followed by Sir Richard Colt Hoare, whose visit of 1804 was recorded by his companion, Richard Fenton.

Aesthetic Value

- 3.17. This derives from the way people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from an historic asset. This might include the form of an historic asset, its external appearance and how it lies within its setting. It can be the result of conscious design or it might be a seemingly fortuitous outcome of the way in which an historic asset has evolved and been used over time, or it may be a combination of both.
- 3.18. The main rampart of the fort is visible as earthworks on the edge of the village but its overall form, and particularly that of the associated vicus can really only be appreciated with the help of cartography and an understanding of the results of previous investigations. The sections of rampart that survive are divided by the main A470 road and the Roman site here has little aesthetic merit. The vicus lies beneath the houses and gardens of the modern village and has no visible presence in the landscape that can be appreciated.

Communal Value

- 3.19. This derives from the meanings that an historic asset has for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory. It is closely linked to historical and aesthetic values but tends to have additional or specific aspects. Communal value might be commemorative or symbolic. For example, people might draw part of their identity or collective memory from an historic asset, or have emotional links to it. Social, economic and spiritual values can also be identified under this broad heading.
- 3.20. The fort and vicus are known locally but are less-well appreciated by the wider public owing to the paucity of visible traces and the lack of any signage or other means of conveying its presence to the casual visitor. There is no doubt that the large number of archaeological interventions undertaken as part of the planning process have alerted the local population to the presence of Roman activity here, but whether they derive any collective or individual value from this knowledge is less certain. This may be the case for those of the local population who have an interest in the history of the village, but is unlikely to be significant for a proportion of the residents.

4 Conclusions

- 4.1. Part of the proposed development lies within the scheduled area of the Caersws Roman Site (MG001) and, as such, will require scheduled monument consent to proceed in its current form.
- 4.2. An excavation was carried out in 1995 within the proposed footprint of the development. This was in advance of the construction of an earlier extension to Hafod and recorded little of archaeological significance, though in the light of subsequent aerial photography it is clear that the area examined fell within the compass of the outermost parts of the fort defences. This can most probably be explained by the small scale of the excavations which would not have enabled the nature of the archaeology to have been correctly appreciated.
- 4.3. There is no doubt, given the potential depth of the ditches, that elements of the fort defences will have survived within the area of the development, and this is highlighted by the presence of surviving earthworks belonging to the fort defences in the field to the north-west of the

garden of Hafod, As far as is known, this is the only place where surface traces of the fort ditches survive at Caersws. The 1995 excavation suggests, however, that at least the uppermost 0.4m of the deposits within the area of the proposed extension post-dates the Roman period.

- 4.4. Early mapping suggests that the house at Hafod once covered a larger area, most probably extending further to the north-east than it does at present. The remains of this now only seem to survive as the stone-built north-east end wall of the house; the rest being brick-built. Any Roman features that may once have been present within the site occupied by the earlier structure are likely to have already been disturbed. As far as can be determined, this lies outside the scheduled area.
- 4.5. The existing garage, together with the septic tank and its associated pipework all lie within the scheduled area. Any works on these, or other elements of the dwelling infrastructure, will also require scheduled monument consent, though if the proposed works involve no further disturbance to in-situ features this may provide a useful opportunity for examination and recording and could provide a beneficial impact of the proposed works.

5 Sources

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Hankinson, R., 2021. *Caersws Water Main Replacement, Powys*, Unpublished CPAT Report No 1801.

Owen, W. G., 1995. *Hafod, Carno Road, Caersws, Powys: Archaeological excavation*, CPAT Report 144.

Cartographic sources

1817 Ordnance Survey Surveyors' Drawing No 198

1836 Ordnance Survey 1 inch: 1 mile map – Sheet 60

1846 Tithe map for Llanwnnog Parish

1902 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 2nd edition Montgomeryshire 35.15

6 Archive deposition Statement

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

Archive summary

CPAT Event PRN: 214611

26 digital photographs, CPAT film no 4983

Appendix 1: Methodology for assessing the potential impacts of development on heritage assets

General

The primary aim of any assessment is to identify the heritage assets within a development site in as far as constraints such as varying land-use allow, and to provide a report on them which should enable the reader to understand their historical context, offer guidance on their level of importance, whether national, regional or local, identify the significance of impact that the development might have upon them, and recommend mitigation to limit the impact of the development on them.

Impacts and Effects

The development may affect a heritage asset in one of several ways:

- i) **Direct Impact:** A direct impact upon a heritage asset involves the physical alteration or destruction of the latter as a result of the construction, operation or decommissioning of a development. Direct impacts could include the site clearance, reduction of levels, foundations, services, access roads etc.
- ii) **Indirect Impact:** Sometimes known as a secondary impact. An indirect impact arises where the connection between the development and the asset is remote or unpredictable and can affect an asset lying outside the development site. An indirect impact can be physical or visual, and in certain circumstances noise, smell and the like might also be considered under this heading. It should be noted too that in Wales, visual intrusion is normally considered to be indirect, but in England it appears to be classed as a direct impact.
- iii) **Cumulative Impact:** A cumulative impact may arise from the multiple effects of the same development on a single asset, or the multiple effects of the development and of other developments on an asset.

It should be noted that the terms impact and effect are frequently used interchangeably, although there are fine gradations in the meanings of the two words. On occasions these are both used in reports though without explanation.

The Assessment Methodology

It is a general tenet in conservation strategies that heritage assets represent a non-renewable resource, and should be avoided wherever this is feasible in order to avoid damage or destruction. All sites can be classified according to a system based on that provided for the assessment of heritage assets in the *Design Manual for Roads and Bridges* (revised 2019) (Volume 11, Section 3, Part 2).

The relative value (importance) of a heritage asset, as given in greater detail in DMRB (2019) is laid out in Table 1.

Table 1: Factors for Assessing the Value of Heritage Assets (based on DMRB 2019, Table 3.2N)

Factors for Assessing the Value of Heritage Assets	
Very High	Very high importance and rarity, international scale and very limited potential for substitution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • World Heritage Sites (including those nominated). • Assets of acknowledged international importance. • Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged international research objectives.
High	High importance and rarity, national scale, and limited potential for substitution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scheduled Monuments (including those proposed). • Non-designated monuments of which could potentially be worthy of scheduling. • Listed Buildings. • Assets that can contribute significantly to acknowledged national research objectives.
Medium	Medium or high importance and rarity, regional scale, limited potential for substitution: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Areas. • Designated or non-designated assets that contribute to regional research objectives.
Low	Low or medium importance and rarity, local scale: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Non-designated assets of local importance. • Assets compromised by poor preservation and/or poor survival of contextual associations. • Assets of limited value, but with the potential to contribute to local research objectives.
Negligible	Very low importance and rarity, local scale: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assets with very little or no surviving heritage interest.
Unknown	The importance of the resource has not been ascertained.

Factors that need to be considered in assessing the magnitude of the impact are given in Table 2, based on the DMRB (2019, Table 3.4N), but in modified form, for each historic environment sub-topic (archaeological remains, historic buildings, historic landscapes etc) has its own set of factors, which are set out in great detail in the Design Manual.

Table 2: Magnitude of impact and typical descriptions

Magnitude of impact (change)		Typical description
Major	Adverse	Loss of resource and/or quality and integrity of resource; severe damage to key characteristics, features or elements.
	Beneficial	Large scale or major improvement of resource quality; extensive restoration; major improvement of attribute quality.
Moderate	Adverse	Loss of resource, but not adversely affecting the integrity; partial loss of/damage to key characteristics, features or elements.
	Beneficial	Benefit to, or addition of, key characteristics, features or elements; improvement of attribute quality.

Minor	Adverse	Some measurable change in attributes, quality or vulnerability; minor loss of, or alteration to, one (maybe more) key characteristics, features or elements.
	Beneficial	Minor benefit to, or addition of, one (maybe more) key characteristics, features or elements; some beneficial impact on attribute or a reduced risk of negative impact occurring.
Negligible	Adverse	Very minor loss or detrimental alteration to one or more characteristics, features or elements.
	Beneficial	Very minor benefit to or positive addition of one or more characteristics, features or elements.
No change		No loss or alteration of characteristics, features or elements; no observable impact in either direction.

The significance of the impact of a development on a particular heritage asset is then established from the matrix (Table 3) also taken from the DMRB (2019, Part 4: LA 104, Table 3.8.1).

Table 3: Significance Matrix

Magnitude of Impact	Value/Sensitivity of Heritage Asset				
	Very High	High	Medium	Low	Negligible
Major	Very Large	Large/ Very large	Moderate/ Large	Slight/ Moderate	Slight
Moderate	Large/Very Large	Moderate/ Large	Moderate	Slight	Neutral/ Slight
Minor	Moderate/ Large	Moderate/ Slight	Slight	Neutral/ Slight	Neutral/ Slight
Negligible	Slight	Slight	Neutral/ Slight	Neutral/ Slight	Neutral
No change	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral

The degree to which the significance of the effect might the decision-making process can be summarised in Table 4, which is taken from the DMRB (2019, Part 4: LA 104, Table 3.7).

Table 4: Significance categories and typical descriptions.

Significance category	Typical description
Very large	Effects at this level are material in the decision-making process
Large	Effects at this level are likely to be material in the decision-making process.
Moderate	Effects at this level can be considered to be material decision-making factors
Slight	Effects at this level are not material in the decision-making process
Neutral	No effects or those that are beneath levels of perception, within normal bounds of variation or within the margin of forecasting error

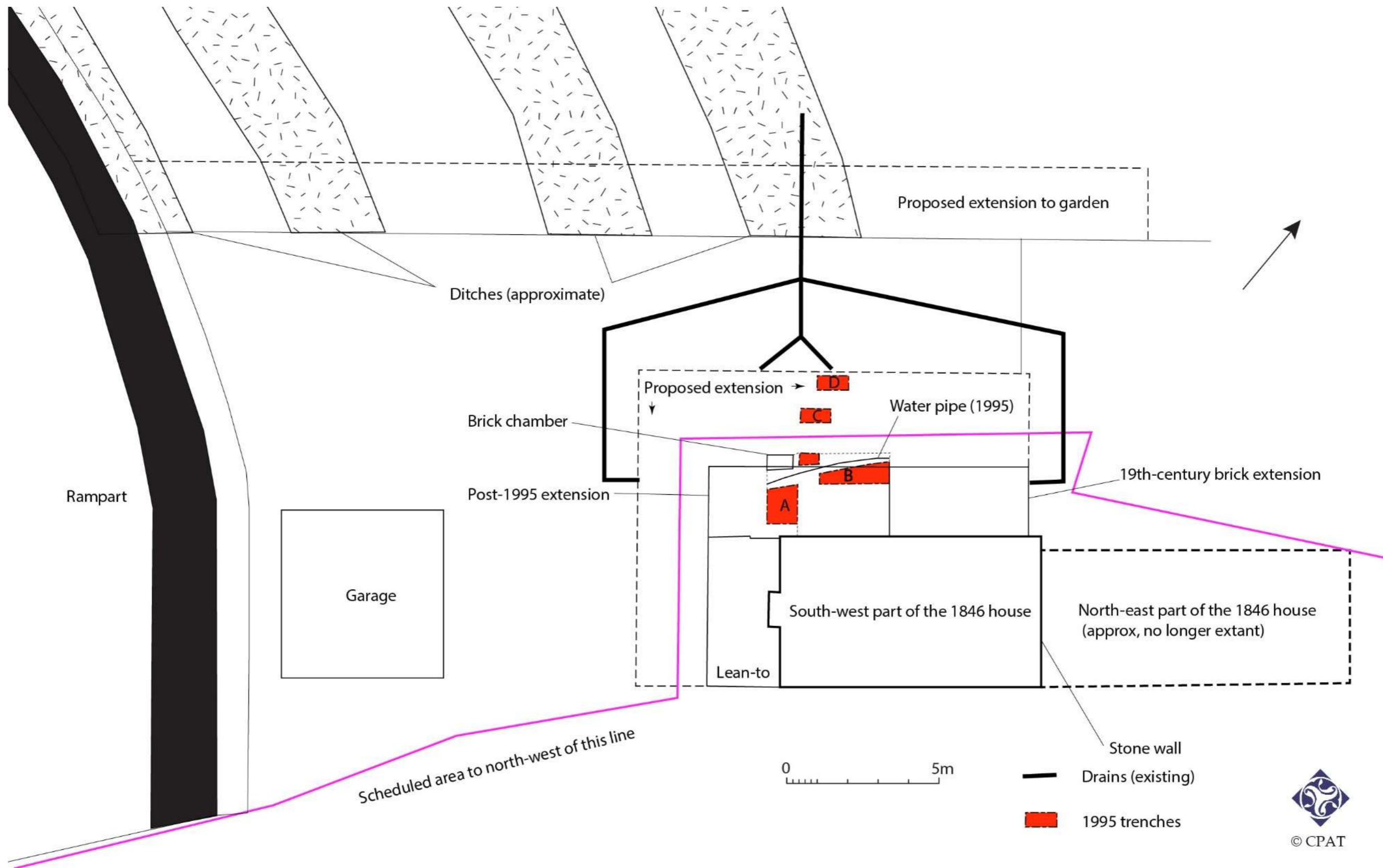


Fig. 12: Overall layout of Hafod, showing the approximate locations of the Roman defences, scheduled area, 1995 trenches and details of the house