

RUMNEY GREAT WHARF, THE GWENT LEVELS: ARCHAEOLOGICAL FORESHORE SURVEY



Dyfed Archaeological Services,
a contracting arm of Heneb – The Trust for
Welsh Archaeology
For: Natural Resources Wales



Archaeoleg Dyfed
Heneb
Dyfed Archaeology

**HENEB – DYFED ARCHAEOLOGY
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**RUMNEY GREAT WHARF,
THE GWENT LEVELS:
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FORESHORE SURVEY**

By

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Client	Natural Resources Wales
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Event Record No E008170

Report No	2024-32
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Report Prepared By	Luke Jenkins
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Fieldwork Undertaken By Luke Jenkins and Phil Poucher

Illustrated By	Luke Jenkins
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**RUMNEY GREAT WHARF,
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dyfed Archaeological Services were commissioned to undertake an archaeological foreshore survey ahead of ground works associated with the Rumney Great Wharf Habitat Restoration Polders Enhancement Project. No significant archaeological features, deposits or finds were identified as a part of this project.

CRYNODEB GWEITHREDOL

Comisiynwyd Gwasanaethau Archaeolegol Dyfed i gynnal arolwg archeolegol o'r blaendraeth cyn y gwaith ddaear sy'n gysylltiedig â Phrosiect 'Rumney Great Wharf Habitat Restoration Polders Enhancement.' Ni nodwyd unrhyw nodweddion, dyddodion na darganfyddiadau arwyddocaol archeolegol fel rhan o'r prosiect hwn.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Proposals and Commission

- 1.1.1 Dyfed Archaeological Services, a contracting arm of Heneb—the Trust for Welsh Archaeology, were commissioned by Natural Resources Wales to undertake an archaeological foreshore survey ahead of development works associated with Rumney Great Wharf Habitat Restoration Polders Enhancement Project. The project aims to restore and enhance saltmarsh habitats along the Rumney Great Wharf, located within the Severn Estuary.
- 1.1.2 The project seeks to re-establish and protect priority saltmarsh habitats along the Rumney Great Wharf by installing polders and extending the polder system to the west. Polders are fences constructed of brushwood materials inserted between chestnut fence posts in a rectangular pattern across the mudflat at an appropriate height to facilitate accretion of sediment (c.3m below Mean High Water Springs – MHWS).
- 1.1.3 The Gwent Levels registered historic landscape (Cadw: HLW (Gt) 2) comprises a large area of wetlands and alluvial plains along the northern edge of the Severn estuary. The area has been further sub-divided into Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCA), which reflect different patterns of historic land use which are distinct from one another in terms of their settlement, drainage systems, agriculture, and archaeological potential.
- 1.1.4 The Gwent Levels is described by Cadw as an area of “uniquely rich archaeological and historical resource in Wales, and certainly of international importance and significance”. The area is known to have been occupied for thousands of years. In prehistoric periods it is known to be a marshland in with evidence of occupation in some areas as early as the Mesolithic (circa. 10,000-4400 BC). During later prehistoric periods islands formed allowing for more intensive activity through the Bronze Age (2400-750 BC) and Iron Age (circa. 750 BC and 43 AD). By the end of prehistoric times the area had become inundated with salt water with significant work to reclaim the land undertaken in the Roman period (circa. 43 AD – 410 AD). The area continued to be used for pasture through historic times with more intensive forms of drainage being added over time.
- 1.1.5 A foreshore survey is designed to detect any visible archaeological remains present on the foreshore and assess their character and archaeological potential. It also assesses the potential impacts that the proposed development may have on any known or unknown archaeological features in order that these impacts can be mitigated against.
- 1.1.6 The survey area extended for approximately 1.5km along the foreshore in the area immediately to the east of Rumney Great Wharf on the Gwent Levels. The survey was undertaken by Luke Jenkins and Phil Poucher on the 1st of May 2023.
- 1.1.7 The foreshore survey involved the systematic walkover of the area, identifying, examining, and recording any structures, features, layers or significant find scatters present in the area of investigation. An unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) was used both to obtain an overview of the wider survey area and to access areas in which access was not possible because of safety concerns.
- 1.1.8 No new archaeologically significant features, remains or deposits were identified during this project. Nor was any mitigation or exclusion zones suggested.

1.2 Aims and Objectives

1.2.1 The aims and objectives of the foreshore survey were:

- To record any visible archaeological remains;
- To assess the character and state of preservation, and record the location of any archaeological features within the survey area;
- To collect further information on any known archaeological remains from the Historic Environment Record (HER), National Monument Record (NMR) and historic map sources.
- To assess what impact any development might have on any archaeological remains;
- To provide information that may be used in the formulation of an appropriate mitigation strategy.

1.3 Abbreviations

1.3.1 All sites recorded on the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) are identified by their Primary Record Number (PRN) and located by their National Grid Reference (NGR). Sites recorded on the National Monument Record (NMR) held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) are identified by their National Primary Record Number (NPRN). Listed Buildings (LB). Altitude is expressed to a height above Ordnance Datum (aOD). References to cartographic and documentary evidence and published sources will be given in brackets throughout the text, with full details listed in the sources section at the rear of the report.

1.4 Illustrations

1.4.1 Printed map extracts are not necessarily reproduced to their original scale. North is towards the top of the page unless otherwise indicated.

1.5 Timeline

1.5.1 The following timeline gives date ranges for the various archaeological periods that may be mentioned within this report.

Table 1: Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales.

Period	Approximate date	
Palaeolithic –	c.450,000 – 10,000 BC	Prehistoric
Mesolithic –	c. 10,000 – 4400 BC	
Neolithic –	c.4400 – 2300 BC	
Bronze Age –	c.2300 – 700 BC	
Iron Age –	c.700 BC – AD 43	
Roman (Romano-British) Period –	AD 43 – c. AD 410	Historic
Post-Roman / Early Medieval Period –	c. AD 410 – AD 1086	
Medieval Period –	1086 – 1536	
Post-Medieval Period ¹ –	1536 – 1750	
Industrial Period –	1750 – 1899	
Modern –	20th century onwards	

¹ The post-medieval and Industrial periods are combined as the post-medieval period on the Regional Historic Environment Record as held by Dyfed Archaeological Trust

*Rumney Great Wharf,
The Gwent Levels:
Archaeological Foreshore Survey*



Figure 1: Location map. Supplied by client.

2. LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

2.1 Site Location

- 2.1.1 Rumney Great Wharf is located on the banks of the Gwent Levels overlooking the Severn Estuary. It is located 2.4km to the east of the Rumney and 6km from the centre of Cardiff.
- 2.1.2 The Gwent Levels registered historic landscape (Cadw: HLW (Gt) 2) comprises of a large area of wetlands and alluvial plains along the northern edge of the Severn estuary. The area has been further sub-divided into Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCA), which reflect different patterns of historic land use which are distinct from one another in terms of their settlement, drainage systems, agriculture, and archaeological potential.
- 2.1.3 The foreshore survey area was a 1.5km length of foreshore (Figure 1). This represented the intertidal zone between the high and low water marks, evident as a mixture of mudflats lower in the tidal range, and saltmarsh closer to the shore. The proportion of the survey area which was either salt marsh or mudflat varied significantly across the survey area. To the north, where the area has benefitted from previous polder schemes, designed to trap sediments it was entirely salt marsh. The southern part of the scheme which has not benefitted from such a scheme was mostly mudflats.
- 2.1.4 The northwestern part of the survey area was bounded by Rumney sea wharf. An earlier iteration of this sea wharf was located shortly to the southwest and is a scheduled monument (Cadw: GM474). As a part of a previous scheme of coastal defences the eroding shoreline has been reinforced with rock wall defence. The land behind this large boulder wall was rough pastureland defined by large drainage channels.

2.2 Site Geology

- 2.1.1 The underlying bedrock geology of the site Mercia Mudstone Group - Mudstone. Sedimentary bedrock formed between 252.2 and 201.3 million years ago during the Triassic period. The bedrock is overlain by Tidal Flat Deposits - Clay, silt, and sand. Sedimentary superficial deposit formed between 11.8 thousand years ago and the present during the Quaternary period (BGS 2024).



Photograph 1: Oblique aerial photograph of foreshore survey area.
Looking northeast.



Photograph 2: Showing former coastal defence made of large boulders
with pasture above and saltmarsh beneath. Rumney Great Wharf (Cadw:
GM474) stands to the rear right.

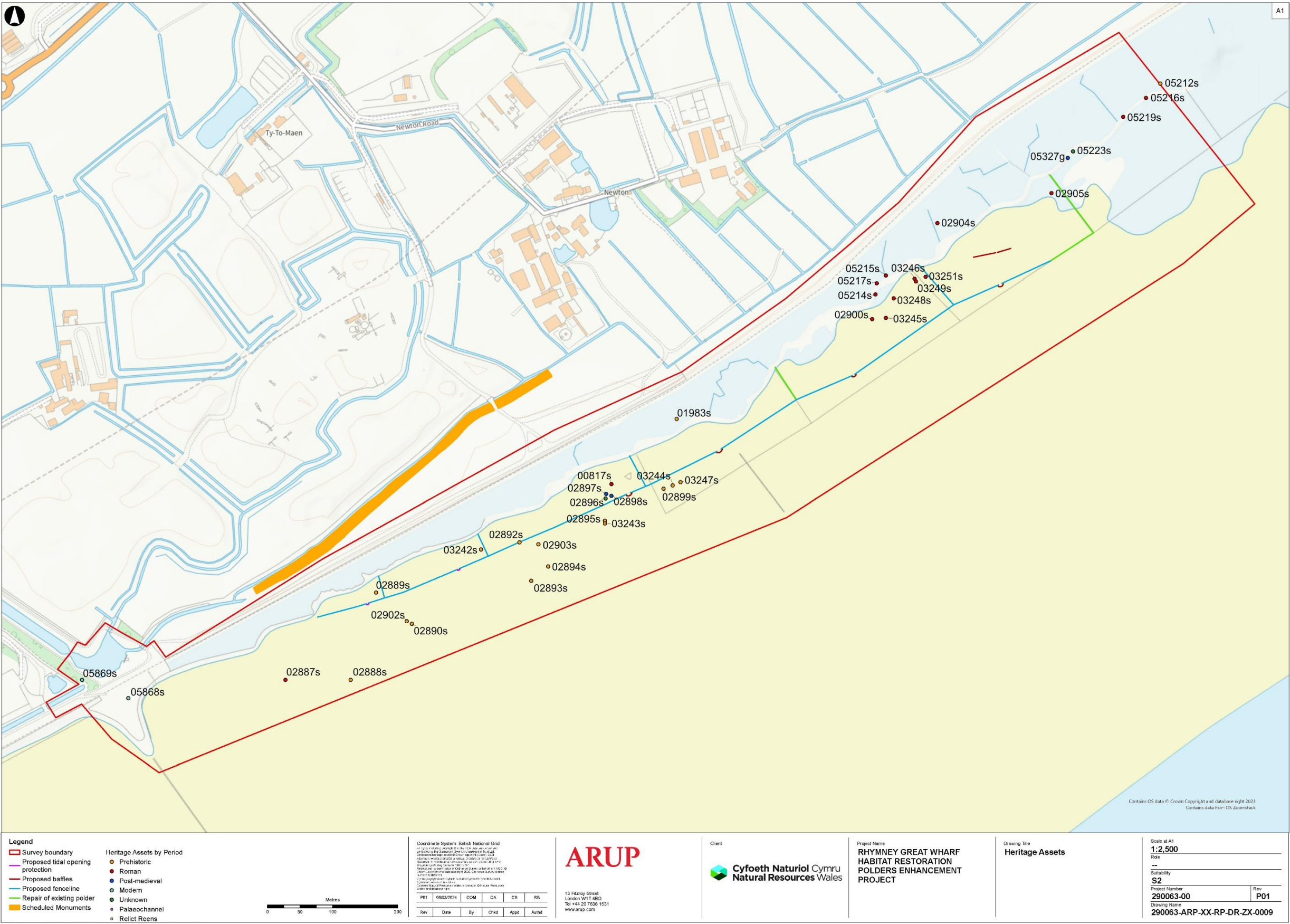


Figure 2: Showing foreshore survey area outlined in red showing non-designated heritage assets. Modified from plan provided by client.

Table 2: Non-designated heritage assets within the foreshore survey area (shown in Figure 2).

PRN	Site Description	Period	Grid Reference
00817s	Thin Roman occupation layer comprised of fragments of pottery, coal, and iron - slag, found at depth of 60cms from the present surface of the exposed mud - cliff. Series of ditches, surveyed and part-excavated by Fulford, Allen and Rippon as Site A (Source 06). Mainly filled by Rumney Formation, but some filled with Wentlooge Formation and capped by Wentlooge Paleosol; only datable material roundwood, giving dates of 180±90 BP (date of Rumney Formation), and 2950±110 BP, 2260±80 BP, and 2450±90 BP.	Roman	ST2478
01983s	Timber circle about 20ft across. Feature noted by the farmer may have been a round-house.	Prehistoric	ST241781
02395s	On the Wentlooge surface below the erosion face a number of features were noted. These included lines of the relic reens (2394S) and three rectangular areas c2m wide by several metres long (2395S). The rectangular pits(?) were separated by narrow baulks. The surface of the pits consisted of burnt material including ash, mixed in patches with blue/grey clay.	Prehistoric	ST245784
02887s	Roman linear drainage ditch at Rumney in Trowbridge (Locock 1998). The feature cut into middle Wentlooge Formation peat and clay.	Roman	ST235777
02888s	Archaeological assemblage comprises pot and jar of coarse grey pottery and cattle bone recorded in Cadw Coastal Archaeology Survey (Locock 1998). Finds were discovered within middle Wentlooge Formation palaeochannel during a field survey (Bell et al. 2000). Artifacts date to Bronze Age (Bell et al. 2000; Locock 1998).	Bronze Age	ST236777
02889s	Artefacts assemblage at Rumney in Trowbridge found during the field survey. The assemblage comprises 67 very fragmentary pottery sherds, bones and fire cracked- stones and dates to Bronze Age.	Bronze Age	ST23639778 34
02890s	Prehistoric wooden structure comprises 5 stakes surrounding a small peat island 0.6 in diameter (site referred to as Rumney-4 in Bell et al. 2000). The five stakes formed area 1.6m x 1.4m. The one stake lifted had a pointed end. The site was given value criteria of B (regional importance) and an erosion class of 3 (medium) (Locock 1998).	Prehistoric	ST23686777 90
02892s	Cattle hoofprints near palaeochannel discovered within middle Wentlooge Formation peat date to Prehistoric times (site referred to as RU-15 in Bell et al. 2000).The site was given value criteria of B (regional importance) and an erosion class of 3 (medium) (Locock 1998).	Prehistoric	ST23859779 11

*Rumney Great Wharf,
The Gwent Levels:
Archaeological Foreshore Survey*

02893s	Prehistoric feature found during the survey in 1996: an outline of peat within the underlying estuarine clay defined a square c 1m by 1m (Locock 1998, and referred to as RU-16 in Bell et al. 2000). Similar feature (02894s) was recorded to the north-east (Bell et al. 2000). The site was given value criteria of B (regional importance) and an erosion class of 3 (medium) (Locock 1998)	prehistoric	ST23877778 52
02894s	Prehistoric feature located during the survey in 1996: an outline of peat within the underlying estuarine clay defined a square c 1m by 1m (Locock 1998, and referred to as RU-17 in Bell et al. 2000). Square post setting had two small round-wood posts located along one side and the peat extended at least 0.07m vertically into the clay (Bell et al. 2000). A similar feature (02893s) but without wooden posts was recorded to the north-east (Bell et al. 2000). The site was given value criteria of B (regional importance) and an erosion class of 3 (medium) (Locock 1998).	prehistoric	ST23903778 74
02895s	A late Bronze Age wooden structure at Rumney in Trowbridge (referred as to Rumney 3.1 in Bell et al. 2000). A small roundhouse constructed of split oak posts, c 5 m diameter, recorded next to a tidal creek at Rumney. The youngest part of one post was dated to 3080 ± 60 PB (Beta-46951, 1460-1210 Cal BC). It was given a value criteria of B (regional importance) and an erosion class of 3 (medium) (Locock 1998).	Bronze Age	ST23990779 44
02896s	Stone strew at Rumney in Trowbridge recorded in Cadw Coastal Archaeology Survey (Locock 1998). Stone strew in form of scattered limestone blocks discovered near a wooden medieval structure (referred to as RU-18 in Bell et al. 2000). It was given a value criteria of C (local importance) and an erosion class of 3 (medium) (Locock 1998). Green (1995, 103) describes how stones were landed on the foreshore for repair to seawalls and the construction of new docks in the mid-nineteenth century. The stone cargo would be offloaded onto the foreshore at low tide and some of strews may be unused stone piles, what left of larger piles or perhaps ballast jettisoned from ships which became stuck on the mud (Bell et al. 2000).	Unknown	ST23991779 78
02897s	Post-medieval wooden structure at Rumney in Trowbridge. The feature is a L-shaped double row of upright wooden stakes embedded in greenish-grey silts of the Wentlooge Formation. The rows that form its long arm are 0.7-0.8m apart and trend roughly southwest-northeast over about 8m, before curving gently through almost a right-angle toward the head of the inlet.	post-Medieval	ST23992779 85
02898s	Rectangular pits cut through the peat shelf into the underlying clays have been recorded at Rumney. The seven pits fill at Rumney comprise silt clasts, concretion sand and laminae of peat detritus	multi- period	ST24000779 82
02899s	Hearth-like feature at Rumney in Trowbridge recorded within the peat c 100m northwest of the roundhouse. It consists of an area of discoloured clay, burnt stone and charcoal concentration on the Mesolithic surface (referred to as Rumney-7.1 in Bell et al. 2000). Similar features (03244s and 03247s) were recorded to the north-east (Bell et al. 2000). The feature was recorded as BCS (Board of Celtic Studies) survey. It was given value criteria of B (regional importance) and an erosion class of 3 (medium) (Locock 1998).	Mesolithic	ST24080779 93

*Rumney Great Wharf,
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02900s	Roman ditch at Rumney in Trowbridge (site referred to Rumney-B1 in Bell et al. 2000; Ditch X in Allen and Fulford 1986). Ditch parallel with the shore joins the larger ditch 03245s. Roman assemblage from the fill of the ditch comprises pottery, bones, clay, daub and iron ore; artefacts found in upper Wentlooge Formation ditch fill of Romano- British date. The site was given a value criteria of C (local importance) and an erosion class of 3 (medium) (Locock 1998).	Roman	ST24400782 53
02902s	Wooden structure at Rumney in Trowbridge of prehistoric date. Feature in form of 16 split timbers surrounding 1.6m by 1m area.	Prehistoric	ST23694777 86
02903s	Wooden structure at Rumney in Trowbridge (Rumney-5 in Bell et al. 2000) of prehistoric date. Feature in the form of a double row of 4 split timbers across palaeochannel (Neumann & Bell 1997). It was recorded as BCS (Board of Celtic Studies) survey (Bell et al. 2000). The feature was given value criteria of B (regional importance) and an erosion class of 3 (medium) (Locock 1998).	Prehistoric	ST23888779 08
02904s	Roman pottery findspot at Rumney in Trowbridge. Finds recorded in palaeochannel and moved to Newport Museum.	Roman	ST245784
02905s	Romano-British ditch in Rumney, Trowbridge. The ditch contained Romano-British collection of artefacts comprises bones, stones, charcoal and burnt wood.	Roman	ST24675784 46
03243s	Bronze Age pot sherds of black gritty fabric.	Bronze Age	ST23997794
03244s	Hearth-like feature at Rumney, Trowbridge recorded within the peat c 100m northwest of the roundhouse (Bell et al. 2000). A roughly circular, area 0.9m in diameter, shallow depression consists of charcoal concentration and burned clay (Bell et al. 2000). The feature was recorded on the Mesolithic surface (Bell et al. 2000). Similar features (02899s and 03247s) were recorded to the south-west and north-east (Bell et al. 2000). The feature was recorded as BCS (Board of Celtic Studies) survey (referred to as Rumney-7.2 in Bell et al. 2000). It was given value criteria of B (regional importance) and an erosion class of 3 (medium) (Locock 1998)	Mesolithic	ST24094779 98
03245s	Roman ditch at Rumney in Trowbridge (referred to as Rumney- B.3 in Bell et al. 2000; and Ditch VI in Allen and Fulford 1986). The ditch lies at right angle to the coast and it is joined by the two shore-parallel trenches (02900s and 03248s). The ditch is of very variable width, averaging 1.9m.	Roman	ST24421782 55
03246s	Iron-working site at Rumney in Trowbridge. The large quantities of slag, associated mostly with Romano-British pottery, were found on the site referred to as Rumney- C in Bell et al. 2000; and Ditch VII in Allen and Fulford 1986. The assemblage comprises also fragments of hearth/furnace lining, iron ore and coal (Allen and Fulford 1986). The nature of the slag suggests that smelting as well as smithing took place on the site (Allen and Fulford	Roman	ST24465783 15

	1986). Locock has given the site a value criteria of C (local importance) and an erosion class of 3 (medium) (Locock 1998).		
03247s	Hearth-like feature at Rumney, Trowbridge recorded within the peat c 100m northwest of the roundhouse. Similar features (02899s and 03244s) were recorded to the south-west (Bell et al. 2000). A shallow depression consists of concentration of charcoal recorded on the Mesolithic surface during excavations in 1993 (referred to as Rumney-7.3 in Bell et al. 2000). The feature was recorded as BCS (Board of Celtic Studies) survey. It was given value criteria of B (regional importance) and an erosion class of 3 (medium) (Locock 1998).	Mesolithic	ST24106780 03
03248s	Roman ditch at Rumney in Trowbridge (referred to as Rumney- B.3 in Bell et al. 2000; and Ditch XI in Allen and Fulford 1986). Short ditch parallel with the shore which joins the larger ditch 03245s. The collection of 20 sherds from the ditch fill includes an example of body sherd of second-century Samian, body sherds of Dorset BB1 and local grey ware (Allen and Fulford 1986). The site was given a value criteria of C (local importance) and an erosion class of 3 (medium) (Locock 1998).	Roman	ST24433782 85
03249s	Romano-British occupation site at Rumney in Trowbridge. Site located on the headland to the northwest of the site referred to as Rumney- C in Bell et al. 2000. Finds assemblage recovered from the site comprises the upper jaw of a young pig and limb bones of cervical vertebrae of three sheep found in association with charcoal fragments and a sherd (Allen and Fulford 1986). The site was given a value criteria of C (local importance) and an erosion class of 3 (medium) (Locock 1998).	Roman	ST24467783 11
03251s	Ditch containing assemblage of fire-cracked stone, bones and Roman pottery found at Rumney in Throwbridge.	Roman	ST24482783 18
05212s	Two sherds and one animal tooth contained in horizon at Rumney Great Wharf. 1 Black Burnished ware and 1 greyware.	Roman	ST24894786 11
05214s	Roman ditch found during walkover at Rumney Great Wharf. There were upper fills of burnt material, bone and greyware sherds (Tuck, 2004).	Roman	ST24405782 91
05215s	Sherd of Roman Oxford mortarium found during walkover survey at Rumney Great Wharf.	Roman	ST24421783 20
05216s	Roman Oxford mortarium rim sherd found during walkover survey at Rumney Great Wharf.	Roman	ST24872786 06
05217s	Roman sherds of greyware found during walkover survey at Rumney Great Wharf. 2nd to 3rd century with scored zigzags for neck decoration (Tuck, 2004).	Roman	ST24407783 08

05219s	Roman pottery sherds, 7 Black Burnished and greyware. Also, one animal tooth. All found during Walking survey at Rumney Great Wharf (Tuck, 2004)	Roman	ST24820785 92
05223s	Undated whetstone found during walkover survey at Rumney Great Wharf. Three polished faces, with pecking marks on forth face.	Unknown	ST24708785 10
05327g	The site comprises sea defences set within alluvial deposits to the east of Cardiff. Sea defence improvements both at Middle Newton Farm and Wentlooge have affected this site; which was surveyed near Middle Newton Farm showing little variation in the profile of the sea wall. Near Wentlooge, three phases of the bank construction were identified; they were identified as clay interspersed with beach deposits, and all were of a Post-medieval date (Williams 1996).	Post medieval	ST24707850
05868s	A sluice which first appears on the Second Edition Ordnance Survey Map. It is square and sited just outside the sea defences. A sewage pipe is marked nearby on this map, and it is possible that the two may be linked. The sluice had gone by the Third Edition, although the pipe remained, this time with a small building constructed over one end. (Davis 2016)	Modern building	ST23259776 72
05869s	A small rectangular building, constructed over a sewage pipe. First appearing on the Third Edition (1919) OS map. It remained visible until sometime between 1963 and 1971.	Modern building	ST23188777 00

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 Designated Heritage Assets

3.1.1 There are no designated heritage assets within the foreshore search area. However, the site is located within the Gwent Levels Registered Historic Landscape (Cadw: HLW (Gt) 2) and is immediately to the south of the 'Relict seawall on Rumney Great Wharf' scheduled monument (Cadw: GM474) (Figure 1).

3.1.2 The Gwent Levels is described by Cadw as an area of

"uniquely rich archaeological and historical resource in Wales, and certainly of international importance and significance". The area is known to have been occupied for thousands of years. In prehistoric periods it is known to be a marshland in with evidence of occupation in some areas as early as the Mesolithic (circa. 10,000-4400 BC). During later prehistoric periods islands formed allowing for more intensive activity through the Bronze Age (2400-750 BC) and Iron Age (circa. 750 BC and 43 AD). By the end of prehistoric times the area had become inundated with salt water with significant work to reclaim the land undertaken in the Roman period (circa. 43 AD – 410 AD). The area continued to be used for pasture through historic times with more intensive forms of drainage being added over time.

3.1.3 The 'Relict seawall on Rumney Great Wharf' is described by Cadw as:

"The monument consists of a seawall. The relict seawall is 540m in length and lies behind the modern seawall on Rumney Great Wharf. Documentary evidence shows this length of wall to have been set back in 1591 and much of the surviving clay bank may be original. The wall stands between 1m to 2m high on the seawall side and 3.2m high on the landward side. It is 6m to 7m wide at the base and 2m at the top. There are three styles of stone revetment at its western end and two modern breaches near its eastern end where a cast-iron estate marker survives. The monument is of national importance for its potential to enhance our knowledge of coastal defences. It retains significant archaeological potential, with a strong probability of the presence of associated archaeological features and deposits. The structure itself may be expected to contain archaeological information concerning chronology and building techniques. The scheduled area comprises the remains described and areas around them within which related evidence may be expected to survive."

3.1.4 A full summary of the previous works undertaken with the foreshore survey area was produced in a technical note produced by Arup (Arup file reference: 290063-ARP—00-RP-RP-NX-0016) so is not reproduced here. A considerable amount of archaeological work has also been undertaken in the area by the former Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust.

3.1.2 Consultation with Cadw has established there would not be any harm to the scheduled monument from the construction to the south of the scheduled area. Nor would it be likely to significantly effect the setting or character of the .

3.2 Non-designated Heritage Assets (Figure 2 and Table 2)

- 3.2.1 the majority of the recorded heritage assets within the survey areas were recorded by the former Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust in 2004 (Tuck 2004), mostly located within the eroding section of alluvial silts along the sea front and the gullies and channels that formed along its length.
- 3.2.2 There are 37 recorded heritage assets within the foreshore survey area. Six records have been discounted as they were general records or duplications.
- 3.2.3 All of these heritage assets are recorded on the Historic Environment Record (HER) maintained by Glamorgan Gwent Archaeology, part of the Henneb - The Trust for Welsh Archaeology. Many of the records were duplicated on the National Monuments Record (NMR) maintained by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales. Consequently, these records have also been discounted.
- 3.2.4 Three of the records date to the Mesolithic between 10,000 – 4400 BC (PRN 02899s, 03244s, 03247s). All three were small hearth's consisting shallow scoops filled with charcoal in shallow depressions located in the middle part of the survey area.
- 3.2.5 Four of these records date to the Bronze Age (PRNs 02895s, 02888s, 02889s, 03243s). PRN 02895s consists of a structure described as "a small roundhouse constructed of split oak posts, c 5 m diameter" This structure is associated with a cluster of records in the centre of the foreshore survey area described as either Bronze Age or prehistoric including other possible structures and cattle hoof prints. The remainder of the records describe finds spots again clustered around the centre part of the survey area (PRNs 02888s, 02889s, 03243s).
- 3.2.6 There is a single record dating to the Iron Age within the foreshore survey area (PRN 03242s). The feature was an area of baked silt, likely the remnant of a hearth.
- 3.2.7 There are 8 records described as prehistoric. Most of these records are situated around the centre of the survey area. The 'prehistoric' records are mostly structural including wooden posts, possible roundhouses and occupation areas. The exception to this is PRN 02892s, which is recorded as prehistoric cattle hoofprints. When considered together with Bronze Age remains, they represent the remains of a well reserved prehistoric occupation area.
- 3.2.8 Sixteen records refer to Roman finds. Of these the majority refer to drainage ditches associated with substantial amount of drainage work undertaken during Roman times, occupation layers or to finds spots. Two records are of particular interest. Firstly, (PRN 03249s) located to the northeastern part of the survey area which is recorded as a likely Romano- British occupation area, and secondly, (PRN 03246s) located in the same area recorded as an area of Iron working.
- 3.2.9 No Medieval finds were recorded within the foreshore survey area.
- 3.2.10 There are two post-Medieval records within the survey area. One is a modern record of the current sea defence scheme (PRN 05327g), the second is a small L-shaped wooden structure of unknown use (PRN 02897s).
- 3.2.11 The remaining records are of post-medieval, modern or unknown date and include ditches, a paleochannel, wooden structures, sea defences and pits.

4 METHODOLOGY

4.1 Fieldwork Methodology

- 4.1.1 A foreshore survey is designed detect any visible archaeological remains present on the foreshore and assess their character and archaeological potential. This will inform the creation of exclusion zones around archaeological features which should be protected prior to construction.
- 4.1.2 The survey area consisted of an approximately 1.5km length of the foreshore on the northern edge of the tidal Severn Estuary. The current foreshore has previously been reinforced with a boulder wall, beyond which lie extensive mud flats.
- 4.1.3 The mud flats, presented a significant health and safety risk and prevented access to parts of the development area with known and unknown archaeological remains.
- 4.1.4 Consequently, two forms of survey were undertaken:
- A site walkover survey of all accessible areas.
 - A photographic UAV survey of all inaccessible areas.

Site Walkover Survey

- 4.1.5 A site walkover survey is designed to identify and record any known or unknown archaeological features within the development area. It involved:
- A systematic walkover of the development area for any unknown archaeological features. It also located, where possible, any known heritage assets within the development area.
 - The accurate recording of the location of any identified archaeological features using an accurate GNSS system.
 - The production of a written record on a proforma sheet identifying the details and dimensions of each identified archaeological feature. Effort was taken to characterize any features not previously identified.
 - The production of a detailed photographic record. Each photograph used an appropriate scale, with a plan annotated to show its location. Photographs should also be taken of the wider development area and its setting.
 - Where appropriate a UAV survey was used to enhance the record of the site walkover survey through aerial photography.

Drone Survey

- 4.1.6 The UAV survey was mostly be confined to areas not accessible by foot due to health and safety considerations. It involved:
- a systematic flyover of all inaccessible parts of the development area to identify any unknown archaeological remains, if present.
 - It located any known inaccessible archaeological features within the development area.
 - The production of a detailed photographic record using the UAV of any archaeological features identified. These photographs were 'geotagged' with their location. Photographs of the setting of each archaeological feature, as well as the wider development area was included.
 - The production of a written record on a proforma sheet was undertaken. This was to the best quality possible given the limitations of UAV survey.
 - Where appropriate a 3D model of any significant archaeological remains was generated. This was only be undertaken in circumstances where a 3D model was thought to significantly the record of the archaeological remains.

4.1.7 The Gwent Levels are also an area of significant ecological interest as a habitat for over-wintering birds. Although the UAV survey was undertaken in early May avoiding the winter period, restrictions on the flight designed to minimize the impact upon ecologically sensitive areas was devised. This included:

- A take-off and landing zone well away from the mudflats to avoid low flight over sensitive areas. This location was decided on site to ensure it is suitable and safe.
- A minimum flight height of 30m above ground level to ensure no birds are disturbed in ecologically sensitive areas.
- Not flying directly overhead above large gatherings of birds where possible.

4.1.8 All works utilizing a UAV were undertaken in accordance with Dyfed Archaeological Services operations manual (versions 0.20) by an appropriately qualified operator.

4.2 Timetabling of Fieldwork

4.2.1 Fieldwork was undertaken on the 1st of May 2024. The weather was overcast with occasional sun.

4.3 Post-Fieldwork Reporting and Archiving

4.3.1 All data recovered during the fieldwork will be collated into a site archive if it meets the requirements of the Henneb-Dyfed Region archive retention policy (2018). The site archive will be structured in accordance with the specifications in Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation (Brown 2011), and the procedures recommended by the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth. The National Standards for Wales for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives produced by the Federation of Museums and Art Galleries of Wales will also be adhered to. Digital archives will be collated using the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales systems (2015) and deposited with the RCAHMW. The Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs) shall be followed.

4.3.2 A Data Management Plan (DMP) for this project (Appendix I) was produced in accordance with the Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives (CIfA 2014, updated 2020).

4.3.3 A report fully representative of the results of the fieldwork has been prepared.

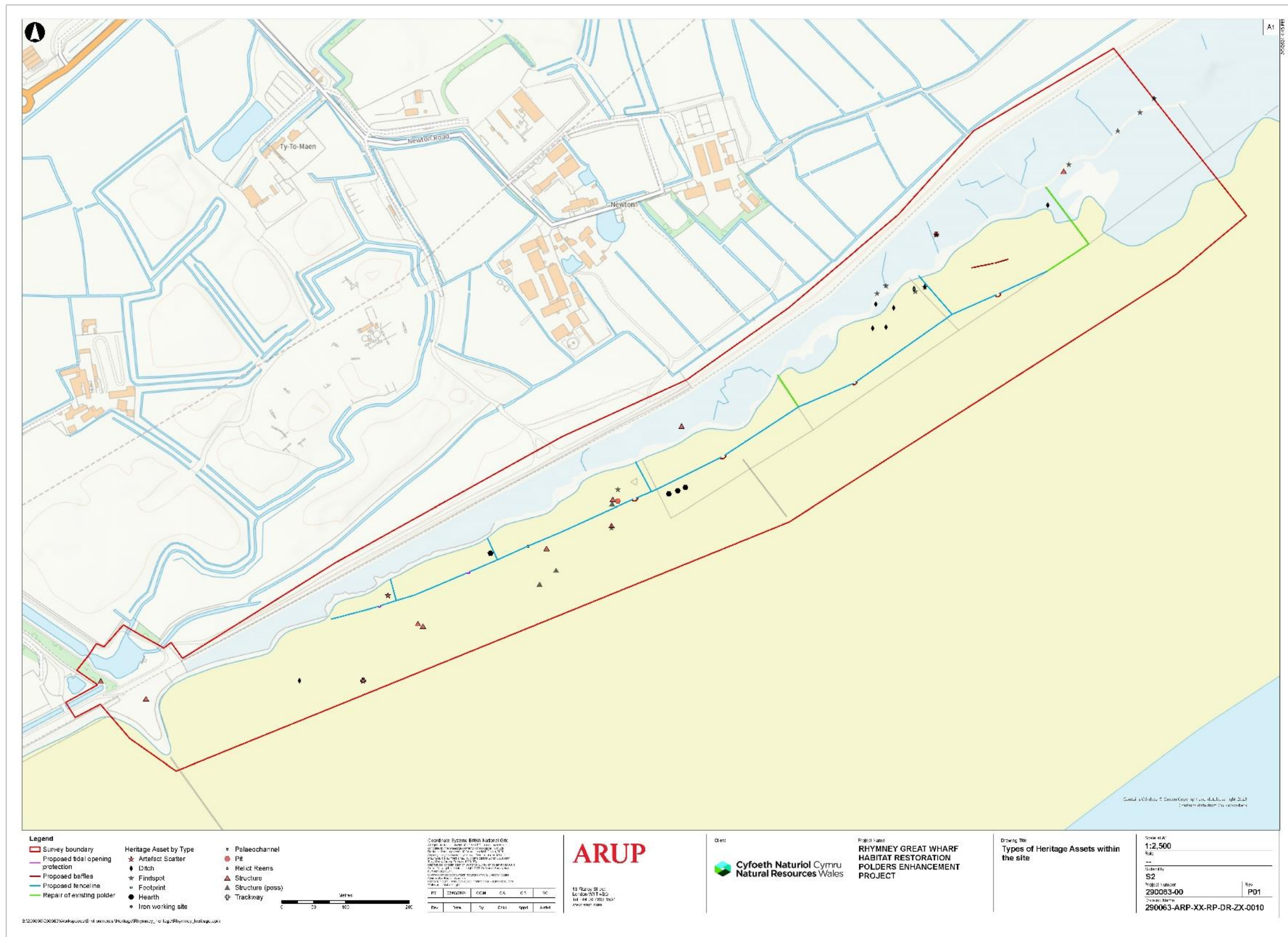


Figure 3: Foreshore survey area, with known archaeological remains listed by feature type. Supplied by client.

5. FORESHORE SURVEY RESULTS (Figure 3)

- 5.1 The archaeological foreshore survey was undertaken on the 1st of May 2024 by Luke Jenkins and Phil Poucher (Photo 3).
- 5.2 The southwestern end of foreshore survey area is adjacent to the 16th century 'Relict seawall on Rumney Great Wharf' scheduled monument (Cadw: GM474) (Figure 3, Photos 4 and 5). This lies behind the current sea defences and will not be affected by the development plans.
- 5.3 The foreshore survey area itself is fronted northeast by southwest by an early 20th century sea 'wharf' (Figure 3, Photo 6). This 'wharf' consists of a roughly trapezoidal mound approximately 30m wide and 5m high. Along its top is a rough rubble path which today is used as a footpath.
- 5.4 Behind this 20th century sea wharf is a large area of wetlands and alluvial plains typical of the Gwent Levels. This area is the result of extensive land reclamation in historical times and today has been intensively drained for use as pasture (Photo 7).



Photograph 3: Showing foreshore survey area. Looking northeast.



Photograph 4: Highlighting in red the 'Relict Seawall Rumney Great Wharf' scheduled monument (Cadw: GM474) behind the modern sea defences. Looking northeast.



Photograph 5: Showing 20th century sea wharf running along northwestern edge of survey area (red). Looking northeast.



Photograph 6: Showing southern end of 20th century sea wharf. Looking northeast.



Photograph 7: Alluvial plains extending beyond the sea defences. Looking north.

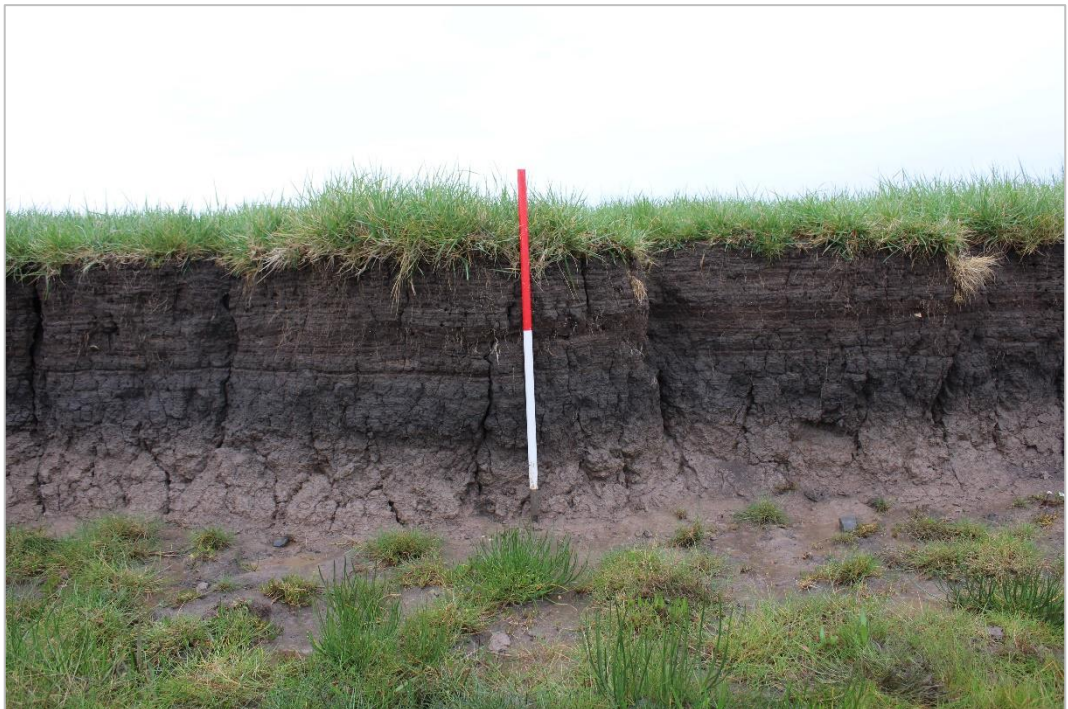
- 5.5 The alluvial silts on the seaward side of the 20th century sea wharf were eroding significantly until a recent sea defence scheme was implemented. This involved the installation of a rock armour and geotextile matting along the naturally eroding edge in 2004 (Photos 8 and 9).
- 5.6 As a part of this project Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust undertook an archaeological assessment of the area (Tuck 2004). Most of the known archaeological remains within the foreshore survey area were recorded during this work.
- 5.7 The archaeological remains recorded in this archaeological assessment were mostly located within the eroding section along the sea front and the gullies and channels that formed along its length. This ties with our understanding that the alluvial plains present to the northwest are the product of significant land reclamation projects through historic times.
- 5.8 These silts measure between 2m and 4m in depth and contain the majority if not all significant stratified archaeological remains recorded within the foreshore area (Photo 10). These alluvial silts have been generally protected by the rock armour wall, but the silts are vulnerable in a few areas, most notably at the northern end of the foreshore survey area, beyond the rock armour wall scheme where there is still an exposed section (Photo 10), and in a few areas along the length of the wall where water has got behind the rock armour wall allowing the silts to erode.
- 5.9 Care should be taken in any areas in which the rock armour defences have been damaged or are missing to avoid damaging these exposed areas. Nevertheless, they are not thought to be threatened by the proposed development plans.



Photograph 8: Showing 20th century wharf outlined in red and the modern rock armour wall in yellow. Looking southwest.



Photograph 9: Rock armour wall protecting alluvial silt deposits. Looking southeast. Looking southwest.



Photograph 10: Showing exposed section of alluvial silts at northern end of the scheme. Looking west, 1m scale.

- 5.10 The area beyond the rock armour wall is mostly mudflats sitting directly on the Mercia Mudstone bedrock beneath (Photos 11 and 12). The mudflats themselves vary significantly and are the subject of constant deposition and erosion. They are mostly composed of alluvial wash from the Severn estuary.
- 5.11 Potentially any archaeological material present within the mudflats could be the result of erosion of the alluvial silts described above before the installation of the rock armour wall. The potential for surviving stratified archaeological remains in the area of the mudflats is suggested to be low considering the continual erosion and deposition of silts in this area.
- 5.12 The northeastern part of the foreshore survey area has been subjected to a polder scheme to encourage the formation of saltmarsh (Photos 13 and 14). The area within this earlier polder scheme is now an established salt marsh with the polders serving to trap silt, raising the area and allowing salt marsh to form. The silts retained in this area are of very modern origin. Consequently, the chances of disturbing archaeological remains is again thought to be extremely low.
- 5.13 Consequently, the potential of finding archaeological stratified deposits both in the mudflats and the salt marsh is thought to be negligible. The possibility of stray finds is a possibility, however, much of their significance would have been lost with their context.
- 5.14 All of the locations of previously recorded archaeological remains were visited during the foreshore survey. No evidence of these heritage assets was visible on the day of the survey, as the majority were apparent in the alluvial silts now obscured by the rock armour wall or are now covered by salt marsh or the deposition and erosion of silt across the mudflats.



Photograph 11: Showing extensive mudflats beyond modern sea defences. Looking southwest.



Photograph 12: Showing mudflats beyond modern sea defences. Looking northwest.



Photograph 13: Showing area subjected to previous polder scheme allowing the formation of salt marsh. Looking southwest.



Photograph 14: Showing salt marsh developing behind previous polder scheme. Looking southeast.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1 An archaeological foreshore survey was undertaken by Dyfed Archaeological Services on 1st of May 2020 at Rumney Great Wharf on the Gwent Levels ahead of development works associated with the Rumney Great Wharf Habitat Restoration Polders Enhancement Project.
- 6.2 The foreshore survey recognised that the foreshore at Rumney Great Wharf had been subjected to several phases of sea defence construction both in historical and modern times. The most recent sea defence, a rock armour wall protects the alluvial silts known to contain significant archaeological deposits.
- 6.3 It is likely that the Polders Enhancement Project could significantly improve the protection afforded to the alluvial silts at the southern end of the scheme, reducing the chance of the rock armour defences failing and the archaeologically significant alluvial silts being eroded away.
- 6.4 No exclusion zones or archaeological mitigation is suggested during the construction works. However, effort should be made to avoid areas in which the alluvial silts are not protected by the rock armour wall.
- 6.5 No new significant archaeological features, deposits, or remains were identified during the foreshore survey with the areas of salt marsh or mudflats. None of the previously identified heritage assets in these areas were visible on the day of the survey, but that is unsurprising given the rapidly changing environment of the mudflats or the areas of new salt marsh that could well obscure below ground archaeological remains.
- 6.6 Whilst this project did not identify any mitigation measures or exclusion zones, it is thought to be a good template on how to monitor archaeological works or access the archaeological potential of an area where traditional forms of recording or monitoring are not possible.

8 SOURCES

Database

Dyfed Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record

RCAHMW National Monuments Record

Published

Cadw. 1998. *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales*. Cardiff: Cadw

CIfA. 2014. *Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment*. Available at: http://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/CIfAS%26GDBA_3.pdf [Accessed 14.05.2020]

Tuck. 2004 *Rumney great Wharf, Rumney, Cardiff Archaeological Assessment*. GGAT report number 2004/035

Welsh Government. 2017. *Planning Policy Wales: Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment*. Cardiff: Cadw. Available at: <http://gov.wales/docs/desh/policy/170531tan-24-the-historic-environment-en.pdf> [Accessed 14.05.2020]

Welsh Government. 2017a. *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales*. Cardiff: Cadw. Available at: <http://cadw.gov.wales/docs/cadw/publications/historicenvironment/20170531Setting%20of%20Historic%20Assets%20in%20Wales%2026918%20EN.pdf> [Accessed 14.05.2020]

Websites

Google Earth Maps satellite imagery. [Accessed 14.12.20]

British Geological Survey mapping portal. Available at: <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> [Accessed 07.12.20]

Natural Resources Wales LiDAR Composite Dataset. Available at: <http://lle.gov.wales/Catalogue/Item/LidarCompositeDataset/?lang=en> [Accessed 07.12.20]

APPENDIX I:

RUMNEY GREAT WHARF, THE GWENT LEVELS

**WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION
ARCHAEOLOGICAL FORESHORE SURVEY**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by Dyfed Archaeological Services (the contracting arm of Heneb - Dyfed Archaeology) following commission by Natural Resources Wales. The scheme is for an archaeological foreshore survey ahead of the works for the Rumney Great Wharf Habitat Restoration Polders Enhancement Project. The project aims to restore and enhance saltmarsh habitats along the Rumney Great Wharf, located within the Severn Estuary.
- 1.2 The project seeks to re-establish and protect priority saltmarsh habitats along the Rumney Great Wharf by installing polders and extending the polder system to the west. Polders are fences constructed of brushwood materials inserted between chestnut fence posts in a rectangular pattern across the mudflat at an appropriate height to facilitate accretion of sediment (c.3m below Mean High Water Springs – MHWS).
- 1.3 The site is located within the Gwent Levels Registered Historic Landscape (Cadw: HLW (Gt) 2) and is immediately to the south of the 'Relict seawall on Rumney Great Wharf' scheduled monument (Cadw: GM474) (Figure 1). Consultation with Cadw has established there would not be any harm to the scheduled monument from the construction to the south of the scheduled area. Therefore, the works detailed in this WSI focus on the registered landscape and the archaeological features which are integral to it.
- 1.4 The Gwent Levels registered historic landscape (Cadw: HLW (Gt) 2) comprises of a large area of wetlands and alluvial plains along the northern edge of the Severn estuary. The area has been further sub-divided into Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCA), which reflect different patterns of historic land use which are distinct from one another in terms of their settlement, drainage systems, agriculture and archaeological potential.
- 1.5 The Gwent Levels is described by Cadw as an area of "uniquely rich archaeological and historical resource in Wales, and certainly of international importance and significance". The area is known to have been occupied for thousands of years. In prehistoric periods it is known to be a marshland in with evidence of occupation in some areas as early as the Mesolithic (circa. 10,000-4400 BC). During later prehistoric periods islands formed allowing for more intensive activity through the Bronze Age (2400-750 BC) and Iron Age (circa. 750 BC and 43 AD). By the end of prehistoric times the area had become inundated with salt water with significant work to reclaim the land undertaken in the Roman period (circa. 43 AD – 410 AD). The area continued to be used for pasture through historic times with more intensive forms of drainage being added over time.
- 1.6 A full summary of the archaeological potential of the Gwent levels was produced in a technical note produced by Arup (Arup file reference: 290063-ARP—00-RP-RP-NX-0016) so is not reproduced here. A considerable amount of archaeological work has also been undertaken in the area by Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust.

- 1.7 As the site is located in the inter-tidal zone, coastal erosion is ever present with features of various date emerging and disappearing as time passes. Therefore, at different times previously recorded heritage assets may no longer be visible whilst new remains may emerge.
- 1.8 The scheme is not thought likely to permanently affect the setting of any known heritage assets. However, physical impacts during the construction period are a possible consequence. The aim of the archaeological foreshore survey is to identify any known or previously unrecorded archaeological features. This will inform the creation of exclusion zones around archaeological features which should be protected prior to construction.
- 1.9 This written scheme of investigation provides a method statement for this archaeological foreshore survey as well as the appropriate reporting and archiving. Due to ecological and safety considerations not all the site is accessible, where this is the case, alternative methods, particularly UAV survey will be utilized.
- 1.10 The WSI is in accordance with the Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014, updated 2019 & 2020). Dyfed Archaeological Services has considerable experience of this type of project and always operates to best professional practice.
- 1.11 All works utilizing a UAV will be undertaken in accordance with Dyfed Archaeological Services operations manual (versions 0.20) by an appropriately qualified operator.
- 1.12 Dyfed Archaeological Services have their own Health and Safety Policy, and all works are covered by appropriate Employer's Liability and Public Liability Insurances. Copies of can be made available on request.
- 1.13 Dyfed Archaeological Services are a Registered Organisation with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA).
- 1.14 Dyfed Archaeological Services staff are CSCS² certificated.

² *Construction Skills Certification Scheme (Health and Safety Tested)*

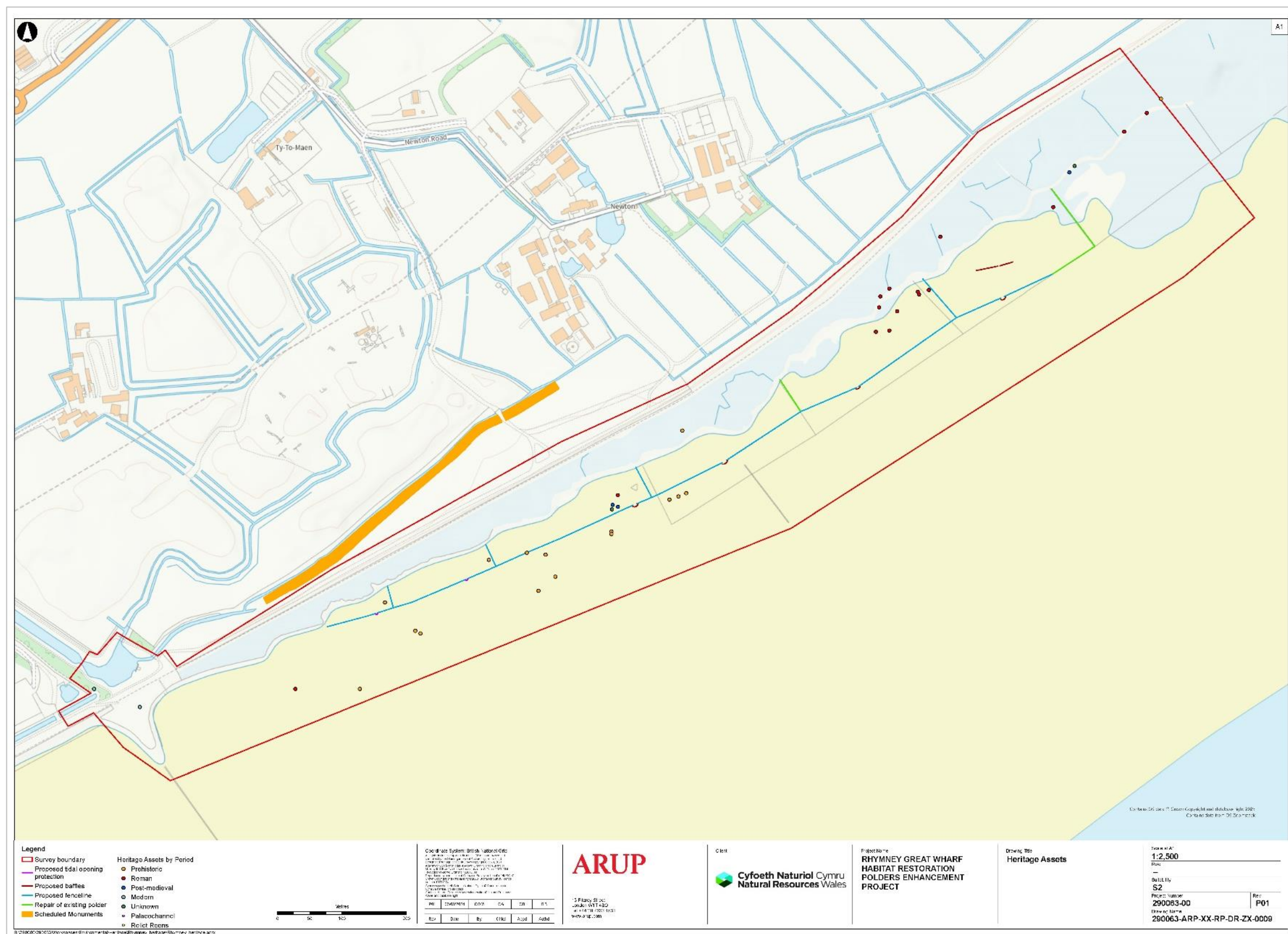


Figure 1: Plan showing development area and known heritage assets (provided by Arup).

2 AIM AND OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT

2.1 This document provides a scheme of works for:

The implementation of a scheme of archaeological foreshore survey associated with the Rumney Great Wharf Habitat Restoration Polders Enhancement Project. A report shall be prepared on the results of the archaeological foreshore survey and an archive created.

2.2 The following tasks will be completed:

- Provision of a written scheme of investigation to outline the methodology for the archaeological survey which the appointed archaeological contractor will undertake (this document);
- The archaeological foreshore survey;
- Production of a report on and an archive of the results of the foreshore survey.

3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL FORESHORE SURVEY METHODOLOGY

3.1 A foreshore survey is designed detect any visible archaeological remains present on the foreshore and assess their character and archaeological potential. This will inform the creation of exclusion zones around archaeological features which should be protected prior to construction.

3.2 The survey area consists of an approximately 1.5km length of the foreshore on the northern edge of the tidal Severn Estuary. The current foreshore has previously been reinforced with a boulder wall, beyond which lie extensive mud flats.

3.3 The mud flats, present a significant health and safety risk and may prevent access to parts of the development area with known or unknown archaeological remains.

Consequently, two forms of survey are proposed:

- A site walkover survey of all accessible areas.
- A photographic UAV survey of all inaccessible areas.

Site Walkover Survey

3.4 A site walkover survey is designed to identify and record any known or unknown archaeological features within the development area. It will involve:

- A systematic walkover of the development area for any unknown archaeological features. It will also locate, where possible, any known heritage assets within the development area.
- The accurate recording of the location of any identified archaeological features using an accurate GNSS system.
- The production of a written record on a proforma sheet identifying the details and dimensions of each identified archaeological feature. Effort will be taken to characterize any features not previously identified.

- The production of a detailed photographic record. Each photograph will use an appropriate scale, with a plan annotated to show its location. Photographs should also be taken of the wider development area and its setting.
- Where appropriate a UAV survey may be used to enhance the record of the site walkover survey through aerial photography.

Drone Survey

3.5 The UAV survey will mostly be confined to areas not accessible by foot due to health and safety considerations. It will involve:

- a systematic flyover of all inaccessible parts of the development area to identify any unknown archaeological remains, if present.
- It will locate any known inaccessible archaeological features within the development area.
- The production of a detailed photographic record using the UAV of any archaeological features identified. These photographs will be 'geotagged' with their location. Photographs of the setting of each archaeological feature, as well as the wider development area will also be included.
- The production of a written record on a proforma sheet will be undertaken. This will be to the best quality possible given the limitations of UAV survey.
- Where appropriate a 3D model of any significant archaeological remains will be generated. This will only be undertaken in circumstances where a 3D model was thought to significantly enhance the record of the archaeological remains.

3.6 The Gwent Levels are also an area of significant ecological interest as a habitat for over-wintering birds. Although the UAV survey will be undertaken in early May avoiding the winter period, restrictions on the flight designed to minimize the impact upon ecologically sensitive areas has been devised. This includes:

- A take-off and landing zone well away from the mudflats to avoid low flight over sensitive areas. This location will be decided on site to ensure it is suitable and safe.
- A minimum flight height of 30m above ground level to ensure no birds are disturbed in ecologically sensitive areas.
- Not flying directly overhead above large gatherings of birds where possible.

3.7 All works utilizing a UAV will be undertaken in accordance with Dyfed Archaeological Services operations manual (version 0.20) by an appropriately qualified operator.

4 POST-FIELDWORK REPORTING AND ARCHIVING

- 4.1 All data recovered during the foreshore survey and any further mitigation will be collated into a site archive structured in accordance with the specifications in *Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* (Brown 2011), and the procedures recommended by the National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth. The *National Standards for Wales for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives* produced by the Federation of Museums and Art Galleries of Wales will also be adhered to. Digital archives will be collated using the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales systems (2015) and deposited with the RCAHMW.
- 4.2 A single report will be produced covering the results of the archaeological foreshore survey and any further mitigation. The results of the fieldwork will be assessed in local, regional and wider contexts. The report will include a brief research element to place the site into its wider context within the area. Within the report a list of archaeological features which require an exclusion zone will be compiled.
- 4.3 Dyfed Archaeological Services will arrange for the deposition of the project archive, and ascertain the costs of storage and deposition, with an approved body before the project commences and inform the curator of the arrangement which has been made (it is anticipated that the archive will be mostly in digital format and will be stored with RCAHMW).
- 4.4 A summary of the project results, excluding any confidential information, may be prepared for wider dissemination (e.g. Archaeology in Wales and special interest and period-specific journals).
- 4.5 A digital copy of the report will be produced for the client, along with two bound copies of the report if requested.
- 4.6 The report will also adhere to the *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* as produced by the Welsh Archaeological Trusts (July 2018). Digital copies of the report will be supplied to Cadw and will be deposited with the regional Historic Environment Record and Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales.

5 STAFF

- 5.1 The project will be managed by Fran Murphy, head of Field Services at Dyfed Archaeological Services and a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.
- 5.2 The on-site works will be undertaken by Luke Jenkins and Phil Poucher.

6 MONITORING

- 6.1 The archaeological works may need to be monitored by the Head of Dyfed Archaeological Services.

7 HEALTH AND SAFETY

- 7.1 All permanent staff will be CSCS³ registered.
- 7.2 Dyfed Archaeological Services will carry out a health and safety risk assessment to ensure that all potential risks are minimised.

³ Construction Skills Certification Scheme (Health and Safety Tested)

- 7.3 Much of this work will be undertaken on mudflats which present significant health and safety considerations. As a results no lone working will be permitted during this work with areas not deemed to be safe not accessed on foot. Decisions on safety will be assessed by the on-site archaeologists.
- 7.4 A separate health and safety risk assessment will be undertaken for the UAV survey to ensure that the specific risks associated with UAV flight are minimized.
- 7.5 All relevant health and safety regulations must be followed, including compliance with any current Welsh Government guidelines and guidance issued by CIfA.
- 7.6 All site inductions, H&S procedures, H&S constraints and site rules of the client will be made known to the Dyfed Archaeological Services staff prior to the commencement of DATwork on site.

8. ARBITRATION

- 8.1 Any dispute or disagreement arising out of a contract in relation to this work shall be referred for a decision to the Chartered Institute of Archaeologist's arbitration scheme.

DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

This Data Management Plan (DMP) is produced in accordance with the *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014, updated 2020). The table below is based on the Work Digital / Think Archive guidance for digital archives prepared by DigVentures, on behalf of Archaeological Archives Forum and in partnership with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. The project was funded by Historic England (Project No. 7796).

Section 1: Project Administration

Project Ref. No and name
FS23-087 Rhumney Great Wharf Habitat Restoration Polders Enhancement Project
ERN (if known)
E008170
Project Type
Archaeological Foreshore Survey
Client
Natural Resources Wales
Project Manager / Data Contact
Fran Murphy
Principal Archaeologist on site
Luke Jenkins and Phil Poucher
Date DMP created
25/04/2024
Date DMP last updated
25/04/2024
Related data management policies
Written Scheme of Investigation Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) <i>Standards & Guidance</i> Dyfed Archaeological Trust, 2018, archive retention policy Brown 2011, <i>Archaeological Archives: a guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation</i> NPAAW, 2017, <i>The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales</i> 2017 RCAHMW, 2015, RCAHMW guidelines for Digital Archives, Version 1 WAT, 2018, <i>Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)</i>

Section 2: Data Collection

Data Type (Delete as appropriate)
Documents Written Scheme of Investigation, Risk Assessment – Word doc & PDFs Site registers, site notes - paper copies, scanned and saved as PDFs. Site plans – permatrace, scanned and saved as PDFs. Final report – Word doc & PDF Illustrations – Adobe Illustrator/Affinity Designer files, PDFs Images Site photographs – Jpeg & Tiff (for archive) Other collected data (scans, archive material, social media images etc) – Jpegs Survey External surveys – Dependent on external contractor, eg .dxf, .dwg, .rwv etc GIS Mapinfo files, Esri Shapefiles.

Data acquisition
All data will be collected as per the methodologies and guidance stated in the WSI (Fieldwork / Methodology).

Section 3: Documentation and metadata

Documentation and metadata accompanying the data
All data recovered will be archived in accordance with the guidance stated in the WSI (Post Fieldwork Reporting & Archiving)

Section 4: Ethics and legal compliance

Management of any ethical, copyright and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) issues
All personal data collected during the course of the project will be handled in accordance with Dyfed Archaeological Trust's <i>Personal Data Protection Policy</i> (2018, revised 2020) and current <i>Code of Practice</i>. Licence agreements will be established, and Copyright permissions will be sought as appropriate (eg reproduced mapping extracts, archive material, specialist reports) prior to the submission of the data and/or inclusion in the publication of the project results.

Section 5: Data Security: Storage and Backup

Data storage, accessibility, and safety during research
All site-produced data will be stored digitally at the first available opportunity. All digital information is stored on the Heneb-Dyfed Archaeology server, accessible by members of the staff. This will be checked regularly by the Project Manager. All digital data on the server is backed-up at regular intervals. The server contains ample capacity for all anticipated site data, and appropriate protocols are in place to manage any potential digital malfunction or cyber-attack.

Section 6: Selection and Preservation

Data retention, sharing, and preservation
Data will be retained as per Dyfed Archaeological Trust <i>Archive Retention Policy</i> (2018).
Long-term preservation plan for the dataset
The digital archive relating to the project will be deposited with the NMR, held and maintained by the RCAHMW, Aberystwyth and will be created in accordance with their practices. The final report will be submitted to the regional Historic Environment Record in PDF format, along with any additional information they require. If a different digital repository to the NMR is used, their own procedures will be established at the outset of a project and followed. If a project includes artefacts to be deposited at a museum, arrangements will be made prior to the commencement of the project, and a copy of the digital archive will be sent with the artefacts. Archiving costs are included within the project budget.

Section 7: Data Sharing

Sharing and accessibility
The dissemination of data is detailed in the WSI (Post-Fieldwork Report and Archiving).

Section 8: Responsibilities

Data collection, storage and manipulation will be carried out by the site team. The Project Manager will be responsible for the implementation of the data management plan.

