



Pennant Walters

GLANLLYNFI GARTH WIND FARM

Draft Environmental Statement

Chapter 7 - Historic Environment



Contents

7	Historic Environment	1
7.1	Introduction	1
7.2	Relevant legislation, planning policy and technical guidance	3
7.3	Consultation and Engagement	6
7.4	Data gathering methodology	9
7.5	Overall baseline	13
7.6	Embedded measures	26
7.7	Scope of the assessment	26
7.8	Assessment methodology	31
7.9	Assessment of Historic Environment effects	34
7.10	Assessment of cumulative (inter-project) effects	35
7.11	Significance conclusions	41
7.12	Further work to be undertaken	48

Tables

Table 7.1: Legislation relevant to the Historic Environment assessment	3
Table 7.2: Planning policy relevant to the Historic Environment assessment	3
Table 7.3: Technical guidance relevant to the Historic Environment assessment	5
Table 7.4: Summary of EIA Scoping Direction Responses for the Historic Environment	6
Table 7.5: Technical engagement on the Historic Environment assessment	8
Table 7.6: Data sources used to inform the Historic Environment assessment	10
Table 7.10: Historic Environment receptors subject to potential effects	30
Table 7.11: Summary of effects scoped out of the Historic Environment assessment	30
Table 7.12: Establishing the value of historic assets	32
Table 7.13: Establishing the magnitude of change	33
Table 7.14: Significance of evaluation matrix	33
Table 7.15: Summary of Cumulative Impacts – Y Bryn Wind Farm	36
Table 7.16: Summary of Cumulative Impacts – Mynydd Ty-talwyn Energy Park	39
Table 7.17: Summary of significance of effects	42

Appendices (see Volume 3)

Appendix Number	Appendix Title
Appendix 7A	Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment

7 Historic Environment

7.1 Introduction

7.1.1. This chapter presents the assessment of the likely significant effects of the Proposed Development with respect to the Historic Environment. The Historic Environment is defined in Cadw's *Conservation Principles* as:

“All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and deliberately planted or managed.”¹

7.1.2. This is represented by features, or assets, including buildings, archaeological remains and artefact scatters. Some historic assets have been designated as Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings or Conservation Areas, Registered Park and Gardens, and Registered Historic Landscapes. These and non-designated assets are managed in the planning process in accordance with national and local planning policy and guidance (further details on policy and guidance in **Section 7.2**).

7.1.3. The assessment is based on information obtained to date. It should be read in conjunction with the project description provided in **Chapter 4: Development Description** and with respect to relevant parts of the following chapters.

7.1.4. This chapter describes:

- the legislation, policy and technical guidance that has informed the assessment (**Section 7.2**);
- consultation and engagement that has been undertaken and how comments from consultees relating to the Historic Environment have been addressed (**Section 7.3**);
- the methods used for baseline data gathering (**Section 7.4**);
- overall baseline (Section 7.5);
- embedded measures relevant to the Historic Environment (**Section 7.6**);
- the scope of the assessment for the Historic Environment (**Section 7.7**);
- the methods used for the assessment (Section 7.8);
- the assessment of the Historic Environment effects (**Section 7.9**);
- assessment of cumulative (inter-project) effects (**Section 7.10**);
- a summary of the significance conclusions (**Section 7.11**); and
- an outline of further work to be undertaken for the Final Environmental Statement (ES) (**Section 7.12**).

¹ Cadw, Welsh Government (2011), *Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales*, 36. (Online). Available at: https://cadw.gov.wales/sites/default/files/2019-05/Conservation_Principles%20for%20the%20sustainable%20managment%20fo%20the%20historic%20environment%20of%20Wales.pdf (Accessed June 2026)

- 7.1.5. In addition, this Chapter is supported by **Appendix 7A: Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment** (HEDBA). The HEDBA includes a full historic environment gazetteer of all known and identified designated and non-designated historic assets within the Study Areas. **Appendix 7A** also includes the results of the Stage 1 Settings Assessment, as requested by Cadw (see **Table 7.4**).
- 7.1.6. This Chapter is supported by the following Figures, of which are included within **Appendix 7A**:
- **Figure 7A.1:** Site Location Plan
 - **Figure 7A.2:** Designated Historic Assets
 - **Figure 7A.3:** Non-Designated Historic Assets
 - **Figure 7A.4:** Tithe Map
 - **Figure 7A.5:** OS Map of 1886
 - **Figure 7A.6:** OS Map of 1899
 - **Figure 7A.7:** OS Map of 1962
 - **Figure 7A.8:** LiDAR
 - **Figure 7A.9:** Historic Assets within ZTV
 - **Figure 7A.10:** Historic Assets Identified during Site Visit

Limitations and assumptions

- 7.1.7. The Draft ES has been produced to fulfil Pennant Walters's consultation duties and enable consultees to develop an informed view of the likely significant effects of the Proposed Development.
- 7.1.8. The following limitations have been identified:
- The baseline data collection has involved the completion of a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (HEDBA). This is a predictive tool and relies on a series of assumptions and extrapolations to develop an understanding of the potential extent and character of archaeological remains within the Proposed Development Site (the 'Development Site'); and
 - The HEDBA has involved the collection of data from the Historic Environment Record (HER). The HER is continually updated as further data regarding the historic environment becomes available; for example, when the results of recent archaeological investigations are made available. As the HER is a record only of known features, it is not a reliable predictive tool but can provide useful information that can be used with other information to develop an understanding of the potential presence, nature and significance of archaeological remains.
- 7.1.9. There are no limitations relating to the Historic Environment that affect the robustness of the assessment of the potential likely significant effects of the Proposed Development.

7.2 Relevant legislation, planning policy and technical guidance

- 7.2.1. This section identifies the legislation, planning policy and technical guidance that has informed the assessment of effects with respect to the Historic Environment. Further information on policies relevant to the Project is provided in **Chapter 5: Legislation and policy overview**.

Legislation

- 7.2.2. A summary of the relevant legislation is given in **Table 7.1**.

Table 7.1: Legislation relevant to the Historic Environment assessment

Legislation	Context
The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023 ²	The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023 provides for the protection of monuments, buildings and conservation areas in Wales. The Act now includes a range of legal protections and legislative guidelines for the historic environment, such as provisions for archaeological sites, listed buildings, and conservation areas.

Planning Policy

- 7.2.3. A summary of the relevant national and local planning policy is given in **Table 7.2**.

Table 7.2: Planning policy relevant to the Historic Environment assessment

Technical guidance document	Context
National planning policy	
Future Wales: The National Plan 2040 (Updated 20 March 2026) ³	Policy 18 – states that DNS scale renewable energy developments will be permitted provided there are no unacceptable adverse impacts on statutorily protected built heritage assets. Policy 35 – ‘Valleys Regional Park’ is relevant to south-east Wales. “The Welsh Government supports the establishment of the Valleys Regional Park. Strategic and Local Development Plans should embed its principles into their planning frameworks. The Welsh Government will work with local authorities, the third sector and key partners to support the Valleys Regional Park and maximise opportunities for new development.” “The Welsh Government, communities and partners have developed a positive framework through ‘Our Valleys, Our Future’ to drive change and regeneration. The Valleys Regional Park seeks to maximise the social, economic and environmental potential of the Valleys’ natural and cultural historic assets and it is important the planning system supports its delivery.”

² Historic Environment Wales Act 2023, available at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asc/2023/3/contents> [accessed 10 July 2026]

³ Welsh Government 2026, *Future Wales: the national plan 2040*, available at: <https://www.gov.wales/future-wales-national-plan-2040> [accessed 10 July 2026]

Technical guidance document	Context
Planning Policy Wales, Edition 12 (2024) ⁴	National planning policy for Wales is set out in Planning Policy Wales (Edition 12, 2024) (PPW). Chapter 6, 'Distinctive and Natural Places', explains how the planning system must take into account the Welsh Government's objectives to protect, conserve, promote and enhance the historic environment as a resource for the general well-being of present and future generations. It also sets out the planning policies for the sustainable management of specific categories of historic assets. The objectives within PPW are supported by Technical Advice Note 24 (TAN 24) <i>The Historic Environment</i> . ⁵
Local planning policy	
The Bridgend County Borough Council Local Development Plan 2018-2033 (adopted on 13 March 2024) ⁶ . Specific local planning policy relevant to heritage is contained within Policies SP3 – Good Design and Sustainable Placemaking; and SP 18: Conservation of the Historic Environment (Local Development Plan, 2024).	SP3: requires all development to contribute to creating high-quality, attractive, sustainable places that support active and healthy lives and enhance the community in which they are located, whilst having regard to the natural, historic and built environment. SP18: Conservation of the Historic Environment Development proposals must protect, conserve, and, where appropriate, preserve and enhance the significance of historic assets, including their settings. In particular, there is a general presumption in favour of the preservation or enhancement of the significance of historic assets and their settings including: World Heritage Sites; Scheduled Monuments; Archaeologically Sensitive Areas and Archaeological Remains; Listed Buildings; Conservation Areas; Historic Parks and Gardens and Historic Landscapes.
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council (RCTBC) Local Development Plan 2006 – 2021 (adopted March 2011) ⁷ Specifically local planning policy relevant to heritage is contained within Policy AW7: Protection and Enhancement of the Built Environment	AW7: Development proposals which impact upon sites of architectural and / or historical merit and sites of archaeological importance will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that the proposal would preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the site. Development proposals which affect areas of public open space, allotments, public rights of way, bridleways and cycle tracks will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that: 1. There is a surplus of such facilities in the locality, or; 2. The loss can be replaced with an equivalent or greater provision in the immediate locality; or 3. The development enhances the existing facility
Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (NPTCBC) Local Development Plan 2011-2026 (adopted January 2016) ⁸ Specifically local planning policy relevant to heritage is contained within Strategic Policy SP21 Built Environment and Historic Heritage	SP21: The built environment and historic heritage will, where appropriate, be conserved and enhanced through the following measures: 1. Encouraging high quality design standards in all development proposals; 2. Protecting arterial gateways from intrusive and inappropriate development; 3. Safeguarding features of historic and cultural importance; 4. The identification of the following designated sites to enable their protection and where appropriate enhancement:

⁴ Welsh Government 2024, *Planning Policy Wales* Edition 12 February 2024, available at:

<https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2024-07/planning-policy-wales-edition-12.pdf> [accessed 10 July 2026]

⁵ Welsh Government 2026, *Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment*, available at: <https://www.gov.wales/technical-advice-note-tan-24-historic-environment> [accessed 10 July 2026]

⁶ Bridgend County Borough Council 2024, Local Development Plan 2018-2033, available at:

<https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/media/izcfp1f/written-statement.pdf> [accessed 10 July 2026]

⁷ Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council 2011, Rhondda Cynon Taf Local Development Plan up to 2021, available at:

<https://www.rctcbc.gov.uk/EN/Resident/PlanningandBuildingControl/LocalDevelopmentPlans/RelateddocumentsLDP20062021/AdoptedLocalDevelopmentPlan.pdf> [accessed 10 July 2026]

⁸ Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council 2016, Local Development Plan (2011-2026) available at:

https://media.npt.gov.uk/media/ca2fbumd/ldp_written_statement_jan16.pdf?v=20240823155047 [accessed 10 July 2026]

Technical guidance document	Context
	(a) Landscapes of Historic Interest; (b) Historic Parks and Gardens; (c) Conservation Areas; (d) Scheduled Ancient Monuments; and (e) Listed Buildings and their curtilage.

Technical Guidance

7.2.4. A summary of the technical guidance for the Historic Environment is given in **Table 7.3**.

Table 7.3: Technical guidance relevant to the Historic Environment assessment

Technical guidance document	Context
Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment ⁹	TAN 24 was adopted in May 2017 to provide guidance on how the planning system should consider the historic environment during development plan preparation and decision making on planning applications.
Cadw. Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales ¹⁰	Sets out the general principles to consider when planning changes to historic assets and applying for listed building, conservation area and scheduled monument consent.
Cadw. Setting of Historic Assets in Wales ¹¹	Sets out the principles used to assess the potential impact of development or land management proposals within the settings of World Heritage Sites, ancient monuments (scheduled and unscheduled), listed buildings, registered historic parks and gardens, and conservation areas.
Cadw. Managing Historic Character in Wales ¹²	Explains why it is important to recognise historic character and use it as an evidence base for conservation, regeneration, and planning work. It shows how policies and programmes to manage change can take inspiration from the past to help create and sustain distinctive places for the future.
Cadw. Conservation Principles ¹³	Informs the determination of historic asset significance using four key heritage values: evidential, historical, aesthetic, and communal.
CIfA. Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment ¹⁴	Sets out standards for the production of archaeological desk-based assessments.

⁹ Welsh Government 2026, *Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment*, available at: <https://www.gov.wales/technical-advice-note-tan-24-historic-environment> [accessed 10 July 2026]

¹⁰ Cadw 2017 (revised 2025), *Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales*, available at: https://cadw.gov.wales/sites/default/files/2026-05/52797%20Heritage%20Impact%20Assessment%20in%20Wales%20%20%28E%29_WEB.pdf [accessed 10 July 2026]

¹¹ Cadw 2017, *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales*, available at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/placemaking/heritage-impact-assessment/setting-historic-assets> [accessed 10 July 2026]

¹² Cadw 2017, *Managing Historic Character in Wales*, available at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/placemaking/historic-character/managing-historic-character> [accessed 10 July 2026]

¹³ Cadw 2011, *Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales*, available at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/historic-assets/conservation-principles> [accessed 10 July 2026]

¹⁴ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014. *Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment* Available at: <https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/2023-11/CIfA-SandG-DBA-2020.pdf> [accessed 10 July 2026]

Technical guidance document	Context
ClfA. Standard and guidance for stewardship for the historic environment ¹⁵	Defines the outcome of work that satisfies aspirations for good stewardship and describes best practices for achieving it.
ClfA. Standard and guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment ¹⁶	Defines the standards for providing consultancy advice on the historic environment.
ClfA. Code of Conduct ¹⁷	Defines the general standard of conduct to be followed by members of the institute.

7.3 Consultation and Engagement

Overview

- 7.3.1. The assessment has been informed by consultation responses and ongoing stakeholder engagement. An overview of the approach to consultation is provided in **Chapter 2: Approach to EIA**.

Scoping Opinion

- 7.3.2. A Scoping Direction was issued by Planning and Environment Decisions Wales (PEDW), on behalf of the Welsh Ministers, on 12 June 2026. A summary of the relevant responses received in the Scoping Opinion in relation to the Historic Environment and confirmation of how these have been addressed within the assessment to date is presented in **Table 7.4**.
- 7.3.3. The information provided forms part of the Draft ES and not all of the Scoping Direction comments have been addressed at this stage. Consideration 'Buried Non-Designated Archaeological Remains (ID.13)' has not been actioned prior to this Draft ES, as a full HEDBA is required to ascertain the historic environment context and archaeological potential of the Site in order to inform a suitable archaeological mitigation strategy. All comments will be addressed within the Final ES.

Table 7.4: Summary of EIA Scoping Direction Responses for the Historic Environment

Consultee	Consideration	How addressed in this Draft ES
Cadw	Designated Historic Assets (ID.16) <i>'Cadw is in agreement with the assessment which follows the Welsh Government guidance in "The Setting of</i>	Cadw guidance forms part of the overarching methodology for the HEDBA and the Draft ES Chapter, including <i>The Setting of Historic Assets</i>

¹⁵ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014. *Standard and guidance for stewardship for the historic environment*. (Online) Available at <https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/2023-11/ClfA-SandG-Historic-Environment-Stewardship-2020.pdf> [accessed 10 July 2026]

¹⁶ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2020. *Standard and guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment*, available at <https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/2023-11/ClfA-SandG-Historic-Environment-Stewardship-2020.pdf> [accessed 10 July 2026]

¹⁷ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2025. *Code of Conduct: professional ethics in archaeology*, available at: https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/2025-10/Code-of-conduct_revOct-2025.pdf [accessed 10 July 2026]

Consultee	Consideration	How addressed in this Draft ES
	<i>Historic Assets in Wales". In "Annex A" of their response, Cadw provides a list of identified designated historic assets that are within the ZTV and are within 5km of the development. The ES should include an appendix of the results of a stage 1 assessment carried out for all the listed designated historic assets. Stage 1 assessments should determine the need for carrying out stages 2 to 4 on specific assets in the ES.'</i>	<i>in Wales (2017). The HEDBA includes all assets identified within a 5km radius of the Development Site as part of the Stage 1 assessment, including those which are located within the ZTV, as set out in Annex 7A.C of Appendix 7A. Historic assets taken further for assessment stages 2 – 4 have been 'scoped in' in accordance with Cadw guidance, and discussed in Section 7.5 of this Draft ES Chapter.</i>
Cadw	Unrecorded Non-Designated Historic Assets (ID.12) <i>'The Applicant's attention is drawn to Cadw's advice that along with a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (HEDBA), the DTM and DSM Lidar datasets should be analysed to help target previously unrecorded sites within the application area. More information about the methodology, should new sites be discovered, can be found in Cadw's response in Appendix 1. PEDW recommends the Applicant consult with Cadw on this matter.'</i>	The HEDBA provides analysis of the available LiDAR data, procured from Data Map Wales online. ¹⁸ Review of this data has revealed evidence of previously unrecorded remains, which are characteristic of historical quarrying and mineral extraction works. These areas were assessed during the Site Visit, where accessible, and are set out within the HEDBA (Appendix 7A) and Section 7.5 of this Draft ES Chapter.
Cadw	Buried Non-Designated Archaeological Remains (ID.13) <i>'Heneb should be consulted with following the Desk-Based Assessment and walkover, on the need for a geophysical survey on the proposed development site as sub-surface archaeology may not be apparent from a desk-based and walkover study. Cadw provides advice that sub-surface archaeology may be present where there are high levels of surface monuments, or where surveys cannot accurately define the nature of surface or sub-surface features.</i> <i>Cadw advises that geophysical features whose dating, function, level of preservation and importance cannot be properly informed, then additional evaluation is needed in accordance with Planning Policy Wales (PPW) and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24: the historic environment'.</i>	While this has not been addressed within this Draft ES Chapter, WSP will action consultation with Heneb prior to submission of the Final ES in order to ascertain the requirement for pre-determination archaeological works, in accordance with PPW and TAN 24.
Cadw	Peatland Deposits (ID.14) <i>The 'impact to peat within the development area should be scoped into and assessed within the Historic Environment chapter of the ES due to potential sub-surface archaeological features. Where the placement of turbines</i>	WSP has consulted with the Ground Conditions team whose deliverables include a peat assessment, in order to determine the presence of peat deposits and extents of these within the Site. Available information to date has been included within this Draft ES chapter in Section 7.5 , drawing upon information

¹⁸ DataMapWales 2026. Available at: <https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/cadw-historic-assets/> [accessed July 2026]

Consultee	Consideration	How addressed in this Draft ES
	<i>cannot avoid peat deposits, a suitable scheme of sampling, analysis, dating and reporting will need to be completed on such deposits using appropriate sampling techniques advised by a paleoenvironmental / geoarchaeological specialist for assessment in the ES. PEDW recommends the Applicant consults with Cadw and Heneb on this matter.'</i>	set out in Appendix 10A of the Water Environment Draft ES Chapter. WSP will follow this up through consultation with Cadw and Heneb on this matter.
Cadw	Assessment of the Significance of the Impact of the Development on the Historic Landscape [ASIDOHL] (ID.17) <i>'Cadw highlights that since the development area is not within a registered historic landscape, an ASIDOHL assessment is not required, and instead the assessment of impacts of the proposal in the historic environment chapter of the ES should be carried out using the Welsh Government guidance given in "The Setting of Historic Assets in Wales".'</i>	An assessment of the significance and impact on the registered historic landscape of Margam Mountain has been included within the HEDBA (Appendix 7A) and this Draft ES Chapter in Section 7.5 and has been assessed in accordance with <i>The Setting of Historic Assets in Wales</i> .
Cadw	Information Requirements (ID.15) <i>'Cadw draws the Applicant's attention to TAN 24 Paragraph 4.7 and PPW Paragraph 6.1.26 which stress the importance of ensuring the relevant information regarding archaeological remains is available before an application is submitted. Cadw stresses that the Applicant should have a sufficient time period to complete the archaeological assessment, reporting and mitigation discussions before application submission in accordance with the above guidance on archaeological evaluation. PEDW is in agreement that the ES should be comprehensive in its assessment of the historic environment. Failure to do so may result in delays at the examination stage if additional information is required.'</i>	At this stage, the project programme allows sufficient time between the preparation of draft documents and the submission of the ES (anticipated to be Q4 2026). Stakeholder consultation will be conducted during the interim period between July and November 2026 to ensure the ES submission addresses archaeological and heritage requirements as far as reasonably practicable.

Technical Engagement

- 7.3.4. Technical engagement with consultees in relation to the Historic Environment is ongoing. A summary of the technical engagement undertaken to date is outlined in **Table 7.5**.

Table 7.5: Technical engagement on the Historic Environment assessment

Consultee	Consideration	How addressed in this Draft ES
Cadw	Effects on designated historic assets located within 5km of the Proposed Development	The Scoping Response received on 12.06.2026 (Table 7.4) . Effects on designated assets within 5km are

Consultee	Consideration	How addressed in this Draft ES
		considered in Section 7.11 of this Draft ES Chapter.
Cadw	Effects on the Margram Historic Mountain Registered Historic Landscape of special historic interest located within 5km of the Site	Effects on the Margram Mountain Registered Historic Landscape are considered in Section 7.11 of this Draft ES chapter.
Heneb – The Trust for Welsh Archaeology	Direct disturbance of archaeological assets	A HEDBA has been prepared, included as Appendix 7A , and will be shared with Heneb as part of the Draft ES submission.

- 7.3.5. A further round of consultation will be undertaken following the circulation of this Draft ES as part of the Pre-Application Consultation (PAC) process and the responses will inform the Final ES.

7.4 Data gathering methodology

Study area

- 7.4.1. In order to inform an assessment of effects on the historic environment resource within the Site and the surrounding area, the following Study Areas have been defined:
- A 1km Study Area from the Site has been used to identify historic assets which may be subject to potentially significant effects arising from direct ground disturbance (shown in **Figure 7A.3**); and
 - A 5km Study Area from the Site has been defined to identify historic assets which may be subject to potentially significant effects arising from changes to their settings (shown in **Figure 7A.2**). This was defined at Scoping and was agreed by Cadw in the Scoping Direction Response (ID.16).
- 7.4.2. The 5km Study Area extending from the turbines of the Proposed Development was deemed appropriate as it is these elements of infrastructure which have the potential for significant effects through change to setting. The access related elements of the Proposed Development will be primarily used in the construction phase where no significant effects through change to setting are anticipated
- 7.4.3. Occasionally there may be reference to assets beyond the study areas, where appropriate, e.g., where such assets are particularly significant and/or where they contribute to current understanding of the historic environment.
- 7.4.4. The Forestry Access Track will provide access to the array areas from the public highway. At this stage of the EIA process, it has not been considered within the scope of the assessment as the design is yet to be determined. Following the identification of upgrade requirements along this route, an assessment will be undertaken as part of the final ES.

Desk study

- 7.4.5. A summary of the organisations that have supplied data, together with the nature of that data is outlined in **Table 7.6**.

Table 7.6: Data sources used to inform the Historic Environment assessment

Organisation	Data source	Data provided
Cadw ¹⁹	National Historic Assets of Wales; with information on statutorily designated historic assets	Statutory designations (scheduled monuments; statutorily listed buildings; registered historic parks and gardens; historic battlefields; Registered Historic Landscapes) can provide a significant constraint to development.
Heneb: The Trust for Welsh Archaeology ²⁰	Historic Environment Record (HER)	Primary repository of archaeological information. Includes information from past investigations, local knowledge, find spots, and documentary and cartographic sources.
Natural Resources Wales ²¹	Historic Landscape Character Area (HLCA) data	Areas of the landscape categorised to inform upon past land uses, key landscape features (e.g. terrain, waterways) to inform upon archaeological potential.
Local Planning Authorities ²²	Conservation areas	An area of special architectural or historic interest the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.
Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) ²³	National Monuments Record of Wales (NMRW) via the Coflein catalogue of archaeological and historic sites in Wales	Provides detailed information about Welsh monuments, including aspects of archaeological, architectural, ecclesiastical, industrial, defensive and maritime history.
National Library of Wales; ²⁴ National Library of Scotland (NLS) ²⁵	Historic maps	Historic maps, Ordnance Survey maps, tithe maps (and apportionments), estate maps and any other relevant historical maps will be consulted to enable analysis of change at the Site over time.
RCAHMW; Britain from Above; ²⁶ and the Central Registry for Aerial Photography Wales (CRAPW) ²⁷	Aerial photography	Provide aerial images of the Site so that provision can be made for analysis of the Site dating from the early 20th century to the present, including the study of cropmarks, soilmarks and earthworks to identify features that otherwise may not be visible at the present time.
Data Map Wales ²⁸	LiDAR	Data Map Wales is a free online repository for 1m DTM and 1m DSM LiDAR imagery in Wales.

¹⁹ Cadw (2026) GIS Datasets and Web Services. Available at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/cof-cymru/downloads> [accessed July 2026]

²⁰ Heneb Historic Environment Record [HER] (2026) *HER Data Search*. Enquiry Ref: 9319

²¹ Natural Resources Wales [NRW] (2026) *LandMap Historic Landscape*. Available at: <https://datamap.gov.wales/> [accessed July 2026]

²² Bridgend County Borough Council (BCC), Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council (RCTCBC) and Neath Port Talbot Council (NPTC)

²³ RCAHMW (2026) Coflein. Available at: <https://coflein.gov.uk/en/> [accessed July 2026]

²⁴ National Library of Wales [NLW] (2026) *Tithe Maps of Wales*. Available at: <https://places.library.wales/> [accessed July 2026]

²⁵ National Library of Scotland [NLS] (2026) *Map Images*. Available at: <https://maps.nls.uk/> [accessed July 2026]

²⁶ Britain From Above (2026) *Map Viewer*. Available at: <https://www.britainfromabove.org.uk/> [accessed July 2026]

²⁷ DataMapWales (2026) APU Welsh Government Aerial Photography. Available at: <https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/apu-welsh-government-aerial-photography/> [accessed July 2026]

²⁸ DataMapWales (2026) LiDAR Viewer. Available at: <https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/lidar-viewer/> [accessed July 2026]

Organisation	Data source	Data provided
Archaeological Data Service (ADS) ²⁹	Fieldwork reports	The Archaeological Data Service includes an archive of digital fieldwork reports
British Geological Survey (BGS) ³⁰	Solid and drift geology digital map; online BGS geological borehole record data.	Subsurface deposition, including buried geology and topography, can provide an indication of potential for early human settlement, and potential depth of archaeological remains.
Cranfield University LandIS - Soilsclapes ³¹	Details of soil types	Subsurface deposition, including soil type, can provide an indication of potential for early human settlement, and potential depth of archaeological remains, as well as influence the suitability of other techniques, such as aerial photographic analysis and geophysical survey.
Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) ³²	Database of archaeological finds found by chance	Government funded project to encourage the voluntary recording of archaeological objects found by members of the public. Database is online at finds.org.uk. This was consulted for the site and its immediate vicinity only.
Internet	Web-published local history	Many key documentary sources and local and specialist studies are now published on the web and can be used to inform the archaeological and historical background.
The Client	Topographical survey data	Survey data can provide an indication of the impact of past land use, e.g. ground raising or lowering, which is useful for understanding possible truncation and likely depth of archaeological remains.

- 7.4.6. Designated historic assets have been allocated a unique 'assessment' reference number (**A1**, **A2**, etc.), which are listed in a gazetteer in **Appendix 7A** and is referred to in the text. Designated historic assets are presented on **Figure 7A.2**.
- 7.4.7. Non-designated assets, identified through the HER, NMRW or through additional research, have been allocated unique reference numbers (**B1**, **B2** etc.), which are also listed in the gazetteer. Non-designated assets are presented on **Figure 7A.3**. Previously unrecorded assets or potential assets that have been identified by WSP as part of the HEDBA process have been allocated WSP numbers (**WSP1**, **WSP2** etc.), previously unrecorded assets are, by definition, non-designated.

²⁹ ADS (2026) *Library*. Available at: <https://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/> [accessed July 2026]

³⁰ British Geological Survey [BGS] (2026) *Geology Viewer*. Available at: <https://www.bgs.ac.uk/map-viewers/bgs-geology-viewer/> [accessed July 2026]

³¹ Cranfield University (2026) *LandIS: Soilsclapes Viewer*. Available at: <https://www.landis.org.uk/soilsclapes/> [accessed July 2026]

³² Portable Antiquities Scheme [PAS] (2026) *Search our Database*. Available at: <https://finds.org.uk/> [accessed July 2026]

Survey work

- 7.4.8. A site walkover was undertaken by WSPs archaeology and cultural heritage team on 15th June 2026. This comprised a visual inspection of the Development Site including its topography and land use. The known non-designated historic assets within the Development Site were visited, and previously unknown archaeological assets identified through the walkover survey were recorded (**Appendix 7A**).
- 7.4.9. An assessment of the setting of built heritage assets which were deemed likely to be impacted by the Proposed Development was conducted on 16 June 2026. The assets visited were assessed using Cadw's *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales*³³ staged approach, with assets 'scoped in' through their proximity to Development Site, status of statutory designation (scheduled monument / listed building etc) and sensitivity to change as a result of the Proposed Development. Visibility conditions ranged between poor and very good, gradually improving throughout the duration of the day.
- 7.4.10. A full description of the survey is included within **Appendix 7A**; however, a summary is provided below.
- 7.4.11. The walkover survey across the Northern Array revealed evidence of previously known and unknown historic assets. These comprise the Mynydd Bach quarry pits and purported burial cairns – of which appeared more to reflect characteristics associated with quarrying – recorded by NMRW (**B2, B18, B92, B175**). Two areas of previously unrecorded quarrying were identified within the northern area of this array (**WSP1 & WSP2**), and a linear feature which may represent the continuation of a medieval boundary was also identified (**B11 / WSP4**). Another possible medieval boundary was observed (**B9 / WSP5**), marked by a drystone wall, and a further boundary marked by a drystone wall was recorded as a historic field boundary (**WSP3**). In general, the terrain across the Northern Array was rugged, exhibiting signs of widescale ground disturbance most likely caused by historical mining activity. Such activity within the Northern Array is likely to be more extensive than the available evidence suggests through analysis of the HER, NMRW and historic mapping.
- 7.4.12. Observations gathered during the walkover of the Southern Array included the identification of 13 previously unrecorded remains within the Southern Array. These comprise remains of agricultural machinery (**WSP6**); evidence of quarrying / historical ground disturbance, likely associated with mining activities linked with the nearby New Mountain Level, Garw Valley (**B362; WSP7, WSP8-WSP16**); and linear earthworks which are likely to be representative of historic field boundaries (**WSP20-WSP22**). Beyond the Development Site boundary, a post medieval structure was identified (**WSP23**), likely associated with the nearby Cynnordy Farmstead (**B401**). Overall, the Southern Array reflects the rural character of the surrounding Llynfi and Garw Valleys, with evidence of historical mining activities juxtaposed by the current use of the landscape for farming and agriculture. The agricultural workings of the land appear to be consistent throughout history.
- 7.4.13. A visit to determine the potential for settings impacts to nearby historic assets was conducted to inform upon this assessment. Observations of areas of intervisibility were

³³ Cadw 2017, *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales*, available at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/placemaking/heritage-impact-assessment/setting-historic-assets> [accessed 10 July 2026]

noted and are discussed below, and the assets were visited where publicly and safely accessible, due to restrictions on assets being situated on private land.

- 7.4.14. The Development Site was directly visible from the following historic assets:
- Margam Mountain Registered Historic Landscape;
 - Maesteg Blast Furnaces, scheduled monument (**A18**) Grade II listed structure (**A53**);
 - Maesteg Sports Centre, Grade II listed building (**A36**);
 - Nantyffyllon Workmen's Institute, Grade II listed building (**A178**); and
 - Capel Saron, Grade II listed building (**A55**).
- 7.4.15. The results of the survey are set out in **Appendix 7A** and have informed this assessment.

7.5 Overall baseline

Current baseline

- 7.5.1. The archaeological and historical background of the Development Site is as described in the HEDBA included as **Appendix 7A**. Photographs taken during the site visit and walkover survey are included as Plates, referenced in the below text by their allocated reference number, as presented in **Annex 7A.D** of **Appendix 7A**.

Designated historic assets

- 7.5.2. There are no designated historic assets located within either the Northern or the Southern Array. The existing Forestry Access Track crosses the western boundary of the Rhondda registered historic landscape (Cadw: HLW (MGI) 5) and traverses through the boundary of the Clawdd Mawr, Mynydd Caerau scheduled monument (Cadw: GM231). While this element of the Proposed Development falls beyond the current scope of the Draft ES, this will be considered and assessed as part of the final ES once identification of upgrade requirements along this route have been determined.
- 7.5.3. A total of 186 designated historic assets are recorded within the 5km Study Area, comprising: 21 scheduled monuments; two registered historic landscapes; two registered historic parks and gardens; two kitchen gardens; five conservation areas; one grade I listed building; 11 grade II* listed buildings; and 142 grade II listed buildings. All designated historic assets are listed in **Appendix 7A** and shown on **Figure 7A.2**.

Non-designated historic assets

- 7.5.4. Fifty-three non-designated historic assets have been identified within the Northern and Southern Arrays through HER and NMRW records, LiDAR analysis and the site walkover survey undertaken by WSP in June 2026. These are listed in **Table 7.7** below. A further 379 are recorded by the HER and the NMRW within the 1km Study Area. All these non-designated assets are listed in **Appendix 7A** and located on **Figure 7A.3**.

Table 7.7: Non-designated historic assets within the Site boundary

WSP Ref.	Name	Type	Period	Array
B1	Mynydd Bach, Cairn II	Cairn	Bronze Age	Northern
B2	Mynydd Bach, Cairn III	Cairn	Bronze Age	Northern
B3	Mynydd Bach, Cairn I	Cairn	Bronze Age	Northern
B9	Parish boundary	Boundary	Medieval	Southern
B12	Moel Cynhordy platform house	Domestic Dwelling	Medieval	Southern
B14	Pant y Ffald long hut	Domestic Dwelling	Medieval	Northern?
B18	Mynydd Bach, Marker Cairn	Marker Cairn	Modern?	Northern?
B38	Mynydd Bach, Quarry IX	Quarry	Post Medieval	Northern
B44	Pant y Ffald, Sheep Fold I	Sheepfold	Post Medieval	Northern
B80	Trial level	Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Northern
B83	Mynydd Bach, Structure IV	Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Northern
B87	Mynydd Bach, Spoil Heap XXII	Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Northern
B92	Mynydd Bach, Quarry III	Quarry	Post Medieval	Northern
B95	Mynydd Bach, Shelter I	Shelter	Post Medieval	Northern
B97	Mynydd Bach, Quarry XIV	Quarry	Post Medieval	Northern
B138	Pant y Ffald, Wall	Wall	Post Medieval	Northern
B148	Mynydd Bach, Structure I	Sheepfold	Post Medieval	Northern
B150	Mynydd Bach, Quarry I	Quarry	Post Medieval	Northern
B168	Mynydd Bach, Shelter II	Shelter	Post Medieval	Northern
B171	Mynydd Bach, Spoil Heap XIX	Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Northern
B175	Mynydd Bach, Quarry IV	Quarry	Post Medieval	Northern
B186	Mynydd Bach, Quarry XII	Quarry	Post Medieval	Northern
B190	Mynydd Bach, Structure III	Shelter	Post Medieval	Northern
B217	Mynydd Bach, Shelter IV	Shelter	Post Medieval	Northern
B219	Mynydd Bach, Building II	Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Northern
B236	Mynydd Bach, Quarry II	Quarry	Post Medieval	Northern
B237	Mynydd Bach, Spoil Heap XXI	Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Northern
B244	Llynfi and Ogmore Railway	Railway	Post Medieval	Northern
B352	Mynydd Bach, Quarry VI	Quarry	Post Medieval	Northern
B362	New Mountain Level, Garw Valley	Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Southern
WSP1	Possible Quarry Pit	Quarry	Post Medieval	Northern
WSP2	Possible Quarry Pit/ Mining Activity	Quarry/ Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Northern
WSP3	Drystone Wall	Field Boundary	Post Medieval	Northern
WSP4	Possible continuation of medieval boundary B11	Lordship Boundary	Medieval (Possible)	Northern
WSP5	Possible continuation of medieval boundary B9	Parish Boundary	Medieval (Possible)	Northern
WSP6	Relic Agricultural Equipment	Equipment	Modern	Southern
WSP7	Possible Quarry Pit/ Mining Activity	Quarry/ Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Southern
WSP8	Possible Quarry Pit/ Mining Activity	Quarry/ Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Southern
WSP9	Possible Quarry Pit/ Mining Activity	Quarry/ Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Southern
WSP10	Possible Quarry Pit/ Mining Activity	Quarry/ Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Southern
WSP11	Possible Quarry Pit/ Mining Activity	Quarry/ Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Southern
WSP12	Possible Quarry Pit/ Mining Activity	Quarry/ Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Southern
WSP13	Possible Quarry Pit/ Mining Activity	Quarry/ Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Southern

WSP Ref.	Name	Type	Period	Array
WSP14	Possible Quarry Pit/ Mining Activity	Quarry/ Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Southern
WSP15	Possible Quarry Pit/ Mining Activity	Quarry/ Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Southern
WSP16	Possible Quarry Pit/ Mining Activity	Quarry/ Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Southern
WSP17	Possible Quarry Pit/ Mining Activity	Quarry/ Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Southern
WSP18	Possible Quarry Pit/ Mining Activity	Quarry/ Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Southern
WSP19	Possible Quarry Pit/ Mining Activity	Quarry/ Coal Mining	Post Medieval	Southern
WSP20	Poss Tithe field boundary (marked on the corner)	Field Boundary	Post Medieval	Southern
WSP21	Possible boundary or cropmark associated with possible medieval platform house B12.	Boundary (Possible)	Medieval (Possible)	Southern
WSP22	Unknown feature of unknown date, earthwork curvilinear	Earthwork	Undated	Southern
WSP23	Undated Structure	Structure	Undated	Southern

- 7.5.5. Recorded prehistoric (-c.43 CE³⁴) activity within the Northern and Southern Arrays is limited to three non-designated Bronze Age burial cairns (**B1**, **B2** & **B3**), although it was observed during the walkover survey that these exhibited closer characteristics to later post medieval quarrying remains (**Appendix 7A, Plates 5-9**). Although the origins of **B1**, **B2** and **B3** are unconfirmed, five Scheduled cairns or cairn groups are located within 1km of either the Arrays or the Forestry Access Track; Croes y Bwlchgwyn Round Cairn (**A8** / **B4**), Bryn Defaid Round Cairn (**A7**), the Mynydd Caerau Round Cairns (**A3**), the Carn y Hyrddod & Neighbouring Cairn (**A1**) and the Werfa Round Barrow (**A9**), whilst a sixth Cairn Lwyd (**A4**) lies 2.1km east of the Southern Array. This suggests that the ridgelines that overlook the Llynfi Valley, were a focus Neolithic and Bronze Age funerary activity. Similarly, although no later prehistoric evidence is recorded on-site, three scheduled hillforts; Nant Herbert Camp (**A5**), Cefn yr Argoed Camp (**A6**) and Y Bwlwarcau (**A10**) lie within 4km, as does the scheduled Bwlch yr Avan Dyke (**A2**). Consequently, the potential for previously unrecorded prehistoric remains to be encountered on the Development Site cannot be discounted.
- 7.5.6. No evidence of Roman (c.43-410 CE) activity is recorded either on the Development Site or within the wider 1km Study Area. Although the remains of Roman forts and marching camps protected through scheduling between 7km and 13km from the Development Site³⁵ and the recent discovery of a Roman villa 7km southwest at Margram Park³⁶ would suggest Roman activity within the area. However, as the Development Site extends across a comparatively remote upland that in all probability lay within the Roman hinterland the potential for previously unrecorded Roman remains to be encountered is considered to be limited (**Appendix 7A**).
- 7.5.7. Evidence for early medieval (410-1100 CE) activity is similarly absent from both the Development Site and the 1km Study Area although three early medieval assets have been protected through designation within the wider 5km Study Area; the scheduled

³⁴ Common Era equates to AD

³⁵ Cadw GM367, Cadw GM258, Cadw GM259

³⁶ Cadw PGW(Gm)52(NEP)

Clawdd Mawr, Mynydd Caerau defensive systems (**A11**) 2.6km northeast of the Northern Array and the listed churches of St. David, Bettws (**A32**, Grade I) and St. Cynwyd (**A33**, Grade II*) which lie 2.5km and 2.7km south and southwest of the Southern Array.

Although the potential for previously unrecorded early medieval remains to be encountered cannot be dismissed, the available evidence suggests that activity within the area was focussed on a comparatively few high-status sites.

- 7.5.8. Recorded evidence for medieval (1100 – 1539 CE) activity within the Northern and Southern Arrays is limited to the remains of two dwellings (**B12/ WSP21** & **B14**) a parish boundary (**B9/ WSP5**) and a lordship boundary (**WSP21**). Further to observations during the site walkover and analysis of LiDAR, the two recorded medieval boundaries potentially extend into the Northern Array, one traversing parallel to the western Development Site boundary and the other through the centre in a northwest to southeast alignment (**B11 / WSP4; B9 / WSP5**). An unknown linear feature was also identified within the Southern Array, which may be related to the purported medieval platform house (**WSP21**). While the majority of the Development Site likely served as agricultural hinterland and open moorland, these potential medieval earthworks within the Northern Array could reflect the defensive activities recorded within the wider landscape during this period.
- 7.5.9. By the post medieval and Industrial period (1539-1899 CE), evidence of activity relating to the mining industry and agriculture is visible within the Development Site, with 21 non-designated historic assets identified within the Northern and Southern Arrays. These comprise quarry pits (**B92, B97, B150, B175, B186, B236**); spoil heaps (**B87, B171, B237**); sheepfolds (**B44, B148**); a marker cairn (**B18**); a disused railway (**B244**); and other shelters and buildings noted by the HER and NMRW (**B83, B95, B138, B168, B190, B217, B219, B352**). Evidence of field enclosure and land reorganisation is visible through the preserved traditional drystone wall boundaries, examples of which were identified during the walkover survey (**WSP3**). Previous ground disturbance characteristic of quarrying activity was also identified during the site visit (**WSP1, WSP2, WSP7-WSP19**). There is a high probability that further industrial land workings are present within the Development Site, beyond those recorded by the HER, NMRW and during the site walkover survey.
- 7.5.10. Evidence of activity from the modern period (1899 – present) within the Development Site is characterised by the continuation of industrial activities relating to coal mining and mineral refinery, preserved in record and *in situ* through the remains of buildings, structures and archival material. The New Mountain Level mine workings (**B362**) are recorded within the Southern Array, and a shelter is recorded at Mynydd Bach within the Northern Array (**B352**). The archaeological record also records the site of an RAF airplane crash beyond the Development Site boundary in proximity to the Southern Array (**B350, WSP24, WSP25**).

Archaeological Potential within the Development Site

- 7.5.11. In consideration of the baseline assessment as presented above and further detailed in **Appendix 7A**, it is deemed that there is a low potential for archaeological remains dating to the Roman and medieval periods. Evidence for palaeoenvironmental evidence is also considered to be low; the results of a peat survey identified the presence of organic-rich material, although no evidence of peat soils was identified during the survey, as detailed in **Appendix 10A** of this Draft ES. Prehistoric and medieval remains are deemed to be of

a low to medium archaeological potential, due to topographic and material evidence dating to this period visible within the Development Site and immediate surroundings.

- 7.5.12. Evidence for post medieval and modern remains are considered to retain a high archaeological potential, resulting from the presence of previous mine workings and agricultural buildings within the Development Site. If present, any finds, deposits or features would likely represent historical mine workings and ground disturbance, ancillary infrastructure to these mine workings, and structures / buildings / deposits associated with the historical use of the Development Site as pastureland. The significance of these finds would likely be deemed between low to medium archaeological significance. Isolated findspots representing casual loss from these periods would be considered to retain low archaeological significance.

Historic assets subject to potential effects arising from changes to settings

Round Cairn 567m East of Bryn Defaid (A7) – Scheduled Monument

- 7.5.13. This scheduled monument is of notable heritage significance and national importance, dating to the Bronze Age. The asset is recorded 8m east of the Forestry Access Track between the Northern and Southern Arrays, and approximately 1.2km from the closest turbine, which is in the Southern Array. As a designated heritage asset, it is considered to be of high heritage significance. This significance is derived from its evidential value as a prehistoric funerary monument, retaining physical evidence of human activity below ground within the confines of the monument area. Evidential value is also visible through the depiction of this asset on 19th century cartographic sources, reflecting public appreciation of these monument types throughout recent history.
- 7.5.14. Although the significance of the monument is primarily derived from its evidential value, which survives below ground, wider spatial context and setting of this asset does contribute to its significance. The position of the round cairn in an elevated topography reflects the burial practises of this time period, more readily preserved in upland environments. The presence of other nearby assets, including Croes y Bwlchgwyn Round Cairn located 850m to the south, contributes to the overall significance of these monuments and their spatial relationship between each other as a group, and with the wider landscape.

Croes y Bwlchgwyn Round Cairn (A8) – Scheduled Monument

- 7.5.15. This scheduled monument is recorded in close proximity to the Development Site, situated 170m north of the Southern Array and approximately 40m west of the Forestry Access Track. The closest turbine is located approximately 400m to the south of the round cairn. The significance of Croes y Bwlchgwyn Round Cairn is reflected through its evidential value as a prehistoric funerary monument, with the potential for buried remains and artefacts to be preserved *in situ*.
- 7.5.16. The setting of the round cairn comprises dense vegetation and modern forestry planting, with evidence of modernisation through the establishment of a trackway adjacent to this asset. It is considered that the setting of the round cairn has changed significantly from its historical setting and therefore understanding and appreciation of this asset has been

altered. While visually there appears to be limited connectivity with other identified assets in the vicinity, such as the Round Cairn 567m East of Bryn Defaid (**A7**), the spatial relationship between these assets retains some significance. Although the significance of the monument is derived primarily from its evidential value, the setting of the cairn does provide some contribution to its significance, contributing to our understanding of burial practices and the importance that position in the landscape played in those practices. The relationship between Croes y Bwlchwyn Round Cairn and Round Cairn 567m East of Bryn Defaid is crucial to this understanding.

Garth Hill Platform House (A17) – Scheduled Monument

- 7.5.17. Garth Hill Platform House is located 1.1km west of the Southern Array. It contains the buried remains of a medieval domestic building. The significance of this asset is primarily derived from its evidential value, visible through the buried earthworks, preserved stone foundations and depiction on historic mapping from the 19th century. This monument represents an isolated, rural settlement, characteristic of the later post medieval isolated farmsteads spread across the Llynfi Valley; the physical remains of this monument have the potential to enhance understanding and interpretation of domestic settlement patterns, agricultural techniques and land use patterns during this period, on both a regional and national scale.
- 7.5.18. The asset is located along the slope of Garth Hill to the eastern side of the Llynfi Valley. It is acknowledged that the setting of this asset has changed over time through historical mining activities, which physically truncated and re-shaped the immediate landscape surrounding this asset, particularly to the west with the operation of Garth Pit. Although the significance of the asset is primarily derived from its evidential value, elements of this asset's setting contribute to its significance. They comprise its immediate setting and association with Garth Hill, retaining its historical land use as pastureland (NLW 2026), and its visual and spatial relationship westwards across the valley towards the agricultural landscape of the historic Llangynwyd parish.

Y Bwlwarcu (A10) – Scheduled Monument

- 7.5.19. Y Bwlwarcu is an Iron Age hillfort recorded 4.1km west of the Southern Array. The significance of this asset is retained to its evidential value comprising the physical, buried remains of a prehistoric settlement site, represented through the extant complex series of buried earthworks, some of which measure up to 2m in height. The monument is thought to represent a multi-phased settlement site, contrastingly displaying evidence of a stock-raising function compared to that of a defensive function as visible within the wider landscape across South Wales.
- 7.5.20. The hillfort is situated on the eastern slope of Mynydd Margam, within the Registered Historic Landscape of Margam Mountain (**A26**). Its setting is defined by its rural, agricultural surroundings, subject to enclosure throughout history, and the majority of which retain their arable function today. The position of this asset on the slope allows for far-reaching views across the Llynfi Valley to the east, directly towards the Development Site. While this viewscape is considered an element of the asset's wider setting, it provides a minimal contribution to the significance and understanding of this asset within its immediate agricultural setting and spatial relationship with Mynydd Margam.

Maesteg Blast Furnaces (A18) – Scheduled Monument

- 7.5.21. The scheduled monument of Maesteg Blast Furnaces comprises the extant remains of the industrial structures at the former Llynfi Ironworks in Maesteg, situated 1.8km southwest from the Northern Array (**Plates 59–61**). The importance of this monument is reflected through its additional designation as a Grade II listed building (**A53**). The significance of this asset is derived from its evidential, aesthetic and communal values. Evidential and aesthetic values are exhibited through the physical fabric of the blast furnace structures and their depiction on historic cartographic sources. Communal value is derived from its association with the growth of Maesteg town between the 19th and 20th centuries, and the former ironworks' contribution to local economy. The physical remains of the Ironworks are preserved *in situ* within a public, urban setting and form a direct part of the town's history, which is deeply rooted in its past successes and historically thriving industries, a sense of identity and place which is reflected across the South Wales Valleys.

Margam Mountain (A26) – Registered Historic Landscape

- 7.5.22. The Registered Historic Landscape of Margam Mountain is recorded 2.9km west of the Development Site. The historic landscape measures over 3000 hectares and presents an area of upland bordered by the coastal plain of Port Talbot, on the southwest fringe of the *Glamorgan Blaenau* (Glamorgan Uplands). The historic landscape exhibits a narrative of human occupation and use extending from the prehistoric period through to the present day, comprising monuments such as: Bronze Age cairns and barrows; Iron Age hillfort settlements; Roman roads – with new evidence of a Roman villa;³⁷ early medieval ecclesiastic activity; medieval castles; post medieval land organisation; and World War Two defensive systems.³⁸ Within this broader landscape are sub-divided historic landscape areas (HLAs), six of which are located within the Study Area.
- 7.5.23. **Llangynwyd:** The Llangynwyd HLA is a multi-period landscape centred on the nucleated medieval settlement of Llangynwyd, to the south of Maesteg town (**Plate 45**). The importance of this HLA is reflected through its evidential, historical, aesthetic and communal values. Evidential value is derived from the extant remains of key significant archaeological sites, including the Iron Age hillfort of Y Bwlwarcaw (**A10**), the medieval Llangynwyd Castle (**A15**) and the historical medieval settlement core and extant buildings within Llangynwyd Conservation Area (**A30**). Domestic activity is reflected through the preservation of medieval platform houses, representing rural, isolated settlements associated with land management and animal husbandry across the open grasslands of Mynydd Margam. Placename evidence provides an insight into the ancient origin of this area, with the prefix 'Llan' meaning 'an enclosure' or 'a church', denoting the early medieval origins of the Grade II* listed Church of St Cynwyd (**A33**). Historical value is reflected through associations with historically notable individuals and traditions, including bardic poets recorded from as early as the 14th century. Historical value appears to be interlinked with key landmarks within the village, including the Grade II Hopcyn Cross (**A148**). The cross is attributed to the poet Wil Hopcyn, who is believed to be the author of a famous Welsh love song 'Bugeilo'r Gwenith Gwyn'. Communal value is reflected through the sense of identity and place deriving from the historically significant people and events

³⁷ Thomas, K. (2026) *Swansea University heritage project recovers evidence of a major archaeological find*. Swansea University. Available at: <https://www.swansea.ac.uk/press-office/news-events/news/2026/01/swansea-university-heritage-project-recovers-evidence-of-a-major-archaeological-find.php> [accessed July 2026]

³⁸ Heneb (2026) *Historic Landscapes in Wales*. Available at: <https://heneb.org.uk/historic-landscapes-in-wales/> [accessed July 2026]

of Llangynwyd; and Hopcyn's love song is a well-known and highly regarded song often performed by local valley choirs.³⁹ The area's association with tradition and superstition also contributes to the communal significance of Llangynwyd, reflected through the Mari Lwyd and Gŵyl Mabsant. The gentle rolling hills and backdrop of the dramatic Mynydd Margam, juxtaposed with the industrialised core of Maesteg town and its suburban expansion, creates a unique aesthetic to Llangynwyd. The area is defined by its agricultural landscape and historical settlement cores, which comprise the main village of Llangynwyd and other isolated, rural farmsteads.

- 7.5.24. **Mynydd Margam Forest:** The Mynydd Margam Forest HLA reflects a multi-period landscape with distinctive 20th century plantation, intertwined with pockets of ancient woodland, sited upon formerly open marshland, with different historical phases of enclosure responding to the establishment of settlements.⁴⁰ The closest point of this HLA is recorded approximately 3km southwest of the Northern Array. The principal characteristic of this area is defined by the forestry plantation, and significance is reflected through the asset's evidential and aesthetic values. Evidential value is derived from the relict archaeological landscape, containing evidence of archaeological monuments dating back to the prehistoric period. The area served as a communication corridor, based on ridgeway routes, and therefore holds potential to contain deposits and features reflective of transient activity through this region throughout history. The area formed part of the monastic lands associated with Margam Abbey (Cadw Ref: GM005), formerly comprising open mountain grazing/grouse moor with adjacent areas of enclosed, but marginal land. The conformity of 20th century plantation forms part of the aesthetic of this HLA. This is complemented with the visible post medieval settlement pattern, and dispersal of isolated farmsteads and cottages, most of which are considered to hold earlier origins of occupation.
- 7.5.25. **Cwm Dyffryn and Cwm Farteg Railway Corridor:** The Cwm Dyffryn and Cwm Farteg Railway Corridor HLA reflects the industrial character of the Llynfi Valley and wider landscape. Heritage significance of this area is derived from its evidential and communal values. This HLA represents the emerging industrialisation of the South Wales Valleys from as early as the medieval period. Land within this area formerly comprised monastic land associated with Margam Abbey and the grange at Hafod-y-Porth.⁴¹ Subsequent to the disillusionment, the land within the area was transferred to the Margam Estate. Evidential value is reflected through the extant remains of the Port Talbot Railway, which extended along the corridor of this area. The precursor to the railway, Goetre Level Tramroad, also contributes to the heritage significance of the HLA. This tramroad extended between Dyffryn Mills and the former Margam Copper Works (HER Ref: 08610w), situated within the west of the HLA. The industrialisation of the landscape and rapid growth of population saw the requirement for the establishment of accommodation for local workers. This predominantly 20th century settlement is characterised by linear ribbon and grid street patterns, consisting of terraced houses with angled chimneys. This streetscape creates a sense of identity, set against the dramatic backdrop of the Margam Mountain historic landscape.

³⁹ People's Collection Wales (2026) *The Maid of Cefn Ydfa and the Maid of Sker* <https://www.peoplescollection.wales/items/1759206> [accessed July 2026]

⁴⁰ Heneb (2026) *Historic Landscapes in Wales*. Available at: <https://heneb.org.uk/historic-landscapes-in-wales/> [accessed July 2026]

⁴¹ *Ibid.*

- 7.5.26. **Upper Cwm Kenfig:** The Upper Cwm Kenfig HLA is located adjacent to the Llangynwyd HLA, recorded approximately 4.9km southwest of the Southern Array. This multi-period, multi-functional upland landscape retains evidential value contributing to its overarching characteristic as a relict archaeological landscape. Archaeological evidence dating to the Mesolithic and Bronze Age reflects early human activity within this HLA prior to the establishment of Iron Age hillforts. Relict features are visible throughout the landscape attesting to transient activity; the ridgeway routes of Heol-y-Moch and Ffordd-y-gyfraith were key communication corridors from the prehistoric period onwards.⁴² The presence of blanket peat within this HLA holds potential to contain palaeoenvironmental deposits. The Upper Cwm Kenfig HLA is further characterised by its enclosed and semi-improved pastureland, of which formerly comprised open upland grazing. Evidence of land management and reorganisation is further visible during the 19th century, when key navigation routes were diverted to avoid crossing Margam Park, including the parish road from Taibach to Llangynwyd in 1829.
- 7.5.27. **Nant y Gadlys and Nant Bryncynan:** The Nant y Gadlys and Nant Bryncynan HLA is recorded 2.2km southwest of the Southern Array. The significance of this HLA is derived from its evidential and aesthetic values. This landscape comprises a complex of woodland, stream valleys, and upstanding evidence of occupation and use dating from the medieval period onwards. The area is centred around the medieval Gadlys estate, comprising a 16th century gentry house and documentary evidence of a chapel with a cemetery and a holy well. Nant y Gadlys contains a network of leats, attesting to the area's historical use for milling. The Margam Charters and manorial surveys records the presence of a mill 'Tal-y-Fedw' within the area, dating to the 16th and 17th centuries.⁴³ This site experienced multiple phases of reuse as a flannel / woollen mill, a brewery, and a chemical works, before closing during the 1920s. The HLA is characterised by its interconnectivity and use of natural landscape features in an industrial context. Further characteristics of this area comprise scattered farmsteads exhibiting vernacular architectural design, conforming to the aesthetic and character of the wider Llynfi Valley HLCA (NRW Ref: CYNONHL581). The post-medieval fieldscape intertwined with footpaths and trackways, combined with the evidence of former industrialisation, overall contribute to the aesthetic of the HLA.
- 7.5.28. **Waun-y-Gilfach:** The Waun-y-Gilfach HLA is recorded 3.4km southwest of the Development Site. This area is relatively small and focused on a forestry hilltop formerly comprising open moorland. Evidential value of this HLA is limited to the footpaths and tracks through this area, representing historical communication corridors as exhibited throughout the wider Margam Mountain RHL. The area sits between two historical estates – Margam and Gadlys – and the land was divided between these two estates from at least the 19th century, but potentially earlier.⁴⁴ Aesthetic value is derived from dense 20th century forestry plantation atop the hill which formerly comprised a 'waun' (open mountain moorland). Land management and ownership division between Margam and Gadlys estates is reflected in the preserved drystone wall field boundaries, contributing to the rural aesthetic of this area, nestled in the historical landscape of Llangynwyd and the wider Margam Mountain historic landscape.

⁴² *Ibid.*⁴³ *Ibid.*⁴⁴ *Ibid.*

Bryngarw (A23) – Registered Historic Park & Garden

- 7.5.29. The Grade II listed Park and Garden of Bryngarw is recorded 3.5km south of the Development Site. The significance of this asset is derived from its evidential, historical and aesthetic values as an Edwardian landscaped parkland. Evidential value is retained to the parkland's extent and comprises key aesthetic features of landscaping including the woodland, water gardens, oriental planting, and the physical fabric of the Tudorbethan-style Bryngarw House, which sits within the centre of the parkland. Evidential value is further reflected through the potential for historical remains to be present dating as far back as the 15th century. Historical value is exhibited through the park's association with historical individuals including Alfred Parsons, Captain Walter Partridge and Charles Tudway.
- 7.5.30. The setting of the parkland is retained to its boundary, with the gardens enshrouding Bryngarw House with dense tree coverage and plantation (**Plates 57–58**). The area was designed to be insular and intimate, centred on the house, with limited regard of the surrounding landscape reflected in the plantation of tall trees to create a sense of isolation and tranquillity within the otherwise industrialised landscape. There are no key views attributed to this park and garden by Cadw.⁴⁵

Maesteg Conservation Area (A29) & Listed Buildings

- 7.5.31. Maesteg Town Centre Conservation Area is located approximately 1.6km southwest of the Development Site and contains eleven listed buildings. Other listed buildings located beyond the conservation area but within Maesteg are also discussed here, as their significance is intrinsically linked with the development of Maesteg as a whole.
- 7.5.32. The significance of the conservation area derives from its evidential, historical, aesthetic and communal values as a historic town that experienced heavy industrialisation during the 19th and 20th century which resulted in population growth and expansion. The conservation area comprises the commercial core of the town centre, encompassing Talbot Street, Commercial Street, and the triangular square at the junction of Talbot Street and Castle Street in front of the Town Hall. The majority of buildings within the conservation area date to the 20th century. Along Talbot Street, buildings are primarily commercial in nature and feature a range of architectural styles including neo-Georgian, Mannerism and Colonial Baroque. The square in front of the town hall acts as an important focal point. Along Commercial Street buildings are primarily small-scale residential terraces, but notable buildings include 19th and 20th century ostentatious inns and public houses.
- 7.5.33. The Grade II* listed Maesteg Council Offices (**A171**) exhibit evidential and aesthetic value through its historic fabric and architectural form. Within the context of the conservation area the Maesteg Council Offices are considered to have a close relationship with Neuadd Y Dref (Town Hall) (**A54**). The buildings are located on the town square and are the administrative centre of Maesteg (**Plates 64, 71–72**). The Grade II listed Church of St David, and surrounding churchyard railed wall (**A57**) retains evidential, historical, aesthetic and communal values, through its historic fabric and vernacular architecture. As a place of worship, the Church has communal value as a place of congregation and gathering.

⁴⁵ Cadw (2026) *GIS Datasets and Web Services*. Available at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/cof-cymru/downloads> [accessed July 2026]

Historical value is evidenced as the Church demonstrates the growth of Maesteg in the 19th century. The Grade II listed Colonel North Memorial Hall (**A58**), Cenotaph (**A173**), North Company Offices (**A174**), Post Office (**A176**) and William Hopkin Thomas memorial Lamp and fountain (**A177**) are all located within the north part of Maesteg Town Centre Conservation Area. The buildings retain evidential value through their historic fabric and aesthetic value through their architectural form. The historic value of the buildings is derived from their demonstration of the historic growth of Maesteg during the 19th and 20th centuries. The Grade II* listed Maesteg Sports Centre (**A36**) retains evidential, historical and aesthetic values through its historic fabric and architectural form. Historical value can be demonstrated through the building's origins as part of the wider Llynfi Ironworks, which contributed greatly to the growth and development of Maesteg.

- 7.5.34. Three Grade II listed chapels are located along High Street and Piction Street beyond the conservation area; Salem West Baptist Chapel, Siloh Independent Chapel and Capel Saron (**A38**, **A46**, **A55**). The chapels retain evidential, historical, aesthetic and communal values through their historic fabric, vernacular architectural style and as a place of congregation and worship serving the local community. The Grade II listed Nantyyffyllon Workmen's Institute (**A178**) retains evidential value through its historic fabric and demonstrates aesthetic value through its architectural form. The building also exhibits historical value, associated with mining activities within and adjacent to Development Site: individuals from this workmen's club worked at North Navigation Collieries, which purchased the Llynvi Company and operated nearby mine workings including Coegnant, Caerau, Maesteg Deep Drift and St John's. Some of these mines operated workings within and immediately surrounding the Development Site.
- 7.5.35. The setting of Maesteg Town Centre Conservation Area and associated listed buildings includes the Development Site, with views available eastward towards the hills where the North and South Arrays are proposed. There are also historic links between key buildings within the conservation area and historic activities within the site, mostly relating to mining and quarrying activity that led to the growth of Maesteg during the 19th and 20th centuries. The contribution the Site makes towards the setting of these assets is primarily in the background of closer, internal views within the conservation area and Maesteg as a whole. The position and relationship between buildings within Maesteg tell the story of its expansion in response to a growing population, and inform on the lives, beliefs and daily practices of those people.

Llangynwyd Conservation Area (A30) & Listed Buildings

- 7.5.36. Llangynwyd Conservation Area is located approximately 2.4km west of the Development Site and contains 10 listed buildings. The Grade II* listed Church of St Cynwyd (**A33**) forms the centre point of the settlement (**Plate 46–47**). This asset retains evidential, historical, aesthetic and communal values as a medieval church within a historic, rural village. The church represents the oldest surviving building within Llangynwyd, likely dating to the 6th century, while the extant building retains fragments of historic fabric date to the 13th and 14th centuries. As the focal point of the village, the church would have historically acted as the administrative centre of the wider parish of Llangynwyd, incorporating a vast area across the Llynfi Valley, extending across the Northern Array within the Development Site.⁴⁶ Aesthetically, the church exhibits vernacular architecture

⁴⁶ National Library of Wales (2026) *Tithe Maps of Wales*. Available at: <https://places.library.wales/> [accessed July 2026]

through use of local materials for construction. As a centre for congregation and gathering, the church exhibits communal value through its continued use as a church, and the surrounding churchyard which contain several listed tombstones of local importance, including: two chest tombs (**A77**); a group of five tombs (**A78**); a group of four Hopkin and Jenkins tombs (**A81**); a group of nine memorials (**A82**); and Jenkins Monument (**A83**). These are located within the Grade II listed Churchyard Walls (**A84**). These monuments as individuals retain evidential and historical values, but as a group, they also form part of the primary setting of the church, contributing to its significance as a historical, rural ecclesiastic centre. The private churchyard enclosed by stone walls is considered to represent one of the largest in Europe, as noted on a heritage information board located south of the churchyard entrance (**Plates 49–50**).

- 7.5.37. In addition to its immediate setting within the churchyard, the wider setting of the church is considered a contributing factor to its heritage significance. The remnants of medieval to post-medieval fieldscapes, and retention of an agricultural environment surrounding the church, alludes to its historical function as a rural, secluded settlement. The historical, spatial and functional relationships appear to be preserved, despite the wider landscape changes which occurred during the Industrial Era and resulted in mineral extraction and intrusive ground workings, particularly the establishment of railways, which cut through the 19th century landscape. The historic village core and immediate rural setting remain well-preserved.
- 7.5.38. The Old House Inn (**A45**) is located 60m south of the church and represents a 17th century Grade II listed building (**Plates 51–52**). Evidential value of this asset is retained to its physical fabric as a post-medieval building with distinctive architectural features such as its vernacular rubble stone construction, a large gable fireplace, and a thatched roof, visually conforming to the rural aesthetic of the wider conservation area. The principal elevation of this building faces north, towards the church, while views to the south extend across the undulating landscape of the Llangynwyd HLA.
- 7.5.39. The Grade II listed telephone box (**A172**) represents a K6 Mark 2 type dating to the 1940s (**Plate 50**). This asset retains evidential and aesthetic values through the construction materials and style it exhibits, comprising cast iron, and decorated with a domed roof and lunettes with embossed crowns on each side. The telephone box exhibits an adaptation of the 'Jubilee' kiosk style, manufactured by MacFarlane and Co / Saracen Foundry, Glasgow. The asset contributes to the significance of the wider area through its group value with the Old House Inn (**A45**) and Llangynwyd Conservation Area (**A30**).
- 7.5.40. The Grade II listed Hopcyn Cross (**A184**) is recorded within the centre of the conservation area. This asset demonstrates evidential, historical, aesthetic and communal values as a landmark commemorating a local bardic poet, Wil Hopcyn. As previously noted, Hopcyn's tragic romance with the 'Maid of Cefn-Ydfa' Ann Thomas is told through the famous Welsh love song, 'Bugeilo'r Gwenith Gwyn', of which Hopcyn is believed to have written. The song is well known across the South Wales Valleys, forming part of the local tradition and identity of the area.⁴⁷ The architectural style of the Celtic cross symbolises the ancient roots of Llangynwyd and the local sense of identity and connectivity with the past, contributing to the aesthetic of the conservation area.

⁴⁷ People's Collection Wales (2026) *The Maid of Cefn Ydfa and the Maid of Sker* <https://www.peoplescollection.wales/items/1759206> [accessed July 2026]

Church of St David (A32) – Grade I Listed Building

- 7.5.41. The Grade I listed Church of St David is located approximately 2.5km south of the Development Site in the village of Bettws, and is listed for its evidential, aesthetic, historical and communal values (**Plates 54–56**). Evidential value is retained through the historic fabric including medieval elements of potential 12th century date surviving in the west bellcote, including important woodwork. The aesthetic value is exhibited through its architectural form, being an example of medieval vernacular styles as well as later 19th century additions. The church contributes strongly to the character of Bettws as a historic rural village. Historical value is evidenced through the church's connection with the historic region of Tir Lall, which was known as a literary centre in the later medieval period and two 15th century poets, Dafydd Fychan and Llewelyn y Dant known to live in the parish. The church still functions as an active place of worship and has communal value as a place of congregation and gathering.
- 7.5.42. The setting of the church is a key contributor to its significance. The church sits within a churchyard that defines the immediate setting of the asset. A number of modern buildings have been constructed in the immediate vicinity around the church, which has somewhat isolated it from its rural context, but views to the west across open fields are still retained and are an important contributor to the setting of the church. Longer reaching views to the north and east are more restricted due to modern built form.

Cynnordy Farmstead (B401) – Non-Designated Historic Asset

- 7.5.43. The non-designated built heritage asset of Cynnordy Farmstead is recorded approximately 400m west of the closest turbine within the Southern Array. This asset represents a post medieval farmstead recorded for its local importance on the HER, deemed to be of a low heritage significance. An assessment of this significance has been conducted following the same criteria ascribed to designated historic assets. Evidential value is derived from the physical fabric of the building and its place-name origins, associated with the nearby Moel Cynnordy peak, which is located within the northwestern area of the Development Site. This asset retains historically functional and spatial relationships with the land within the Development Site. The parish of Bettws tithe map of 1843 notes that Plot 269, situated within the Development Site, was pastureland owned and occupied by 'Cyng ordy fferm' [Cynnordy Farm].
- 7.5.44. The setting of this asset is defined by its rural, isolated location, of which appears to have been relatively well-preserved to the present day. Whilst other post medieval farmsteads have either been deserted or absorbed into the periphery of a suburban context, Cynnordy Farmstead retains its rural setting and historical, agricultural function utilising the land within the Development Site for pastureland.

Future baseline

- 7.5.45. There are no known committed development(s) or forecasted changes that would materially alter the baseline conditions during the construction and operation phases of the Proposed Development. It is likely that continuing pastoral use of the Site would result in no change to any archaeological remains that may be present.

7.6 Embedded measures

- 7.6.1. A range of environmental measures have been embedded into the Proposed Development as outlined in **Section 3.4**. **Table 7.8** outlines how these embedded measures will influence the Historic Environment assessment.

Table 7.8: Summary of the embedded environmental measures

Receptor	Potential changes and effects	Embedded measures	Compliance mechanism
Construction			
Known and as-yet unknown archaeological remains and assets	Direct disturbance to remains / assets resulting in partial or total loss	Impacts to known and previously unknown archaeology within the Site would be mitigated through a programme of archaeological works in order to make provision for archaeological recording where loss of or disturbance to archaeological remains cannot be avoided. Consultation with Heneb will determine the requirement, if any, for further works; of which would be secured through a DNS planning condition	DNS Planning Condition

7.7 Scope of the assessment

Spatial Scope

- 7.7.1. The spatial scope of the Historic Environment assessment covers the area of the Proposed Development contained within the Development Site, together with Study Areas described in **Section 7.4**; effects to the historic assets arising from changes to their settings have been assessed within the 5km Study Area (**Figure 7A.1**), while a 1km Study Area has been used to assess archaeological potential within the Development Site and to identify likely direct physical effects within the footprint of the Proposed Development (**Figure 7A.2**).

Temporal Scope

- 7.7.2. The temporal scope of the assessment of Historic Environment is consistent with the period over which the Proposed Development would be carried out and therefore covers the construction and operational periods, which are detailed within **Chapter 4: Development Description**.

- 7.7.3. Decommissioning activities would not be expected to result in notable additional ground disturbance, though this would depend on the location of any on-site temporary compound. As this is not known at this stage, and would be considered at the time if required, this is not considered in the assessment. The removal of turbines and grid connection infrastructure would end any operational period effects through change to setting of historic assets and would not give rise to any additional effect. Therefore, decommissioning period effects are not assessed.

Potential Receptors

- 7.7.4. The receptors taken forward for assessment have been identified through desk-based assessment (**Appendix 7A**) and consultation with Cadw.
- 7.7.5. The receptors that will potentially be affected by the Proposed Development comprise:
- Sub-surface archaeological remains surviving within the Development Site; and
 - Identified scheduled monuments, listed buildings, registered historic landscapes and conservation areas within the 5km Study Area.
- 7.7.6. A Stage 1 Assessment has been carried out for all the designated historic assets within the 5km Study Area, in accordance with *The Setting of Historic Assets in Wales*.⁴⁸ The Stage 1 assessment is set out in **Annex 7A.C** of **Appendix 7A** of this ES. The selection of historic assets to be included in the ES has been completed with reference to the Zones of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) that have been calculated to show the area of theoretical visibility of the proposed turbines based on an eight-turbine layout of up to 180m turbine height (blade tips). From the results of the Stage 1 Settings Assessment, five scheduled monuments, one registered historic landscape, one registered historic park and garden, two conservation areas, one Grade I listed building, three Grade II* listed buildings and 20 Grade II listed buildings are proposed to be assessed further within the EIA process.
- 7.7.7. One non-designated built heritage asset recorded by the Henneb HER has also been included for assessment, due to its proximity to the Development Site and potential to incur impacts through changes to its setting as a result of the Proposed Development.
- 7.7.8. Assets scoped in for assessment have been grouped based on their designated / non-designated status, location, and relationship to the Development Site, considering their connection with other historic assets, the wider landscape, and any contributions made by the Development Site itself.
- 7.7.9. The ZTV model used to assist in the selection of assets has been taken off a worse-case scenario using blade-to-tip visibility data. The ZTV model and selection of historic assets which lie within the ZTV is presented in **Figure 7A.9**.
- 7.7.10. Historic assets included in the settings assessment are listed in **Table 7.9**.

⁴⁸ Cadw 2017, *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales*, available at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/placemaking/heritage-impact-assessment/setting-historic-assets> [accessed 10 July 2026]

Table 7.9: Designated historic assets within the 5km study area to be further assessed

WSP Ref.	Name	Designation	Rationale
A7	Round Cairn 567m East of Bryn Defaid	Scheduled Monument	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 8m east of Forestry Access Track and 1.2km from closest proposed turbine in Southern Array. Potential effect due to proximity to Proposed Development.
A8	Croes y Bwlchgwyn Round Cairn	Scheduled Monument	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 170m north of Southern Array, 400m north from closest proposed turbine in Southern Array. Potential effect due to proximity to Proposed Development.
A17	Garth Hill Platform House	Scheduled Monument	Within ZTV, 4 turbines theoretically visible. Located 1.1km west of Southern Array. Potential effect due to proximity to Proposed Development.
A10	Y Bwlwarcau	Scheduled Monument	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 4.1km west of the Southern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed.
A18 A53	Maesteg Blast Furnaces	Scheduled Monument & Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 1.8km southwest from the Northern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed and proximity to Proposed Development.
A23	Bryngarw	Grade II Listed Registered Historic Park & Garden	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 3.5km south of the Southern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed.
A26	Margam Mountain	Registered Historic Landscape	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 2.9km west of the Northern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed.
A29	Maesteg Town Centre	Conservation Area	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 1.6km southwest of the Northern Array. Potential effect due to proximity to Proposed Development.
A30	Llangynwyd	Conservation Area	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 2.4km west of Southern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed.
A32	Church of St David, Bettws	Grade I Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 2.5km south of Southern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed.
A33	Church of St Cynwyd	Grade II* Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 2.5km west of Southern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed.
A36	Maesteg Sports Centre, The Cornstores	Grade II* Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 1.8km southwest of Site. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed and proximity to Proposed Development.
A45	The Old House Inn PH	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 2.7km southwest of Northern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed.
A46	Siloh Independent Chapel	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 4 turbines theoretically visible. Located 1.3km west of Northern Array. Potential effect due to proximity to Proposed Development.
A54	Neuadd y Dref (Town Hall)	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 1.7km southwest of Northern Array. Potential effect due to proximity to Proposed Development.
A55	Capel Saron	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 1.5km southwest of Northern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed and proximity to Proposed Development.

WSP Ref.	Name	Designation	Rationale
A57	Church of St David, and surrounding churchyard railed wall.	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 1.6km southwest of the Northern Array. Potential effect due to proximity to Proposed Development.
A58	Colonel North Memorial Hall	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 1.6km southwest of the Northern Array. Potential effect due to proximity to Proposed Development.
A77	Two chest tombs on S side of the Church of St Cynwyd	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 2.7km west of Southern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed.
A78	Group of five tombs S of the tower of the Church of St Cynwyd	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 2.7km west of Southern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed.
A81	Group of 4 Hopkin and Jenkins tombs within iron railings on the W side of the path to the S porch	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 2.7km west of Southern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed.
A82	Group of nine memorials on the W side of the path to the S porch, Church of St Cynwyd	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 2.7km west of Southern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed.
A83	Jenkins Monument in the churchyard, Church of St Cynwyd	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 2.7km west of Southern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed.
A84	Churchyard walls around the graveyard, Church of St Cynwyd	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 2.7km west of Southern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed.
A171	Maesteg Council Offices, with flanking walls and piers.	Grade II* Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 1.7km southwest of Northern Array. Potential effect due to proximity to Proposed Development.
A172	Telephone call box in front of the Old House PH	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 2.7km west of Southern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed.
A173	Cenotaph	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 1.6km southwest of Northern Array. Potential effect due to proximity to Proposed Development.
A174	North Company Offices	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 1.6km southwest of Northern Array. Potential effect due to proximity to Proposed Development.
A176	Post Office	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 1.6km southwest of Northern Array. Potential effect due to proximity to Proposed Development.

WSP Ref.	Name	Designation	Rationale
A177	William Hopkin Thomas memorial	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 1.6km southwest of Northern Array. Potential effect due to proximity to Proposed Development.
A178	Nantyffyllon Workmen's Institute	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 2 turbines theoretically visible. Located 1.2km southwest of Northern Array. Potential effect due to proximity to Proposed Development.
A184	The Hopcyn Cross	Grade II Listed Building	Within ZTV, 8 turbines theoretically visible. Located 2.7km west of Southern Array. Potential effect due to introduction of turbines within viewshed.
B401	Cynnordy Farmstead	Non-Designated Built Heritage Asset	Within ZTV, 4 turbines theoretically visible. Located 400m west of the closest turbine in Southern Array (Turbine 7). Potential effect due to proximity to Proposed Development.

- 7.7.11. Including the historic assets identified through the Stage 1 Settings Assessment (**Annex 7A.C of Appendix 7A**), the principal Historic Environment receptors that have been identified as being potentially subject to significant effects are summarised in **Table 7.10**.

Table 7.7: Historic Environment receptors subject to potential effects

Receptor	Reason for consideration
On-site sub-surface archaeological remains	There is the potential for effects as a result of groundworks and other construction activities that are likely to completely or partially remove identified and as yet unknown historic assets.
Off-site designated assets identified by the Stage 1 Settings Assessment	Within ZTV. Within 5km of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity to Proposed Development.

Effects scoped out of the Historic Environment assessment

- 7.7.12. Effects scoped out of the Historic Environment assessment are included in **Table 7.11**, with details of those historic assets scoped out from further consideration provided in **Annex 7A.C of Appendix 7A**.

Table 7.8: Summary of effects scoped out of the Historic Environment assessment

Receptors/potential effects	Justification
Construction effects through change to setting	Construction impacts on the setting (i.e. noise and visual disturbance) of heritage assets have been scoped out of the assessment as these would be of a temporary nature and would not result in significant adverse effects.
Operational effects to buried archaeological remains	Operational effects on buried archaeological remains have been scoped out of the assessment as the construction phase would have completely or partially removed any archaeological remains as a result of groundworks or other construction activities. As a result, there would be no additional effects in the operational phase.
Effects through decommissioning	Decommissioning activities would not be expected to result in notable additional ground disturbance, though this would depend

Receptors/potential effects	Justification
	on the location of any on-site temporary compound. The removal of turbines and grid connection infrastructure would end any operational period effects through change to setting of historic assets and would not give rise to any additional effect.

7.8 Assessment methodology

- 7.8.1. The generic project-wide approach to the assessment methodology is set out in **Chapter 2: Approach to EIA**. However, whilst this has informed the approach that has been used in this Historic Environment assessment, it is necessary to set out how this methodology has been applied, and adapted as appropriate, to address the specific needs of this assessment.

Determining the significance of effects

- 7.8.2. The EIA Regulations recognise that developments will affect different environmental elements to differing degrees, and that not all of these are of sufficient concern to warrant detailed investigation or assessment through the EIA process. The EIA Regulations identify those environmental resources that warrant investigation as those that are “*likely to be significantly affected by the development*”.
- 7.8.3. The EIA Regulations do not define significance, and it will be necessary to state how this will be defined for the EIA. The significance of an effect is most commonly assessed by reference to the sensitivity, importance or value of a receptor and the magnitude of change resulting from a proposed development. This approach provides a mechanism for identifying areas where mitigation measures may be required and to identify the most appropriate measures to alleviate the risk presented by a proposed development.
- 7.8.4. For the purposes of assessing the significance of effects, heritage assets have been assigned to one of four categories of value, with reference to the heritage interests described in *Conservation Principles* and relying on professional judgement as informed by policy and guidance. The hierarchy of heritage value categories given in **Table 7.12** reflects the technical advice note (TAN)24⁴⁹ distinction between designated and non-designated historic assets. TAN24 further distinguishes between designated assets of the highest heritage significance (i.e., scheduled monuments, protected wreck sites, registered battlefields, grade I and II* listed buildings, grade I and II* registered parks and gardens, and world heritage sites) and other designated historic assets.

⁴⁹ Welsh Government (2026) *Technical Advice Note 24: the historic environment*. [online]. Available at: <https://www.gov.wales/technical-advice-note-tan-24-historic-environment> [Accessed 10 July 2026].

Table 7.9: Establishing the value of historic assets

Heritage value	Summary rationale	Examples
High	Asset has significance for an outstanding level of archaeological, architectural, historic and/or artistic interest.	All designated heritage assets or non-designated assets of demonstrably schedulable quality.
Medium	Asset has significance for a high level of archaeological, architectural, historic and/or artistic interest.	Locally listed buildings and buildings of merit. Regionally significant non-designated historic assets of archaeological interest.
Low	Asset has significance for elements of archaeological architectural, historic or artistic interest.	Locally significant historic assets of archaeological interest and important hedgerows.
Negligible	Due to its nature of form/condition/survival, cannot be considered as an asset in its own right.	Non-extant HER references.

7.8.5. **Table 7.13** details the basis for establishing magnitude of change as a result of the Proposed Development.

Table 7.10: Establishing the magnitude of change

Magnitude	Criteria
High	Loss of significance of an order of magnitude that would result from total or substantial demolition/disturbance of a heritage asset or from the disassociation of an asset from its setting.
Medium	Loss of significance arising from partial disturbance or inappropriate alteration of asset which will adversely affect its importance. Change to the key characteristics of an asset's setting, which gives rise to harm to the significance of the asset, but which still allows its archaeological, architectural or historic interest to be appreciated.
Low	Minor loss to or alteration of an asset which leaves its current significance largely intact. Minor and short-term changes to setting which do not affect the key characteristics and in which the historical context remains substantially intact.
Negligible	Minor alteration of an asset which does not affect its significance in any discernible way. Minor and short term or reversible change to setting which does not affect the significance of the asset.

- 7.8.6. The matrix in **Table 7.14** has been prepared to guide the assessment of whether effects on the Historic Environment for the purposes of EIA are considered to be significant or not. The classification of the effect is judged on the relationship of the value of the heritage asset and the magnitude of change to the assessed heritage significance of the resource as a result of the Proposed Development. Professional judgement is also applied in determining the significance of effect.
- 7.8.7. As a general rule, major and moderate effects (shaded in **Table 7.14**) are considered to be significant and minor and negligible effects are considered to be not significant. Where the magnitude of impact lies between two criteria, professional judgement has been applied to determine the final significance of the effect.

Table 7.11: Significance of evaluation matrix

		Heritage value			
		Negligible	Low	Medium	High
Magnitude of change	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible	Minor	Minor
	Low	Negligible	Minor	Minor	Moderate
	Medium	Minor	Minor	Moderate	Major
	High	Minor	Moderate	Major	Major

7.9 Assessment of Historic Environment effects

Construction Phase Impacts

- 7.9.1. The Proposed Development comprises the construction and operation of a wind farm, containing up to eight wind turbines. Four wind turbines are proposed to be installed within the Northern Array, and four within the Southern Array. In brief, intrusive groundworks would take place in specific areas of the Site, including:
- Construction of new access tracks and passing places inter-linking the turbine locations and substation;
 - Temporary site compounds;
 - Wind turbine foundations;
 - Wind turbine crane hard standing, with adjacent blade storage areas;
 - Cable trenches;
 - Switchroom and substation compound; and
 - Overhead line connection (via wooden pole) to agreed Point of Connection (POC) with National Grid Electricity Distribution (NGED).
- 7.9.2. Impacts to archaeological assets within the Development Site would be ascertained through physical disturbance, truncation, and/or total removal through construction works associated with the Proposed Development. Invasive works of this nature would adversely affect any surviving sub-surface archaeological remains, reducing or removing their ability to be further interpreted. Historic assets deemed sensitive to physical impacts as a result of the Proposed Development are presented in **Table 7.17** below.
- 7.9.3. Assessment of the archaeological baseline indicates that any previously unrecorded archaeological remains are likely to comprise those associated with historical mine workings and ground disturbance, ancillary infrastructure to these mine workings, and structures / buildings / deposits associated with the historical use of the Development Site as pastureland. The Proposed Development impacts would be localised within the footprint of the abovementioned areas for groundworks. Sub-surface archaeological remains of a **negligible** to **low** heritage significance would experience a **low** magnitude of change, resulting in a **minor** and **not significant** significance of effect.

Operational Phase Impacts

Change to Setting of Historic Assets

- 7.9.4. Changes to the setting of historic assets as a result of the Proposed Development would be experienced through changes to views and vistas from historic assets towards the Development Site. The effects of these visual changes would result in a **negligible** or **low** magnitude of change for most of the assessed historic assets. The significance of effects on the setting of the historic assets is summarised in **Table 7.17** with a rationale provided in each case.

- 7.9.5. The significance of effects through change to setting as a result of the Proposed Development have been assessed as **negligible** or **minor** and **not significant**.

7.10 Assessment of cumulative (inter-project) effects

- 7.10.1. A cumulative effects assessment (CEA) has been undertaken for the Proposed Development which considers the combined impacts with other developments on the same single receptor or resource (inter-project effects). The detailed method followed in identifying and assessing potential cumulative effects is set out in **Chapter 2: Approach to EIA**.
- 7.10.2. The potential effects of the Proposed Development cannot be considered in isolation. There are a number of operational, consented or proposed wind energy developments within the general vicinity of the Site (**Figure 2.1**). A review of potential cumulative effects has been undertaken using the list of other projects presented in **Chapter 2**. From this the following developments have been considered as part of the cumulative effects assessment:
- Y Bryn Wind Farm (DNS/3264571)
 - Mynydd Ty-talwyn Energy Park (DNS CAS-03018-G7G6H7)
- 7.10.3. In relation to the historic environment, all other developments as identified in **Chapter 2** of the Draft ES are considered to have no cumulative effect on sensitive heritage receptors identified within this assessment. This is due to the distance between the developments, the Development Site and identified heritage receptors; and lack of potential impacts to identified heritage receptors determined as a result of these developments.

Y Bryn Wind Farm

- 7.10.4. Y Bryn Wind Farm (DNS Ref: DNS/3264571) comprises proposals for a wind farm consisting of up to 18 wind turbines, centred at NGR: SS 84054 92805, recorded 2.3km west of the Northern Array.
- 7.10.5. Ten historic assets identified within the EIA assessment for the Y Bryn Wind Farm development have the potential to incur cumulative impacts relating to the operational phase with the Proposed Development within the Development Site. These comprise the following:
- Y Bwlwarcau Scheduled Monument (**A10**);
 - Maesteg Blast Furnaces Scheduled Monument (**A18**) and Grade II* Listed Building (**A53**);
 - Margam Mountain Registered Historic Landscape (**A26**);
 - Bryngarw Registered Park and Garden (**A23**);
 - Maesteg Sports Centre, Grade II* Listed Building (**A36**);
 - Church of St David, Maesteg, Grade II Listed Building (**A57**);
 - Llangynwyd Conservation Area (**A30**);
 - Church of St Cynwyd, Grade II* Listed Building (**A33**); and

- Church of St David, Bettws, Grade I Listed Building (**A32**).

- 7.10.6. The effects of development upon the abovementioned assets were assessed within the Y Bryn Wind Farm EIA documents as **negligible to minor**, resulting in **not significant** effects. The assessment of significance of effects as part of the Proposed Development has also resulted in a conclusion of **not significant** (**Table 7.17**).
- 7.10.7. The application for this development is currently under judicial review. If consented, it is likely that this development would incur cumulative impacts to these historic assets. However, it is considered that these impacts would not result in significant cumulative effects, as set out in **Table 7.15**.

Table 7.12: Summary of Cumulative Impacts – Y Bryn Wind Farm

Receptor and summary of predicted cumulative effects	Sensitivity / importance / value of receptor	Magnitude of change	Significance	Summary of cumulative effects rationale
Y Bwlwarcau (A10) – Scheduled Monument Visual impacts through changes to long-ranging views to the north and east	High	Negligible	Minor (Not Significant)	While changes in setting of this asset would be incurred through the introduction of wind turbines into wider setting, it is considered that the distance between the developments and this asset (c.4km in all directions) would not impact our ability to understand the significance of this asset, nor impact upon its spatial relationship with Margam Mountain RHL.
Maesteg Blast Furnaces (A18, A53) Scheduled Monument and Grade II Listed Building Visual impacts through changes to wider setting and theoretical views	High	Negligible	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting. Views likely to be blocked by vegetation and built form towards Y Bryn Wind Farm, therefore resulting in no significant cumulative effects.
Margam Mountain (A26) – Registered Historic Landscape Visual impacts through changes	High	Negligible to Low	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting. While both sites lie outside the RHL boundary, the position of the proposed wind turbine in elevated

Receptor and summary of predicted cumulative effects	Sensitivity / importance / value of receptor	Magnitude of change	Significance	Summary of cumulative effects rationale
to long-ranging views to the north and east.				locations within the wider landscape would introduce wind turbines into views towards the north and northeast. These views would be more imposing from the Y Bryn development; whereas those towards the Development Site – particularly the Northern Array – would fall within viewsheds already impacted by the Llynfi Afan wind farm.
Bryngarw (A23) – Registered Historic Park & Garden Visual impacts through changes to wider setting.	Medium	Negligible	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting. However, due to the distance between these assets and the developments (Y Bryn being located over 9km to the northwest), it is considered that cumulative effects are minor.
Maesteg Sports Centre (A36) – Grade II* Listed Building Visual impacts through changes to wider setting.	Medium	Negligible	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting. Views likely to be blocked by vegetation and built form towards Y Bryn Wind Farm, therefore resulting in no significant cumulative effects.
Church of St David (A57) – Grade II Listed Building Visual impacts through changes to wider setting	Medium	Low	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting. No direct views identified towards the Site from this asset, and views likely to be blocked by vegetation and built form towards Y Bryn Wind Farm, therefore resulting in no significant cumulative effects.
Llangynwyd Conservation Area (A30)	Medium	Low	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind

Receptor and summary of predicted cumulative effects	Sensitivity / importance / value of receptor	Magnitude of change	Significance	Summary of cumulative effects rationale
Visual impacts through changes to wider setting				turbines into wider setting. Views may be experienced towards the north on marginal areas of the conservation area, towards both the Site and the Y Bryn development. Due to the distance between the conservation area and Y Bryn (c.4km to the north), this would not have a significant cumulative effect on the asset.
Church of St Cynwyd (A33) – Grade II* Listed Building Visual impacts through changes to wider setting	High	Negligible	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting. No direct views identified from this asset towards the Site; with all views blocked by built form and/or mature trees. Setting is defined by immediate surrounding and context within the conservation area, retaining a sense of enclosure and isolation. No significant cumulative effects are identified.
Church of St David (A32) – Grade I Listed Building Visual impacts through changes to wider setting	High	Negligible	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting. No direct views observed towards the Site, and views towards Y Bryn are also likely to be obscured by modern built form. Due to distance between the asset and Y Bryn, over 8km to the northwest, it is deemed there would be no significant cumulative effects.

Mynydd Ty-talwyn Energy Park

- 7.10.8. Mynydd Ty-talwyn Energy Park (DNS Ref: DNS CAS-03018-G7G6H7) comprises proposals for a wind farm consisting of up to 10 wind turbines, centred at NGR: SS 86705 86116, recorded 3.6km southwest of the Southern Array.
- 7.10.9. Four historic assets identified within the EIA assessment for the Mynydd Ty-talwyn Energy Park development have the potential to incur cumulative impacts relating to the operational phase with the Proposed Development within the Site. These comprise the following:
- Y Bwlwarcau Scheduled Monument (**A10**);
 - Margam Mountain Registered Historic Landscape (**A26**);
 - Llangynwyd Conservation Area (**A30**); and
 - Church of St Cynwyd, Grade II* Listed Building (**A33**).
- 7.10.10. The assessment of significance of effects of the abovementioned assets as part of the Proposed Development has resulted in a conclusion of **not significant** (**Table 7.17**).
- 7.10.11. The application for this development is at pre-application stage, with available documents comprising a scoping report. If consented, it is likely that this development would incur cumulative impacts to these historic assets. However, it is considered that these impacts would not result in significant cumulative effects, as set out in **Table 7.16**.

Table 7.13: Summary of Cumulative Impacts – Mynydd Ty-talwyn Energy Park

Receptor and summary of predicted cumulative effects	Sensitivity / importance / value of receptor	Magnitude of change	Significance	Summary of cumulative effects rationale
Y Bwlwarcau (A10) – Scheduled Monument Visual impacts through changes to long-ranging views to the north and east	High	Negligible	Minor (Not Significant)	While changes in setting of this asset would be incurred through the introduction of wind turbines into wider setting, it is considered that the distance between the developments and this asset (c.3.5km - 4km to the north, east and south) would not impact our ability to understand the significance of this asset, nor impact upon its spatial relationship with Margam Mountain RHL.

Receptor and summary of predicted cumulative effects	Sensitivity / importance / value of receptor	Magnitude of change	Significance	Summary of cumulative effects rationale
Margam Mountain (A26) – Registered Historic Landscape Visual impacts through changes to long-ranging views to the north and east.	High	Negligible to Low	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting. While both sites lie outside the RHL boundary, the position of the proposed wind turbine in elevated locations within the wider landscape would introduce wind turbines into views towards the north, east and south. These views towards the Site – particularly the Northern Array – would fall within viewsheds already impacted by the Llynfi Afan wind farm.
Llangynwyd Conservation Area (A30) Visual impacts through changes to wider setting	Medium	Low	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting. Views may be experienced towards the north on marginal areas of the conservation area. Views to the south are visible from the Old House Inn (A45), which forms part of the significance of the conservation area as a rural, isolated, agricultural settlement. Although, it is deemed that due to the distance between this asset and both sites no significant cumulative effects would arise.
Church of St Cynwyd (A33) – Grade II* Listed Building Visual impacts through changes to wider setting	High	Negligible	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting. No direct views identified from this asset towards the Site; with all views blocked by built form and/or mature trees. Glimpsed views may be experienced towards the south; however, due

Receptor and summary of predicted cumulative effects	Sensitivity / importance / value of receptor	Magnitude of change	Significance	Summary of cumulative effects rationale
				to the distance between the asset and both developments, it is considered there would be no significant cumulative effects.

7.11 Significance conclusions

- 7.11.1. A summary of the results of the Historic Environment assessment is provided in **Table 7.17**.

Table 7.14: Summary of significance of effects

Receptor and summary of predicted effects	Sensitivity / importance / value of receptor	Magnitude of change	Significance	Summary rationale
Construction Phase				
Historic field boundary drystone wall (WSP3) Physical impact to this asset would be sustained through construction of the access track.	Low	Low	Minor (Not Significant)	Removal of part of this feature would result in some loss, although this is considered to be restricted to a minimal area which is required for access, up to 5m wide and 0.6m deep.
Possible continuation of medieval boundary B9 (WSP5) Physical impact to this asset would be sustained through construction of the access track.	Low	Low	Minor (Not Significant)	Removal of part of this feature would result in some loss, although this is considered to be restricted to a minimal area which is required for access, up to 5m wide and 0.6m deep.
Unknown feature of unknown date, earthwork curvilinear (WSP22) Potential for physical impact to this asset through works in proximity to earthwork.	Negligible	Low	Minor (Not Significant)	No proposed impact to the asset itself but works in vicinity may incur impacts to immediate area surrounding this asset, and unknown buried remains associated with this asset.
Possible quarry pit / mining activity (WSP7) Physical impact to this asset would be sustained through construction of the access track.	Low	Medium	Minor (Not Significant)	Removal of part of this feature would result in some loss, although this is considered to be restricted to a minimal area which is required for access, up to 5m wide and 0.6m deep.
Historical drystone field boundary Physical impacts through construction of Turbine 7	Low	Medium	Minor (Not Significant)	Removal of part of this feature would result in some loss of fabric of the historical drystone boundary, and removal of context and understanding of the feature as a continual drystone wall representing a field boundary
Non-Designated Historic Assets within the Northern Array situated	Low	Low	Minor (Not Significant)	Removal or truncation of these features through groundworks associated with the installation of overhead cables and associated infrastructure, e.g. wooden poles. Ground impacts are anticipated

Receptor and summary of predicted effects	Sensitivity / importance / value of receptor	Magnitude of change	Significance	Summary rationale
within the overhead line connection corridor Mynydd Back, Level XIII (B80) Mynydd Bach, Structure IV (B83) Mynydd Bach, Spoil Heap XXII (B87) Mynydd Back, Spoil Heap XIX (B171) Mynydd Bach, Building II (B219) Mynydd Bach, Spoil Heap XXI (B237) Mynydd Bach, Shelter II (B168) Mynydd Bach, Structure I (B148) Physical impacts to these assets would be sustained through construction of the overhead grid connection.				to be minimal, and thus the magnitude of change is assessed to be low. At the time of writing this Draft ES, the exact location of these works is yet to be confirmed.
As-yet unknown buried archaeological remains within the Site Physical impact to as-yet unknown buried remains through construction phase.	Negligible to Low	Low	Minor (Not Significant)	Truncation or entire removal of previously unknown buried remains in the footprint of the Proposed Development impacts would have the potential to incur moderate to major adverse impacts on the historic environment resource within the Site. Any previously unknown remains likely relate to medieval and post medieval agricultural activities, and post medieval to modern mine workings. Further consideration will be required through consultation with Heneb after the submission of this Draft ES in order to discuss approach to archaeological impacts going forward.
Operational Phase				
Round Cairn 567m East of Bryn Defaid (A7) – Scheduled Monument Visual and experiential impacts through changes to viewshed resulting from 8 turbines being theoretically visible.	High	Negligible to Low	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting, with closest wind turbine (Turbine 6, Southern Array) located 1.2km to the south of this asset. Significance retained to buried archaeological remains and inter-spatial relationship with Croes y Bwlchgwyn Round Cairn (A8), of which would not be interrupted by the Proposed Development. Application of professional judgement has been used in this case to assess this as not significant.

Receptor and summary of predicted effects	Sensitivity / importance / value of receptor	Magnitude of change	Significance	Summary rationale
Croes y Bwlchgywn Round Cairn (A8) – Scheduled Monument Visual and experiential impacts through changes to viewshed resulting from 8 turbines being theoretically visible.	High	Negligible to Low	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting, with closest wind turbine (Turbine 6, Southern Array) located 400m to the south of this asset. Significance retained to buried archaeological remains and inter-spatial relationship with Round Cairn 567m East of Bryn Defaid (A7), of which would not be interrupted by the Proposed Development. Application of professional judgement has been used in this case to assess this as not significant.
Garth Hill Platform House (A17) – Scheduled Monument Visual and experiential impacts through changes to viewshed resulting from 4 turbines being theoretically visible.	High	Negligible to Low	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting, with closest turbine (Turbine 8, Southern Array) recorded 1.2km to the east of this asset. Significance retained to buried archaeological remains and understanding of immediate setting including historical land use as pastureland, and views westwards along the valley towards Llangynwyd parish. Application of professional judgement has been used in this case to assess this as not significant.
Y Bwlwarcau (A10) – Scheduled Monument Visual impacts through changes to viewshed resulting from 8 turbines being theoretically visible.	High	Negligible	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting. Significance retained to buried archaeological remains, and immediate agricultural setting and spatial relationship with Mynydd Margam. Introduction of turbines would also not limit our ability to understand the significance of the position of the hillfort within the landscape.
Maesteg Blast Furnaces (A18, A53) Scheduled Monument and Grade II Listed Building Visual impacts through changes to viewshed resulting from 8 turbines being theoretically visible.	High	Negligible to Low	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting. Significance retained to upstanding structural remains, relationship with Maesteg town and links with historical workings that took place on the western edge of the Northern Array, of which would not be affected by the Proposed Development. Application of professional judgement has been used in this case to assess this as not significant.
Margam Mountain (A26) – Registered Historic Landscape Visual impacts through changes to viewshed resulting from 8 turbines	High	Negligible to Low	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting. The site lies outside of this registered historic landscape, and any impacts would therefore only be on the periphery of internal views within this landscape. The setting of the asset relates more to the internal views, as well as the

Receptor and summary of predicted effects	Sensitivity / importance / value of receptor	Magnitude of change	Significance	Summary rationale
being theoretically visible from specific locations within the landscape area.				relationship between the internal historical landscape area divisions. The introduction of turbines into periphery views outside of this historic landscape would not impact on its significance. Application of professional judgement has been used in this case to assess this as not significant.
Bryngarw (A23) – Registered Historic Park & Garden Visual impacts through changes to viewshed resulting from 8 turbines being theoretically visible.	Medium	Negligible	Negligible (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting. Elements of the parkland's setting contributing to its significance are its key views, of which were deliberately designed and landscaped to centre on the focal point of Bryngarw House, within the centre of the park. Dense vegetation restricts long-ranging views north towards the Site.
Maesteg Town Centre Conservation Area (A29) & Listed Buildings: GII* Maesteg Council Offices (A171) GII* Maesteg Sports Centre (A36) GII Neuadd Y Dref (Town Hall) (A54) GII Church of St David (A57) GII Colonel North Memorial Hall (A58) GII Cenotaph (A173) GII North Company Offices (A174) GII Post Office (A176) GII William Hopkin Thomas Memorial (A177) GII Salem West Baptist Chapel (A38) GII Siloh Independent Chapel (A46) GII Capel Saron (A55) GII Nantyffyllon Workmen's Institute (A178) Visual impacts through changes to viewshed resulting from between 2 to 8 turbines being theoretically visible from historic assets within and beyond the conservation area.	Medium	Low	Minor (Not Significant)	Setting contributes strongly to the significance of assets within Maesteg, but this primarily relates to the interrelationship between assets within Maesteg, rather than views outwards towards the Site. There is some connectivity between Maesteg and industrial workings that happened on the western edge of the Site, but the installation of turbines in the rear of these views would not inhibit our ability to appreciate the historic relationship between Maesteg and the surrounding relict industrial landscape.

Receptor and summary of predicted effects	Sensitivity / importance / value of receptor	Magnitude of change	Significance	Summary rationale
Llangynwyd Conservation Area (A30) & Listed Buildings GII* Church of St Cynwyd (A33) GII Old House Inn (A45) GII Churchyard Walls (A84) GII Two chest tombs on S side of the Church of St Cynwyd (A77) GII Group of five tombs (A78) GII Group of 4 Hopkin and Jenkins tombs (A81) GII Group of nine memorials (A82) GII Jenkins Monument (A83) GII Telephone Call Box (A172) GII Hopcyn Cross (A184) Visual impacts through changes to viewshed resulting from 8 turbines being theoretically visible from the majority of assets within the conservation area.	High to Medium	Negligible to Low	Minor (Not Significant)	The setting of the conservation area and listed buildings makes a strong contribution to its significance, comprising elements of the immediate agricultural landscape around the conservation area, as well as more internal views focused around the Grade II* Church of St Cynwyd (A33), which is the historic core of the village and to which most of the listed buildings relate. The Old House Inn (A45) located to the south of the conservation area, has long reaching views looking south away from the Site, but views from its principal elevation on the north side relate primarily to views of the Church. The setting of the Grade II listed telephone box (A172) and Hopcyn Cross (A184) are contained to within the conservation area. The Site will only appear in distant views from within the conservation area and will not impact on its significance.
Church of St David (A32) – Grade I Listed Building Visual impacts through changes to viewshed resulting from 8 turbines being theoretically visible.	High	Negligible	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting. The setting of the church contributes to its significance but is restricted to the immediate setting of its churchyard, as well as retained historical views looking westward across agricultural land. As there are no views towards the Site, there would be no significant effect on this asset.
Cynnordy Farmstead (B401) – Non-Designated Historic Asset Visual and experiential impacts through changes to viewshed resulting from 4 turbines being theoretically visible.	Low	Low	Minor (Not Significant)	Changes in setting of this asset through introduction of wind turbines into wider setting. Whilst the significance of the asset is primarily derived from its evidential value, it is acknowledged that the immediate surrounding agricultural landscape contributes to the asset's significance. The introduction of a turbine 400m to the west of this asset (Turbine 7, Southern Array) would intrude on this historic agricultural setting but would not fundamentally alter our ability to understand the relationship the asset had with the surrounding landscape.

7.12 Further work to be undertaken

- 7.12.1. This section describes the further work to be undertaken to support the Historic Environment assessment presented in the Final ES.
- 7.12.2. Review of available archival materials held at the Glamorgan Archives will be conducted, and any relevant information retrieved from this search will be included within the baseline, informing the overarching Historic Environment assessment (**Appendix 7A**).
- 7.12.3. Consultation with Heneb, the archaeological planning advisory service for Wales, will be undertaken to determine the nature of archaeological mitigation measures in relation to direct disturbance to unknown sub-surface archaeological remains during the construction phase. This will be actioned following submission of the Draft ES.