

Written Scheme of Investigation: Cultural Heritage Assessment

Land near Coed Hirwaun, Port Talbot, Wales (Bedwen Arian
Solar/BESS)

For:	Arise Renewable Energy
On Behalf of:	-
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2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 BACKGROUND

- 2.1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) details the Methodology we intend to use in order to research towards and prepare an Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment for a site named Bedwen Arian Solar/BESS. The proposals covers an area of c.35ha of Land near Coed Hirwaun, Port Talbot, Wales. The land is centred on NGR SS 82107 85322 (Figure 1). The WSI been prepared by Abrams Archaeology for Arise Renewable Energy.
- 2.1.2 By way of introduction, the site is formed of nineteen relatively small plots. The land is in use as grassland (horse pasture) and there is a modern storage barn surrounded by concrete hardstanding towards its western end. There are several portacabins located in the vicinity of this modern storage barn. The site is hereafter referred to as the Proposed Development Area (PDA) and/or the site.
- 2.1.3 This WSI has been prepared by Joe Abrams of Abrams Archaeology. The research towards the assessment and the assessment text will also be produced by Joe Abrams. Graphics will be produced by members of the Abrams Archaeology team.
- 2.1.4 The PDA lies north of the settlement named Coedhirwaun and directly southeast of a local road which runs northeast off the A48. This local road runs a short distance north to Graig-Coch. To the west lies Margam Country Park.
- 2.1.5 All work within the forthcoming impact assessment will be undertaken in accordance with the Standards and Guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists¹, and in line with Welsh Government best practice guidance Setting of Historic assets in Wales². The WSI will be submitted to the Planning Services department of The Trust for Welsh Archaeology (Heneb). It will need to be approved prior to the assessment report being produced.

2.2 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- 2.2.1 In summary, the development will provide a solar farm ancillary structures (such as substation, security fencing and CCTV poles), battery energy storage site (BESS), grid connection/s and associated access routes.

¹ ClfA. Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment 2020

² Welsh Government. Planning Policy Wales TAN 24 The Historic Environment 2017

4 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1 AIMS

- 4.1.1 The aim will be to take a full account of the archaeological resource, including designated and undesignated historic assets within the PDA and on land surrounding it (within the Study Areas described below). It will gather enough information to understand the significance of any historic assets affected and assess the direct and indirect impact of the proposals on those assets (as appropriate). This will help inform decision making, design solutions and potential mitigation strategies.

4.2 OBJECTIVES

- 4.2.1 The primary objective will be to assess the impact of the development proposals on the historic environment by means of an Impact Assessment which covers Archaeology and Heritage. This work will follow the guidance laid out within Managing Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales, produced by CADW in May 2017³ and Planning Policy Wales Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment, 2017⁴. The Assessment will also conform to the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk Based Assessment⁵.
- 4.2.2 The work will include a comprehensive assessment of regional context within which the evidence rests and will aim to highlight any relevant research issues within national and regional research frameworks. The work will result in a report that will provide information of sufficient detail to allow informed planning decisions to be made.

5 METHODOLOGY

5.1 INTRODUCTION

- 5.1.1 The aim of the work will be to establish and make available information about the significance (archaeological and heritage) of the affected area, and its relationship to the wider historic environment. The work will include the following elements:
- 5.1.2 Research and desk-based study (using online and in-person consultation of useful sources)
- 5.1.3 A site visit and walkover
- 5.1.4 Visits to selected historic assets off-site
- 5.1.5 The production of an illustrated report
- 5.1.6 Archiving
- 5.1.7 In preparing to write the Impact Assessment, we will compile readily available

³ Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales. 2017. <https://CADW.gov.wales/sites/default/files/2019-05/20170531Heritage%20Impact%20Assessment%20in%20Wales%2026917%20EN.pdf> - accessed 20-07-2025

⁴ Welsh Government 2016, Planning Policy Wales TAN 24 The Historic Environment 2017. <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-09/tan24-historic-environment.pdf> - accessed 20-07-2025

⁵ CIfA. Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment 2020

archaeological and historical information from documentary and cartographic sources. We will visit the PDA to conduct a walkover and we will also visit selected surrounding historic assets.

5.1.8 This allows us to provide a professional opinion upon:

- *Archaeology* - The potential of the land to contain sub-surface archaeological remains
- *Heritage* - Which above ground historic assets (e.g. buildings) which may require detailed setting assessment

5.1.9 The Impact Assessment will then utilise this data. In the case of heritage setting the impact assessment will be based upon additional visits, to specific assets, and the use of Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) imagery and photographs taken during those visits.

5.1.10 We will use three study areas:

PDA/inner study area (all land within the red line on Figure 1)

Middle study area – up to 1km radius of the edges of the PDA

Outer study area – up to 3km radius of the PDA

5.1.11 The archaeological element of the impact assessment will conclude with an assessment of the potential for archaeological remains to have been present, and for them to have been preserved to the present day. These are distinct factors, which both contribute to the site's archaeological potential. With regard to the potential remains we will then comment upon them in the following ways:

- (1) to give an assessment on the relative importance of the archaeological remains that may lie in the PDA. This considers them in regional, period or topic specific terms. Our ability to comment is based upon what is known at this stage measured against the research priorities we are aware of.
- (2) we will consider those activities and conditions (we know of) on the PDA which have either truncated, compacted or removed remains and those which may have sealed and/or otherwise preserved remains.

5.1.12 ASIDOHL2. We will consider the need for an ASIDOHL2 Report and, to that end, will liaise with the consultees (Section 5). Should this be necessary, we will follow Annex 2 of *The Guide To Good Practice On Using The Register Of Landscapes Of Historic Interest In Wales In The Planning And Development Process*⁶.

5.2 SOURCES:

5.2.1 In preparing this impact assessment we will compile readily available archaeological and historical information from documentary and cartographic sources, primarily:

- Information held by the Heneb Historic Environment Record on known archaeological sites, monuments and findspots within 1km of the Site (Heneb HER Enquiry Reference Number: 9182);
- National Monuments Record of Wales, Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales (licence : TBC);

⁶ https://cadw.gov.wales/sites/default/files/2019-05/LandscapesRegisterGoodPractice_EN_0.pdf - accessed 27-07-2025

- Maps and documents held by the Glamorgan Archives and online sources;
- The National Heritage List for Wales curated by CADW;
- LIDAR will be viewed in order to check for anomalies of a possible archaeological origin
- Portable Antiquities Scheme data will be viewed in order to check for items on/close to the PDA
- If Site Investigation reports (borehole and test pit) are available, then this data will be built into the report
- Aerial photographs held by the Central Register for Aerial Photography in Wales and National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth; and
- Records made during site visits in August 2025.

5.2.2 The assessment will provide a synthesis of relevant information for the Site derived from Study Areas which are set as follows:

5.2.3 We will use three study areas:

- PDA/inner study area (all land within the red line on Figure 1). This will search for designated and undesignated historic assets.
- Middle study area – up to 1km radius of the edges of the PDA. This will search for designated and undesignated historic assets.
- Outer study area – up to 3km radius of the PDA. This will search for designated historic assets

5.2.4 The information gathered from the repositories and sources identified above will be checked and augmented through the completion of a site visit and walkover. This walkover will consider the nature and significance of known and/or potential (archaeological) historic assets within the PDA. We will check for the existence and condition of identified, visible historic features and assess possible factors which may affect the survival or condition of known or potential assets.

5.2.5 In addition, the assessment will consider the nature and significance of any effects arising beyond the boundary of the application site; i.e. through potential changes to the settings of designated historic assets.

5.2.6 In that regard, the site walkover will consider, where appropriate, the contribution (if any) made by the land within the Site to the settings of designated archaeological assets situated within its wider area.

5.2.7 The report concludes with (1) an assessment of the Site's likely archaeological potential, made with regard to current best practice guidelines, and (2) an assessment of the likely effects of the proposed development upon designated and undesignated archaeological assets, whether direct or indirect.

5.3 ASSESSMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPORTANCE

5.3.1 Historic assets are assessed in terms of their significance and importance, following

the requirement in Planning Policy Wales (PPW)⁷, and taking account of the Welsh Government's guidance in TAN24⁸ and CADW's Conservation Principles⁹. Significance, in relation to heritage policy, is defined by the Conservation Principles as:

2.2 The significance of an historic asset embraces all of the cultural heritage values that people associate with it, or which prompt them to respond to it. These values tend to grow in strength and complexity over time, as understanding deepens and people's perceptions evolve.¹⁰

- 5.3.2 Where potential impacts on the settings of historic assets are identified, the assessment of significance includes assessing whether, how and to what degree these settings make a contribution to the significance of the historic asset(s). The methodology for assessing setting is described within the Setting Assessment Methodology (Section 5.5).
- 5.3.3 The importance of a historic asset is the overall value assigned to it based on its heritage significance, reflecting its statutory designation or, in the case of undesignated assets, the professional judgement of the assessor (Table 1). Nationally and internationally designated assets are assigned to the highest two levels of importance. Grade II Listed Buildings and Grade II Registered Parks and Gardens are considered of medium importance. Conservation Areas are not assigned to either level of importance by Planning Policy Wales but their status as local designations and their omission from the National Heritage List justifies their classification here as assets of medium importance (Table 1).
- 5.3.4 Other undesignated assets, which are considered of local importance, only are assigned to a low level of importance. An historic feature which lacks a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest is not considered to be a historic asset; it may also be said to have negligible importance.

TABLE 1: CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF HISTORIC ASSETS

Importance of the asset	Criteria
Very high	World Heritage Sites and other assets of equal international importance
High	Grade I and II* Registered Parks and Gardens, Scheduled Monuments, Protected Wreck Sites, Registered Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest, Grade I and II* Listed Buildings, and undesignated historic assets of equal importance
Medium	Conservation Areas, Grade II Registered Parks and Gardens, Grade II Listed Buildings, Registered Landscapes of Special Historic Interest, historic assets on local lists and undesignated assets of equal importance
Low	Undesignated historic assets of lesser importance
Negligible	An historic feature which lacks a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions

5.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

⁷ Planning Policy Wales. Edition 12, Feb 2024. <https://gov.wales/planning-policy-wales> - accessed 27-07-2025

⁸ Welsh Government. Planning Policy Wales TAN 24 The Historic Environment 2017

⁹ CADW. 2011. Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales. 2011

¹⁰ Page 10, Section 2. In: CADW. 2011. Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales. 2011

- 5.4.1 The report concludes with (1) an assessment of the archaeological potential of the Site, (2) an assessment of the significance of any archaeological remains that may be present, and (3) an assessment of the likely effects of the proposed development on historic assets, both in terms of physical impact and (where relevant) change to setting.
- 5.4.2 The likelihood that significant undiscovered historic assets may be present within the application site is referred to as archaeological potential. Overall levels of potential can be assigned to different landscape zones, following the criteria in Table 2, while recognising that the archaeological potential of any zone will relate to particular historical periods and types of evidence. The following factors are considered in assessing archaeological potential:
- The distribution and character of known archaeological remains in the vicinity, based principally on an appraisal of data in the GGAT HER;
 - The history of archaeological fieldwork and research in the surrounding area, which may give an indication of the reliability and completeness of existing records;
 - Environmental factors such as geology, topography and soil quality, which would have influenced land-use in the past and can therefore be used to predict the distribution of archaeological remains;
 - Land-use factors affecting the survival of archaeological remains, such as ploughing or commercial forestry planting; and
 - Factors affecting the visibility of archaeological remains, which may relate to both environment and land-use, such as soils and geology (which may be more or less conducive to formation of cropmarks), arable cultivation (which has potential to show cropmarks and create surface artefact scatters), vegetation, which can conceal upstanding features, and superficial deposits such as peat and alluvium which can mask archaeological features.

TABLE 2: ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL

Potential	Definition
High	Undiscovered historic assets of high or medium importance are likely to be present.
Medium	Undiscovered historic assets of low importance are likely to be present; and it is possible, though unlikely, that assets of high or medium importance may also be present.
Low	The study area may contain undiscovered historic assets, but these are unlikely to be numerous and are highly unlikely to include assets of high or medium importance.
Negligible	The study area is highly unlikely to contain undiscovered historic assets of any level of importance.
Nil	There is no possibility of undiscovered historic assets existing within the study area.

5.5 SETTING ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

- 5.5.1 The assessment process has given due consideration to CADW guidance on setting as laid out in Managing Setting of Historic Assets in Wales¹¹ and Heritage Impact

¹¹ CADW 2017a Managing Setting of Historic Assets in Wales, Welsh Government (dated May 2017)

Assessment in Wales¹² and similarly within the Welsh Government's Planning Policy Wales Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment¹³.

- 5.5.2 When assessing the impact of proposals on designated historic assets, it is not a question of whether there would be a direct physical impact on that asset, but instead whether change within its 'setting' would lead to a loss of 'significance'.
- 5.5.3 In simple terms, setting is defined as 'the surroundings in which a historic asset is understood, experienced and appreciated'. It therefore must be recognised from the outset that 'setting' is not a historic asset, and cannot itself be harmed. Its importance relates to the contribution it makes to the significance of the historic asset and the extent to which it allows that significance to be understood, experienced and appreciated.'
- 5.5.4 The CADW Conservation Principles document states that significance of an historic asset:

2.2 The significance of an historic asset embraces all of the cultural heritage values that people associate with it, or which prompt them to respond to it. These values tend to grow in strength and complexity over time, as understanding deepens and people's perceptions evolve.¹⁴

- 5.5.5 As such, when assessing the impact of proposals on designated historic assets beyond the boundary of a development site, it is not a question of whether setting would be affected, but rather a question of whether change within an asset's 'setting' would lead to a loss of 'significance' or the ability to understand, experience and appreciate 'significance' based on the above 'heritage interest' as defined by CADW.
- 5.5.6 Set within this context, where the objective is to determine the impact of proposals on designated historic assets beyond the boundary of a development site, it is necessary to first define the significance of the asset in question - and the contribution made to that significance or the ability to appreciate that significance by its 'setting', in order to establish whether there would be a loss, and therefore harm.
- 5.5.7 The guidance identifies that change within a historic asset's setting need not necessarily cause harm to that asset; it can be positive, negative or neutral.
- 5.5.8 In light of the above, the assessment of potential setting effects, arising from the proposed scheme, has followed the guidance set out in 'Managing Setting of Historic Assets in Wales' by CADW¹⁵. Part 1 of this guidance defines setting and observes that the setting of a historic asset is:

"The surroundings in which a historic asset is understood, experienced and appreciated, embracing present and past relationships and the surrounding landscape. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive negative or neutral contribution to the significance of an asset."¹⁶

- 5.5.9 The guidance is clear that the importance of setting lies in what it contributes to the significance of the historic asset or the ability to appreciate that significance.

¹² CADW 2017b. Managing Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales, Welsh Government (dated May 2017)

¹⁴ Page 10, Section 2. In: CADW. 2011. Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales. 2011

¹⁵ CADW 2017a Managing Setting of Historic Assets in Wales, Welsh Government (dated May 2017)

¹⁶ Section 1, What is Setting. Page 2. CADW 2017a Managing Setting of Historic Assets in Wales, Welsh Government (dated May 2017)

5.5.10 On a practical level, the CADW guidance identifies an approach to assessing setting in relation to development management which is based on a four-stage procedure; i.e.:

Stage 1 - Identify the historic assets;

Stage 2 - Define and analyse the setting which is made up of :

- Its current surroundings
- Our present understanding and appreciation of the historic asset
- What (if anything) survives of its historic surroundings.

Stage 3 - Evaluate the potential impact of change or development; and

Stage 4 - Consider options to mitigate the impact of a proposed change or development.

5.5.11 The Management Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales¹⁷ states that the heritage values (significance) of a historic asset can be defined in the following terms:

- *evidential value*: the extent to which the physical fabric tells how and when your historic asset was made, how it was used and how it has changed over time. There may be buried or obscured elements associated with your historic asset which may also be an important potential source of evidence.
- *historical value*: your historic asset may illustrate a particular past way of life or be associated with a specific person or event; there may be physical evidence for these connections which it could be important to retain.
- *aesthetic value*: the design, construction and craftsmanship of your historic asset. This can also include setting and views to and from the historic asset, which may have changed through time.
- *communal value*: your historic asset may have particular significance to people for its commemorative, symbolic or spiritual value, or for the part it has played in local cultural or public life. This will be particularly important in the case of buildings in public use or sites where public access must be maintained or improved.

5.5.12 Having established the baseline, the following guidance is provided in respect of an assessment of the effect upon 'setting'; for example "Factors to be considered when assessing the impact of a proposed change or development within the setting of a historic asset include"¹⁸:

- the visual impact of the proposed change or development relative to the scale of the historic asset and its setting
- the visual impact of the proposed change or development relative to the location of the historic asset
- whether the proposed change or development would dominate the historic

¹⁷ Section 4.2 Understanding Significance, Page 7. CADW 2017b. Managing Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales, Welsh Government (dated May 2017)

¹⁸ Section 4.3. Page 8. Stage 3: Evaluate the Potential Impact of Change or Development. CADW 2017a Managing Setting of Historic Assets in Wales, Welsh Government (dated May 2017)

asset or detract from our ability to understand and appreciate it — for example, its functional or physical relationship with the surrounding landscape and associated structures and/ or buried remains

- the presence, extent, character and scale of the existing built environment within the surroundings of the historic asset and how the proposed change or development compares with this
- the lifespan of the proposed change or development and whether or not the impact might be reversible
- the extent of tree cover, whether it is deciduous or evergreen, and its likely longevity
- the impact of artificial lighting — for example, on night-time views
- the capability of a landscape setting to absorb change or new development without the erosion of its key characteristics
- the impact of the proposed change or development on non-visual elements of the setting and character of the historic asset, such as sense of remoteness, evocation of the historical past, sense of place, cultural identity or spiritual responses
- the impact of non-visual elements of the proposed change or development, such as the removal or addition of noises and smell.”

5.5.13 Given the above, the consideration of potential setting effects, used in the preparation of the forthcoming assessment, will focus on the completion of site walkover survey/s and surrounding asset visit/s, which will be undertaken in August 2025, and using further information prepared for the development, especially the ZTV and, and will concentrate on the following areas:

- Identifying those historic assets that are capable of being affected by the proposed scheme and the manner (if any) in which they would be affected, through initial desk-based works and subsequent field visits;
- Defining the contribution made to their significance by their setting; and
- Assessing the likely impact upon their significance or the ability to appreciate it as a result of the form of development proposed being implemented.

5.5.14 In light of the above, the setting assessment will be prepared in a robust manner, employing current best practice professional guidance and giving due regard to the methodology detailed above.

6 CONSULTATION (HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY)

6.1 BENEFITS OF CONSULTATION

6.1.1 We recognise the value of early engagement between development teams and the local planning authority within which an application will fall. We also recognise the need to consult with sector specific bodies. In this instance, which may comprise:

- CADW – designated historic assets (scheduled monuments and their settings, registered historic parks and gardens and their settings, registered historic landscapes and World Heritage Sites)
- The Welsh Trust for Archaeology – on Archaeology
- The Conservation Officer for Neath Port Talbot Council – designated historic assets (on listed buildings or conservation areas)

6.2 CADW

6.2.1 Where certain types of Designated historic assets have the potential to be affected (including indirect effects – Setting), we always contact the regional office of CADW. To be specific scheduled monuments and their settings, registered historic parks and gardens and their settings, registered historic landscapes and World Heritage Sites are the assets we would contact CADW over.

6.2.2 Please note, we have a detailed email¹⁹ from CADW which refers to this site and to their understanding of the main issues. This provides a list of historic assets/landscapes which we should consider and it asks for a study area of 3km to be used (which is our Middle Study Area).

6.2.3 CADW have specifically asked for a separate ASIDOHL document to be produced. This to consider:

In regard to the ASIDOHL, I agree that a standalone document would be best for the impact on the registered Margam Mountain landscape of special historic interest to be determined. I suggest, using the ZTV you have sent, that four historic landscape character areas should be included in the ASIDOHL. These are Graig Goch and Heol Newydd; Eglwys Nunnydd and Cwrt Y Defaid; Upland Park and Ton-Y-Grugos; and Margam Abbey and Park. I assume you have seen the ASIDOHL methodology Guide to Good Practice 07 ENG AW 14.03.07:CADW.3 GGP/English P3 v.1 but if you have any questions on it, I can try to provide answers. I can also review the draft for the first 4 stages of the ASIDOHL to ensure that the methodology has

¹⁹ Email from CADW received on Tuesday 15 July 2025.

been followed correctly and to agree the results of those stages as they are objective, leaving stage 5, which is more subjective, to be provided by you in the final report.

- 6.2.4 The ASIDOHL document will be produced as a stand alone document and will not form part of the Archaeological and Heritage Impact Assessment document to which this WSI relates. This ASIDOHL will consider the following landscapes. Please note we could not identify *Upland Park and Ton-Y-Grugos* on the data we have received from Heneb. Instead, we have identified Upper Park and Ton Mawr and these are included below.

<i>Landscape Type</i>	<i>Name of Landscape</i>
<i>Landscape of Special Historic Interest</i>	<i>Margam Mountain</i>
<i>Historic Landscape Character Areas</i>	<i>Graig Goch and Heol Newydd;</i>
	<i>Ton Mawr</i>
	<i>Upper Park</i>
	<i>Eglwys Nunnydd and Cwrt Y Defaid;</i>
	<i>Margam Abbey and Castle</i>

6.3 THE TRUST FOR WELSH ARCHAEOLOGY

- 6.3.1 Where undesignated (archaeological) historic assets have the potential to be affected, we always consult the local authority archaeological officers. We did this via a series of emails²⁰ within which we checked the conventional approach to assessment of such sites in this region. We will continue to liaise as the assessment is completed and following its submission (as appropriate).

6.4 LOCAL AUTHORITY CONSERVATION OFFICERS

- 6.4.1 Where Listed Buildings (Designated) or where locally Listed Buildings have the potential to be affected, we anticipate liaising with the Conservation Officer at Neath Port Talbot Council. We note that in many cases it is not until an application is submitted that comments come back from a Conservation Officer. At this point we will be pleased to discuss whether there are additional historic assets they would like considered and/or whether a site visit would be informative for them.

6.5 ADDITIONAL DATA GATHERING – HERITAGE

- 6.5.1 We will tabulate, and show in graphic form, all designated and undesignated historic assets within 1km of the PDA. This is referred to as the middle study area. We have also gathered information on the location and type of designated historic assets within 3km of the land (outer study area) in which proposed solar farm would be constructed.

- 6.5.2 Designated historic assets located within the middle and outer study area/s will

²⁰ Emails were exchanged with the Archaeological Planning Officer, Heneb in June-July 2025

be considered using a ZTV and via site visit/s. We understand that setting of historic assets is not confined to visual matters or views. Abstract and historical considerations are part of setting, and while it is reasonable to consider the extent of setting there is usually no fixed boundary to it. On occasion photomontage, joint site visits and/or sharing of our photos can be useful in resolving outstanding issues.

- 6.5.3 Where a setting assessment is considered to be warranted, we will complete that and present it as part of the impact assessment. This will cover impacts in the construction, use and decommissioning periods.

7 ARCHIVING

- 7.1.1 A project archive will be prepared in accordance with the National Monuments Record (Wales) agreed structure and be deposited with the National Monuments Records, held and maintained by the RCAHMW, Aberystwyth, on completion of report production. It will also conform to the guidelines set out 'The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales 2017' (National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales 2017). The digital archive will be deposited with the NMR.
- 7.1.2 Although there may be a period during which client confidentiality will need to be maintained, the report and the archive will be deposited not later than six months after completion of the work.
- 7.1.3 Other significant digital data generated by the survey (for example Aerial Photograph plots, CAD drawings, GIS maps) will be presented as part of the report in an acceptable digital format. The format of this presented data will be agreed with Heneb in advance of its preparation.

8 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD (HER) SUBMISSION

- 8.1.1 We note that the Assessment document must conform to the GGAT *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (2018)²¹. We also note that these guidelines require (Section 4.1) that:

*In accordance with the Welsh Language Standards (No. 1) Regulations 2015, 4 and associated compliance relevant to HER service delivery, all new records created in the HER from 1st April 2016 must have a summary description in both Welsh and English. In light of this, **all new data and reports supplied to the HER must now be supplied with appropriately translated summary texts.***

²¹

<https://heneb.org.uk/archive/ggat/her/downloads/Guidance%20for%20the%20Submission%20of%20Data%20to%20Welsh%20HERs.pdf> – accessed 20-07-2025

- 8.1.2 Therefore, if we identify new data then this will be supplied in Welsh and English. Either way, the summary text at the start of the report will be in Welsh and English.

9 HEALTH AND SAFETY

9.1 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 9.1.1 Prior to the commencement of work we will carry out and produce a formal Health and Safety Risk Assessment in accordance with The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992 and our own procedures.

10 INSURANCE

- 10.1.1 Abrams Archaeology is fully insured for this type of work. Full details of these and other relevant policies can be supplied on request.

11 PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

- 11.1.1 Abrams Archaeology works to the standards and guidance provided by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. Abrams Archaeology fully recognise and endorse the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of Conduct, Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements and the Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment 2020.

12 PROJECT TEAM

Joe Abrams

Key Experience

Director with over 20 years' experience in the commercial archaeological sector.

Obtained a Degree in Archaeology in 1995 and has worked in the commercial archaeological sector since 1998. Joe is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London. He is a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCIfA) and was the responsible postholder for Archaeology Collective with the CIfA. He has given seminars and written articles on professional ethics and standards; focussed on this sector.

Joe has expertise in change management. He has worked in large infrastructure projects being the point of contact between Heritage/Archaeological works and the Quantity Surveyor for the lead client. He has skills in change recognition and the management of change through agreed reporting procedures. Typically these would highlight areas where a variation in time/budget was legitimate and where it was not.

Between 2016-20 Joe built a consultancy team covering the UK from bases in London, Manchester, Leeds and Cardiff. He was Operations Director of HCUK Group (offering Planning, Heritage, Archaeology and Landscape advice). While mentoring and growing that team, Joe continued providing consultancy advice via Archaeology Collective. This involved giving expert archaeological advice, particularly on the appropriate methods of data-gathering needed to inform development proposals. The preparation of budgets and programme data for archaeological works needed as part of development projects.

He has worked extensively with all types of archaeological remains including scheduled monuments, burial grounds, highland/lowland zone, coastal and terrestrial sites.

Joe was Operations Director (HCUK Ltd 2019-20) covering four companies, operating across the UK. The companies specialised in Planning, Landscape Architecture, Heritage and Archaeology. Joe line managed the Directors in each team and was responsible for quality control and effective joint working.

Experience includes written representations, archaeological assessments and statements, advice on the agreement of scheduled monument consent/s, impact assessments and environmental statement chapters. Joe has written articles for archaeological journals, and he has authored monographs and magazines. He has managed the field investigation and assessment and publication stages of many projects. He has researched, written and edited several hundred commercial archaeological and heritage reports.

Qualifications

BA Archaeology (Institute of Archaeology, University College London)

Professional Affiliations

Professional Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (MCIfA)

Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London (FSA)

Member - International Advisory Panel, Foundation for Jewish Heritage

Board Member – Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

Specialisation

Management of Teams
Project Management and Communication within teams
Budget Management

Position

Director

Year of Joining

2020

Contact

07485 423446
joe@abramsarchaeology.co.uk

Relevant Employment History

2020 - present	Abrams Archaeology Director
2019-2020	Operations Director (HCUK Ltd)
2016 - 2020	Archaeology Collective Director
2011 - 2016	Headland Archaeology Regional Manager South and East of England
2004 – 2011	Albion Archaeology Project Manager
2002 – 2004	Archaeological Services & Consultancy Project Officer
2000 – 2002	AFU (Cambridgeshire County Council) Supervisor (Archaeological Field Teams)
1998 – 2000	MOLA/Cambridge University/English Heritage/ Carlisle City Council / PCA/ Southampton City Council/ Various Archaeological Companies in UK - Field Archaeologist

Experience Record (Selected Projects)

A428 Road (Infrastructure) Archaeological Project Manager for evaluative and mitigation stages of this roadscheme west of Cambridge.

Staffordshire Alliance (rail) Archaeological Project Manager during this significant rail improvement scheme.

Vine Farm (Solar Farm) Archaeological Consultant advice given from the feasibility stage, through planning application and to project completion.

Thames Tideway Tunnel (Infrastructure) Deputy Director for MOLA Headland Infrastructure on the mitigation stage of works.

A14 (Infrastructure) Deputy Director for MOLA Headland Infrastructure on the evaluation stage of works. Long running project, main contribution was tender preparation, tender interviews and setting up the practicalities of successful joint working between MOLA-Headland.

Dyers Hall, City of London (Commercial Property) Consultancy advice required during re-development which revealed complex, deeply stratified remains of Roman buildings.

St Peters Church, Petersham (Burial ground) Consultancy advice during development works in churchyard, adjacent to existing church. This involved the sensitive removal and reburial of human remains within the terms of a Faculty.

Qualifications

BA Archaeology (Institute of Archaeology, University College London)

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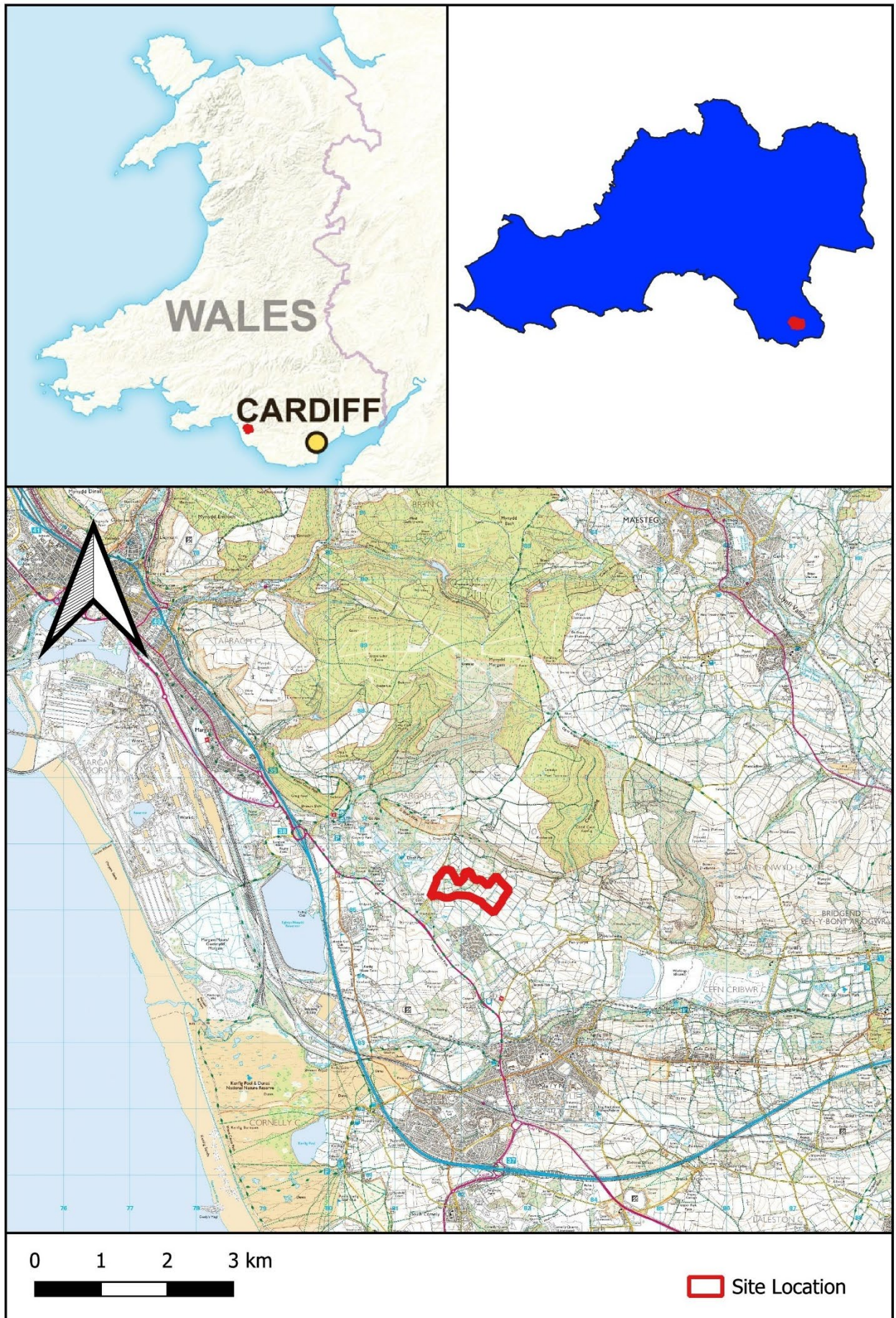
Year of Joining

2020

Contact

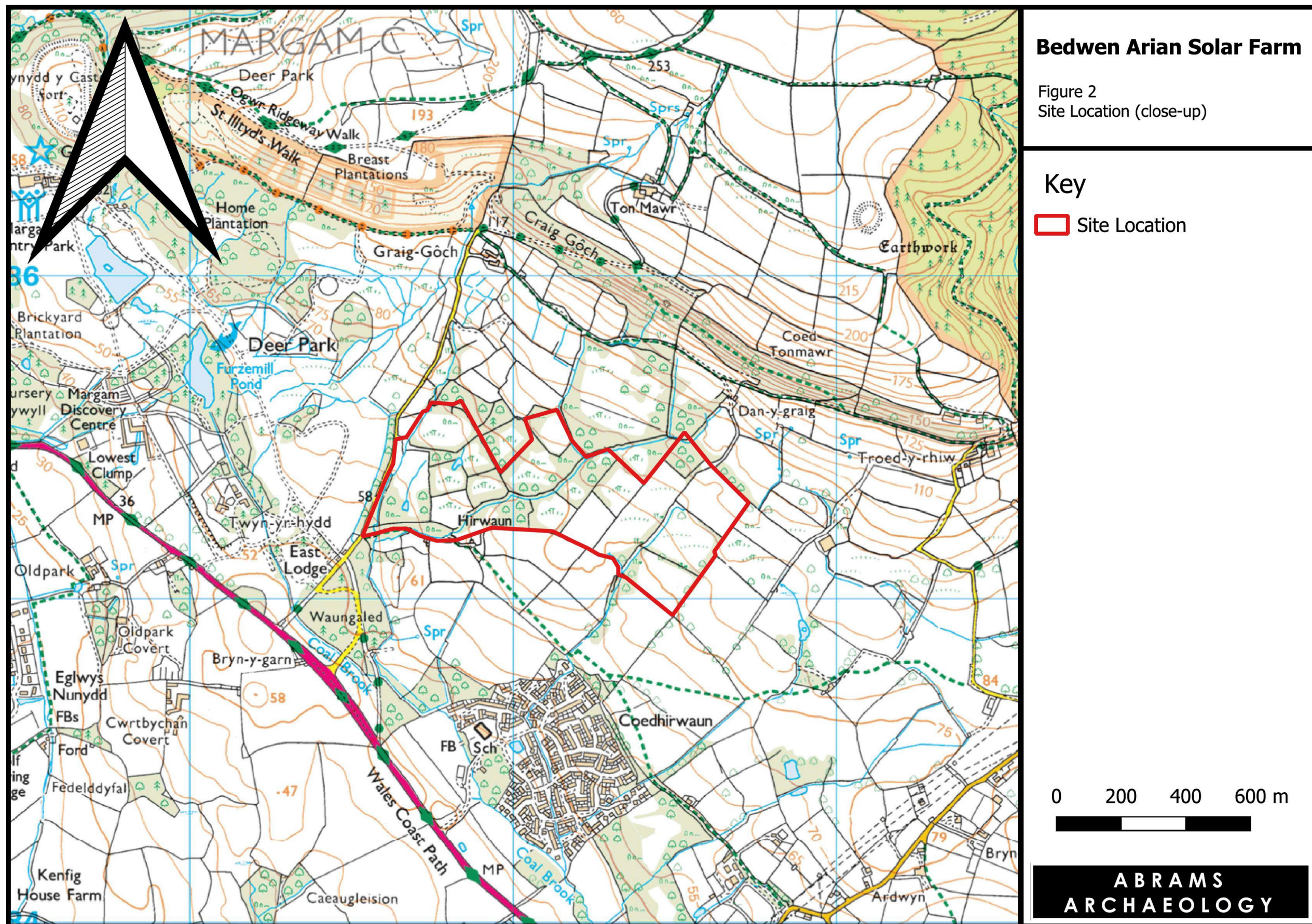
07485 423446
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13 FIGURES



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Figure 1. Site Location



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