



Galileo 03 Ltd.

Mynydd Ty-talwyn Energy Park - Environmental Statement Volume III

Appendix 7.1: Written Scheme of Investigation for Desk Based
Assessment

Project Reference: 663870

Note: This document was produced to determine the scope of a Desk Based Assessment, which was agreed with Heneb. The scope reflects the design of the Proposed Development at that point in time.

NOVEMBER 2025

RSK

Written Scheme of Investigation for Heritage Desk-Based Assessment

Mynydd Ty-talwyn Energy Park

On behalf of Galileo O3 Limited

Date: 15/03/2024 | Pegasus Ref: P23-0389

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Document Management.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. Pegasus Group have been commissioned by Galileo O3 Limited to prepare a Heritage Desk-Based Assessment for land at Mynydd Ty-talwyn approximately 4km north of Bridgend and 8km east of Port Talbot on the border between Bridgend County Borough and Neath Port Talbot County Borough (hereafter 'the Site'; Plate 1).

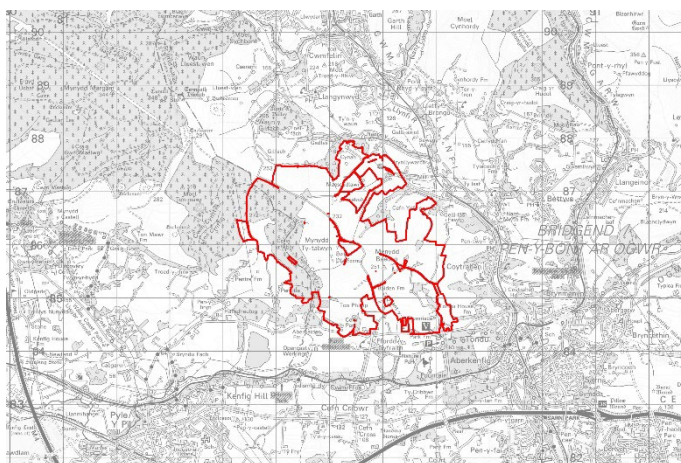


Plate 1: Site location plan

- 1.2. The Proposed Development will comprise the construction and operation of up to 10 wind turbines, ground mounted solar photovoltaic modules, Battery Energy Storage Systems (BESS), Project Substation, permanent anemometer mast, ancillary infrastructure works, landscaping and habitat management, temporary construction and storage compounds, works to facilitate vehicular access to the Site and where possible borrow pits to source stone and aggregate for construction.
- 1.3. The Proposed Development will be classed as a Development of National Significance (DNS) as the combined installed capacity of the power generating elements will be greater than 10MW.
- 1.4. The aims of the Heritage Desk-Based Assessment are:
- To assess the significance of recorded historic assets within the Site and to assess the potential for and likely significance of previously-unrecorded archaeological remains within the Site;
 - To assess any contribution that the Site makes to the heritage significance of designated historic assets; and
 - To identify any harm or benefit to known and potential historic assets, which may result from the implementation of the development proposals, along with the level of any harm caused if relevant.

- 1.5. These objectives are in line with Sections 6.1.9 and 6.1.26 of the Welsh Planning Policy Wales, Edition 12, Chapter 6 (February 2024; PPW12), which provide that:

"Any decisions made through the planning system must fully consider the impact on the historic environment and on the significance and heritage values of individual historic assets and their contribution to the character of place."

"Where archaeological remains are known to exist or there is a potential for them to survive, an application should be accompanied by sufficient information, through desk-based assessment and/or field evaluation, to allow a full understanding of the impact of the proposal on the significance of the remains..."

- 1.6. The findings of the Heritage Desk-Based Assessment will inform the requirement for, and timing and scope of, and contextualise the results, of any subsequent phases of archaeological work.

2. Methodology

Policy, legislation and guidance

- 2.1. The Heritage Desk-Based Assessment will be guided by the following policy, legislation and guidance:
- Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979);
 - Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act (1990);
 - Planning Policy Wales Edition 12 (February 2024);
 - Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (2017);
 - Historic Environment (Wales) Act (2024 – pending);
 - Bridgend Local Development Plan 2006–2021 (adopted 2013);
 - Neath Port Talbot Local Development Plan 2011–2026 (adopted 2016);
 - Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales (Cadw 2011);
 - Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (Cadw 2017);
 - Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales (Cadw 2017);
 - The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological

Archives in Wales (National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales 2017);

- Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (Welsh Archaeological Trusts 2018); and
- Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014).

Sources of information

- 2.2. The following data repositories and sources will be consulted to inform the Heritage Desk-Based Assessment:

- Cadw data regarding designated historic assets;
- Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust's Historic Environment Record data regarding previous archaeological investigations, recorded historic assets, historic place names, and Historic Landscape Characterisation data;
- The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales' National Monuments Record for further information on previous archaeological investigations, recorded historic assets, and historic place names;
- Historic maps and other relevant documentary sources held by West Glamorgan Archives (in-

person visit), the National Library of Wales (remote search only), and available online through The Genealogist and Promap websites;

- Historic aerial photographs within the collections of the Welsh Government Aerial Photography Unit (available online);
- Publications and grey literature reports pertaining to previous archaeological investigations and the Battle of Badon;
- 2m resolution digital terrain model LiDAR imagery (the smallest resolution available for the Site), downloaded from Data Map Wales;
- Google Earth satellite imagery;
- Geological data from the British Geological Survey, soil data from the Cranfield Soil and Agrifood Institute, and recent satellite imagery available on Google Earth;
- A Screened Zone of Theoretical Visibility Model; and
- Photomontages of the Proposed Development.

2.3. A HER search has been commissioned for a 5km study area measured from the boundaries of the Site, but analysis will likely focus on the results within a 3km radius. Historic mapping and historic aerial photographs will be reviewed for the Site, and beyond this where professional judgement deemed necessary.

2.4. As part of the archaeology baseline, consideration will be given to the suggestion, made by the interest group

Britain's Hidden History and cited in Cadw's consultation response to the Scoping Opinion, that the Site was the location for the Battle of Badon in c.500AD.

2.5. A Site visit will be undertaken, to observe and record any visible features of archaeological and historical interest within the site and to conduct settings assessments for designated historic assets deemed potentially susceptible to non-physical impact.

2.6. The Site walkover will seek to confirm the location, nature and level of preservation of existing HER recorded sites and any unrecorded surface features of archaeological or historic interest that are observed. Features will be subject to a basic written and photographic record, to be included as an appendix to the Heritage Desk-Based Assessment.

2.7. The settings assessment will identify all designated historic assets within a minimum 10km study area measured from the boundaries of the Site. A Screened Zone of Theoretical Visibility Model will assist with scoping. Designated historic assets deemed potentially sensitive to the proposals will be inspected from within the Site and from public rights of way, as necessary.

Assessment of heritage significance

2.8. The Welsh Government's *Technical Advice Note 24* defines heritage significance as:

"the sum of the cultural and natural heritage values of a place, often set out in a statement of significance."

2.9. Cadw's *Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales*

defines significance as deriving from a combination of any, some or all of the following four component values:

- Evidential value: deriving from the potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity;
- Historic value: deriving from the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present;
- Aesthetic value: deriving from the ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place; and
- Communal value: deriving from the meaning of a place for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory.

2.10. This approach allows for a detailed and justifiable determination of significance and the values from which that significance derives.

2.11. In relation to designated historic assets, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas are designated for their special architectural and historic interest, while Scheduled Monuments are primarily (but not exclusively) designated for their archaeological interest, i.e. their evidential value.

Levels of significance

2.12. Under TAN24, an 'historic asset' is defined as:

"An identifiable component of the historic environment. It may consist of or be a combination of an archaeological site, a historic building or area, historic park and garden or a parcel of historic landscape. Nationally important historic assets will normally be designated."

2.13. Designated historic assets include World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Protected Wreck Sites and Conservation Areas¹. Registered historic assets include Registered Historic Parks and Gardens and Registered Historic Landscapes.

2.14. Listed Buildings are designated in three grades as follows:

- Grade I – buildings of exceptional, usually national interest.
- Grade II* – particularly important buildings of more than special interest.
- Grade II – buildings of special interest which warrant every effort being made to preserve them.

2.15. Registered Parks and Gardens are also registered Grade I, II* or II, depending on their comparative significance. In a similar way, Historic Landscapes are registered as either 'outstanding' or 'special'.

2.16. Archaeological remains that are not designated may still be nationally important, i.e. of a significance commensurate to a Scheduled Monument, these are

¹ TAN 24: Appendix

referred to as non-scheduled nationally important archaeological remains.

- 2.17. Other historic assets include those of special local interest and non-designated historic assets of less than national importance.

Setting and significance

- 2.18. Setting is defined in TAN24 as:

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

- 2.19. Setting can thus contribute to, detract from or have a neutral effect upon significance. In addition, whilst a physical or visual connection between a historic asset and its setting will often exist, it is not essential or determinative.

- 2.20. Of particular relevance, TAN24 further provides that:

"setting is not a historic asset in its own right but has value derived from how different elements may contribute to the significance of a historic asset."

- 2.21. As such, any impacts will be described in terms of how they affect the significance of a historic asset, and any heritage values that contribute to that significance, through changes to setting.

Setting assessment methodology

- 2.22. Setting assessments will be undertaken in accordance with industry-standard methodology provided by Cadw's *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales*. This guidance promotes a 'staged' (iterative) approach, as follows:

- Stage 1: Assess which assets would be affected and identify their setting;
- Stage 2: Define and analyse the settings to understand how they contribute to the significance of the historic assets and, in particular, the ways in which the assets are understood, appreciated and experienced²;
- Stage 3: Assess the effects of the proposed development, whether beneficial or harmful, on that significance or on the ability to appreciate it;

² The guidance includes a (non-exhaustive) check-list of elements that may contribute to a historic asset through setting including: functional and physical relationships, topographic features, physical surroundings, original layout, buried or archaeological elements, views to/from/across, formal or planned vistas, prominence,

views associated with aesthetic / functional / ceremonial purposes, historical / artistic / literary / place name / cultural / scenic associations, noise, smell, tranquillity / remoteness / wildness.

- Stage 4: Consider options to mitigate or improve the potential impact of a proposed change or development on that significance.

2.23. All designated historic assets within a 10km radius of the Site, including Registered Historic Landscapes, will be subject to Stage 1. This will determine which assets are potentially sensitive to the Proposed Development and so need to be progressed to Stages 2, 3 and 4.

Assessment of harm

- 2.24. Potential development effects (impacts) upon the significance of known and potential historic assets identified within the Site will be determined with reference to 'harm' and/or 'benefit', consistent with PPW12.
- 2.25. The identification of harm would apply where the proposals would be anticipated to reduce an historic asset's significance. An attempt will be made to qualify more precisely the level of any identified harm, taking into account the significance of the asset affected and the nature of any impact.
- 2.26. The identification of benefits would apply where the proposals would be anticipated to enhance (i.e. increase) significance. It is also possible that the development proposals would cause no harm or that they would preserve significance.
- 2.27. The assessments of anticipated development effects will be undertaken in accordance with a robust methodology, formulated within the context of current best practice, relevant policy provisions, and key professional guidance.

3. Reporting and Archiving

Reporting

3.1. The structure of the Heritage Desk-Based Assessment report will be as follows:

- Summary (with Welsh translation);
- Introduction;
- Site Description, Planning History, Consultation;
- Methodology;
- Legislation and Policy Framework;
- Historic Environment Baseline and Archaeological Potential;
- Setting Assessments;
- Registered Historic Landscape Assessment;
- Conclusions; and
- References.

3.2. The report text will be supported by appendices presenting:

- Simplified gazetteer tables and figures displaying the received historic environment data;
- Digital copies of all consulted historic maps – where copyright and reproduction rights allow;

- Photographs of surface features of archaeological or historic interest within the Site, as observed during the walkover survey;
- The Cadw descriptions of selected designated historic assets; and
- Extracts from other publications relevant to the assessment.

3.3. Once the Heritage Desk-Based Assessment report has been finalised for the planning submission, a digital copy will be issued to the Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust for approval.

3.4. Following approval, subject to there being no issues of commercial confidentiality, digital copies will be submitted to the GGAT Historic Environment Record (HER) and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales' National Monuments Record (NMR).

Archiving

3.5. In 2017 the National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales (NPAAW) published The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales, which includes an Annex entitled RCAHMW Guidelines for Digital Archives.

3.6. In 2019 the NPAAW issued additional guidelines focussing on the selection, retention and disposal of archaeological

archives. For desktop assessments and site visits, the guidelines state:

“If no original material is produced then it is not necessary to produce an archive. If original material such as photographs, sketches etc. are produced then attaching data to the HER will be appropriate. New site records in the HER may have to be created.”³

and/or deleted in accordance with the terms and conditions under which they were supplied.

- 3.7. For this project, it is anticipated that original material (written documentation, drawings, photographs) will be produced only if known or hitherto-unknown historic assets within the Site are observed and subject to recording during the walkover survey.
- 3.8. Such material would form part of a digital archive submitted to the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales. The selection and format of records for inclusion will be informed by the *RCAHMW Guidelines* (2017).
- 3.9. Submission of original material to Glamorgan–Gwent Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record will be informed by the Welsh Archaeological Trust’s *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records* (2018).
- 3.10. Otherwise, the project archive (comprising data, photographs, reports and illustrations) will be maintained on Pegasus servers. Third-party data will be stored

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<http://www.welshmuseumsfederation.org/uploads/online%20resources/National%20Archaeology%20standards%20wales%202017/natstandardsfinal2019.pdf>

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