

CPAT Report No. 1885




Proposed Development at Church Stoke Sewage Treatment Works

Desk Based Assessment



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Summary

A desk-based assessment has been conducted by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, on behalf of Severn Trent Water Ltd in connection with proposals to extend the sewage treatment works at Church Stoke.

The works comprise the construction of an additional set of treatment tanks within the existing compound, and within an area of the adjoining field to the west, neither of which appear to impact upon any known historical assets. The site lies within a Registered Historic Landscape of Outstanding Interest in Wales (Vale of Montgomery).

Proposed works in the vicinity of the access road will cut close to the line of the former 18th century turnpike road running north from Church Stoke towards Chirbury. This is considered to be of low value.

Crynodeb

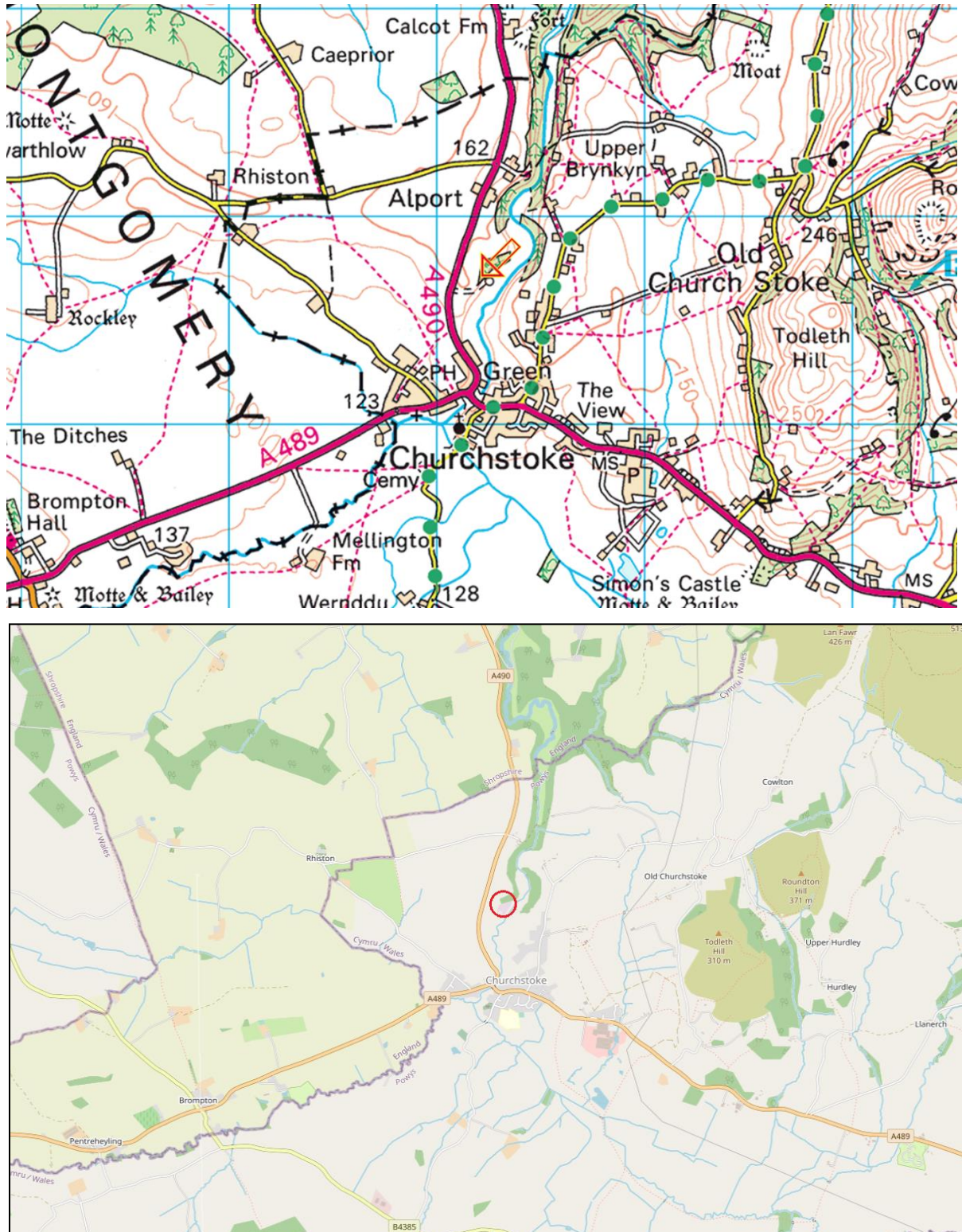
Bu Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Clwyd-Powys yn cynnal asesiad wrth ddesg ar ran Severn Trent Water Ltd mewn cysylltiad â chynigion i estyn y gwaith trin carthion yn yr Ystog.

Mae'r gwaith yn cynnwys adeiladu set ychwanegol o danciau trin o fewn y cymhlyg presennol, ac o fewn ardal o'r cae cyfagos i'r gorllewin; nid yw'n ymddangos bod yr un o'r ddau yn effeithio ar unrhyw asedau hanesyddol hysbys. Mae'r safle o fewn Tirwedd Hanesyddol Gofrestredig o Ddiddordeb Eithriadol yng Nghymru (Bro Trefaldwyn).

Bydd gwaith arfaethedig ger y ffordd fynediad yn torri yn agos at linell hen ffordd dyrpeg y 18fed ganrif sy'n rhedeg i'r gogledd o'r Ystog tuag at Lanffynhonwen. Ystyrir mai gwerth isel sydd i hyn.

1 Introduction

- 1.1. The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust was instructed by Severn Trent Water Ltd to conduct a desk based study in connection with proposals to expand the existing sewage treatment works located 0.5km north of Church Stoke (NGR SO 27182 94679) (Figure 1).



*Fig. 1 Location of the proposed development site (circled in red)
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Fig. 2 Proposed development areas (shaded in blue)

2 Legislative Provisions, Planning Policy and Published Guidance

Legislation

- 2.1. The legislative framework for the historic environment in Wales was revised by the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016. The 2016 Act amended the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. It extended the definition of scheduled monuments and enhanced their protection, as well as making changes to the process of scheduled monument consent. Changes were also made to the protection of listed buildings. The 2016 Act also provided for a statutory register of historic landscapes, a statutory list of place names, and imposed a statutory duty on Welsh Ministers to compile and maintain Historic Environment Records (HERs).

Planning Policy

- 2.2. National policy within Wales is set out in Planning Policy Wales (11th edition, 2021) (PPW), which was revised with the purpose of harmonising PPW with the Well-being of Future Generations Act (2015). Issues relating to the historic environment are set out in Chapter 6, Distinctive and Natural Places. This notes that the 'protection, conservation and enhancement

of historic assets is most effective when it is considered at the earliest stage' of a project; hence the need for a reasonable and proportionate assessment to ensure that any proposed development is sustainable and to prevent unnecessary harm to historic assets.

National Guidance

- 2.3. PPW is supported by Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (TAN 24) of 2017. It is designed to assist local authorities with developing their local plans and for determination of planning applications or listed building consent in relation to historic assets. PPW is also supported by associated Cadw best practice guidance on the historic environment (see below).

3 Site Background

Geology

- 3.1. The bedrock geology of the site consists of mudstone of the Hagley Shale Formation, a sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 449 to 458 million years ago in the Ordovician Period (BSG, 2022). The superficial geology consists of Devensian glacial till formed up to 2 million years ago during the Quaternary Period (BSG, 2022).

Landscape and Topography

- 3.2. The site is located on the eastern side of the A490, 0.6km north of Church Stoke, close to the border between Shropshire and Powys.
- 3.3. The site is an irregular shaped parcel of land occupying an area of approximately 0.68ha. The Severn Trent Water sewage treatment works is located on the west side of the Camlad Valley which runs north-south. The site is largely concealed from view due to the topography and also mature woodland surrounding it on all sides. The extant works site occupies a steep slope and has been built into terraces. It is proposed that extra tanks are constructed to the north of this area (Fig. 2, 1)
- 3.4. The plans also propose a non-contiguous expansion area with tanks located within an adjacent field to the west. This area is located within a hollow and is largely concealed from view, except from the north (Fig. 2, 2). A third groundworks area located at the site access point, presumably for a splay, is also proposed (Fig. 2, 3).

4 Methodology

Desk Based Assessment

- 4.1. This assessment was conducted according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment* (2017).
- 4.2. The desk-based study was produced using a combination of readily available internet-based sources, published works and information held by Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust. This report also draws on a GeoEnvironmental desk study produced by Earth Environmental and Geotechnical (EE&G 2020).
- 4.3. National Monuments data was acquired from Cadw for designated assets within 1km of the Site, and from the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) for all undesignated assets within 1km of the Site (Drawings 1 and 2). It should be noted that whilst the site and most of the surrounding periphery falls within Powys in Wales, that the site is in close proximity to the

Shropshire border and therefore datasets derived from Historic England and the Shropshire HER were also consulted during the compilation of this assessment.

5 Historical Background

This section provides a synthesis of all the known archaeological and historical activity associated with the study area and its immediate surroundings. This assessment has been divided into three key historical/archaeological periods, with reference given to regional activity so as to provide a contextual narrative to the site's archaeological potential. Drawings 1 and 2 map the distribution of designated heritage assets, and non-designated heritage assets respectively.

The Phase I Geoenvironmental desk study report states:

The HER report highlights that Alport milestone, which is Post Medieval located 150m north west from site. Churchstoke 'Horse and Jockey', which is a Post Medieval (early 18th Century), Public House is located 355m south west from site. A Nissen Hut located in Lower Alport discovered 370m north from site. Churchstoke Hall Quarry, which is a rank 1: Post Medieval, 300m long Quarry is located 375m south east from site. Middle Alport House, which is a Post Medieval building, is located 435m north east from site. Brick Leasow, possibly the site of a Post Medieval Brickworks located 450m to the north east from site. Churchstoke Hall Ridge and Furrow, which are rank 1: Medieval and rank 2: Post Medieval is located 460m south from site. Upper Alport House, which is also a Post Medieval building, is located 490m from site.

Prehistoric and Romano-British

- 5.1. There is no recorded Prehistoric or Roman activity within the development area itself. A single findspot is recorded within 1km radius of the site, comprising a rivetted Late Bronze Age spearhead recovered from a field near Long Leasow 0.8km north-east of the site (PRN 70311).
- 5.2. This apparent dearth of archaeological activity is not reflected in the wider area however. Earlier prehistoric activity is represented by flint debitage recorded south-west of Pentre, and within Roundton hillfort. There is possible evidence for upland funerary activity from the Neolithic period and later in the form of a long barrow and other mounds located south of Hyssington 4km east of the site.
- 5.3. There are numerous enclosures recorded within the upper Camlad valley south and south-east of Church Stoke, suggesting that the area was quite densely populated during the later prehistoric and Romano-British periods. Hillforts are recorded at two adjacent sites close to Calcot Farm, approximately 1.5km north of the site on the western side of the River Camlad. Roundton Hillfort is located 2.2km to the east.
- 5.4. Roman activity is focussed on the series of three forts located near Brompton Mill 2.6km to the south-west of the site. The site was constructed and occupied during the mid-1st century and was probably in use for only a short period, given the close proximity of the later site at Forden Gaer. The possible route of a Roman road between Forden and Lydam (PRN 47067) ran broadly east to west 0.5km to the south of the development site and is fossilised in the modern A489 east of Churchstoke and the line of Coed Lane to the west.
- 5.5. The potential for Prehistoric or Roman archaeology within the development area itself is considered to be Low, with the potential for spot finds which would be of low significance.

However, if associated features were to be identified, these are likely to be of regional significance.

Early Medieval and Medieval

- 5.6. There is no recorded medieval activity within the development area. The medieval settlement of Church Stoke is located 0.6km to the south of the site and there are other medieval sites within the wider area.
- 5.7. The medieval focus of Church Stoke is located close to the junction of two main routes, the modern A490 and A489, and grew up around a crossing over the River Camlad where there is a bend in the river as it flows to the north. Churchstoke is recorded in the 1086 Domesday Survey as Cirestoc, the Old English stoc here meaning place or settlement. The Welsh name, recorded at some point between 1447 and 1489 was yr Ystog and is derivative of the earlier name. The settlement predates the Norman conquest, the form of the churchyard (PRN 7542) is characteristically early medieval. The extant church, dedicated to St Nicholas (NPRN 7007) is 13th century in origin, with surviving fabric of that date including the tower. Much of the church including the tower was subsequently restored during the 18th and 19th century.
- 5.8. The only other surviving medieval building is Churchstoke Hall (NPRN 7963) which was constructed in 1590 and which is located outside of the medieval core. A corn mill (PRN 37413) was identified via documentary records to the south of Church Stoke on the Camlad. It was first mentioned in the late 12th century and was apparently extant until the start of the 17th century.
- 5.9. Medieval features of significance within the wider area include a section of the 8th century land delineation referred to as Offa's Dyke which runs from north to south 2.6km west of the development site. There are 12th century mottes at Poundbank near Upper Gwarthlow Farm, 2.1km north-west of the site, and at Brompton 2.6km to the south-west.
- 5.10. The potential for medieval archaeology within the development area is considered to be low, if features are identified, they are likely to be of local significance.

Post Medieval

- 5.11. A single heritage asset dating from the post-medieval period is located within the development area. This comprised a section of the 18th century turnpike road (PRN 140769) running north from Church Stoke towards Chirbury. The road followed this form until the late 20th century when it was straightened, now running somewhat further to the west (Figs. 2 and 3).
- 5.12. There are a number of post-medieval heritage assets within 1km of the development area. These include a number of listed buildings located within Church Stoke itself. The earliest of these is Fir Court (PRN 7694) built in 1685 by John Middleton. Fir Court Stables was originally a farm building later converted into stables (PRN 8679), and was also 17th century in date. As with Church Stoke Hall, Fir Court was built outside the historic core of the settlement but was subsumed during twentieth century expansion along the A489.
- 5.13. Most of the other buildings within a 1km radius of the proposed development area are 18th or 19th century. In addition to those within Church Stoke itself, there is the Horse and Jockey Public House (PRN 71037), formerly a malter and brewers constructed in the early 18th century, 0.4km south of the development area, and four farmsteads, probably of later 18th or early 19th century date. These comprised Lower Alport (PRN 191322) 0.4km to the north, Lower

Brynkin (PRN 191326) 0.4km to the north-east, Bank Farm (PRN 191328) 0.2km to the east and Green Farm (PRN 191321) 0.4km to the south.

- 5.14. The potential for post-medieval activity on site is considered to be low and if features are identified, they are likely to be of local significance.

Historic Mapping

- 5.15. A full suite of Ordnance Survey (OS) historic maps are included in the Phase Geoenvironmental desk study report.
- 5.16. The earliest accurate cartographic depiction of the proposed development site is the 1 inch to the mile Ordnance Survey map published in 1837 but surveyed in 1816-17 (Figure 3). The map depicts and names the four farmsteads located in close proximity to the site and also depicts Church Stoke as a smaller dispersed settlement.

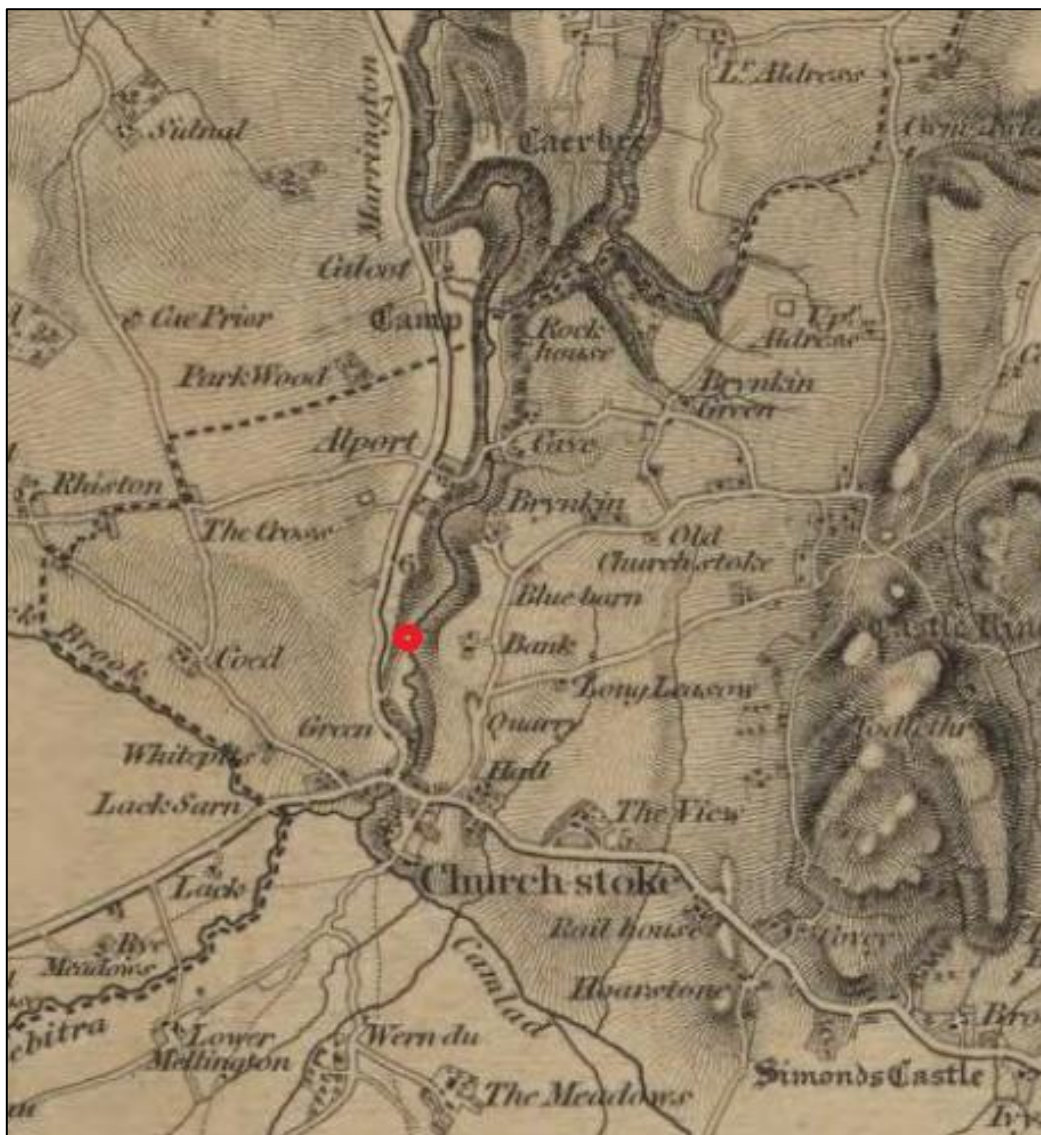


Fig. 3 Extract from 1837 Ordnance Survey 1 inch mapping (site circled in red)

- 5.17. The Tithe Map of 1840 (Figure 4) provides more information about the proposed development area. In 1840 it was part of Green Farm, a fairly large holding straddling the turnpike road

between Church Stoke and Chirbury. The existing treatment works was located on a former meadow, and woodland, the adjacent plot was recorded as cow pasture. The land was occupied by Richard Gwilt who rented it from the Representatives of the late Richard Downes.

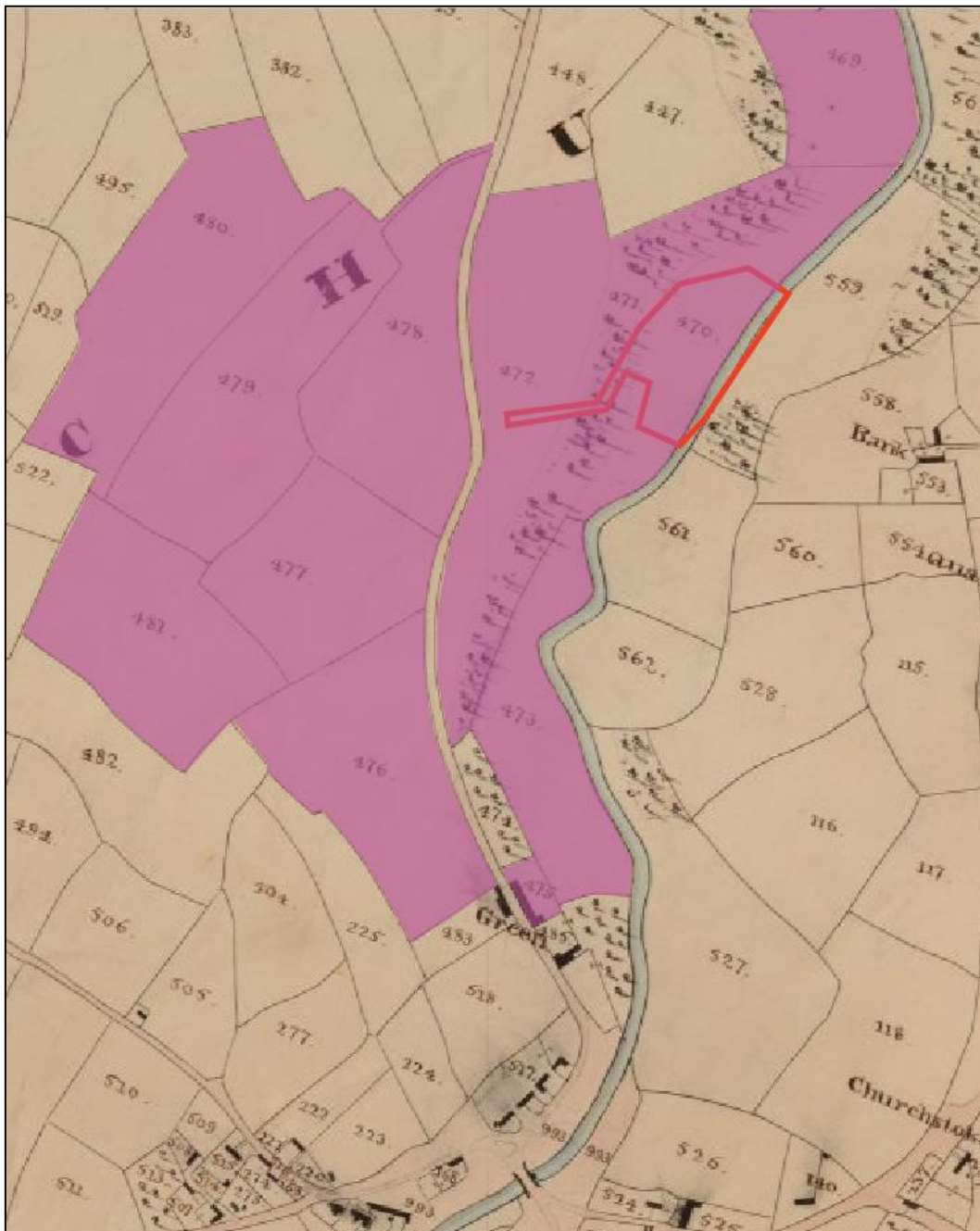


Fig. 4 Extract from 1840 tithe map (site outlined in red, extent of farm, shaded in purple)



Fig. 5 Extract from 1883 6-inch scale Ordnance Survey map showing the site and 1km search radius outlined in red

- 5.18. The 1883 6-inch Ordnance Survey map and all subsequent mapping (Figure 5) indicates that there was relatively little development of the area since 1840, with the exception of the rerouting of the former turnpike road which occurred between 1976 and 1982 and the construction of the sewage works during the 1960s or early 1970s. Church Stoke has expanded greatly during the 20th and 21st century with ribbon development either side of the A489, and also in the meadow adjacent to the Camlad, west of The Court House Inn.
- 5.19. According to historical maps there are historical ground working features within 500m of the site including two quarries located approx. 300m and 400m south east, dated 1883 and brickworks, dated in 1882-1883. There are two entries for BGS Recorded Mineral sites for opencast extraction, one relates to 'Old Church Stoke' extracting clay and shale c. 319m south-

east, and the other relates to 'Church Stoke Quarry' extracting sandstone c. 397m south-east of the site. (taken from Phase I geoenvironmental desk study report)

6 Historic Environment Gazetteers and Maps

- 6.1. The assessment has considered all known heritage assets within the development site, together with designated and non-designated assets which lie within 1km.

Heritage Assets within 1km of the Development Site

- 6.2. The following provides details of all designated and non-designated heritage assets within 1km of the Site, which are summarised in Table 1 and located on Drawing 1.

Table 1: Summary of Designated and Non-Designated Heritage Assets within 100m of the Development Site

Designated asset	Within the Development Site	Within 1km
World Heritage Sites	0	0
World Heritage Sites Essential Setting	0	0
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	0	0
Listed buildings	0	11
Registered historic parks and gardens	0	0
Registered historic landscapes	0	1
Conservation areas	0	1
Ancient Woodlands	1	3
Non-designated historic assets	1	111

Scheduled Monuments

- 6.3. There are no scheduled ancient monuments recorded within 1Km of the site. The nearest scheduled monuments comprise the Iron Age forts at Calcot Camp (NPRN 1006287) and Caerbre (NPRN 1003015) located 1.4km to the north within the county of Shropshire.

Listed Buildings

- 6.4. These are protected under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, as amended by the Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016. All listed buildings are nationally important, but are graded in order of significance as Grade I, II* or II. Grade I buildings are considered to be of equal status to Scheduled Ancient Monuments. Local planning authorities must have special regard to the desirability of preserving the setting of a listed building regardless of its grade, and it also requires planning proposals to meet the test of determining the extent to which a development affects a listed building. Planning Policy Wales (11th edition, 2021) requires a 'general presumption in favour of the preservation of a listed building and its setting, which might extend beyond its curtilage' (6.1.10).
- 6.5. There are no listed buildings within the development area and 11 listed buildings within 1km of the development (Tables 2, Drawing 1).

Table 2 Listed buildings within 1km of the development site

List entry No.	Description	Type	Period
7693	Churchstoke Hall	Grade II Listed	C16th
7694	Fir Court	Grade II Listed	C17th
7695	The Court House Inn	Grade II Listed	C18th-19th
8678	Fir Court Stables	Grade II Listed	C17th
17007	Church of St Nicholas	Grade II Listed	Medieval
17338	Sylfaen	Grade II Listed	C18th
17340	1 Bridge End, Churchstoke, Montgomery,,	Grade II Listed	C18th
17341	2 Bridge End, Churchstoke, Montgomery,,	Grade II Listed	C18th
17343	Churchstoke Pottery, Teashop and School House	Grade II Listed	C18th
17349	Middle Alport	Grade II Listed	C18th
17350	Upper Alport	Grade II Listed	C19th

Historic Landscape Character Areas

- 6.6. The proposed development site and most of the area within a 1km radius of the site is located within the historic character area for the Vale of Montgomery. This lies across the English-Welsh border, in north eastern Powys and western Shropshire, and occupies a natural basin, some 6km across, formed at the confluence of the Rivers Severn and Camlad. The proposed development site is located fairly centrally within this area. The Vale of Montgomery is subdivided into a number of smaller character areas. The proposed development site is located within the area for Cwmdulla (1071), with three further areas located within a 1km search radius which are summarised in Table 3.

Table 3 Historic Landscape Character Areas

List entry No.	Description	Type	Period
1069	Church Stoke	HLC	Multiple
1071	Cwmdulla	HLC	Multiple
1074	Alport	HLC	Multiple
1080	Wernddu	HLC	Multiple

- 6.7. The historic character area for Cwmdulla is characterised by regular fieldscapes on the northern edge of the Camlad valley to the east of Church Stoke and on the slightly higher ground to the north of Church Stoke and to the west of Roundton Hill. These fieldscapes probably partly originate from the enclosure of medieval open field strips and partly from the enclosure of more marginal land in the post-medieval period. The wooded late glacial overflow channel of Marrington Dingle forms the western boundary of the area. Early

settlement and land use is suggested by isolated prehistoric finds. Medieval settlement and land use is indicated by the earthen castle at Simon's Castle and the moated site at Upper Aldress. The dispersed farms and houses within the area are of post-medieval origin (Britnell et al, 2006).

Non-Designated Heritage Assets

- 6.8. The regional HER records one non-designated asset within the development site (Table 4; Drawing 2).

Table 4 Non-designated assets within the development site

List entry No.	Description	Type	Period
140769	Turnpike road	Turnpike Road	Post-Medieval

- 6.9. The regional HER records 41 non-designated assets within 1km of the development site, most of which relate to historic buildings in Church Stoke and historic farmsteads within the wider area (Table 5, Drawing 2).

Table 5 Non-designated assets within 1km of the development site boundary

List entry No.	Description	Type	Period
6066	Blue Barn Cropmark	Enclosure	
7541	Churchstoke Church (St Nicholas)	Parish Church	Medieval
7542	Churchstoke Church (St Nicholas), yard	Churchyard	Medieval
7543	Churchstoke, village green	Village Green	Post-Medieval
7702	Churchstoke, Court House Inn	House	Post-Medieval
7704	Churchstoke, School House	School house	Post-Medieval
7705	Churchstoke, Bridge End cottages	House	Post-Medieval
15643	Church Stoke	Settlement	Multiple
16746	Churchstoke Church	Church	Medieval
17661	Churchstoke Church (St Nicholas), bells	Church Bell	Post-Medieval
30467	Fir Court, stable range	Stable Range	Post-Medieval
32556	Church Stoke Hall farm, house	House	Post-Medieval
32557	Fir Court, house	House	Post-Medieval
32559	Churchstoke, Court House Inn	House	House
37413	Churchstoke Mill	Corn Mill	Medieval
41892	Sylfaen house	House	Post-Medieval
41893	Brynafon house	House	Post-Medieval
41895	Churchstoke Bridge End 2	House	Post-Medieval
41896	Bridge View house	House	Post-Medieval
41903	Middle Alport farm, house	House	Post-Medieval

41904	Upper Alport farm, house	House	Post-Medieval
47067	Lydham - Forden - Dolgellau	Roman Road	Roman
66263	Alport pond	Pond	Post-Medieval
66264	Alport orchard	Orchard	Post-Medieval
70311	Long leasow spearhead	Findspot	Bronze Age
71002	Upper Brynkin farm, house	House	Post-Medieval
71004	Churchstoke Rectory	Vicarage	Post-Medieval
71026	Churchstoke, Old Post Office	House	Post-Medieval
71029	Rock House	House	Post-Medieval
71037	Churchstoke, 'Horse and Jockey'	Public House	Post-Medieval
71142	Rock Cottage footbridge	Footbridge	Post-Medieval
71143	Rock Cottage	House	Post-Medieval
71149	Alport milestone	Milestone	Post-Medieval
71154	North Bridge	North Bridge	Post-Medieval
71155	South Bridge	Bridge	Post-Medieval
71156	Churchstoke smithy	Blacksmiths Workshop	Post-Medieval
71279	Chaseleyfield Coalpit placename	Mine	Post-Medieval
71280	Churchstoke Bowling Green placename	Bowling Green	Post-Medieval
71281	Brick Leasow placename	Brickworks	Post-Medieval
71606	Churchstoke brickworks	Brickworks	Post-Medieval
71607	Brickyard Bridge	Bridge	Post-Medieval
71608	Brickyard Bridge clay pit	Clay Pit	Post-Medieval
71690	Churchstoke Methodist chapel	Nonconformist Chapel	Post-Medieval
96028	Churchstoke, The Court House, Former Stable Block	Stable	Post-Medieval
125900	Rock Cottage, building I	Building	Post-Medieval
125901	Alport, farmstead	Farmstead	Post-Medieval
140768	Turnpike road	Turnpike Road	Post-Medieval
140769	Turnpike road	Turnpike Road	Post-Medieval
141667	Churchstoke Conservation Area	Conservation Area	Multiple
142674	Lower Alport, Nissen hut	Nissen Hut	Modern
145274	Churchstoke, Cdr P N Wright, war memorial	War memorial	Modern
145281	Churchstoke (church Stoke), Churchstoke, war memorial	War memorial	Modern
145282	Churchstoke (church Stoke), Churchstoke Memorial Hall, war memorial	War memorial	Modern
145283	Churchstoke (church Stoke), Churchstoke WW1 Plaque, war memorial	War memorial	Modern
187796	Coed farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval

187797	Coed farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187798	Coed farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187799	Coed farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187800	Whitepits farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187801	Whitepits farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187802	The Green farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187803	Lower Alport farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187804	Lower Alport farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187805	Middle Alport farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187806	Middle Alport farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187807	Middle Alport farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187808	Upper Alport farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187809	Upper Alport farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187810	Middle Alport farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187811	Middle Alport farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187812	The Rock farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187813	The Rock farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187814	The Rock farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187815	Lower Brynkin farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187816	Lower Brynkin farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187817	Lower Brynkin farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187818	Blue Barn farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187819	Blue Barn farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187820	Bank farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187821	Bank farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187822	Bank farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187823	Long Leasow farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187824	Church Stoke Hall farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187825	Church Stoke Hall farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187826	Church Stoke Hall farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187827	Church Stoke Hall farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187828	Church Stoke Hall farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187829	Church Stoke Hall farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187834	Upper Brynkin farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187835	Upper Brynkin farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187836	Upper Brynkin farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187837	Little Brynkin farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187838	Little Brynkin farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval

187839	Little Brynkin farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187931	The View farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
187932	The View farm, farm building	Farm Building	Post-Medieval
191319	Coed farm	Farm	Post-Medieval
191320	Whitepits farm	Farm	Post-Medieval
191321	The Green farm	Farm	Post-Medieval
191322	Lower Alport farm	Farm	Post-Medieval
191323	Middle Alport farm	Farm	Post-Medieval
191324	Upper Alport farm	Farm	Post-Medieval
191325	The Rock farm	Farm	Post-Medieval
191326	Lower Brynkin farm	Farm	Post-Medieval
191327	Blue Barn farm	Farmstead	Post-Medieval
191328	Bank farm	Farm	Post-Medieval
191329	Long Leasow farm	Farm	Post-Medieval
191330	Church Stoke Hall farm	Farmstead	Post-Medieval
191332	Upper Brynkin farm	Farm	Post-Medieval
191333	Little Brynkin farm	Farm	Post-Medieval
191366	The View farm	Farm	Post-Medieval

7 Site Walkover and Landscape Survey

A site walkover was conducted over the proposed development site on 6/7/22. The weather was overcast and visibility good. A total of 20 photographs were taken. The areas surveyed are depicted in Fig. 2.

Existing sewage treatment works (Fig. 2, 1)



Fig. 6 Sewage treatment works viewed from the north CPAT Photo 5001-001



Fig. 7 Sewage treatment works viewed from the south-east, the grassed area to the rear of shot is the proposed site for additional treatment tanks (Fig. 2, 1) CPAT Photo 5001-002

- 7.1. The existing sewage treatment works had been terraced into a steep slope on the western side of the Camlad valley, flanked to the north and south by ancient woodland (30976 and 31121). The access road was concrete and ran along the western side of the compound. A water culvert also ran into the compound from the west, running through the northern woodland and under the access road. The topography within the compound appeared to be disturbed, presumably as a result of the construction of the treatment tanks during the mid-late 20th century.

Field to the west of the sewage treatment works (Fig. 2, 2 and 3)

- 7.2. The field was located on the crest of a steep slope to the south and was bounded by the modern A490 on its western side. An access track from the road to the treatment works bisected the area from north to south. The field itself was quite uneven with a ridge running east-west across the centre and a slight hollow in the north-east corner. No features were discernible and there was no tangible evidence that the field had ever been worked.



Fig. 8 Northeast side of the field viewed from the north showing the proposed location for the proposed expansion of the sewage works (Fig. 2, 2) Photo CPAT 5001-016



Fig. 9 Western extent of the field viewed from the north, with the access road and location of access splay (Fig. 2, 3) Photo CPAT 5001-012



Fig. 10 Landscape survey photo sheet.

8 Conclusion and Assessment

- 8.1. A study has been conducted by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, on behalf of Severn Trent Water Ltd, in connection with proposals to expand the existing sewage treatment works located 0.5km north of Church Stoke. This assessment comprised desk-based research and a walkover survey, the aim of which was to make full and effective use of existing information to establish the archaeological significance of the proposed development area and to assess the impact that development proposals might have on surviving assets.
- 8.2. Cartographic sources from the early 19th century onwards suggest that the area had not been formerly occupied, and that it was formerly a mixture of wooded and agricultural land. It is notable that the appearance of the site and the land use has changed very little since the early 19th century.
- 8.3. The site lies within a Registered Historic Landscape of Outstanding Interest in Wales (Vale of Montgomery). It is possible that Natural Resources Wales may require an ASIDOHL2 to be undertaken before planning permission is granted.

- 8.4. This assessment identified only a single undesignated heritage asset within the proposed development, which comprised the 18th century turnpike road between Churchstoke and Chirbury. It should be noted that this road remained in use until the 1970s or early 1980s and therefore the earlier form of the road had likely been damaged or destroyed by later road construction or re-surfacing. This heritage asset is considered to be of low value.
- 8.5. The proposed development is considered to be relatively low rise and therefore unobtrusive. The existing sewage treatment works is effectively hidden from view within a steep sided valley and further concealed by stands of ancient woodland. The proposed works in the adjacent field are located within a hollow and are also largely hidden from view by the topography. It is not considered that there will be any visual impact upon the setting of any nearby heritage asset.

Conservation Areas and Ancient Woodland

- 8.6. The site is bounded by two small areas of ancient woodland including one located between the existing treatment works and the proposed expansion area. The proposed development is not considered to impact upon this woodland, as there is no requirement for any additional infrastructure to link the two areas.
- 8.7. The Conservation Area for Church Stoke (PRN 15643) is located approximately 0.6km south of the development site, but the nature of the proposed development and the topography of the site and the intervening land means there is no intervisibility between them.

Recommendations

- 8.8. Based on the findings of this assessment, it is suggested that no further investigation of the proposed development area is necessary.

9 Sources

Britnell, W., Martin, C. H. R., 2006, *Montgomeryshire LANDMAP Historic Landscape Aspect*, CPAT Report No 804

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Silvester, R., J., 1992, *Montgomeryshire Historic Settlements*, Unpublished report. CPAT Report No. 40

Online Sources

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<https://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/chr/herdetail.aspx?crit=&ctid=93&id=4743>
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18/07/22

Cartographic sources

1837- 1-inch Ordnance Survey map Montgomeryshire Sheet 60SE

1840- Tithe map for the parish of Churchstoke and Hurdley

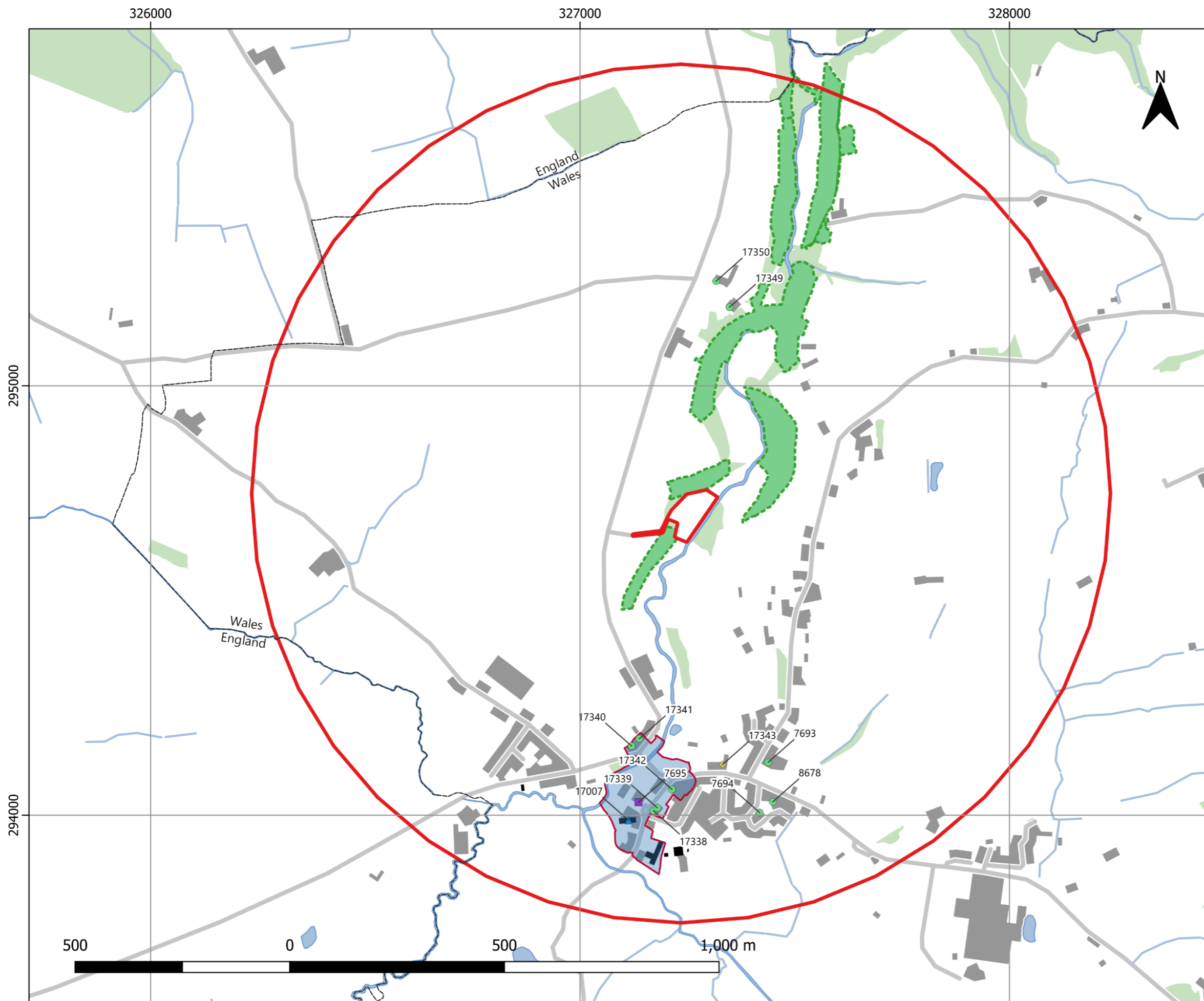
1883- 6-inch Ordnance Survey map Montgomeryshire Sheet 38 NW and Sheet 38 SW

10 Archive deposition Statement

- 10.1. The project archive has been prepared according to the CPAT Archive Policy and in line with the CIfA *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives guidance* (2014). This is a sterile archive as no new information was recovered and therefore no archive will be deposited.

CPAT Event PRN: 214621

20 digital photographs, CPAT film no 5001



Legend

- Site boundary
- Commercial
- Domestic
- ◆ Education
- ▲ Religious and Funerary
- Ancient woodlands
- Conservation areas

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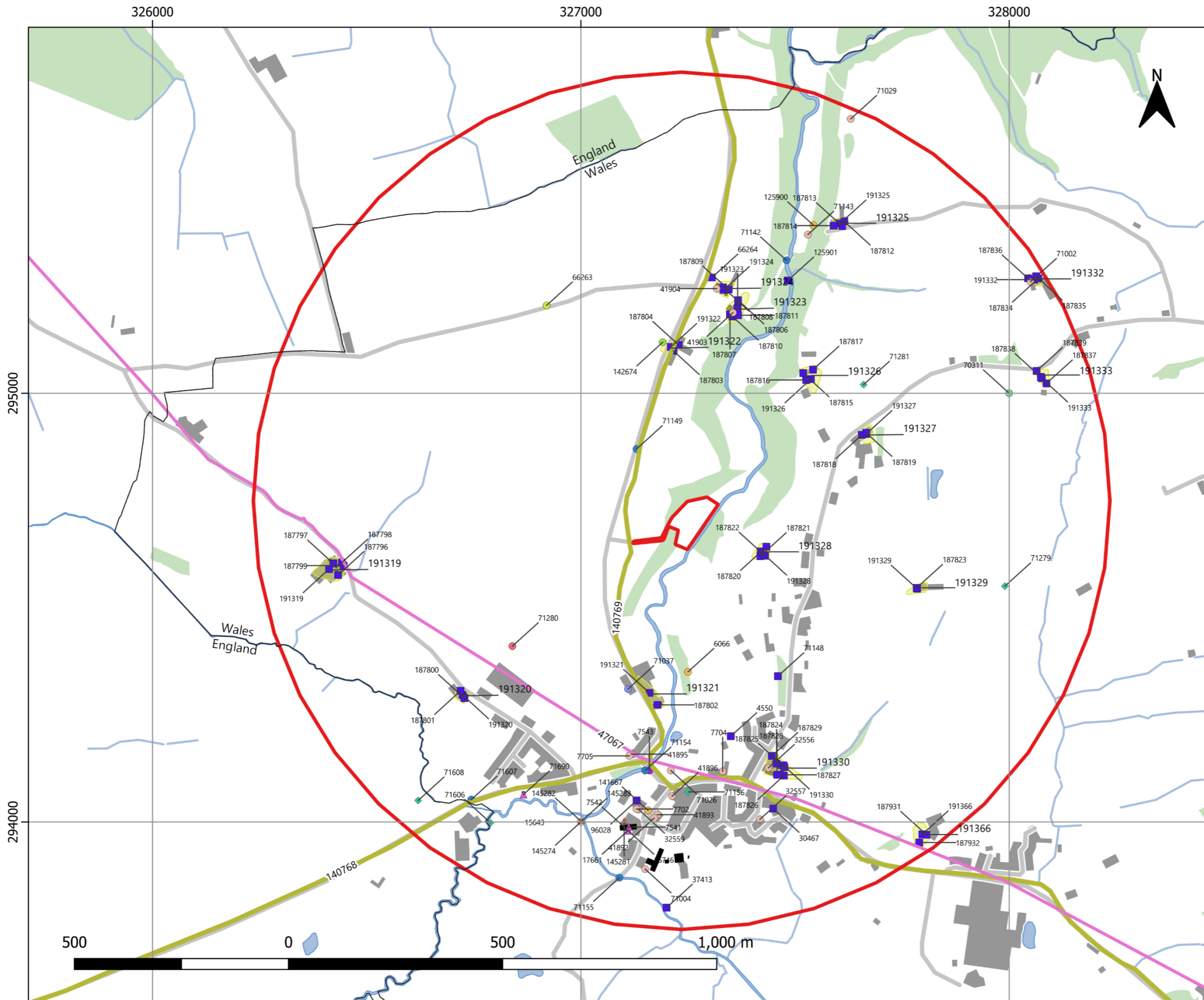
Churchstoke

Sewage Treatment Works

Designated Historic Assets

Drawing 1

Scale 1:10000 @ A3	Date June 2022
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Legend

Search Area

HER data

- AGRICULTURE AND SUBSISTENCE
- CIVIL
- COMMEMORATIVE
- COMMERCIAL
- DOMESTIC
- GARDENS PARKS AND URBAN SPACES
- INDUSTRIAL
- MONUMENT (BY FORM)
- RECREATIONAL
- RELIGIOUS RITUAL AND FUNERARY
- TRANSPORT
- UNASSIGNED
- WATER SUPPLY AND DRAINAGE

Farm boundaries

Farm buildings

Turnpike roads

Road

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Churchstoke
 Sewage Treatment Works
Non-designated Historic Assets
 Drawing 2

Scale: 1:10000 @ A3 Date: June 2022