

# Hendre Lakes, St Mellons, Cardiff: Historic Landscape Assessment (ASIDOHL2)

Prepared For Ove Arup Ltd

by

The Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust Ltd (GGAT Projects)

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#### Summary

The proposed development consists of the construction of a 'business park (up to 90,000m2 - B1, B2 and B8), ancillary uses, and infrastructure associated with; biodiversity; landscape; drainage; walking, cycling and other transport modes.

Together with the construction of a new transport hub facility, comprising railway station buildings (up to 1,500m2 - Sui Generis) including ancillary uses, 4 no. platforms, surface car park (up to 600 no. spaces), and associated infrastructure works at land to the south of St Mellons Business Park'.

As the proposed development lies wholly within the Gwent Levels Historic Landscape (HLW (Gt) 2), an ASIDHOL2 assessment was commissioned for the development proposals. The ASIDOHL2, carried out to the latest guidelines issued by Cadw, forms the subject of the current report.

The proposed development comprises an area of land measuring 0.802km<sup>2</sup> the entirety of which lies within the Gwent Levels Historic Landscape. The entire Gwent Levels Historic Landscape has an area of 106.9km<sup>2</sup>, therefore the maximum overall area which could be directly affected by the proposal represents 0.75% of the entire area on the register (based on the red line boundary). The overall significance of the impact of the development on the Gwent Levels (HLW (Gt) 2) landscape of outstanding historic interest is considered to be 'Slight' rather than 'Very Slight' as the scale of the development will have a disproportionate effect on six Character areas located in the west of the overall Registered Landscape, whilst the remaining 15 Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCAs) will be unaffected.

The proposed development will involve a 'Severe' direct effect on HLCA019 Trowbridge. The development area represents over 22% of this landscape character area and little can be done to mitigate the loss of the landscape itself. However, the use of strategies such as historic hedgerow survey, archaeological watching brief and evaluation test pitting should be able to mitigate against the loss of the archaeological resource in the area.

It is considered that the overall indirect effect of the development can be partly mitigated by the use of appropriate screening measures to limit the indirect impacts. Some existing hedgerows will be retained and others will be planted to provide screening from the west, north and east. Combined with the flat topography of the whole area, such measures should limit the visual impact of the development from short to medium distances.

Screening measures for the southern part of the development are, however, much more limited due to the relative openness of the Southern Mitigation Area (part of the Trowbridge HLCA) and the adjoining Peterstone Historic Landscape Character Area 017, which is relatively open in nature. Although increasing distance and the relative lack of elevated vantage points within the landscape will partly reduce the visual impact, as might the use of materials and designs coloured to be less visually intrusive, the scale and form of the development will still be obvious from these southern aspects.

## Acknowledgements

This project has been managed by Martin Tuck MCIfA (Senior Project Manager) and the report was compiled by Johnny Crawford BSc MA MCIfA (Assistant Project Manager) of GGAT Projects. The illustrations were prepared by Paul Jones (Illustrator). Thanks are also due to Rowena Ekermawi and the rest of the Ove Arup team for their assistance.

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#### Abbreviations

The following abbreviations have been used in this report:

	CRAPW: Central Register of Air Photography for Wales
EXXXXXX:	Event of archaeological significance recorded in the HER
GGAT:	Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust
HER:	Historic Environment Record (curated by GGAT Curatorial)
HLCA:	Historic Landscape Characterisation Area (in Cadw and Icomos 1998).
LB:	Listed Building
LPA:	Local Planning Authority
NGR:	National Grid Reference
NLW:	National Library of Wales
NMR:	National Monuments Record (curated by RCAHMW)
NPRN:	National Primary Record Number (in NMR)
PGW:	Registered Park and Garden in Wales (Cadw and ICOMOS UK 1998)
PRN:	Primary Record Number (in HER - indicated by a letter suffix, in this case 'g' or 's')
RCAHMW:	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales
SM:	Scheduled Monument (prefixed by the letters GM)

#### Project background

Cardiff Parkway Developments are proposing development within a defined area within the Parish of St Mellons, Cardiff (Figure 1). The site lies on the eastern outskirts of the Cardiff Unitary Authority sharing a boundary with Newport Unitary Authority and on the Gwent Levels, to the south of St Mellons Business Park between Cypress Drive and Heol Las.

The development area is largely rural and comprises fields and hedgerows, surrounded by residential housing of St Mellons to the west, business estate to the north, farming land and a few plots of land with power plants, houses and outbuildings to the east and fields to the south. The southern part of the development area is divided by the main Newport to Cardiff train line running from the north-east to the south-west. Topographically, the ground rises gently to the north.

The geology of the development area consists of St Maughans Formation (interbedded purple, brown and green sandstones and red mudstones with intraformational conglomerates containing calcrete clasts) at the northern part of the site and Mercia Mudstone Group bedrock (dominantly red, less commonly green-grey, mudstones and subordinate siltstones with thick halite-bearing units in some basinal areas. Thin beds of gypsum/anhydrite widespread; sandstones are also present) located at the southern part. The bedrocks are overlain almost entirely by Tidal Flat Deposits (generally a consolidated soft silty clay, with layers of sand, gravel and peat. Characteristically low relief; from the tidal zone) except of the western central part where Till (Devensian) is present (BGS 2019).

A previous archaeological Desk Based Assessment (Dabal and Lewis-Jones 2018) identified that the proposed development area is located entirely within the Gwent Levels Historic Landscape (HLW (Gt) 2). Specifically, the site is located within the Trowbridge (HLCA019) and Rumney (HLCA018) Historic Landscape Character Areas.

The development is considered to have a negligible impact on other historic landscapes, due to the great distances involved. For example, the Bonvilston Amalgamated Fieldscape (HLCA010) is located 19km to the south west.

The Gwent Levels represents a rare and important historic landscape and as such is included in the national Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales: Part 2:1: Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest (Cadw/CCW/ICOMOS 2001).



Figure 1. Development area (red outline) and the Gwent Levels Historic Landscape (blue).



Figure 2. Location of development area (red ) and the Gwent Levels Historic Landscape Characterisation Areas (blue).

# 1 The affected historic landscapes

## 2.1 Register of landscapes of special historic interest in Wales

In 1998, after an extensive consultation exercise, Cadw in association with the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW) and the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS UK), published Part 2.1 of its Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales (Cadw/CCW/ICOMOS 1998). This volume forms part of a series of publications, collectively known as the Register of Landscapes, Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest in Wales. The first part of the Register (Part 1) deals with historic parks and gardens, and is being produced in a series of county volumes. Part 2, which deals with landscapes, has been published in two volumes covering all of Wales. The first of these volumes (Part 2.1) covers the Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest; the second (Part 2.2) deals with landscapes of more regional value (Landscapes of Special Historic Interest).

## 2.2 The historic landscape

In addition to any direct effects of the proposal on known and potential archaeological sites, the development has the potential to affect the historic landscape in general and the area of the Historic Landscape of the Gwent Levels in particular. Current guidance outlines a methodology for assessing the indirect and visual effects of proposals on the historic landscape (ASIDOHL). The present study of the effects of the proposed development was undertaken according to this methodology. What follows in Section 3 is a summary of the ASIDOHL process; the full details appear as a Technical Annex within the Guide to good practice on using the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales in the planning and development processes, Revised (2nd) edition including revisions to the assessment process (ASIDOHL2) (Cadw/CCW/Welsh Assembly 2007).

#### 2.3 Welsh Historic Landscapes and Historic Landscape Character Areas

The Welsh landscape is steeped in history and displays the influence of man from later prehistoric times through to the industrial era. Some landscapes are of especial historic significance, and in recent years this fact has been recognised by the identification of 58 areas as being key Historic Landscapes. These are described within the *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales* (Cadw/CCW/ICOMOS 1998) and the *Register of Landscapes of Special Historic Interest in Wales* (Cadw/CCW/ICOMOS 2001).

Recent historic landscape characterisation projects across Wales have sought to describe in detail the Historic Landscapes. Each project involves detailed examination of the landscape, on the basis of which analysis, the Historic Landscape is divided into a number of Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCAs). Each HLCA is a discrete entity, defined according to archaeological and historical attributes, or by cultural associations, which distinguish it from adjacent areas; HLCAs take diverse forms, ranging from Bronze Age funerary zones to recent industrial landscapes, from unenclosed upland to densely populated settlements.

Historic Landscape Characteristics are tangible evidence for the activities and habits of past land users and occupiers and reflect their beliefs, attitudes, traditions and values. Such characteristics might equally reflect specific events or functional evolution over

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time. Historic Landscape Characterisation sets out to establish the historic depth of past human activity within the modern landscape by identifying its principal historic components. In establishing the historical characterisation of landscapes, recent work in Wales has suggested that adopting a practical approach based on subdivision of the overall historic landscape into sub-units of broadly homogenous character is an effective method. This process can be summarised as:

One (or more) components	$\rightarrow$	dominant pattern
One (or more) dominant patterns	$\rightarrow$	coherent character
Coherent character (with definable limits)	$\rightarrow$	character area (HLCA)
Several HLCAs	$\rightarrow$	local landscape

HLCAs form the basic unit assessed within the ASIDOHL2. As discussed below, the contribution of each HLCA to the wider Historic Landscape (and thus its value in ASIDOHL2 terms) is variable: some are key elements, whilst others are only of incidental importance. Each HLCA directly or indirectly affected by the proposed development is assessed individually within Stages 2-4 of ASIDOHL2. In Stage 5 the results of Stages 2-4 are combined to produce an assessment of the overall impact on the Historic Landscape described by the *Register*.

#### 2.4 Historic landscapes and the planning process

The *Register* seeks to promote policies to preserve the character of historic landscapes, although it imposes no additional planning controls and recognises that continuing development is a necessary part of a living landscape. Nevertheless, historic landscapes remain a factor in the planning process:

When Environmental Assessment is necessary, the Town and Country Planning (Assessment of Environmental Effects) Regulations 1988 require, amongst other things, the significant effects of the development on the landscape and cultural heritage to be assessed.... Factors that need to be borne in mind include the effect of the development on the overall historic integrity and coherence of the area on the Register, whether by outright removal, severance, fragmentation, or dislocation of historic elements. The cumulative effects of secondary or piecemeal changes over time should also be taken into account.

(Cadw/CCW/ICOMOS 1998)

Planning Policy Wales Technical Advice Note 24 states that:

7.6 The Register of Historic Landscapes in Wales is a non-statutory advisory register (see Annex C.5–C.7). Its purpose is two-fold. Firstly, when major change might be contemplated, it is intended to inform policy making and decision making at a strategic level about the historic importance of the areas identified. Secondly, information on the register should be taken into account when determining planning applications where the development requires Environmental Impact Assessment or, if on call in, in the opinion of Welsh Ministers, is of a sufficient scale to have more than a local impact on the historic landscape. The register should ensure that necessary change is accommodated without sacrificing the essential integrity and

coherence of historic landscape areas. The wider purpose of the register is to promote the value of the historic landscape as a resource for social and economic well-being.

"7.7 Any developments that require Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and affect an area on the Register of Historic Landscapes will have to take the register entry into account in the production of the Environmental Statement. The results of any analysis of LANDMAP may also be taken into account. The regulations differentiate between Schedule 1 developments, which always require EIA, and Schedule 2 developments, which require EIA 'if it is likely to have significant effects on the environment by virtue of factors such as its size, nature or location'. When screening Schedule 2 projects, the local planning authority must take account of the selection criteria in Schedule 3 to the Regulations. Paragraph (2)(c)(viii) of Schedule 3 to the Regulations identifies 'landscapes of historical, cultural or archaeological significance'. In Wales, an area on the Register of Historic Landscapes should be considered to meet this criterion."

Similarly, the most recent guidance given to planning authorities (PPW Edition 10, December 2018) states that:

6.1.20 The Welsh Government seeks to protect areas on the register of historic landscapes in Wales.

6.1.21 Planning authorities should protect those assets included on the register of historic landscapes in Wales. As above, the sharing and use of evidence and assessments undertaken for wider reasons, such as Green Infrastructure Assessments, should be used to identify and better understand historic landscapes and ensure their qualities are protected and enhanced. The register should be taken into account in decision making when considering the implications of developments which meet the criteria for Environmental Impact Assessment or, if on call in, (in the opinion of the Welsh Ministers) the development is of a sufficient scale to have more than a local impact on the historic landscape. An assessment of development on a historic landscape may be required if it is proposed within a registered historic landscape or its setting and there is potential for conflict with development plan policy.

#### 2.5 The affected historic landscapes

The development area has a direct and indirect visual impact on the Gwent Levels, an area that is included within the Cadw/CCW/ICOMOS Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales. *Planning Policy Wales* (2018) states that "Information on the landscapes on the second part of the Register should be taken into account in considering the implications of developments which are of such a scale that they would have a more than local impact on an area on the Register".

The guidance emphasises the interaction between different aspects of impact, including landscape and the archaeological heritage, requiring any assessment to include a description of "the likely significant effects of the development on the environment, which should cover the direct effects and any indirect, secondary, cumulative, short medium and long-term, permanent and temporary effects … and the description by the

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applicant of the forecasting methods used to assess the effects on the environment." In the Register, guidance has been given on the approach to fulfilling this requirement in relation to historic landscapes where effects to be assessed include 'the effect of the development on the overall historic integrity and coherence of the area on the Register." This guidance has been amplified in *Guide to good practice on using the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales in the planning and development processes, Revised (2nd) edition including revisions to the assessment process (ASIDOHL2) (Cadw/CCW/Welsh Assembly 2007).* 

The Gwent Levels has been selected as a landscape of special historical interest for (principally) two out of five potential criteria (Cadw/CCW/ICOMOS 1998):

(1) Intensively developed or extensively re-modelled

Landscapes in which development or change as a result of human activity (land use) has been so intense, resulting in substantial alterations to the natural (landform) and semi-natural (landcover) elements: large towns, cities, conurbations, industrial areas, large-scale civil engineering projects, landscapes showing human endeavor on a grand scale.

(4) Buried/Subsumed or destroyed

Landscapes whose past use may usually only be inferred by historical (documentary) or archaeological (remote or intrusive) methods of investigation.

The Gwent Levels are described as three distinct and extensive areas of alluvial wetlands and intertidal mudflats situated on the north side of the Severn estuary representing the largest and most significant example in Wales of a 'hand-crafted' landscape. They are entirely the work of man, having been recurrently inundated and reclaimed from the sea from the Roman period onwards. The areas have distinctive patterns of settlement, enclosure and drainage systems belonging to successive periods of use, and a proven and possibly quite vast potential for extensive, well-preserved, buried, waterlogged, archaeological and paleoenvironmental deposits surviving from earlier landscapes (Cadw/CCW/ICOMOS 1998).

# 2 Assessment methodology

## 3.1 The Guidelines

The most recent guidelines setting out a suggested methodology for historic landscape assessment have been produced by Cadw and CCW, in consultation with the Welsh Archaeological Trusts (Cadw/CCW/Welsh Assembly 2007).

# 3.2 Summary of ASIDOHL2 stages

ASIDOHL2 is structured into five stages, summarised below in Table 1. A concluding statement follows the final stage.

#### Table 1. The ASIDOHL2 process

Stage 1	Compilation of an introduction of essential, contextual information	
Stage 2	Description and quantification of the direct, physical impacts on the HLCAs affected	
Stage 3	Description and quantification of the indirect impacts on the HLCAs affected	
Stage 4	Evaluation of the relative importance of the parts of the HLCAs affected by development in relation to:	
	<ul> <li>a) the whole of the HLCA concerned</li> <li>b) the whole of the Historic Landscape</li> <li>c) the national context</li> </ul>	
Stage 5	Assessment of the overall significance of development, and the effects that altering the HLCAs concerned has on the whole of the Historic Landscape	

# **3.3** Quantification of results

ASIDOHL2 Stages 2-4 involve a grading and scoring process, by which figures can be offered for the direct and indirect impacts, and for the relative importance of the HLCAs (and their individual components) within a local and national context. Leading from this, a similar grading process is followed in Stage 5, producing a single figure for the overall significance of the impact of the proposed development. It is noteworthy that the ASIDOHL2 methodology as it presently stands cannot lead to the expression of positive benefits of a development, the range of impacts being graded from Very Severe to Very Slight.

The basic grading and scoring criteria are reproduced in the tables below. The formulae and working processes leading to the final scores for Stages 2-5 are not replicated here, for they are unnecessary for all but the most specialist reader of this report. The full methodology can be found in the Technical Annex described above (Cadw/CCW/Welsh Assembly 2007).

## 3.4 The ASIDOHL2 Stages

## **Stage 1: Contextual information**

The first stage is to gather essential contextual information that forms the introduction to the report. In addition to information such as the planning history, necessary issues such as the historical background to the area are addressed within the early pages of the present report.

#### **Stage 2: Direct effects**

Direct physical impacts are quantified and expressed in three ways, namely:

- a) in absolute terms, expressed as a percentage of the area of land that is directly affected
- b) in relative terms, expressed as a percentage of key elements that are directly affected
- c) in landscape terms, expressed by statements concerning the extrinsic value of elements that are directly affected

Table 2, below, shows the criteria for assessing the magnitude of the direct physical impacts of a proposed development on an historic landscape in absolute and relative terms – steps (a) and (b) above.

Table 2: Criteria for assessing the magnitude of direct physical impacts on elements of an HLCA

75-100%	permanently lost or removed	Very severe
50-74%	permanently lost or removed	Severe
30-49%	permanently lost or removed	Considerable
15-29%	permanently lost or removed	Moderate
5-14%	permanently lost or removed	Slight
1-4%	permanently lost or removed	Very Slight

The intrinsic importance or status of each element or characteristic affected should also be briefly described, recorded together with a statement of intrinsic importance or status using the categories adopted by the Welsh Archaeological Trusts (that extend those as set out in the Department of Transport/Welsh Office/Scottish Office Design Manual for Roads and Bridges paragraph 3.4 Vol. 11 Section 3 Part 2 (Cultural Heritage):

Category A: national importance

Category B: regional importance

Category C: local importance

Category D: low importance

Category U: unknown

Table 3 shows the criterion for expressing the magnitude of the direct effects of a proposed development in landscape terms – step (c) above. This aspect is considered in two stages. First, the value of each affected element to the HLCA is assessed. Second, the effect of the loss (or partial loss) of that element or characteristic to the HLCA is considered; for example, how much does the loss of element X (or part thereof) diminish the value of Y as a landscape?

<b>Element – value to the HLCA</b>	Landscape value Effect
Very High	Lost
High	Substantially Reduced
Considerable	Considerably Reduced
Medium	Moderately Reduced
Low	Slightly Reduced
Very Low	Very Slightly Reduced

Table 3: Criteria for assessing the magnitude of direct effect on landscape value

Key to the ASIDOHL2 process is its scoring system, by which the overall magnitude on an HLCA can be expressed, detailed in Table 4 below. The scores for each affected element are added together and then the total averaged. To this mean figure is added the score for the magnitude of absolute impact (the total area of the HLCA to be affected). This produces a final figure, which provides a measure of the overall magnitude of direct, physical impacts. Scores are then graded against the 28-point scale shown in Table 5.

Impacts and element sensitivity	Score
Direct physical impacts – absolute	
Very Severe	6
Severe	5
Considerable	4
Moderate	3
Slight	2
Very Slight	1
Direct physical impacts – relative	
Very Severe	6
Severe	5
Considerable	4
Moderate	3
Slight	2
Very Slight	1
Site Category	
A	4
В	3
С	2
D	1
U	1
Direct physical impacts – landscape value	
Very High	6
High	5
Considerable	4
Medium	3
Low	2
Very Low	1
Landscape value effect	
Lost	6
Substantially Reduced	5
Considerably Reduced	4
Moderately Reduced	3
Slightly Reduced	2
Very Slightly Reduced	1

Table 4: Direct physical impacts: grades and scores

#### Table 5: Overall magnitude of direct physical impacts

Score	Grading
24-28	Very Severe
19-23	Severe
14-18	Considerable
9-13	Moderate
4-8	Slight
0-3	Very Slight

#### Stage 3: Indirect effects

Indirect effects are classified by ASIDOHL2 as physical and visual.

Indirect physical effects are categorised as:

- (a) An increased risk of exposure, erosion, disturbance, decay, dereliction or any other detrimental physical change to elements, during or consequent to development.
- (b) Related to (a), the likelihood of increased management needs to maintain elements as, for example, through altered habitats, water levels, increased erosion, new access provision, etc., during or consequent to development.
- (c) The severance, fragmentation, dislocation or alteration of the functional connections between related elements, for example, a field system becomes 'severed' from its parent farmstead by an intervening development.
- (d) The frustration or cessation of historic land use practices, for example, it becomes more difficult or impossible to manage an area in a traditional manner as a result of development.
- (e) The frustration of access leading to decreased opportunities for education, understanding or enjoying the amenity of elements, during or consequent to development.

Indirect (non-physical) visual effects are categorised as:

- (a) Visual impact on elements from which a development can be seen (considered up to its maximum height). Impacts can be on 'views to' or 'views from' elements, and should be assessed with particular reference to key historic viewpoints and essential settings. These should be considered in relation to a site's original character and function, as well as to the vantage points and visual experience of a visitor today. In some cases, key historic viewpoints may no longer be identifiable, but it may be possible to make reasonable assumptions on the basis of archaeological or historical information. Key viewpoints should also include those that have subsequently become acknowledged as such, for example, as depicted in artists' drawings and paintings, or as features on popular routes or trails.
- (b) Impact on the visual connections between related elements, by occlusion, obstruction, etc. For example, an essential line of sight between historically linked defensive sites will become blocked or impaired by an intervening development.
- (c) Conversely, the creation of inappropriate visual connection between elements not intended to be inter-visible originally, by the removal of intervening structures, barriers, shelters, screening or ground.
- (d) Visual impact of the development itself in relation to the existing historic character of the area, considering:

(i) its form – the scale, number, density, massing, distribution, etc. of its constituent features;

(ii) its appearance – the size, shape, colour, fabric, etc. of its constituent features.

For each category of indirect physical or visual impact the magnitude is graded as Very Severe, Severe, Considerable, Moderate, Slight or Very Slight. The assessment of severity is based on professional judgement rather than on fixed criteria. The magnitudes are scored between 6 and 1, according to the scale for direct physical impacts (shown above in the second row of Table 4).

The overall magnitude of indirect impacts are also graded in a similar fashion to the overall magnitude of direct impacts, using the 28-point scale shown in Table 5.

#### Stage 4: Evaluation of relative importance

Stage 4 is concerned with evaluating the relative importance of the part of each HLCA directly or indirectly affected by the development, in relation to:

- (a) the whole of the HLCA
- (b) the whole of the Historic Landscape

followed by an evaluation of:

(a) the relative importance of the HLCA within the national context

The criterion for determining the relative importance or value of the HLCAs and their component elements are as follow:

- Rarity
- Representativeness
- Documentation
- Group value
- Survival
- Condition
- Coherence
- Integrity
- Potential
- Amenity
- Associations

Each criteria is graded as Very High, High, Moderate, Low and Poor. Criteria values in steps (a), (b) and (c) are scored as shown below in Table 6.

Criterion value	Score
Very High/ Good	5
High/ Good	4
Moderate/ Medium	3
Low	2
Very Low/Poor	1

 Table 6: Stage 4 evaluation scores

These scores enable a figure to be calculated that reflects the relative importance of individual HLCA elements and entire HLCAs in the terms of the immediate Historic Landscape and the national context.

The final part of Stage 4 is to determine the average, overall value of all the HLCAs (or parts thereof) affected. This is achieved by combining the scores in steps (a), (b) and (c); once again the calculations are not rehearsed below, but the average overall figure is graded as shown in Table 7.

Score	Grading
80-100	Very High
60-79	High
40-59	Considerable
20-39	Moderate
5-19	Low
0-4	Very Low

Table 7: Stage 4 grades of overall value

#### Stage 5: Assessment of overall significance of impact

This final stage combines the results of Stages 2-4 to produce an assessment of the overall significance of impact of development, and the effects that altering the HLCA (or HLCAs) concerned will have on the whole of the Historic Landscape as identified by the *Register*. This is determined by setting out and scoring the value of the affected HLCAs against the consequent reduction in value caused by the proposed development to the Historic Landscape.

Stage 5 summarises the findings from earlier parts of the process by focussing on three specific issues:

- (a) Impact caused by development (based on Stages 2 and 3 results)
- (b) Value of HLCAs (based on Stage 4 results)
- (c) Reduction of value of the Historic Landscape

Each criterion is graded as Very High, High, Medium, Low or Very Low. Although scoring is used extensively in Stages 2-4, it is not recommended that the scores from these stages are directly combined or 'converted' to determine the Stage 5 score. Rather, judgements are based on professional interpretation and judgement; this approach enables the data to be assessed more flexibly, and for significant 'highs' and 'lows' to be considered, rather than merely the average figures.

The overall significance of impact score is graded as shown in Table 8.

Score	Grading
26-30	Very Severe
21-25	Severe
16-20	Fairly Severe
10-15	Moderate
4-9	Slight
0-3	Very Slight

## Table 8: Stage 5 overall significance of impact

# 3 Historic Landscape Assessment

## 4.1 Introduction

The proposed development is located immediately east of St Mellons, Cardiff, with the development area comprising an area of land measuring 0.802km<sup>2</sup> the entirety of which lies within the Gwent Levels Historic Landscape.

Within the Gwent Levels Historic Landscape, two Historic Landscape Areas (HLCAs) will be directly affected:

Trowbridge (HLCA019)

Rumney (HLCA018)

It is also assessed that four Historic Landscape Areas will be subject to an indirect effect:

Peterstone (HLCA017) abuts the eastern boundary of the development

Marshfield (HLCA020) abuts the eastern boundary of the development

Maerdy (HLCA021)

Western St Brides (HLCA016)

A further 15 HLCAs will be completely unaffected by the development and have therefore been excluded from the assessment except for when determining the overall impact of the development on the entire Registered Landscape.

The relevant HLCA description excerpts for the effected are listed below:

#### Trowbridge (HLCA019)

This landscape was probably created in the medieval period, but after the higher coastal areas were colonised.

There are few documentary references to this area, which was probably used simply for summer pasture and meadow.

#### Key historic landscape characteristics

Regular field pattern of rectangular fields, green lanes, minor agricultural settlement, drainage includes major reens and very fine surface ridging

This landscape occupies part of the lower-lying back-fen area of the Wentlooge Level mainly in the parish of St. Mellons. It borders the Roman landscape of Peterstone to the south (area 17), and area 18 to the west.

This is a very remote area of landscape, consisting of small blocks of rectangular fields, within a framework provided by major reens and minor green lanes. There are no major roads and just one farm. Some very fine areas of surface ridging survive.

Hedges are varied, but being characteristic of the lower-lying parts of Wentlooge, they are often absent; reed filled field ditches with an occasional willow are typical, giving a strongly wetland feel. They afford little screening for the housing and light industrial developments to the north and west. The integrity and coherence as a historic landscape have been damaged, but this area still has a great value. This was an area of fairly typical Wentlooge landscape, comprising long narrow fields, the occasional major reen and an absence of settlement. The surface ridging is particularly well preserved. Piecemeal development has caused some fragmentation, but these areas retain an ecological value and could provide recreational green spaces. They also serve as a "buffer zone" between these developments and the better preserved landscapes to the south.



Figure 3. Trowbridge HLCA019 (blue)

#### Rumney (HLCA018)

This is a landscape typical of piecemeal medieval reclamation, similar to area 15 (Eastern St. Brides).

The manor of Rumney has a wealth of medieval documents relating to sea defences and regulation of the drainage system. A water-mill lay around the mouth of Pill Melyn Reen.

A setting back of the sea wall at Newton, in the late sixteenth century, is one of the few such occurrences to be documented. The wall that was constructed (itself now abandoned) is of great importance (and a Scheduled Ancient Monument).

#### Key historic landscape characteristics

Irregular field pattern of small irregular shaped fields (preserving lines of former tidal creeks), site of medieval water mill, sinuous roads with roadside waste, dispersed settlement with a small hamlet at Newton, seawall

This landscape occupies the higher coastal land to the south-west of Wentlooge, and extends around the lower-lying fen-edge to the north of Pill-du Reen. Areas 7 and 19 lie to the south/east.

The landscape is characterised by small irregular shaped fields, incorporating the meandering lines of former tidal creeks; Pill Melyn is typical, and was used for a medieval water mill. The roads are sinuous and had an abundance of roadside waste. Settlement was dispersed, with a small hamlet at Newton.

This is a landscape typical of the coastal zone of the Levels, containing many landscape features. There has been considerable development, and many of the areas that remain in agricultural use have been greatly improved. The area is also overlooked by housing on surrounding uplands.

Many hedges have been removed, though the lanes tend to be well wooded. The open nature of this landscape affords very little screening for the industrial developments to the north.

However, those areas that have not yet been developed are of great importance as a buffer zone, between visually intrusive developments to the north/west and the well-preserved Roman landscapes to the south/east.



Figure 4. Rumney 018 HLCA (blue)

#### Peterstone (HLCA017)

Archaeological investigations at Rumney Great Wharf, south of Newton Farm in Rumney, have established a Roman date for the laying out of this landscape. Drainage was probably undertaken by Roman legionaries based at Caerleon.

Re-colonisation of the area in the high medieval period led to the establishment of Peterstone village and settlement along Broadstreet Common. The sea wall was moved back in the late medieval period.

Peterstone was owned by St. Augustine's Abbey in Bristol, and this association has found its way into local tradition.

#### Key historic landscape characteristics

Regular landscape of trapezoidal blocks of very long, narrow fields dominate (of possibly Roman origin, street commons (some with farms of medieval origin), drainage features including reens, ditches and grips, seawall (set back)

This landscape occupies the central part of the Wentlooge Level, extending from the higher coastal zone through to the low-lying back-fen. Areas 16 and 21 lie to the east of Broadway Reen. Areas 8/19 lie to the north/west.

This landscape is characterised by trapezoidal blocks of very long, very narrow fields. Several major axial elements include Broadstreet Common, a fine example of an unenclosed street common with farmsteads along its edge set back from the road. The sea wall cuts uncomfortably across the landscape, and the lines of field ditches can be seen cut into the intertidal peat shelf. There is excellent grip survival.

As a surviving example of large-scale Roman reclamation, it is certainly unique in Wales, if not north-west Europe. The homogeneity of large areas, laid out in exceptionally long narrow fields, contrasts with the complex landscape along Broadstreet, where farms of medieval origin are strung out along an unenclosed street common.

The area around Peterstone village, and along Broadstreet Common is fairly wooded. Otherwise, the character area presents quite an open landscape, with many field ditches filled with reeds rather than having hedges. Many areas retain a very strong feeling of a landscape comprised of long narrow fields.

Overall, this landscape is of enormous importance, retaining a high degree of integrity and coherence. On the whole it is in fine condition, having escaped large-scale agricultural improvement. The sea wall affords very good views, though industrial development to the west and urban sprawl to the north does impinge.



#### Marshfield (HLCA020)

This landscape is broadly medieval, though Drenewydd/Percoed Reen could be a Roman drainage feature.

This area, known as "Black Moores", is the lowest-lying in all the Level. Discoveries of prehistoric "bog oaks" from the peat, which lies just below the surface, are explained in local tradition as having been washed there during the floods of 1606.

#### Key historic landscape characteristics

Mixed fieldscape arranged in small blocks of rectangular fields, major and important catchwater drain (Drenewydd/Percoed Reen), parochial centres (Marshfield and Coedkernew) and dispersed fen-edge agricultural settlement

This landscape represents the fen-edge and low-lying back-fen area between Marshfield village in the west and Tredegar Park in the east. It is bounded by Drenewydd/Percoed Reen to the south.

Drenewydd/Percoed Reen appears to be a "catchwater drain"; it collects freshwater from the uplands and channels it into Broadway Reen that flows to the coast. It may be Roman in date, having a close parallel to the Lincolnshire Car Dyke in the English Fenland.

The pattern of fields is very mixed, but mainly they are arranged in small blocks of rectangular fields, rather different to the long narrow fields found to the south. The fen-edge is deeply indented with a series of small valleys, which along with several "islands" of bedrock give some areas the impression of being quite enclosed by the uplands. Recent hedge planting, which would be an asset in area 18 and 19, is totally out of place here.

A number of farms occur around the fen-edge, along with Coedkernew and Marshfield churches.

This is a very open landscape, typical of the low-lying back-fens. Hedges are few, affording fine views of the fen-edge/bedrock margins.

The integrity and coherence of this area are considered to be high. There are relatively few areas of low-lying back-fen surviving where the interface with the fen-edge is preserved. This is a fine example, with a wide range of landscape elements; the churches at Marshfield and Coedkernew, and a series of fen-edge farms overlook it. Drenewydd/Percoed Reen is of great importance to the drainage of the Levels, and possibly Roman in date. The area is largely secluded and quiet, with few developments impinging upon it.



Figure 6. Marshfield HLCA 020 (blue)

#### Maerdy (HLCA021)

The long narrow fields, though superficially similar to the Roman landscape of Peterstone, are of different dimensions. This landscape was created through the enclosure of this block of open moor sometime in the medieval/post-medieval period.

Unfortunately, the creation of this landscape is not documented.

#### Key historic landscape characteristics

Former open moor: regular unified fieldscape of long narrow fields (ie single operation), drainage features mainly reens, dispersed settlement (includes Maerdy - medieval Reeve's house)

This area is intermediate in elevation between the higher coastal lands to the south, and the lowest-lying back-fen to the north. The distinct and well defined block of landscape is bounded by Drenewydd and Percoed Reen to the north (area 20), Broadway Reen (area 17) to the west, and the former fen-banks of St. Brides to the south and east (areas 15 and 16).

This large area can be divided into four blocks of long narrow fields (divided by Horsecroft and Summerway Reens, and Hawse Lane). They represent large areas of open land, enclosed and drained as a single operation. There are two farms; Maerdy was probably founded when the area east of Hawse Lane was enclosed, while Hawse Farm, which lies beside one of St. Brides' fen-banks, may have been responsible for the enclosure of the whole block of landscape to the north. The place-name Maerdy (medieval Reeve's house) is interesting, the location of Maerdy farm is indicative of the formal control of grazing on the formerly open back-fen Moor during the medieval period.

These long narrow fields are characteristic of Wentlooge. The landscape here was created through the enclosure and drainage of a large block of open moor, beyond the old enclosed lands of St. Brides. Two discrete landscapes can be identified, associated with Maerdy and Hawse Farms.

This is a very open landscape, and the reed-filled ditches give a strong wetland feel, typical of the lower-lying back-fen areas.

Overall, the integrity and coherence of this area are extremely high. The two landscapes represent discrete examples of landscape creation. The completeness of these landscapes makes them of great importance. Walking north down Hawse Lane gives the impression of the back-fen being lower than the coastal areas to the south. The area has suffered from agricultural improvement, but remains remote from visually intrusive development; there are fine views of the relatively unspoilt uplands.



30

#### Western St Brides (HLCA016)

The major elements of this landscape are part of the Roman planned system (area 17). However, the pattern of Roman fields was largely replaced in the medieval period.

A small port is documented at Peterstone from at least the sixteenth century. The place name "New Quay Gout" suggests that this may have lain in Peterstone Pill.

#### Key historic landscape characteristics

Regular field pattern of long narrow fields, significant boundaries of probable Roman origin, drainage features include Peterstone Gout, the old sea wall, and a number of fen-banks (some ridgeing/surface drainage also survives), limited linear roadside settlement

This landscape area occupies the higher coastal zone east of Peterstone Gout. It merges with area 15 to the east and Maerdy (area 21) to the north.

The principal elements are two NE-SW oriented boundaries which form continuations of elements in the Roman landscape to the west. However, the small blocks of long narrow fields between these boundaries are of medieval not Roman origin.

To the north of the main road there are a number of sinuous boundaries that represent individual episodes of enclosure in the open back-fen moor; these "fen-banks" were designed to keep freshwater from the low-lying back-fen, from flooding the old enclosed lands towards the coast. Settlements are restricted to the main road. The old sea wall and stone gout structure at Peterstone Gout are well preserved.

This is an interesting landscape, at the edge of the area flooded in the post-Roman period. It is characteristic of the general Wentlooge landscape of long narrow fields and the process of reclamation of lower-lying areas through a sequence of intakes from the open moor.

The western half of this area has been affected by agricultural improvement and the construction of a golf course. Most hedges that survive are scrubby, especially to the south of St. Brides village. Further west the landscape has been extensively remodelled by a golf course and trout farm. Though not visually intrusive, they have destroyed the historic fabric of the landscape by removing many reens and grips.

Overall, the integrity and coherence of the landscape are high to the north/east, but lower to the south/west of this area. The area has suffered from agricultural improvement and the development of a golf course/trout farm complex. These developments are not visually intrusive, and the sea wall still affords fine views of an open landscape. The framework of Roman elements survives intact.



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# 4.2 Assessment of direct impacts on the historic landscape by the proposed development (ASIDOHL2 Stage 2)

The breakdown of the areas within the development red line boundary in relation to the HLCAs is set out below:

Development Area	Total Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Area (km <sup>2</sup> ) in HLCAs
Hendre Lakes	0.802	0.13 in Rumney HLCA018 (no direct impact)
Hendre Lakes	0.802	0.672 in Trowbridge HLCA019

# Assessment of direct physical impacts of the development (ASIDOHL2 Stage 2) Trowbridge (HLCA019)

ASSESSMENT OF DIRECT, PHYSICAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 019				
ABSOLUTE IMPACT (LOS OF AREA)	S			
0.672km <sup>2</sup> of 2.944km <sup>2</sup> , 22.829	6	Moderate – 4		
RELATIVE AND LANDSCAPE IMPACTS (LOSS OF KNOWN CHARACTERISTICS OR ELEMENTS) & SCORES			TICS OR ELEMENTS) &	
ELEMENT / % LOSS	STATUS	MAGNITUDE	LANDSCAPE VALUE	LANDSCAPE VALUE EFFECT
Well preserved drainage features (reens, banks and surface drainage) – 13%	B - 3	Slight – 2	Considerable – coherent water management system – 4	Moderately reduced – 3
Rectilinear field pattern arranged in blocks – 14%	C – 2	Slight – 2	Medium – damaged relict field system – 3	Moderately reduced – 3

# OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF DIRECT PHYSICAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 019

SCORE	GRADING
22	Severe

# **4.3** Assessment of indirect impacts on the historic landscape by the proposed development (ASIDOHL2 Stage 3)

The development has the potential to indirectly affect the eight HLCAs listed in section 4.1. The magnitude of the indirect impact has been calculated through the use of contour mapping, complemented by field visits to each landscape area, taking into consideration the existing vegetation cover and landform and incorporates data gathered as part of the LVI assessments and modelling supplied by the client.

It is considered that the development will have a permanent indirect physical impact on five of these HLCAs.

#### Assessment of indirect visual impacts of the development (ASIDOHL2 Stage 3b)

The proposed development has the potential to indirectly affect five Historic Landscape Character Areas, Rumney (HLCA018), Western St Brides (HLCA016), Peterstone (HLCA017), Marshfield (HLCA020) and Maerdy (HLCA021).

#### Rumney (HLCA018)

ASSESSMENT OF INDIRECT, PHYSICAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 018			
IMPACTS	STATUS & SCORE	MAGNITUDE & SCORE	
Increased risk of exposure, erosion and disturbance during and consequent to development	B-3	Moderate – 3	
Results of increased management needs (habitat, water levels new access provision etc. during and consequent to development	B-3	Moderate – 3	
Severance from Trowbridge HLCA019	B-3	Considerable - 4	
Frustration or cessation of land use patterns	B-3	Moderate - 3	
Frustration of access during or consequent to development	B-3	Moderate - 3	
ASSESSMENT OF INDIRECT, VISUAL		ORIC CHARACTER	
IMPACTS	STATUS & SCORE	MAGNITUDE & SCORE	
Impacts on views	B-3	Moderate – 4	
Impact on visual connection through obstruction, occlusion etc.	B-3	Moderate – 4	
Creation of inappropriate visual relationships	B-3	Moderate- 4	
Impact from the form, scale, density, distribution etc. of the development	B-3	Moderate - 4	
Impact from the size, shape, colour fabric etc. of the development	B-3	Moderate - 4	

#### OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT PHYSICAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 018

# AVERAGE SCORE: 6.2

OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT VISUAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 018

#### **AVERAGE SCORE:** 7

# OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 018

TOTAL SCORE ON 28 POINT SCALE	GRADING
(6.2+7 = 13.2): <u>13.2 x 28</u> = 18.48 = 18	Considerable
20	

#### Western St Brides (HLCA016)

ASSESSMENT OF INDIRECT, PHYSICAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 016			
IMPACTS	STATUS & SCORE	MAGNITUDE & SCORE	
Increased risk of exposure, erosion and disturbance during and consequent to development	B-3	None - 0	
Results of increased management needs (habitat, water levels new access provision etc. during and consequent to development	B-3	None – 0	
Severance from development area	B-3	None - 0	
Frustration or cessation of land use patterns	B-3	None - 0	
Frustration of access during or consequent to development	B-3	None - 0	
ASSESSMENT OF INDIRECT, VISUAL		ORIC CHARACTER	
AREA	A 016	ORIC CHARACTER MAGNITUDE & SCORE Very Slight – 1	
ARE A	A 016 STATUS & SCORE	MAGNITUDE & SCORE	
AREA IMPACTS Impacts on views Impact on visual connection through obstruction, occlusion	A 016 STATUS & SCORE B-3	MAGNITUDE & SCORE Very Slight – 1	
AREA IMPACTS Impacts on views Impact on visual connection through obstruction, occlusion etc.	A 016 STATUS & SCORE B-3 B-3	MAGNITUDE & SCORE         Very Slight – 1         None – 0	

#### OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT PHYSICAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 016

# **AVERAGE SCORE:** 3

OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT VISUAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA :

## **AVERAGE SCORE:** 3.6

# OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 016

TOTAL SCORE ON 28 POINT SCALE	GRADING
(3 + 3.6 = 6.6): <u>6.6 x 28</u> = 11.2 = 11	Moderate
20	
#### Peterstone (HLCA017)

ASSESSMENT OF INDIRECT, PHYSICAI ARE	L IMPACTS ON HIS A 017	TORIC CHARACTER
IMPACTS	STATUS & SCORE	MAGNITUDE & SCORE
Increased risk of exposure, erosion and disturbance during and consequent to development	B-3	Moderate – 3
Results of increased management needs (habitat, water levels new access provision etc. during and consequent to development	B-3	Moderate – 3
Severance from development area	B-3	Considerable - 4
Frustration or cessation of land use patterns	B-3	Moderate - 3
Frustration of access during or consequent to development	B-3	Moderate - 3
ASSESSMENT OF INDIRECT, VISUAL	IMPACTS ON HIST	ORIC CHARACTER
ARE	A 017	
IMPACTS	STATUS & SCORE	MAGNITUDE & SCORE
Impacts on views	B-3	Considerable – 4
Impact on visual connection through obstruction, occlusion etc.	B-3	Considerable – 4
Creation of inappropriate visual relationships	B-3	Severe - 5
Impact from the form, scale, density, distribution etc. of the development	B-3	Considerable - 4
Impact from the size, shape, colour fabric etc. of the development	B-3	Considerable - 4

#### OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT PHYSICAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 017

### AVERAGE SCORE: 6.2

OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT VISUAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 017

**AVERAGE SCORE:** 7.2

# OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 017 TOTAL SCORE ON 28 POINT SCALE GRADING

TOTAL SCOKE ON 28 FOINT SCALE	OKADINO
(6.2 + 7.2 = 13.4): <u>13.4 x 28</u> = 18.76 = 19	Severe
20	

#### Marshfield (HLCA020)

ASSESSMENT OF INDIRECT, PHYSICAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 020					
IMPACTS	STATUS & SCORE	MAGNITUDE & SCORE			
Increased risk of exposure, erosion and disturbance during and consequent to development	B-3	Slight – 2			
Results of increased management needs (habitat, water levels new access provision etc. during and consequent to development	B-3	Slight – 2			
Severance from development area	B-3	Moderate - 3			
Frustration or cessation of land use patterns	B-3	Slight - 2			
Frustration of access during or consequent to development	B-3	Moderate - 3			
ASSESSMENT OF INDIRECT, VISUAL I AREA		ORIC CHARACTER			
IMPACTS	STATUS & SCORE	MAGNITUDE & SCORE			
Impacts on views to the west	B-3	Slight – 2			
Impact on visual connection through obstruction, occlusion etc.	B-3	Slight –2			
Creation of inappropriate visual relationships	B-3	Slight - 2			
Impact from the form, scale, density, distribution etc. of the development	B-3	Slight - 2			
Impact from the size, shape, colour fabric etc. of the development	B-3	Slight - 2			

#### OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT PHYSICAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 020

#### **AVERAGE SCORE:** 5.4

OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT VISUAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 020

**AVERAGE SCORE:** 5

OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 020				
TOTAL SCORE ON 28 POINT SCALE	GRADING			
$(5.4 + 5 = 10.4): 10.4 \ge 28 = 14.56 = 15$	Considerable			
20				

#### Maerdy (HLCA021)

ASSESSMENT OF INDIRECT, PHYSICAL AREA		TORIC CHARACTER
IMPACTS	STATUS & SCORE	MAGNITUDE & SCORE
Increased risk of exposure, erosion and disturbance during and consequent to development	B-3	None - 0
Results of increased management needs (habitat, water levels new access provision etc. during and consequent to development	B-3	Very slight – 1
Severance from development area	B-3	None - 0
Frustration or cessation of land use patterns	B-3	None - 0
Frustration of access during or consequent to development	B-3	None - 0
ASSESSMENT OF INDIRECT, VISUAL I AREA		ORIC CHARACTER
IMPACTS	STATUS & SCORE	MAGNITUDE & SCORE
Impacts on views	B-3	Slight – 2
Impact on visual connection through obstruction, occlusion etc.	B-3	Slight – 2
Creation of inappropriate visual relationships	B-3	Slight – 2
Impact from the form, scale, density, distribution etc. of the development	B-3	Slight – 2
Impact from the size, shape, colour fabric etc. of the development	B-3	Slight – 2

#### OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT PHYSICAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 021

#### AVERAGE SCORE: 3.2

OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT VISUAL IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 021

**AVERAGE SCORE:** 5

#### OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT IMPACTS ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 021

TOTAL SCORE ON 28 POINT SCALE	GRADING
$(3.2 + 5 = 8.2)$ : $8.2 \times 28 = 11.48 = 11$	Moderate
20	

SUMMARY OF OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF DIRECT IMPACT ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREAS					
IMPACT AREA SCORE MAGNITUDE					
HLCA018	26	Very Severe			
All 19 other HLCAS	0				
ABSOLUTE OVERAL	ABSOLUTE OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF DIRECT IMPACT ON COMBINED				
HISTORIC CHARACTER AREAS					
IMPACT         AVERAGE SCORE         MAGNITUDE					
	ON SCALE OF 28				
Combined HLCAs 01 to 021	1.23=1	Very Slight			

SUMMARY OF OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT IMPACT ON HISTORIC CHARACTER AREAS					
IMPACT AREA     SCORE     MAGNITUDE					
HLCA018	18	Considerable			
HLCA016	11	Moderate			
HLCA017	19	Severe			
HLCA020	10	Moderate			
HLCA021	11	Moderate			
All 16 remaining HLCAs	0	None			
ABSOLUTE OVERALL	ABSOLUTE OVERALL MAGNITUDE OF INDIRECT IMPACT ON COMBINED				
HISTORIC CHARACTER AREAS					
IMPACT	AVERAGE SCORE	MAGNITUDE			
	ON SCALE OF 28				
Combined HLCAs	3.28=3	Very Slight			

#### 4.4 Evaluation of relative importance (ASIDOHL2 Stage 4)

By its place in the Register, the Gwent Levels Historic Landscapes (HLW (Gt) 2), is considered to be an outstanding landscape in its entirety. The evaluation of the character areas in a national context therefore 'should not be regarded as down grading of certain areas: it is simply acknowledging that within a landscape that is all of national importance, some areas, characteristics, or elements may well be of greater value than others'.

The guidelines for the evaluation of relative importance, stage 4 of the ASIDOHL2 process, are summarised below. Stage 4 is concerned with evaluating the relative importance of the part of each HLCA directly or indirectly affected by the development, in relation to:

- (a) the whole of the HLCA
- (b) the whole of the Historic Landscape

followed by an evaluation of:

(c) the relative importance of the HLCA within the national context

The criteria used to determine the relative importance, or value, of the historic character areas affected by the development are those established in the 'Guide To Good Practice'; these are based on the following:

- Rarity
- Representativeness
- Documentation
- Group Value
- Survival
- Condition
- Coherence
- Potential
- Integrity
- Amenity
- Associations

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 4: EVALUATION SCORES		
CRITERION VALUE	SCORE	
Very High/Good	5	
High/Good	4	
Moderate/Medium	3	
Low	2	
Very Low/Poor	1	

Criteria values in steps (a), (b) and (c) are scored as follows:

#### Gwent Levels Historic Landscapes (HLW (Gt) 2)

Evaluation of the Relative Importance of the Part of Historic Character Area 016 Western St Brides Affected by the Development in Relation to: (a) the Whole of the Historic Character Area, and (b) the Whole of the Historic Landscape Area on the Register

EVALUATION HISTORIC CHA										
VALUE	VERY HIGH/V	HIGH /GOOD	MOD./ MED.			VERY HIGH/V. GOOD		MOD. / MED.		VERY LOW/ POOR
in relation to:	(a) Wl	HOLE	OF H	ISTOR	IC	(b) WE	IOLE	OF HI	STOR	IC
	СНАБ	RACTE	ER AR	EA		LAND REGIS		E ARE	A ON	THE
RARITY		$\checkmark$						$\checkmark$		
REPRESENTATIVE- NESS			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
DOCUMENTATION			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
GROUP VALUE			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
SURVIVAL			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
CONDITION			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
COHERENCE			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
INTEGRITY		$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$			
POTENTIAL		$\checkmark$						$\checkmark$		
AMENITY			$\checkmark$						$\checkmark$	
ASSOCIATIONS			$\checkmark$				$\checkmark$			

<b>RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE PART OF HISTORIC CHARACTER</b>				
AREA 018 AFFECTED BY DEVELOPMENT				
		A C() 1(1)		

Average score (a) out of	Average score (b) out of 55	Average of (a) and (b)
55		
36	34	35

Evaluation of the Relative Importance of the Part of Historic Character Area 017 Peterstone Affected by the Development in Relation to: (a) the Whole of the Historic Character Area, and (b) the Whole of the Historic Landscape Area on the Register

VALUE	VERY HIGH/V . GOOD	HIGH /GOOD	MOD./ MED.	LOW	VERY LOW/ POOR	GOOD	HIGH / GOOD	MOD. / MED.	LOW	VERY LOW/ POOR
in relation to:	(a) WI CHAF	HOLE RACTE				(b) WE LANDS REGIS	SCAPI			
RARITY	$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$				
REPRESENTATIVE- NESS		$\checkmark$				$\checkmark$				
DOCUMENTATION			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
GROUP VALUE	~					$\checkmark$				
SURVIVAL		$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$			
CONDITION	✓						$\checkmark$			
COHERENCE	✓					$\checkmark$				
INTEGRITY	✓					$\checkmark$				
POTENTIAL	✓							$\checkmark$		
AMENITY			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
ASSOCIATIONS	√					✓				

RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE PART OF HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 019 AFFECTED BY DEVELOPMENT						
Average score (a) out of Average score (b) out of 55 Average of (a) and (b)						
55						
49	47	48				

Evaluation of the Relative Importance of the Part of Historic Character Area 018 Rumney Affected by the Development in Relation to: (a) the Whole of the Historic Character Area, and (b) the Whole of the Historic Landscape Area on the Register

VALUE	VERY HIGH/V . GOOD	HIGH /GOOD	MOD./ MED.	LOW	VERY LOW/ POOR	VERY HIGH/V. GOOD	HIGH / GOOD	MOD. / MED.	LOW	VERY LOW/ POOR
in relation to:	(a) WI CHAR	HOLE RACTE			RIC	(b) WE LANDS REGIS	SCAPI			
RARITY			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
REPRESENTATIVE- NESS		<u> </u>	~					~		
DOCUMENTATION		$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$			
GROUP VALUE			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
SURVIVAL			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
CONDITION				$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$	
COHERENCE				$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$	
INTEGRITY			$\checkmark$						$\checkmark$	
POTENTIAL			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
AMENITY					$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$
ASSOCIATIONS				$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$	

RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE PART OF HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 018 AFFECTED BY DEVELOPMENT						
Average score (a) out of	Average score (b) out of 55	Average of (a) and (b)				
55						
29	28	28.8=29				

Evaluation of the Relative Importance of the Part of Historic Character Area 19 Trowbridge Affected by the Development in Relation to: (a) the Whole of the Historic Character Area, and (b) the Whole of the Historic Landscape Area on the Register

VALUE	VERY HIGH/V . GOOD	HIGH /GOOD	MOD./ MED.	LOW	VERY LOW/ POOR	VERY HIGH/V. GOOD	HIGH / GOOD	MOD. / MED.	LOW	VERY LOW/ POOR
in relation to:	(a) WI CHAF	HOLE RACTE				(b) WE LAND REGIS	SCAPI			
RARITY			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
REPRESENTATIVE- NESS		$\checkmark$						~		
DOCUMENTATION		$\checkmark$						$\checkmark$		
GROUP VALUE				$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$	
SURVIVAL			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
CONDITION			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
COHERENCE				$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$	
INTEGRITY			$\checkmark$						$\checkmark$	
POTENTIAL					$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$
AMENITY					$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$
ASSOCIATIONS					$\checkmark$					✓

RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE PART OF HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 019 AFFECTED BY DEVELOPMENT						
Average score (a) out of	Average score (b) out of 55	Average of (a) and (b)				
55						
27	24	22.5=22				

Evaluation of the Relative Importance of the Part of Historic Character Area 020 Marshfield Affected by the Development in Relation to: (a) the Whole of the Historic Character Area, and (b) the Whole of the Historic Landscape Area on the Register

VALUE	VERY HIGH/V . GOOD	HIGH /GOOD	MOD./ MED.	LOW	VERY LOW/ POOR	VERY HIGH/V. GOOD	HIGH / GOOD	MOD. / MED.	LOW	VERY LOW/ POOR
in relation to:		HOLE				(b) WE LAND REGIS	SCAPI			
RARITY			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
REPRESENTATIVE- NESS		<u> </u>	~					~		
DOCUMENTATION				$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$	
GROUP VALUE			$\checkmark$				$\checkmark$			
SURVIVAL		$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$			
CONDITION		$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$			
COHERENCE		$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$			
INTEGRITY		$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$			
POTENTIAL				$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$	
AMENITY					$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$
ASSOCIATIONS					$\checkmark$				$\checkmark$	ł

RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE PART OF HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 020 AFFECTED BY DEVELOPMENT						
Average score (a) out of	Average score (b) out of 55	Average of (a) and (b)				
55						
31	33	32				

Evaluation of the Relative Importance of the Part of Historic Character Area 021 Maerdy Affected by the Development in Relation to: (a) the Whole of the Historic Character Area, and (b) the Whole of the Historic Landscape Area on the Register

EVALUATION HISTORIC CH										
VALUE	VERY HIGH/V . GOOD	HIGH /GOOD	MOD./ MED.	LOW	VERY LOW/ POOR	GOOD	HIGH / GOOD	MOD. / MED.	LOW	VERY LOW/ POOR
in relation to:	(a) WI CHAF	HOLE RACTE				(b) WE LAND REGIS	SCAPI			
RARITY			$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$		
REPRESENTATIVE- NESS			$\checkmark$				$\checkmark$			
DOCUMENTATION					$\checkmark$				$\checkmark$	
GROUP VALUE		$\checkmark$						$\checkmark$		
SURVIVAL		$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$			
CONDITION		$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$			
COHERENCE	$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$				
INTEGRITY	$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$				
POTENTIAL				$\checkmark$					$\checkmark$	
AMENITY				$\checkmark$						$\checkmark$
ASSOCIATIONS			$\checkmark$						$\checkmark$	

RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF THE PART OF HISTORIC CHARACTER AREA 021 AFFECTED BY DEVELOPMENT						
Average score (a) out of	Average score (b) out of 55	Average of (a) and (b)				
55						
36	34	35				

SUMMARY OF	SUMMARY OF AVERAGE OVERALL VALUES FOR HISTORIC						
CHARACTE	CHARACTER AREAS AFFECTED BY THE DEVELOPMENT						
Historic Character Area	Average value converted to a scale of 1-100						
HLCA016	63.6 (High)						
HLCA017	82.2 (Very High)						
HLCA018	52.7 (Considerable)						
HLCA019	40 (Considerable)						

60.06		High			
Average overall value		Grading			
Average Overall value, or combined evaluation figure for stage 4					
HLCA021	63.6 (High)	63.6 (High)			
HLCA020	58.1 (Considerabl	58.1 (Considerable)			
TILCA019	40 (Considerable)	)			

# 4.5 Assessment of the overall significance of the impact of the development (ASIDOHL2 Stage 5)

This section assesses the overall significance of impact of development and the effects that altering the historic character areas concerned will have on the whole of the historic landscape area on the Register. This final stage combines the results of Stages 2 to 4 to produce an assessment of the overall significance of impact of development and the effects that altering the historic character area(s) concerned has on the whole of the historic landscape area on the Register. This is determined by setting out and scoring the value of the character area(s) affected in relation to the effect caused by development and the consequent reduction in value of the historic landscape area on the Register. The results are set out in the following tables:

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 5: SUMMARY OF THE OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT ON LANDSCAPE OF HISTORIC INTEREST 'HLCA 016'		
VALUE OF CHARACTER AREA (Based on STAGE 4 results)	IMPACT CAUSED BY DEVELOPMENT (Based on STAGES 2 & 3 results)	REDUCTION OF VALUE OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPE AREA ON REGISTER
<b>High</b> Key elements of high intrinsic importance and/or condition and/or group value and/or not found elsewhere in this or other historic landscape areas on the Register	<b>Very Low</b> Marginal land loss and consequent fragmentation and/or visual intrusion causing negligible changes to elements and their values	<b>Very Low</b> Development impact on key elements is such that the value of the historic landscape area on the Register remains essentially unchanged.
SCORE: 7	SCORE: 1	SCORE: 1
TOTAL SCORE: 9	OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT: Slight	

#### Gwent Levels (HLW (Gt) 2)

Western St Brides in an interesting landscape with identifiable medieval elements. Integrity and coherence are high to the north east but lower to the south west. Whilst the framework for Roman elements survives, the western aspects of the landscape, closest to the development, have been remodelled by a golf course and fish farm complex. The distance of the area from the development ensures minimal impact.

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 5: SUMMARY OF THE OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT ON LANDSCAPE OF HISTORIC INTEREST 'HLCA 017'		
VALUE OF CHARACTER AREA (Based on STAGE 4 results)	IMPACT CAUSED BY DEVELOPMENT (Based on STAGES 2 & 3 results)	REDUCTION OF VALUE OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPE AREA ON REGISTER
Very High Key elements of very high intrinsic importance and/or condition and/or not found elsewhere in this or other historic landscape areas on the Register	Medium Moderate land loss and consequent fragmentation and/or visual intrusion causing some key elements to be removed or changed so that the group value and/or coherence and/or integrity are diminished and/or amenity value reduced.	Medium Development impact on key elements is such that there is some, but still appreciable, reduction in the overall value of the historic landscape area on the Register.
SCORE: 10	SCORE: 6	SCORE: 4
TOTAL SCORE: 20	OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT: Fairly Severe	

Peterstone is a highly significant landscape exhibiting a high degree of integrity and coherence. As a surviving example of Roman reclamation, it is unique in Wales and possibly Northwest Europe. It has escaped large scale agricultural improvement and has been spared much development. The landscape area will not be directly affected but part of the north west boundary of Peterstone is adjacent to the development area, and there is no question that the scale of the development will have a notable indirect effect on the northern part of HLCA 017. This is only tempered by the fact that the majority of the landscape is located further south.

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 5: SUMMARY OF THE OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT ON LANDSCAPE OF HISTORIC INTEREST 'HLCA 018'		
VALUE OF CHARACTER AREA (Based on STAGE 4 results)	IMPACT CAUSED BY DEVELOPMENT (Based on STAGES 2 & 3 results)	REDUCTION OF VALUE OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPE AREA ON REGISTER
<b>Low</b> Key elements of low to moderate importance and/or condition and/or group value, and/or of generally low significance in this or other historic landscape areas on the Register.	<b>Low</b> Slight land loss and consequent fragmentation and/or visual intrusion causing limited numbers of key elements to be removed or changed so that the group value and/or coherence and/or integrity are slightly diminished and/or amenity value slightly reduced.	<b>Low</b> Development impact on key elements is such that there is slight reduction in the overall value of the historic landscape area on the Register.
SCORE: 3	SCORE: 3	SCORE: 3
TOTAL SCORE: 9	OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT: Slight	

Rumney is a relatively developed landscape and whilst it is a typical example of piecemeal medieval enclosure, the removal of many original hedgerows has created a landscape that has few visual barriers to development. The eastern boundary of HLCA018 lies within Project Site but will not be developed and the sense of the landscape being a buffer will only be enhanced by the scale of the development in that area. Despite this, the majority of the Rumney HLCA is located further away, reducing the indirect impact.

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 5: SUMMARY OF THE OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT ON LANDSCAPE OF HISTORIC INTEREST 'HLCA 019'		
VALUE OF CHARACTER AREA (Based on STAGE 4 results)	IMPACT CAUSED BY DEVELOPMENT (Based on STAGES 2 & 3 results)	REDUCTION OF VALUE OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPE AREA ON REGISTER
<b>Low</b> Key elements of low to moderate importance and/or condition and/or group value, and/or of generally low significance in this or other historic landscape areas on the Register.	High Substantial land loss and consequent fragmentation and/or visual intrusion causing key elements to be removed or changed so that group value and/or coherence and/or integrity are significantly diminished, and/or amenity value greatly reduced.	<b>High</b> Development impact on key elements is such that the overall value of the historic landscape area on the Register is significantly reduced.
SCORE: 3	SCORE: 8	SCORE: 8
TOTAL SCORE: 19	OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT: Fairly Severe	

Trowbridge is a fragmented landscape in which the integrity and coherence has been compromised. Whilst some surface ridges relating to water management features (reens and grips) have survived well, piecemeal development has caused fragmentation. The development will be sited fully within this HLCA, occupying just over 22% of the area and the impact is therefore necessarily substantial. Whilst the archaeological potential is unknown, the landscape is probably more significant for its ecological significance.

ASIDOHL2 STAGE 5: SUMMARY OF THE OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE		
OF IMPACT ON LANDSCAPE OF HISTORIC INTEREST 'HLCA 020'		
VALUE OF CHARACTER	IMPACT CAUSED BY	REDUCTION OF VALUE OF
AREA	DEVELOPMENT	HISTORIC LANDSCAPE AREA
(Based on STAGE 4	(Based on STAGES 2 & 3 results)	ON REGISTER
results)		
Medium	Very Low	Very Low
Key elements of varying	Marginal land loss and consequent	Development impact on key elements is
intrinsic importance and/or	fragmentation and/or visual	such that the value of the historic
condition and/or group value	intrusion causing negligible changes	landscape area on the Register remains
and/or generally typical of	to elements and their values.	essentially unchanged.
this or other historic		
landscape areas on the		
Register		
		~~~~
SCORE: 6	SCORE: 1	SCORE: 1
TOTAL SCORE: 8	OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT: Slight	

Marshfield is a mostly medieval landscape but may contain Roman elements. It comprises mostly fenland, used to drain water from the uplands and is a fine example of a surviving fen characterised by surrounding churches and fen edge farms. There will be no direct effect from the development and recent hedge planting (which is considered a negative feature in its characterisation) may help to screen the HLCA from the development to the west.

#### ASIDOHL2 STAGE 5: SUMMARY OF THE OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT ON LANDSCAPE OF HISTORIC INTEREST 'HLCA 021'

VALUE OF CHARACTER AREA (Based on STAGE 4 results)	IMPACT CAUSED BY DEVELOPMENT (Based on STAGES 2 & 3 results)	REDUCTION OF VALUE OF HISTORIC LANDSCAPE AREA ON REGISTER
<b>High</b> Key elements of high intrinsic importance and/or condition and/or group value and/or not found elsewhere in this or other historic landscape areas on the Register	Very Low Marginal land loss and consequent fragmentation and/or visual intrusion causing negligible changes to elements and their values.	<b>Very Low</b> Development impact on key elements is such that the value of the historic landscape area on the Register remains essentially unchanged.
SCORE: 7	SCORE: 1	SCORE: 1
TOTAL SCORE: 9	OVERALL SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPACT: Slight	

Maerdy is a discrete medieval and Post-medieval landscape of extremely high integrity and coherence. There is a wetland feel to the landscape and the long, narrow fields are typical of Wentlooge. The openness of the Maerdy landscape means that the development may have an indirect visual effect as there is little in the way of screening present. However, the distance between the Maerdy landscape and the development, combined with the flat topography of the area will help to reduce the indirect visual impact.

#### Summary of loss through development impact

The development will have a 'Severe' direct impact on one Historic Landscape Character Area (Trowbridge 019), and an indirect, visual impact on five HLCAs of the Registered Gwent Levels Landscape.

Using the methodology for ASIDHOL2, it is considered that the development will have a 'Fairly Severe' overall impact on two HLCAs, and a 'Slight' overall impact on four HLCAs. The overall impact on the Gwent Levels Historic Landscape is considered to be 'Slight'.

# 4 ASIDOHL2 Concluding Statement

The ASIDOHL2 process has assessed the impacts of the development as currently proposed on the historic landscapes as they presently stand and based on existing knowledge.

The proposed development comprises an area of land measuring 0.802km<sup>2</sup> the entirety of which lies within the Gwent Levels Historic Landscape. The entire Gwent Levels Historic Landscape has an area of 106.9km<sup>2</sup>, therefore the maximum overall area which could be directly affected by the proposal represents 0.75% of the entire area on the register (based on the red line boundary).

Despite the fact that the development area comprises a very small portion of the overall landscape, the overall significance of the impact of the development on the Gwent Levels (HLW (Gt) 2) landscape of outstanding historic interest is considered to be 'Slight' rather than 'Very Slight'. This reflects the fact that whilst the footprint has little overall direct effect, in terms of footprint, the scale of the development will have a disproportionate effect on six Character areas located in the west of the overall Registered Landscape, whilst the remaining 15 HLCAs will be unaffected.

The proposed development will involve a 'Severe' direct effect on HLCA019 Trowbridge. The development area represents over 22% of the landscape character area and little can be done to mitigate the loss of the landscape itself. However, the use of strategies such as historic hedgerow survey, geophysical survey, evaluation test pitting and archaeological watching brief will mitigate against the loss of the archaeological receptors in the area as discussed in the accompanying ES Chapter.

The overall indirect effect of the development can be partly mitigated by the use of appropriate screening measures to limit the indirect impacts. Historic hedgerows located to the west of Faendre Reen, within the red line boundary, will be retained and this will provide significant screening of the development from the west. Similarly, there are sufficient hedgerows and groups of trees to the north and east of the development area, outside the red line boundary, that can provide screening. The addition of new proposed hedgerows close to the east boundary of the Project Site would be a welcome addition. Combined with the flat topography, such measures should limit the visual impact of the development from short to medium distances.

The scale of the proposed development, in particular the heights of buildings, will make visual screening problematic from locations to the south of the development area, and from distances further away. It will be impossible, for example, to hide the development from the relative openness of the Southern Mitigation Area (part of the Trowbridge HLCA) and the adjoining Peterstone HLCA 017. Although increasing distance and the relative lack of elevated vantage points within the landscape will partly reduce the visual impact, as might the judicious use of materials and designs coloured to less visually intrusive, the scale and form of the development will still be obvious from these southern aspects.

#### References

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Dabal, D and Lewis-Jones, S, 2018, Land at St Mellons, Cardiff: Desk Based Assessment, GGAT Report No.2018/030

Welsh Assembly 2017, *Planning Policy Wales, Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment*, Welsh Assembly

Welsh Assembly 2018, Planning Policy Wales, Edition 10, Welsh Assembly

# Appendix I

#### Historic Landscape Characterisation

The historic characterisation for the Gwent Levels (HLW (Gt) 2) Historic Landscape can be found at:

http://www.ggat.org.uk/cadw/historic\_landscape/Gwent%20Levels/English/GL\_Main .htm. Accessed August 2019.

# Appendix II Photographic Catalogue



Plate 1. View to east from Cypress Drive (Rumney HLCA) into the mid point of the development area.



Plate 2. View from the edge of the development area into a residential part of the Rumney HLCA. Note the low elevation of housing.



Plate 3. View to south into development area from Trowbridge HLCA. Note extensive tree screen forming the west boundary with Rumney HLCA (right of Photo)



Plate 4. North view from edge of development area towards northern part of Trowbridge HLCA. Note raised road levels and low elevations of light industrial units.



Plate 5. View to south west across the development area from the edge of the Peterstone HLCA



Plate 6. View to the west across the development area, taken from the Green Lane rail bridge.



Plate 7. View across the southern mitigation area from the Green Lane rail bridge. View to south west. Note the open nature of the landscape in this area.



Plate 8. View to the south west over the southern mitigation area. Once again, note the open nature of the landscape.



Plate 9. View from Heol Las in Peterstone HLCA, looking north west towards the development area.



Plate 10. View to the north west from Peterstone HLCA. The development would be largely screened by distance and hedgerows.



Plate 11. View to the north west towards the development area from the junction of Maerdy and Western St Brides HLCA. Effective screening is provided by trees and distance.



Plate 12. View to west towards development area from a rail bridge south of Marshfield.



Plate 13. View to the east from the edge of Blacktown, Marshfield. The hedged provide effective screening of the development area.