

ST NICHOLAS SCHOOL, VALE OF GLAMORGAN: HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT



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Gan / By

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**ST NICHOLAS SCHOOL, VALE OF GLAMORGAN:
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT**

SUMMARY

DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by AECOM to prepare a Historic Environment (Archaeological) Desk-Based Assessment for the proposed development site of a new school at an existing school: St Nicholas Church In Wales Primary School, St Nicholas, Vale of Glamorgan CF5 6SP (roughly centred on ST 08855 74420). The development area comprises the existing school buildings to the southeast, with associated parking, a hardstanding play area to the rear and grassed playing fields in the northwestern part of the site.

A search area of 2km centred on the school site was used to identify designated historic assets in the vicinity and a 1km search area for non-designated historic assets. There are no registered Historic Landscapes within the search area. There are two registered Historic Parks and gardens, Coedarhydyglyn to the east and Dyffryn Gardens to the south. Only one part of Coedarhydyglyn may just be visible from the playing part of the school site. Dyffryn Gardens is not intervisible with the school.

There are five scheduled monuments within 2km, Tinkinswood Neolithic Burial Chamber to the southwest, Cottrell Medieval Ringwork to the north, Cottrell medieval Castle Mound to the northwest, Coed-y-Cwm Chambered Cairn and Coed-y-Cwm ringwork to the west. Only the Cottrell Medieval Ringwork is intervisible with the school site. There will potentially be setting impacts to this monument and Cadw should be consulted.

There is a single Grade II Listed building, St Nicholas Church which has limited intervisibility with the redevelopment site. There will be some impacts to the setting of the church from the school redevelopment. The impacts to the settings of other listed buildings within the village of St Nicholas are considered to be negligible. The southeastern half of the site area lies within the St Nicholas Conservation Area and thus any proposals or demolition will require Conservation Area Consent. Design, material and colour choices for the new building could all be used to minimise the new buildings visibility in the wider landscape.*

The development of the existing school site, including the construction of the existing school buildings, car parks, play areas and associated levelling works and drainage will have caused disturbance to any underlying archaeological remains that may have been present. The assessment indicates that there would have originally been a low potential for remains of Palaeolithic, Mesolithic, Iron Age Roman and Early Medieval date to be present; and a low to moderate potential for Neolithic and Bronze Age remains. For the medieval and post-medieval periods, it is known that the site area lay in the agricultural open fields surrounding the settlement. The area was an agricultural field up until the existing school was built sometime between 1965 and 1972.

Based on the below ground archaeological potential determined by this assessment and from previous impacts caused to the site area from construction of the existing school and associated playing fields, it is considered that there should be no requirement for any further mitigation at the site in terms of below ground archaeology. It is considered possible that some form of simple building recording of the existing school prior to demolition would be appropriate based on the social significance that the school will have had during its lifetime to the local community.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Proposals and Commission

- 1.1.1 DAT Archaeological Services were commissioned by AECOM to prepare a Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (or Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment) for a proposed development site at St Nicholas Church In Wales Primary School, Vale of Glamorgan (roughly centred on ST 08855 74420; Figure 1). The proposals are for a new primary school on the same site. The development area encompasses existing school buildings, car parking to their south, and a large playing field to their north.
- 1.1.2 This desk-based assessment provides an indication of the archaeological potential of the development area and highlights possible issues in relation to the impact of the development on the historic environment.

1.2 Scope of the Project and Methodology

- 1.2.1 The scope of the assessment follows the Standard And Guidance For Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment as laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA 2014). The standard is stated as:

Desk-based assessment will determine, as far as is reasonably possible from existing records, the nature, extent and significance of the historic environment within a specified area. Desk-based assessment will be undertaken using appropriate methods and practices which satisfy the stated aims of the project, and which comply with the Code of Conduct and other relevant regulations of CIfA. In a development context desk-based assessment will establish the impact of the proposed development on the significance of the historic environment (or will identify the need for further evaluation to do so), and will enable reasoned proposals and decisions to be made whether to mitigate, offset or accept without further intervention that impact.

- 1.2.2 A desk-based assessment is defined by CIfA as:

.....a programme of study of the historic environment within a specified area or site on land, the inter-tidal zone or underwater that addresses agreed research and/or conservation objectives. It consists of an analysis of existing written, graphic, photographic and electronic information in order to identify the likely historic assets, their interests and significance and the character of the study area, including appropriate consideration of the settings of historic assets and, in England, the nature, extent and quality of the known or potential archaeological, historic, architectural and artistic interest. Significance is to be judged in a local, regional, national or international context as appropriate.

- 1.2.3 The desk-based study of the area identifies known archaeological sites within the site and its environs, and assesses the potential for hitherto unknown remains to be present within the proposed development area. An indication is also given of what further archaeological works might be required in advance of or during the proposed school development.
- 1.2.4 The scope of the report also includes an assessment of the impact on the settings of surrounding designated heritage assets, including scheduled monuments, listed buildings, historic landscape character areas and undesignated archaeological sites.
- 1.2.5 The report presents relevant information from a number of sources including:

- Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust Historic Environment Record data;
 - On-line National Monuments Record of Wales data held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales in Aberystwyth (Coflein);
 - Aerial photographic search, National Monuments Record, Aberystwyth;
 - National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth;
 - Map regression exercise using earlier cartographic sources;
 - Identification of any Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings, Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Historic Landscapes, Historic Landscape Character Areas or Conservation Areas within or in the vicinity of the site area (Cadw, DAT, NRW);
 - Site visit and walkover survey;
 - Assessment of the archaeological potential of the area;
 - Assessment of the likely impact upon the settings of surrounding features of the historic environment; and
 - Assessment of likely impacts on any identified remains within the development site (or potential remains) and likely requirements, if any, for further stages of archaeological work.
- 1.2.6 Following the instruction of the advisors to the local planning authority (Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust Planning Services), a 2km radius search area centred on the middle of the development area was considered sufficient with which to evaluate impacts on designated archaeological sites and elements of the historic environment (Scheduled Monuments, Registered Historic Landscapes, Registered Parks and Gardens, Listed Buildings). A 1km radius search area was used to find recorded undesignated archaeological sites in order to provide sufficient overview of the nature of the area's heritage.
- 1.2.7 For the purposes of planning policy in Wales, the historic environment is defined as:
- All aspects of the environment resulting from the interaction between people and places through time, including all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and deliberately planted or managed (Welsh Government 2017).*
- A historic asset is:
- An identifiable component of the historic environment. It may consist or be a combination of an archaeological site, a historic building or area, historic park and garden or a parcel of historic landscape. Nationally important historic assets will normally be designated (ibid).*
- 1.2.8 This report contains information about the historic environment and historic assets in the vicinity of the proposed development site, which will assist the archaeological advisors to the planning authority in their decision about what, if any, archaeological mitigation will be required. Further guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment and historic assets during development plan preparation and decision making on planning and Listed Building (LBC) applications can be found in *Planning Policy Wales: Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment* (Welsh Government 2017; available online).

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). Scheduled Monument (SM). 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.

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	

Table 1: Archaeological and Historical Timeline for Wales

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

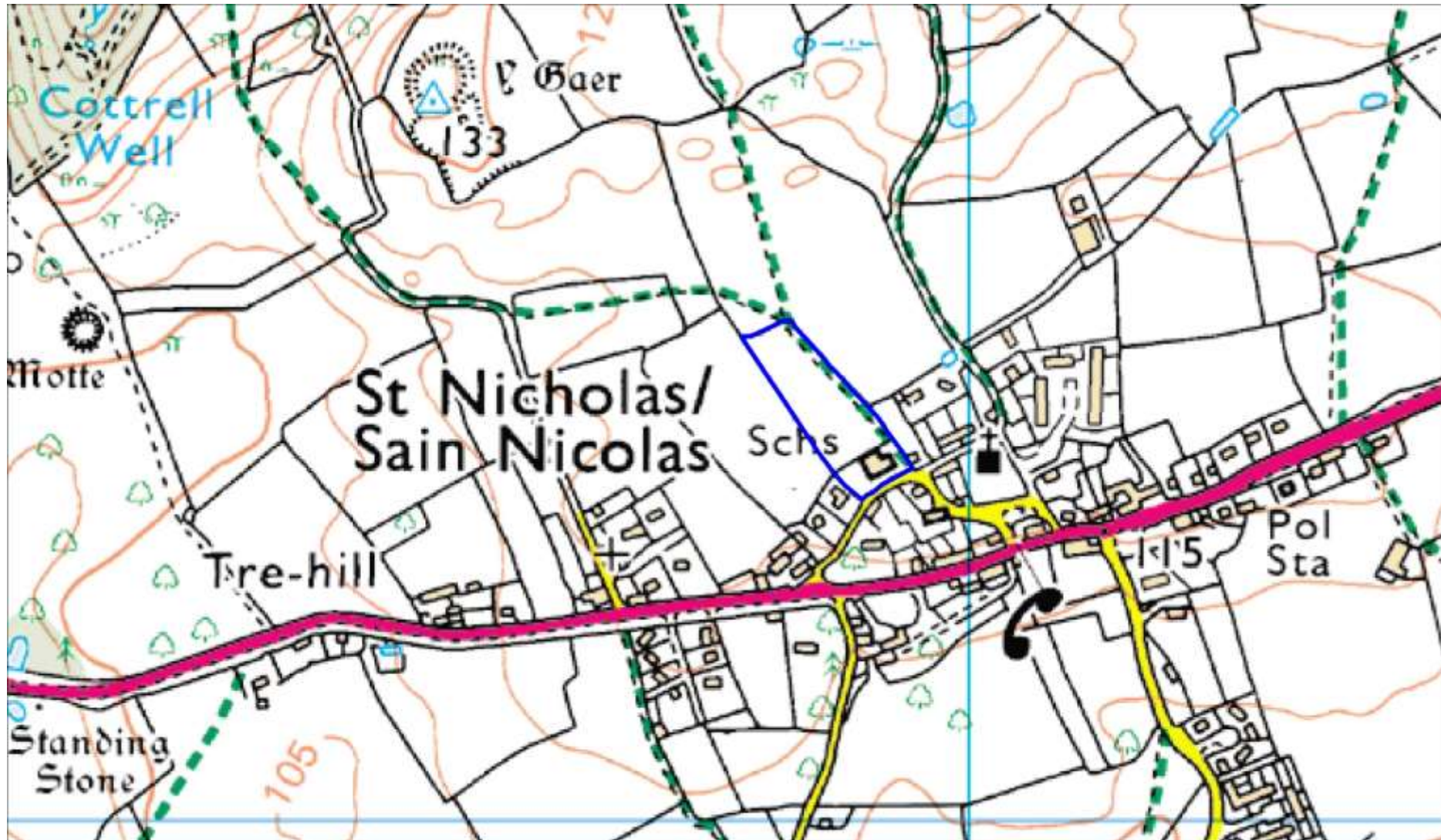


Figure 1: Location Map for St Nicholas School, Vale of Glamorgan – a blue outline shows the area of proposed development
Reproduced from the Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 scale Map with the permission of The Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office, © Crown Copyright Dyfed
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2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 2.1 The proposed development site of St Nicholas School is located on School Lane in St Nicholas, Vale of Glamorgan (roughly centred on ST 08855 74420; Figure 1). The proposed development plot comprises the existing school buildings, car park and playing field; an area of c.0.6ha. School lane forms the southern boundary of the development area beyond which there is residential housing and the core of the village. Immediately to the north, east and west of the school there is open farmland. A public footpath runs along the east side of the school plot.
- 2.2 The school site is flat and lies at c.120m aOD. Most of the village of St Nicholas lies to the south of the school and increasingly downhill and out of sight.
- 2.3 The bedrock at the site is sedimentary - dolomitised limestone and dolomite - of the Friars Point Limestone Formation. A superficial geological deposit covers this - Devensian Till (Diamicton) deposited by retreating glaciers (British Geological Society website).

3 HISTORICAL, LANDSCAPE AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

3.1 General Archaeological and Historical Background

- 3.1.1 Archaeology of Palaeolithic date is very rare in the vicinity of Bridgend and Cardiff. The only known site in the Vale of Glamorgan is the findspot of a Palaeolithic hand axe, found in 1940, near Lavernock Fort, c.7km east of Barry. Throughout most of Wales, evidence of Palaeolithic humans has been removed by erosion during the last Ice Age, but the ice is thought not to have extended into this area so perhaps further evidence has yet to come to light (Green and Walker 1991).
- 3.1.2 A small number of findspots of Mesolithic artefacts are recorded in the Vale of Glamorgan as a whole comprising flint blades, flakes, microliths, cores, arrowheads, scrapers and graters, and bone needles. The nearest findspots to Colwinston are over 7km away to the southeast, on the far side of Cowbridge.
- 3.1.3 Many sites of Neolithic date are known within the Vale of Glamorgan, two of them within 3km of the proposed development site – both the findspots of stone tools.
- 3.1.4 Bronze Age findspots and sites are even more common throughout the county. Within 3km of the school development there are several. These sites include three bronze artefact findspots, two standing stones and five burial monuments. The nearest site known to the school boundary is a hoard findspot 500m-1km northwest (the actual position is still protected information).
- 3.1.5 Known sites of Iron Age date are rare in the area, with only a few within 5km. This is not a common situation in the county or in Wales as a whole. Iron Age enclosures in particular are ubiquitous features of our landscape. The nearest Iron Age site to the proposed development site is indeed itself an enclosure – a hill fort – that lies 2.3km to the west.
- 3.1.6 There is a very clear Roman presence throughout the Vale of Glamorgan. More than 40 sites lie within 10km of St Nicholas, the most obvious of which is the Cardiff to Neath Roman Road, the route of which is now closely followed by the A48. This road runs near St Nicholas. Within 2km of St Nicholas there are no known Roman sites, but not far beyond this towards and in Cowbridge, Barry and Cardiff, they abound. The nearest confirmed town was at Cowbridge, 9 miles west, thought to have then been named *Bovium*, as described in the contemporary 'Antonine Itinerary' (Burnham and Davies 2010).
- 3.1.7 The Early Medieval period is far less well represented in the wider area around the proposed school site. Following the end of Roman rule in Britain, the area was ruled by the princes of Morgannwg, whose kingdom at times included the area later known as Glamorgan. The nearest Early Medieval site to St Nicholas, and one of only a few within 10km, is the circular earthwork remains thought to have enclosed a documented church from that period. Its location is at Coed Nant Bran, which is 1.6km southeast of the school.
- 3.1.8 Following the Norman conquest of the area c.1070, the parish of St Nicholas starts to appear in ecclesiastical records, and the church building's fabric contains original medieval elements (Orrin 1988). There is strong evidence that this area was well protected / contested following the invasion: there are three defensive castle sites within 1km of the village.

3.1.9 In 1833, the village was recorded by Lewis:

NICHOLAS (ST.), a parish in the hundred of DINAS-POWIS, county of GLAMORGAN, SOUTH WALES, 6 miles (W. by S.) from Cardiff containing 351 inhabitants.

This parish, which takes its name from the dedication of its church, is situated on the turnpike road from Cardiff to Swansea, and comprises a considerable tract of arable and pasture land, of which the whole, with the exception of only a small portion, is enclosed and cultivated. The soil is in general fertile and productive; and the surrounding scenery is pleasingly varied, and in some parts picturesque.

Dyfryn House, formerly the seat of the ancient family of Price, and now, by marriage with the heiress of that family, the property and residence of the Hon. William Booth Grey, is agreeably situated in a retired spot, about a mile southward from the village: the grounds are tastefully laid out, and comprehend a pleasing variety of scenery. Cottrel, late the property of Miss Gwynett, and now the residence of Admiral Sir Charles Tyler, K. C. B., to whose eldest son, Capt. Tyler, R. N., it will revert on the death of the Earl of Clarendon, is pleasantly situated, and commands from the rear of the house a fine view of part of the picturesque Vale of Ely, with Hensol castle and the grounds attached to it on the western bank of the river.

Fairs, chiefly for cattle and sheep, are annually held in the village on May 19th, August 21st, and December 17th; and the petty sessions for the hundred are also held at this place.

The living is a discharged rectory, in the archdeaconry and diocese of Llandaf, rated in the king's books at £ 11. 10., and in the patronage of the Hon. William Booth Grey. The church is an ancient and venerable structure, with a tower at the west end. There are places of worship for Baptists and Welsh Calvinistic Methodists.

A school for the gratuitous instruction of poor children upon the National system is supported by Mrs. Grey and the rector of the parish.

On the right of the road leading from the village to Dyfryn House is an ancient cromlech, said to be the largest monument of the kind in the kingdom: it consists of large flat stones nearly six feet in height, enclosing an area of seventeen feet in length and thirteen in breadth, upon which rests a table stone, twenty-four feet long, and varying in breadth from seventeen to ten feet. In a field by the road side, immediately opposite to Cottrel Lodge gate, is a single stone of the same origin, lying in an inclined position.

The average annual expenditure for the support of the poor amounts to £ 190. 19.

3.1.10 The village has since expanded as a commuter village for Cardiff. The developer Redrow is currently building enough new housing to double the population of the village.

3.2 Previous Archaeological Work

3.2.1 No archaeological work is known to have taken place within the proposed development site.

3.2.2 Several small-scale archaeological interventions, mainly watching briefs, have taken place during development within the centre of the village. None of these works gave evidence for significant archaeological remains.

- 3.2.2 A large development on the northeastern side of St Nicholas built by Redrow Homes involved a preliminary desk-based assessment undertaken by Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust followed by trial trench evaluation carried out by Cotswold Archaeological Trust (CAT 2014). This revealed no significant archaeological remains excluding a single agricultural furrow.

3.3 Historic Landscape Areas

Registered Historic Landscapes

- 3.3.1 The proposed development does not lie within the boundary of any Registered Historic Landscape. The village of St Nicholas is visible in the distance from the nearest Registered Historic Landscape, Llancarfan, which at its closest lies 2.1km to the west of the school.

LANDMAP

- 3.3.2 The proposed development lies within landscape areas recorded on the National Resources Wales (NRW) LANDMAP database. LANDMAP is a GIS (Geographical Information System) based landscape resource where landscape characteristics, qualities and influences on the landscape are recorded and evaluated in a nationally consistent data set.
- 3.3.3 The school lies within the historic landscape known as 'Llangan Welsh St Donats and Pendoylan' (Ref: VLFGLHL054), as a landscape of high overall value consisting of small regular fields of medieval origin clustering around the known medieval settlements. The following history for this area is recorded in the database:

Historically, during the late 11th to 13th centuries AD, the Border Vale was an area contested by the Welsh of the Blaenau lordships to the north and the Normans who held the Vale Proper to the south. Bronze Age round barrows are widely distributed across a landscape that demonstrates more of an upland character than other parts of the Vale.

- 3.3.4 The school lies within the 'St Nicholas and Bonvilston Ridge Crest' visual and sensory aspect area (Ref: VLFGLVS271), which is considered to be of high overall value:

The aspect area offers many long views to other aspect areas, indeed much of the vale can be seen from here. This is unusual within the study area. The aspect area also offers pleasing views within its own boundaries to hedgerows and pastoral farming often set against woodland edges. The area's integrity has been affected by the A48 and several settlements, plus ongoing, often inappropriate expansion, to existing settlements and at more rural locations. The area is a clear ridgetop but is broad backed and the subtle landform merges with the slopes blurring a local distinctiveness. The area exhibits several qualities and features that are representative of the study area. Importantly the aspect area is the only one from where most of the vale landscape can be viewed.

- 3.3.5 The southern half of the proposed development also lies within the cultural landscape called 'Rural Village Conservation Areas' (Ref: VLFGLCL028), which has been evaluated as being of overall outstanding value. St Nicholas is one of 26 Rural Village Conservation Areas (out of a total of 38 designated in the Vale) that belong to this multi-part Aspect Area. The villages' charm lies in the fact that collectively they *reflect the evolved historicity of this relatively unspoiled landscape.*

- 3.3.6 The northern half of the proposed development also lies within the cultural landscape called 'Vale of Glamorgan Rural Landscape' (Ref: VLFGLCL039), which has been evaluated as being of overall high value because it is a *relatively untrammelled and evolved surviving agricultural and historic landscape*.

Conservation Area

- 3.3.7 The majority of St Nicholas Village was designated a conservation area in 1970, the boundary of which covers the school buildings, as recognition by the county council "of the special architectural and historic interest of the village" (Vale of Glamorgan Council 2008). Councils have a duty to identify areas that have a character worthy of protection and to designate them as Conservation Areas. They are then required by law to formulate policies and proposals for their preservation and enhancement. The school site lies directly to the north of the northern edge of the conservation area (Figure 2).
- 3.3.8 The following points are given as a summary of the defining characteristics of the St Nicholas conservation area (Vale of Glamorgan Council 2008):
- *Linear rural village with scattered development along the A48.*
 - *Location on an east-west ridge provides views southwards towards the Severn Estuary.*
 - *St Nicholas Church, its churchyard, and the village green, lie to the north of the main road and provide a central focus to the village away from the busy traffic.*
 - *Mainly historic buildings in the central part of the village including the Village Hall and a number of cottages and houses.*
 - *Because of the widening of the A48 in the 1930s, the historic buildings on the north side of the road now tend to be close to the pavement.*
 - *Mixture of larger houses, worker's cottages and a few agricultural buildings, these mostly now converted into residential use.*
 - *The listed buildings are St Nicholas Church, nos. 3, 4 and 5 Smiths Cottages, the St Nicholas Church Hall, Hall House and the Three Tuns.*
 - *A number of unlisted 'positive' buildings, most of them dating to the 19th century, such as the former Police Station of 1858 and Presbyterian Church of 1870.*
 - *Well detailed former Council houses in Dyffryn Close and Button Ride dating to the late 1940s.*
 - *Modern buildings around the edge of the Conservation Area of a variety of sizes, but still in fairly spacious plots.*
 - *St Nicholas Church, The Presbyterian Church, the Church Hall and the school are the only non-residential buildings in the village.*
 - *Use of the local lias limestone, often faced with painted lime render or occasionally dressed with red brick.*
 - *Roofs are either natural slate or thatch, which reinforces the rural character of the conservation area.*

3.4 Historic Parks and Gardens (Figure 2)

- 3.4.1 There are two Registered Historic Parks and Gardens within 2km of the centre point of the proposed development site: Coedarhydyglyn 1.1km to the northeast and Dyffryn Gardens 1.6km to the south.
- 3.4.2 Coedarhydyglyn is a Grade II* registered historic park and garden (reference PGW(Gm)40(GLA)). A brief description available online via <https://www.parksandgardens.org/places/coedarhydyglyn> states that it is a *'Picturesque early-19th-century landscape park surviving in its entirety. The walls of a late-18th-century kitchen garden survive. There is a woodland dell with a Japanese flavour, possibly designed by Alfred Parsons and partners in the early-20th century. The woodland contains notable planting of conifers and rhododendrons, with part of it planted as a pinetum in the 1940s and 1950s.'* It is likely that the park was created in the 1820s at the same time as the present house was built. Almost all of the park boundary lies within the 2km search area boundary.
- 3.4.3 Dyffryn Gardens are a Grade I registered park and garden (reference PGW(Gm)32(GLA)), dating from the early 20th century. A brief description available online via <https://www.parksandgardens.org/places/dyffryn> states that *'The gardens are the result of a remarkable partnership between the owner and horticulturalist Reginald Cory (owner 1906-34) and Thomas Mawson. The structure of the gardens, combining the expansively formal and the intricately intimate, survives almost in its entirety, with some later modifications within the general framework. Within the gardens are many notable trees, including some very early introductions. A major restoration programme was underway from 1998 to 2007, when the gardens re-opened. In the longer term, the property is to be leased to the National Trust.'* The majority of this garden lies beyond the 2km search area boundary.
- 3.4.4 Although both registered historic parks and gardens lie within the 2km search area, any intervisibility between them and the proposed school redevelopment site are likely to be greatly obscured by intervening topography, built environment and vegetation. The high point of land within Coedarhydyglyn may well be visible to some extent from the site area.
- 3.4.5 There is no Registered Historic Park or Garden further afield whose setting would be affected by the development.

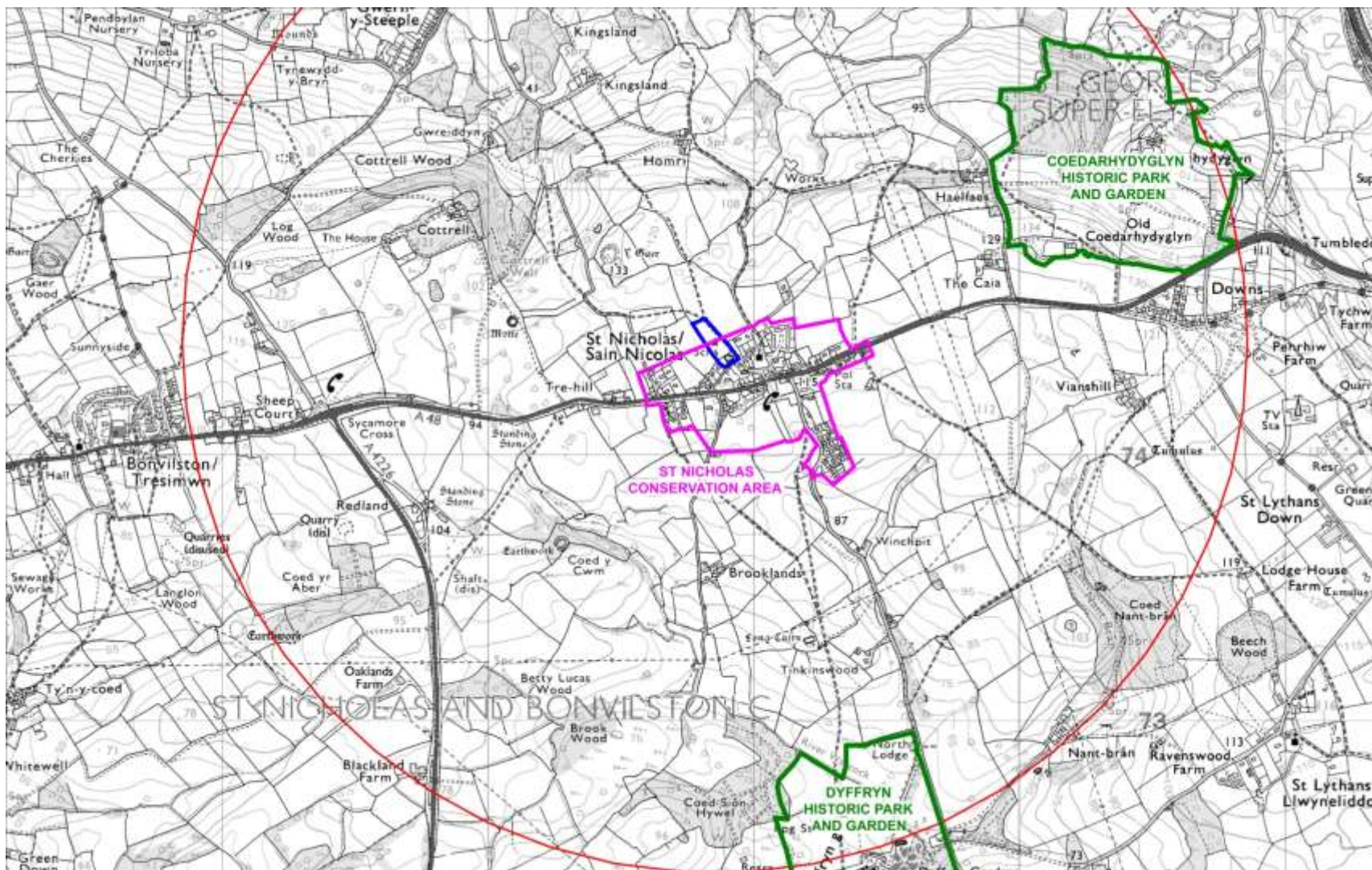


Figure 2: Designated parks and gardens (green outlines) and Conservation Area (pink outline) within 2km of the centre of the proposed development site (outlined in blue)

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3.5 Scheduled Monuments (Table 2; Figure 3)

- 3.5.1 There are five Scheduled Monuments within 2km of the proposed development site. These include two Neolithic burial sites, two medieval ringworks and a medieval castle motte.
- 3.5.2 Tinkinswood Burial Chamber (GM009) is a chambered cairn that lies 1.1km to the south. Coed-y-Cwm chambered cairn (GM116) lies 1km to the southwest. Chambered tombs were built and used by local farming communities over long periods of time. There appear to be many regional traditions and variations in shape and construction. Having two so close together in this landscape implies that it was an area of activity and importance during the Neolithic period.
- 3.5.3 Cottrell Ringwork (GM096) lies around 400m to the northeast of the school site, Coed-y-Cwm Ringwork (GM117) lies 900m to the southwest. Both sites represent circular banks and ditches surrounding a level interior used as defensive castle sites in the medieval period.
- 3.5.4 Cottrell Castle Mound (GM364) lies 650m west and represents the other, more commonly known form of medieval castle site, a motte. These were artificial mounds on top of which a tower (keep) was constructed. The mound was surrounded by a ditch.
- 3.5.5 Having three medieval castle sites in close proximity indicates the strategic importance of the area in the earlier part of the medieval period and probably located to control important route ways.
- 3.5.6 Cottrell Ringwork (GM096) is intervisible with the school site being located on higher ground overlooking St Nicholas village. There is very limited intervisibility between the Tinkinswood Burial Chamber and the site area. None of the other three scheduled monuments have any intervisibility with the school site due to the intervening topography and thus the redevelopment proposals will have no impact upon them and they are not considered further.

3.6 Listed Buildings (Table 3; Figure 4)

- 3.6.1 There is one Grade I Listed Buildings, there are two Grade II* Listed Buildings, and there are thirty one Grade II Listed Buildings within 2km of the proposed development.
- 3.6.2 The Grade I building is 'Coedarhydyglyn including attached outbuildings at rear' (LB No. 14864), a Neo-classical Regency villa that lies 1.7km east-northeast of the school boundary. Also within the complex of buildings at Coedarhydyglyn are the Grade II* listed coach house and stables (LB 14865) and two sets of Grade II Listed gates and gatepiers (LBs 14866 and 14867). There appears to be no intervisibility between these buildings and the proposed school redevelopment site due to intervening topography, built environment and vegetation. The proposed redevelopment will have no impact upon them and they are not considered further.
- 3.6.3 The second Grade II* Listed Building is that of St Nicholas Church (LB 13636) which is located around 80m to the east of the existing school buildings. It retains some of its medieval fabric dating to the 14th century, although was heavily restored in the 19th century. Although a number of residential properties lie between the school and the church, there is some intervisibility between them. A further listed structure lies within the church, the Cory Family Chest Tomb (LB 16322).

- 3.6.4 The other listed buildings within the village of St Nicholas are a row of three thatched cottages called Blacksmith's Cottages (LBs 16323, 16324 and 16325) which lie on the northern side of the A48; the Church Hall built in c.1890 (LB 13463); the adjacent Church Hall House also built in c.1890 (LB 16326); a telephone call box and adjacent GPO pillar of early 20th century date (LBs 13425 and 13426); and finally the Three Tuns with 16th century origins (LB 13637), a former inn now converted to residential use. All of these buildings lie to the south of the proposed school redevelopment site and have no (or incredibly limited) intervisibility with it. They are not considered further in this report.
- 3.6.5 Grade II Listed buildings lie within 2km to the north of the school site on the southern side of Peterston-super-Ely (LBs 13489, 25604, 26944-46, 26948 and 26949-57) all of late 19th century or 20th century date. There appears to be no intervisibility between these buildings and the proposed school redevelopment site due to intervening topography, built environment and vegetation. The proposed redevelopment will have no impact upon them and they are not considered further.
- 3.6.6 A former lodge site lies some 900m to the west of the school site on the A48, Cottrell Lodge (LB 16327) which is recorded as having been demolished.
- 3.6.7 The final group of Grade II Listed Buildings lie 1.8km to the southwest at Nant-bran Farm, of late 18th or early 19th century origins (LBs 19890, 19891, 19892 and 19893). There appears to be no intervisibility between these buildings and the proposed school redevelopment site due to intervening topography and they are not considered further.

SM No.	Name	Summary	NGR
GM009	Tinkinswood Burial Chamber	A chambered long cairn, dating to the early Neolithic (c. 4400BC-3000BC) . A long cairn is a roughly rectangular or trapezoidal stone, usually between 25m and 120m long, with a length exceeding twice its greatest width. The mound may be edged with a timber or stone revetment, and they contain one or more stone or wooden burial chambers at one end.	ST 09268 73292
GM096	Cottrell Ringwork	A well preserved castle-ringwork which dates to the medieval period (c. AD 1066 - 1485) . The ringwork stands on the summit of a small hill, with panoramic views all round. The ground falls away on all sides, but less steeply to the south. The site consists of a flat-topped mound 2-2.5m high, with a discontinuous external ditch. The sides of the mound and the ditch are steep. The top of the mound is flat and 48m in diameter.	ST 08472 74726
GM116	Coed-y-Cwm Chambered Cairn	The remains of a chambered tomb, dating to the Neolithic period (c. 4400 BC - 2900 BC) . It consists of one large and two smaller stones to the south of the larger one. This larger stone is pitted and measures, c. 2.7 in length, a maximum of 1m wide and a maximum of 0.9m in thickness, lying slightly tilted towards the southwest. On its north eastern side it is propped up by small stones beneath it of which one at the southern end is larger than the rest.	ST 08104 73794
GM117	Coed y Cwm Ringwork	The remains of a well preserved castle-ringwork, which dates to the medieval period (c. AD 1066 - 1485) . The site is situated on flat ground overlooking a small valley to the north-east, in a wood. It consists of a circular bank with external ditch. The interior is flat. On the north and west sides the ditch is 2m wide, with a flat bottom, and 1m high externally, 1.5 m high internally. There is no bank outside the ditch, and the bank on the inside is c. 0.5 m high.	ST 08277 73675
GM364	Cottrell Castle Mound	The monument comprises the remains of a motte and ditch, dating to the medieval period (c. 1066 -1540 AD) . A motte is a large conical or pyramidal mound of soil and/or stone, usually surrounded by either a wet or dry ditch, and surmounted by a tower constructed of timber or stone. Cottrell consists of a flat-topped mound 35m in diameter with the top measuring 21m in diameter. The sides are of varying height and steepness; on the west the side is 2.5m high with no ditch. On the north side it is 2m high with a 5m wide berm and then a further drop of 1.5m.	ST 08089 74506

Table 2: Scheduled Monuments within 2km of the centre of the proposed development site (Figure 3)

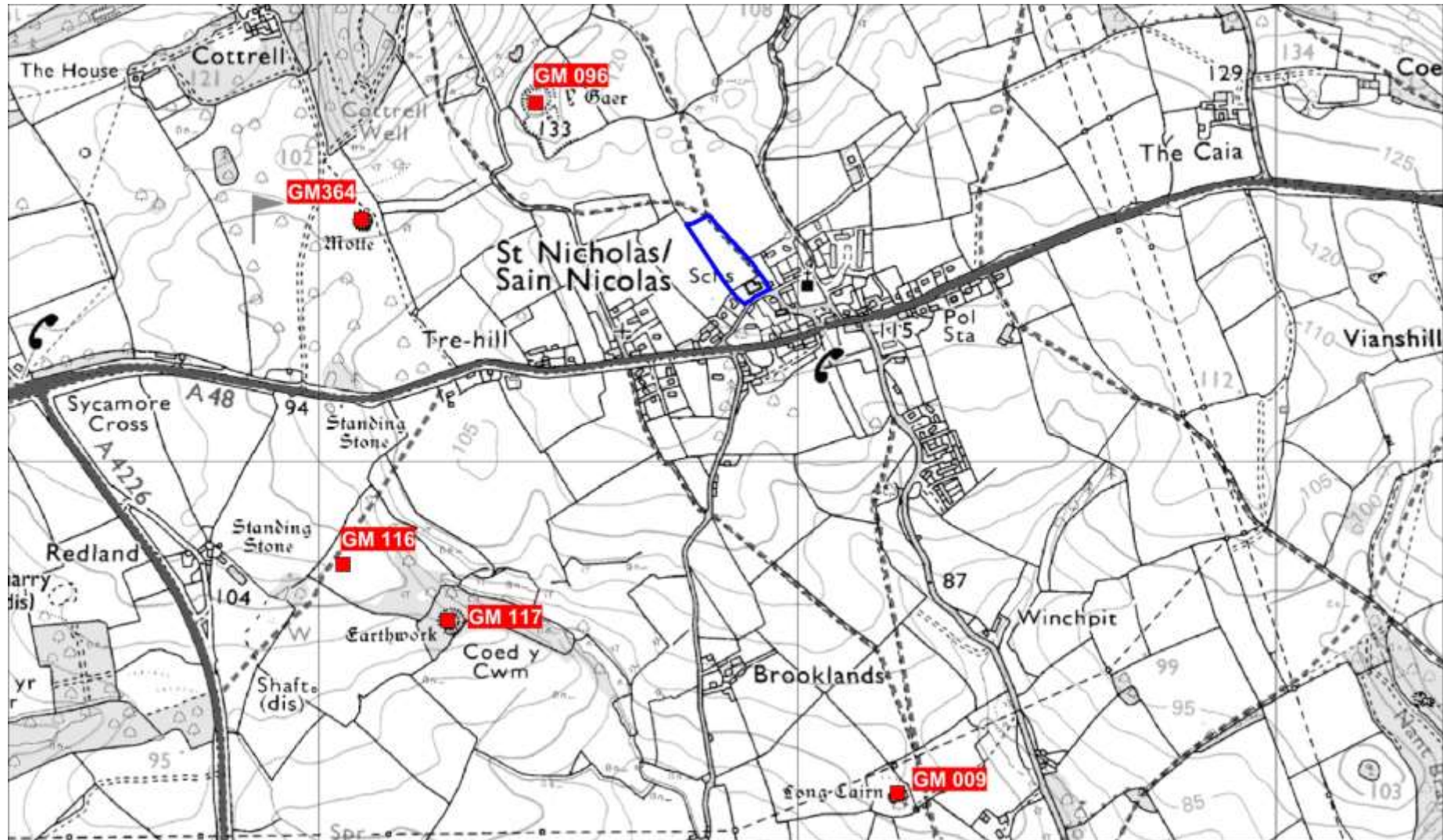


Figure 3: Map of the Scheduled Monuments (red squares) within 2km of the centre of the proposed development site (outlined in blue)

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LB No.	Grade	Name	Summary	NGR
13425	II	Telephone Call-box on corner with road to St Nicholas' Church	K-6 type square, red kiosk of cast iron construction to the standard design of Giles Gilbert Scott, architect of London. Design introduced by GPO in 1936, this example probably installed after Second World War.	ST 09043 74291
13426	II	GPO Pillar on corner with Road to St Nicholas' Church	Circular iron pillar box of standard early C20 design. Fluted rim to shallow domed cap supporting curved bracket with oval Post Office direction sign. "Post Office" lettering to frieze with letter opening, moulded base.	ST 09044 74288
13463	II	St Nicholas Church Hall	Built c1890, along with the attached Church House. Both buildings were designed and constructed together and are shown on the 2nd edition O.S. map, surveyed in 1898. Rear extension added to the Hall 1992-95 in materials to match the Hall and House.	ST 09027 74259
13489	II	Croes-y-Parc Baptist Chapel	Built 1843. The church was incorporated in 1777 as the 33rd Baptist Chapel in Wales, following visits in 1776-7 from ministers from Pontypool and Langwm, Monmouthshire.	ST 07939 75837
13636	II*	Parish Church of St Nicholas	Parish church comprising chancel, nave, west tower, south porch and south chapel. C14 origins. Heavily restored and extensively modified by Messrs. Parry, contractors of Llandaff from designs by and under the supervision of Messrs.	ST 09018 74367
13637	II	The Three Tuns	C16 origins, understood to have formerly been an Inn and now in residential use. Two storey house of eight bays, limestone rubble elevations beneath a longstraw thatch roof.	ST 09182 74338
14864	I	Coedarhydyglyn including attached outbuildings at rear.	Neo-classical Regency villa. Begun in 1820 for Llewelyn Traherne in the style of Edward Haycock the Elder, architect of Shrewsbury, and thought to have been built to his designs; he also designed Clytha House in Monmouthshire. Formerly known as Coedriglan. It replaced an C18 house situated on the high ridge SW, still known as Old Coedarhydyglyn.	ST 10432 75137
14865	II*	Coach-house and stables at Coedarhydyglyn	Contemporary with the house at Coedarhydyglyn c1820. Possibly part of the original design believed to be by Edward Haycock of Shrewsbury.	ST 10490 75173
14866	II	Gate and gatepiers midway along S drive at Coedarhydyglyn	Probably contemporary with the building of the main house c1820. The house is thought to be by Edward Haycock the elder and gates were probably also designed by him.	ST 10458 74965
14867	II	Gate and gatepiers beside South Lodge at	Probably contemporary with the main house built c1820. The architect is thought to be Edward Haycock the elder, architect of Shrewsbury, and	ST 10728 74838

		Coedarhydyglyn	the gates and gatepiers were probably also designed by him.	
16322	II	Cory Family Chest-Tomb at Parish Church of St Nicholas	Early C20 chest tomb in grey Quarella stone in the High Gothic Revival style. Early C20. Trefoil headed arcading to the sides, with five blind panels on the sided with the central panel inscribed with the Cory coat of arms and the words "Virtu Sempre Viridis".	ST 08993 74371
16323	II	Blacksmith's Cottages	Terrace of three thatched cottages. Seven bays of three phases of construction. The eastern-most unit dating from the first half of the C17. C18 and C19 alterations.	ST 08980 74267
16324	II	Smiths Row (also known as Blacksmiths Cottages)	Terrace of three thatched cottages. Seven bays of three phases of construction. The middle unit dating from the first half of the C17. C18 and C19 alterations.	ST 08991 74270
16325	II	Smiths Row (also known as Blacksmiths Cottages)	Terrace of three thatched cottages. Seven bays of three phases of construction. The western-most unit dating from the first half of the C17. C18 and C19 alterations.	ST 08999 74273
16326	II	Church Hall House (next to St Nicholas Church Hall)	Built c1890, along with the attached Church Hall. Both buildings were designed and constructed together and are shown on the 2nd edition O.S. map, surveyed in 1898.	ST 09015 74256
16327	II	Cottrell Lodge	Lodge to Cottrell House, since demolished. Origins as vernacular, single cell cottage of gable entry form. Dating from the late C17/early C18, extended and re-fenestrated in picturesque manner in the early C19, with addition of apsidal ended extension and porch.	ST 07934 74185
19890	II	Nant Bran Farmhouse	Georgian farmhouse. Although re-planned in late C19, the house has probably late C18/early C19 origins. Refurbishment in 2002 has involved inserting a floor in the uphill bay which was previously open over both storeys.	ST 10161 72964
19891	II	Agricultural Range opposite Nant Bran Farmhouse	Range of agricultural buildings probably C18 and early C19. Refurbished and converted to dwellings in 2002.	ST 10128 72966
19892	II	Outbuilding to N of Nant Bran Farmhouse	Lofted agricultural building in local roughly coursed rubble, partly rendered; shallow-pitched slate roof. Elevation facing SE (ie garden) has pair of doors to centre and the roofline of a former lean-to at end right.	ST 10170 72984
19893	II	Former Bull Shed at Nant Bran Farm	Early-to-mid C19. Said to have formerly been a bull shed. On OS map of 1878 it shows as part of an L-shaped complex at the bottom of the farmyard. Conversion to dwelling 2002.	ST 10136 72921
25604	II	5,Pwll-y-Min	A most unusual crescent of early C20 houses, of strikingly original design.	ST 08452 76054

		Crescent, Wyndham Park		
26944	II	Nos 4 and 6 Cory Crescent	Pair of semi-detached houses in Arts and Crafts style.	ST 08507 75945
26945	II	Nos 8 and 10 Cory Crescent	Pair of semi-detached houses in Arts and Crafts style.	ST 08521 75970
26946	II	Nos 16 and 18 Cory Crescent	Pair of semi-detached houses in Arts and Crafts style.	ST 08548 76017
26948	II	Monument to Dafydd William at Croes-y-Parc chapel	Monument erected to Dafydd William, unveiled by Lord Pontypridd 1910, sponsored by the Congregational Church, the Baptists of East Glamorgan and other Christian admirers.	ST 07939 75826
26949	II	2, Pwll-y-Min Crescent, Wyndham Park	A most unusual crescent of early C20 houses, of strikingly original design.	ST 08436 76024
26950	II	3, Pwll-y-Min Crescent, Wyndham Park	A most unusual crescent of early C20 houses, of strikingly original design.	ST 08442 76034
26951	II	4, Pwll-y-Min Crescent, Wyndham Park	A most unusual crescent of early C20 houses, of strikingly original design.	ST 08447 76042
26952	II	1, Pwll-y-Min Crescent, Wyndham Park	A most unusual crescent of early C20 houses, of strikingly original design.	ST 08429 76013
26953	II	6, Pwll-y-Min Crescent, Wyndham Park	A most unusual crescent of early C20 houses, of strikingly original design.	ST 08457 76063
26954	II	7, Pwll-y-Min Crescent, Wyndham Park	A most unusual crescent of early C20 houses, of strikingly original design.	ST 08462 76077
26955	II	8, Pwll-y-Min Crescent, Wyndham Park	A most unusual crescent of early C20 houses, of strikingly original design.	ST 08465 76088
26956	II	9, Pwll-y-Min Crescent, Wyndham Park	A most unusual crescent of early C20 houses, of strikingly original design.	ST 08468 76098
26957	II	10, Pwll-y-Min Crescent, Wyndham Park	A most unusual crescent of early C20 houses, of strikingly original design.	ST 08470 76110

Table 3: Listed Buildings within 2km of the centre of the proposed development site (Figure 3)

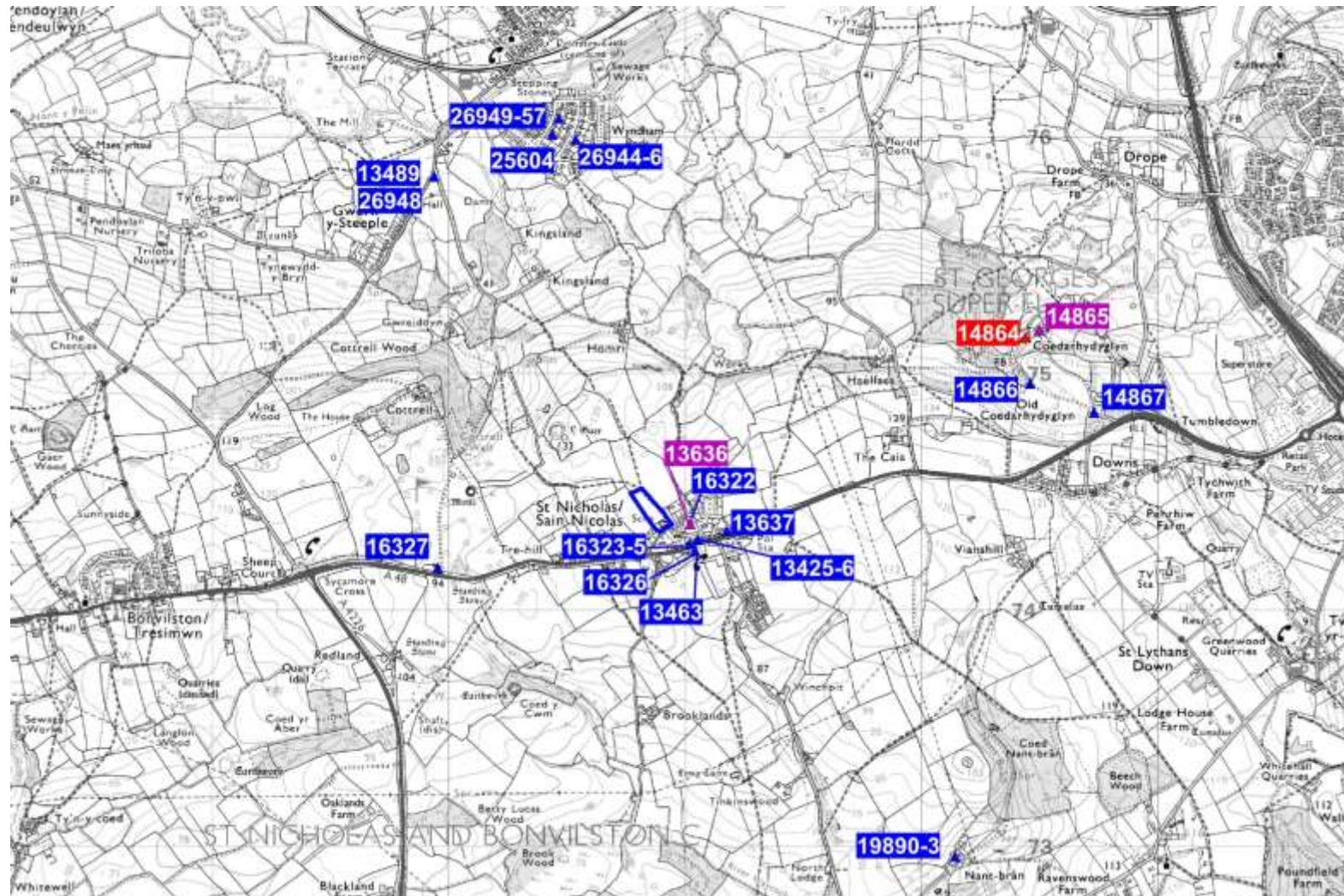


Figure 4: Map of the Listed Buildings Grade I – red; Grade II* - purple and Grade II blue within 2km of the centre of the proposed development site (outlined in blue)

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3.7 Non-designated Archaeological Sites (Tables 4 - 7; Figures 5 and 6)

3.7.1 The Historic Environment Record (HER) records thirty six sites of archaeological interest within 1km of the site boundary, eleven of which are also recorded on the National Monuments Record (NMR). A further seven sites are recorded only in the NMR. Some of these records are for Scheduled Monuments or Listed Buildings previously discussed.

3.7.2 None of the sites lie within the proposed site boundary.

Prehistoric sites

PRN / NPRN	Name	Summary	Period	NGR
GGAT00369s / 275858	Coed y Cwm	A possible collapsed or unfinished burial chamber, comprising three large slabs of highly weathered tabular limestone.	Neolithic	ST0810873779
GGAT08423g	Standing stone	A recumbent standing stone overlying a comparatively modern metal-railed fence. The stone is quite large and has a relatively flat SW edge and a smaller NE point that may have been the uppermost part of the stone if it was ever erect.	Neolithic	ST08097471
GGAT00372s / 307723	Cottrell Park Standing Stone	Standing stone, which was originally situated almost opposite the entrance to Cottrell Park, where the main road now runs.	Bronze Age	ST0804574124
GGAT00371s	Homri Farm, Peterston-Super-Ely	Two crude flint scrapers were found on the surface within the Bailey of the Y Gaer.	Prehistoric	ST08457475
GGAT03027s	Homri, Peterston-Super-Ely	Small square cropmark enclosure, c 25m across identified on aerial photos.	Unknown	ST0882875396
GGAT03822s	Cotterell Park	A dubious account in 1976 of a possible capstone of a cist. During the present visit no trace of suggested cist was found.	Unknown	ST079744

Table 4: Known historic assets of prehistoric (or likely) date recorded in the HER and NMR databases within 1km of the proposed development site

3.7.3 The earliest known prehistoric sites recorded on the GGAT HER and NMR are from the Neolithic, including the scheduled Coed-y-Cwm burial chamber (GM009; PRN GGAT00369s; NPRN 275858). A second standing stone that may have once formed part of a chambered tomb is also recorded (PRN GGAT08423g) to the northwest. An undated record of a further possible capstone of a burial cist/chamber is also recorded on the HER (PRN GGAT03822s) 600m to the southwest, although the record indicates the account is dubious.

3.7.4 A single Bronze Age of a standing stone is recorded at Cottrell Park, (PRN GGAT00372s; NPRN 307723) around 850m west of the school.

3.7.5 Prehistoric flints were recovered from the surface of the medieval motte of Cottrell Castle (GM364) although could not be dated any more accurately (PRN GGAT00371s). They had presumably been disturbed when the motte was constructed and redeposited on top.

3.7.6 The final site is a possible small square enclosure identified as cropmark 900m to the west (PRN GGAT03822s). The enclosure has not been

investigated further and although seems likely to be later prehistoric (perhaps Iron Age) this has not been confirmed.

Roman and Early Medieval sites

3.7.7 The HER and NMR do not record any known sites of Roman or Early Medieval date within the search area.

Medieval

PRN / NPRN	Name	Summary	Period	NGR
GGAT00366s /307711	Cottrell Castle Motte	A motte 22m in diameter at the top, 35m in diameter at the base with a height of 1-2m. The outer ditch, with a marked counterscarp bank was probably originally a ringwork, the centre having been infilled.	Medieval	ST08097450
GGAT00367s /307722	St Nicholas Gaer	A ring motte 48m in diameter with a bank 1.5m high, and surrounded with a ditch 1.5m deep.	Medieval	ST08457475
GGAT00368s / 301256	Coed y Cwm	A ring motte consists of a bank 0.4m high with an outer ditch 1.2m deep. In the NW where the ridge falls sharply away there is an outer slope forming a bank (OS card ST 07 SE 9).	Medieval	ST08287366
GGAT00375s / 406397	St Nicholas' Church at St Nicholas	The church of St Nicholas is first mentioned between 1153 and 1183. Nave, chancel, S aisle, W tower, S porch and vestry.	Medieval	ST09027436
GGAT00937s	St Nicholas' Well	St Nicholas's Well, near Tai ffynnon, N of St Nicholas village and church (Jones 1954, 183: St Nicholas well no.1).	Medieval	ST0894674843
GGAT02871s	Feature, St. Nicholas WP18	Possible site on aerial photographs, rectangular feature (small) straddling ploughed-out boundary.	Medieval	ST09657425
GGAT03774s	St Nicholas Churchyard	The churchyard is quadrangular, both now and on the tithe map of 1838. It is flat and raised above surrounding level to N,E&W.	Medieval	ST09027436
GGAT03869s	Redlands Farm, Bonvilston 9	A round pond to the north of the medieval ringwork on what appears to be an artificial terrace above the cwm.	Medieval	ST082737
418652	St Nicholas, Field System	Earthworks of a field system, 150m south of St Nicholas. The earthworks have clearly defined banks and were discovered during aerial reconnaissance by RCAHMW on 17th November 2011. Possibly the remains of a medieval/prehistoric field system.	Medieval, Prehistoric	ST08957403

Table 5: Known historic assets of medieval date recorded in the HER and NMR databases within 1km of the proposed development site

3.7.8 Nine sites of medieval date are recorded on the HER and NMR, including the scheduled sites of the Cottrell Castle Motte (GM364; PRN GGAT00366s; NPRN 307711), the Cottrell ringwork also known as Y Gaer (GM096; PRN GGAT00367s; NPRN 307722) and the Coed Y Cwm ringwork (GM117; PRN GGAT00368s; NPRN 301256).

3.7.9 The Grade II* Listed Building of medieval church of St Nicholas is also recorded (LB 13636; PRN GGAT00375s; NPRN 406397) noting that it was first recorded in the 12th century. The churchyard is also recorded (PRN GGAT03774s). Probably associated with the church is the site of St Nicholas' Well a presumed holy well (PRN GGAT00937s). It is located around 350m north of the school site boundary and around 450m north of the church.

3.7.10 Other medieval sites include a possible square enclosure shown on aerial photographs (PRN GGAT02871s) 730m east, a small pond north of Coed Y Cwm ringwork 950m southwest (PRN GGAT03869s) and finally a possible medieval field system revealed on aerial photographs 300m to the south of the school site (NPRN 418652). There is a potential these field systems could be prehistoric.

3.7.11 St Nicholas village has medieval origins as indicated by the 12th century records for the church. It is likely that the school site lay north of the main centre possibly within the open field systems that would have surrounded the village, being used for agricultural purposes.

Post-Medieval

PRN / NPRN	Name	Summary	Period	NGR
GGAT05691s	Ty To Gwellt, St Nicholas	19th century stone built cottage. Part of a group of buildings around the church. Post Office during 1950 to 1960.	Post Medieval	ST0894474340
GGAT05694s	Trehill Chapel, St. Nicholas	Trehill Chapel, St. Nicholas. Built 1870.	Post Medieval	ST0862874272
GGAT05695s	Stone Stile, St Nicholas	Stone stile, constructed from a single stone with additional steps to the sides. Hard grey stone, possibly granite.	Post Medieval	ST0919774094
GGAT05697s	Mounting Block, Trehill, St. Nicholas	Stone mounting block, Trehill, St. Nicholas.	Post Medieval	ST0864874222
20103	Tre-Hill; Prince's Arms Inn	Public House	Post Medieval	ST08287415
31891	St Nicholas Police Station	Police Station	Post Medieval	ST09367436
37500	Coach House	-	Post Medieval	ST091743
409798	Dyffryn Coffee Tavern; Westways, St Nicholas	Dyffryn coffee tavern was built by the Cory family on the site of the Travellers ' Rest. The coffee tavern was intended to replace the Three Tuns	Post Medieval	ST0902574288
414360	Blacksmith's Row	A two-unit, chimney-backing-onto-the-entry house, with hall and outer room, dating to the early 17th and 18th century.	Post Medieval	ST08987427
GGAT00932s / 309866	House	Massive dry stone walling extending for 20ft in places traced in an area of many mounds, banks & hollows.	Post-Medieval	ST085738
GGAT01439s	House	Post medieval, possible medieval almshouse.	Post-Medieval	ST09017435

GGAT01497s /20104&19028	Tre-Hill Farm	Hill Farm. A regional house with the chimney backing on to the entry, and an outside cross-passage.	Post-Medieval	ST08457423
GGAT01975s /20049	Three Tuns	Built in the later years of Queen Elizabeth 1st reign as a magistrates court. Long ridge of thatch/distinct gables.	Post-Medieval	ST09177433
GGAT02256s /31890	St Nicholas' Church Hall	Key features of the single storey hall/ two storey tower'd St Nicholas' Church hall include its Arts and Crafts Style.	Post-Medieval	ST0902774200
GGAT02841s	Quarry, West of Haelfaes Farm WP19	Old on 1st Edition 25" OS map, 1878; site appears to be associated with old quarries and limekiln (ST 0888 7504).	Post-Medieval	ST09157498
GGAT03467s	Quarry and Platform	The exact nature of this small rectangular platform is unknown, though may be associated with a long abandoned golf course.	Post-Medieval	ST09487500
GGAT03876s	Cropmark, Redlands Farm, Bonvilston 1	A circular crop mark visible on GEONEX aerial photos visible on the ground as a shallow depression, prob. ploughed out quarry.	Post-Medieval	ST08507391
GGAT03877s	Redlands Farm, Bonvilston 22	A curvilinear earthwork (?) seen on AP Meridian 70 67 116 this is the remnant of a bank and ditch, clearly visible on the ground.	Post-Medieval	ST08467355
GGAT03882s	Hollow Way, Redlands Farm, Bonvilston 18	A hollow way marked by a line of trees and in places visible as an earthwork. This track runs east away from the stream.	Post-Medieval	ST08677376
GGAT03883s	Redlands Farm, Bonvilston 17	A terraced hedge boundary running south east from RF16, its purpose is unclear.	Post-Medieval	ST08607359
GGAT03884s / 15270	Redlands Farm, Bonvilston 16	Set of 2-3 hollow ways converging on stream crossing in valley bottom.	Post-Medieval	ST085736
GGAT03703s	Homri Farm, Peterston-Super-Ely	Pair of stone-built limekilns in the Homri Farm parcel of the Maendy Farm Tir Gofal application area.	Unknown	ST08787539
GGAT03704s	Quarry, Homri Farm, Peterston-Super-Ely	Small quarry in the Homri Farm parcel of the Maendy Farm Tir Gofal application area.	Unknown	ST08897501
GGAT03705s	Field Boundary, Homri Farm, Peterston-Super-Ely	Mature hedgerow in Homri Farm parcel of the Maendy Farm Tir Gofal application area.	Unknown	ST08747519
GGAT04307s	Quarry, St Nicholas	Quarry shown on 1st edition OS and labelled as 'old quarry'	Unknown	ST0835175149

Table 6: Known historic assets of post-medieval (or likely) date recorded in the HER and NMR databases within 1km of the proposed development site

3.7.12 Earlier post-medieval structures in St Nicholas include the Blacksmith Row Grade II Listed cottages (NPRN 414360) dating to the 17th or 18th century, Tre-Hill Farm to the west (PRN GGAT01497s; NPRN 19028 and 20104, the Grade II Listed Three Tuns former public house dating to

the 16th century (PRN GGAT01975s; NPRN 20049) and a series of post-medieval (possibly medieval almshouses) (PRN GGAT 01439s).

- 3.7.12 Many of the post-medieval sites recorded on the HER and NMR relate to 19th century development in the village centre of St Nicholas including Ty To Gwelt cottage (PRN GGAT05961s), Trehill Chapel (PRN GGAT05964s), Prince's Arms Inn (NPRN 20103), the Police Station (NPRN 31891), the Coach House (NPRN 37500), Dyffryn Coffee House (NPRN 409798) and the Grade II Listed St Nicholas Church Hall (PRN GGAT02256s).
- 3.7.13 Other recorded sites of post-medieval date include a stone stile (PRN GGAT05695s) to the south of the village; a stone mounting block to the west (PRN GGAT05697s); the remains of a former building (PRN GGAT00932s; NPRN 309866) southwest of the village; hollow ways are present at Redlands Farm, Bonvilston (PRN GGAT03882s and GGAT03884s; NPRN 15270); a curvilinear earthwork probably associated with post-medieval field systems (PRN GGAT03877s) and a terraced field boundary of uncertain function (PRN GGAT03877s) are also present at Redlands Farm.
- 3.7.14 Quarries of are scattered around the area which are likely to be of post-medieval date (PRN GGAT02841s, GGAT03703s, GGAT03704s and GGAT04307s). A quarry with adjacent platform is also recorded, although it is thought the platform might be related to a modern golf course (PRN GGAT03467s). The cropmark of a probable former quarry site has also been identified at Redlands Farm, Bonvilston (PRN GGAT03876s). A pair of limekilns of probable post-medieval date are also recorded at Homri Farm near Peterston-super-Ely (PRN GGAT03703s).
- 3.7.15 The majority of the post-medieval buildings are located nearer the centre of the village and the A48 rather than on the northern side near the school. The other post-medieval sites are scattered further afield. There would be no direct impacts upon these recorded post-medieval sites from the redevelopment proposals and it is considered that any impacts upon their settings would be negligible, although perhaps very low for some of the closer buildings.

Modern

PRN / NPRN	Name	Summary	Period	NGR
GGAT05689s	Llaneinydd, St Nicholas	House designed by renowned South Wales architect, Sir Percy Thomas for J.Trefil Morgan, Chairman of a Cardiff dept. store.	Modern	ST0890074285
GGAT05696s	Dyffryn Close, St. Nicholas	1 - 16, Dyffryn Close, St. Nicholas. Originally built by Cardiff Rural District Council.	Modern	ST0929873989
420801	St Nicholas	Village	Multiperiod	ST09067433

Table 7: Known historic assets of modern date recorded in the HER and NMR databases within 1km of the proposed development site

- 3.7.16 Two sites of modern date are recorded on the HER. These are a domestic building called Llaneinydd designed by Sir Percy Thomas (PRN GGAT05689s); and a series of council houses on Dyffryn Close to the south of ST Nicholas (PRN GGAT05696s).
- 3.7.17 The final record is that of the village of St Nicholas itself which is multiperiod – spanning from the medieval period through to modern day (NPRN 420801).

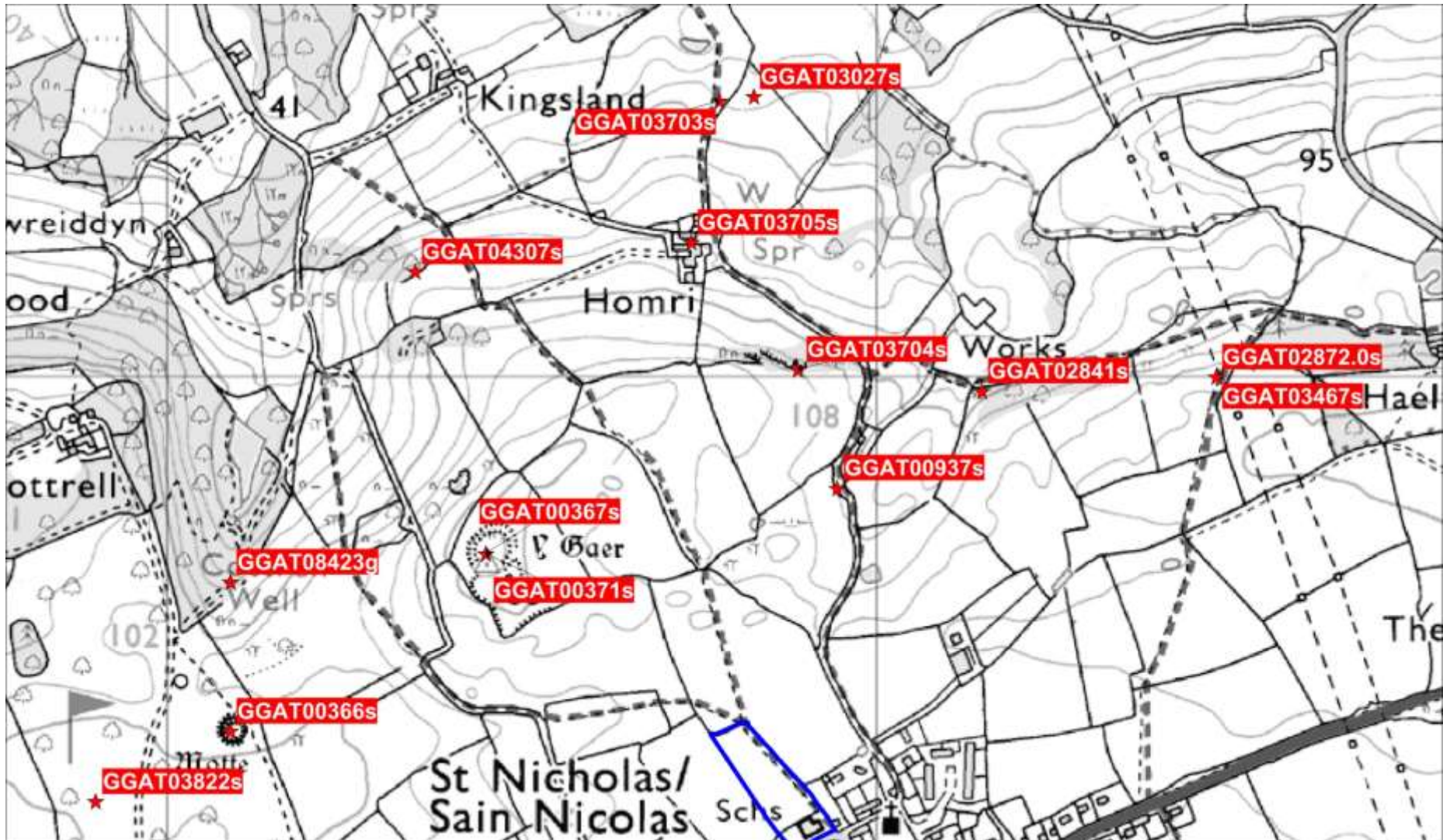


Figure 5: Map showing heritage assets recorded in the HER (red) within 250m to the north of the proposed development site (blue)

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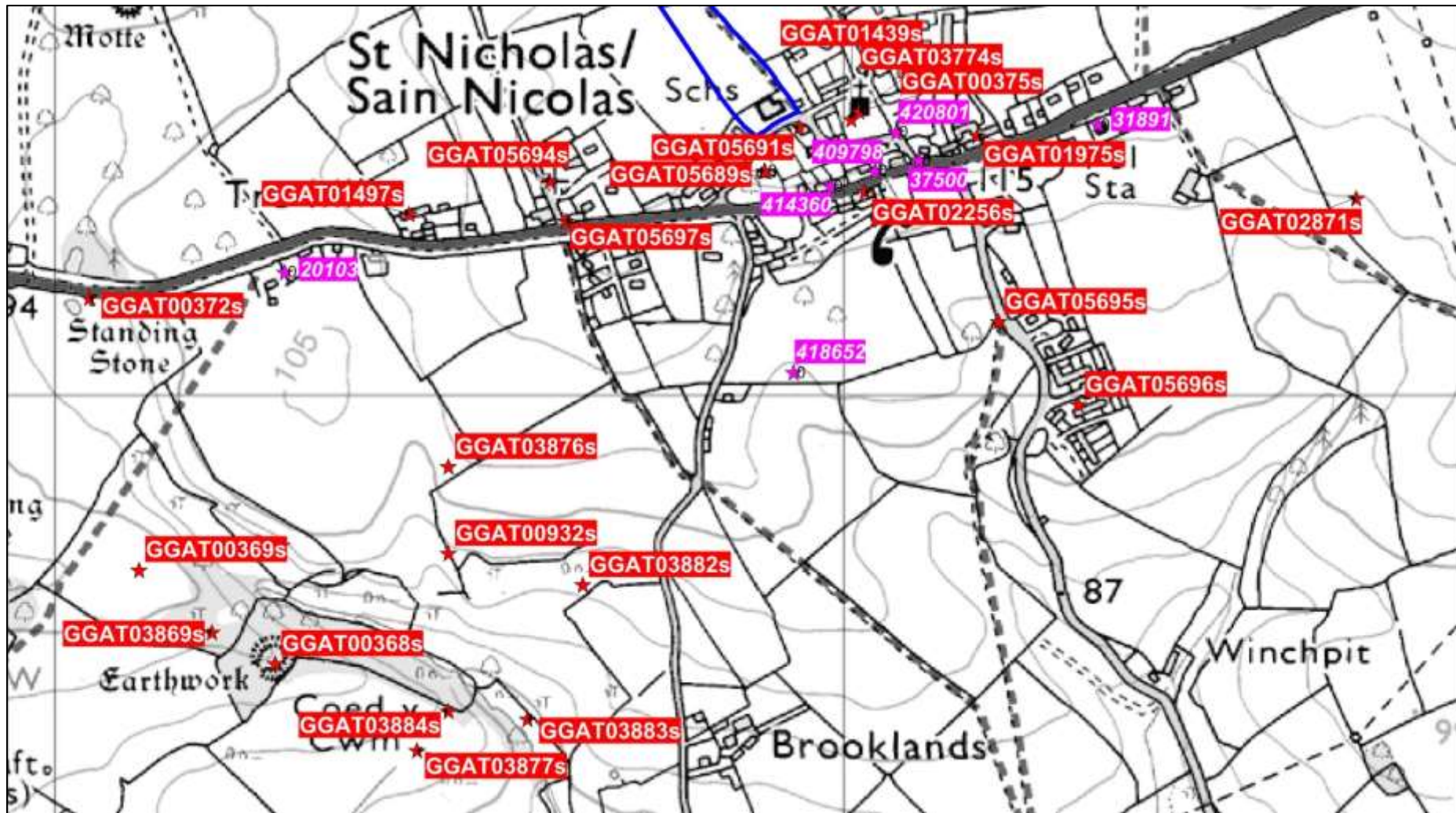


Figure 6: Map showing heritage assets recorded in the HER (red) within 1km to the south of the proposed development site (blue). Heritage assets that are recorded only in the NMR are shown in purple.

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3.8 Other Archaeological Finds

- 3.8.1 Numerous finds have been recorded by the Portable Antiquities Scheme in the area in and around the village of St Nicholas. The following Table 8 shows summaries of finds recovered within a rectangular search area between ST07600 72890 (bottom left) and ST 10420 75630 (top right). These findspots do not have grid references but were recovered from within the 1km search area (and a little beyond).
- 3.8.2 The records indicate that there has been a fair amount of metal detector prospecting in the region and the finds recovered provide more information on the archaeological potential of the area.
- 3.8.3 The earliest finds recorded include worked flint of a general prehistoric date. There are a number of Bronze Age finds including a hoard site near St Nicholas containing 42 items. The finds include socketed axes, flat head axes, spearheads and a copper ingot. The hoard site would indicate a deliberate deposition event for the artefacts, rather than accidental loss.
- 3.8.4 Two coins and part of a chariot fitting of Iron Age date have been recovered from the area. Numerous Roman coins have also been found as well as a few other metal objects. The HER and NMR recorded no known sites of these dates, although it is clear that activity of these dates date was present in the wider area. As the coins all appear to have been recovered individually, it is likely they represent accidental loss of the items.
- 3.8.5 The medieval and post-medieval finds indicate accidental loss of material including coins, buckles and strap ends.

ID	Object type	Broad period	Grid ref
14617	Coin	Roman	Denarius of Vitellius, AD 69
14631	Spear	Bronze Age	Cast copper alloy side looped spearhead, c. 1500 – 1275 BC
14632	Buckle	Post-Medieval	Copper alloy D-shaped buckle probably dating to AD 1350 – 1400
14646	Coin	Post-Medieval	Shilling of James I, AD 1603 – 1604
14647	Bulla	Medieval	Lead papal bulla, possibly of Alexander II or IV, c. AD 1159 – 1181 or AD 1254 – 1261
14685	Coin	Post-medieval	Eight merk of James VI AD 1601 – 1604
14686	Coin	Medieval	Penny of Richard I, c. AD 1189 – 1199
14687	Coin	Medieval	Penny of Edward I, AD 1272 – 1307
14688	Coin	Medieval	Penny of Edward I, c. AD 1272 – 1307
14689	Coin	Post-medieval	Penny of Charles I AD 1625 – 1649
31047	Coin	Post-medieval	Silver groat of Elizabeth I AD 1560 – 1561
31050	Coin	Post-medieval	Silver Halfgroat of James I, AD 1603 – 1604
31450	Seal Matrix	Medieval	Seal matrix probably dating to AD 1220 – 1350
31454	Buckle	Medieval	Incomplete cast buckle probably dating to AD 1250 – 1350
31462	Dress Pin	Post-medieval	Cast head of a dress pin, probably dating AD 1500 – 1650
31464	Book fitting	Post-medieval	Rectangular flat book clasp dating AD 1600 – 1800

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31465	Strap end	Medieval	Bar mount with terminal lobes, probably dating to AD 1350 - 1450
31471	Coin	Medieval	Cut halfpenny of Henry III, AD 1251 - 1272
31474	Coin	Medieval	Penny of Henry VII, AD 1422 1461
31475	Coin	Post-medieval	Threepence coin of Elizabeth I dated AD 1571
31479	Coin	Post-medieval	Silver half groat coin of James I, AD 1603 - 1625
31495	Strap fitting	Medieval	Pendent loop from a bar mount strap fitting, c. AD 1350 - 1450
31499	Strap fitting	Medieval	Cast belt mount of probable c. AD 1400 - 1600
48526	Harness Fitting	Iron Age	Copper alloy terret fragment of probable 1 st century AD date
49443	Bow Brooch	Roman	Copper alloy cast brooch probably of 1 st century AD date
49446	Bow Brooch	Roman	Copper alloy cast dolphin brooch probably of 1 st century AD date
49447	Flint	Prehistoric	Bi-facially worked flint. Possibly unfinished barbed and tanged arrow head of Bronze Age date
49852	Brooch	Medieval	Silver annular brooch, c. AD 1250 - 1399
50166	Brooch	Medieval	Gilt copper alloy brooch probably of 14 th century date
50167	Buckle	Medieval	Copper alloy simple annular buckle, probably 13 th - 15 th century
51051	Finger ring	Post-Medieval	Gold finger ring inscribed internally with 'Fear God, love me'. C. AD 1675 - 1750
54843	Spoon	Post-Medieval	Lead alloy or pewter spoon, c.AD 1600 - 1799
61939	Strap End	Medieval	Copper alloy composite three piece strap end, probably dating to the late 13 th - early 15 th century
61983	Cosmetic mortar	Roman	Copper alloy end looped mortar (incomplete). C. 50 BC - AD 200
61984	Flint scraper	Prehistoric	Flint scraper
61987	Flint blade	Prehistoric	Flint blade with retouch
61993	Flint blade	Prehistoric	Flint blade with retouch
61994	Flint Flake	Prehistoric	Cortical flint flake
61997	Flint Flake	Prehistoric	Utilised flint flake
92538	Coin	Post-Medieval	Penny of Elizabeth I, 1558 - 1603 AD
92599	Coin	Medieval	Long cross farthing of Henry III, 1247 - 1272 AD
154695	Hoard	Bronze Age	St Nicholas Hoard comprising socketed axes, slender axe, gouge and spearheads (42 objects in total). C. 950 - 750 BC
201615	Axehead	Bronze Age	Early Bronze Age copper flat axe, c.2300 - 2050 BC
205443	Ingot	Late Bronze Age	Plano-Convex ingot of copper c.950 - 500 BC
322807	Coin	Iron Age	Gold quarter stater, dated 25 BC - AD 25
361672	Coin	Roman	Denarius of Vitellius AD 69
361761	Coin	Iron Age	Cu Alloy quarter stater, dated 25 BC - AD 25

361763	Coin	Roman	Sestersius of Maximinus I AD 235-236
447007	Ampulla	Medieval	Medieval Ampulla
644434	Coin	Medieval	Silver coin of Edward I/II – c.1307-1309
653507	Coin	Roman	Coin of Carausius c.AD 286-293, probably early
661529	Coin	Roman	Coin of Carausius c.AD 286-293
661647	Coin	Post Medieval	Silver coin of Edward VI (AD 1541-53) groat
661701	Coin	Roman	Coin of Carausius c.AD 286-293
661707	Coin	Roman	Coin of Constantine I. Dated AD 316

Table 8: Finds recorded in the Portable Antiquities Scheme database within the area within and around the village of St Nicholas

3.9 Aerial Photography and LiDAR

- 3.9.1 RAF aerial photos of 1946-1962 were consulted but did not reveal any sites of archaeological interest not already known or revealed by historic mapping (see next section).
- 3.9.2 Ordnance Survey aerial photos taken between 1960 and 1990 were examined and did not reveal any unknown heritage features.
- 3.9.3 Modern satellite imagery was also viewed, but this did not show any hitherto unrecorded historic assets or any indication of archaeological remains within the red line boundary for the school site. These images do show that the playing fields in the northern part of the site are well maintained and level, with a view from 2009 indicating the grass had been removed, perhaps during groundwork improvements and insertion of drainage. It was evidently marked out as playing fields prior to 2009 and afterwards.
- 3.9.4 Online LiDAR mapping was examined but showed nothing of archaeological significance within the school site area. Further afield LiDAR does show the scheduled ringworks and motte and baily castle very clearly. LiDAR imagery within existing agricultural fields also shows hints of the underlying medieval strip fields that would have surrounded the village. An earthwork is visible around the Tinkinswood chambered cairn.

3.10 Historic Mapping

- 3.10.1 The original Ordnance Survey (OS) drawing of 1811 of the Llantrisant area is the earliest available map for St Nicholas to show any great detail of the village and its surroundings (Figure 7). The proposed development site is shown simply as open farmland on the northern side of School Lane. The village was quite a bit smaller at this time. The site of Cottrell Castle Motte is shown to the northwest.

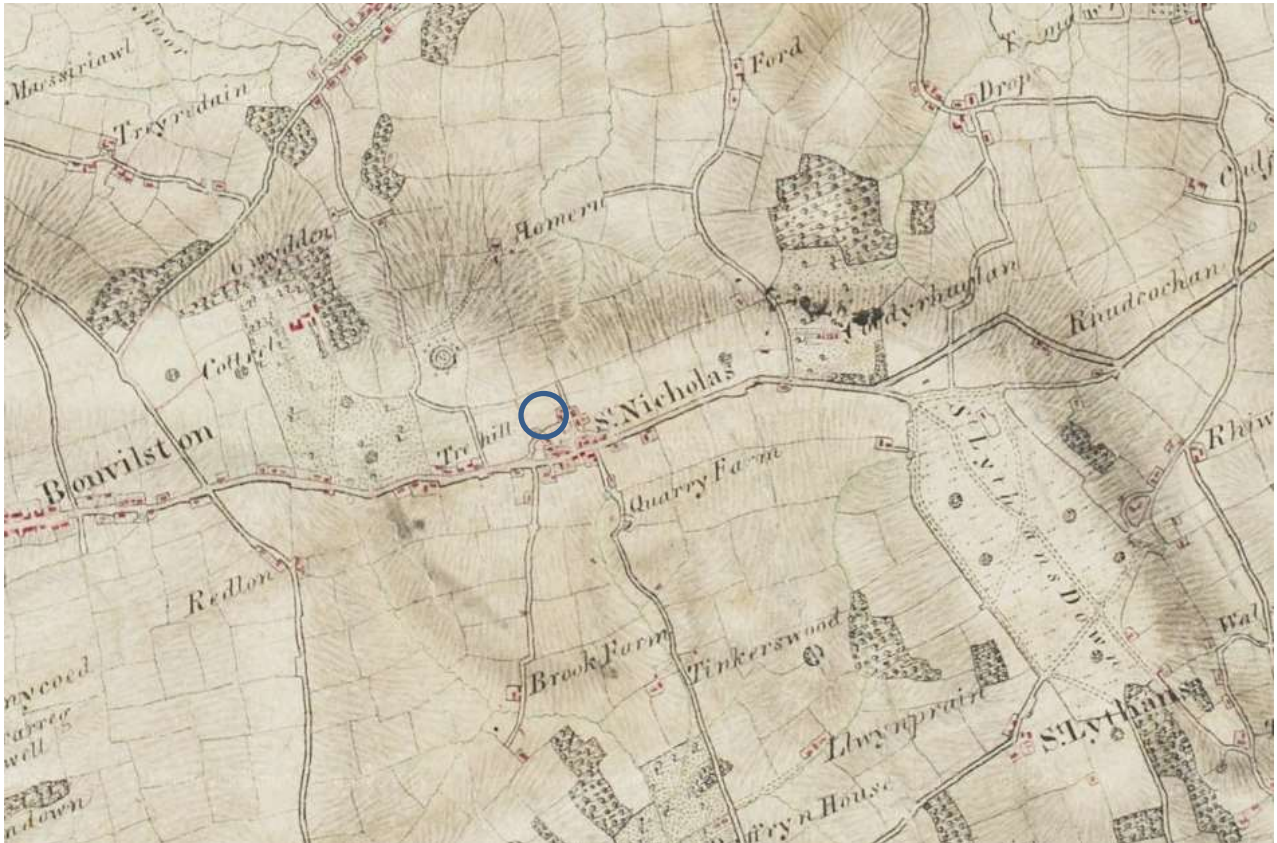


Figure 7: Extract of the 1811 original survey drawing (Llantrisant) of St Nicholas, with the position of the proposed development site circled in blue

3.10.2 The St Nicholas Parish Tithe Map of 1841 (Figure 8) shows the same layout as the 1811 OS map, but with the field boundaries shown in more detail. The map shows that the village core was bounded by the main road to the south (now the A48) and the alignment of School Lane curving around to the north to the area of St Nicholas Church. The majority of buildings lay within the area bounded by these roads and also along the southern side of the main road to the south. The school site comprised a single field at this time called 'Cae Pentre' or Village Field on the northern side of School Lane.

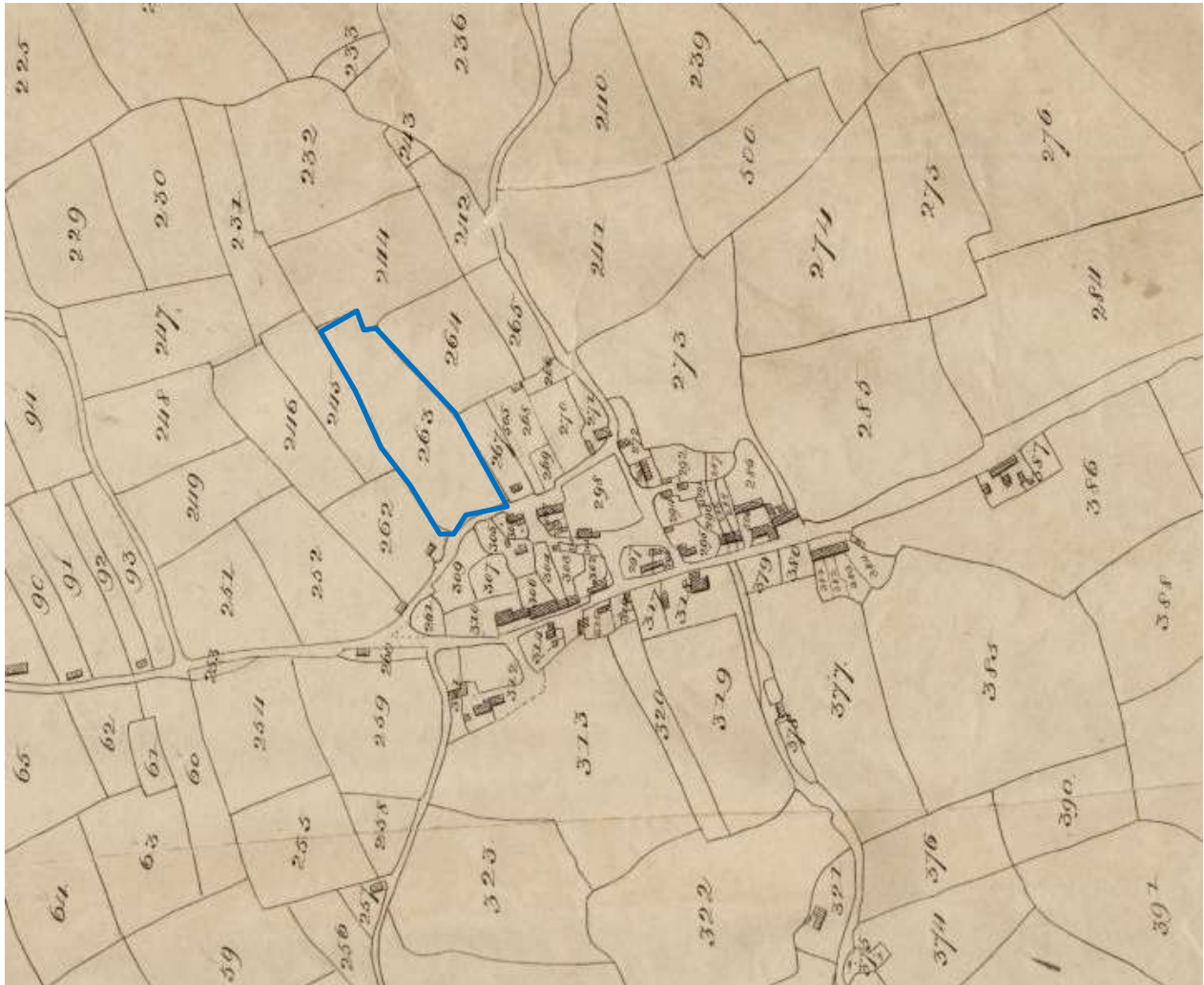


Figure 8: Extract of the 1841 St Nicholas Parish Tithe Map, with the approximate position of the proposed development site outlined in blue

3.10.3 Detailed maps of the site were surveyed by the OS in around 1879, and published in 6inch to 1 mile form in 1885. The map (Figure 9) shows little change to that of the Tithe Map, although more detail is provided. The school site is still shown as a single field on the northwestern side of School Lane, but the map also shows a footpath running along its northeastern edge and a small building in the southwestern part of the field. As with the Tithe map, village development is concentrated in the area between the main road and School Lane and on the southern side of the main road. The St Nicholas' Church rectory lies in the plot to the east of the school site, which is also shown on the Tithe Map but is only referred to as house and gardens in the accompanying apportionment.

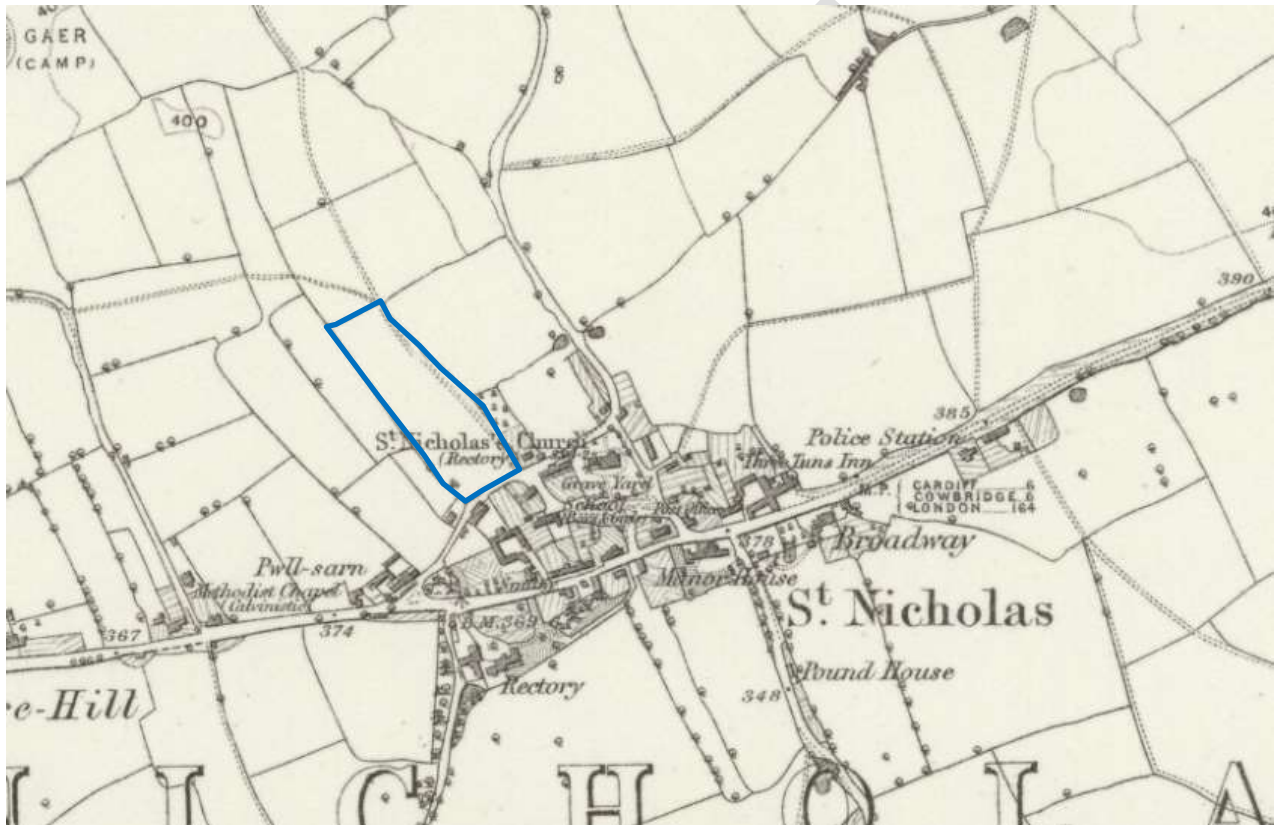


Figure 9: Extract of the 1885 Ordnance Survey 6 inch to 1 mile map (Sheet Glamorgan XLVI) First edition map, with the proposed development site outlined in blue

3.10.4 The 1915 1: 2500 scale map of St Nicholas provides the clearest detail of the school site from the turn of the 20th century (Figure 10). It shows no real changes to the layout shown on the 1885 map. The building in the southwestern part of the site area looks small and more likely to be agricultural than domestic. Potentially a small enclosed area is shown in front of the structure, such as might be expected for an animal pen. At the time of the 1915 map, the village school was located in the centre of the village, southwest of the church.



Figure 10: Extract of the 1915 Ordnance Survey 1:2500 (Sheet Glamorgan XLVI.3), with the proposed development site outlined in blue

3.10.5 Later OS maps show no change in the development area through until 1965. The 1972 – 1975 1:10,000 Ordnance Survey map (not reproduced) is the first to show the school having been built. The layout of the buildings and the playing field to the north are very similar as exists today. As noted above, the playing fields may have been improved in around 2009, with the addition of a hard standing play area directly north of the school with the improved playing fields beyond.

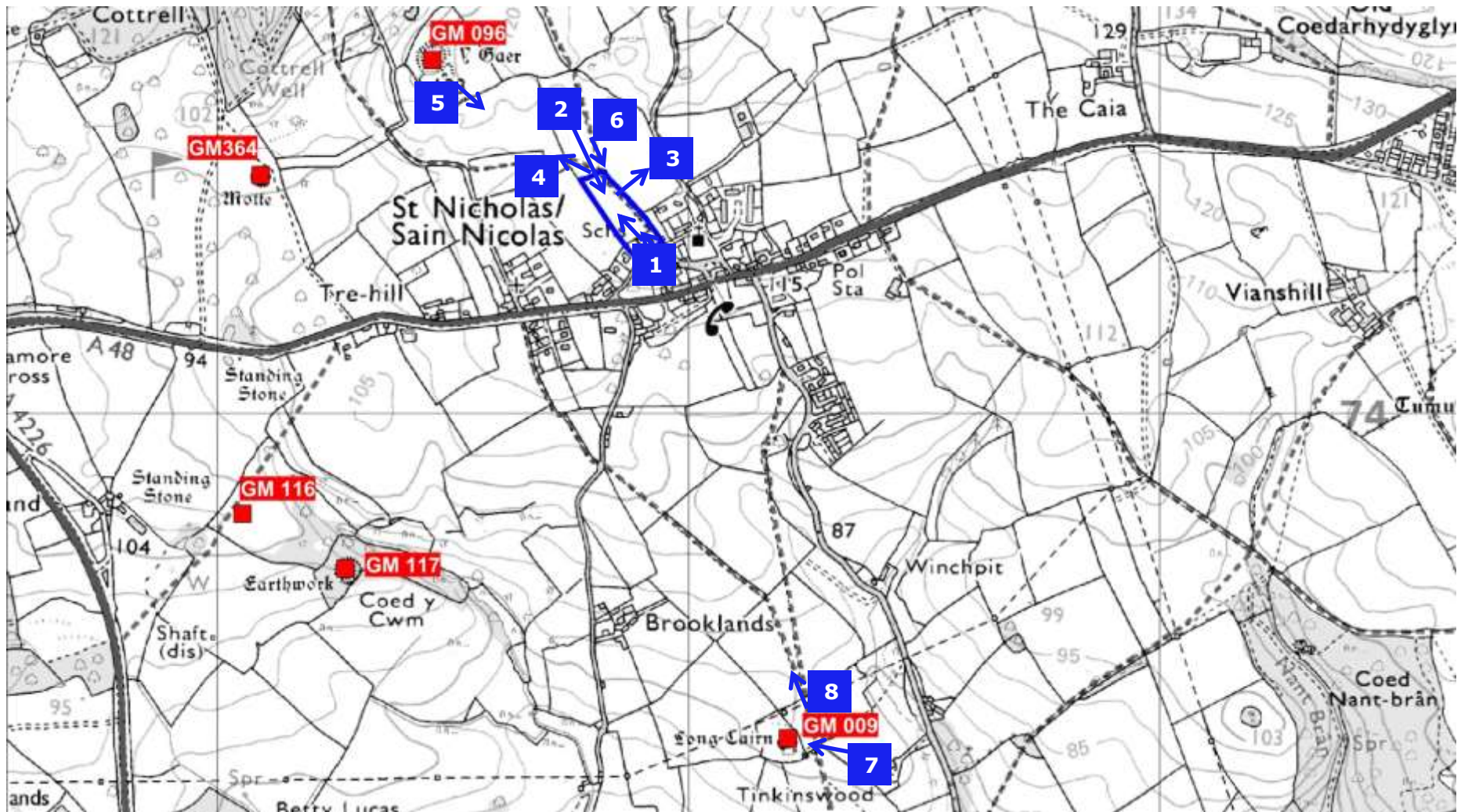


Figure 11: Diagram showing locations and directions of photos referred to in this report, with Scheduled Monuments shown in red

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3.11 Site Walkover Survey

- 3.11.1 A site visit was undertaken on the 1st of May 2019. The visit comprised a walkover of the proposed school redevelopment site and the surrounding area and also incorporated looking at the wider area for views looking back to the proposed development location from designated and other sites. Photographs were taken and field observations recorded in note form. Figure 11 shows the locations and directions of photos taken.
- 3.11.2 Most of the ground within the proposed development site was under grass, excluding the school itself and the hard standing play area on its northern side. The main area is used as a playing field (Photos 1 and 2) which appears to have been levelled and improved (possibly in 2009). The field is bounded by fencing to the northwest and northeast, with the footpath depicted on earlier OS maps still running along the northeastern boundary of the site, directly beyond the metal fence.
- 3.11.3 The school buildings appear to be those constructed in the 1970s, perhaps with small additions and alterations in places. Car parking lies to the northeast and on the roadside of the school buildings.
- 3.11.4 To the northeast, the school looks out over open farmland towards the registered historic park and garden at Coedarhydyglyn (Photo 3). High points of land are visible in the distance which may be the wooded hill top that lies within the park and garden, but the distance and development proposals are considered unlikely to make much of an impact on its setting.
- 3.11.5 Viewing northwest from the northern boundary of the school site there are clear views towards the wooded hill on which the scheduled site of Cotterell medieval ringwork (GM 096) sits (Photo 4). There are also views back to the school site from the earthwork (Photo 5), although the majority of the intervisibility is with the existing playing fields rather than the school buildings themselves.
- 3.11.6 The footpath that runs along the northeastern boundary of the school site includes a stone stile at its northern end (Photo 6). The stile is not recorded on the HER, although the one near to the Tinkinswood Chambered Tomb to the southwest is recorded. The feature lies outside of the school redevelopment area and it is assumed it will not be impacted upon by the proposals and that the footpath will be retained.
- 3.11.7 The scheduled Tinkinswood Neolithic Burial Chamber (GM009; Photo 7) lies to the southwest of the school site, beyond the main village. The site was visited and views were made back towards the school clearly showing that it is unlikely there would be negligible intervisibility between the site and the proposed school redevelopment.
- 3.11.8 The site visit confirmed no intervisibility with the other three scheduled monuments in the study area.
- 3.11.9 The Grade II* Listed Church of St Nicholas is partially visible from the school site, with its tower being the most visible element (Photo 2). There appears to only be negligible or no intervisibility with other listed buildings in the area, which mostly lie to the south / south west along the A48 and are screened by intervening topography, built environment or vegetation.



Photo 1: The school playing field, looking north-northwest, as viewed from the current school



Photo 2: Looking south-southeast across the school playing field with the school in the distance. The tower of the village church can also be seen on the horizon.



Photo 3: Looking northeast from the school playing field over open farmland



Photo 4: The view of Cottrell medieval ringwork Scheduled Monument from the northern boundary of the proposed development site. Cottrell castle motte, another Scheduled Monument is out of sight beyond the horizon on the left side of the photo.



Photo 5: The view from Cottrell medieval ringwork Scheduled Monument back towards the school



Photo 6: The stone stile at the north end of the public footpath that runs along the east boundary of the school site.



Photo 7: Tinkinswood Neolithic Burial Chamber Scheduled Monument, looking west



Photo 8: The view north from Tinkinswood Neolithic Burial Chamber Scheduled Monument towards the village of St Nicholas

4 POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ON THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

4.1 Previous Impacts to Development Area

- 4.1.1 Prior to the construction of the St Nicholas school between 1965 and 1972 the area had been used as agricultural land. It is likely to have been ploughed since at least the medieval period, forming part of the open field system of the village. The field name of 'Cae Pentre' might indicate shared ownership 'Village Field' harking back to medieval land apportionment. Any below-ground archaeological remains, if present, would have been disturbed to some extent through ploughing with the ground surface gradually being more and more denuded as the plough passed over the ground surface.
- 4.1.2 The present school comprises the main school buildings and parking areas in the southeastern part of the site area adjacent to School Lane. A hard-standing play area lies directly to the northwest, which may date from around 2009. Beyond this play area the majority of the school development site comprises a playing field which may have again been improved sometime around 2009.
- 4.1.3 The school buildings appear to comprise the original buildings constructed in around 1970 although some minor alterations and extensions may have occurred. Building foundations, associated car parking areas, drainage and service installation will all have caused quite significant disturbance to any below ground archaeological remains which may be present within the southeastern part of the site area.
- 4.1.4 The remainder of the site forms the school playing fields and play areas. These areas appear to have been levelled to some extent during their construction in around 2009. It is also likely that drainage will have been inserted below all of the pitches, although this cannot be confirmed.

4.2 Potential Impacts from the Proposed Development

- 4.2.1 Full details of the construction design for the development have not been produced as yet. The following construction activities are all likely to be undertaken to some extent at the development site, all of which have the potential to expose, damage or destroy archaeological remains if present at the site. These activities include:
- Enabling works, such as installation of contractor's compound, construction of access roads, parking areas, storage areas, borrow pits or retention ponds if required;
 - Topsoil stripping;
 - Landscaping and terracing works;
 - Foundation excavation;
 - Construction of roads, parking areas and infrastructure; and
 - Service installation.

4.3 Impacts to the Settings of Surrounding Designated Features

- 4.3.1 The definition of setting, how it contributes to the significance of a historic asset, and why it is important are outlined in *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (Welsh Government 2017a; available online) as follows:

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

- 4.3.2 As noted in the site visit section, there is clear intervisibility between the Cottrell medieval ringwork (GM 096) and the school site. This is greatest for the playing field area to the northwest rather than the existing buildings to the southeast which are screened by trees. There is potentially a significant negative impact on the setting of the monument from the school redevelopment proposals.
- 4.3.3 It has been confirmed that there is negligible intervisibility between the Tinkinswood Neolithic Burial Chamber (GM009) and the proposed school redevelopment area and no intervisibility at all with the remaining three scheduled monuments within the search area.
- 4.3.4 There is very limited intervisibility between the Coedarhydyglyn Registered Historic Park and Garden and the school site. Only the highest point of wooded land within the garden is possibly visible from the playing fields area. Based on this intervisibility, the school redevelopment proposals are likely to cause only a very low negative impact upon the historic park and garden.
- 4.3.5 As also noted the only impacts to Listed Buildings will be to the Grade II* Listed Church of St Nicholas, which lies quite close to the southeast of the school site. The majority of the church is screened by existing buildings on the southern side of School Lane, but the tower is visible from the school grounds. The impact to the setting of the church from the proposals is considered to be a low negative one.
- 4.3.6 The existing school buildings and part of the playing fields to the northwest (around half of the red line boundary of the school site) lies within the St Nicholas Conservation Area. There will thus be a direct impact upon the Conservation Area as well as its setting. The school itself is mentioned in descriptions of the Conservation Area as one of the few municipal buildings in the village. Impacts and mitigation is discussed further below.
- 4.3.7 Overall the potential impacts of the proposals upon the setting of all historic assets within the area will be reduced to a certain extent as the proposals are for the rebuilding of the existing school rather than introducing a new development into the village.
- 4.3.8 There is considered to be no further setting impacts associated with the proposed redevelopment of the school site and any known undesignated heritage assets in the vicinity.

5 ASSESSMENT OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL POTENTIAL AND IMPORTANCE

- 5.1 The historic environment desk-based assessment has shown that the proposed development lies within an area of archaeological and historical significance and potential, with known evidence of human activity dating back to the Neolithic period.
- 5.2 The site walkover survey did not identify any unrecorded upstanding archaeological remains within the boundary of the proposed development.
- 5.3 An assessment of the potential for buried archaeology within the site as a whole is discussed below in order of archaeological period. The scale of potential is defined in Table 9. It should be noted that this only provides an indication of potential and does not entirely preclude the presence of significant archaeological remains of any period within the site area. Archaeological and historical importance is ascribed to the sites according to the criteria in Table 10.

Archaeological Potential	Definition
High	Known archaeological remains of the period within the site area, or an abundance of remains of the period within the near vicinity
Medium	A number of archaeological remains of the period are present in the vicinity or wider area, and/or the topography or location of the site would be typical for remains of that period
Low	Few sites of a specific period are known in the wider area, or where the topography of the site is unlikely to contain remains of that period. Or where no archaeological records of a certain period are present, but the location of the site is one that would be considered suitable or typical for remains of that period to exist
Negligible	Where there is no evidence for archaeological remains of a certain period to be present and the location/topography is most unlikely to contain remains of that period, or where a site area has already been totally disturbed

Table 9: Site potential definitions

Site Importance (SI)	Definition of Site Category
High	Features of national importance - Scheduled Ancient Monuments, Listed buildings Grade I and II*, well preserved historic landscapes, registered parks and gardens and historic battlefields
Medium	Non-scheduled sites of regional or county importance. Listed Buildings Grade II, reasonably preserved historic landscapes
Medium / Low	Features of district or local importance but generally common features at a national or regional level
Low	Minor sites or sites so badly damaged that too little now remains to justify their inclusion in a higher grade
Uncertain	Features about which insufficient is known to attribute them to a higher rank, or which cannot be sufficiently accurately located to justify their consideration
Negligible	Where a site area has already been totally disturbed by previous development or natural processes

Table 10: Site importance definitions

- 5.4 The potential for remains of Palaeolithic is negligible because other than very rare stray finds, there would be no chance of recovering stratified

remains in this area from this period. The potential for remains of Mesolithic date is also considered very low due to the paucity of remains of this date within the study area.

- 5.5 The potential for remains of Neolithic and Bronze Age date is considered to be low to moderate, based on the fact that there are a number of known sites in the vicinity, including the scheduled Tinkiswood Neolithic Burial Chamber (GM 009), the Coed-y-Cwm chambered cairn (GM116) and the Bronze Age standing stone near Coed-y-Cwm. Bronze Age sites are also indicated by the number of metal finds recorded from the general area by the Portable Antiquities Scheme. If any such sites were to be found during development at the new school site they would be of high importance.
- 5.6 The potential for below-ground archaeology originating in the Iron Age and Roman periods is considered low. There are no known sites recorded on the HER or NMR, but the Portable Antiquities Scheme records two Iron Age coins and a number of Roman ones from the area. If any such sites of these dates were to be present, they would be considered of moderate to high importance.
- 5.7 There are no records on the HER or NMR of early medieval (pre-1086) sites in the search area. The likelihood that the settlement of St Nicholas and the church sites had earlier origins is quite high, especially as a holy well is recorded to the north of the school site, often a focus for the establishment of an early church. The potential for remains of early medieval date is considered low, but any such remains would be of high importance if present.
- 5.8 St Nicholas was present in the medieval period as a village with a church. The layout of the village, with School Lane and the main street to the south (now A48) bounding the main centre of the village between, including the church, suggests the fossilisation of the original medieval layout. The fact that the school site lies to the north of School Lane and in an area indicated as fields up until the school was built would, called 'Cae Pentre' on the 1841 Tithe Map would suggest it lay within the open fields surrounding the medieval settlement. It is unlikely that the site area was developed before the school was built and would have remained as agricultural land throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods. The potential for significant archaeological remains of medieval or post-medieval date is considered low and the importance of any agricultural remains which may survive would also be considered low.
- 5.9 There are no archaeologically significant sites of modern date within the site area. The school site itself has limited importance, although the building's design and layout may be considered of interest to the local community and past pupils.

6 DISCUSSION

6.1 General Conclusions

- 6.1.1 A new primary school is proposed at the site of the current St Nicholas primary school in St Nicholas village, Vale of Glamorgan. The school will either be built on the footprint of the existing school buildings, an area which has already been significantly disturbed or the adjacent playing field and hard standing play area to the northwest. The playing field and play area are also likely to have been disturbed to some extent when they were created to include levelling and the construction of any associated drainage that will have been required. Modern satellite imagery indicates that an improvement scheme was undertaken on these fields in 2009.
- 6.1.2 Mapping from 1811 onwards shows that the proposed development site was formerly an agricultural field, until the creation of the current school between 1965 and 1972.
- 6.1.3 There is only one Scheduled Monument within 2km of the site that has clear intervisibility with the proposed school redevelopment site, the Cottrell ringwork (GM096), a defended medieval castle site. The vast majority of the intervisibility is with the playing fields area rather than the school buildings.
- 6.1.4 There are a number of Listed Buildings within the centre of St Nicholas School in relatively close proximity. The only one with intervisibility is St Nicholas Church itself, Grade II* Listed. The proposals will replace the existing school building and as such will cause no real increase in the extent of visible built environment from the listed building. The overall impact is considered low to negligible.
- 6.1.5 The proposals area lies within the St Nicholas Conservation Area and thus will directly impact upon it and its setting. As the proposals are for the replacement of the existing school building, there should be no real increase in the level of the built environment within and around the Conservation Area. It will be necessary to obtain Conservation Area consent for the development proposals and demolition of any existing school buildings.
- 6.1.6 The potential for below-ground archaeology originating in the Palaeolithic and Mesolithic periods is considered very low. Generally speaking, if such remains were to be found their importance would be high.
- 6.1.7 Known remains of Neolithic and Bronze Age date are recorded in the study area on the HER and NMR and also from a number finds reported to the Portable Antiquaries Scheme. The sites and finds indicate an important landscape during these periods. The overall potential for remains of Neolithic and Bronze Age date is considered low to moderate. If present, they would be of high archaeological importance.
- 6.1.8 No sites of Iron Age and Roman date are recorded on the HER and NMR, but a number of coin finds have been reported to the Portable Antiquities Scheme in the vicinity. The potential is considered low for remains to be present within the St Nicholas School site and if present they would be considered of medium importance.
- 6.1.9 The potential for archaeological remains of early medieval date is considered low, but any such remains would be of high importance if present.
- 6.1.10 The potential for below-ground archaeology originating in the medieval or Post-medieval periods is considered to be low because the site area would

have been located within agricultural land surrounding the medieval/ post-medieval settlement. Remains of agricultural activity would be considered to be of low archaeological importance.

- 6.1.10 The current school was built on former agricultural land at sometime between 1965 and 1972. This implies that the potential for remains of modern date is negligible, excluding the school itself. Any archaeology that might be found would be of low importance.

6.2 Archaeological Mitigation

- 6.2.1 Based on the below ground archaeological potential determined by this assessment and from previous impacts caused to the site area from construction of the existing school and associated playing fields, it is considered that the overall archaeological potential of the site is very low to negligible. There should thus be no requirement for any further archaeological mitigation at the site as regards below ground archaeological remains.
- 6.2.2 It should be noted that school buildings of the c.1970 date are being replaced across the country and that at some point there will be few examples left. Due to their considerable social importance to the local community, it is considered that some form of record of the buildings should be made prior to their replacement. This could be in the form of a basic photographic survey showing the layout of the buildings, rooms and playing field in their present state.
- 6.2.3 Archaeological mitigation requirements at the site would need to be discussed and confirmed with the Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust – Planning Services section, who are the archaeological advisors to the planning authority.
- 6.2.4 To mitigate any impacts to the setting of the scheduled Cottrell medieval ringwork (GM096) and the Grade II* Listed Church of St Nicholas as well as the St Nicholas Conservation Area will require consideration of the design, material and colour choices for the new building at an early stage. These should be demonstrated to minimise the new buildings visibility in the wider landscape and fit in appropriately with the Conservation Area.
- 6.2.5 Conservation Area consent will be required for any demolition or building within the St Nicholas Conservation Area boundary. In terms of impacts to the setting of the Cottrell medieval ringwork Cadw would have to be consulted at an early stage in the design process to determine what mitigation might need to be implemented to minimise any impacts on its setting.
- 6.2.6 In all cases of setting issues, the fact that the proposals are for the replacement of the existing school buildings, they have no real increase in the built environment of the village. The modernisation and improvement of the education facilities should also be seen as justification for the proposals which should be weighed up against any impacts to the historic environment.

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Database

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Cartographic

Original 1:63360 Ordnance Survey drawing	1811
St Nicholas Parish Tithe Map	1841
Ordnance Survey 6inch to 1 mile	1885
Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map	1915

Aerial Photographic

RAF CPE/UK/1871, frames 2020-2 and 3024	1946
RAF 58/3806, flight 21, frames 123-4	1960
RAF 543/950, flight 21, frame 0111	1960
RAF 58/5098, flight 22, frame 186	1962
OS 69-341, frames 95-7	1969
OS 79-129, frame 96	1979
OS 90-160, frames 76-8	1990

**ST NICHOLAS SCHOOL, VALE OF
GLAMORGAN:
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DESK-BASED
ASSESSMENT**

RHIF YR ADRODDIAD / REPORT NO. 2019/20

Mehefin 2019
June 2019

Paratowyd yr adroddiad hwn gan / This report has been prepared by

Alice Day

Swydd / Position: **Archaeologist**

Llofnod / Signature  Dyddiad / Date 23/05/2019

Mae'r adroddiad hwn wedi ei gael yn gywir a derbyn sêl bendith
This report has been checked and approved by

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Swydd / Position: **Head of DAT Archaeological Services**

Llofnod / Signature  Dyddiad / Date 06/06/2019

Yn unol â'n nôd i roddi gwasanaeth o ansawdd uchel, croesawn unrhyw sylwadau
sydd gennych ar gynnwys neu strwythur yr adroddiad hwn

As part of our desire to provide a quality service we would welcome any
comments you may have on the content or presentation of this report

