related to landscaping of the slope in support of the extant pathway, though this interpretation appears less convincing.

8.7. Preservation of these masonry features is currently negatively impacted by dense vegetation, with trees and plants growing directly through both inclines and causing ongoing deterioration. Both of these features lie within the World Heritage Site conservation area, and outside the adjacent Ancient Woodland area. The proposed pathway route as shown in Figure 2 will directly impact both inclines.



Figure 15: Close-up oblique view of a portion of the easternmost stone incline, viewed from the south east (CPA Photo PD24-060_025)



Figure 16: Close-up view of a portion of the easternmost stone incline, viewed from the south southeast (CPA Photo PD24-060_024)



Figure 17: Close-up view of a portion of the westernmost stone incline, viewed from the south southeast (CPA Photo PD24-060_029)

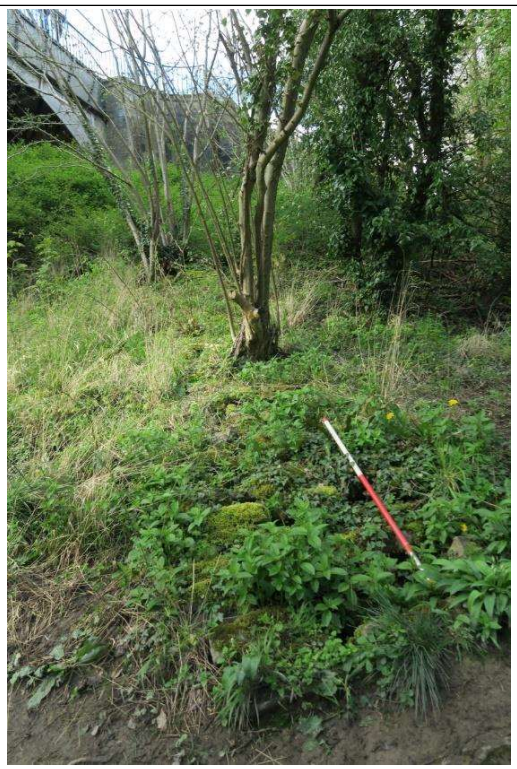


Figure 18: The westernmost stone incline, viewed from the south. The ranging rod is aligned with the direction of the structure, indicating its relationship to the juncture of the aqueduct and the canal. The two bare trees shown are both growing directly through the stone surface (CPA Photo PD24-060_027).

Extant Pathway

8.8. The existing pathway comprises a gravelled pathway interspersed at points by gravel and wood-riser steps leading due south from Trevor Basin to a levelled-area beneath the first span of the aqueduct, then onto a flight of stoned-tread and wood-riser steps connecting the Basin to the foot of the aqueduct on the northern bank of the River Dee. The gravelled path and levelled area beneath the first span are both flanked by concrete-topped masonry retaining walls. Measuring c. 165m in length with an average width of 1.1m, the route descends c. 20 m of elevation via a meandering route that primarily lies directly adjacent to the east side of the aqueduct's piers. The path has suffered some degradation through use and exposure to the weather, with a small number of wooden risers now damaged or decayed. Landscaping undertaken in creation of the extant pathway's route may have truncated the stone inclines noted earlier; similarly, it may either overlie or have truncated traces of the funicular railway posited in the RCHAMW interpretation (see Figure 4). However, no traces were evident through the dense foliage lining the path's eastern edge.

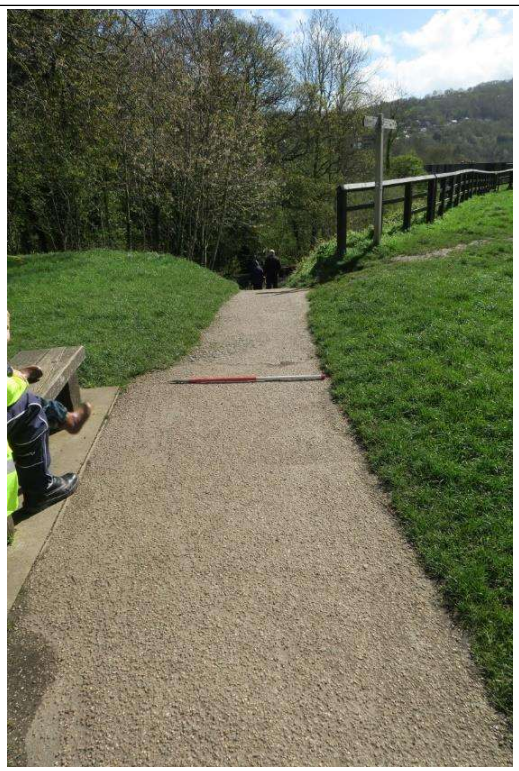


Figure 19: The gravelled path at Trevor Basin, c. 12m west of the Brick Workshop Store, viewed from the north (CPA Photo PD24-060_009).



Figure 20: Two stone retaining walls (one at left, the other under the aqueduct's first span) shown adjacent to the gravelled path and levelled area, viewed from the north east (CPA Photo PD24-060_015).



Figure 21: Detail view of the retaining wall adjacent to the gravelled path, viewed from the north west (CPA Photo PD24-060_017).



Figure 22: Sample section of stoned-tread and wood-riser steps, beneath first span viewed from north west (CPA Photo PD24-060_035).

9 Baseline Assessment

9.1. The baseline assessment has identified all known heritage assets within a study area which extends for 500m from the proposed development boundary for Designated Assets and 250m for non-designated assets. These have been illustrated in Maps 1, and 2 (reproduced at A3 scale at the end of this report) and contain data obtained from the Clwyd-Powys Historic Environment Record (CP-HER) (search request reference E6917). Appendix 1 lists all heritage assets located within the study area.

Designated Assets

9.2. The following outlines all designated assets contained within and located 500m from the proposed site boundary illustrated in Map 1. A full table of assets identified within the study area has been included in Appendix 1 of this report.

Table 3: Total of Designated Assets within 500m of the proposed development.

Monument Type	Source	Quantity
World Heritage Site	Cadw	1
Scheduled Ancient Monument	Cadw	2
Listed Buildings	Cadw	11
Conservation Area	CPA-HER	1

Designated Assets within the proposed development boundary

9.3. The proposed development area incorporates a World Heritage Site and a Scheduled monument, both are Pontcysyllte Aqueduct and Canal (DE175), and the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct conservation area.

Designated Assets within 500m of the overhead line

9.4. There are an additional 12 designated assets within 500m of the proposed development boundary. These include the Scheduled Ancient Monument Pont-y-Cysylltau bridge (DE027) located 230m to the west of the proposed development area. There are a total of 11 listed buildings, most of which are concentrated within the Trevor Basin and wharf to the north of the proposed development and within Trevor.

Non designated assets

9.5. Data obtained from the Historic Environment Record contained a total of 65 assets within the core data set from within 250m of the proposed development boundary, of which 11 are duplicate records of existing designated assets including scheduled monuments, listed buildings and Portable Antiquities records. Once duplicates were removed the remaining 54 are defined as a combination of non-designated monuments, events and Portable Antiquities records, a breakdown of which is shown in Table 4. A full list of these assets has been included in Appendix 1 of this report.

Table 4: Total of Non designated assets within 250m of the development boundary.

Monument Type	Source	Quantity
HER Core Record	CP-HER	29
HER Event Records	CP-HER	23
PAS Finds record	Portable Antiquities Scheme	2

Non-designated Assets within the proposed development boundary

9.6. There is a single non-designated asset that crosses part of the proposed development area, this comprises the Trevor Basin waste water channel (PRN 1687116).

9.7. The walkover survey undertaken as part of this assessment identified a second potential asset within the proposed development area (newly given PRN 218243). This consists of a masonry foundation running northwest to southeast from the upper platform of the aqueduct (Figure 23). This feature is likely to be associated with canal drainage.

Non-designated Assets within 250m of the proposed development boundary

9.8. There are 31 assets within 250m of the proposed development boundary comprising 29 HER core record assets and 2 Portable antiquities scheme assets.

9.9. The non-designated asset dataset is formed primarily of post-medieval and modern features including structures, buildings earthworks and find spots. There are two prehistoric assets, one of which consists of a findspot located 72m to the southwest on the opposite side of the river (PRN 101708). The second is a placename possibly associated with a hillfort (now destroyed) centred 227m to the southeast (PRN 101631). The Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) records two medieval finds spots 100m to the east of the site.

Table 5: Non-designated assets by period and form.

Period	Count	Forms	Source
Prehistoric	2	Placename, finds only	CP-HER
Medieval	2	Finds only	PAS
Post-Med	19	Structures, building, Earthwork	CP-HER
Modern	7	Structure, building, document, finds only	CP-HER
Multiperiod	1	Multiperiod (settlement)	CP-HER

Other non-designated assets

9.10. There are 6 restored ancient woodlands located within 250m of the proposed development area, with the proposed development intersecting one (ROWID 41266) and bordering a second (ROWID 413479).

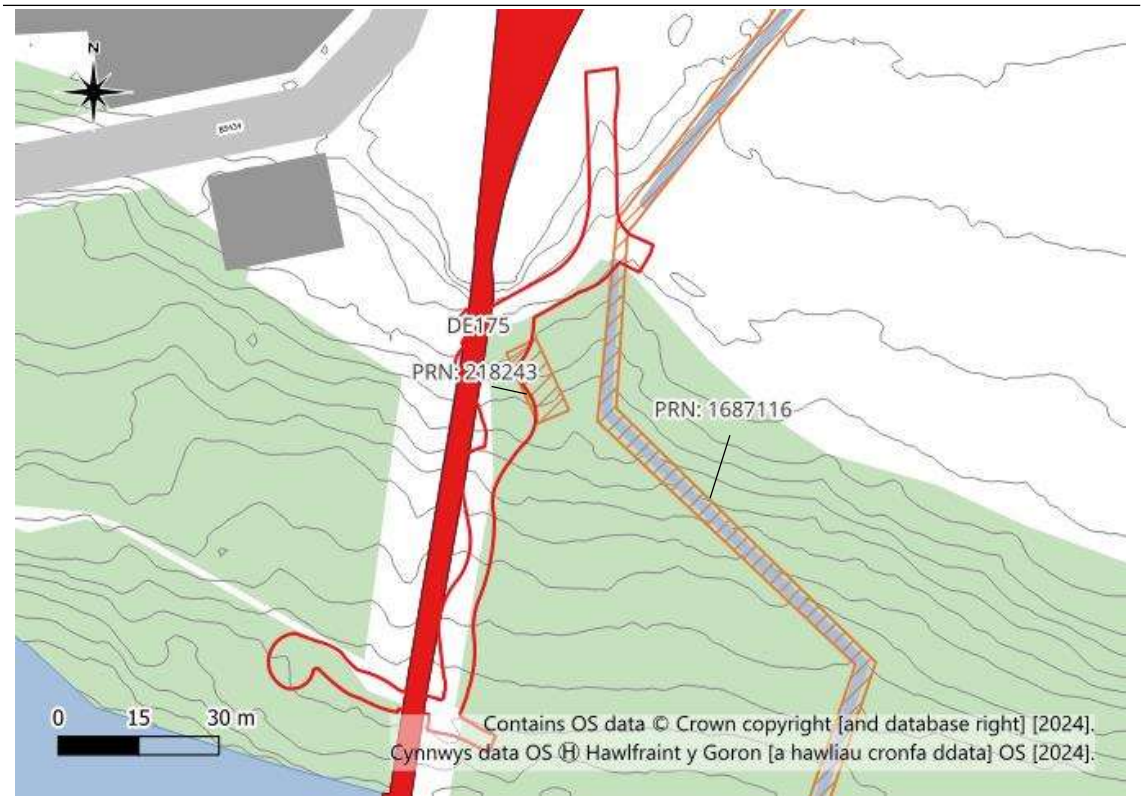


Figure 23: Designated and non-designated assets situated within the proposed development area.

10 Conclusion

10.1. This Desk Based Assessment conducted by Heneb: Clwyd-Powys Archaeology has provided a comprehensive overview of the historical and archaeological potential of the proposed improvements to the existing public footpath leading from Trevor Basin to the River Dee and Ty-Mawr Country Park.

10.2. The assessment has identified archaeological assets within the vicinity of the proposed development and based on known information, has determined the potential for each archaeological period as defined in section 0, with the baseline assessment for archaeological assets detailed in section 9.

10.3. The most prominent features highlighted in this assessment belong to the post-medieval period, defined by the nationally and internationally recognised Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, a Scheduled Monument and World Heritage Site. This assessment highlighted that there is a high potential for sub-surface features associated with the canal and/or the construction of the Pontcysyllte Aqueduct, which due to its World Heritage status, would be of high to very high significance.

10.4. The Historic Environment Record documents a single known non-designated asset that crosses the northern extent of the proposed development, this is the stone-lined sluice/overflow for the basin (PRN 1687116), which any intrusive work in this area is highly likely to encounter. Additionally, the walkover survey undertaken as part of this assessment also identified a second potential asset comprising the remains of two masonry foundations,

part of which are contained within the proposed development area and which may be impacted by the proposed re-routing of the northern section of the pathway. This has been assigned a new non designated asset refence as part of this assessment (PRN 218243). At present the nature and significance of this feature is not known, and therefore further investigation may be required to better understand the potential impact.

10.5. One of the most notable potential subsurface assets that might be encountered during any proposed groundworks include the supposed funicular railway depicted by the Royal Commission for Historical and Ancient Monuments Wales (RCHAMW) in a reconstruction of the aqueduct. This, or any other surviving remains associated with the construction of the aqueduct would be considered of high to very high significance.

10.6. Based on the contextual analysis of known activity, this assessment has concluded that for the Prehistoric, Roman and medieval periods, there is a relatively low potential for encountering undocumented archaeological assets, with most of the known lowland activity being attributed to isolated find-spots, with agricultural activity also defining the medieval period. There is however a potential for bias within the existing archaeological dataset due to a lack of investigation and poor survival, therefore, should any assets other than isolated findspots be encountered, these would have a greater significance and may require further mitigation.

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