

## 9 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

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### 9.1 INTRODUCTION

- 9.1.1. This Chapter presents an assessment of the likely significant effects of the Project on the Historic Environment (Cultural Heritage). The Historic Environment is defined in Conservation Principles (see **Table 9-3**) as the following:
- *“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”.*
- 9.1.2. 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 policies and guidance.
- 9.1.3. This assessment is based on information obtained to date. It should be read in conjunction with the project description provided in **Chapter 4: Description of the Project**.
- 9.1.4. This Chapter describes the following:
- The limitations of this assessment (**Section 9.2**);
  - Relevant legislation, policies and historic environment guidance that has informed the assessment (**Section 9.3**);
  - The consultation and engagement that has been undertaken (**Section 9.4**);
  - The methodology used for gathering the baseline information (**Section 9.5**);
  - Baseline conditions (**Section 9.6**);
  - The scope of this assessment (**Section 9.7**);
  - The embedded measures relevant to the historic environment (**Section 9.8**);
  - The methodology used for the assessment (**Section 9.9**);
  - The assessment of the historic environment effects (**Section 9.10**);
  - The assessment of the cumulative effects (**Section 9.11**);
  - Consideration of mitigation measures and the residual effects (**Section 9.12**); and,
  - A summary of the conclusions and significance evaluation (**Section 9.13**).
- 9.1.5. In addition, this Chapter is supported by the following appendices:
- Appendix **9A**: Extract of Foel Trawsnant Section, Bridgend & Neath Port Talbot, Archaeological Desk-based Assessment (Heneb, 2024)
  - Appendix **9B**: Stage 1 Settings Assessment (Scoping) for Historic Assets

### 9.2 LIMITATIONS OF THIS ASSESSMENT

- 9.2.1. This Environmental Chapter has been informed by an Archaeological Desk-based Assessment (ADBA) prepared by Heneb: the Welsh Trust for Archaeology (2024; **Appendix 9A**), which provides

a historic environment baseline for the Project and was supported by a site visit carried out by Heneb.<sup>70</sup> An extract of the relevant baseline from the ADBA is provided in Appendix 9A.

- 9.2.2. A site visit was conducted by WSP on 19 and 20 February 2025 to undertake additional baseline survey, including Stage 2 and 3 Settings Assessment of designated assets within a 3km Study Area in accordance with Cadw (2017) guidance (see **Section 9.5**). Weather conditions were wet and foggy, with very limited visibility towards the Project route. A number of designated assets were located on private property and were unable to be directly accessed; in this case assessment of setting was undertaken from the closest possible public access (e.g. roadsides and/or Public Right of Way (PRoWs)).

### 9.3 POLICY, LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE

- 9.3.1. This section identifies the legislation, planning policy and technical guidance that has informed the assessment of effects with respect to the historic environment.

#### LEGISLATION

- 9.3.2. **Table 9-1** lists the relevant legislation for assessing effects in the historic environment.

**Table 9-1 – Legislation relevant to the Historic Environment assessment**

Policy	Policy context
The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023 <sup>71</sup>	<p>The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023, enacted on the 4 November 2024, replaces The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979; The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and The Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.</p> <p>The Act is a Consolidation Act and should not alter legislation. The most important change is that Section 66 (1) of the Listed Building and Conservation Act 1990 will become Section 314A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.</p> <p>The 2023 Act and its substantive supporting regulations all expressly state that they are ‘part of a code of law relating to the historic environment of Wales’.</p> <p>Owners of scheduled monuments and listed buildings, legal advisors, heritage consultants, conservation officers and anyone else interested in Wales’s rich archaeological and built heritage can turn to the 2023 Act and its supporting regulations for historic</p>

<sup>70</sup> Heneb: Trust for Welsh Archaeology, (2024), *Foel Trawsnant Section, Bridgend & Neath Port Talbot: Archaeological Desk-based Assessment*, unpublished ABDA report

<sup>71</sup> Welsh Government, (2023), *Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023*. Available online at: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/asc/2023/3/contents>

	<p>environment law that is logically structured, consistent and expressed, as far as possible, in plain, everyday language. While the new legislation makes it much easier for everyone to find, understand and apply the law, it makes no changes to the operation of the current management and protection regimes for the Welsh historic environment</p> <p>The 2023 Act and its supporting regulations — the historic environment code — establish a secure foundation for the future development of accessible and effective law for Wales’s unique and precious historic environment.</p>
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## PLANNING POLICY

- 9.3.3. **Table 9-2** lists the relevant national and local planning policies relevant to assessing effects in the historic environment.

**Table 9-2 – Planning policies relevant to the Historic Environment assessment**

Policy	Policy context
Planning Policy Wales (Edition 12, February 2024) <sup>72</sup>	<p>National planning policy for Wales is set out in Planning Policy Wales (Edition 12, 2024). Chapter 6, ‘<i>Distinctive and Natural Places</i>’, explains how the planning system must take into explains how planning system must consider the Welsh Government’s objectives to protect, conserve, promote and enhance 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.</p> <p>PPW sets out the role of local authorities in the protection of the historic environment, working with other agencies such as Cadw and the Welsh Archaeological Trusts. PPW states that development plans should reflect national policies for the protection of the historic environment. It also notes the various historic environment designations which exist for the protection of monuments, historic buildings, and areas, as well as historic landscapes.</p> <p>PPW also sets out the treatment of the historic environment in the development management process. It states that the desirability of preserving an ancient monument and its setting is a material consideration in determining a planning application, and that there should be a presumption in favour of the physical preservation of monuments of national importance. For archaeological remains of lesser importance, it will be necessary to weigh the importance of the archaeology against other factors, such as the need for the development. Where a local authority decides that physical preservation of archaeology is not justified then it will be</p>

<sup>72</sup> Welsh Government, (2024). *Planning Policy Wales (Edition 12; February 2024)*. Available online at: <https://www.gov.wales/planning-policy-wales> [Accessed 16/01/2025]

	<p>appropriate for provision to be made for the recording of archaeology in advance of its loss, and this can be secured through a planning condition.</p> <p>PPW notes the statutory requirement to have regard to the desirability of preserving listed buildings and their settings. The protection of World Heritage Sites and their settings should also be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. Similarly, parks, garden and landscapes included in the 'Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales's should be considered.</p>
Future Wales: The National Plan 2024 (2021) <sup>73</sup>	The National Development Framework Future Wales – the National Plan 2040, sets out the Welsh Government's land use priorities and provides a national land use framework. The development plan for Wales influences all levels of the planning system in Wales and helps to shape Strategic and Local Development Plans prepared by councils and national park authorities.
Bridgend County Borough Local Development Plan 2018 to 2033 <sup>74</sup>	<p>The current Local Development Plan was adopted on 13th March 2024 by Bridgend County Borough Council. The Local Development Plan identifies where new developments such as infrastructure, housing, employment, community facilities and roads, will go.</p> <p>The historic environment is considered in policy SP18: 'Conservation of the Historic Environment' of the Local Development Plan, which states that 'development proposals must protect, conserve, and, where appropriate, preserve and enhance the significance of historic assets, including their settings.'</p>
Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council Local Development Plan (2011-2026) <sup>75</sup>	<p>The current Local Development Plan was adopted on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2016 by the Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council. The Local Development Plan identifies where new development as where new developments such as infrastructure, housing, employment, community facilities and roads, will go.</p> <p>The historic environment is considered in policy SP 21: 'Built Environment and Historic Heritage'. This policy states the following: 'The built environment and historic heritage will, where appropriate, be conserved and enhanced through the following measures:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Encouraging high quality design standards in all development proposals;</li> </ol>

<sup>73</sup> Welsh Government, (2021). *Future Wales: The National Plan 2040*. Available online at: <https://www.gov.wales/future-wales-national-plan-2040> [Accessed 16/01/2025]

<sup>74</sup> Bridgend County Borough Council, (2024). *Bridgend Local Development Plan 2018 to 2033*. Available online at: <https://www.bridgend.gov.uk/residents/planning-and-building-control/replacement-local-development-plan/replacement-bridgend-local-development-plan-2018-to-2033/> [Accessed 16/01/2025]

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	<p>2. Protecting arterial gateways from intrusive and inappropriate development;</p> <p>3. Safeguarding features of historic and cultural importance;</p> <p>4. The identification of the following designated sites to enable their protection and where appropriate enhancement:</p> <p>(a) Landscapes of Historic Interest;</p> <p>(b) Historic Parks and Gardens;</p> <p>(c) Conservation Areas;</p> <p>(d) Scheduled Ancient Monuments; and</p> <p>(e) Listed Buildings and their curtilage.</p>
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## HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT GUIDANCE

9.3.4. **Table 9-3** lists the relevant the historic environment guidance used for assessing effects from the Project.

**Table 9-3 – Historic Environment guidance relevant to the assessment**

Technical guidance document	Context
Technical Advice Note 24 (TAN24): The Historic Environment (2017) <sup>76</sup>	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.
Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales (2017a) <sup>77</sup>	Sets out the general principles to consider when planning changes to historic assets and applying for listed building, conservation area and scheduled monument consent.
Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (2017b) <sup>78</sup>	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.

<sup>76</sup> Welsh Government, (2017). *Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment*. Available online at: <https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-09/tan24-historic-environment.pdf> [Accessed 16/01/2025]

<sup>77</sup> Cadw, (2017a). *Heritage Impact Assessment in Wales*. Available online at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/placemaking/heritage-impact-assessment/heritage-impact-assessment> [Accessed 16/01/2025]

<sup>78</sup> Cadw, (2017b). *Settings of Historic Assets in Wales*. Available online at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/placemaking/heritage-impact-assessment/setting-historic-assets> [Accessed 16/01/2025]

Managing Historic Character in Wales (2017c) <sup>79</sup>	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.
Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales (2011) <sup>80</sup>	Sets out principles used when looking to sustainably conserve, manage and enhance the historic environment in Wales, ensuring that all impacts or changes are balanced and measured in their approach and transparent and consistent in their delivery.
ClfA Code of Conduct: professional ethics in archaeology (2022) <sup>81</sup>	Sets out the guiding principles for professional conduct when working with the management of the historic environment and ensuring that all professionals are responsible for the proper dissemination and handling of knowledge, and for the conservation of the historic environment.
ClfA Code of Conduct: professional conduct (2024) <sup>82</sup>	The professional code of conduct, by which all historic environment professional involved in development should abide.
ClfA Standard and Guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment (2020a) <sup>83</sup>	Sets out standards to produce historic environment desk-based assessments.
ClfA Standard and Guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology	Provides the professional guidelines for providing consultancy services in regard to the historic environment.

<sup>79</sup> Cadw, (2017c). Managing Historic Character in Wales. Available online at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/placemaking/historic-character/managing-historic-character> [Accessed 16/01/2025]

<sup>80</sup> Welsh Assembly Government (2011). *Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales*. Available online at: <https://cadw.gov.wales/advice-support/historic-assets/conservation-principles> [Accessed 16/01/2025]

<sup>81</sup> Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA), (2022). *Code of Conduct: professional ethics in archaeology*. Available online at: <https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/Code%20of%20conduct%20revOct2022.pdf> [Accessed 16/01/2025]

<sup>82</sup> Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA), (2024). *Regulations for professional conduct*. Available online at: [https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/Regulations%20for%20professional%20conduct\\_0.pdf](https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/Regulations%20for%20professional%20conduct_0.pdf) [Accessed 16/01/2025]

<sup>83</sup> Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (ClfA), (2020a). *Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessments*. Available online at: [https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/ClfAS%26GDBA\\_4.pdf](https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/ClfAS%26GDBA_4.pdf) [Accessed 16/01/2025]



## 9.4 CONSULTATION

- 9.4.1. The ADBA (Heneb, 2024) states that the 300m Study Area used to establish the baseline was agreed with the LPA Archaeological Advisors to the relevant councils. Additionally, the document also states that the ADBA was undertaken in line with an agreed Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Heneb, 2024).
- 9.4.2. An EIA Scoping Opinion (**Appendix 2B**) was received from PEDW, which includes responses from Cadw (Ref: DNS CAS-02505-N3T6M4, dated 17 January 2025), Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) (P/24/608/DNS, dated 20 February 2025) and Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council (NPTCBC) (Ref: N3T6M4, dated 19 February 2025), detailed in **Table 9-4**.

**Table 9-4 - Scoping Opinion Responses for Historic Environment**

Comment reference	Stakeholder Comment	WSP Response
<b>Cadw (Ref: DNS CAS-02505-N3T6M4, dated 17 January 2025)</b>		
Section 5.2.1	The Study Area used for the scoping report is only 300m. Whilst this may be appropriate for non-designated historic assets, a study area of 3km should be used to determine the possible impact on the settings of designated historic assets.	A 3km extended Study Area has been applied to identify designated historic assets, where heritage significance may be impacted through changes to their setting.
Section 5.3.4	The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023 was enacted on the 4 November 2024. This replaces The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979; The Historic	Policy, Legislation and Guidance updated in this ES Chapter (see <b>Section 9.3</b> ).

<sup>84</sup> Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), (2024b). *Standard and guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment*. Available online at: [https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS%26GCommissioning\\_2.pdf](https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS%26GCommissioning_2.pdf) [Accessed 16/01/2025]

Comment reference	Stakeholder Comment	WSP Response
	<p>Environment (Wales) Act 2016 and The Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The enactment of the Act will also lead to revisions to Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment 2017 and other guidance notes.</p> <p>The Act is a Consolidation Act and should not alter legislation. The most important change is that section 66 (1) of the Listed Building and Conservation Act 1990 will become section 314A of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.</p>	
Section 5.5.8	<p>As noted above the study area to determine the possible impact on the settings of designated historic assets should be 3km. These possible impacts should be carried out in accordance with the Welsh Government guidance given in the document “The Setting of Historic Assets in Wales” (Cadw, 2017). We would expect a stage 1 assessment to be carried out for all of the designated historic assets inside 3km, which will determine the need, if necessary, for stages 2 to 4 to be carried out for specific historic assets. It is recommended that the results of the stage 1 assessment should be included in the EIA, possibly as an appendix.</p>	<p>Stage 1 Assessment undertaken for all designated historic assets within 3km (see <b>Section 9.5</b>) for this assessment and included as an Appendix (Appendix 9B).</p> <p>Additional baseline survey and Stage 2 and 3 Assessment was undertaken by WSP in support of this ES in line with Cadw guidance (2017) (see <b>Section 9.5</b>).</p>
Section 5.5.9	<p>As noted in this section, the proposed connection crosses part of the registered Margam Mountain landscape of special</p>	<p>Cadw’s agreement of this issue is acknowledged. No ASIDOHL has been undertaken, but an</p>



Comment reference	Stakeholder Comment	WSP Response
	historic interest: However, we concur with the scoping report that the scale of the proposals are such that an ASIDOHL assessment would not be an appropriate methodology to assess the impact of the connection on the registered historic landscape, although the localised impacts will still need to be considered in the EIA.	assessment of effects are considered in within this ES (see <b>Section 9.10 to 9.12</b> )
<b>BCBC (P/24/608/DNS, dated 20 February 2025)</b>		
Historic Environment	<p>The site is partially located within an Historic Landscape of Margam Mountain as defined by Policy SP18(7) Conservation of the Historic Environment of the RLDP.</p> <p>Policy SP18 states that development proposals must protect, conserve, and, where appropriate, preserve and enhance the significance of historic assets, including their settings.</p> <p>Development proposals will only be permitted if it preserves or enhances the character the character of the area. The LPA is generally satisfied that the scheme as highlighted in section 5.3 of the report will not be detrimental to the Historic Landscape in line with the proposed methodology.</p>	Acknowledgement of BCBC's agreement that the scheme will not be detrimental to the Historic Landscape.
<b>NPTCBC (Ref: N3T6M4, dated 19 February 2025)</b>		
Chapter 5 Historic Environment	The information contained within the Historic Environment	Cadw's Scoping response acknowledges agreement that

Comment reference	Stakeholder Comment	WSP Response
	Record notes that the proposal is located in an area of archaeological potential. It is partially within the Margam Mountain Registered Historic Landscape (HLW (WGI/MGI) 2), specifically the Mynydd Margam Forest Character Area (HLCA010). Whilst we note section 5.5.9, an ASIDOH2 may be required and Cadw should be consulted over this as they would curate such an element.	an ASIDHOL will not be required, as set out in Scoping (see ref 5.5.9 in <b>Table 9-4</b> ).
Chapter 5 Historic Environment	It is proposed to include an historic environment assessment in the ES. Such an approach is appropriate, and we recommend it be composed of a full desk-based assessment carried out to the relevant Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standards and Guidance and to a scope and methodology detailed in a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) agreed with ourselves. This is in accordance with both Planning Policy Wales, 12th Edition February 2024, Paragraph 6.1.26 and Technical Advice Note 24 Paragraphs 4.7-4.8.	As set out in <b>Section 9.5</b> , an ADBA has been prepared by Heneb, which was undertaken in line with an agreed WSI. The ADBA has been supplemented with further desk and site-based to support the assessment within the ES, in line with relevant policy and guidance set out in <b>Section 9.3</b> .
Chapter 5 Historic Environment	It should also be noted that the desk-based assessment is the first stage of the archaeological work, and depending on the results it is possible that further mitigation may be required, either pre or post-determination as appropriate.	The data gathering methodology used to establish the historic environment baseline which supports the assessment is set out in <b>Section 9.5</b> . <b>Section 9.8</b> sets out the embedded environmental measures which have influenced this historic environment assessment, and <b>Section 9.12</b> sets out further

Comment reference	Stakeholder Comment	WSP Response
		mitigation which may be required. Mitigation for the project takes a staged approach starting with avoidance by design, followed by mitigation by record, where appropriate.

## 9.5 DATA GATHERING METHODOLOGY

- 9.5.1. As set out in **Chapter 4: Description of the Project**, the site comprises a 12.5m buffer applied either side to the centre line of the Project. All construction and operational activities would be undertaken within the site boundary.

### STUDY AREA

- 9.5.2. For the purposes of this assessment, following advice contained in the Cadw Scoping Opinion (Ref: DNS CAS-02505-N3T6M4 dated 17 January 2025; **Table 9-4**) a 3km Extended Study Area was applied to assess impacts to designated historic assets, such as Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Historic Landscapes and Conservation Areas.
- 9.5.3. A 300m Study Area was applied in the ADBA (Heneb, 2024; **Appendix 9A**) for establishing a historic environment baseline to support an assessment of potential and significance of historic assets which may be impacted by the Project.

### ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT (ADBA)

- 9.5.4. **Appendix 9A** (Heneb, 2024) provides an archaeological desk-based study and includes a review of available information to determine the baseline conditions along the route of the Project and within a 300m radius. The ADBA assessment consists of an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information, and a site walkover to identify the likely historic assets and determine their significance. The data sources reviewed are contained within **Table 9-5**.

**Table 9-5 – Summary of the data sources consulted for the ADBA (Heneb, 2024)**

Source	Data	Comment
Cadw	Inventory of Historic Assets with information on statutorily designated historic assets.	Statutory designations (scheduled monuments; statutorily listed buildings; registered parks and gardens; historic battlefields) can provide a significant constraint to development.
Heneb – The Trust for Welsh Archaeology	Heneb Historic Environment Record (HER)	Primary repository of archaeological information. Includes information from past

		investigations, local knowledge, find spots, and documentary and cartographic sources.
British Geological Survey	Superficial and bedrock geology digital mapping; 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.
Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monument of Wales (RCAHMW).	Inventory of non-designated historic assets; National Monuments Record of Wales (NMRW)	Welsh Government funded organisation which manages the National Monument Record of Wales, a repository of information on archaeological and built heritage remains in Wales.
Central Register of Air Photography for Wales (CRAPW)	Vertical and specialist (oblique) aerial photographs	Cropmarks formed by moisture variations due to subsurface features can indicate the presence of archaeological remains. Aerial photographs can also sometimes provide information on ground disturbance.
Glamorgan Archives	Historic maps and documentation	Provides an indication of past land use and impacts which may have compromised archaeological survival.
National Resources Wales (NRW)	LiDAR information.	Topographic information obtained from LiDAR scanning can be utilised to identify areas of historical human impact upon the landscape, as well as giving an overarching view of the Site environs and land formation processes.
The internet	General online search.	General online research conducted on historic assets of Wales.
The client	Proposed cable route plans for underground and overground sections.	Assists in the assessment of the extent of the proposed impact upon known or possible archaeological remains.

## ADDITIONAL BASELINE SURVEY

- 9.5.5. Additional baseline in the form of Stage 2 and 3 Settings Assessment was undertaken by WSP on 19 and 20 February 2025. In line with Cadw (2017) guidance, this comprised both a visual inspection of designated assets scoped-in during Stage 1 (see **Appendix 9B**), as well as analysis of significance and an evaluation of the impact of the Project on the overall setting of the designated assets scoped in within the 3km Extended Study Area. The site visit confirmed the outcome of the Stage 1 Settings Assessment, verifying the locations of designated assets and assessing their rationale for inclusion or exclusion in the following ES.

## 9.6 OVERALL BASELINE

- 9.6.1. The historic environment baseline conditions of the site are described in the ADBA (Heneb, 2024; **Appendix 9A**), supported by additional survey undertaken by WSP for this ES. This is summarised below.

### NON-DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS

- 9.6.2. The land within the 300m Study Area is historically a rural area, with evidence of occupation stretching back to the prehistoric period. Archaeological evidence in the area includes prehistoric occupation and associated mortuary monuments, Roman encampment (discussed under designated historic assets), medieval settlements and fortifications, and substantial post-medieval agricultural and industrial activity (Heneb, 2024).
- 9.6.3. According to Heneb (2024) archaeological potential across the 300m Study Area is variable, with the potential for the presence of palaeoenvironmental remains, prehistoric remains, and Roman remains considered low to very low across the Study Area. Any palaeoenvironmental remains would likely be associated with peat deposits. In the wider region, there is evidence for the presence of prehistoric Bronze Age and Iron Age settlement and funerary sites, and bar the potential (possibly damaged) prehistoric trackway (07077.0w) that crosses the Site, the overall potential within the Site remains low. Roman activity in the wider area is evidenced by the presence of a Roman Camp (Scheduled Monument GM058), but the likelihood of further remains within the Site boundary is deemed very low.
- 9.6.4. Moving into the medieval and post-medieval period, the potential for unrecorded archaeological remains increases to low-medium for earlier medieval remains and high for post-medieval remains. Medieval activity within the 300m Study Area is evidenced by trackways, a structure platform, earthworks, a carved stone, a well, and field boundaries. Cross Ridge Dyke (01862.0m) is of unknown date but likely medieval in origin. The potential for further medieval remains of this nature within the Site itself is considered to be low to medium.
- 9.6.5. The area in and around Maesteg is predominately characterised by its agricultural and industrialised nature, linked to rural farming and the exploitation of the Nantyfflyon coal levels to the north, and associated mines, tramways, quarries, air shafts and railways. It was deemed to have a high potential for further unrecorded archaeological remains of the post-medieval period to be located within the Site.
- 9.6.6. A total of 101 non-designated historic assets have been identified within the 300m Study Area, which predominantly consist of post-medieval findspots or monuments associated with the 19th century iron or coal industries, quarrying or agricultural activities. Amongst the non-designated assets are also archaeological sites associated with prehistoric to medieval occupation, including a Bronze Cairn, and Iron Age enclosures.
- 9.6.7. There are eight non-designated historic assets located within or partially within the Site. These are summarised in the **Table 9-6** and shown in **Appendix 9A**.

**Table 9-6 – Non-designated historic assets located within the Site**

Ref	Name	Period	Value (significance)
01076.0w	Medieval Road, Magram to Llangynwyd	Medieval	Medium
01077.0w	Heol Y Moch (the Pigs' Way)	Prehistoric, medieval	Low
01862.0m	Cross Ridge Dyke	Unknown	Medium
08896m /18595	Dyffryn Madog Farmstead	Post-medieval	Low
04539w	Moel Ton Mawr Tramway	Post-medieval	Low
FT001	Tramway	Post-medieval	Medium
FT002	Tai-r-waun Rifle Range	Post-medieval	Low
FT003	Tai-r-waun Rifle Range Targets	Post-medieval	Low
HLCA009 HLCA010 HLCA005 HLCA013	Historic Landscape Character Areas	Prehistoric to post-medieval	Low

## DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS

- 9.6.8. There are a total of 60 designated historic assets within the 3km Extended Study Area, comprising:
- 17 Scheduled Monuments;
  - 39 Listed Buildings;
  - 1 Registered Park and Garden;
  - 1 Registered Historic Landscape; and
  - 2 Conservation Areas.
- 9.6.9. There is one designated historic asset within the Site. This is the Magram Mountain Historic Landscape (Ref: HLW (WGI/MGI) 2), with approximately 3.1km of the Project passing through the eastern edge of the historic landscape (**Figure 9-1**).
- 9.6.10. A Stage 1 Assessment has been carried out for all the designated historic assets within the 3km Extended Study Area, in accordance with The Setting of Historic Assets in Wales (Cadw, 2017) (**Appendix 9B**). The selection of historic assets to be included in the ES has been completed with reference to the Zones of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) that has been calculated to show the area of maximum theoretical visibility of the proposed overhead powerlines and H-pole pylons (**Figure 6.1**; see also **Chapter 6**).
- 9.6.11. From the results of the Stage 1 Settings Assessment (**Appendix 9B**), 9 scheduled monuments, 9 listed buildings, and one Historic Landscape have been scoped-in for further assessment within this

ES. All these assets are listed in **Table 9-7**, in addition to those within the 300m study area, below with a rationale for their inclusion. All designated assets, mapped against the ZTV are presented in **Figure 9-2**.

- 9.6.12. All listed buildings within the 300m Study Area were visited for a Stage 2 assessment given their proximity to the scheme, to adequately assess the level of change to wider setting and ensure appropriate mitigation, if required.

**Table 9-7 – Designated historic assets scoped into the assessment of effects through change to setting**

Reference	Name	Rationale	Value (Significance)
<b>Registered Historic Landscape &amp; Character Areas</b>			
HLW (WGI/MGI) 2	Margam Mountain Historic Landscape	Within the Site.	High
<b>Scheduled Monuments</b>			
GM059	Y Bwlwarcu Hillfort	Within ZTV and within 300m of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity and views towards the Site.	High
GM418	Maesteg Blast Furnaces	Within 300m of the Site.	High
GM058	Roman Camp	Within ZTV, 800m west of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity and views towards the Site.	High
GM085	Llangynwyd Castle	Within ZTV, 400m east of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity and views towards the Site.	High
GM086	British Fortified Residence	Within ZTV, 1.9km south-east of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity and views towards the Site.	High
GM092	Mynydd Ty Talwyn Ancient Farms	Within ZTV, 2km south-east of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity and views towards the Site.	High
GM443	Site of Bodvoc Stone	Within ZTV, 1.5km west of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity and views towards the Site.	High
GM557	Twmpath Diwlith Round	Within ZTV, 1.35km west of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity and views towards the Site.	High



Reference	Name	Rationale	Value (Significance)
GM552	Garth Hill Platform House	Within ZTV, 2.5km of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity and views towards the Site.	High
<b>Listed buildings</b>			
11257	Maesteg Sports Centre, The Cornstores (Grade II*)	Within 300m of the Site.	High
11356	Siloh Independent Chapel (Grade II)		High
18492	Blast Furnace at Maesteg Sports Centre (Grade II)		High
18495	Salem Welsh Baptist Chapel (Grade II*)		High
18496	Capel Saron (Grade II)		High
18507	Nantyffyllon Workmen's Institute (Grade II)		High
11256	Llwydarth Farmhouse (Grade II*)	With ZTV, 1.3km west of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity and views towards the Site.	High
11375	Glifach-ganol farmhouse (Grade II)	Within ZTV, 730m west of the Site. Potential effect due to proximity and views towards the Site.	High
20432	Bee boles and stile in garden wall at Gilfach-uchaf farm (Grade II)		High

## MARGAM MOUNTAIN REGISTERED HISTORIC LANDSCAPE (HLW (WGI/MGI) 2)

- 9.6.13. The Magram Mountains Historic Landscape is a distinctive upland, partially afforested, area located on the southwest fringe of the Blaenau Morgannwg in South Wales. It overlooks the narrow coastal plain occupied by Port Talbot and rises steeply from the coast to a maximum to 300m above sea

level, before gradually levelling into plateaus and gentle slopes which are broken up by interspersing valleys.<sup>85</sup>

- 9.6.14. The historic landscape and its setting characterised by its strategic position near to the southern coast and within the corridor between England and west Wales. It has been a focus of human activity since at least the Bronze Age, characterised by its numerous cairns and barrows, which were joined in the Iron Age by settlements around hillforts with enclosure systems and trackways. The Romans took advantage of its strategic position, developing fortifications and trackways which remained in use during the medieval and post-medieval periods.

### **Y BWLWARCAU HILLFORT (GM059)**

- 9.6.15. Y Bwlwarcau is a scheduled monument consisting of a large Iron Age hillfort, situated on the eastern slope of the Magram Mountain. At present, it consists of complex multi-period earthworks, including a roughly 64m across pentagonal inner enclosure surrounded by a steep-sided ditch and radiating concentric banks and ditches likely for pastoral activities. The presence of a raised medieval-type house platform and trackways may suggest it was used continuously into the medieval period.<sup>86</sup>
- 9.6.16. Its setting is defined by its positioning on the eastern slopes of the Magram Mountains and its strategic views across the surrounding landscape, as well as its close connection to other surrounding assets including the medieval Llangynydd Castle to the east and the non-designated Heol Y Moch trackway (01077.0w) and Roman Camp (GM058) to its west.

### **MAESTEG BLAST FURNACES (GM418) & BLAST FURNACE AT MAESTEG SPORTS CENTRE (GRADE II LISTED; 18492)**

- 9.6.17. The Maesteg Blast Furnaces is a Scheduled Monument and grade II listed building comprising the remains of four 19th century blast furnaces, only the most southerly of which survives. They were originally built by the Cambrian Iron and Spelter company in 1837 and expanded in the 1840s and 1850s, before ceasing production in 1886.<sup>87</sup>
- 9.6.18. Its setting is defined by its position within the valley basin, adjacent to the formerly industrial centre of Maesteg to its south-east and its surrounding related historic assets which including the surviving blast furnaces and Grade II\* listed Maesteg Sports Centre, The Cornstores (11257) positioned immediately to the south which originally housed engines to support the furnaces.

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<sup>85</sup>Heneb, (2025), 'Magram Mountain Forest'. Available online at: [https://www.ggat.org.uk/cadw/historic\\_landscape/margam/english/mynydd\\_margam\\_010.html](https://www.ggat.org.uk/cadw/historic_landscape/margam/english/mynydd_margam_010.html) [Accessed 27/02/2025]<sup>86</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'Y Bwlwarcau', Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=&id=4353> [Accessed 27/02/2025]

<sup>86</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'Y Bwlwarcau', Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=&id=4353> [Accessed 27/02/2025]

<sup>87</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'Blast Furnaces at Maesteg Sports Centre'. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=en&id=18492> [Accessed 27/02/2025]

## ROMAN CAMP (GM058)

- 9.6.19. The Roman Camp is a Scheduled Monument situated on a broad mountain spur at an elevation of 300 metres. It is comprised of the remains of a prehistoric to Roman 25 x 44m quadrangular enclosure, surrounded by a cross-ridge dyke flanked by two banks of roughly 4 to 6 metres wide and 1.5m high. A north-south hollow trail through the enclosure and through the southern entrance way.<sup>88</sup>
- 9.6.20. The Scheduled Monument's setting is defined by its strategically elevated position within the Magram Mountains, with wide ranging views across the landscape to the south and west and its position adjacent to the non-designated Heol Y Moch trackway (01077.0w; see **Table 9-6** and **Appendix 9A**) to which it is likely related.

## LLANGYNWYD CASTLE (GM085)

- 9.6.21. Llangynwyd Castle is a Scheduled Monument and is comprised of the remains of a stone castle consisting of a Gatehouse, Curtain Wall and inner buildings which was possibly first built in the 13th century on earlier earthworks. It is situated approximately 500m west of the medieval Llangynwyd village to which it was related is strategically positioned at the confluence of two streams.<sup>89</sup>
- 9.6.22. Its setting is defined by its position within the rural landscape, near the basin of the surrounding valley and its close relationship with the historic assets located in Llangynwyd, over which it likely held influence. Views towards and outwards from the asset are largely obscured by dense woodland within its immediate proximity.

## BRITISH FORTIFIED RESIDENCE (GM086)

- 9.6.23. The British Fortified Residence is a Scheduled Monument comprised of the earthwork remains of deserted medieval settlement, likely dated to the later medieval period, set within a large hollow dug into the hillside. It is situated at an elevated position of 215 metres above sea level and maintains views across the landscape eastwards.<sup>90</sup>
- 9.6.24. Its setting is defined by its imposing position above the surrounding rural landscape and the views to the east. Due to its position within a dug out hollow, its setting is also defined by its complete lack of views towards the west, from which it is sheltered by the intervening hillside.

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<sup>88</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'Roman Camp'. Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=&id=406> [Accessed 27/02/2025]

<sup>89</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'Llangynwyd Castle', Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=&id=2864> [Accessed 27/02/2025]

<sup>90</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'British Fortified Residence', Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=&id=2241> [Accessed 27/02/2025]

## MYNYDD TY TALWYN ANCIENT FARMS (GM092)

- 9.6.25. The Mynydd Ty Talwyn Ancient Farms is a Scheduled Monument comprising the remains of a possible medieval platform house. This consists of a levelled area within the landscape, with a low bank and ditch surrounding it.<sup>91</sup>
- 9.6.26. Its setting is defined by its position on the crest of a rolling hill, elevated above the undulating rural landscape. Its views are primarily towards the north and south, as the west and east are obscured by intervening topography and vegetation.

## SITE OF BODVOC STONE (GM443)

- 9.6.27. The Site of the Bodvoc Stone is a Scheduled Monument comprising the remains of a ring cairn, approximately 13m in diameter with a possible outer ditch, at the centre of which is situated a replica of an original roughly squared upright 7<sup>th</sup> century memorial stone dedicated to Bodvoc, son of Catotigernus.<sup>92</sup>
- 9.6.28. Its setting is defined by its elevated position within the landscape (although its outwards views are now obscured by vegetation) and its relationship with its surrounding prehistoric assets, which include the non-designated Heol Y Moch (01077.0w; see **Table 9-6 and Appendix 9A**) trackway immediately to its west and the scheduled Twmpath Diwlith Round barrow (GM557), situated 145m to the east.

## TWMPATH DIWLITH ROUND (GM557)

- 9.6.29. The Twmpath Diwlith Round is a Scheduled Monument comprised of a Bronze Age round barrow, dating approximately to 2400 BC to 800BC, which measures approximately 23m in diameter and 1.5m high. Past excavations revealed that it originally contained one central stone cist containing human remains, but it was later enlarged for a second inhumation.<sup>93</sup>
- 9.6.30. Its setting is defined by its elevated position within the landscape (although its outwards views are now obscured by intervening vegetation) and its relationship with its surrounding prehistoric assets, which include the non-designated Heol Y Moch (01077.0w; see **Table 9-6 and Appendix 9A**) trackway 150m to its west and the medieval Bodvoc Stone and carin (see **Section 9.6.27**), situated 145m to the west.

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<sup>91</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'Mynydd Ty Talwyn Ancient Farms', Available online: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=&id=3361> [Accessed 27/02/2025]

<sup>92</sup>

<sup>93</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'Twmpath Diwlith Round', Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=&id=4345> [Accessed 27/02/2025]

## **GARTH HILL PLATFORM HOUSE (GM552)**

- 9.6.31. The Garth Hill Platform House is a Scheduled Monument and is comprised of a levelled 10 x 5m rectangular platform with stone foundations, upon which a medieval structure was likely built, with opposing entrances and adjacent platform and enclosure to the east for an ancillary structure.<sup>94</sup>
- 9.6.32. The setting of the asset is defined by its elevated position within the landscape on an inland promontory and broad views across the valley to the west and south (although partially obscured by intervening vegetation).

## **MAESTEG SPORTS CENTRE, THE CORNSTORES (GRADE II\* LISTED; 11257)**

- 9.6.33. The Maesteg Sports Centre, The Cornstores, is a two-storey Grade II\* listed building located in Maesteg which was originally constructed in around 1839-40 as a blast engine house for the Llynfi Ironworks. It is built of pennant sandstone with hipped slate roof and originally housed two Cornish double-acting beam engines, which served the blast furnaces (one of which survives to the immediate north, which is scheduled and grade II listed GM418;18492), before being used to store grain following the ironworks closure in 1889.<sup>95</sup>
- 9.6.34. The setting of the asset is defined by its sheltered position within the valley basin and proximity and views towards Maesteg town, from whose former industrial past it is related. It is also experienced in relationship with the one surviving Maesteg Blast Furnace (GM418;18492), which it originally served.

## **SILOH INDEPENDENT CHAPEL (GRADE II LISTED; 11356)**

- 9.6.35. The Siloh Independent Chapel is a Grade II listed two-story Classical styled chapel, built in 1876 of local stone with a slate roof and grand arched facade. It replaced two earlier chapels built in 1841 and 1858, to serve the growing mining communities in the surrounding Maesteg and Nantyffyllon.<sup>96</sup>
- 9.6.36. Its setting is defined by its position amongst the urban area of Nantyffyllon and within the valley basin. It maintains minimal views across the landscape towards Maesteg but is primarily experienced by its inward facing position to the High Street which it serves.

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<sup>94</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'Garth Hill Platform House', Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/sam/FullReport?lang=&id=3851> [Accessed 27/02/2025]

<sup>95</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'Maesteg Sports Centre, The Cornstores', Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=11257> [Accessed 27/02/2025]

<sup>96</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'Siloh Independent Chapel', Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=11356> [Accessed 27/02/2025]

### **SALEM WELSH BAPTIST CHAPEL (GRADE II\* LISTED; 18495)**

- 9.6.37. The Salem Welsh Baptist Chapel is a Grade II\* listed two storey Classical styled chapel with a grand gabled classical façade, first built in 1852 and later expanded in 1872 for the growing mining communities of Maesteg and Nantyffyllon.<sup>97</sup>

Its setting is defined by its position amongst the urban area of Nantyffyllon and within the valley basin. Due to intervening built forms, it maintains views primarily inward to Picton Street, with partial views of the surrounding landscape from its rear.

### **CAPEL SARON (GRADE II LISTED; 18496)**

- 9.6.38. Capel Saron is a Grade II listed two storey neo-Gothic styled chapel, first built in 1852 and remodelled in 1900 to support the growing communities in Maesteg and Nantyffyllon.<sup>98</sup>
- 9.6.39. Its setting is defined by its position and views towards the High Street, the built-up urban area of Nantyffyllon to its north and the wider rural valley landscape which maintains partially views of to the east and north-west.

### **NANTYFFYLLON WORKMEN'S INSTITUTE (GRADE II LISTED; 18507)**

- 9.6.40. The Nantyffyllon Workmen's Institute is a Grade II listed two storey building, located off Heol Tywith. It was built between 1924 and 1926 for the working communities in Nantyffyllon and features a course-rock stonework design with painted brick quoins and a slate roof.<sup>99</sup>
- 9.6.41. Its setting is defined by its position off Heol Tywith and its views towards the suburban area of Nantyffyllon which it was built to serve. It maintains partial views towards the surrounding valley landscape, primarily from its rear which features very few built forms.

### **LLWYDARTH FARMHOUSE (GRADE II\* LISTED; 11256)**

- 9.6.42. Llwydarth Farmhouse is a two-story Grade II\* listed farmhouse, first built in 16th century but largely altered and expanded in the 17<sup>th</sup> century. It is built of rubble stone, with a limewashed facing, and features a slate roof.<sup>100</sup>
- 9.6.43. Its setting is defined by its elevated position above the valley basin and on the steep south-eastern slope of the hillside. It has partial views only towards the south and east, although these are largely obscured by intervening vegetation and intervening boundary walls.

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<sup>97</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'Salem Welsh Baptist Chapel', Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=18495> [Accessed 27/02/2025]

<sup>98</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'Capel Saron', Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=18496> [Accessed 27/02/2025]

<sup>99</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'Nantyffyllon Workmen's Institute', Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=18507> [Accessed 27/02/2025]

<sup>100</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'Llwydarth Farmhouse', Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=11256> [Accessed 27/02/2025]

## GLIFACH-GANOL FARMHOUSE (GRADE II LISTED; 11375)

- 9.6.44. Glifach-ganol farmhouse is a two-story Grade II listed farmhouse, originally built in the 17th century and later subdivided from a single-unit dwelling into a structure with individual rooms. It is built from locally sourced rough stones and whitewashed.<sup>101</sup>
- 9.6.45. The setting of the farmhouse is defined by its sheltered position within a valley basin, from which it maintains limited outward views, which are primarily of the immediate agricultural land surrounding it and upon which it formerly depended and was built.

## BEE BOLES AND STILE IN GARDEN WALL AT GILFACH-GANOL FARM (GRADE II LISTED; 20432)

- 9.6.46. The Grade II listed building consists of recesses built into the garden wall of the Glifach-ganol farmhouse (Grade II listed, 11375) in which to house beehives and a stone stile which allows access between the private garden of the farmhouse and the surrounding agricultural landscape.<sup>102</sup>

The setting of these listed assets is defined by their proximity, views and historic relationship with the function of the Glifach-ganol farmhouse, and with the rural agricultural setting upon which they depended. They maintain limited views of the immediate surrounding landscape.

## 9.7 SCOPE OF THE ASSESSMENT

### SPATIAL SCOPE

- 9.7.1. The Site comprises a 12.5m buffer applied to the corridor route of the Project, to facilitate the micro-siting of H-Pole foundation supports, the construction compound, and the finalised UG 66kV route. For the purposes of this ES, it is considered that any land within the Site may be disturbed.
- 9.7.2. Two Study Areas have been applied for the purposes of this assessment (See **Section 9.5**):
- A 300m Study Area for non-designated historic assets to assess archaeological potential and identify direct effects; and
  - A 3km Extended Study Area for designated historic assets to assess indirect effects

### TEMPORAL SCOPE

- 9.7.3. The temporal scope of the assessment of Historic Environment is consistent with that described in **Chapter 2: EIA Approach** and includes both Construction, Operation and Decommissioning Phases as defined below.

<sup>101</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'Gilfach-ganol farmhouse', Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=11375> [Accessed 27/02/2025]

<sup>102</sup> Cadw, (2025), 'Bee boles and stile in garden wall at Gilfach-gonal farm', Available online at: <https://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=&id=20432> [Accessed 27/02/2025]



- **Construction Phase** – the construction of the proposed overhead line (OHL) and underground cable (UGC) will take a total of 9 months to complete, starting in January 2028. This will consist of 6 months allocated for installing the underground ducting pipes, 1 month for cable installation and jointing work, and 2 months for erecting the OHL and. Works will take place between 07:00 to 19:00 on weekdays (Monday to Friday) and 07:00 and 13:00 on Saturdays. In exceptions, there may be a requirement for a 7-day work week. This would be agreed with the local council as appropriate.
- **Operation Phase** – the Project will integrate the consented Foel Trawsnant Wind Farm and will remain active for the duration of the wind farm's operation; assumed to be up to 30 years for the purposes of this assessment. It is noted, however, that the duration of the proposed OHL and UGC could extend beyond 30 years, dependent on potential future uses.
- **Decommissioning Phase** – Following the Operation Phase, the connection (underground and overground) will be left in situ as it has the potential to become integrated into the DNOs wider distribution network. This would therefore not be expected to result in additional ground disturbance and effects arising through direct disturbance during this phase has been scoped-out of further assessment (see **Chapter 1: Introduction** for further details).

## 9.8 EMBEDDED MEASURES

- 9.8.1. A range of environmental measures have been embedded into the Project as detailed in **Appendix 11A. Table 9-8** outlines how these embedded measures will influence the Historic Environment assessment.

**Table 9-8 – Summary of the embedded environmental measures related to the Historic Environment**

Receptor	Potential changes and effects	Embedded measures	Suggested Compliance mechanism
<b>Construction Phase</b>			
Designated historic assets listed in <b>Table 9-7</b>	Effects to the significance of the historic asset through changes to its setting.	The construction phase will be temporary, totalling 9 months with 2 months planned for OHL installation.	CEMP
Known non-designated archaeological remains within the Site  (01076.0w, 07077.0w, 01862.0m, 08896m/18595, 04539w, FT001, FT002, FT003, HLCA009, HLCA010, HLCA005, HLCA013)	Direct disturbance to sub-surface archaeology.	Micro-siting of H-pole pylon foundations (OHL), underground cable (UGC) or construction compound to avoid known historic assets.  Avoidance maps of known non-designated historic assets within the CEMP.	Recommended archaeological monitoring (Watching Brief), secured by Planning condition.  CEMP.

Potentially unrecorded non-designated archaeological remains within the Site	Direct disturbance to archaeological remains.	Micro-siting of H-pole pylon foundations (OHL), underground cable (UGC) or construction compound to avoid historic assets.	Recommended archaeological monitoring (Watching Brief), secured by Planning condition.
Potential palaeoenvironmental remains associated with peat deposits	Direct disturbance of palaeoenvironmental remains contained within peat deposits.	Peat surveys conducted to enable identification of peat deposits of potential palaeoenvironmental significance.  Micro-siting H-pole foundations or underground cable routes to avoid disturbing known peat deposits.	Development design.
<b>Operation phase</b>			
Designated assets listed in <b>Table 9-7</b>	Effects to the significance of the historic asset through changes to its setting.	Proposed OHL design using wooden H-poles, have kept effects on setting to a minimum.  The underground cable route will not directly impact any designated assets, nor will it be visible due to its position below the ground.	Development design.

## 9.9 ASSESSMENT METHODOLOGY

### IDENTIFICATION OF POTENTIAL RECEPTORS

- 9.9.1. The receptors taken forward for assessment have been identified within the Scoping Report (WSP, 2024) and are detailed in both the ADBA (Heneb, 2024; **Appendix 9A**) and additional baseline contained within this ES Chapter (see **Section 9.5.5**). They are discussed with reference to their designation, value, potential and period below.

#### Non-designated Historic Assets

- 9.9.2. The following non-designated historic assets listed in **Table 9-9** have been identified for assessment.

**Table 9-9 – Non-Designated Historic Environment Receptors within areas scoped in**

Receptors	Ref.	Period	Potential	Value (Significance)
<b>Known assets within the Site</b>				
Medieval Road, Magram to Llangynwyd	01076.0w	Medieval	High (within northern section of the Site)	Medium significance
Heol Y Moch (the Pigs' Way)	01077.0w	Prehistoric Medieval	High (within northern section of the Site)	Low significance
Cross Ridge Dyke	01862.0m	Unknown, possibly early medieval	High	Medium significance
Dyffryn Madog Farmstead	08896m /18595	Post-medieval	High	Low significance
Moel Ton Mawr Tramway	04539w	Post-medieval	High (near UGC section in Maesteg)	Low significance
Historic Landscape Character Areas	HLCA009 HLCA010 HLCA005 HLCA013	Prehistoric – Post-medieval	High	Low significance
<b>Potential assets within the Site</b>				
Possible unrecorded archaeological remains		Prehistoric Roman Medieval Post-medieval	Low Very Low Low to Medium High	Unknown, of variable significance depending on preservation and extent
Possible buried paleoenvironmental remains associated with peat deposits		Prehistoric Roman Medieval Post-medieval	Low	Unknown, likely medium or high (if present): depending on preservation and extent

- 9.9.3. The ES Scoping report identified that all sub-surface remains within the road footprint have been anticipated to have been wholly removed or disturbed, and as such impacts upon them has been

scoped out of this assessment.<sup>103</sup> **Table 9-10** therefore identifies known historic assets within the Site boundary which have been scoped out of the assessment.

**Table 9-10 – Non-Designated Historic Environment Receptors within areas scoped out**

Receptors	Ref.	Period	Potential	Value (significance)
Tramway	FT001	Post-medieval	High	Medium significance
Tai-r-waun Rifle Range	FT002	Post-medieval	High	Low significance
Tai-r-waun Rifle Range Targets	FT003	Post-medieval	High	Low significance

### Designated Historic Assets

- 9.9.4. The designated historic assets taken forward for assessment are listed in **Table 9-7**.

### IDENTIFICATION OF EFFECTS

- 9.9.5. Historic Environment effects can be defined as changes in the nature, extent, significance, or setting of the historic environment as a result of the Project, through:

- The direct disturbance of historic assets;
- Changes to the settings of historic assets, affecting their significance; and,
- Changes to the historic landscape.

#### Direct Disturbance

- 9.9.6. Any effects arising from direct disturbance of historic assets would be expected to occur during the Construction Phase only. They are considered to be permanent and irreversible but would be restricted to the footprint of the Project, including the footings of the H-pole pylons, the construction of the underground cable route and associated joint boxes and maintenance strips, and the associated construction compound and vegetation clearance.

Effects on known historic assets, therefore, will be considered only where these are located within the Site. Direct effects on historic assets outside the footprint of the Project will not occur and are scoped out.

#### Changes To Setting

- 9.9.7. The setting of historic assets is defined in Cadw (2017) guidance as follows:

- *“The setting of a historic asset includes the surroundings in which it is understood, experienced and appreciated, embracing present and past relationships to the surrounding landscape”.*

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<sup>103</sup> WSP, (2024), *Pennant Water: Foel Trawsnant Scoping Report*

9.9.8. Cadw (2017) guidance identifies a staged approach to the assessment of effects on settings, with the first stage (Stage 1) being the identification of the historic assets which may be affected. In accordance with guidance, this has been undertaken for all designated assets within the 3km Extended Study Area, and are included in **Appendix 9B**, considering the following:

- The location, size and scale of the Project; and
- The location of the identified historic assets.

9.9.9. The generic project-wide approach to the assessment methodology is set out in **Chapter 2: EIA Approach**. 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 Historic Environment assessment.

### DETERMINING SIGNIFICANCE OF EFFECTS

9.9.10. The EIA Regulations do not define significance, and it will be necessary to state how this will be defined. The significance of an effect result from a development during construction or operation is most assessed by reference to the sensitivity (or value) of a receptor and the magnitude of the effect, as set out in **Table 9-11**. 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 the development.

9.9.11. For the purposes of assessing the significance of effects in EIA terms, heritage significance is described with reference to the interests set out in Planning Policy Wales (2024) and TAN24 (2017) (see **Section 9.3**). These guidelines define the significance of historic assets by the following values: evidential, historic, aesthetic and communal. The determination of the significance is based on statutory designation, professional judgement and through consultation with statutory consultees.

9.9.12. Each historic asset is evaluated against the range of criteria listed above on a case-by-case basis, in accordance with the criteria listed in **Table 9-11**. This also considers regional variations and individual qualities, where applicable.

9.9.13. Unless the nature and exact extent of buried archaeological remains within any given has been determined through prior investigation, their significance can be uncertain, and a judgement will be made based on existing knowledge.

9.9.14. In relation to designated historic assets, the assessment considers the contribution that historic character and setting makes to the overall significance of the asset.

**Table 9-11 – Definition of Heritage Significance**

Heritage Significance	Criteria	Example Asset Class
High	Asset has significance for an outstanding level of archaeological, architectural, historic and/or artistic interest.	Designated historic assets. Nationally and international significant non-designated archaeological sites, including burial grounds.

<b>Medium</b>	Asset has significance for a high level of archaeological, architectural, historic and/or artistic interest.	Locally listed buildings and other local / county-based designations.  Regionally significant non-designated archaeological sites.
<b>Low</b>	Asset has significance for elements of archaeological, architectural, historic or artistic interest.	Locally significant archaeological sites.
<b>Negligible</b>	Due to its nature of form, condition or survival, it cannot be considered as an asset in its own right.	Non-extent HER records.

## MAGNITUDE OF CHANGE

- 9.9.15. The assessment of the magnitude of change is the identification of the degree of the impact of the Project on the historic assets. There is no standard scale of comparison against which the severity of effects on historic assets may be judged, because of the great variety of resources and assets, but it is based on the deviation from baseline conditions. The assignment of a magnitude of change is a matter of professional judgement and is summarised in **Table 9-12**.

**Table 9-12 – Establishing the magnitude of change**

<b>Magnitude</b>	<b>Criteria (adverse)</b>	<b>Criteria (Beneficial)</b>
<b>High</b>	Loss of heritage significance of an order of magnitude that would result from total or substantial demolition or disturbance of a historic asset or from the disassociation of an asset from its setting.	Sympathetic restoration of an at-risk or otherwise degraded historic asset and/or its setting. Bringing an at-risk historic asset into sustainable use, with robust long-term management secured.
<b>Medium</b>	Loss of heritage significance arising from partial disturbance or inappropriate alteration of a historic asset which will adversely affect its importance.  Change to the key characteristics of the setting of a historic asset, which may harm the significance of the asset, but will still allow its archaeological, architectural or historic interest to be appreciated.	Appropriate stabilisation and/or enhancement of a historic asset and, or its setting that better reveal the significance of the asset or contribute to a long-term sustainable use or management regime.
<b>Low</b>	Minor loss to or alteration of a historic asset which leaves its current significance intact.	Minor enhancements to management of a feature or site that better reveal the significance of the asset or

	Minor or short-term changes to setting which do not affect the key characteristics and in which the historical context remains intact.	contribute to a short-term management regime.
<b>Negligible</b>	Minor alterations of a historic asset which does not affect its significance.  Minor and short-term, or reversible, changes to setting which do not affect the significance of the historic asset.	Very minor alteration to an asset which presents minimal change to heritage significance, including minor and, or short-term or reversible change to setting.

9.9.16. The matrix in **Table 9-13** has been prepared to guide the assessment of whether effects on the historic environment for the purposes of EIA are to be considered significant or not. The classification of the effect is judged on the relationship of the magnitude of change to the assessed heritage significance of the resource. As a general rule, major effects are considered to be significant, moderate effects are considered to be potentially significant, and minor and negligible effects are considered to be not significant. Where effects are assessed, according to **Table 9-13**, as potentially significant in EIA terms, professional judgement will be applied to determine whether they are significant or not significant.

**Table 9-13 – Significance evaluation matrix**

		Magnitude of change			
		High	Medium	Low	Negligible
Significance	High	Major	Major	Moderate	Minor
	Medium	Major	Moderate	Minor	Negligible
	Low	Moderate	Minor	Negligible	Negligible
	Negligible	Minor	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

## 9.10 ASSESSMENT OF EFFECTS

### CONSTRUCTION PHASE EFFECTS

#### Direct Disturbance

#### Overhead Powerline (OHL)

9.10.1. Limited intrusive groundworks will be necessary for the construction of the H-pole supported OHL and their associated infrastructure within the Site. This could have a direct impact upon localised areas of the open ground and may include:

- Localised excavations for the installation of H-pole foundations to depth of between 1.8m to 2.4m, and a minimum surrounding area of 6.3m<sup>2</sup>;
- The installation of below-ground, pre-cast kicking blocks to provide structural support;
- The removal of existing trees in the path of the access trackway; and



- The trimming and lopping of trees within 4m of any conductors.

- 9.10.2. Intrusive works of this nature would impact upon any surviving buried non-designated archaeological remains in their footprint which would be wholly or partially removed, such as prehistoric/medieval trackways and roads (01076.0w, 07077.0w), an early medieval dyke (07862.0m), and post-medieval farmsteads (08896m/08595) and tramways (04539w, 04539w).
- 9.10.3. It may also potentially impact possible unrecorded archaeological remains within the Site. The highest potential is for possible post-medieval or modern industrial or agricultural remains, of **low** significance. There is a lower potential identified for the presence of possible palaeoenvironmental, prehistoric, Roman (very low), or medieval remains relating to settlement, earthworks, or agricultural which would be is of largely **Medium** significance (as a worst-case scenario) but depending on preservation and extent. Based on present evidence, potential for unrecorded archaeological remains of high significance is not anticipated and so they are assumed to be of **Low** or **Medium** significance.
- 9.10.4. Overall, due to the level of ground disturbance being restricted to the location of the H-pole foundations, and the 10m micro-siting buffer applied to each pole location and the provision for a watching brief, the level of impact presented by the installation of the OHL is generally considered to be **medium** in magnitude, resulting in a **moderate adverse** effect for non-designated assets prior to mitigation, depending on their value.
- 9.10.5. All receptor significance, magnitude of change and effects resulting from the construction of the OHL have been listed in **Table 9-14**.

#### **Underground Cabling (UGC)**

- 9.10.6. For the construction of the 66kV underground section, most of the cable and associated joint boxes (5 x 3m) at approximate 500m intervals, will be installed at a depth of up to 1.5m within the existing highways boundary, incorporating an associated 1m maintenance strip.
- 9.10.7. A 250m section of underground cable route will be required outside of the existing highways boundary, and within agricultural fields. It is anticipated that the methodology for cable installation will follow that outlined above. This work would adversely affect any surviving sub-surface archaeological remains within their footprint, which would result in a loss of archaeological value, if present, in localised areas of the Project route. This would be considered a **moderate adverse** effect prior to mitigation.
- 9.10.8. In addition, within the locations for joint boxes, trial holes running to a depth of 150mm deeper than the proposed trench (up to 1.5m) may be undertaken to ascertain the proper positioning of the cabling. This would also adversely impact any surviving sub-surface archaeological remains within their footprint. This would be considered a **moderate adverse** effect prior to mitigation.
- 9.10.9. All receptor significances, magnitude of change and effects resulting from the installation of the underground cable have been listed in **Table 9-14**.

#### **Temporary Construction Compound**

- 9.10.10. To support the construction of the Project, a construction compound will be located within the Site in the northern portion of the Project route. This will comprise a single storey office/site cabin, the

laying of geo-grid style matting, and the installation of perimeter fencing. The compound will predominately be used for the storage of wooden OHL poles and 66kV 630mm copper cable, and ground intrusions are assumed to be **negligible**.

9.10.11. All receptor significances, magnitude of change and effects resulting from the installation of the northern construction compound have been listed in **Table 9-14**.

**Table 9-14 – Construction phase effects from direct disturbance on non-designated historic assets**

Receptor	Significance / Value	Magnitude of Change	Effect
<b>Overhead Powerline (OHL) (e.g. limited intrusive groundworks, H-pole installation)</b>			
Medieval Road, Magram to Llangynwyd (01076.0w)	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Moderate</b> adverse (not significant)
Heol Y Moch (the Pigs' Way) (01077.0w)	<b>Low</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Minor</b> adverse (not significant)
Cross Ridge Dyke (01862.0m)	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>Moderate</b> adverse (not significant)
Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCA009) (HLCA010) (HLCA005) (HLCA013)	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Minor</b> adverse (not significant)
Possible unrecorded archaeological remains	<b>Medium</b> , likely <b>low</b> or <b>medium</b> (if present) depending on preservation and extent	<b>Medium</b> , likely <b>negligible</b> if completely avoided.	<b>Moderate</b> adverse, likely <b>negligible</b> if completely avoided (not significant)
Possible buried paleoenvironmental remains associated with peat deposits	<b>Medium</b> , likely <b>medium</b> or <b>low</b> (if present) depending on preservation and extent	<b>Medium</b> , likely <b>negligible</b> if completely avoided	<b>Moderate</b> adverse, likely <b>negligible</b> if completely avoided (not significant)
<b>Underground Cabling (e.g. limited linear intrusive works, trial holes for joint boxes, cable plough)</b>			
Dyffryn Madog Farmstead (08896m /18595)	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Negligible</b> (not significant)
Moel Ton Mawr Tramway (04539w)	<b>Low</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Negligible</b> (not significant)

Receptor	Significance / Value	Magnitude of Change	Effect
Tramway (FT001)	Low	Low	Negligible (not significant)
Tai-r-waun Rifle Range (FT002)	Low	Low	Negligible (not significant)
Tai-r-waun Rifle Range Targets (FT003)	Low	Low	Negligible (not significant)
Possible unrecorded archaeological remains within 250m stretch outside of road footprint	Medium, likely low to medium (if present) depending on preservation and extent	Medium, likely negligible if completely avoided	Moderate adverse, likely negligible if completely avoided (not significant)
Possible buried paleoenvironmental remains associated with peat deposits within 250m stretch outside of road footprint	Medium, likely low to medium (if present) depending on preservation and extent	Medium, likely negligible if completely avoided	Moderate adverse, likely negligible if completely avoided (not significant)
<b>Temporary Construction Compound</b>			
Possible unrecorded archaeological remains	Medium, likely low to medium (if present) depending on preservation and extent	Medium, likely negligible if completely avoided	Moderate adverse, likely negligible if completely avoided (not significant)
Possible buried paleoenvironmental remains associated with peat deposits	Medium, likely low to medium (if present) depending on preservation and extent	Medium, likely negligible if completely avoided	Moderate adverse, likely negligible if completely avoided (not significant)

## Effects arising through change to setting

### Overhead Powerline (OHL)

- 9.10.12. All construction activities required for the installation of the OHL would be of a temporary nature and restricted to the Site boundary. No haul roads are required, and traffic movements are predicted to be minimal and will be restricted to maximum of 40 heavy and light goods vehicle movements daily at the peak of construction activities (see **Chapter 13: Traffic and Transport**). All noise, vibration, or dust resulting from the construction works during this phase will be controlled through the application of a CEMP (**Appendix 4A**), which will set out clear guidelines and standards to mitigate any impacts to the setting of any designated assets within their proximity.
- 9.10.13. No permanent impacts upon the setting of designated historic assets are predicted during the construction phase, and as such, impacts are considered to be **temporary, reversible** and of a **negligible** magnitude, resulting in a **Minor adverse** effect (see assessment outcomes in **Table 9-15**).

## Underground Cabling (UGC)

- 9.10.14. The laying of the underground cable will be mainly confined to the existing highways boundary and adhere to standard practice over a period of up to six months (see **Chapter 4: Description of the Project**). Construction methodology is likely to consist of the cables being laid directly into a trench, either using ducts or via an open cut method. Joint boxes will be placed approximately every 500m.
- 9.10.15. All of these construction methods are considered to be temporary in nature, taking place over a period of up to six months (see **Chapter 4: Description of the Project**), and would therefore make no permanent changes to the setting of the surrounding designated historic assets, listed in **Table 9-7**. Temporary changes to setting (e.g. increased dust, noise, or vibration) will be mitigated by implementation of the CEMP (**Appendix 4A**), which will set out clear guidelines and standards to mitigate any permanent or long-term impacts to any designated assets within their proximity and therefore would be considered of a **negligible** magnitude resulting in a **minor adverse impact**.
- 9.10.16. All receptor significances, magnitude of change and effects resulting from the installation of the underground cable have been listed in **Table 9-15**.

**Table 9-15 - Construction phase effects on historic assets arising through change to setting**

Receptor	Significance / Value	Magnitude of Change	Effect
<b>Overhead Powerline (OHL)</b>			
Margam Mountain Historic Landscape (HLW (WGI/MGI) 2)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Y Bwlwarcaw Hillfort (GM059)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Maesteg Blast Furnaces (GM418)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Roman Camp (GM058)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Llangynwyd Castle (GM085)	High	Negligible	Negligible (not significant)
British Fortified Residence (GM086)	High	Negligible	Negligible (not significant)

Mynydd Ty Talwyn Ancient Farms (GM092)	<b>High</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Negligible</b> (not significant)
Site of Bodvoc Stone (GM443)	<b>High</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Minor adverse</b> (not significant)
Twmpath Diwlith Round (GM557)	<b>High</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Minor adverse</b> (not significant)
Garth Hill Platform House (GM552)	<b>High</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Minor adverse</b> (not significant)
Maesteg Sports Centre, The Cornstores (Grade II*; 11257)	<b>High</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Minor adverse</b> (not significant)
Siloh Independent Chapel (Grade II; 11356)	<b>High</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Minor adverse</b> (not significant)
Blast Furnace at Maesteg Sports Centre (Grade II; 18492)	<b>High</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Minor adverse</b> (not significant)
Salem Welsh Baptist Chapel (Grade II*; 18495)	<b>High</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Minor adverse</b> (not significant)
Capel Saron (Grade II; 18496)	<b>High</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Minor adverse</b> (not significant)
Nantyffyllon Workmen's Institute (Grade II; 18507)	<b>High</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Minor adverse</b> (not significant)
Llwydarth Farmhouse (Grade II*; 11256)	<b>High</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Minor adverse</b> (not significant)
Glifach-ganol farmhouse (Grade II; 11375)	<b>High</b>	<b>Negligible</b>	<b>Minor adverse</b> (not significant)

Bee boles and stile in garden wall at Gilfach-uchaf farm (Grade II; 20432)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
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## OPERATIONAL PHASE EFFECTS

### Direct Disturbance

#### Overhead Powerline (OHL)

- 9.10.17. During the operation phase of the Project, the OHL will only require infrequent non-intrusive maintenance activities such as resilience tree cutting to retain clearance distances and regular inspection. Although conductors and insulators have a design life of approximately 40 years, infrequent faults may occur that would require vehicular access, which would be of minimal ground disturbance.
- 9.10.18. Any maintenance required during the operation phase would be temporary in nature and would be undertaken by vehicle similar in nature to construction phase activities. Due to lack minimally invasive activities and lack of ground disturbance, these activities are anticipated to have a **negligible** impact.

#### Underground Cabling

Operation phase activities relating to the UGC include regular testing at previously disturbed joint bays, which will not require any additional intrusive groundworks. This would be considered a **negligible** impact.

### Effects arising through change to setting

#### Overhead Powerline (OHL)

- 9.10.19. Once installed, the OHL will consist of approximately 4.6km of overhead lines (at the northern and southern sections of the cable route), supported by 62 wooden H-poles approximately 10m above ground level. The wooden H-poles are generally sympathetic to the surrounding landscape, relatively low in height and are similar in nature to existing electrical infrastructure in and around the town of Maesteg.
- 9.10.20. The large majority of designated historic assets in the surrounding 3km Extended Study Area are screened from views of the OHL, either due to the surrounding natural undulating topography, stands of existing forestry or trees, or built infrastructure within Maesteg township. All the assets that maintain clear or partial views of the proposed OHL also include views of a wider setting characterised by the presence of Maesteg, including residential or industrial buildings and other electrical infrastructure including both H-poles and larger metal lattice towers. It is considered that the addition of minimally invasive H-poles and associated OHL would not significantly alter the existing setting and would therefore be considered to result in either a **negligible** or **low** magnitude of change.

9.10.21. The tree and vegetation maintenance required to ensure clearance from the OHL would be minimal and would maintain the same conditions introduced in the Construction phase. Similarly, temporary and non-intrusive powerline and pole inspections would also be undertaken as part of Operation phase activities. This would all be considered as a minor adverse impact.

#### Underground cabling

9.10.22. Once installed, the underground cabling will not be visible and therefore there would be a **no impact** to the overall setting of the historic assets.

9.10.23. Regular testing of the UGC at the previously installed joint boxes would be temporary and localised in nature, and therefore there would be **no impact**.

**Table 9-16 - Operational phase effects on historic assets arising through change to setting**

Receptor	Significance / Value	Magnitude of Change	Effect
<b>Overhead Powerline (OHL)</b>			
Margam Mountain Historic Landscape (HLW (WGI/MGI) 2)	High	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)
Y Bwlwarcaw Hillfort (GM059)	High	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)
Maesteg Blast Furnaces (GM418)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Maesteg Sports Centre, The Cornstores (11257)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Siloh Independent Chapel (11356)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Blast Furnace at Maesteg Sports Centre (18492)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Salem Welsh Baptist Chapel (18495)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Capel Saron (18496)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)



Receptor	Significance / Value	Magnitude of Change	Effect
Nantylfyllon Workmen's Institute (18507)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Llangynwyd Castle (GM085)	High	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)
Site of Bodvoc Stone (GM443)	High	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)
Garth Hill Platform House (GM552)	High	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)
Twmpath Diwlith Round Barrow (GM557)	High	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)
Glifach-ganol farmhouse (11375)	High	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)
Bee boles and stile in garden wall at Gilfach-uchaf farm (20432)	High	Low	Moderate adverse (not significant)
<b>Underground Cable (UG)</b>			
Margam Mountain Historic Landscape (HLW (WGI/MGI) 2)	High	None	No effect
Y Bwlwarcau Hillfort (GM059)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Maesteg Blast Furnaces (GM418)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Maesteg Sports Centre, The Cornstores (11257)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)

Receptor	Significance / Value	Magnitude of Change	Effect
Siloh Independent Chapel (11356)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Blast Furnace at Maesteg Sports Centre (18492)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Salem Welsh Baptist Chapel (18495)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Capel Saron (18496)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Nantyffyllon Workmen's Institute (18507)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Llangynwyd Castle (GM085)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Site of Bodvoc Stone (GM443)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Garth Hill Platform House (GM552)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Twmpath Diwlith Round Barrow (GM557)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Glifach-ganol farmhouse (11375)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)
Bee boles and stile in garden wall at Gilfach-uchaf farm (20432)	High	Negligible	Minor adverse (not significant)

## 9.11 ASSESSMENT OF CUMULATIVE EFFECTS

- 9.11.1. Consideration has been given as to whether any of the historic environment receptors that have been taken forward for assessment in this chapter are likely to be subject to cumulative effects generated from other developments.
- 9.11.2. In the area surrounding the Project, there are a number of operational, consented or Projects, the most significant of which is the consented Foel Trawsnant Wind Farm (Ref: P2022/0344 & P2022/0517; see **Figure 2.1**) which is situated immediately north of the Project scheme. Due to its positioning, the visually-unintrusive nature of the H-pole OHL pylons and the fact the interface with wind farm and Proposed Scheme will be screened by intervening topography and surrounding vegetation, it is anticipated that there would only be a **low** or **negligible** magnitude of change to the settings of any designated assets. The H-poles will also only have a limited extent of direct disturbance to buried remains within very localised locations and therefore, when combined with the anticipated impacts from the wind scheme, they would not contribute to a significant cumulative effect.

## 9.12 MITIGATION AND RESIDUAL EFFECTS

- 9.12.1. All appropriate and necessary mitigation strategies for the construction and operation phases of the Project have been included in the embedded measures section (**Section 9.8**).

## 9.13 CONCLUSIONS OF SIGNIFICANCE EVALUATION

- 9.13.1. Subject to the implementation of the environmental measures set out in **Section 9.8**, which includes archaeological monitoring and recording of potential non-designated archaeological remains situated within the footprint of OHL and UGC footprint, and the micro-siting of OHL H-pole foundations to avoid impacting upon known non-designated assets, the Project will avoid significant effects upon the sub-surface aspect of the historic environment.
- 9.13.2. An assessment of the effects on the settings of off-site historic assets within a 3km study area. This identified that most of the surrounding designated assets either maintain partial or no views toward the Site and that the Project would not introduce any new or significantly visually intrusive built forms which do not already exist within the landscape. Since the installation works would only take place over 2 months, any impacts to their setting during the construction phase would be temporary and therefore **negligible**. During the operation phase, the new OHL site would be visible within a landscape in which existing OHL of greater sizes are already prominent and visible, and therefore the impact is also considered **negligible**.
- 9.13.3. Following consultation with Cadw, as set out in **Section 9.4**, effects upon the potential archaeological remains present within the Mynydd Margam Landscape Historic Landscape has not necessitated the completion of an ASIDOHL. All effects within this landscape have been decided through assessment of the surrounding potential non-designated assets and the character of the historic landscape.