



# St. Asaph Solar Farm, Denbighshire

## Updated Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment

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## Basis of Report

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## Executive Summary

In November 2024, SLR Consulting was commissioned by Anesco Limited to undertake an updated Historic Environment Desk Based Assessment in relation to a proposed solar farm development on land at Cefn Meiriadog, St Asaph, Denbighshire, North Wales. This report comments on the evolution of the historic environment both within the Site and its wider surroundings and identifies historic assets within the Site or any historic assets beyond the Site boundary that may potentially be affected by the development proposals. Both physical and non-physical effects, as a result to changes in setting of designated assets, are then assessed.

This assessment has concluded that the footprint of the proposed development would not directly impact upon any designated historic asset, or previously recorded non-designated historic asset. Geophysical surveys, covering the entire Site boundary, have not recorded any anomalies of an archaeological origin within the Site.

The geophysical surveys have recorded both post-medieval and modern agricultural features within the Site, which include ridge and furrow, drainage features, and modern cultivation remains. Such remains would retain little, if any, evidential interest and would be of accordingly low significance. The examination of such remains under archaeological conditions would contribute little further to our understanding of the agricultural practices of these periods and / or of local land-use. Such remains would not be anticipated to comprise assets of the highest significance, and they would not warrant preservation *in situ* or otherwise preclude development within the Site.

This assessment, undertaken in full accordance with the guidance provided by Cadw, has concluded that proposals would result in no harm to the significance of any historic assets due to a change to setting. Nor would the proposals diminish the ability to appreciate the significance of any nearby historic assets.



## Crynodeb Gweithredol

Ym mis Tachwedd 2024, comisiynwyd SLR Consulting gan Anesco Limited i gyflawni Asesiad Ddesg Seiliedig ar yr Amgylchedd Hanesyddol wedi'i ddiweddarau mewn perthynas â datblygiad fferm solar arfaethedig ar dir yn Cefn Meiriadog, Llanelwy, Sir Ddinbych, Gogledd Cymru. Mae'r adroddiad hwn yn gwneud sylwadau ar esblygiad yr amgylchedd hanesyddol o fewn y Safle a'i amgylchedd ehangach ac yn nodi asedau hanesyddol o fewn y Safle neu unrhyw asedau hanesyddol y tu hwnt i ffin y Safle a allai gael eu heffeithio gan y cynigion datblygu. Yna asesir effeithiau corfforol a diffygiol, sy'n deillio o newidiadau i osodiad asedau dynodedig.

Daeth yr asesiad hwn i'r casgliad na fyddai ôl-troed y datblygiad arfaethedig yn cael effaith uniongyrchol ar unrhyw ased hanesyddol dynodedig nac ar unrhyw ased hanesyddol nad yw wedi'i ddynodi sydd wedi'i gofnodi o'r blaen. Nid yw'r arolygon geoffisegol, sy'n cwmpasu ffin gyfan y Safle, wedi cofnodi unrhyw afreoleidd-dra o darddiad archaeolegol o fewn y Safle.

Mae'r arolygon geoffisegol wedi cofnodi nodweddion amaethyddol ôl-ganoloesol a modern o fewn y Safle, sy'n cynnwys rhychau a ffwrch, nodweddion draenio, a gweddillion amaethu modern. Byddai gweddillion o'r fath yn cadw ychydig iawn, os o gwbl, o ddi-ddordeb tystiolaethol ac felly byddai o arwyddocâd isel iawn. Ni fyddai archwilio gweddillion o'r fath o dan amodau archaeolegol yn cyfrannu fawr ddim pellach at ein dealltwriaeth o'r arferion amaethyddol yn y cyfnodau hyn a/neu ddefnydd tir lleol. Ni fyddai disgwyl i gweddillion o'r fath gynnwys asedau o'r arwyddocâd uchaf, ac ni fyddent yn haeddu eu cadw yn eu lle nac yn atal datblygiad o fewn y Safle.

Daeth yr asesiad hwn, a gyflawnwyd yn unol yn llwyr â'r canllawiau a ddarparwyd gan Cadw, i'r casgliad na fyddai'r cynigion yn achosi unrhyw niwed i arwyddocâd unrhyw asedau hanesyddol oherwydd newid i osodiad. Ni fyddai'r cynigion ychwaith yn lleihau'r gallu i werthfawrogi arwyddocâd unrhyw asedau hanesyddol cyfagos.



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#### A.1   Stage 1 Assessment

### **Appendix B     Gazetteer of Historic Environment Record (HER) Data**

### **Appendix C     Photographs**

### **Appendix D     Geophysical Surveys**

#### D.1   2022 Geophysical Survey

#### D.2   2023 Geophysical Survey

### **Appendix E     Proposed Development Plan**



## Acronyms and Abbreviations

aOD	Above Ordnance Datum
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
CPAT	Clywd-Powys Archaeological Trust (now Heneb: Clwyd-Powys Archaeology)
DCC	Denbighshire County Council
DSM	Digital Surface Model
DTM	Digital Terrain Model
FAME	Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers
HEDBA	Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment
HER	Historic Environment Record
LIDAR	Light Detection and Ranging
LDP	Local Development Plan
MW	Megawatts
NGR	National Grid Reference
NMRW	National Monuments Record Wales
PPW	Planning Policy Wales
RVT	Relief Visualization Toolbox
RCAHMW	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales
SLRM	Simplified Local Relief Model
SVF	Sky-View Factor
TAN	Technical Advice Note



## 1.0 Introduction

In November 2024, SLR Consulting Limited was commissioned by Anesco Limited (the Client) to prepare an updated Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment (HEDBA) in relation to a proposed solar farm development on land at Cefn Meiriadog, St Asaph, Denbighshire, North Wales (NGR: SJ 02108 72682 & SJ 02663 72556) (hereafter referred to as 'the Site'; **Figure 1**).

### 1.1 The Site

The Site is largely rural and agricultural, with mixed pastures and arable fields enclosed with mature hedgerows. The approximate centre of the of the western block is at grid reference SJ 02108 72682 and the approximate centre of the eastern block is at grid reference SJ 02663 72556. The Site lies approximately 60m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) at its highest point.

### 1.2 The Proposed Development

The proposed development comprises a ground mounted photovoltaic solar farm with an electrical generating capacity over 21 megawatts (MW) together with associated equipment, infrastructure, and ancillary works (see **Appendix E**). SLR Consulting undertook a HEDBA in September 2022, which was subsequently updated in March 2024 due to several changes to the proposed development. This current updated HEDBA reflects changes to the proposed red line boundary.

### 1.3 Scope of Report

This updated HEDBA takes into account the above changes to the proposed development in respect to historic assets of an archaeological and built heritage nature. It identifies known and anticipated historic assets within the Site, and its vicinity, and provides a level of assessment sufficient to allow a full understanding of the impact of the proposals upon the significance of known or potential historic assets, in accordance with the Planning Policy Wales (PPW) (2024), Paragraph 6.1.26 and Technical Advice Note (TAN) 24 (2017), Paragraphs 4.7 and 4.8. The potential effects of development are discussed in accordance with terminology of PPW and TAN 24.

This HEDBA is also supported by the results of two geophysical surveys (**Appendix D**) which were undertaken in May 2022 and December 2023 by Magnitude Surveys.

### 1.4 Standards

The assessment has been undertaken in accordance with all relevant statute, policy, and guidance, including PPW (2024), TAN 24 (2017), the Chartered Institute for Archaeology (CIfA) *Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment* (2020), Cadw's *Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales* (2011), and *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (2017).

The assessment was originally undertaken by Gwynaeth McCullough ACIfA, Project Archaeology & Heritage Consultant, reviewed by Lauren O'Toole ACIfA, Senior Archaeology & Heritage Consultant, and approved by Chris Morley MCIfA, Technical Director – Archaeology & Heritage. This updated assessment has been undertaken by James Evans MCIfA, Associate Archaeology & Heritage Consultant, SLR Consulting.

SLR Consulting is a member of the Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers (FAME).

SLR Consulting is ISO 9001 certified and operates a quality management system to help ensure all projects are managed in a professional and transparent manner.



## 2.0 Methodology

### 2.1 Data Procurement

#### 2.1.1 Study Areas

For the purposes of baseline data collection, a 1km study area was utilised for archaeological remains. Whereas, for built historic assets, a 3km study area was utilised for designated historic assets.

#### 2.1.2 Sources

The following sources have been consulted:

- Cof Cymru – Cadw website, for depictions and associated record descriptions of designated historic assets in Wales;
- the Heneb: Clwyd-Powys Archaeology Historic Environment Record (HER), for monuments and events data;
- the National Monuments Record Wales (NMRW), held by the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW), for any additional data about monuments and buildings;
- the Data Map Wales website's library of open access LiDAR data (DSM and DTM);
- the reports and data from the 2022 and 2024 geophysical surveys, undertaken by Magnitude Surveys, across the Site boundary;
- historic cartographic sources, including large-scale county surveys, tithe mapping and early Ordnance Survey editions;
- the Welsh Government Aerial Photographs Officer for available aerial photographs;
- other online resources, including: the British Geological Survey; the Cranfield University Soilscales viewer; and the National Library of Scotland's online mapping database;
- the Denbighshire County Council (DCC) online planning application portal, for relevant documentation submitted in relation to proximate applications;
- the North East Wales Archives online catalogue for any relevant material; and
- grey literature relating to excavations within, and within proximity to, the Site.

#### 2.1.3 HER & RCAHMW Data

A proportionate level of HER and RCAHMW data, sufficient to inform the assessment of archaeological potential, significance and potential impact presented in this report, was obtained. The HER and RCAHMW data were reconciled and analysed within the context of the objectives of the present assessment.

While all the HER and RCAHMW data received has been reviewed and considered, not all HER records (sites and events) are discussed further within this report, only those that are of relevance to the determination of potential, significance, and potential impact.

The HER and RCAHMW data contained many duplicate asset entries, largely for Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments. These have been referenced using their Cadw reference number rather than their HER and / or RCAHMW number within this report.

All data supplied by the HER and RCAHMW is presented in **Appendix B**.



### 2.1.4 LiDAR Data

LiDAR data covering the extent of the Site, captured in 2021, was obtained.<sup>1</sup> The best available data comprised 1m digital terrain model (DTM) and digital surface model (DSM).

The data was acquired in ASCII raster format and was processed for better visual representations of the topography in both ArcMap 10.5.1 and Relief Visualization Toolbox (RVT) 2.2.1 (2019).

The output images from the RVT software were then imported into ArcMap 10.5.1 where further settings manipulation was undertaken to enhance the visualisation for archaeological feature detection. The best visualisation comprised using a simplified local relief model (SLRM) underlying a sky-view factor (SVF) visualisation, and this is illustrated on **Figure 10**.

### 2.1.5 Site Visit

A Site inspection was undertaken in January 2022 to assess the Site within its wider landscape context, identify any evidence for previous disturbance, and examine any known or suspected archaeological features. Photographs can be seen in **Appendix C** of this report.

### 2.1.6 Geophysical Surveys

Magnitude Surveys undertook a geophysical survey across the original red line boundary in May 2022. Alterations to the Site's red line boundary identified that there would be new areas within the Site that were not covered by the 2022 geophysical survey. However, conversations with Magnitude Surveys established that in December 2023 they had undertaken a geophysical survey across a large expanse of North Wales as part of the onshore cable corridor associated with the Mona Offshore Windfarm Project. This survey included those new areas within the Site that were not covered by the 2022 geophysical survey.

As such, the relevant reports and data from the 2023 survey have been re-used for this HEDBA. The reports from both these surveys are included as **Appendix D** of this report. The anomalies recorded during these surveys are also reproduced in **Figure 9** of this report and discussed below, where necessary.

## 2.2 Assessment of Significance

Historic assets have been assessed in terms of their significance, following the requirement in Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (TAN 24) (2017), and taking account of Cadw's guidance on *Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment in Wales* (2011) (hereafter referred to as 'Conservation Principles'). Significance, within the historic environment, is defined by Cadw simply as 'The sum of the cultural historic values of a place'.

Conservation Principles (2011) and the TAN 24 glossary provide that an asset's significance derives from its historic 'values', which are defined by the latter as follows:

- **Evidential Value:** value deriving from the potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity;
- **Historical Value:** value deriving from the ways in which past people, events, and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present;
- **Aesthetic Value:** value deriving from ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place; and

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<sup>1</sup> <https://datamap.gov.wales/maps/lidar-viewer/> (accessed February 2024).



- **Communal Value:** value deriving from the meaning of a place for the people who relate to it, or from whom it figures in their collective experience or memory.

This approach allows for a detailed and justifiable determination of heritage significance and the values from which that significance derives. Neither policy, however, provides a classification system for historic assets to determine their 'level' of significance. It is generally considered that designated historic assets, such as Scheduled Monuments and Listed Buildings, are of greater heritage significance than non-designated or unrecorded historic assets. Within this assessment, any hierarchy of significance within these categories has been determined by evaluating the available evidence and exercising professional judgement.

The significance of known and potential historic assets identified within the Site boundary is described where relevant in this report. In respect of identifying the importance of setting to the identified significance of a historic asset, Cadw's *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (2017) will be utilised; specifically, the staged approach, as follows:

- **Stage 1:** identify the historic assets that might be affected by a proposed change or development;
- **Stage 2:** define and analyse the settings to understand how they contribute to the significance of the historic assets and, in particular, the ways in which the assets are understood, appreciated, and experienced;
- **Stage 3:** evaluate the potential impact of a proposed change or development on that significance; and
- **Stage 4 (if necessary):** consider options to mitigate or improve the potential impact of a proposed change or development on that significance.

## 2.3 Assessment of Effects

Welsh national policy does not specify how the degree of harm to historic assets (impact) should be articulated. *Conservation Principles* (2011) however provides the following guidance:

*"Every reasonable effort should be made to eliminate or minimize adverse impacts on historic assets. Ultimately, however, it may be necessary to balance the benefit of the proposed change against the harm to the asset. If so, the weight given to heritage values should be proportionate to the importance of the assets and the impact of the change upon them."* (Cadw 2011, p. 15).

Paragraphs 6.1.25 of PPW (2024) also provide the following in relation to harm to non-designated historic assets specifically:

*"In cases involving less significant (than designated) archaeological remains, planning authorities will need to weigh the relative importance of the archaeological remains and their settings against other factors, including the need for the proposed development."* (Welsh Government 2024, p. 129).

The above is interpreted as weighing the significance of the historic assets in the balance with the impact of the change or 'harm'. The level of harm is determined within this assessment by applying professional judgement.

As clarified in the High Court, preservation does not mean no change; it specifically means no harm.<sup>2</sup> This is echoed in *Conservation Principles*, which states *"Change to historic assets is*

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<sup>2</sup> R (Forge Field Society) v Sevenoaks District Council [2014] EWHC 1895 (Admin).



*inevitable... to ensure the long-term future of historic assets changes need to be managed to ensure that their significance is not diminished as a consequence.” (Cadw 2011, p. 18).*

The assessment of anticipated development effects can thus be seen to have been undertaken in accordance with a robust methodology, formulated within the context of current best practice, the relevant policy provisions, and key professional guidance.



## 3.0 Statute, Policy & Guidance

### 3.1 Statute

Scheduled Monuments are protected from physical development effects under the **Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979)**.

Conservation Areas may be of archaeological interest and are protected under Section 72(1) of the **Planning (Listed Building and Conservation Areas) Act (1990)**; this provides that *“special attention shall be paid to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the character of that area”*.

Registered Parks and Gardens, Registered Battlefields and World Heritage Sites do not have any statutory protection in and of themselves, though all are afforded a high level of protection under national planning policy.

The **Historic Environment (Wales) Act (2016)** was introduced to give more effective protection to Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments, enhance existing mechanisms for the sustainable management of the historic environment, and introduce greater transparency and accountability into decisions taken on the historic environment. It also introduced several stand-alone provisions for Wales, e.g., the compilation and maintenance of a list of historic place names in Wales, HER for each local authority area in Wales, and the establishment of a panel of persons, to be known as the Advisory Panel for the Welsh Historic Environment.

In June 2023, the **Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023** received Royal Assent. The new Act brings the principal legislation for the historic environment together in one place, states it explicitly for Wales without confusing references to other jurisdictions and provides the law and its supporting documentation in fully bilingual form.

### 3.2 Policy

#### 3.2.1 Planning Policy Wales (Edition 12, 2024)

Applicable national policy comprises of Planning Policy Wales (PPW) (2024), and specifically the following paragraphs:

**Paragraph 6.1.9**, which states that:

*“Any decisions made through the planning system must fully consider the impact on the historic environment and on the significance and historic values of individual historic assets and their contribution to the character of place.”*

**Paragraph 6.1.24**, which relates to highly significant archaeological remains, state that:

*“Where nationally important archaeological remains and their settings are likely to be affected by proposed development, there should be a presumption in favour of their physical protection in situ. It will only be in exceptional circumstances that planning permission will be granted if development would result in an adverse impact on a scheduled monument (or an archaeological site shown to be of national importance) or has a demonstrably and unacceptably damaging effect upon its setting.”*

**Paragraph 6.1.25** and **Paragraph 6.1.26**, which relate to non-designated historic assets, state that:

*“In cases involving less significant archaeological remains, planning authorities will need to weigh the relative importance of the archaeological remains and their settings against other factors, including the need for the proposed development.”*

*“Where archaeological remains are known to exist or there is a potential for them to survive, an application should be accompanied by sufficient information, through desk-*



*based assessment and/or field evaluation, to allow a full understanding of the impact of the proposal on the significance of the remains. The needs of archaeology and development may be reconciled, and potential conflict very much reduced, through early discussion and assessment.”*

## **3.2.2 Local Planning Policy**

### **3.2.2.1 Denbighshire County Council Local Development Plan (2013 – 2021)**

The Denbighshire Local Development Plan (LDP) was adopted in 2013 and was designed to provide local planning policy up until 2021. However, the outbreak of Covid-19, amongst other issues, has led to delay of implementing a new LDP. Therefore, the 2013 – 2021 LDP is referred to for the purposes of this assessment. The policies which involve the historic environment comprise the following:

#### **Policy VOE 1 – Key Areas of importance**

The following areas will be protected from development that would adversely affect them. Development proposals should maintain and, wherever possible, enhance these areas for their characteristics, local distinctiveness, and value to local communities in Denbighshire:

- Statutory designated sites for nature conservation;
- Local areas designated or identified because of their natural landscape or biodiversity value;
- Sites of built heritage; and
- Historic Landscape, Parks and Gardens.

The policy aims to adhere to the national planning policies and supplement where further recognition is required at a local level.

## **3.3 Guidance**

### **3.3.1 Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (2017)**

TAN 24 is a key policy document providing detailed guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan preparation and decision making on planning applications. TAN 24 is to be read in conjunction with PPW.

### **3.3.2 Cadw Best Practice Guidance**

Cadw has produced several best-practice guidance documents that complement the legislative framework and associated planning policy and advice and support the sustainable management of the Welsh historic environment. Some of these have been discussed above and will be used in this assessment.



## 4.0 Archaeological Baseline

This section sets out the archaeological baseline relative to the Site and its immediate surroundings, in order to identify known archaeological historic assets and to inform an understanding of the Site's broader archaeological potential.

### 4.1 Designated Historic Assets

There are no designated archaeological remains within the Site.

There are numerous designated historic assets within 3km of the Site (**Figure 2 & Appendix A**). Any assets which may be potentially affected as a result of changes to setting are further discussed in Section 6.

### 4.2 Environmental Conditions & Historic Landscape

The Site comprises arable farmland c. 1km to the south-west of St. Asaph. To the north are wet coastal flats, to the east are high ground-water soils proximate to the River Elwy, and to the south are well draining elevated soils. The River Elwy passes the Site c. 1km to the east. There are several small streams within, and immediately adjacent, to both the western and eastern parcels of the Site. These small streams begin on the higher ground to the south-west and join with the Elwy c. 1.3km to the north-east within St. Asaph (**Figure 3**). The soils consist of seasonally wet, slightly acidic loamy and clayey soils overlying Warwickshire mudstone, siltstone, and sandstone of fluvial origin.

Early settlement within the landscape focused around the more elevated land including the historical core of St. Asaph, which is located on the higher ground on either side of the River Elwy. More isolated farmsteads developed across the open landscape during the post-medieval period. The land use within the Site boundaries has remained largely unchanged since the early-19<sup>th</sup> century (**Figures 7 & 8**), today remaining as agricultural land separated by hedgerows, with some more recent removal of woodland within the eastern parcel.

### 4.3 Prehistoric & Roman Periods

There are no known prehistoric (pre-43 CE) or Roman (43 – 410 CE) recorded remains within the Site.

The closest recorded prehistoric asset to the Site is located c. 420m to the east and comprises the record of a potential prehistoric standing stone (Figure 4: **101477**). This speculation is due to the name of the field, *Cae Maen Llwyd*, which translates to *Field of the Grey Stone*. However, no standing stone has been identified in this location, but due to the dense woodland it may be possible that the monument is concealed.

The most significant evidence for prehistoric settlement activity within the area is the Scheduled Monument Bedd-y-Cawr Hillfort (Figure 2: **DE037**) located c. 675m to the south-west of the western parcel of the Site. Hillforts are typically Iron Age (800 BCE – 43 CE) in date and are characterised as defensive and occupational structures located on a prominent location, often combining natural topography and geology with artificial earthworks to form defences. To the south of the hillfort, c. 900m to the south-west of the western parcel of the Site, there is a row of stones (Figure 4: **102134**), partially interrupted by a lane, which are likely Bronze Age in date (2500 – 800 BCE). A potential prehistoric enclosure is located c. 900m to the south-east of the eastern parcel, consisting of a cropmark identified through aerial photographs (Figure 4: **106064**).

Other prehistoric activity within 1km of the Site consists largely of findspots, including two spindle whorls found in 1922 c. 850m south-west of the eastern parcel (Figure 4: **100883**),



and two looped bronze socketed axes found before 1921 c. 500m to the south-west of the eastern parcel (Figure 4: **102143**).

In 2018, a watching brief produced evidence of a potential Roman road surface c. 600m to the north of the Site. The road was in the form of a stony deposit sealed beneath the existing modern carriageway of Glascoed Road (B5381) (Figure 4: **144311**) and has been interpreted to likely be the Varae-Kanovium Roman road. A predicted course of the road is noted (for example Figure 4: **46820** to **46827**) but it is not confirmed. Additionally, the Roman fort known as Varae / Varis is known to have been located within the Conwy Valley. The fort location is not known, but it is speculated to lie somewhere within St. Asaph (Figure 4: **70922**).

Overall, there is no evidence for prehistoric settlement or funerary activity within the Site or within material proximity. The established settlement activity consists of the Bedd-y-cawr hillfort located c. 675m to the south of the Site on the higher ground. It would be anticipated that any related settlement activity would be focussed on the higher ground to the south rather than on the flatter, seasonally wet soils within the Site. There is no evidence for Roman activity within the Site or anywhere south of the potential Roman road located c. 600m to the north. In this context, the potential for any remains of prehistoric or Roman date to survive buried within the Site would be considered low.

#### 4.4 Early Medieval & Medieval

There are no known early medieval (410 – 1066 CE) or medieval (1066 – 1539 CE) recorded remains within the Site.

St. Asaph is reported to be the site of an early medieval monastic foundation, reportedly established in c. 560 CE (Figure 5: **102145**). However, there are no further recorded early medieval historic assets within 1km of the Site. The Domesday Book records a small settlement of two households at Llan Elwy (now the location of St. Asaph), and the earlier Church of Cefn Meiriadog and churchyard, located in the current location of St. Mary's Church c. 500m to the south of the Site, are recorded to be of medieval date, though little else is recorded about their founding (Figure 5: **16741 & 16742**). A medieval silver hammered penny dating to 1300 CE was found c. 950m to the north-east of the western parcel (Figure 5: **119310**).

The medieval landscape is primarily represented by agricultural field systems and earthworks, largely located c. 1km to the north-west of the Site (Figure 5: **106410, 34048, 34043, 143532, 143533, 143528, 143529, 143530 & 143531**).

In summary, localised medieval settlement and monastic activity is likely to have been focussed to the north of the Site, towards the centre of St. Asaph. Evidence for later medieval settlement activity comprises the location of the church to the south, again located on the higher ground overlooking the Vale of Elwy. There is no evidence that the Site was ever settled. Instead, it is likely that the Site comprised the agricultural hinterland of the nearby medieval settlements. Therefore, the potential for any significant archaeological remains of medieval date to survive buried within the site is considered low. Any remains that do survive would be anticipated to comprise agricultural remains such as former field boundaries.

#### 4.5 Post-medieval & Modern

There are no known post-medieval (1539 – 1900) or modern (1900 – present) recorded remains within the Site.

The landscape surrounding the Site was largely comprised of agricultural land and small farmsteads, including:

- Cae-llwyd farm (Figure 6: **193979**);
- Camre farm (Figure 6: **194076**);



- Cefn farm (Figure 6: **194075**);
- Glascoed-bach farm (Figure 6: **194078**);
- Hen-dy farm (Figure 6: **193980**);
- Isfryn farm (Figure 6: **193978**);
- Llwyn-penwyn farm (Figure 6: **194079**);
- Pant farmstead (Figure 6: **68967**);
- Pen-ucha-roe-fawr farm (Figure 6: **193971**);
- Ty'n-y-ffordd farm (Figure 6: **193973**);
- Ty'n-y-ffordd bach farm (Figure 6: **193974**); and
- Ty'n-y-ffordd-fawr farm (Figure 6: **193974**).

This enclosed and agricultural landscape can be seen on the 1846 Tithe map (*Plan of the Townships of Meriadog and Gwifair*) (**Figure 7**) and the First Edition 1880 Ordnance Survey map (**Figure 8**). Evidence of post-medieval and modern agricultural activity within the Site was also evidenced by the 2022 and 2023 geophysical surveys (**Figure 9**). The surveys indicate that there is potential post-medieval ridge and furrow in the western parcel of the Site (**Figure 9, A**), and the form of this ridge and furrow, i.e., narrow, straight, and long, indicates that this dates to the post-medieval period rather than the medieval period.

The geophysical surveys mostly recorded long and linear anomalies in both the western and eastern parcels of the Site. These anomalies comprise of either drainage features or modern cultivation features. The modern cultivation features are very closely spaced and only a few indicative linear trends have been picked out to give an idea of direction and presence across the Site (**Figure 9, B**). The orientation is well matched with modern cultivation visible in recent satellite imagery, and these are therefore interpreted as agricultural trends caused by modern ploughing. The mapped drainage features are of mixed alignment, have a slightly wider separation to other cultivation anomalies, and are straight in form (**Figure 9, C**).

A large area in the eastern parcel of the Site was subjected to a burning event (**Figure 9, D**). Several strong anomalies exhibited a geophysical response characteristic of in-situ burning were recorded. Further amorphous anomalies visible in the data as a 'mottled' effect in the magnetic gradient, have been categorised as 'Burning Event spread'. The Tithe (**Figure 7**) and Ordnance Survey (**Figure 8**) maps illustrates that this area of the Site was woodland. Information from local farmers indicate that the woodland was cleared, and large bonfires were used for this purpose. With this evidence, it can be concluded that the strong anomalies and corresponding amorphous spread features are a result of in-situ burning associated with the modern woodland clearance.

The remaining recorded anomalies within the Site predominantly comprise magnetic disturbances. These disturbances mostly exist around the edges of field boundaries and reflect metal fencing and gates. There are also disturbances linked to overhead powerlines, pylons, and underground services.

The geophysical surveys recorded five instances of anomalies being classified as 'undetermined' and are spread through the Site (**Figure 9, E**). These are classified as undetermined when the origin of the geophysical anomaly is ambiguous and there is no supporting contextual evidence to justify a more certain classification. Nonetheless, these anomalies are likely to be the result of geological, pedological, or agricultural processes. Additionally, these anomalies are in proximity to known agricultural trends and suggest that they could also be of an agricultural origin. No anomalies of an archaeological nature were identified.



As discussed in Section 2.1.4, LiDAR data was also reviewed for this assessment and the data is illustrated in **Figure 10**. The LiDAR data largely reflects the data received from the geophysical survey. No anomalies of an archaeological nature were identified.

Beyond the Site boundary, Wigfair Hall, a Grade II\* Listed Building (Figure 2: **66242**) and its associated Grade II Listed terraces and forecourt walls (Figure 2: **99665**) are located c. 950m to the south of the Site. Around 900m to the south-west of the Site is Grade II Listed St. Mary's Church. The church dates to the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century and was built on the location of the earlier medieval Cefn Meiriadog Church.

Industrial heritage during the post-medieval period is primarily evidenced by mining remains and lime kilns, particularly to the south-west of the Site on the mineral-rich high ground. The Cae-llwyd mine shaft (Figure 6: **125172**) and lime kiln (Figure 6: **125171**) are located to the north of the Bedd-y-cawr Hillfort, and the Cawbwell limekiln is located to the south (Figure 6: **68969**).

In sum, localised post-medieval activity largely relates to agriculture, with some evidence for small-scale industrial activity. It is likely that the Site and the surrounding area were farmed by the local community throughout this period and through to present day. The potential for any significant archaeological remains of post-medieval or modern date to survive buried within the Site is considered low.



## 5.0 Archaeology: Statement of Significance & Effects

This section discusses the significance of the known and potential archaeological remains identified within the Site. The heritage significance of, and potential harm to, assets as a result of changes to their setting is discussed separately in Section 6.

### 5.1 Significance

There are no known designated historic assets within the Site. No known designated historic assets would therefore be physically affected by the proposals.

There are no recorded non-designated historic assets within the Site. Geophysical surveys, covering the entire Site boundary, have not recorded any anomalies of an archaeological origin within the Site. The geophysical survey has recorded both post-medieval and modern agricultural features within the Site, which include ridge and furrow, drainage features, and modern cultivation remains. Such remains would retain little, if any, evidential interest and would be of accordingly low significance. The examination of such remains under archaeological conditions would contribute little further to our understanding of the agricultural practices of these periods and / or of local land-use. Such remains would not be anticipated to comprise assets of the highest significance, and they would not warrant preservation *in situ* or otherwise preclude development within the Site.

### 5.2 Previous On-Site Activity

The only previous activities to have taken place within the Sites are agricultural in nature, such as ploughing, and the removal of woodland within the eastern parcel. These activities are likely to have affected the superficial soil profile, and possibly any underlying archaeological deposits.

### 5.3 Potential Development Effects

The proposals comprise the installation of rows of solar panel modules (arrays) standing to a height of c. 3m. Their installation requires the insertion of piles, typically c. 200mm by 75mm in a cross section, to a depth of c. 2.5m. Cables linking the panels would be fastened to above-ground cable trays/ ladders. The cabling would link the panels to inverters, positioned on concrete pads.

Overall, the footprint of the proposed development, including the piling, cable trenches, inverter / substation and base foundation excavations and tracks, would be so limited in area that it would be highly unlikely to result in any material reduction in the evidential value of any unrecorded buried remains.



## 6.0 Heritage Settings Assessment

### 6.1 Introduction

This section assesses any potential effects of the proposed development on the significance of designated historic assets through the alteration of their setting. All designated historic assets located within 3km of the Site boundary (**Figure 2**) were considered in accordance Cadw's *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (2017).

Stage 1 of the Cadw guidance is to identify which historic assets and their settings are affected. The guidance notes that Stage 1 should identify the historic assets which are likely to be affected as a result of any change to their experience, as a result of the development proposal.

A combination of GIS analysis and a Site visit, which has considered, amongst other factors, the surrounding topographic and environmental conditions, built form, vegetation cover, and lines of sight, within the context of the assets' historic significance, has identified that there would be no non-physical impact upon the significance of several historic assets through the alteration of their setting. Much of the surrounding landscape is characterised by small rural roads which are flanked by high and mature hedgerows / trees, providing substantial screening between the Site and the surrounding historic assets. Additionally, there are several pockets of woodland surrounding the Site, which provide further screening between the Site and the surrounding designated historic assets.

These unaffected historic assets have been scoped out at Stage 1 and have been included in **Appendix A**.

The remaining historic assets that have not been scoped out at Stage 1 have been progressed to Stage 2 / Stage 3. Stage 2 considers the contribution that setting makes to the significance of potentially susceptible historic assets. Stage 3 then considers how, if at all, and to what extent any anticipated changes to the setting of those assets, as a result of the proposed development within the Site, might affect their significance. These stages are outlined below in relation to the historic assets.

### 6.2 Lower Elwy Valley (HLW (C) 4)

#### 6.2.1 Description

The Lower Elwy Valley is a Registered Historic Landscape within North Wales, located to the south of St. Asaph and the Site. The contained landscape within the designated area is closely defined by the gorge of the River Elwy as it rounds the Cefn Meiriadog, a low ridge on the eastern fringes of the Rhos Hills. The valley's narrow floor gently rises from about 30m above ordnance datum in the east to about 50m in the west. It is densely wooded on its sides which rise steeply, and in some places precipitously. The boundary of the Registered Historic Landscape is c. 400m to the south of the Site.

#### 6.2.2 History

Excavations within the Pontnewydd Cave have found evidence of lower Palaeolithic hominid activity<sup>3</sup>. The deposits have been scientifically dated to sometime about 225,000 years ago. Subsequent advances and retreats of the ice have substantially remodelled the valley's topography. The position of the cliff face and cave mouth at the time of the occupation was

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<sup>3</sup> Pontnewydd Cave: a lower Palaeolithic hominid site in Wales: the first report by H.S. Green. Published by the National Museum of Wales (1984).



some distance forward compared to their present position, due to weathering back which has removed most of the evidence of the occupation of the Site, particularly from the cave mouth.

The Bedd-y-Cawr Hillfort is located to the northwest within the historic landscape, which has views to the south and east within the valley. Further northwest of the hillfort is the prehistoric, presumably Neolithic, Tyddyn Bleiddyn Burial Chamber. To the north of the cave are remains of medieval field systems in the form of strip lynchets, which hint at the agricultural economy, as well as the ruin of the medieval holy well and chapel at Ffynnon Fair.

### 6.2.3 Significance

The valley presents a landscape of coherent historic and evidential interest which, though small in comparison to other Registered Historic Landscapes, is remarkably complete. Within the landscape are highly significant archaeological monuments and remains, with the potential for further archaeological data to be gathered through investigation. The landforms within the designation themselves provide key information of the area's long sedimentary history, of the early environment within Wales and of the landscape's functional relationship with early hominids and modern humans.

### 6.2.4 Setting

The valley retains its rural characteristics, consisting of minor development with the majority of land used for agricultural purposes and woodland. This woodland creates bands which allow views within the valley but encloses views above the ridges to the north and south. The key aspects to this setting are therefore:

- the River Elwy within the centre;
- the valley gorge itself, which is a symbol of the water and ice movement over time that has created the landscape;
- the caves which were likely attractive to early hominids and provide the evidential value; and
- the woodland and rising precipitous to the north and south, which create an enclosed atmosphere within the valley.

### 6.2.5 Contribution of Setting to Significance

The Elwy Valley's setting can be considered to contribute great to its significance due to its preservation as a largely undeveloped landscape and its many surviving historical assets, such as the Pontnewydd Cave and Bedd-y-Cawr Hillfort. This good preservation enhanced understanding of the characteristics of the environments which early hominids and prehistoric humans chose to settle, therefore contributing to the setting of these archaeological monuments.

### 6.2.6 Development Effects

The Site comprises agricultural land to the south-west of St. Asaph. The proposed development (see **Appendix E**) is located c. 400m to the north of the Registered Historic Landscape. The proposals would consist of a solar farm within the Site boundaries, using solar arrays, standing approximately 3m at their highest.

The Site itself has no historical or modern functional relationship with the Registered Historic Landscape. When looking north from several positions within the northern boundary of the Registered Historic Landscape, it was confirmed that there are no views into the Site from these locations due to topography and intervening tree coverage and vegetation (**Photos 12 & 13**). As such, there would not be anticipated to be any material change to the experience of the asset as a result of changes to setting. There are no material non-visual historical



associations between the asset and the Site, and no 'third points' from which both would be visible to any material extent within the same view-shed.

The proposals would therefore result in no harm to the significance of the Lower Elwy Valley Registered Historic Landscape. The key contributing heritage interests and aspects of setting to the significance of the asset, as described previously within this section, would all be preserved.

## 6.3 Bedd-y-Cawr Hillfort (DE037)

### 6.3.1 Description

Bedd-y-Cawr is an inland promontory hillfort, located on the south-eastern end of the ridge of Bryn Meriadog, with views south and east over the valley of the River Elwy. It is roughly rectangular in shape and measures c. 156m by 74m, located c. 3km to the south-west of the town of St. Asaph. It is defined by a bank and ditch to the north-west and north-east, and rock outcrops to the remainder of the perimeter.

The Bedd-y-Cawr Hillfort lies on a rocky prominence to the north of the River Elwy which circles around the hill from the east to the south and west. The hillfort allows views along this waterway and formed valley, which would have provided routes of communication and supervision of movements. Approximately 4km to the west of the Bedd-y-Cawr Hillfort is another hillfort, the Scheduled Mynydd-y-Gaer Camp (**DE082**), taking a similar position, on a prominence overlooking the River Elwy circling from the north, west, and south. These hillforts are part of a series of hillforts along the northern region of Wales proximate to the coast.

### 6.3.2 History

The hillfort likely dates to the Iron Age (c. 800 BCE – 43 CE), although several similar structures are known to date from the Late Bronze Age with activity through to the post-Roman period. As well as defence in turbulent times, hillforts often contained settlements, including domestic and agricultural activity. It is likely Bedd-y-Cawr Hillfort was an administrative and defensible enclosure which contained all aspects of life, and possibly supported a modest-sized population.

To date, archaeological investigations have not taken place within the hillfort, therefore little else is known about its establishment, lifespan and abandonment, population, or economy.

### 6.3.3 Significance

The Bedd-y-Cawr Hillfort is a Scheduled Monument, and therefore is an historic asset of the highest significance. Its national significance derives from its evidential and historic interests. Further investigation of the hillfort under archaeological conditions has the vast potential to provide further information on later prehistoric defensive organisation and settlement within North Wales. It is likely there are buried deposits and artefacts which could enhance understanding of the date the hillfort was founded, phasing and abandonment, as well as of the size of the population, status and living conditions of the inhabitants. Except for small scale quarrying at the south-eastern end of the enclosure which has destroyed part of the hillfort, the site is thought to be largely well-preserved and therefore retains considerable archaeological potential.

### 6.3.4 Setting

The hillfort sits on a prominent rocky position on the south-eastern side of the Bryn Meriadog; a ridge aligned roughly north-west to south-east, overlooking the Vale of Elwy to the north. However, the asset and the surrounding hillside are today covered with dense woodland which prevents views of the surrounding landscape from within the monument. To the north-east and



south-west are two roads which fork around the wooded hill, beyond which are regular post-enclosure agricultural fields, separated by farmsteads, hedgerows, and intermittent woodland. The Elwy River itself passes c. 500m to the south of the asset.

Today the monument, hill and surrounding woodland is part of a firing range and so access to the public is prohibited.

### 6.3.5 Contribution of Setting to Significance

The locational settings of the asset contribute to its significance. These comprise:

- the asset's prominent position on the outcrop, which would have been a key (if not the prime) reason for the hillfort's siting in this location, allowing for visibility over the surrounding landscape for defensive and administrative purposes;
- the local rocky geology beneath the asset, which was likely an attractive feature due to its good drainage and stable construction base; and
- the proximity to the River Elwy to the south, which would have provided a supply of freshwater as well as potentially contributing to economy, trade and subsistence.

It is key to note however, that the prominent position of the outcrop for views over the landscape would have, during the Iron Age period, relied on the promontory being cleared of vegetation. The outcrop is today heavily wooded, with likely no views in or out of the asset possible.

### 6.3.6 Development Effects

The Site comprises c. 37 hectares of arable land located approximately c. 650m to the north-east of Bedd-y-Cawr Hillfort. The proposals would comprise the construction of a solar farm within the boundaries of the Site consisting of solar arrays and associated infrastructure.

There are no views of the Site, from an area just the north of Bedd-y-Cawr Hillfort, due to the intermittent woodland and topography (**Photo 7**). Whilst no access was possible to the top of the promontory, the hill was covered in dense mature woodland which prevented views into (and therefore out of) the asset. Views to the hillfort from the Site itself consist of the elevation of the ridge which is heavily wooded (**Photo 6**), which can be seen in the distance from the south-western parcel of the Site.

The proposals would therefore result in no harm to the significance of the Bedd-y-Cawr Hillfort, nor would the proposals diminish the ability to appreciate that significance. It is determined that there are no views possible from the asset towards the Site due to the dense woodland that today surrounds it and that of the Site itself, and therefore do not form a key aspect of the asset's modern setting. The key contributing aspects of setting to the significance of the asset would all be preserved, as would the evidential and historic interests of the asset.

## 6.4 Other Historic Assets

As per Section 6.1, the potential susceptibility of all other historic assets to harm was disproven at Step 1 of Cadw's *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (2017). This was confirmed during the Site visit with regards to Southcroft including North Cottage (Figure 2: **1442**), Staverton (Figure 2: **1443**), and Former Coach House, Stables, and Outbuildings (Figure 2: **1444**) (**Photos 1 – 4**), the Church of St Mary (Figure 2: **19924**) (**Photos 8 – 9**) and Wigfair Hall (Figure 2: **19925**) and Wigfair Hall terraces and forecourt walls (Figure 2: **19926**) (**Photos 10 – 11**).

With reference to the assets listed in **Appendix A**, none of these historic assets would be affected by the proposals. In all instances, the intervening distance(s) between them and the Site, the lack of any material inter-visibility between them and the Site, the lack of any relevant non-visual association(s) between them and the Site, and the lack of any 'third points' from



which both would be visible to a material extent within the same view-shed, negates the potential for development within the Site to adversely affect their heritage significance. Similarly, the ability to appreciate their significance would be unaffected by development within the Site of the nature and on the scale proposed. The key contributing heritage interests to the significance of these historic assets, the ability to appreciate their significance, and all key views towards, from and including them, would be preserved.



## 7.0 Conclusions

This updated Historic Environment Desk-based Assessment has identified that there are no designated historic assets located within the Site. No designated historic assets would therefore be physically affected by the proposals.

There are no recorded non-designated historic assets within the Site. Geophysical surveys, covering the entire Site boundary, has not recorded any anomalies of an archaeological origin within the Site. The geophysical survey has recorded both post-medieval and modern agricultural features within the Site, which include ridge and furrow, drainage features, and modern cultivation remains.

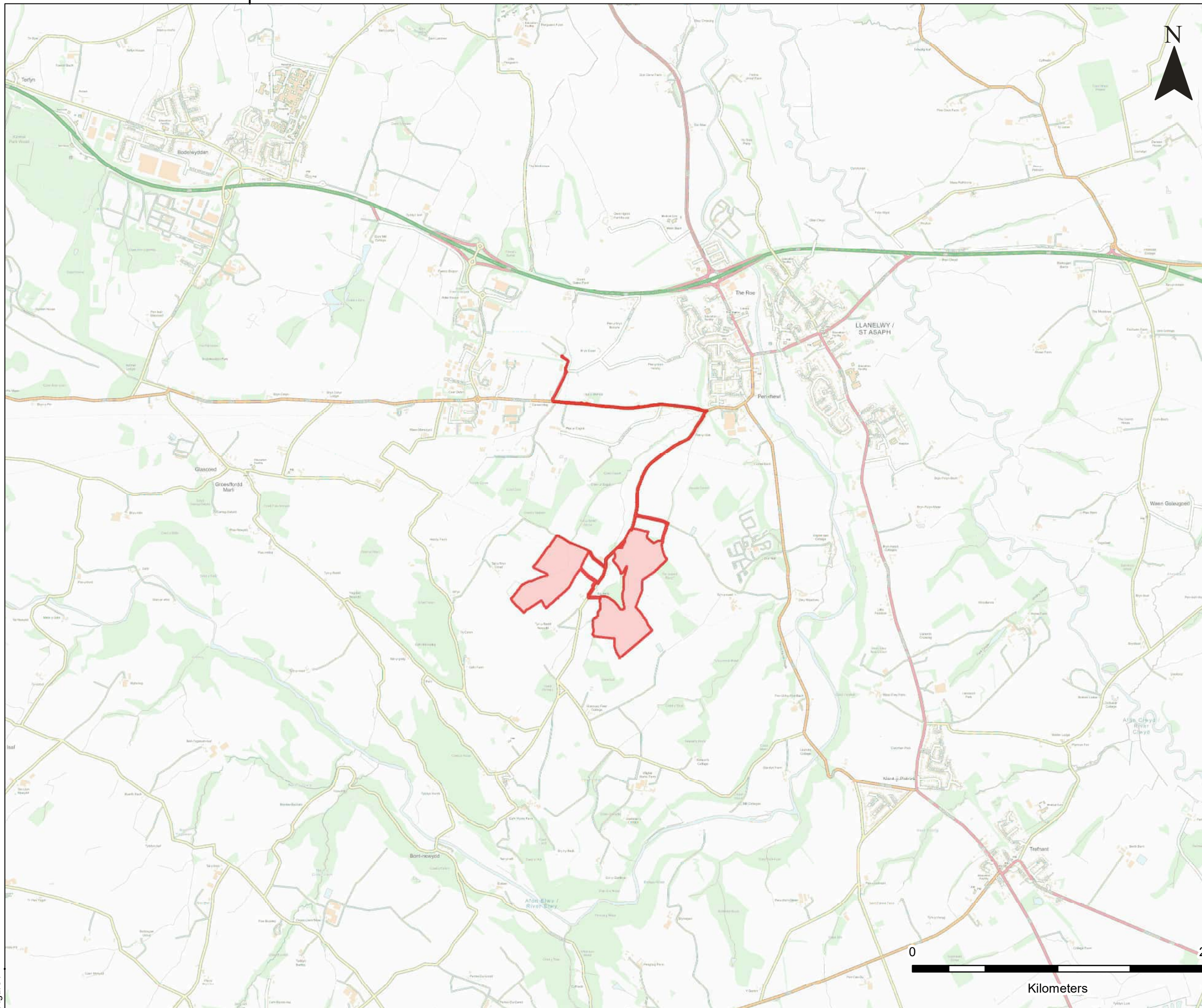
Such remains would retain little, if any, evidential interest and would be of accordingly low significance. The examination of such remains under archaeological conditions would contribute little further to our understanding of the agricultural practices of these periods and / or of local land-use. Such remains would not be anticipated to comprise assets of the highest significance, and they would not warrant preservation *in situ* or otherwise preclude development within the Site.

The proposals would be anticipated to result in no harm to the significance of any historic assets within the Site environs as a result of changes to setting. This includes the Lower Elwy Valley Registered Historic Landscape (HLW (C) 4) and the Scheduled Monument of Bedd-y-Cawr Hillfort (DE037). In all cases, the key contributing interests to the significance of those historic assets, and the key views towards and from them (including from 'third points'), would be preserved under the proposals. The *ability to appreciate* their significance would also be preserved.

Overall, the proposals would be consistent with the provisions of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act (1990), Section 66(i), the Historic Environment (Wales) Act (2016), Section 6.1 of Planning Policy Wales (2024), as well as the relevant provisions of the Denbighshire County Council Local Development Plan (2013 – 2021).

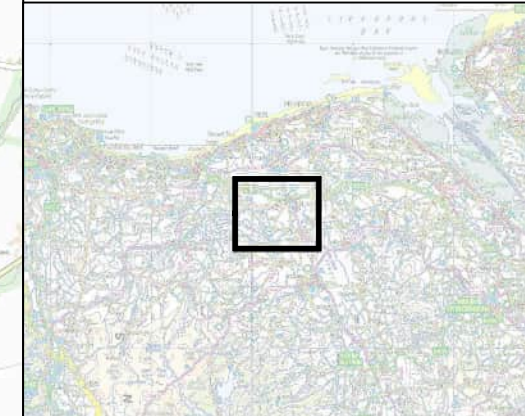


300000



**LEGEND**

 SITE



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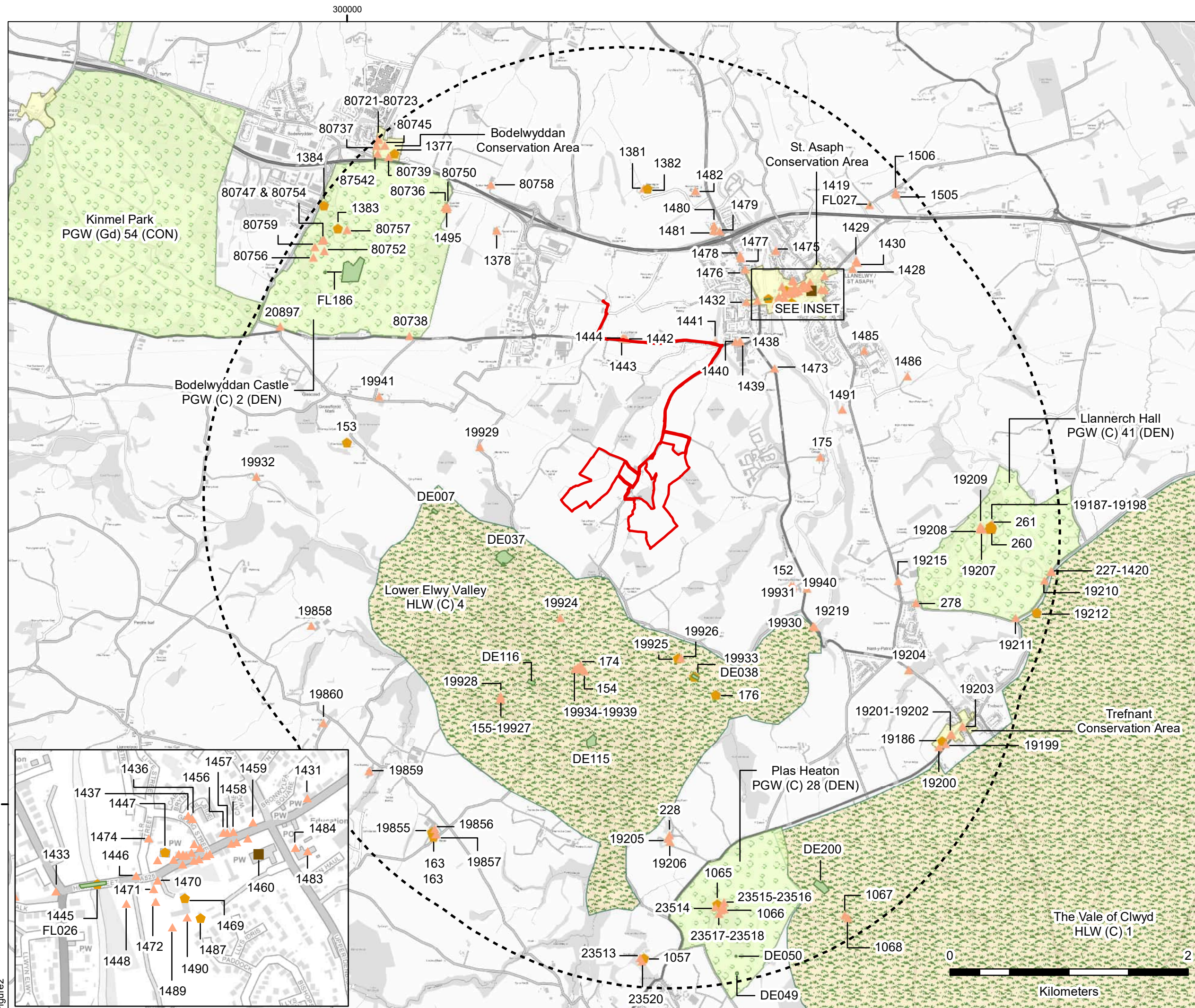
**ST. ASAPH SOLAR FARM**  
**HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DBA**  
**SITE LOCATION**

**FIGURE 1**

Scale 1:25,000 @ A3      Date APRIL 2025



Figure 1



**NOTES**  
 1. DATA © CADW  
 CONTAINS PUBLIC SECTOR INFORMATION  
 LICENSED UNDER THE OPEN GOVERNMENT  
 LICENCE V3.0.

- LEGEND**
- SITE
  - STUDY AREA (3KM)
  - GRADE I LISTED BUILDING
  - GRADE II\* LISTED BUILDING
  - GRADE II LISTED BUILDING
  - SCHEDULED MONUMENT
  - CONSERVATION AREA
  - REGISTERED PARK & GARDEN
  - REGISTERED HISTORIC LANDSCAPE



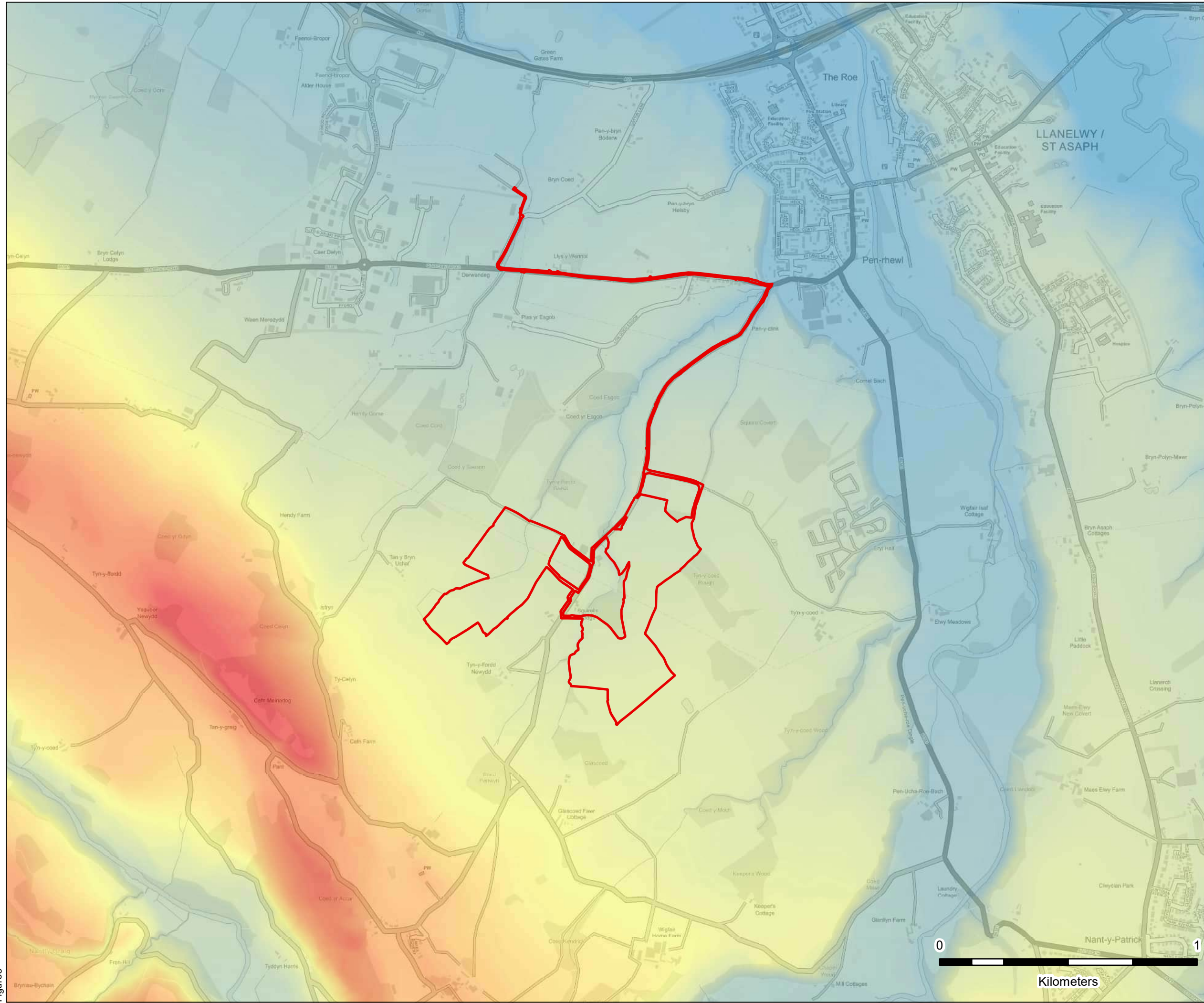
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**ST. ASAPH SOLAR FARM**  
**HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DBA**  
**DESIGNATED HISTORIC ASSETS**

**FIGURE 2**


Scale 1:30,000 @ A3      Date APRIL 2025

Figure 2




**NOTES**  
 1. DATA © WELSH GOVERNMENT  
 CONTAINS PUBLIC SECTOR INFORMATION  
 LICENSED UNDER THE OPEN GOVERNMENT  
 LICENCE V3.0.

**LEGEND**

 **SITE**

**TOPOGRAPHY**

**METRES**

 **HIGH : 169.96**

**LOW : 5.88**



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**ST. ASAPH SOLAR FARM**

**HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DBA**

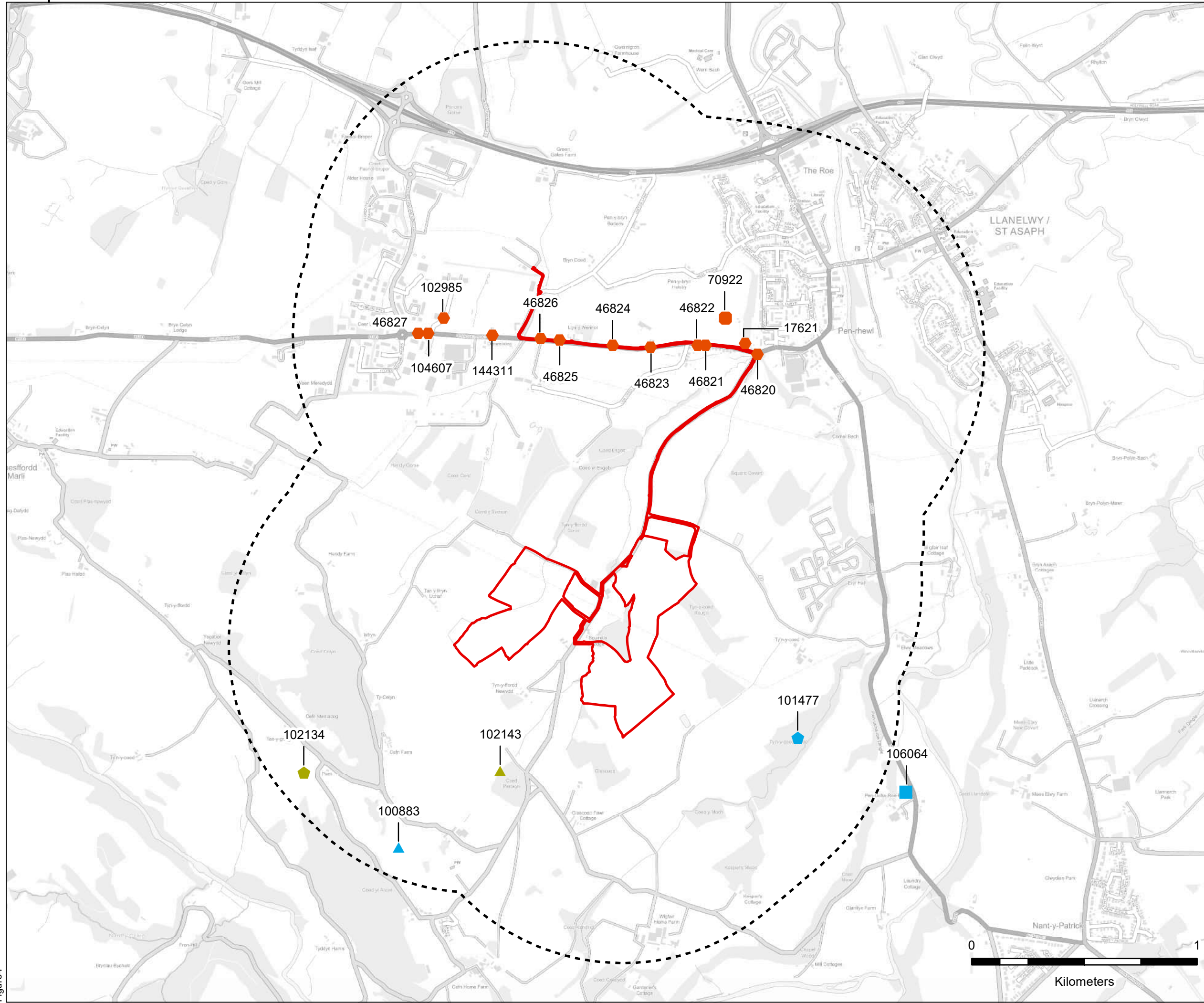
**SITE TOPOGRAPHY**

**FIGURE 3**

Scale 1:14,000 @ A3 Date APRIL 2025

Figure3

300000



**NOTES**  
 1. DATA © HENEB: CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGY HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

- LEGEND**
- SITE
  - STUDY AREA (1KM)
  - ◆ PREHISTORIC STANDING STONE
  - PREHISTORIC ENCLOSURE
  - ▲ PREHISTORIC FINDSPOT
  - ◆ BRONZE AGE STANDING STONE
  - ▲ BRONZE AGE FINDSPOT
  - ◆ ROMAN ROAD
  - ROMAN FORT (?)



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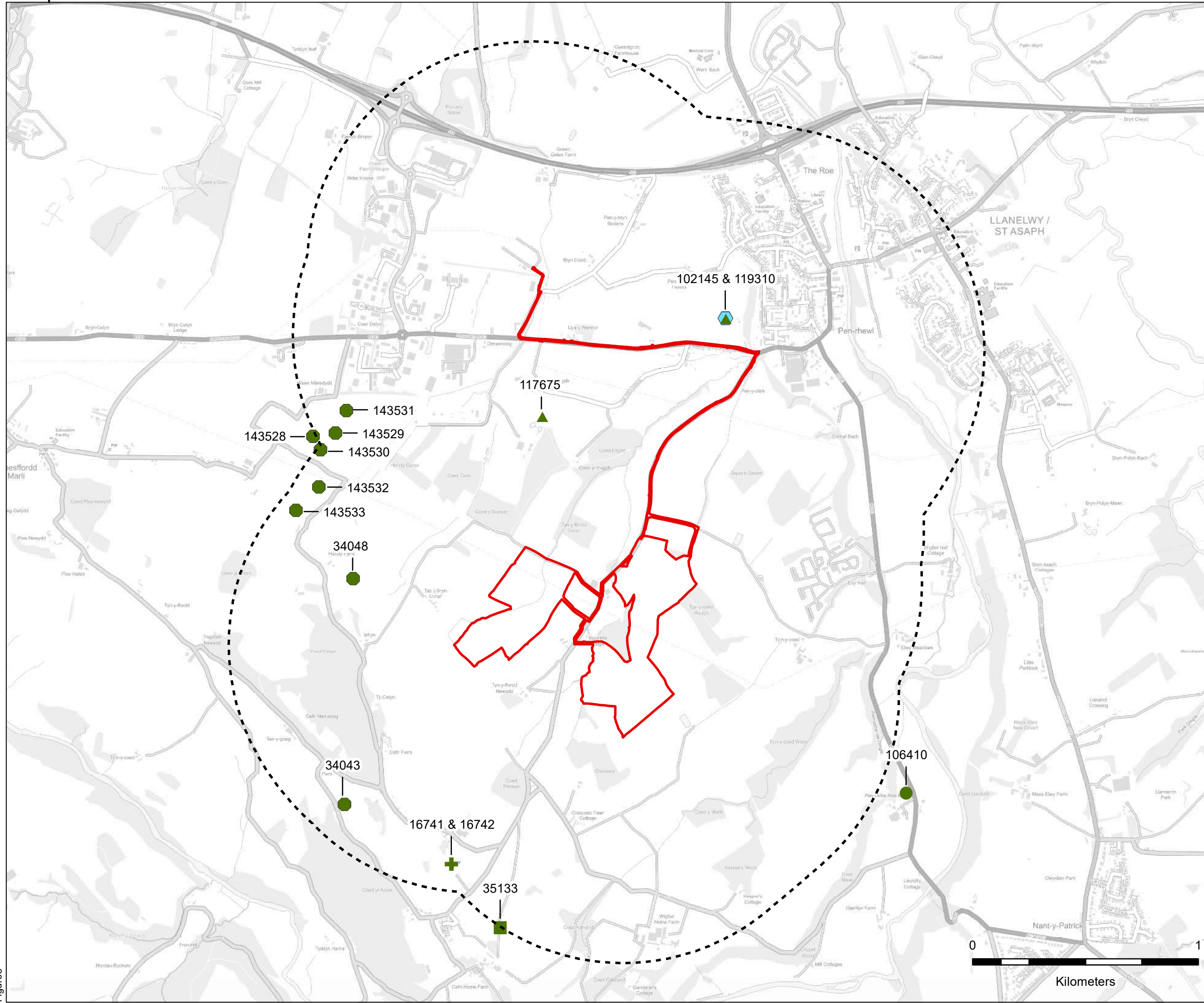
**ST. ASAPH SOLAR FARM**  
 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DBA  
 HER DATA: PREHISTORIC TO ROMAN

**FIGURE 4**  
 Scale 1:16,000 @ A3 Date APRIL 2025



Figure4

300000



**NOTES**  
 1. DATA © HENEB: CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGY HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

**LEGEND**

- SITE
- STUDY AREA (1KM)
- ⬡ EARLY MEDIEVAL MONASTERY
- MEDIEVAL RIDGE & FURROW
- MEDIEVAL FIELD SYSTEM
- + MEDIEVAL CHURCH & CHURCHYARD
- MEDIEVAL HOUSE
- ▲ MEDIEVAL FINDSPOT



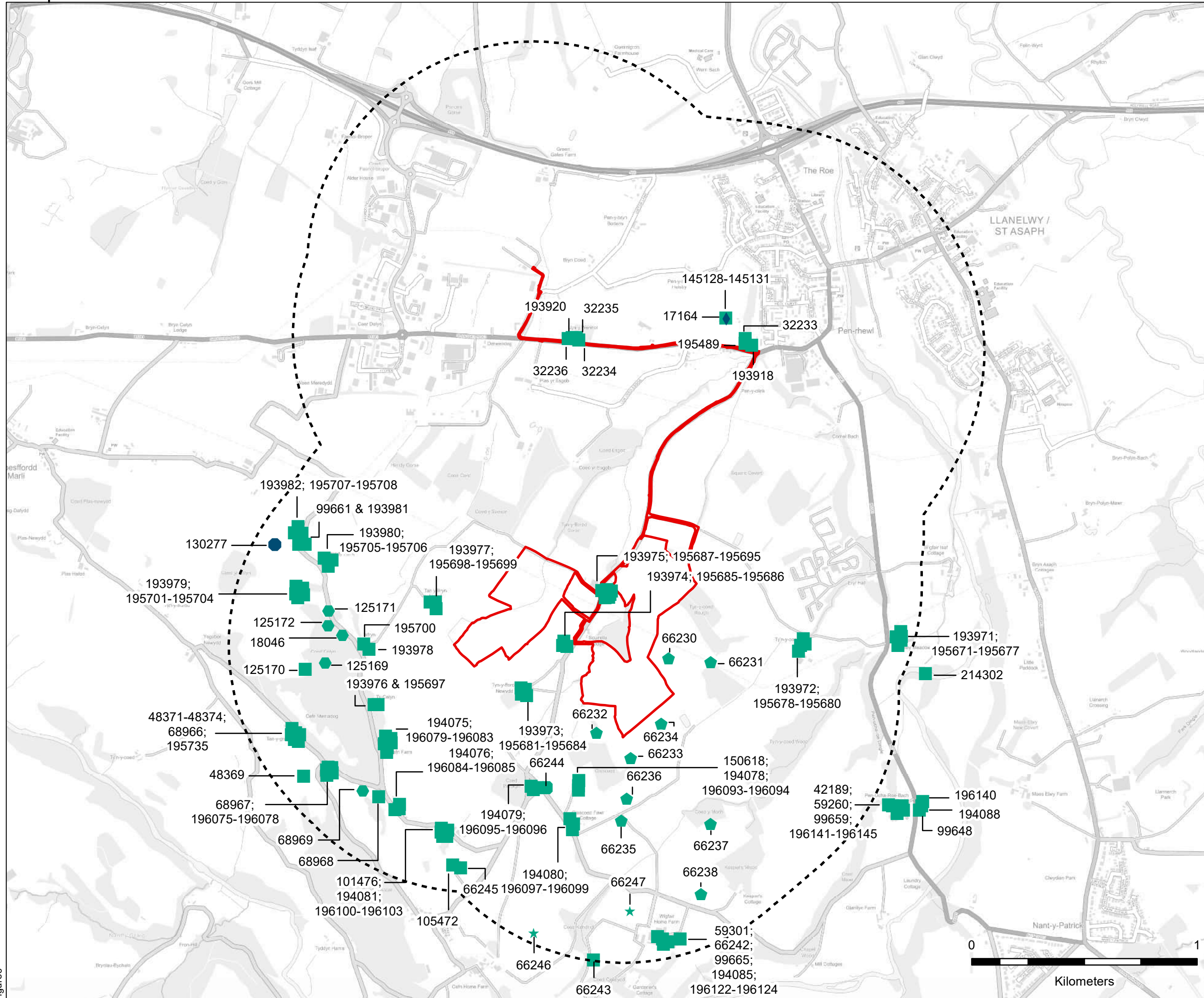
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**ST. ASAPH SOLAR FARM**  
**HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DBA**  
**HER DATA: EARLY MEDIEVAL TO MEDIEVAL**

**FIGURE 5**  
 Scale 1:16,000 @ A3 Date APRIL 2025



Figure5



**NOTES**  
 1. DATA © HENEB: CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGY HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT RECORD

- LEGEND**
- SITE
  - STUDY AREA (1KM)
  - POST-MEDIEVAL BUILDING
  - POST-MEDIEVAL INDUSTRIAL SITE
  - POST-MEDIEVAL PARKLAND
  - POST-MEDIEVAL ENCLOSURE
  - POST-MEDIEVAL POND
  - MODERN WAR MEMORIAL
  - MODERN AIR CRASH SITE



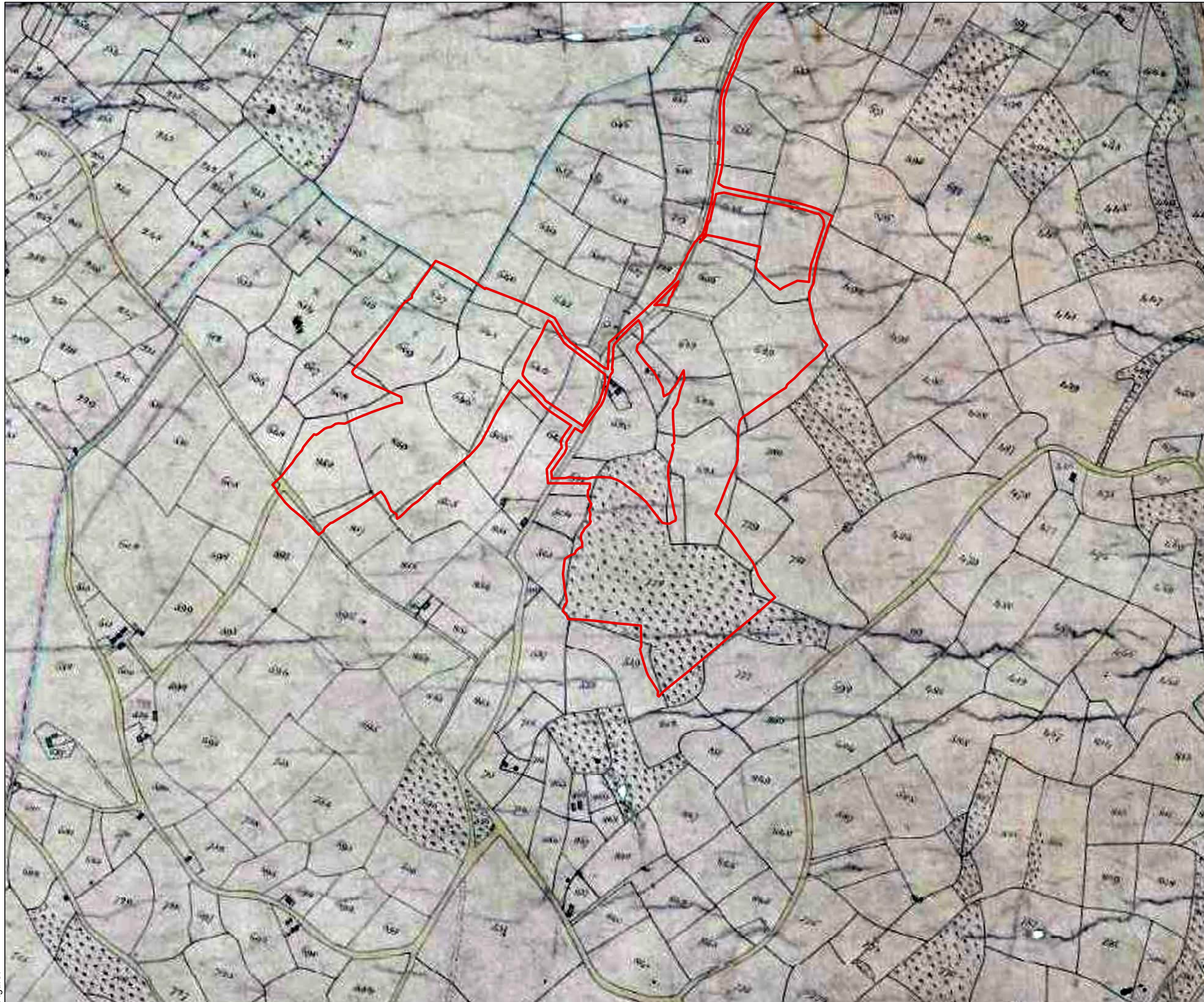
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**ST. ASAPH SOLAR FARM**  
 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DBA  
 HER DATA: POST-MEDIEVAL TO MODERN

**FIGURE 6**  
 Scale 1:16,000 @ A3 Date APRIL 2025




Figure6




NOTES  
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LEGEND

 SITE

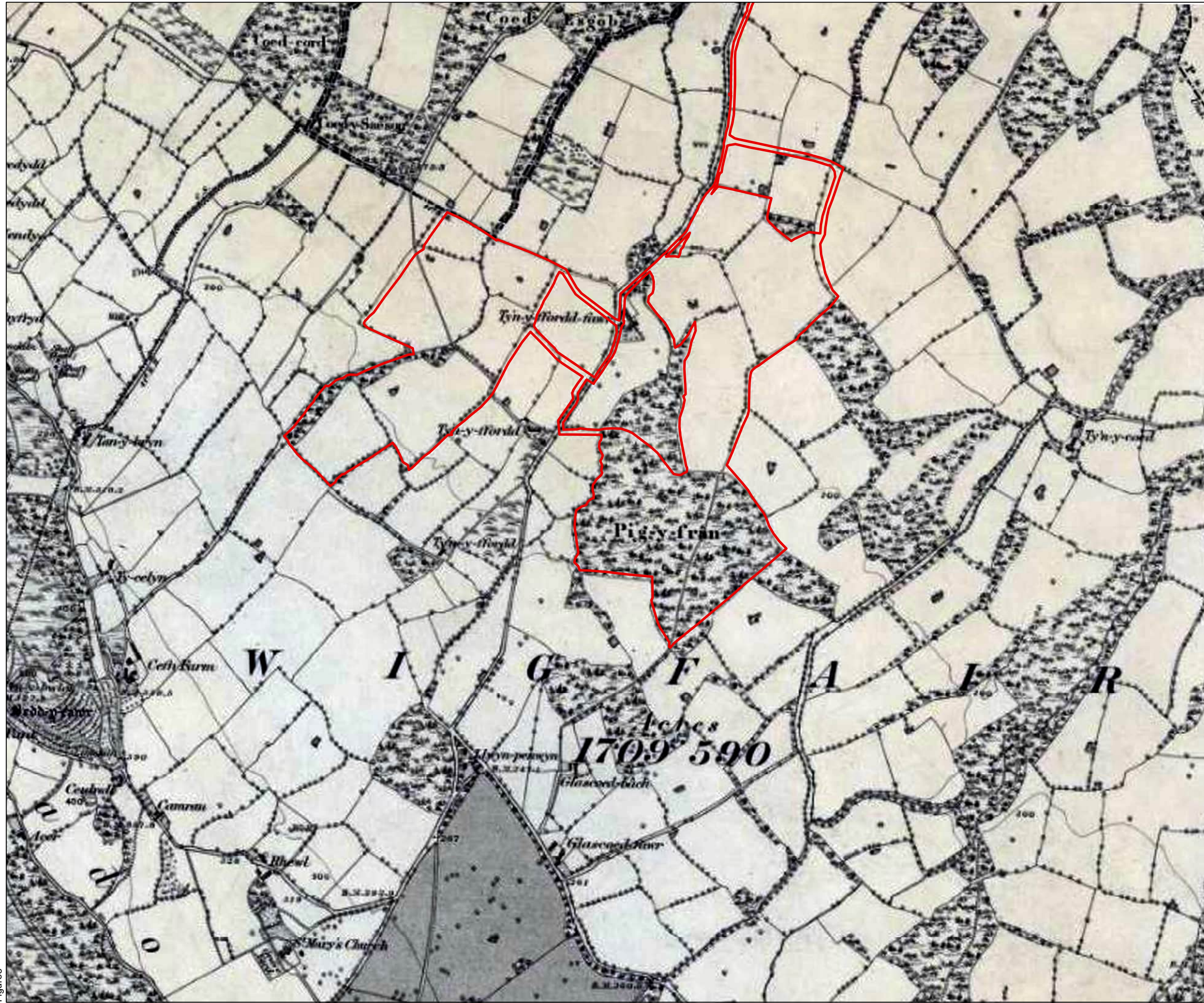


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ST. ASAPH SOLAR FARM  
 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DBA  
 TITHE MAP (1846)

**FIGURE 7**  
 Scale 1:7,000 @ A3 Date APRIL 2025

Figure 7



NOTES  
 1. DATA © NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND  
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 LICENSED UNDER THE OPEN GOVERNMENT  
 LICENCE V3.0.

LEGEND

 SITE

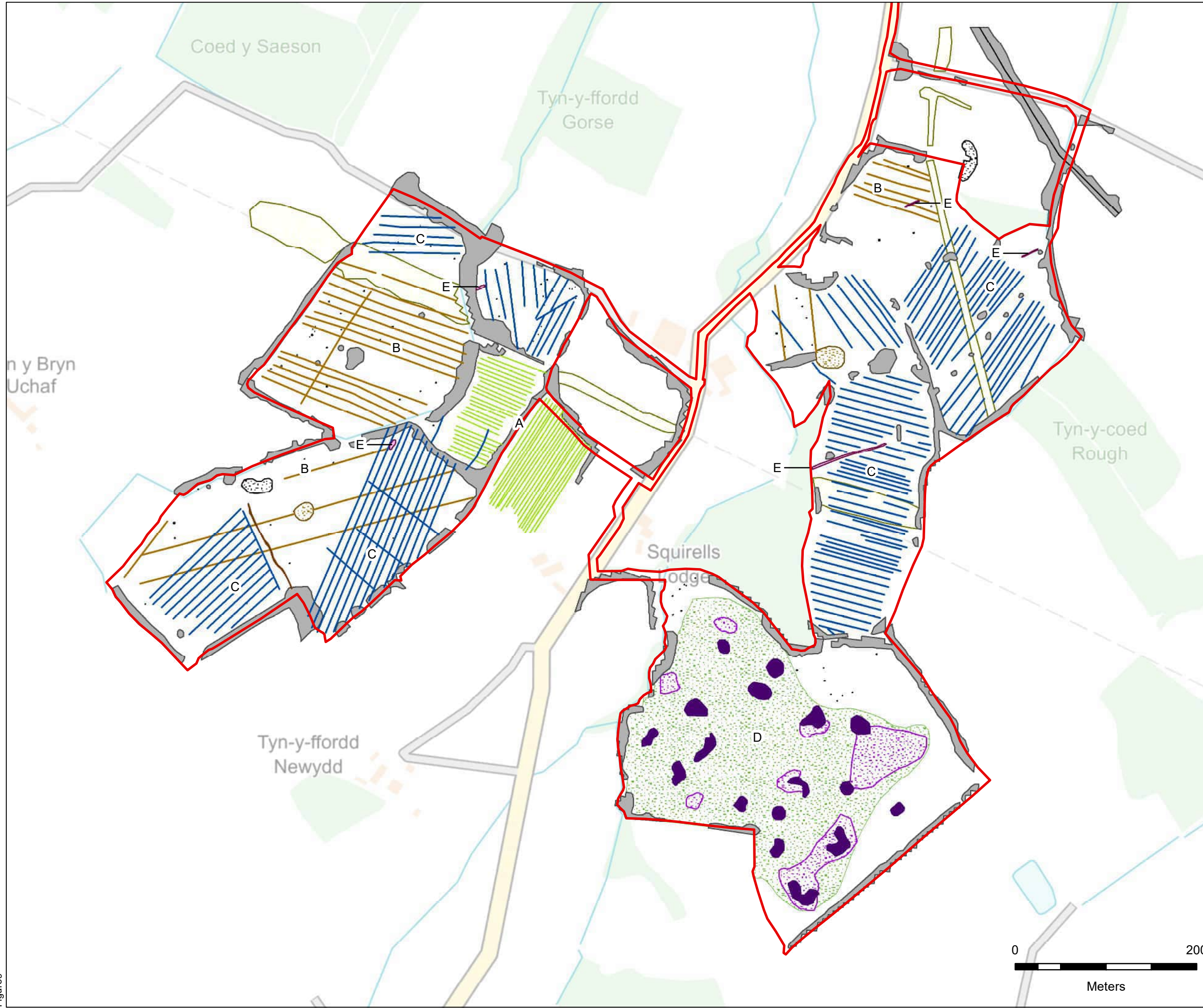


 HELMONT HOUSE  
 CHURCHILL WAY  
 CARDIFF  
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ST. ASAPH SOLAR FARM  
 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DBA  
 FIRST EDITION ORDNANCE SURVEY (1880)

**FIGURE 8**  
 Scale 1:7,000 @ A3 Date APRIL 2025

Figure 8



**NOTES**  
 1. DATA © MAGNITUDE SURVEYS.

**LEGEND**

	SITE
	UNDETERMINED
	DRAINAGE FEATURE
	RIDGE & FURROW (TREND)
	AGRICULTURAL (WEAK)
	AGRICULTURAL (TREND)
	AGRICULTURAL (SPREAD)
	SERVICE
	MAGNETIC DISTURBANCE
	OVERHEAD CABLE
	FERROUS (SPREAD)
	FERROUS (SPIKE)
	BURNING EVENT (STRONG)
	BURNING EVENT (SPREAD)
	NATURAL (SPREAD)



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**ST. ASAPH SOLAR FARM**  
**HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DBA**  
**GEOPHYSICAL SURVEY RESULTS**

**FIGURE 9**  
 Scale 1:4,000 @ A3 Date APRIL 2025

Figure9



**NOTES**  
 1. DATA © WELSH GOVERNMENT  
 CONTAINS PUBLIC SECTOR INFORMATION  
 LICENSED UNDER THE OPEN GOVERNMENT  
 LICENCE V3.0.

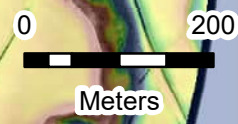
**LEGEND**  
 SITE



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ST. ASAPH SOLAR FARM  
 HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT DBA  
 LIDAR DATA: 1M

**FIGURE 10**



Scale 1:8,000 @ A3 Date APRIL 2025

Figure 10



# **Appendix A    Gazetteer of Designated Historic Assets Assessed to Stage 1**

**St. Asaph Solar Farm, Denbighshire**

**Updated Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment**

**Anesco Limited**

SLR Project No.: 407.064769.00001

22 April 2025

## A.1 Stage 1 Assessment

The historic assets, listed in the table below, have been assessed to Stage 1 of Cadw's *Setting of Historic Assets in Wales* (2017). Several other historic assets have been assessed in further detail (see Section 6 above). However, it has been concluded that the historic assets listed below would not be affected by the proposals.

In all instances, there is a lack of any material inter-visibility between them and the Site, a lack of any relevant non-visual association(s) between them and the Site, lack of any 'third points' from which both would be visible to a material extent within the same view-shed, and in some cases, there is great intervening distance(s) between the historic assets and the Site.

As such, this negates the potential for development within the Site to adversely affect their heritage significance. Similarly, the ability to appreciate their significance would be unaffected by development within the Site of the nature and on the scale proposed. The key contributing heritage values to the significance of these historic assets, the ability to appreciate their significance, and all key views towards, from and including them, would be preserved.

Designated Historic Assets			
Registered Historic Landscapes			
Name		Reference No.	
The Vale of Clwyd		HLW (C) 1	
Registered Park & Gardens			
Bodelwyddan Castle		PGW (C) 2 (DEN)	
Kinmel Park		PGW (Gd) 54 (CON)	
Llannerch Hall		PGW (C) 41 (DEN)	
Plas Heaton		PGW(C) 28 (DEN)	
Conservation Areas			
Trefnant		329	
Bodelwyddan		337	
St. Asaph		338	
Scheduled Monuments			
Name	Reference No.	Easting	Northing
Coed Plas Round Barrow	DE050	303261	368726
St. Asaph Bridge	FL026	303525	374242
Pont Dafydd (old)	FL027	304387	375035
First World War Practice Trenches at Bodelwyddan Park	FL186	300041	374477
Ffynnon Fair (Well), Cefn	DE038	302919	371070
Plas Heaton Round Barrow	DE049	303270	368584
Cefn Cave	DE115	302049	370531
Bont Newydd Cave	DE116	301544	371026



Designated Historic Assets				
Pysgodlan Moated Site	DE200		303977	369313
Bedd-y-Cawr Hillfort	DE037		301316	372070
Tyddyn Bleiddyn Burial Chamber	DE007		300734	372458
Listed Buildings				
Name	Reference No.	Grade	Easting	Northing
Plas Coch	152	II	303744	371832
Plas Newydd	153	II*	300001	373038
Plas-yn-Cefn	154	II	301993	371119
Bont Newydd (partly in Cefnmeiriadog community)	155	II	301287	370884
Berain	163	II*	300726	369728
Former Laundry Block at Plas-yn-Cefn	174	II	301965	371133
Wigfair Isaf	175	II	303971	372917
Dolbelidr	176	II*	303095	370921
Pont Llannerch (partly in Waen Community)	227	II	305904	371952
Galltfaenan Hall	228	II	302692	369716
No 1 Llannerch Hall	260	II*	305412	372311
Temple, Loggia and Terraces to E of Llannerch Hall including Gates and Walls to Forecourt	261	II	305411	372355
Bridge over Former Railway Line at Llannerch Park	278	II	304774	371692
Garn	1057	II*	302493	368709
Plas Heaton	1065	II*	303106	369166
C-shaped Agricultural Complex at Plas Heaton	1066	II	303164	369121
Plas Heaton Farm	1067	II	304175	369070



Designated Historic Assets				
Secondary House at Plas Heaton Farm	1068	II	304203	369047
Church of St Margaret (The Marble Church)	1377	II*	300398	375460
Barn to NW of Faenol-broper Farmhouse	1378	II	301255	374817
Gwernigron Farmhouse	1381	II	302490	375170
Gwernigron Dovecote	1382	II*	302522	375167
Bodelwyddan Castle	1383	II*	299923	374830
Bodelwyddan Castle Ice House	1384	II*	299806	375027
Pont Dafydd	1419	II	304385	375032
Pont Llannerch (Partly in Trefnant Community)	1420	II	305908	371958
The Bryn	1428	II	304243	374494
Summer House in the Grounds of The Bryn	1429	II	304274	374564
Sundial in the grounds of The Bryn	1430	II	304284	374545
The Court House	1431	II	304005	374436
The Old Deanery	1432	II	303350	374216
Gatepiers & Gate at the Old Deanery	1433	II	303442	374227
Midland Bank	1434	II	303765	374324
Red Lion P.H.	1435	II	303752	374333
St. Asaph Auction Rooms	1436	II	303748	374389
House at St. Asaph Auction Rooms	1437	II	303738	374396
The Hendre	1438	II	303300	373885
Plas yn Roe	1439	II	303291	373880
April Cottage	1440	II	303260	373883
Rose Hill House	1441	II	303089	373881



Designated Historic Assets				
Southcroft including North Cottage	1442	II	302341	373904
Staverton	1443	II	302327	373911
Former Coach House, Stables & Outbuildings to Staverton & Southcroft	1444	II	302314	373914
St. Asaph	1445	II*	303535	374243
Mary Short Memorial Drinking Fountain	1446	II	303622	374263
St. Kentigern & St. Asaph Parish Church	1447	II*	303687	374314
Railings & Boundary Walls to St. Kentigern & St. Asaph Parish Church	1448	II	303600	374200
Sundial in the Churchyard to St. Kentigern & St. Asaph Parish Church	1449	II	303670	374297
Kinmel Arms P.H.	1450	II	303717	374311
Greengrocer's Shop	1451	II	303706	374298
1 High Street	1452	II	303727	374310
1A High Street	1453	II	303728	374307
Including Yu's Chinese	1454	II	303734	374308
Conservative Club	1455	II	303746	374314
H.M. Cleaver & Co. (Solicitors)	1456	II	303817	374358
Barrow Crafts (including Antiques Shop)	1457	II	303826	374358
The Old Rectory	1458	II	303839	374360
Sundial at Kentigern Hall	1459	II	303883	374382
Cathedral Church of St. Asaph	1460	I	303896	374310
Translator's Memorial	1461	II	303872	374346



Designated Historic Assets				
St. Asaph Diocesan Office	1462	II	303847	374337
Former Barber Shop	1463	II	303835	374334
Elwy Bank including D.P. Nash	1464	II	303763	374299
Glasgow House including County Cleaners, Halifax Building Society & Shoe Repairs)	1465	II	303779	374307
Glasgow House including County Cleaners, Halifax Building Society & Shoe Repairs	1466	II	303787	374311
Beulah House (K&M Massey, including St. Asaph Video)	1467	II	303751	374296
The Barrow Arms P.H.	1468	II	303726	374287
The Old Palace	1469	II*	303731	374211
Lodge & Gatepiers at driveway to the Old Palace	1470	II	303670	374252
Tithe Barn House	1471	II	303661	374233
Palace Gardens	1472	II	303666	374204
Glan Elwy	1473	II	303586	373661
The old China Shop, including China House	1474	II	303650	374345
Roe Gau	1475	II	303596	374647
Suncot	1476	II	303340	374487
Min-Afon	1477	II	303305	374588
Glandwr (St. Asaph Cricket & Social Club)	1478	II	303296	374611
Talardy Hotel	1479	II	303128	374812
Greenhouse at Talardy Hotel	1480	II	303078	374857
Walled Garden at Talardy Hotel	1481	II	303075	374814



Designated Historic Assets				
Plas Coch Rest Home (main block only)	1482	II	302924	375149
St. Asaph V.P. School	1483	II	304006	374317
Rosslyn	1484	II	303978	374324
H.M.Stanley Hospital (front range plus attached cross-plan ranges & Chapel only)	1485	II	304340	373809
Ysgubor-y-Coed Farmhouse	1486	II	304702	373594
Esgobty Farmhouse	1487	II*	303766	374167
Dovecote at Esgonty Farm	1489	II	303703	374147
Garden Wall at Esgobty Farm	1490	II	303736	374169
Bryn Asaph including Gate House Range	1491	II	304155	373316
Felin-y-gors	1495	II	300839	375000
Rhyllon Farmhouse	1505	II	304609	375120
Stable Range at Rhyllon Farmhouse	1506	II	304602	375137
Holy Trinity Church	19186	II*	304993	370534
No 2 Llannerch Hall	19187	II*	305410	372313
No 3 Llannerch Hall	19188	II*	305409	372315
No 4 Llannerch Hall	19189	II*	305408	372317
No 5 Llannerch Hall	19190	II*	305407	372319
No 6 Llannerch Hall	19191	II*	305406	372322
No 7 Llannerch Hall	19192	II*	305405	372324
No 8 Llannerch Hall	19193	II*	305404	372325



Designated Historic Assets				
No 9 Llannerch Hall	19194	II*	305403	372328
No 10 Llannerch Hall	19195	II*	305402	372330
No 11 Llannerch Hall	19196	II*	305401	372332
No 12 Llannerch Hall	19197	II*	305396	372311
No 13 Llannerch Hall	19198	II*	305400	372334
Lychgate at Holy Trinity Church	19199	II	305022	370504
Former Rectory	19200	II	304967	370479
Trefnant School	19201	II	305073	370589
Trefnant School House	19202	II	305060	370583
The Trefnant Inn	19203	II	305165	370654
Milestone	19204	II	304713	371128
Former Stable Block at Galltfaenan Hall	19205	II	302706	369743
Garden Walls at Galltfaenan Hall	19206	II	302711	369687
The Coach House	19207	II	305331	372309
The Clocktower	19208	II	305312	372311
The Old Barn	19209	II	305314	372333
Bottom Lodge and adjoining Gates and Gatepiers	19210	II	305852	371880
Middle Lodge	19211	II	305609	371567
Dolbelidr	19212	II*	305786	371609
Milestone	19215	II	304626	371875
Pont-yr-allt-Goch (partly in Cefnmeiriadog Community)	19219	II	303922	371488
L-shaped Agricultural Range at Berain	19855	II*	300713	369768
Former Carthouse at Berain	19856	II	300737	369795
Brewhouse and Pigsty Range at Berain	19857	II	300746	369751



Designated Historic Assets				
Bod-Ysgawen-Isaf	19858	II	299701	371500
Primary Barn and adjoining Cart Bays to NE of Plas Buckley	19859	II	300185	370282
Tal-y-Bryn	19860	II	299801	370686
Church of St Mary	19924	II	301789	371566
Wigfair Hall	19925	II*	302777	371228
Terraces and Forecourt Walls at Wigfair Hall	19926	II	302802	371231
Bont Newydd (partly in Llanefydd community)	19927	II	301288	370892
Telephone Callbox	19928	II	301289	370911
Pentre Meredydd	19929	II	301115	373001
Pont-yr-Allt-Goch (partly in Trefnant community)	19930	II	303913	371498
Barn at Pen-ucharoe-bach	19931	II	303858	371814
Ddol	19932	II	299240	372750
Ffynnon Fair	19933	II*	302913	371072
Former Stable Block at Plas-yn-Cefn	19934	II	301966	371144
Stable and Coachhouse Range at Plas-yn-Cefn	19935	II	301958	371173
Former Carthouse Block at Plas-yn-Cefn	19936	II	301935	371154
Agricultural Range and adjoining Garden Walls at Plas-yn-Cefn	19937	II	301944	371132
L-shaped Barn Range at Plas-yn-Cefn	19938	II	301925	371136
Former Smithy Range at Plas-yn-Cefn	19939	II	301912	371138



Designated Historic Assets				
Former Stable Block at Plas Coch	19940	II	303724	371837
Groesffordd Marli Chapel	19941	II	300268	373424
Glascoed Lodge on Bodelwyddan Park Boundary	20897	II	299438	374010
Agricultural Complex at Garn	23513	II	302460	368712
Sundial at Plas Heaton	23514	II	303091	369139
Carthouse Range at Plas Heaton (with incorporated flat to first floor)	23515	II	303163	369181
Stable and Carthouse Range at Plas Heaton	23516	II	303146	369139
Icehouse at Plas Heaton	23517	II	303138	369112
Kitchen Garden Walls including associated Lean-to Sheds and adjoining Melon House at Plas Heaton	23518	II	303122	369081
Screen Walls and Lean-to Outbuildings adjoining Garn	23520	II	302473	368684
16, The Village	80721	II	300264	375588
17, The Village	80722	II	300263	375585
18, The Village	80723	II	300260	375578
Bodelwyddan Park Wall with entrances and cottages	80736	II	300823	375015
Bodelwyddan Village Hall (former School)	80737	II	300249	375527
Bryn Celyn Lodge on Bodelwyddan Park Boundary	80738	II	300522	373931
Churchyard Wall of St Margaret's	80739	II	300349	375433



Designated Historic Assets				
Bodelwyddan Vicarage	80745	II	300318	375529
Garden Shelter in Bodelwyddan Castle Garden	80747	II	299806	374737
Gors Mill Cottage	80750	II	300843	375017
Obelisk in Bodelwyddan Castle Garden	80752	II	299810	374645
Playhouse in Bodelwyddan Castle Garden	80754	II	299792	374731
Sundial in Bodelwyddan Castle Walled Garden	80756	II	299719	374593
Terrace wall of main front of Bodelwyddan Castle.	80757	II	300000	374820
Tyddyn-isaf	80758	II	301207	375199
Wall of Bodelwyddan Castle Garden with Bothy at W and Gateway at E	80759	II	299731	374678
Fountain near Marble Church	87542	II	300256	375462





# **Appendix B    Gazetteer of Historic Environment Record (HER) Data**

**St. Asaph Solar Farm, Denbighshire**

**Updated Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment**

**Anesco Limited**

SLR Project No.: 407.064769.00001

22 April 2025

HER No.	Name	Form	Period	Type
101477	Cae Maen Llwyd Fieldname	Placename	Prehistoric	Standing Stone
193979	Cae-llwyd farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
195701	Cae-llwyd farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195702	Cae-llwyd farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195703	Cae-llwyd farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195704	Cae-llwyd farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
125171	Cae-llwyd, limekiln	Structure	Post Medieval	Lime Kiln
125172	Cae-llwyd, mine shaft	Structure	Post Medieval	Mine Shaft
194076	Camre farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
196084	Camre farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
196085	Camre farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
68968	Caubwll, farmstead	Building	Post Medieval	Farmstead
68969	Caubwll, limekiln	Structure	Post Medieval	Lime Kiln
194075	Cefn Farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
196079	Cefn Farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
196080	Cefn Farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
196081	Cefn Farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
196082	Cefn Farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
196083	Cefn Farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
16741	Cefn Meiriadog Church	Building	Medieval	Church
66245	Cefn Meiriadog Church (St Mary), outbuilding	Building	Post Medieval	House
16742	Cefn Meiriadog Church (St Mary), yard	Earthwork	Medieval	Churchyard
150618	Cefn, Glascoed Bach, barn	building	Post Medieval	Agricultural Building
117675	Cefnmeiriadog, Buckle	finds only	Medieval;Post Medieval	Findspot
18046	Coed Celyn	Earthwork	Post Medieval	Lead Mine



HER No.	Name	Form	Period	Type
130277	DE HAVILLAND VAMPIRE FB5 WA417	Wreck	Modern	Air Crash Site
194078	Glascoed-bach farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
196093	Glascoed-bach farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
196094	Glascoed-bach farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
194080	Glascoed-fawr farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
196097	Glascoed-fawr farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
196098	Glascoed-fawr farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
196099	Glascoed-fawr farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
193980	Hen-dy farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
195705	Hen-dy farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195706	Hen-dy farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
34048	Hendy Farm ridge and furrow	Earthwork	Medieval	Ridge And Furrow
193978	Isfryn farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
195700	Isfryn farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
66244	Llwyn-penwyn enclosure	Structure	Post Medieval	Enclosure
194079	Llwyn-penwyn farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
196095	Llwyn-penwyn farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
196096	Llwyn-penwyn farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
196075	Pant farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
196076	Pant farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
196077	Pant farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
196078	Pant farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
34043	Pant ridge and furrow	Earthwork	Medieval	Ridge And Furrow



HER No.	Name	Form	Period	Type
68967	Pant, farmstead	Building	Post Medieval	Farmstead
193971	Pen-ucha-roe-fawr farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
195673	Pen-ucha-roe-fawr farm, farm buildi	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195674	Pen-ucha-roe-fawr farm, farm buildi	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195675	Pen-ucha-roe-fawr farm, farm buildi	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195676	Pen-ucha-roe-fawr farm, farm buildi	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195677	Pen-ucha-roe-fawr farm, farm buildi	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
194088	Pen-uchaf-y-roe farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
125170	Pen-y-cefn, farmstead	Building	Post Medieval	Farmstead
125169	Pen-y-cefn, mine shaft	Structure	Post Medieval	Mine Shaft
193981	Pentre Meredydd farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
143532	Pentre-Meredydd ridge and furrow I	Earthwork	Medieval	Ridge And Furrow
143533	Pentre-Meredydd ridge and furrow II	Earthwork	Medieval	Ridge And Furrow
106064	Plas Coch Cropmarks	Cropmark	Prehistoric	Enclosure
106410	Plas Coch Field System	Cropmark	Medieval	Field System
59260	Plas Coch, farmstead	Building	Multiperiod	Farm
66246	Plas yn Cefn parkland	Landscape	Post Medieval	Parkland
102143	Plas-yn-Cefn socketed axes	finds only	Bronze Age	Findspot
194081	Rhewl farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
196100	Rhewl farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
196101	Rhewl farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
196102	Rhewl farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
196103	Rhewl farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
101476	Rhewl Placename	Placename	Unknown	Road
100883	Rhiwlas spindlewhorls find	finds only	Prehistoric	Findspot
144311	Roman Road	buried feature	Roman	Road



HER No.	Name	Form	Period	Type
193918	Rose Hill farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
46820	St Asaph - Caerhun	Document	Roman	Road
46821	St Asaph - Caerhun	Earthwork	Roman	Road
46822	St Asaph - Caerhun	Document	Roman	Road
46823	St Asaph - Caerhun	Earthwork	Roman	Road
46824	St Asaph - Caerhun	Document	Roman	Road
46825	St Asaph - Caerhun	Earthwork	Roman	Road
46826	St Asaph - Caerhun	Document	Roman	Road
46827	St Asaph - Caerhun	Document	Roman	Road
102145	St Asaph Monastic site	Document	Early Medieval	Monastery
119310	St Asaph, coin	finds only	Medieval	Findspot
17621	St Asaph, Glascoed Road 'Rose Hill', roman road	Buried feature	Roman	Road
145128	St Asaph, St Asaph Cathedral Memorial Standards, war memorial	Structure	Modern	War Memorial
145129	St Asaph, St Asaph Grammar School Rose Bowl, war memorial	Structure	Modern	War Memorial
145130	St Asaph, St Asaph Grammar School WW2 Memorial Plaque, war memorial	Structure	Modern	War Memorial
145131	St Asaph, St Asaphs Cathedral Parishioners - WW2, war memorial	Structure	Modern	War Memorial
193977	Tan-y-bryn farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
195698	Tan-y-bryn farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195699	Tan-y-bryn farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195735	Tan-y-graig farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
102134	Tan-y-graig stone row	Structure	Bronze Age	Stone Row
48374	Tan-y-graig, barn	Building	Post Medieval	Barn
48372	Tan-y-graig, cart shed	Building	Post Medieval	Cart Shed
48371	Tan-y-graig, cow house	Building	Post Medieval	Cow House
68966	Tan-y-graig, farmstead	Building	Post Medieval	Farmstead
48369	Tan-y-graig, house site	Building	Post Medieval	House
48373	Tan-y-graig, stable	Building	Post Medieval	Stable



HER No.	Name	Form	Period	Type
193920	The Cottage farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
214302	Trefnant, weir	structure	Post Medieval	Weir
193972	Ty'n-y-coed farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
195678	Ty'n-y-coed farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195679	Ty'n-y-coed farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195680	Ty'n-y-coed farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
193973	Ty'n-y-ffordd farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
195681	Ty'n-y-ffordd farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195682	Ty'n-y-ffordd farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195683	Ty'n-y-ffordd farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195684	Ty'n-y-ffordd farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
193974	Ty'n-y-ffordd-bach farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
195685	Ty'n-y-ffordd-bach farm, farm build	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195686	Ty'n-y-ffordd-bach farm, farm build	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
193975	Ty'n-y-ffordd-fawr farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
195687	Ty'n-y-ffordd-fawr farm, farm build	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195688	Ty'n-y-ffordd-fawr farm, farm build	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195689	Ty'n-y-ffordd-fawr farm, farm build	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195690	Ty'n-y-ffordd-fawr farm, farm build	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195691	Ty'n-y-ffordd-fawr farm, farm build	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195692	Ty'n-y-ffordd-fawr farm, farm build	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195693	Ty'n-y-ffordd-fawr farm, farm build	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building



HER No.	Name	Form	Period	Type
195694	Ty'n-y-ffordd-fawr farm, farm build	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195695	Ty'n-y-ffordd-fawr farm, farm build	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195696	Ty'n-y-ffordd-fawr farm, farm build	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
193976	Ty-celyn farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
195697	Ty-celyn farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
193982	Tyddyn Meredydd farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
195707	Tyddyn Meredydd farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
195708	Tyddyn Meredydd farm, farm building	Traditional Farm Building	Post Medieval	Farm Building
70922	Varae - Varis, Roman fort	Document	Roman	Fort
104607	Varae-Kanovium Roman Road RR67b	Landform	Roman	Road
143528	Waen-Meredydd ridge and furrow II	Earthwork	Medieval	Ridge And Furrow
143529	Waen-Meredydd ridge and furrow III	Earthwork	Medieval	Ridge And Furrow
143530	Waen-Meredydd ridge and furrow IV	Earthwork	Medieval	Ridge And Furrow
143531	Waen-Meredydd ridge and furrow V	Earthwork	Medieval	Ridge And Furrow
35133	Weirglodd hen hovel	Placename	Medieval	House
102985	Wernglodd Y Palmant Fieldname	Placename	Roman	Road
194085	Wigfair farm	Traditional farm building	Post Medieval	Farm
59301	Wigfair Hall	Building	Post Medieval	Farm
66247	Wigfair Hall, parkland	Landscape	Post Medieval	Parkland
66230	Wigfair pond I	Earthwork	Post Medieval	Pond
66231	Wigfair pond II	Earthwork	Post Medieval	Pond
66234	Wigfair pond III	Earthwork	Post Medieval	Pond
66232	Wigfair pond IV	Earthwork	Post Medieval	Pond
66238	Wigfair pond IX	Earthwork	Post Medieval	Pond
66233	Wigfair pond V	Earthwork	Post Medieval	Pond
66236	Wigfair pond VI	Earthwork	Post Medieval	Pond
66235	Wigfair pond VII	Earthwork	Post Medieval	Pond



HER No.	Name	Form	Period	Type
66237	Wigfair pond VIII	Earthwork	Post Medieval	Pond
66243	Wigfair structure	Building	Post Medieval	House





# Appendix C Photographs

## St. Asaph Solar Farm, Denbighshire

Updated Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment

Anesco Limited

SLR Project No.: 407.064769.00001

22 April 2025

**Photo 1: SJ 02317 73897: northeast view toward Listed Buildings (1142, 1143 & 1144).**



**Photo 2: SJ 02317 73897: north view toward Listed Buildings (1142, 1143 & 1144)**



**Photo 3: SJ 02317 73897: south view from Listed Buildings (1142, 1143 & 1144) toward the Site. There are no views between the assets and the Site.**



**Photo 4: SJ 02317 73897: south view from Listed Buildings (1142, 1143 & 1144) toward the Site. There are no views.**



**Photo 5: SJ 02146 72971: north view of the north-west parcel within the Site boundaries.**



**Photo 6: SJ 02276 72906: view south into the southwest parcel within the Site Boundaries. The treeline proximate to the Bedd-y-Cawr Hillfort (DE037) is visible, but the asset itself is not.**



**Photo 7: SJ 01478 71928: hillfort inaccessible. Views from the base of the hillfort had no views to any of the parcels within the Site.**



**Photo 8: SJ 01809 71562: view south-west to Listed Building (19924).**



**Photo 9: SJ 01809 71562: view north from Listed Building (19924) toward the parcels within the Site. There are no views from the asset to the Site.**



**Photo 10: SJ 02834 71398: south view toward Listed Buildings (19925 & 19926).**



**Photo 11: SJ 02834 71398: north view from Listed Buildings (19925 & 19926) toward parcels within the Site.**



**Photo 12: SJ 02181 71922: north view from the boundary of Lower Elwy Valley, toward the western parcels within the Site.**



**Photo 13: SJ 02181 71922: north-east view from Lower Elwy Valley, toward the east parcel within the Site.**





# Appendix D Geophysical Surveys

## St. Asaph Solar Farm, Denbighshire

Updated Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment

Anesco Limited

SLR Project No.: 407.064769.00001

22 April 2025

## D.1 2022 Geophysical Survey



**magnitude**  
surveys

**Geophysical Survey Report**  
**St Asaph Solar Farm**  
**Denbighshire**

**For**  
**SLR Consulting**

**On Behalf Of**  
**Anesco Ltd**

**Magnitude Surveys Ref: MSSJ1232**

**HER Event Number: TBC**

**OASIS Number: TBC**

**May 2022**



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**Issue Date:**

10 May 2022

## Abstract

Magnitude Surveys was commissioned to assess the subsurface archaeological potential of a c. 33.2ha area of land near St Asaph, Llanelwy, Denbighshire. A fluxgate survey was successfully completed across the survey area. No anomalies suggestive of significant archaeological features were identified. However, a number of curvilinear anomalies were detected but these are of undetermined classification. Anomalies indicative of past burning events have been identified in the south of the survey area. Agricultural anomalies have been identified through modern ploughing trends, mapped and unmapped former field boundaries, and ridge and furrow ploughing regimes. Modern disturbance is limited to field boundaries, surrounding buried services, a pylon, and overhead cables.

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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1. Magnitude Surveys Ltd (MS) was commissioned by SLR Consulting on behalf of Anesco Ltd to undertake a geophysical survey over a c. 33.2ha area of land near St Asaph (Llanelwy), Denbighshire (SJ 0227 7288) .
- 1.2. The geophysical survey comprised hand-carried GNSS-positioned fluxgate gradiometer survey. Magnetic survey is the standard primary geophysical method for archaeological applications in the UK due to its ability to detect a range of different features. The technique is particularly suited for detecting fired or magnetically enhanced features, such as ditches, pits, kilns, sunken featured buildings (SFBs) and industrial activity (David *et al.*, 2008).
- 1.3. The survey was conducted in line with the current best practice guidelines produced by Historic England (David *et al.*, 2008), the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CifA, 2020) and the European Archaeological Council (Schmidt *et al.*, 2015).
- 1.4. It was conducted in line with a WSI produced by MS (Dolan, 2022)
- 1.5. The survey commenced on 25/04/2022 and took 4 days to complete.

## 2. Quality Assurance

- 2.1. Magnitude Surveys is a Registered Organisation of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CifA), the chartered UK body for archaeologists, and a corporate member of ISAP (International Society for Archaeological Prospection).
- 2.2. The directors of MS are involved in cutting edge research and the development of guidance/policy. Specifically, Dr Chrys Harris has a PhD in archaeological geophysics from the University of Bradford, is a Member of CifA and served as the Vice-Chair of the International Society for Archaeological Prospection (ISAP); Finnegan Pope-Carter has an MSc in archaeological geophysics and is a Fellow of the London Geological Society, as well as a member of GeoSIG (CifA Geophysics Special Interest Group); Dr Paul Johnson has a PhD in archaeology from the University of Southampton, is a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries of London and a Member of CifA, has been a member of the ISAP Management Committee since 2015, and is currently the nominated representative for the EAA Archaeological Prospection Community to the board of the European Archaeological Association.
- 2.3. All MS managers, field and office staff have degree qualifications relevant to archaeology or geophysics and/or field experience.

## 3. Objectives

- 3.1. The objective of this geophysical survey was to assess the subsurface archaeological potential of the survey area.

## 4. Geographic Background

4.1. The survey area was located c. 2.34km southwest of St Asaph, Llanelwy (Figure 1). Gradiometer survey was undertaken across 9 fields under arable cultivation and pasture. The survey area was bisected by an unnamed road, with Areas 1 and 2 to the east, and Areas 3–9 to the west. Areas 1 to 5 were surrounded by further fields, and Areas 6–9 were surrounded by woodland (Figure 2).

4.2. Survey considerations:

Survey Area	Ground Conditions	Further Notes
1	The survey area was a flat arable field.	The field was bordered by a wire fence in the southwest, by hedges in the north and south, and by hedges and a ditch in the northwest and east. Large pylons and overhead cables were oriented northwest to southeast across the centre of the field, and smaller pylons and overhead cables ran approximately north to south through the centre of the field.
2	The survey area was a flat pasture field.	The field was bordered by wire fence and hedges to the north, east and south, and by a steep stream bank in the west. Metal gates were present on the eastern and southern borders.
3	The survey area was a long grass field, sloping to the southwest.	The field was bordered by wire fences and hedges on all sides. Trees were dotted around the field, and a ditch ran along the north-western border.
4	The survey area was a flat pasture field.	The field was bordered by wire fence and hedges in the east, south and west and by trees and hedges in the north. Overhead cables ran parallel to the northern border.
5	The survey area was a flat pasture field.	The field was bordered by wire fences in the west, by trees and hedges in the south and east and by an unnamed road along the northern boundary. A large pylon and overhead cables ran parallel to the southern border. A pond was present in the centre of the field.
6	The survey area was a pasture field sloping to the southeast.	The field was bordered by wire fences and hedges in the north and west, by wire fence in the south, and by a stream with a deep ditch in the east. A pond was present in the centre of the southern boundary and a metal gate was present on the southern border.
7	The survey area was a pasture field sloping gently to the southeast.	The field was bordered by wire fence in the east and west, by wire fence and hedges in the south, and by hedges in the north. A pond was present on the northern border.
8	The survey area was a pasture field sloping gently to the southeast.	The field was bordered by wire fence in the east and west, and by wire fence and hedges in the north and south. A ditch ran along the northern

		border, and a small pond was present on the southern border.
9	The survey area was a flat pasture field.	The field was bordered by wire fences and trees to the north and west, and by hedges in the south and east. A large tree was located in the western corner of the field. Overhead cables and pylons were oriented north to south in the eastern half of the field, and a gated pen was located in the northern corner.

- 4.3. The underlying geology comprises mudstone, siltstone and sandstone of the Warwickshire Group. Superficial deposits in the area comprises diamicton of Devensian till (British Geological Survey, 2022).
- 4.4. The soils consist of slowly permeable seasonally wet slightly acid but base-rich loamy and clayey soils (Soilscapes, 2022).

## 5. Archaeological Background

- 5.1. The following is a summary of a historic environment desk-based assessment produced and provided by SLR Consulting (McCullough, 2022).
- 5.2. No assets of archaeological significance have been identified within the survey area.
- 5.3. A late prehistoric to early Romano-British Scheduled Monument, Bedd-y-Cawr Hillfort (DE037), is located c. 675m southwest of Area 3. Further prehistoric activity has been recorded c. 900m to the southeast of the eastern parcel, consisting of a possible enclosure, visible as cropmarks in aerial photographs. Several prehistoric findspots are located within a 1km radius of the survey area, comprising two spindle-whorls found c. 850m southwest of the Area 1 (100883) and two looped socketed axes (102143) c. 500m to the southwest of Area 1.
- 5.4. Medieval settlement has been recorded at St Asaph to the northeast, reported to be the site of an early medieval monastic establishment dating to c. A.D. 560.

## 6. Methodology

### 6.1. Data Collection

6.1.1. Magnetometer surveys are generally the most cost effective and suitable geophysical technique for the detection of archaeology in England. Therefore, a magnetometer survey should be the preferred geophysical technique unless its use is precluded by any specific survey objectives or the site environment. For this site, no factors precluded the recommendation of a standard magnetometer survey. Geophysical survey therefore comprised the magnetic method as described in the following section.

6.1.2. Geophysical prospection comprised the magnetic method as described in the following table.

6.1.3. Table of survey strategies:

Method	Instrument	Traverse Interval	Sample Interval
Magnetic	Bartington Instruments Grad-13 Digital Three-Axis Gradiometer	1m	200Hz reprojected to 0.125m

6.1.4. The magnetic data were collected using MS' bespoke hand-carried GNSS-positioned system.

6.1.4.1. MS' hand-carried system was comprised of Bartington Instruments Grad 13 Digital Three-Axis Gradiometers. Positional referencing was through a multi-channel, multi-constellation GNSS Smart Antenna RTK GPS outputting in NMEA mode to ensure high positional accuracy of collected measurements. The RTK GPS is accurate to 0.008m + 1ppm in the horizontal and 0.015m + 1ppm in the vertical.

6.1.4.2. Magnetic and GPS data were stored on an SD card within MS' bespoke datalogger. The datalogger was continuously synced, via an in-field Wi-Fi unit, to servers within MS' offices. This allowed for data collection, processing and visualisation to be monitored in real-time as fieldwork was ongoing.

6.1.4.3. A navigation system was integrated with the RTK GPS, which was used to guide the surveyor. Data were collected by traversing the survey area along the longest possible lines, ensuring efficient collection and processing.

## 6.2. Data Processing

6.2.1. Magnetic data were processed in bespoke in-house software produced by MS. Processing steps conform to the EAC and Historic England guidelines for 'minimally enhanced data' (see Section 3.8 in Schmidt *et al.*, 2015: 33 and Section IV.2 in David *et al.*, 2008: 11).

Sensor Calibration – The sensors were calibrated using a bespoke in-house algorithm, which conforms to Olsen *et al.* (2003).

Zero Median Traverse – The median of each sensor traverse is calculated within a specified range and subtracted from the collected data. This removes striping effects caused by small variations in sensor electronics.

Projection to a Regular Grid – Data collected using RTK GPS positioning requires a uniform grid projection to visualise data. Data are rotated to best fit an orthogonal grid projection and are resampled onto the grid using an inverse distance-weighting algorithm.

Interpolation to Square Pixels – Data are interpolated using a bicubic algorithm to increase the pixel density between sensor traverses. This produces images with square pixels for ease of visualisation.

## 6.3. Data Visualisation and Interpretation

6.3.1. This report presents the gradient of the sensors' total field data as greyscale images, as well as the total field data from the lower sensors. The gradient of the sensors minimises external interferences and reduces the blown-out responses from ferrous and other high contrast material. However, the contrast of weak or ephemeral anomalies can be reduced through the process of calculating the gradient. Consequently, some features can be clearer in the respective gradient or total field datasets. Multiple greyscale images of the gradient and total field at different plotting ranges have been used for data interpretation. Greyscale images should be viewed alongside the XY trace plot (Figures 9, 12, 15, & 18). XY trace plots visualise the magnitude and form of the geophysical response, aiding anomaly interpretation.

6.3.2. Geophysical results have been interpreted using greyscale images and XY traces in a layered environment, overlaid against open street maps, satellite imagery, historical maps, LiDAR data, and soil and geology maps. Google Earth (2022) was also consulted, to compare the results with recent land use.

6.3.3. Geodetic position of results – All vector and raster data have been projected into OSGB36 (ESPG27700) and can be provided upon request in ESRI Shapefile (.SHP) and Geotiff (.TIF) respectively. Figures are provided with raster and vector data projected against OS Open Data.

## 7. Results

### 7.1. Qualification

7.1.1. Geophysical results are not a map of the ground and are instead a direct measurement of subsurface properties. Detecting and mapping features requires that said features have properties that can be measured by the chosen technique(s) and that these properties have sufficient contrast with the background to be identifiable. The interpretation of any identified anomalies is inherently subjective. While the scrutiny of the results is undertaken by qualified, experienced individuals and rigorously checked for quality and consistency, it is often not possible to classify all anomaly sources. Where possible, an anomaly source will be identified along with the certainty of the interpretation. The only way to improve the interpretation of results is through a process of comparing excavated results with the geophysical reports. MS actively seek feedback on their reports, as well as reports from further work, in order to constantly improve our knowledge and service.

### 7.2. Discussion

7.2.1. The geophysical results are presented in combination with satellite imagery and historical maps (Figures 4 & 6).

7.2.2. A fluxgate gradiometer was successfully completed across c. 33.2ha of land near St Asaph, Denbighshire and identified anomalies of multiple origins. Modern disturbance is limited to field boundaries where metal fencing was present, and surrounding buried services and large pylons located within the survey area. This magnetic disturbance may obscure weaker anomalies if they are present in these areas.

7.2.3. Anomalies of an agricultural origin have been identified in the form of mapped and unmapped field boundaries and ploughing trends (Figures 4, 6, 8, 11, & 17). In the southwest and southeast of the survey area, linear anomalies have been detected orientated northeast to southwest from one edge of the field to another. These anomalies correspond to mapped field boundaries visible on historical mapping (Figure 6). In the southeast of the area, several linear anomalies with a similar magnetic signal have been detected orientated northeast to southwest that do not appear to correspond with previous mapped field boundaries. Because of this, they have been identified as unmapped former field boundaries. Weak linear anomalies running approximately north to south collocate with modern ploughing trends seen on satellite images of the area. Ridge and furrow has also been identified in the centre of the survey area, located next to a field seen on satellite images to have a similar extant ridge and furrow trend.

7.2.4. Drainage features have been identified in the centre and west of the survey area (Figures 4, 6, 8, 11, & 17). These parallel linear features exhibit multiple orientations, indicating multiple drainage systems in the area.

7.2.5. Evidence of burning in the south of the survey area can be seen as small amorphous anomalies with a strong XY trace plot (Figure 6, 9, 14, 15, 17, & 18). This region of the survey area was formerly a woodland, which is visible on historical maps (Figure 6). Reports from farmers during the time of survey indicate that this woodland was removed and burned was used as part of the clearance method.

7.2.6. Anomalies of an undetermined origin have been identified in the north of the survey area (Figures 4, 6, 8, & 11). These weak, linear and curvilinear anomalies do not match any mapped features and lack any diagnostic morphology or signal. Because of this, they have been classified as anomalies of an undetermined origin, however an archaeological origin cannot be ruled out through geophysical data alone.

## 7.3. Interpretation

### 7.3.1. General Statements

7.3.1.1. Geophysical anomalies will be discussed broadly as classification types across the survey area. Only anomalies that are distinctive or unusual will be discussed individually.

7.3.1.2. **Ferrous (Spike)** – Discrete dipolar anomalies are likely to be the result of isolated pieces of modern ferrous debris on or near the ground surface.

7.3.1.3. **Ferrous/Debris (Spread)** – A ferrous/debris spread refers to a concentration of multiple discrete, dipolar anomalies usually resulting from highly magnetic material such as rubble containing ceramic building materials and ferrous rubbish.

7.3.1.4. **Magnetic Disturbance** – The strong anomalies produced by extant metallic structures, typically including fencing, pylons, vehicles and service pipes, have been classified as ‘Magnetic Disturbance’. These magnetic ‘haloes’ will obscure

weaker anomalies relating to nearby features, should they be present, often over a greater footprint than the structure causing them.

- 7.3.1.5. **Undetermined** – Anomalies are classified as Undetermined when the origin of the geophysical anomaly is ambiguous and there is no supporting contextual evidence to justify a more certain classification. These anomalies are likely to be the result of geological, pedological or agricultural processes, although an archaeological origin cannot be entirely ruled out. Undetermined anomalies are generally distinct from those caused by ferrous sources.

### 7.3.2. Magnetic Results – Specific Anomalies

- 7.3.2.1. **Burning Event (Strong & Spread)** – Located in Area 2, several strong anomalies which exhibit a geophysical response characteristic of in-situ burning were detected (Figures 6, 14, & 17). The anomalies vary in size and shape, and are most prominent in the XY trace plot (Figures 15 & 18). Further amorphous anomalies visible in the data as a ‘mottled’ effect in the magnetic gradient, have been categorised as ‘Burning Event spread’. Historical mapping of the area indicates that during the late 1800’s the area was a woodland. In addition to this, farmers of the land advised during the time of survey that this woodland was cleared and large bonfires were used for this purpose. With this evidence, it can be concluded that the strong anomalies and corresponding amorphous spread features are a result of in-situ burning associated with the woodland clearance.

- 7.3.2.2. **Agricultural (Weak)** – In the centre of Area 3 and Area 1, weak linear anomalies have been detected orientated northeast to southwest from one edge of the field to another. These anomalies correspond to mapped field boundaries visible on historical mapping (Figure 6). In the south of Area 1, a discontinuous, dipolar linear anomaly has been detected orientated northeast to southwest measuring approximately 85m in length (Figure 17). This does not match any features seen on historical or satellite images, however due to its signal and width across the field, this has been interpreted as an unmapped field boundary.

- 7.3.2.3. **Agricultural (Trend)** – Across the survey area a series of parallel linear anomalies have been detected which exhibit a weak magnetic signal, most notable in the Total Field (Figure 3 & 5). These are very closely spaced and only a few indicative linear trends have been picked out to give an idea of direction and presence across the site. The orientation is well matched with modern cultivation visible in recent satellite imagery and these are therefore interpreted as agricultural trends caused by modern ploughing (Figure 4 & 6).

- 7.3.2.4. **Ridge and Furrow** – Multiple weak linear anomalies have been identified orientated northeast to southwest (Figures 4, 6, 8, & 11). These correspond with ridge and furrow visible on satellite imagery in the fields adjacent to Area 4 (Figures 4 & 6).

- 7.3.2.5. **Drainage Features** – A series of linear anomalies have been detected across the survey area. These anomalies exhibit differences in their magnetic signature, in

comparison to the ridge and furrow: they are of mixed alignment, have a wider separation, and are straighter in form (Figure 4 & 6).

7.3.2.6. **Natural (Spread)** – In Area 2, a weak zone of diffused magnetically enhanced material has been detected. This zone corresponds with the lands former uses as a woodland visible on historical mapping (Figure 6 & 14).

7.3.2.7. **Undetermined (Weak)** – Across the survey area, linear and curvilinear anomalies have been detected (Figures 4, 6, 8, & 11). These anomalies do not match any mapped features and lack any diagnostic morphology or signal. Because of this, they have been classified as anomalies of an undetermined origin, however an archaeological origin cannot be ruled out through geophysical data alone.

7.3.2.8. **Service** – In Area 9, a strong dipolar linear anomaly has been identified. This has a strong XY response (Figures 4 & 8) and indicates the path of a buried service.

7.3.2.9. **Overhead Cables** –Area 1, magnetic background variation can be seen orientated roughly north to south which collocates with overhead cables seen at the time of survey, indicating the path of high powered lines (Figures 5 & 16).

## 8. Conclusions

- 8.1. A fluxgate gradiometer survey has been successfully undertaken across the survey area. The geophysical survey has detected a range of anthropogenic features including historical and more recent agricultural activity. In addition, anomalies of undetermined origin have been interpreted where a specific origin or date is uncertain. The anomalies ascribed an 'Undetermined' classification lack any distinctive archaeological morphology; as such, no anomalies indicative of significant archaeological activity have been identified. Modern disturbance is limited to field boundaries, buried services, pylons, and overhead cables.
- 8.2. Anomalies indicative of in-situ burning can be seen in the form of strong anomalies across the south of the survey area. These anomalies collocate with a former woodland visible on historical mapping, and it has been reported anecdotally that the land in this area was cleared by burning.
- 8.3. Agricultural activity has been identified in the form of mapped and unmapped former field boundaries. Distinct ridge and furrow ploughing regimes, modern ploughing cultivation and drainage systems indicate that this area has a long history of agricultural use.

## 9. Archiving

- 9.1. MS maintains an in-house digital archive, which is based on Schmidt and Ernenwein (2013). This stores the collected measurements, minimally processed data, georeferenced and un-georeferenced images, XY traces and a copy of the final report.
- 9.2. MS contributes reports to the ADS Grey Literature Library upon permission from the client, subject to any dictated time embargoes.

## 10. Copyright

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## 11. References

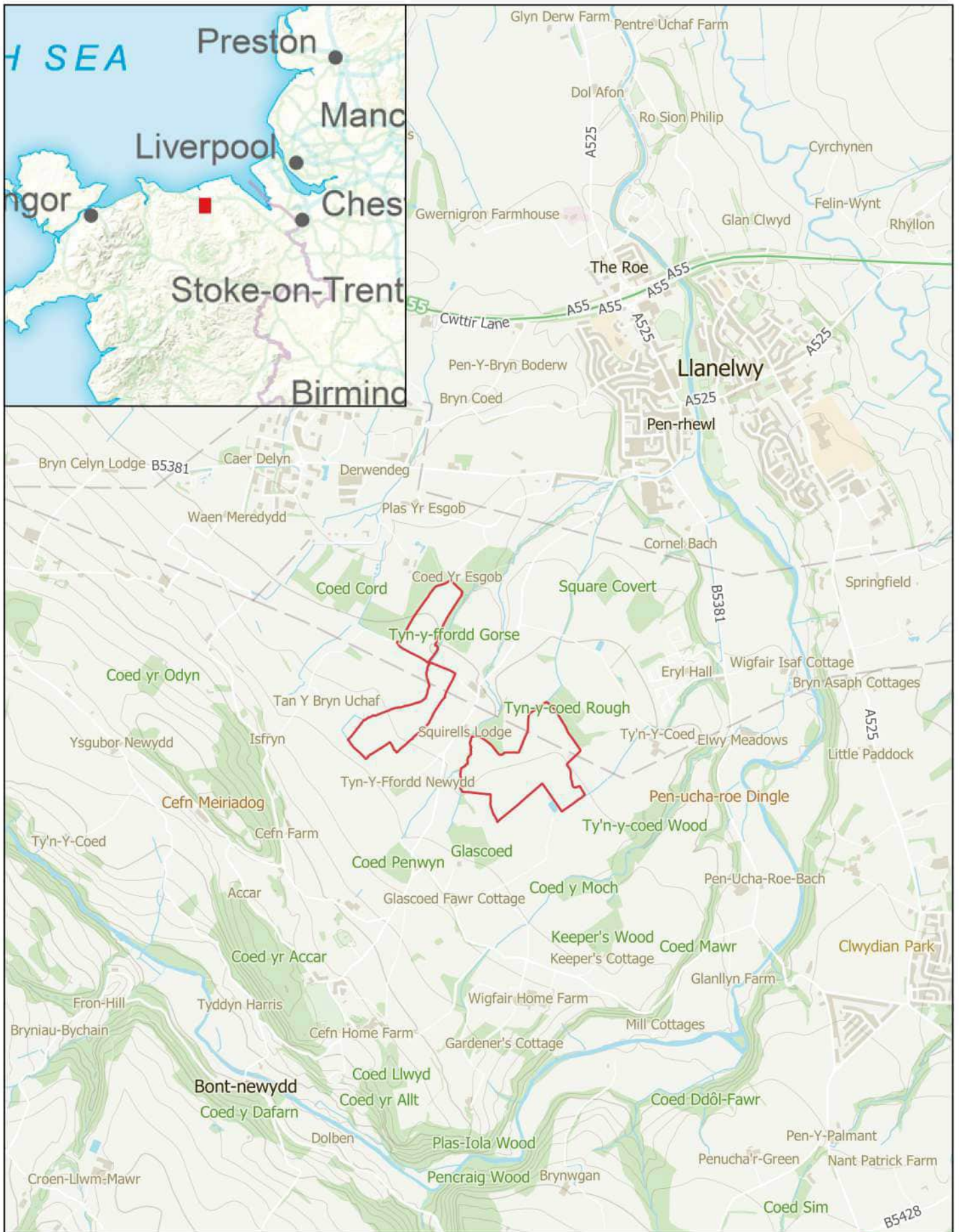
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## 12. Project Metadata

MS Job Code	MSSJ1232
Project Name	St Asaph, Denbighshire
Client	SLR Consulting
Grid Reference	Grid Ref
Survey Techniques	Magnetometry
Survey Size (ha)	33.2ha
Survey Dates	2022-04-25 to 2022-04-28
Project Lead	Christian Adams BA MSc ACIfA
Project Officer	Jake Dolan BSc FGS
HER Event No	TBC
OASIS No	TBC
Report Version	0.2

## 13. Document History

Version	Comments	Author	Checked By	Date
0.1	Initial draft for Project Lead to Review	ED	LAG	09 May 2022
0.2	Draft Following Corrections from a Director	LAG	PJ	10 May 2022



MSSJ1232 - St Asaph  
Figure 1 - Site Location

1:25,000 @ A4


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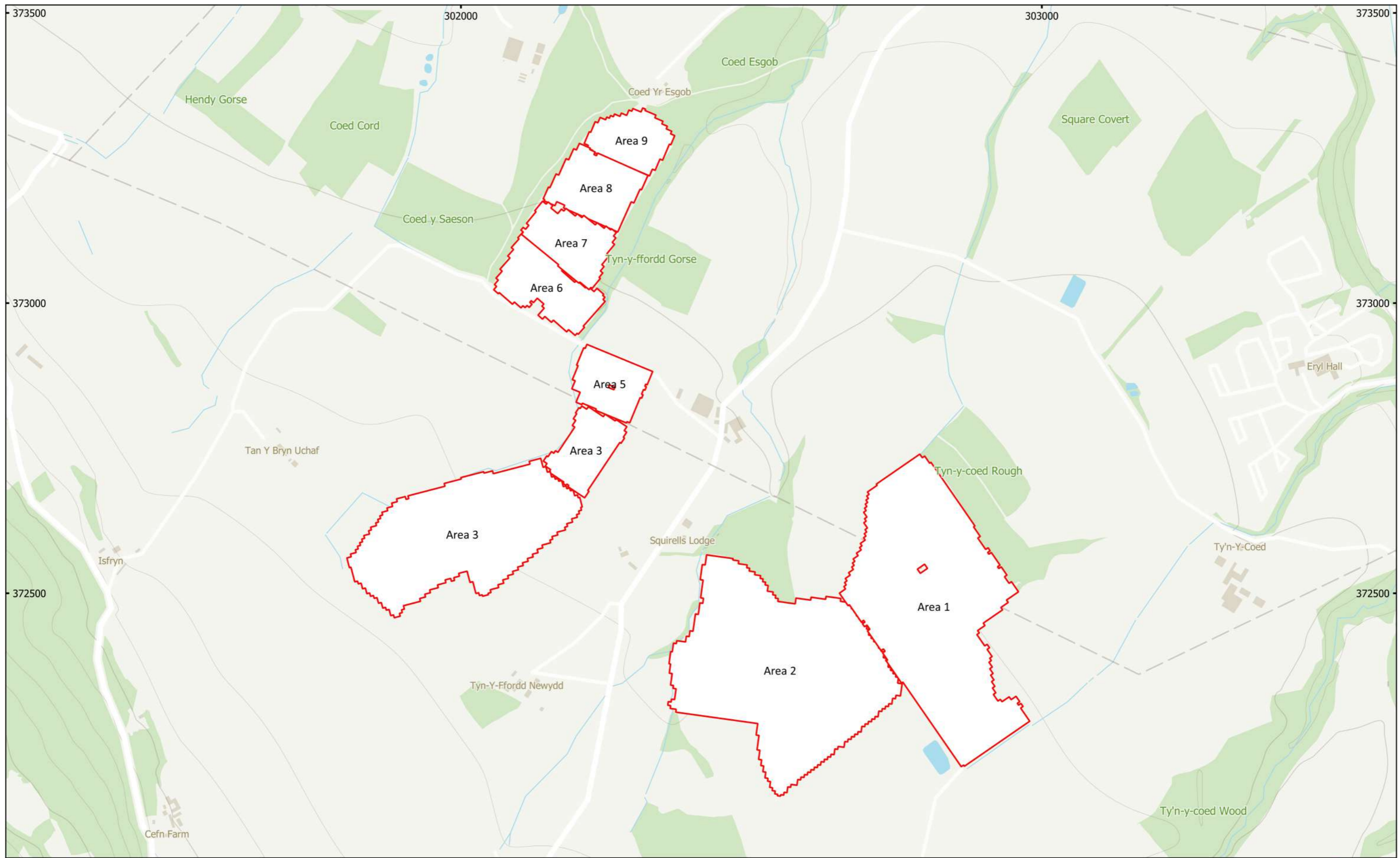
 Site Boundary




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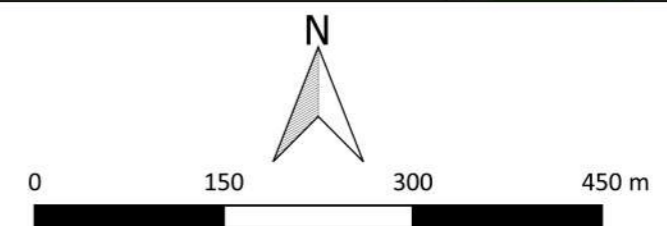



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MSSJ1232 - St Asaph Solar Farm  
 Figure 2 - Location of Survey Areas  
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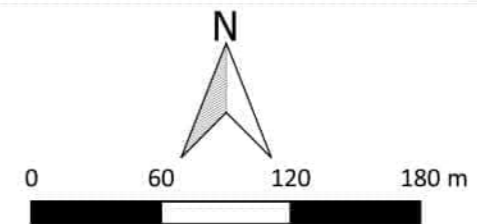
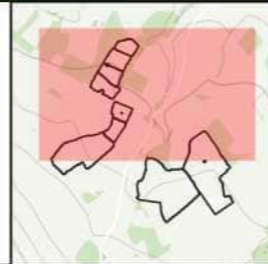
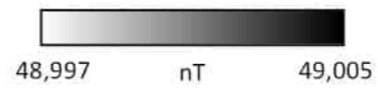
 Survey Extent



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MSSJ1232 - St Asaph Solar Farm  
 Figure 3 - Magnetic Total Field (Lower Sensor) (North of Survey Area)  
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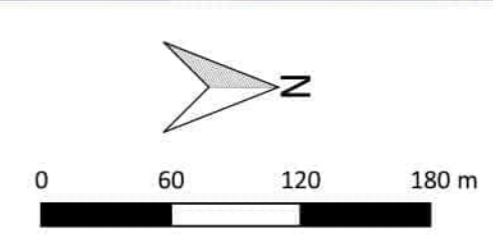
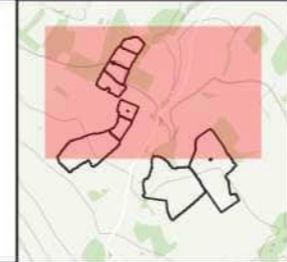


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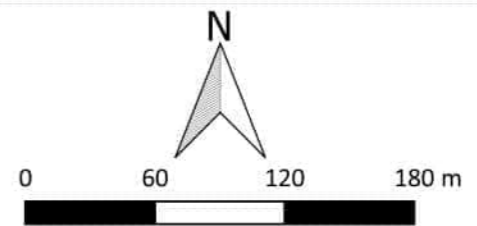
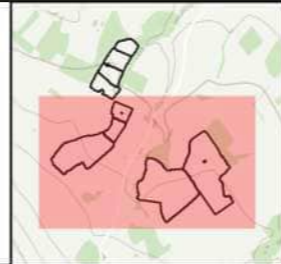
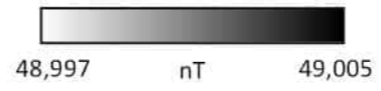
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 Figure 4 - Magnetic Interpretation Over Combined Historical map and Satellite Imagery (North of Survey Area)  
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- |                         |                          |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| Agricultural (Weak)     | Agricultural (Trend)     |
| Magnetic Disturbance    | Service                  |
| Ferrous/Debris (Spread) | Ridge and Furrow (Trend) |
| Natural (Spread)        | Drainage Feature         |
| Undetermined (Weak)     | Ferrous (Spike)          |
| Overhead Cables         |                          |

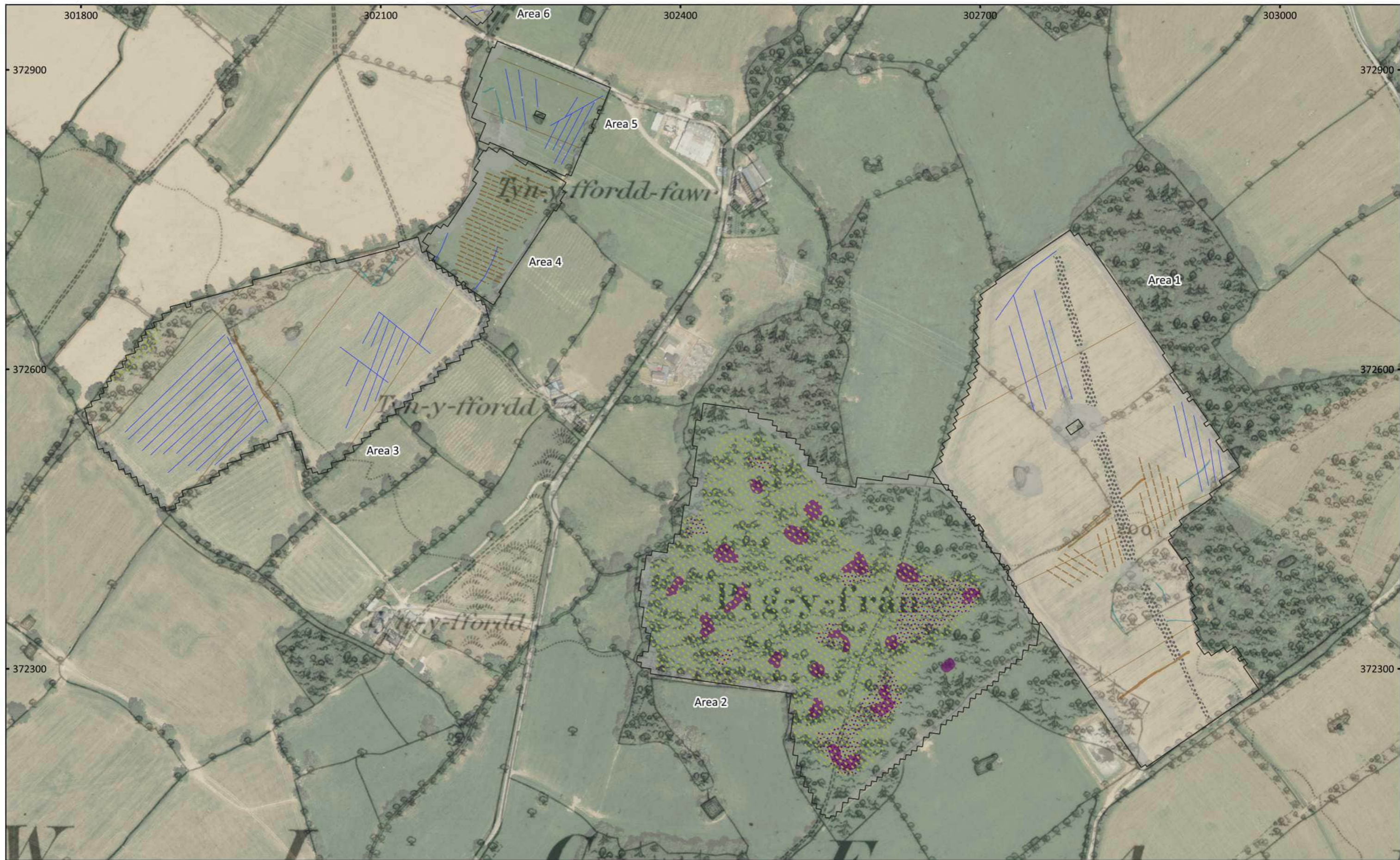




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 Figure 5 - Magnetic Total Field (Lower Sensor) (South of Survey Area)  
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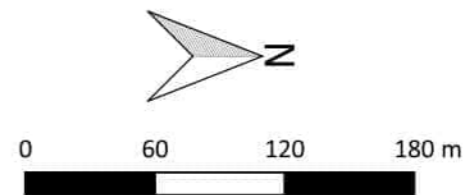
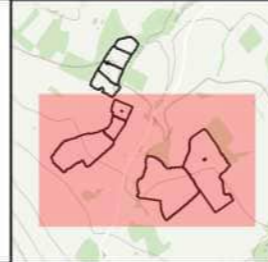


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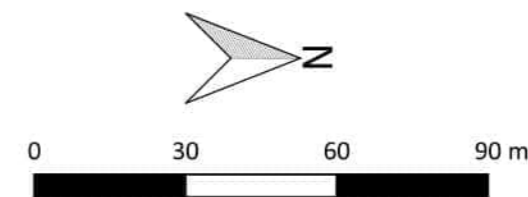
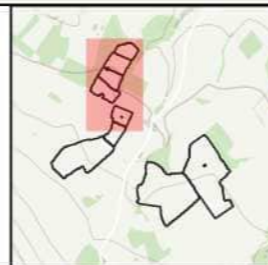
MSSJ1232 - St Asaph Solar Farm  
 Figure 6 - Magnetic Interpretation Over Combined Historical map and Satellite Imagery (South of Survey Area)  
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- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Agricultural (Weak)    | Overhead Cables          |
| Magnetic Disturbance   | Agricultural (Trend)     |
| Natural (Spread)       | Ridge and Furrow (Trend) |
| Burning Event (Strong) | Drainage Feature         |
| Undetermined (Weak)    | Ferrous (Spike)          |
| Burning Event (Spread) |                          |





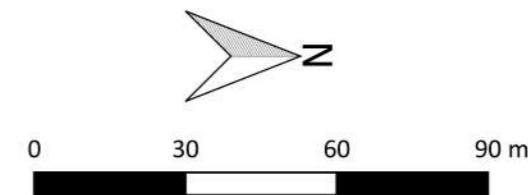
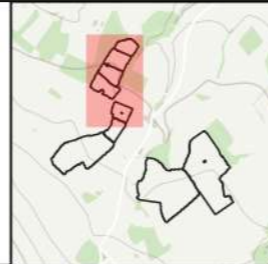
MSSJ1232 - St Asaph Solar Farm  
 Figure 7 - Magnetic Gradient (Areas 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9)  
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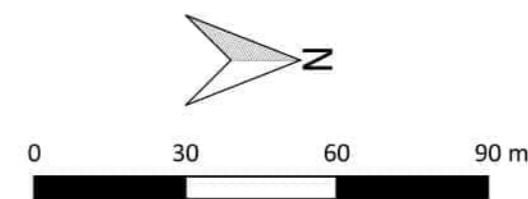
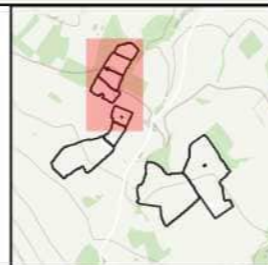
MSSJ1232 - St Asaph Solar Farm  
 Figure 8 - Magnetic Interpretation (Areas 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9)  
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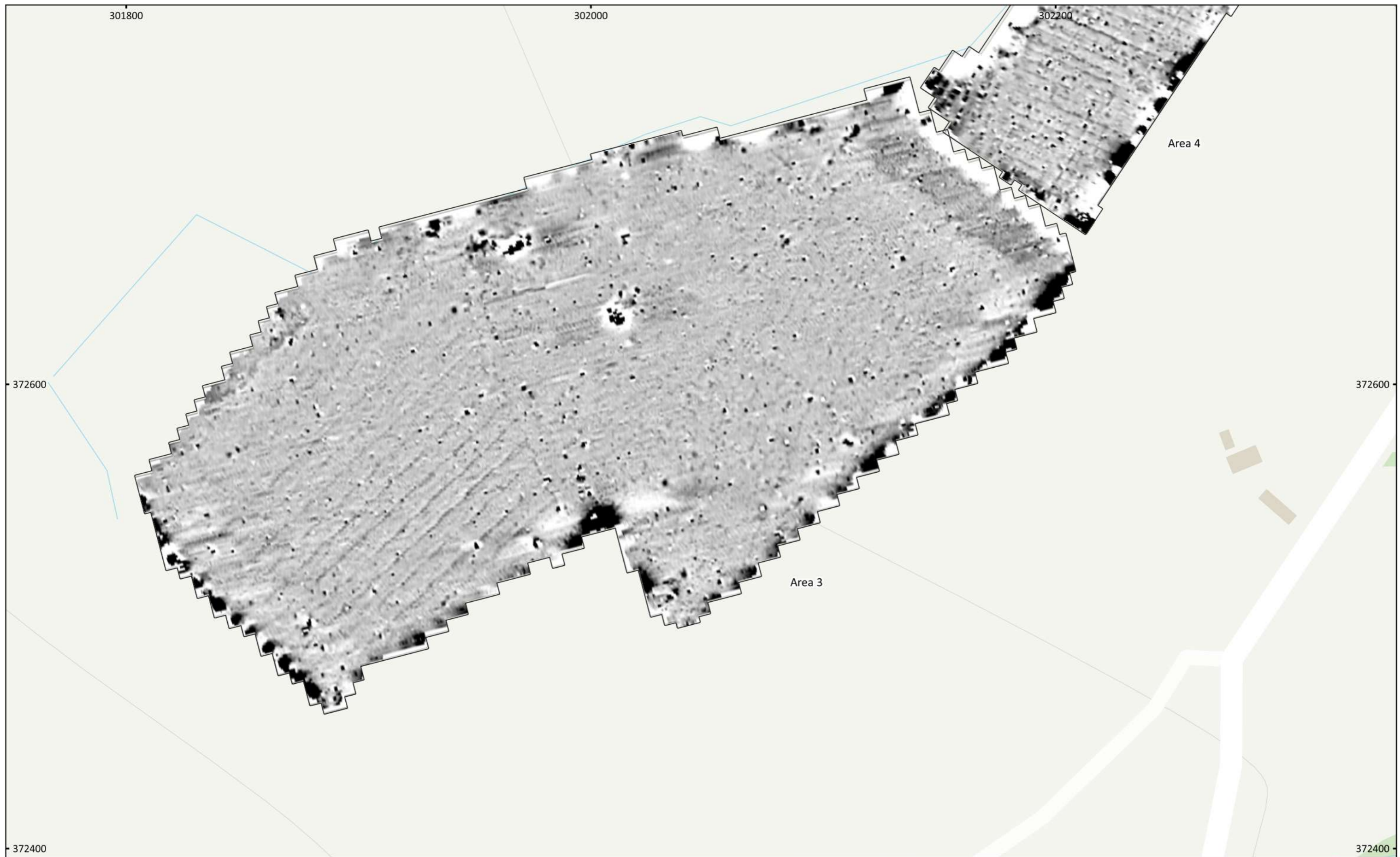
- Magnetic Disturbance
- Undetermined (Weak)
- Agricultural (Trend)
- Drainage Feature
- Ferrous (Spike)



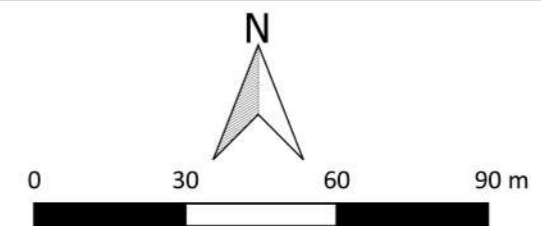
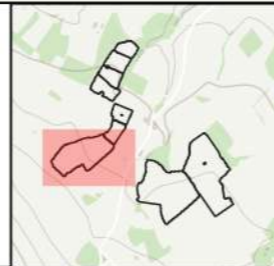
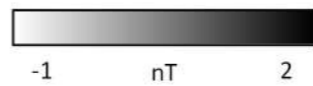


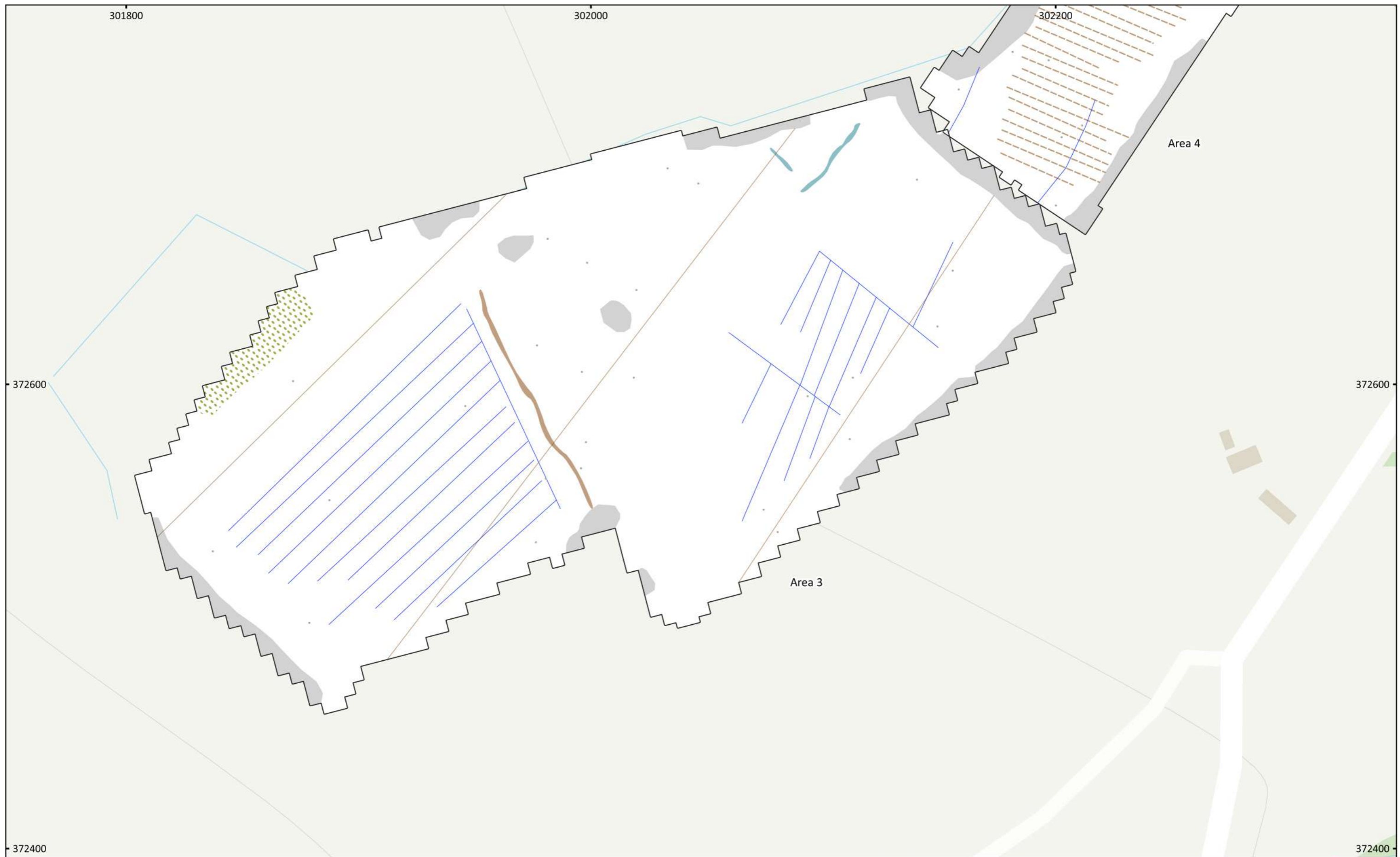
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Figure 9 - XY Trace Plot (Areas 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9)  
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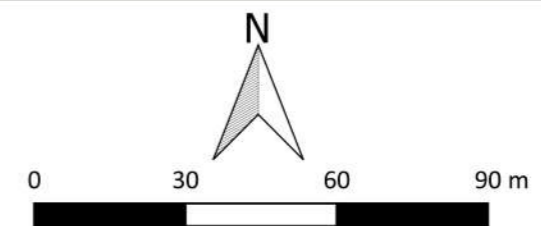
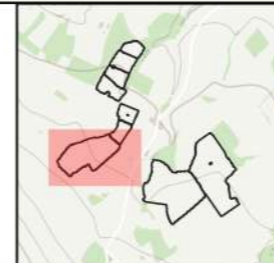
MSSJ1232 - St Asaph Solar Farm  
 Figure 10 - Magnetic Gradient (Areas 3 and 4)  
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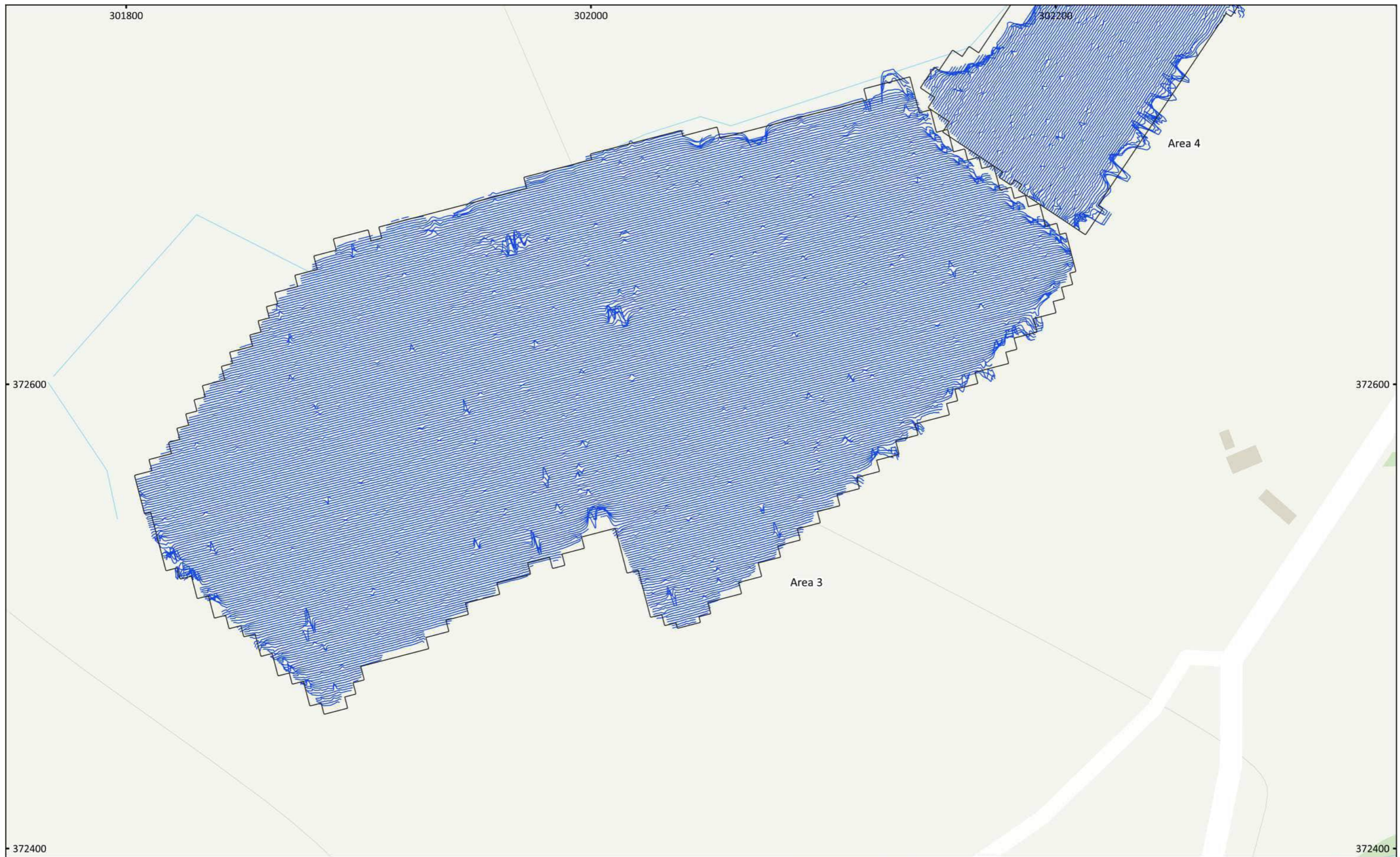




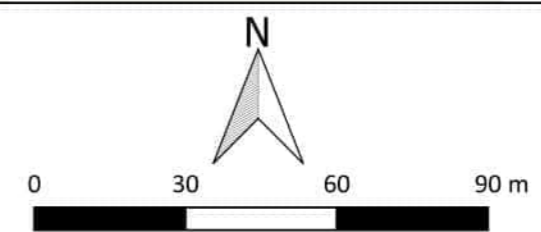
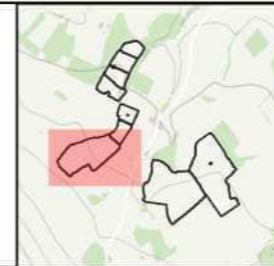
MSSJ1232 - St Asaph Solar Farm  
 Figure 11 - Magnetic Interpretation (Areas 3 and 4)  
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- |                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Agricultural (Weak)  | Agricultural (Trend)     |
| Magnetic Disturbance | Ridge and Furrow (Trend) |
| Natural (Spread)     | Drainage Feature         |
| Undetermined (Weak)  | Ferrous (Spike)          |





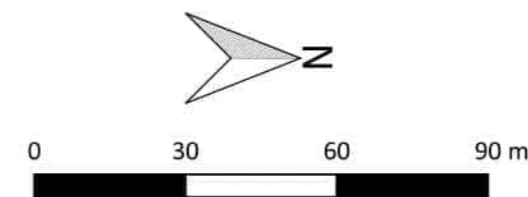
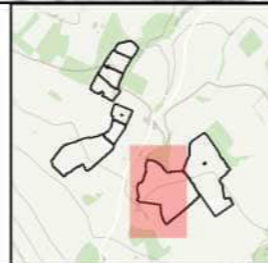
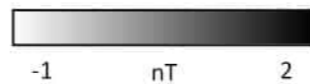
MSSJ1232 - St Asaph Solar Farm  
 Figure 12 - XY Trace Plot (Areas 3 and 4)  
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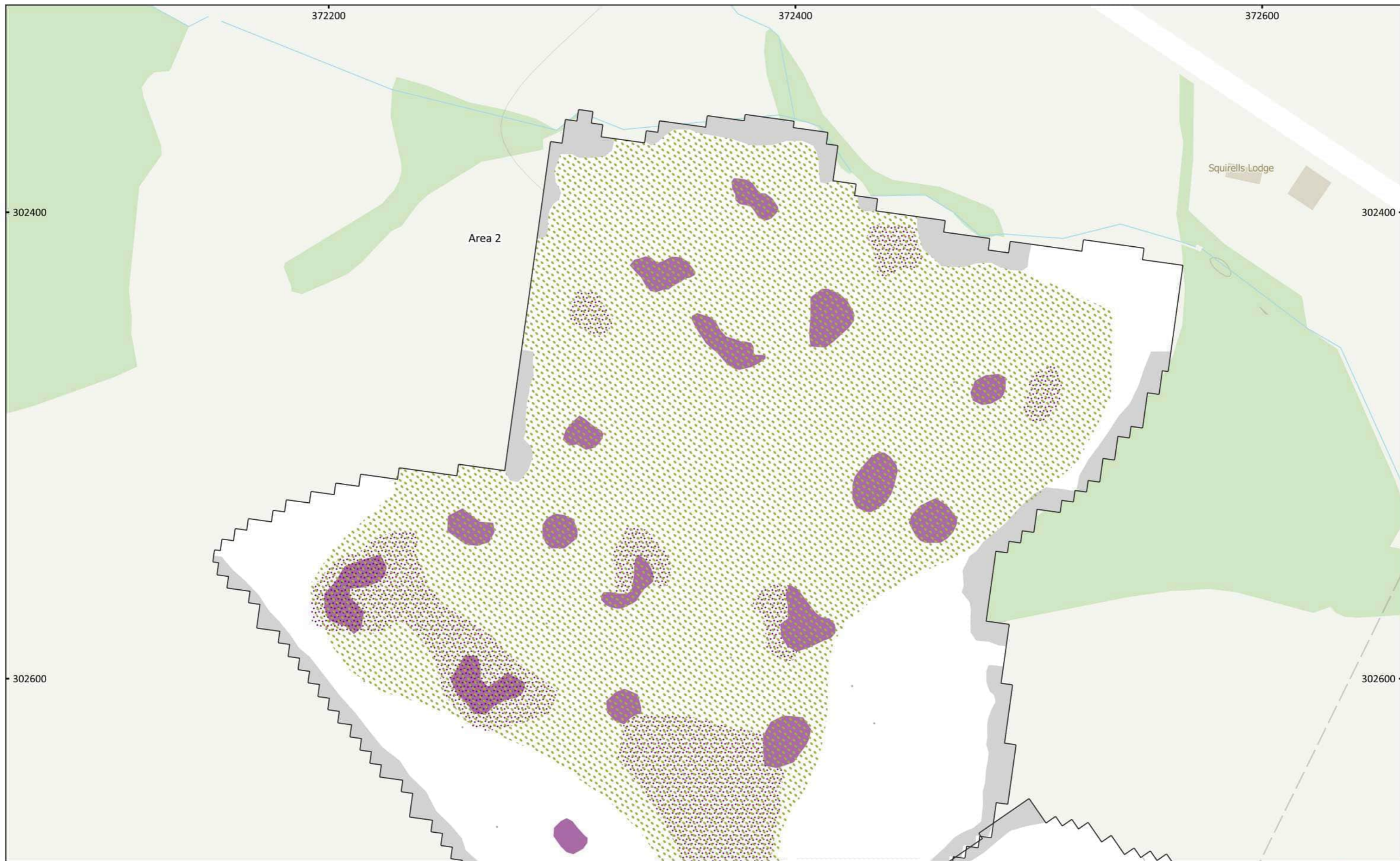


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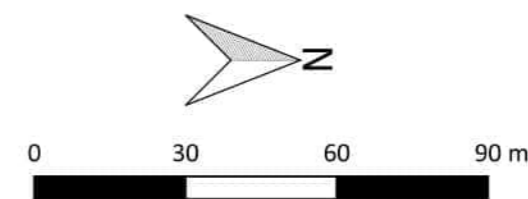
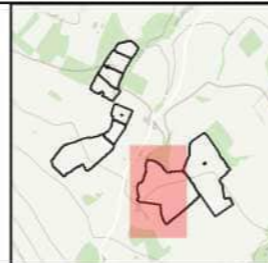
MSSJ1232 - St Asaph Solar Farm  
Figure 13 - Magnetic Gradient (Area 2)  
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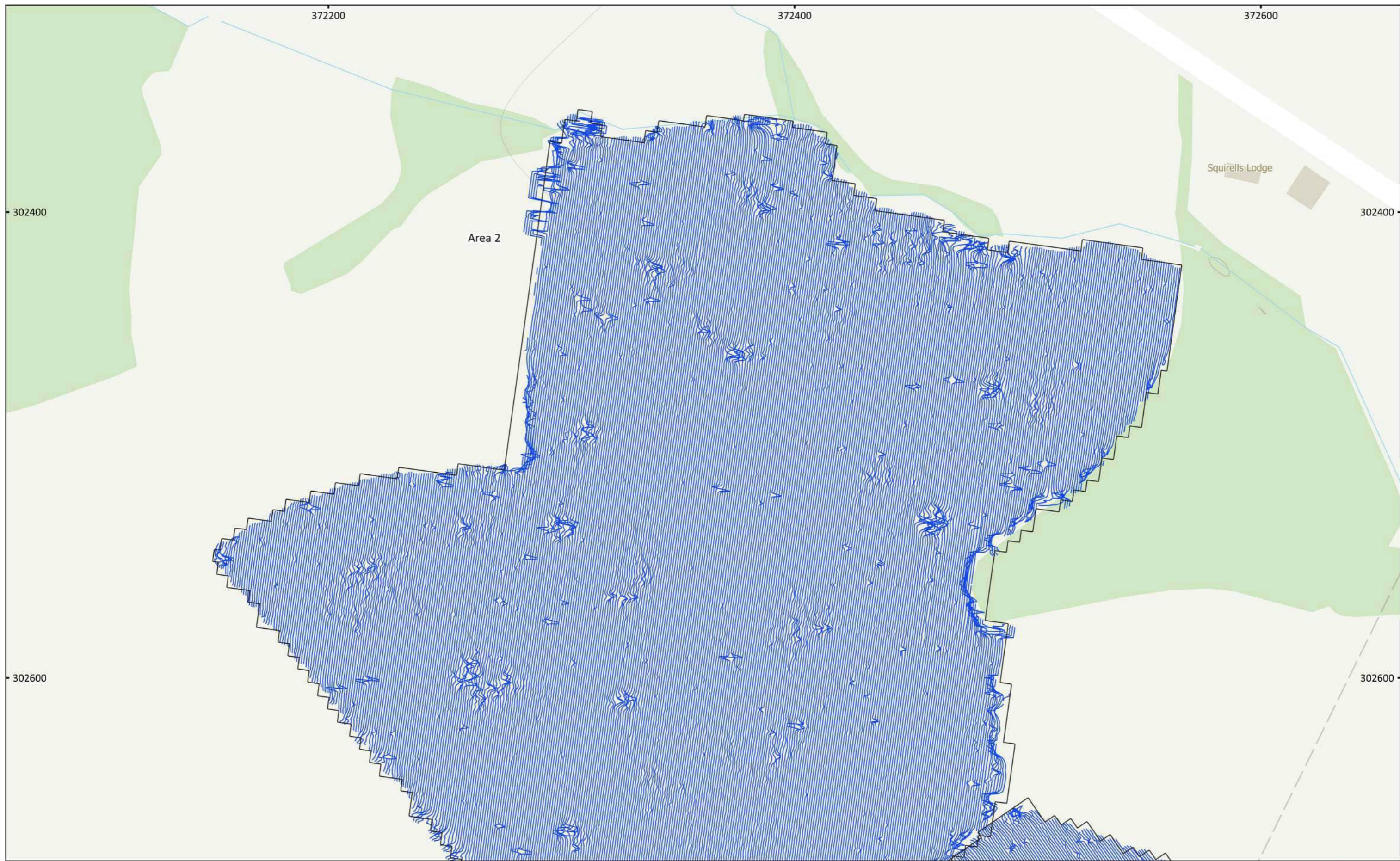




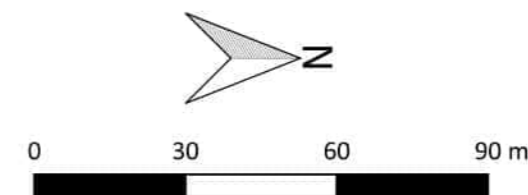
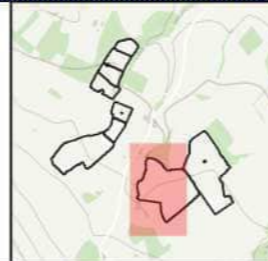
MSSJ1232 - St Asaph Solar Farm  
 Figure 14 - Magnetic Interpretation (Area 2)  
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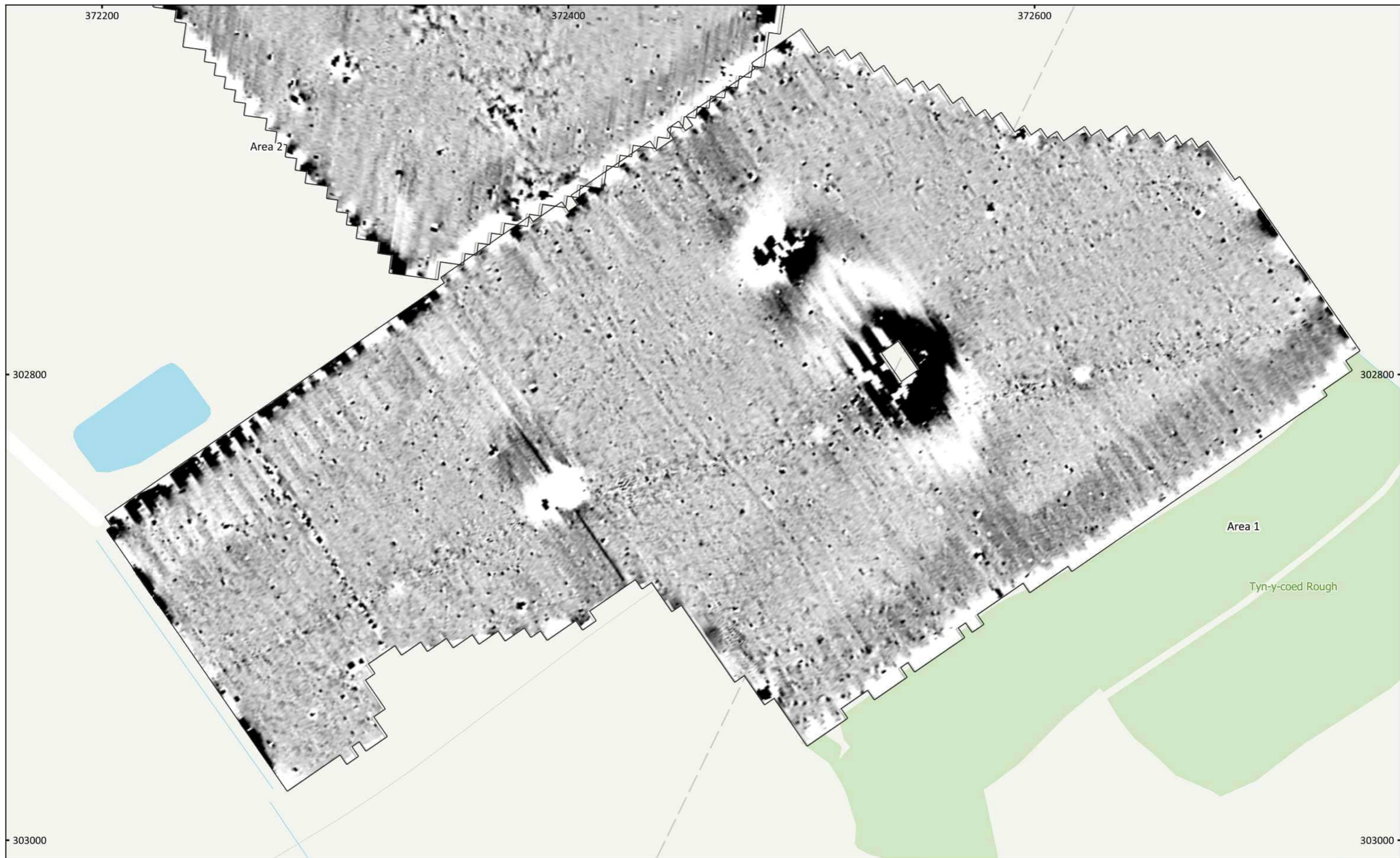
- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Agricultural (Weak)    | Burning Event (Spread)   |
| Magnetic Disturbance   | Agricultural (Trend)     |
| Natural (Spread)       | Ridge and Furrow (Trend) |
| Burning Event (Strong) | Ferrous (Spike)          |



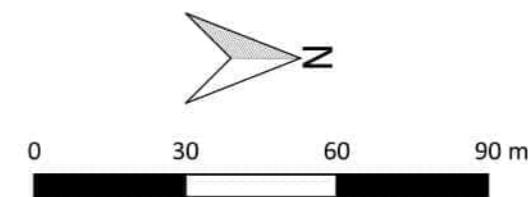
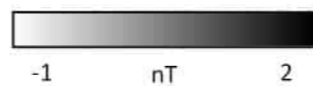


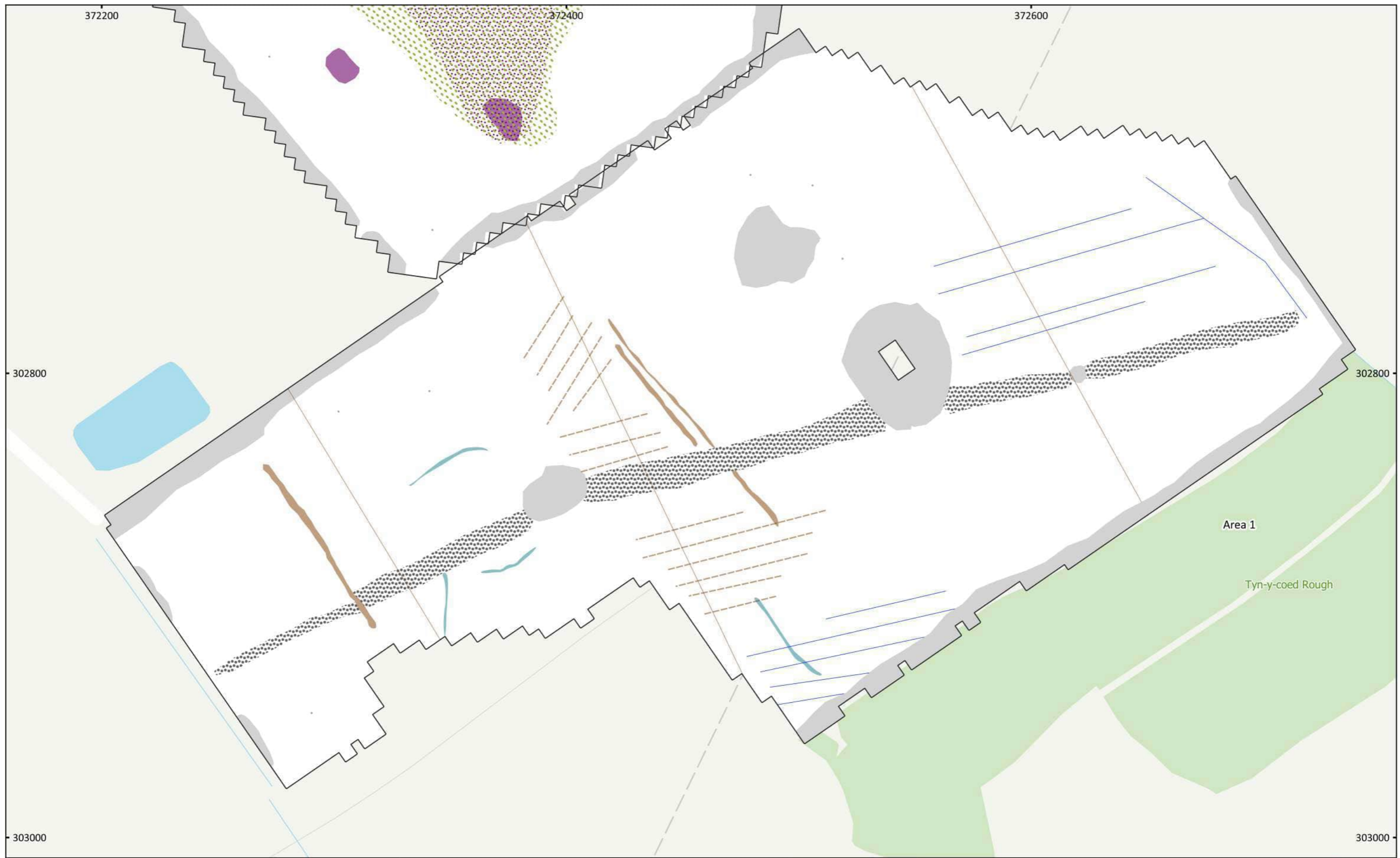
MSSJ1232 - St Asaph Solar Farm  
Figure 15 - XY Trace Plot (Area 2)  
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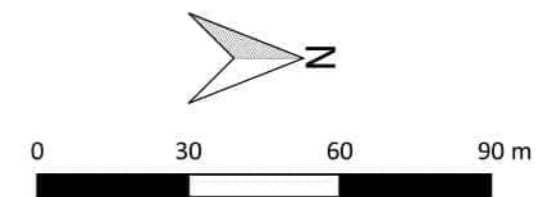
MSSJ1232 - St Asaph Solar Farm  
 Figure 16 - Magnetic Gradient (Areas 1 and 2)  
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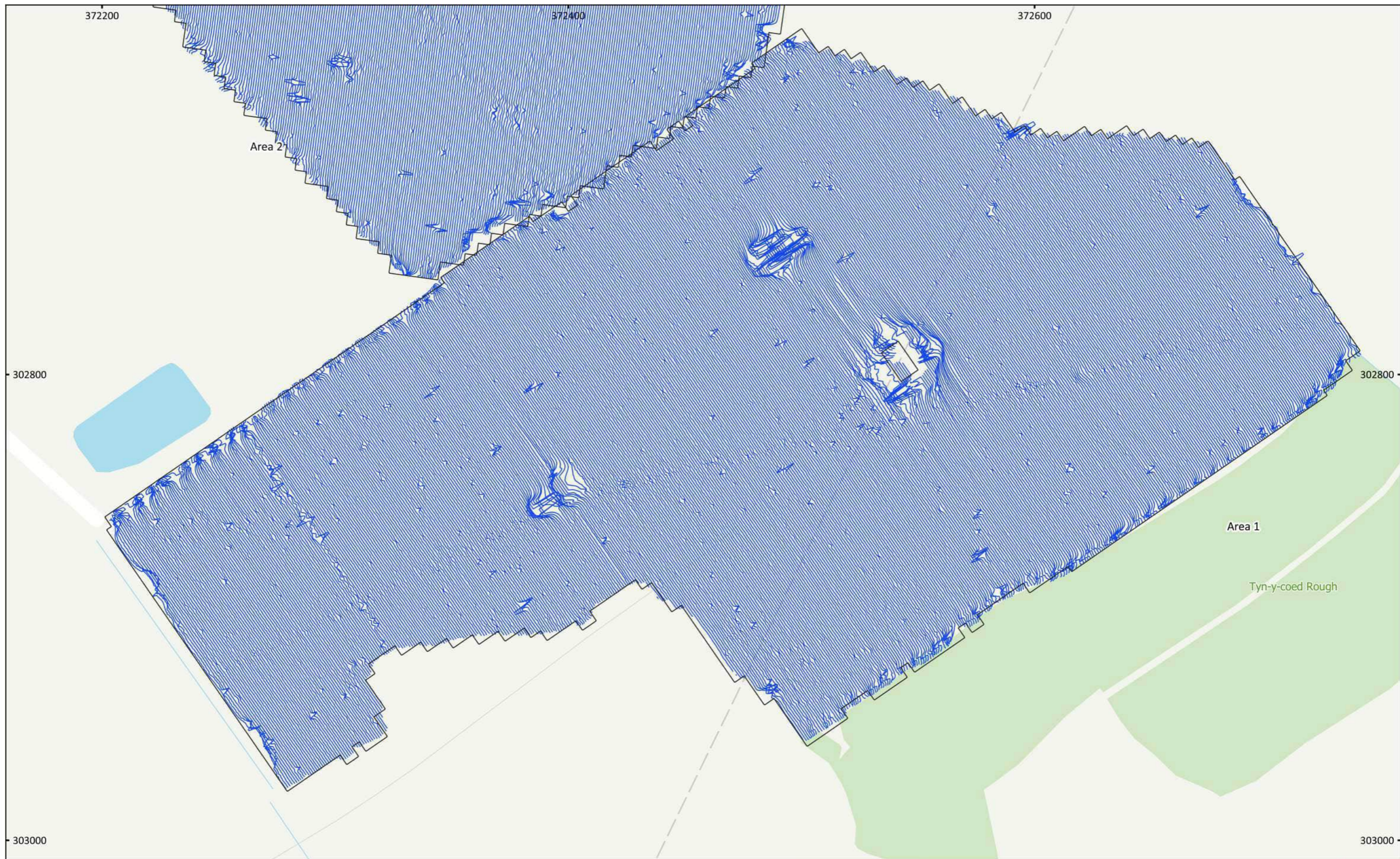




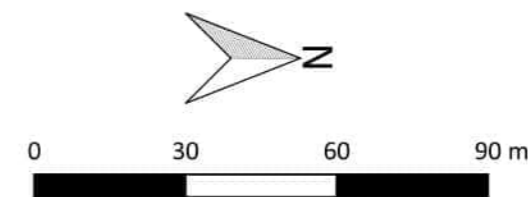
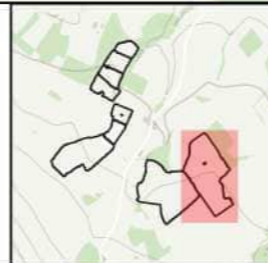
MSSJ1232 - St Asaph Solar Farm  
 Figure 17 - Magnetic Interpretation (Areas 1 and 2)  
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- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Agricultural (Weak)    | Overhead Cables          |
| Magnetic Disturbance   | Agricultural (Trend)     |
| Natural (Spread)       | Ridge and Furrow (Trend) |
| Burning Event (Strong) | Drainage Feature         |
| Undetermined (Weak)    | Ferrous (Spike)          |
| Burning Event (Spread) |                          |

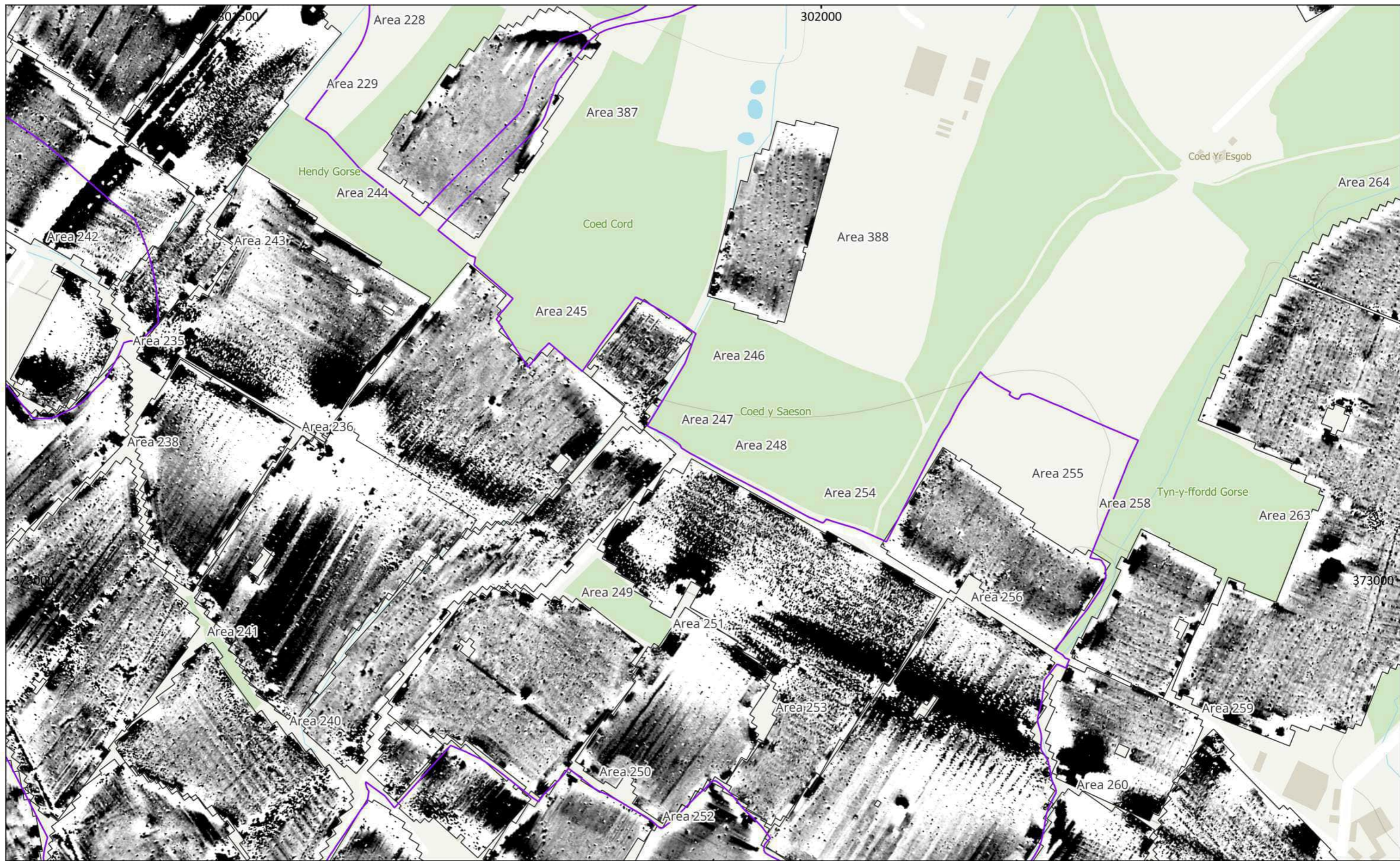




MSSJ1232 - St Asaph Solar Farm  
Figure 18 - XY Trace Plot (Areas 1 and 2)  
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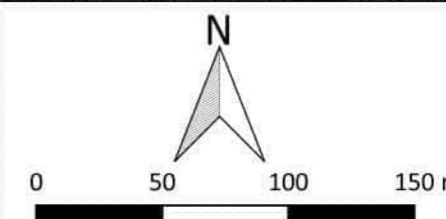
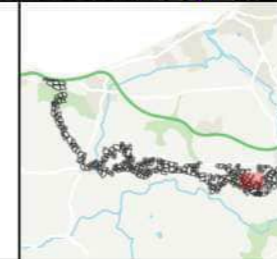
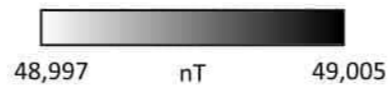


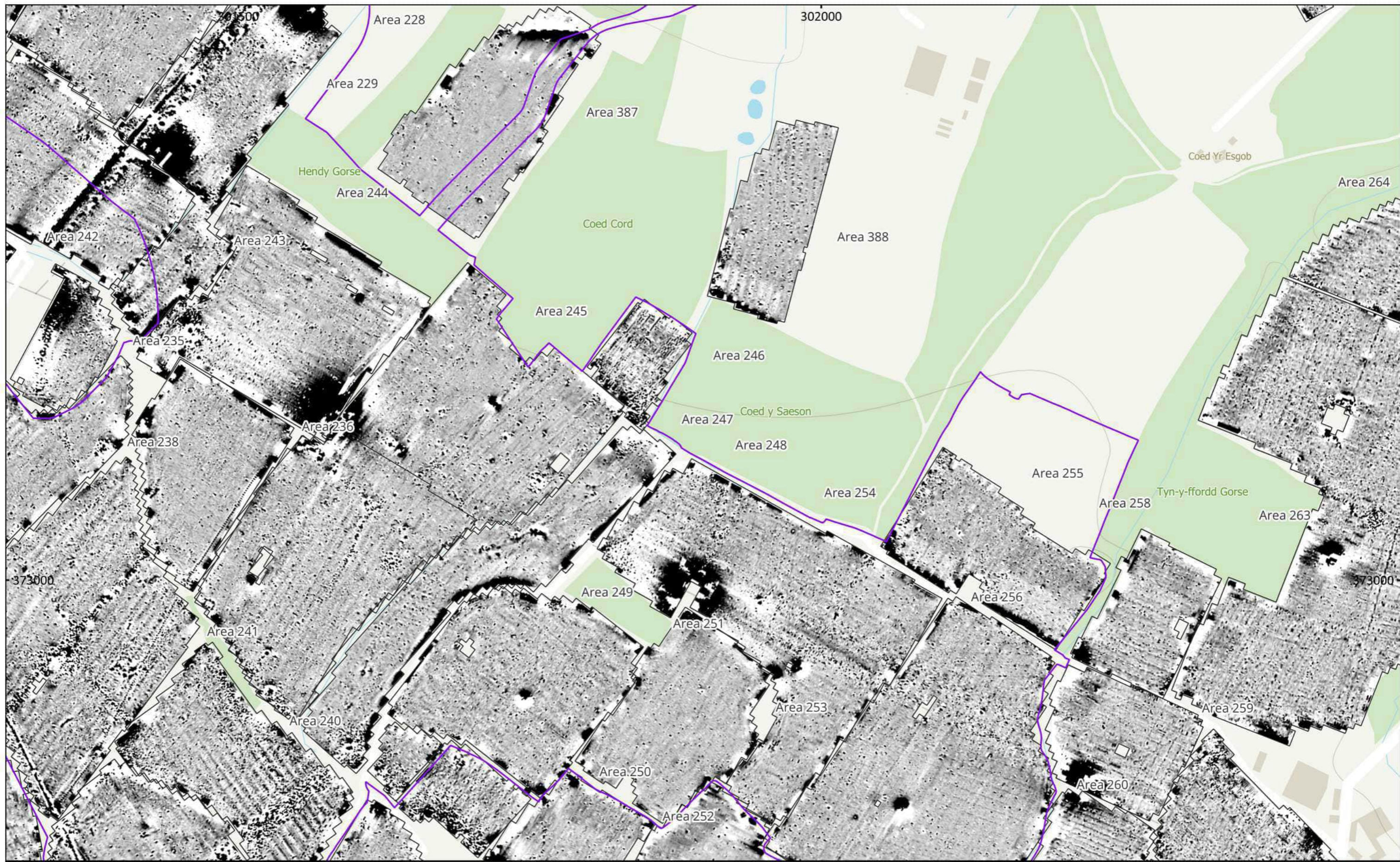
## D.2 2023 Geophysical Survey



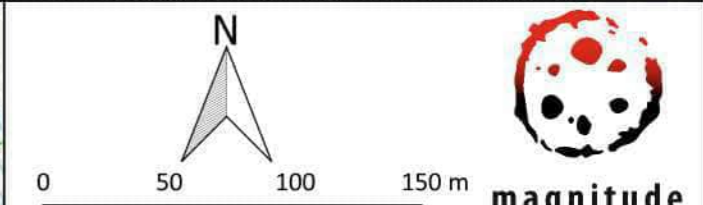
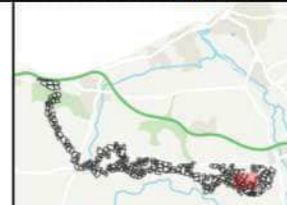
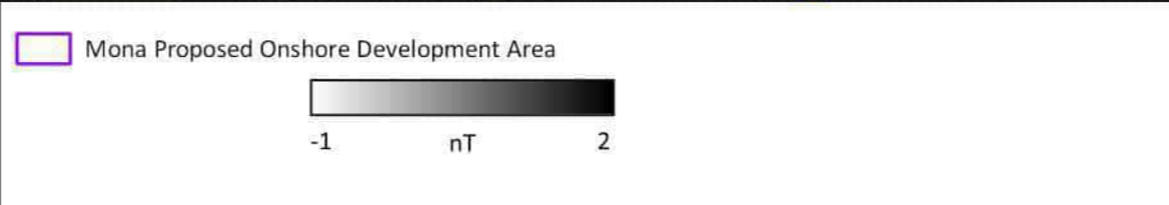
MSSH1444 - Mona Onshore Cable Route, North Wales  
 Figure 90 - Magnetic Total Field (Lower Sensor) (Overview) (Areas 227-230,  
 234-251, 253-261, 263-264 (West) and 387-388)  
 1:3,000 @ A3  
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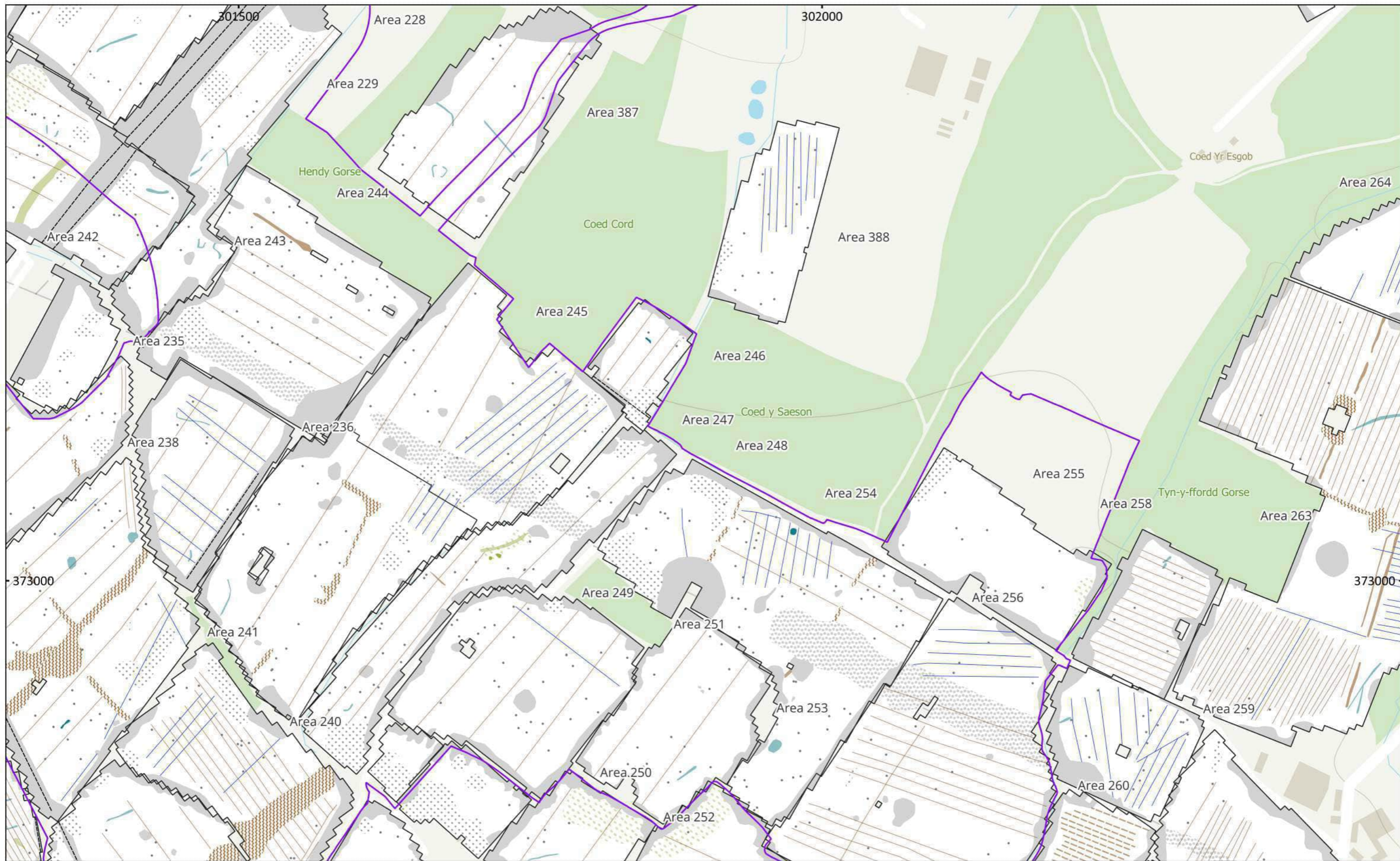
 Mona Proposed Onshore Development Area



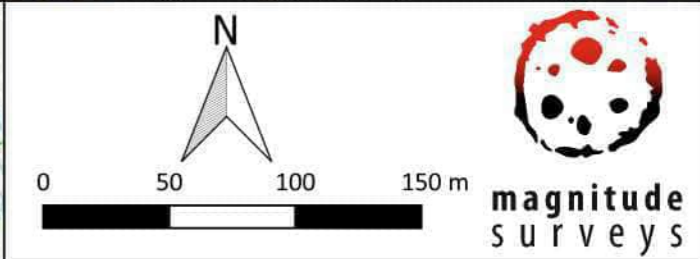
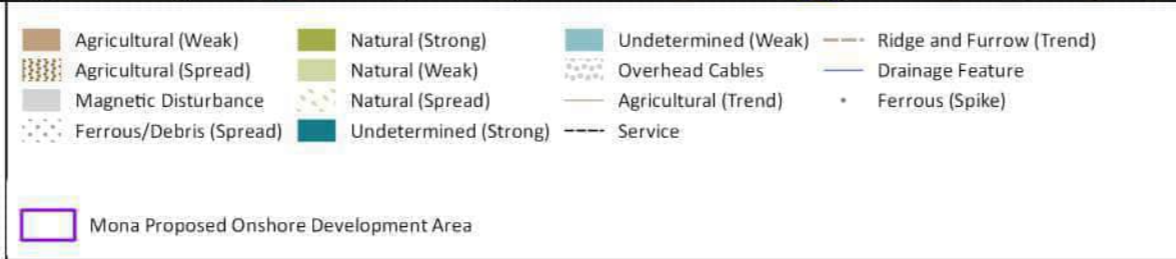


MSSH1444 - Mona Onshore Cable Route, North Wales  
 Figure 91 - Magnetic Gradient (Overview) (Areas 227-230, 234-251, 253-261, 263-264 (West) and 387-388)  
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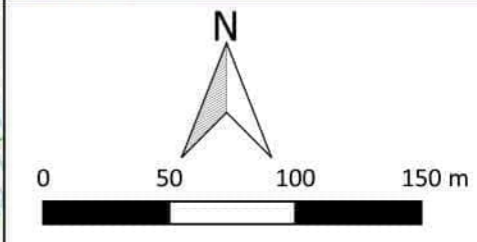
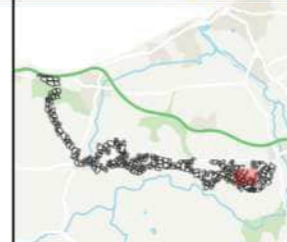
MSSH1444 - Mona Onshore Cable Route, North Wales  
 Figure 92 - Magnetic Interpretation (Areas 227-230, 234-251, 253-261, 263-264 (West) and 387-388)  
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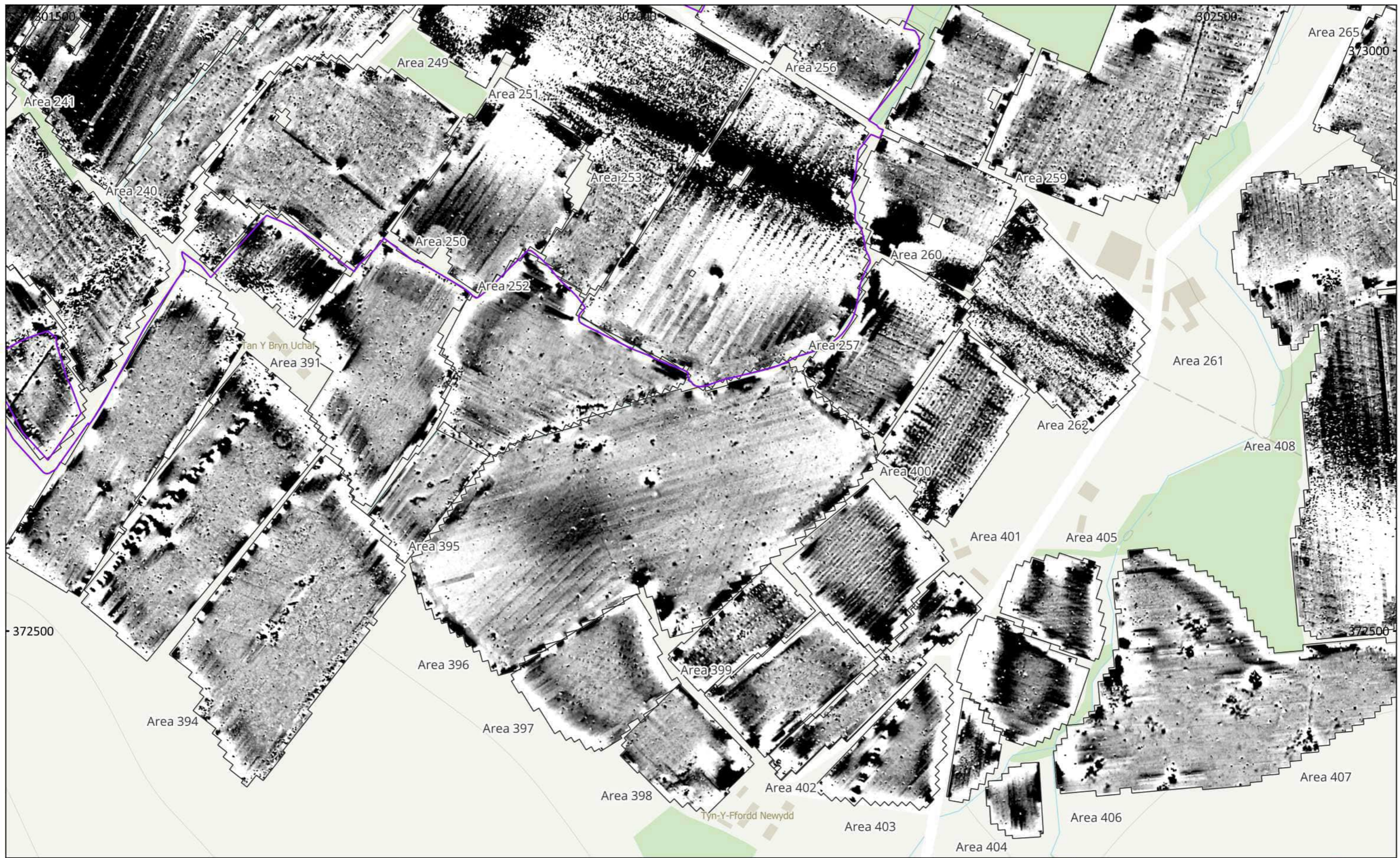




MSSH1444 - Mona Onshore Cable Route, North Wales  
 Figure 93 - Magnetic Interpretation Over Historical Maps (Overview) (Areas 227-230, 234-251, 253-261, 263-264 (West) and 387-388)  
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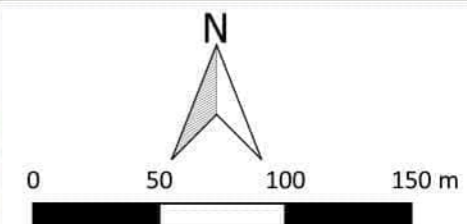
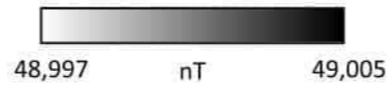
Agricultural (Weak)	Natural (Strong)	Undetermined (Weak)	Ridge and Furrow (Trend)
Agricultural (Spread)	Natural (Weak)	Overhead Cables	Drainage Feature
Magnetic Disturbance	Natural (Spread)	Agricultural (Trend)	Ferrous (Spike)
Ferrous/Debris (Spread)	Undetermined (Strong)	Service	
Mona Proposed Onshore Development Area			



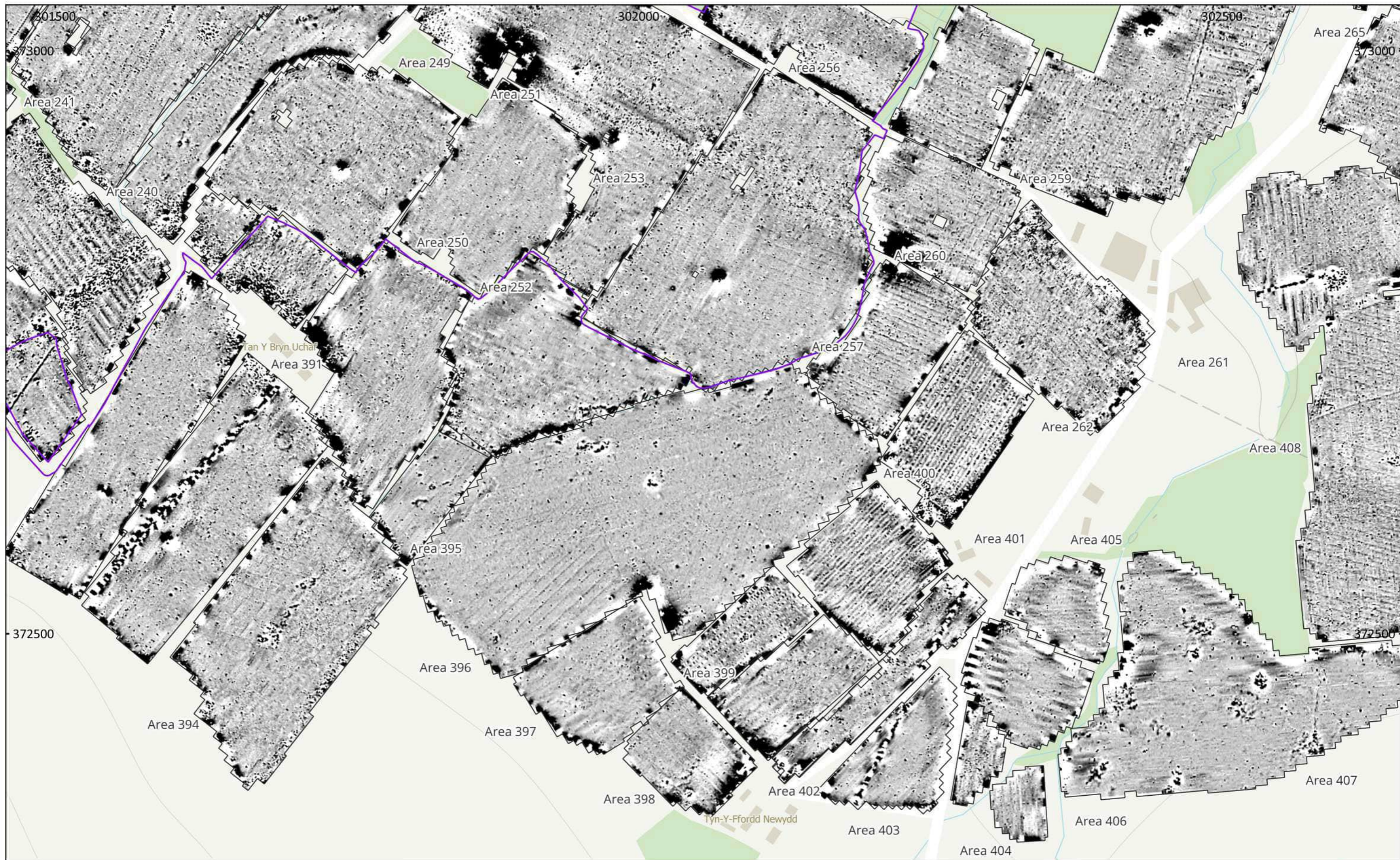


MSSH1444 - Mona Onshore Cable Route, North Wales  
 Figure 94 - Magnetic Total Field (Lower Sensor) (Overview) (Areas 240-241,  
 247-263 and 391-408)  
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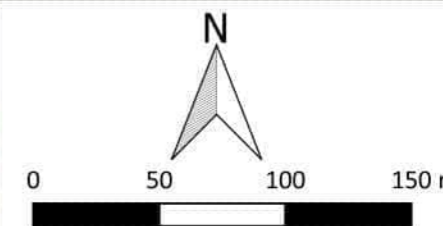
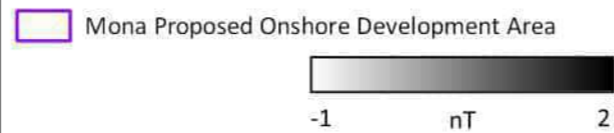
 Mona Proposed Onshore Development Area

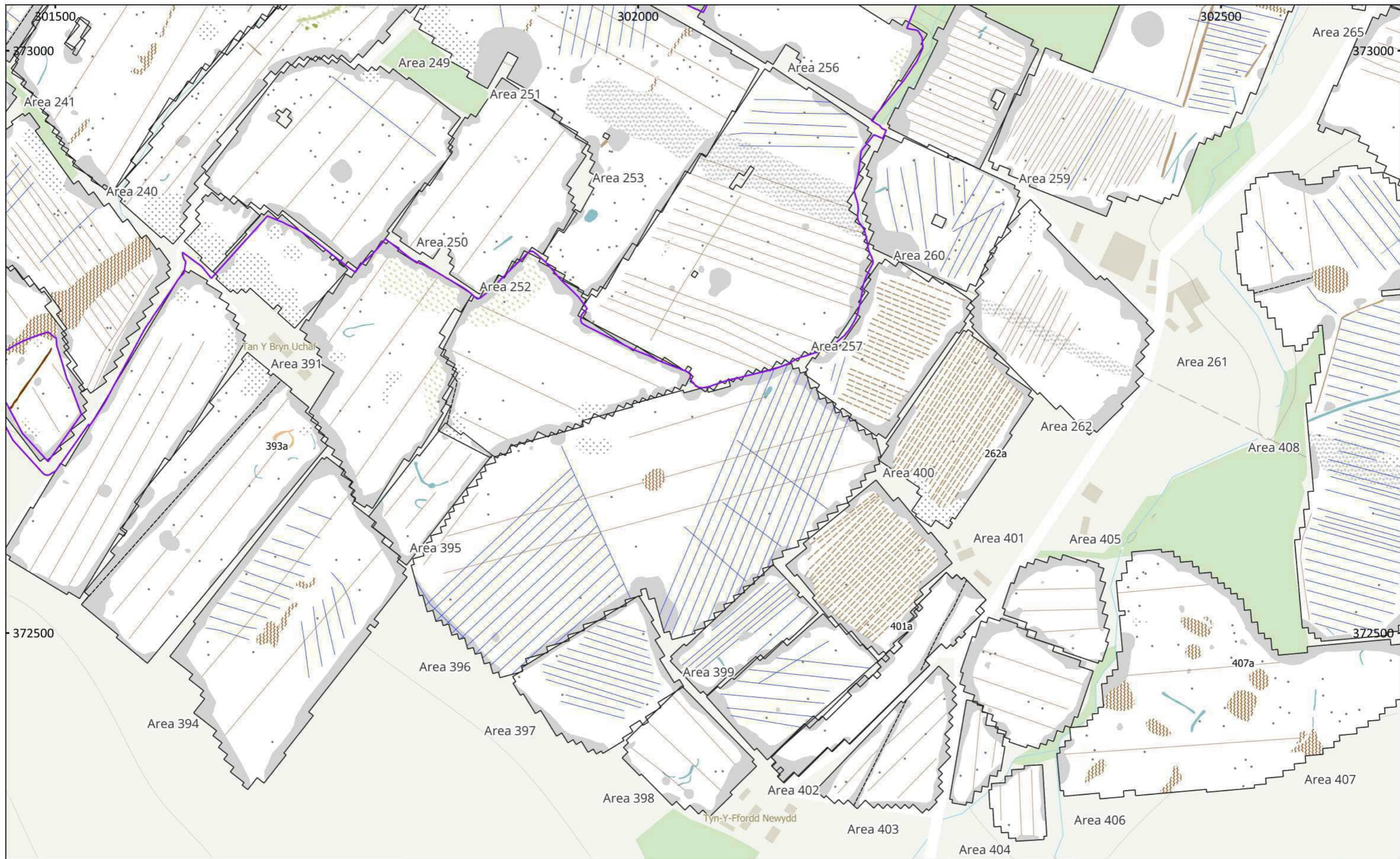


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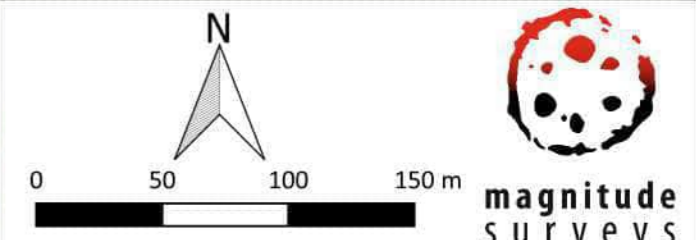
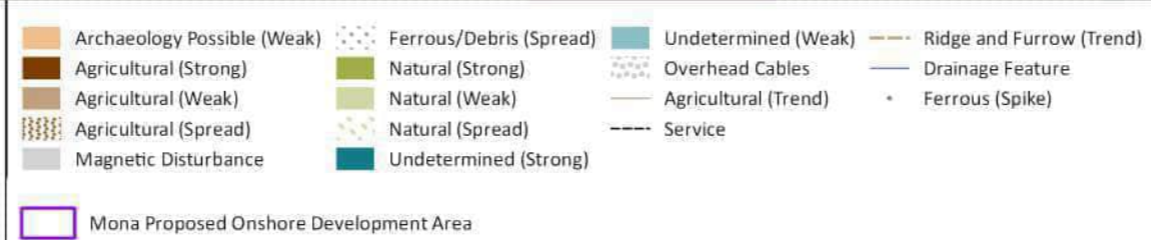


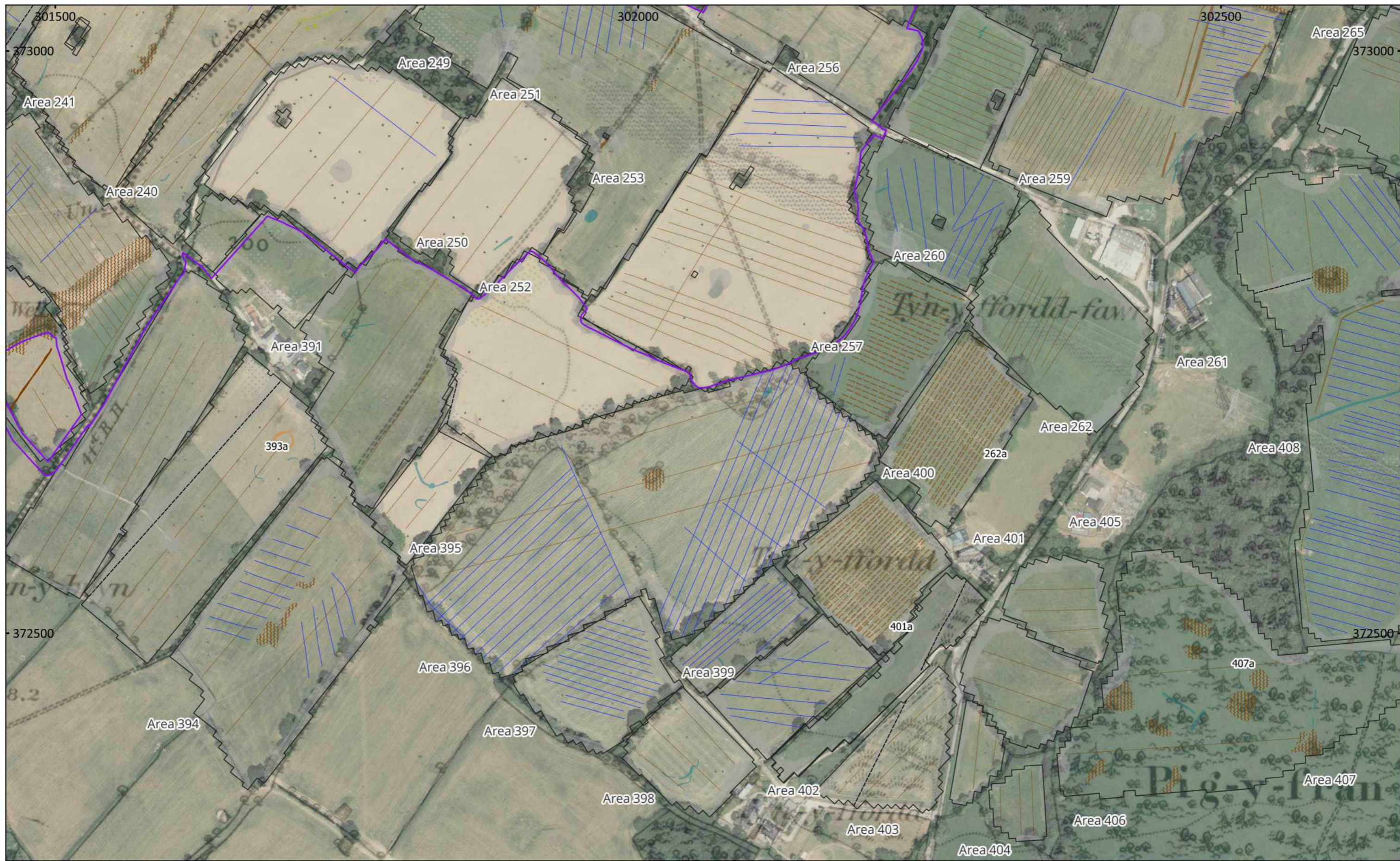
MSSH1444 - Mona Onshore Cable Route, North Wales  
 Figure 95 - Magnetic Gradient (Overview) (Areas 240-241, 247-263 and 391-408)  
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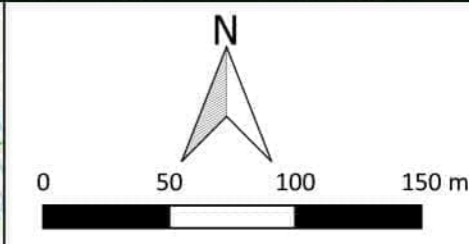
MSSH1444 - Mona Onshore Cable Route, North Wales  
 Figure 96 - Magnetic Interpretation (Areas 240-241, 247-263 and 391-408)  
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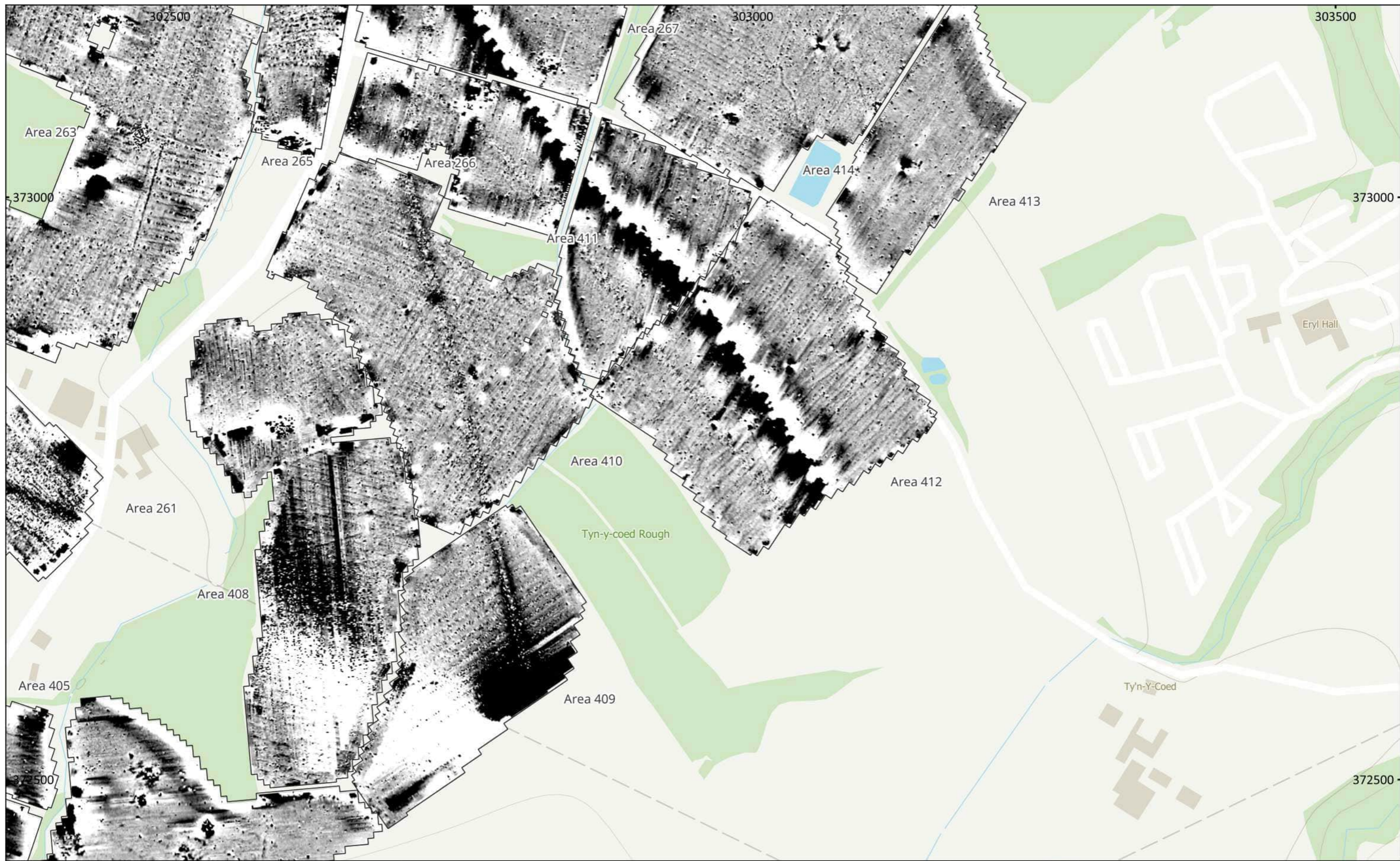




MSSH1444 - Mona Onshore Cable Route, North Wales  
 Figure 97 - Magnetic Interpretation Over Historical Maps (Overview) (Areas 240-241, 247-263 and 391-408)  
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Archaeology Possible (Weak)	Ferrous/Debris (Spread)	Undetermined (Weak)	Ridge and Furrow (Trend)
Agricultural (Strong)	Natural (Strong)	Overhead Cables	Drainage Feature
Agricultural (Weak)	Natural (Weak)	Agricultural (Trend)	Ferrous (Spike)
Agricultural (Spread)	Natural (Spread)	Service	
Magnetic Disturbance	Undetermined (Strong)		
Mona Proposed Onshore Development Area			





MSSH1444 - Mona Onshore Cable Route, North Wales  
 Figure 98 - Magnetic Total Field (Lower Sensor) (Overview) (Areas 261 (East), 263, 265-267 (South) and 407-413 and 414 (South))  
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Mona Proposed Onshore Development Area

48,997    nT    49,005




N

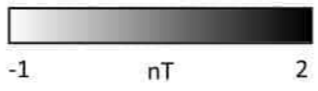
0    50    100    150 m






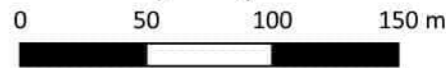
MSSH1444 - Mona Onshore Cable Route, North Wales  
 Figure 99 - Magnetic Gradient (Overview) (Areas 261 (East), 263, 265-267 (South) and 407-413 and 414 (South))  
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 Mona Proposed Onshore Development Area

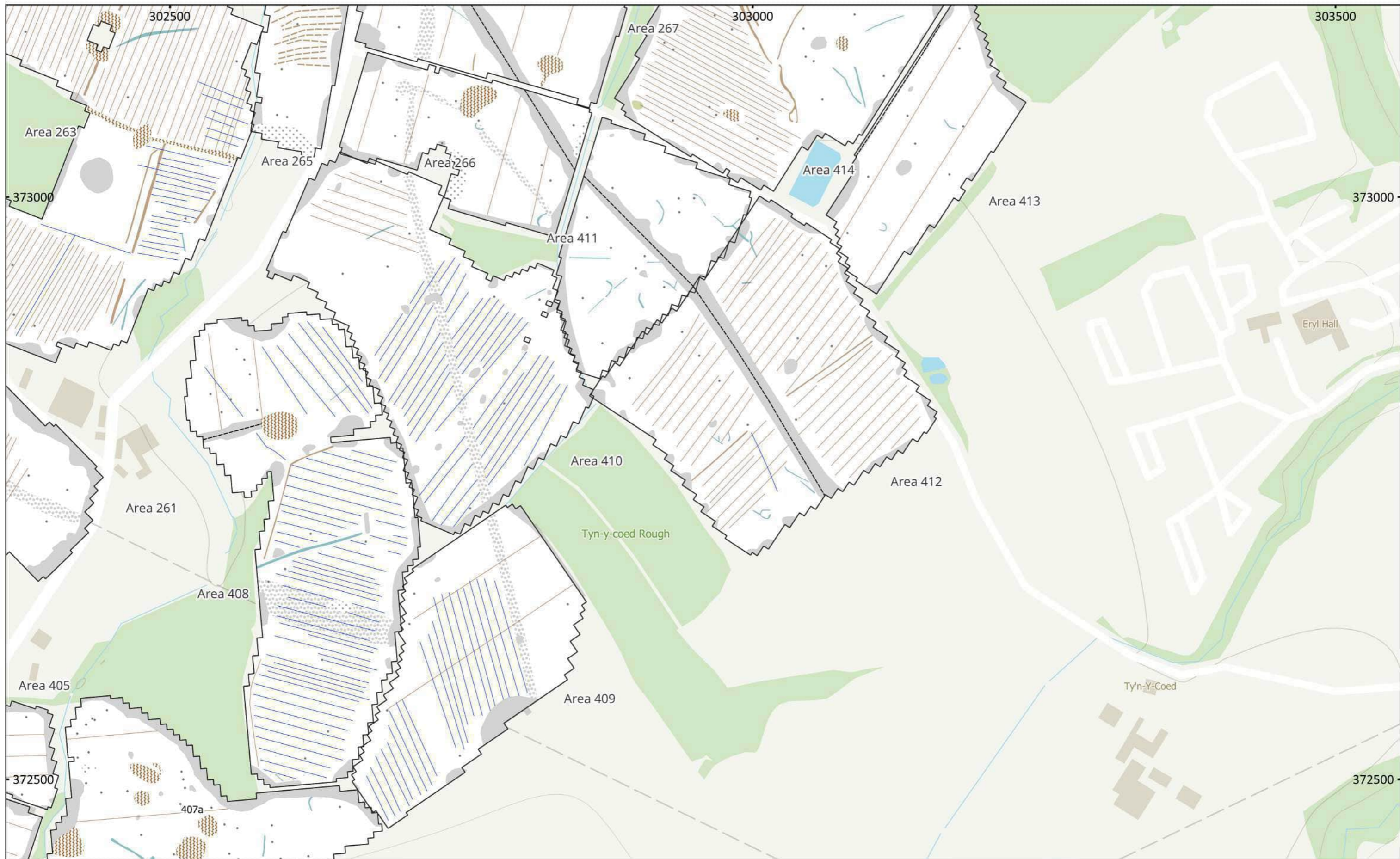




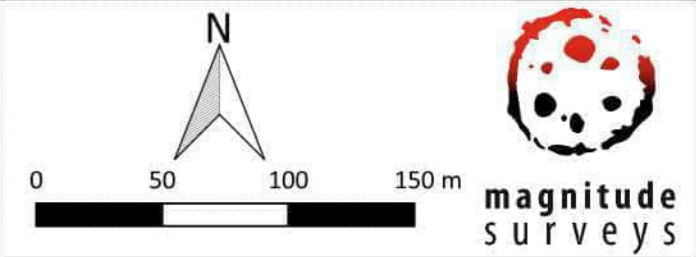






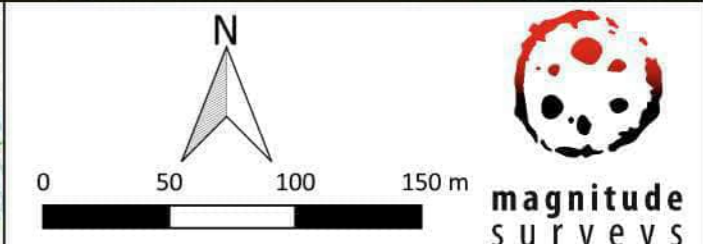
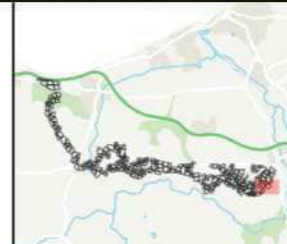


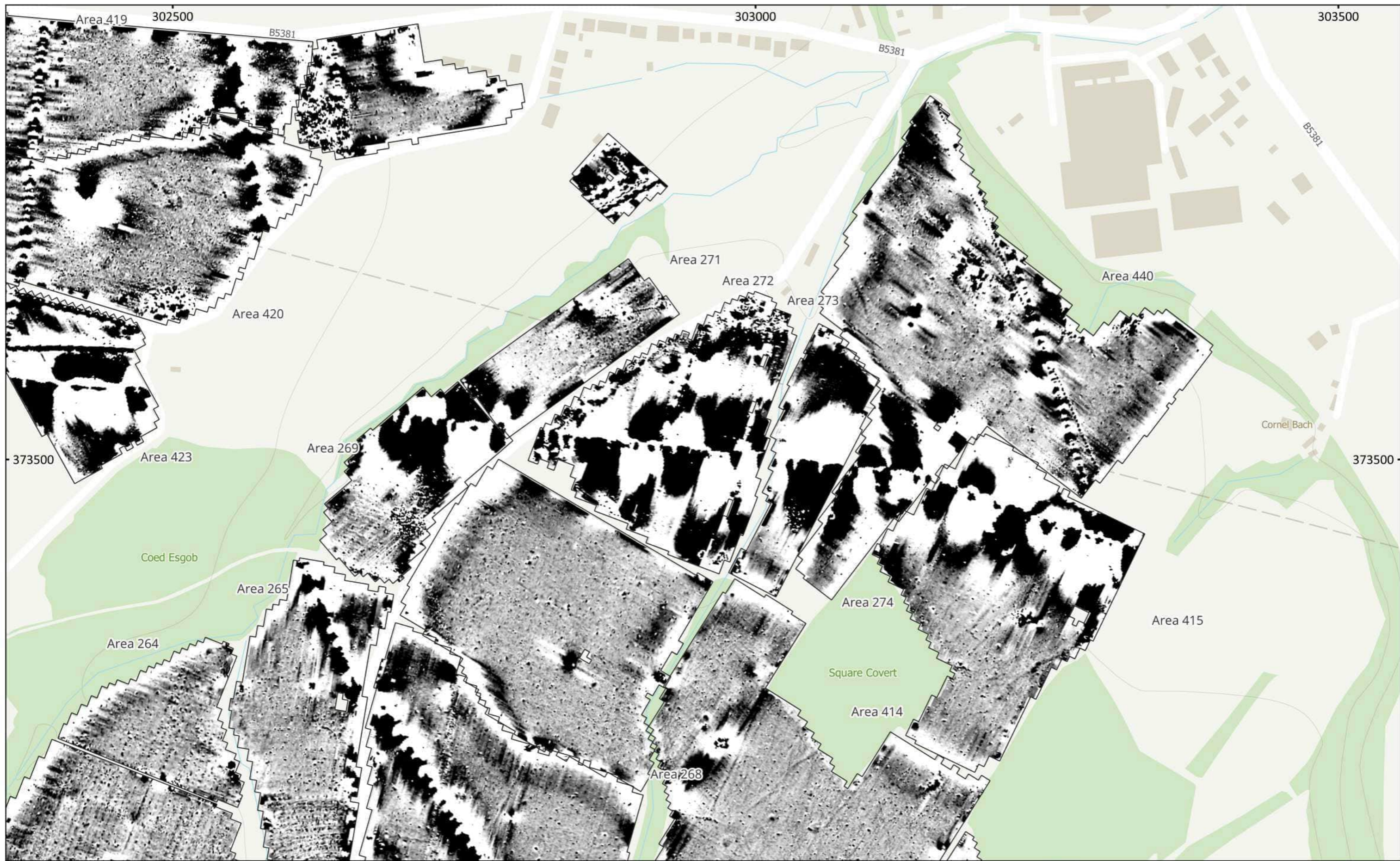
MSSH1444 - Mona Onshore Cable Route, North Wales  
 Figure 100 - Magnetic Interpretation (Areas 261 (East), 263, 265-267 (South) and 407-413 and 414 (South))  
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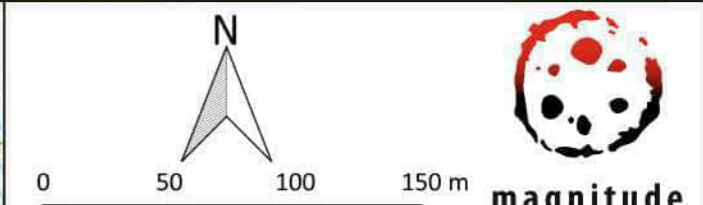
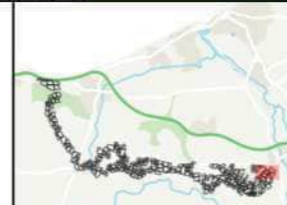
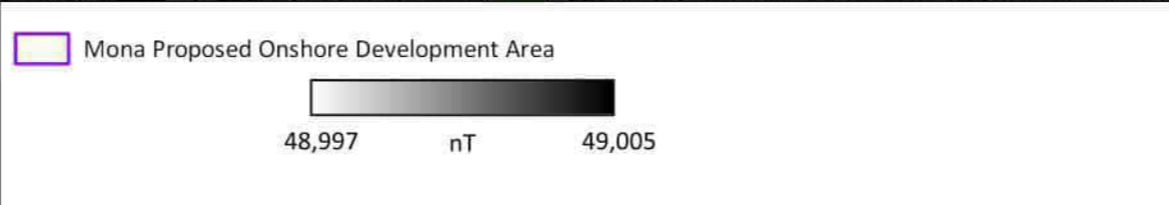


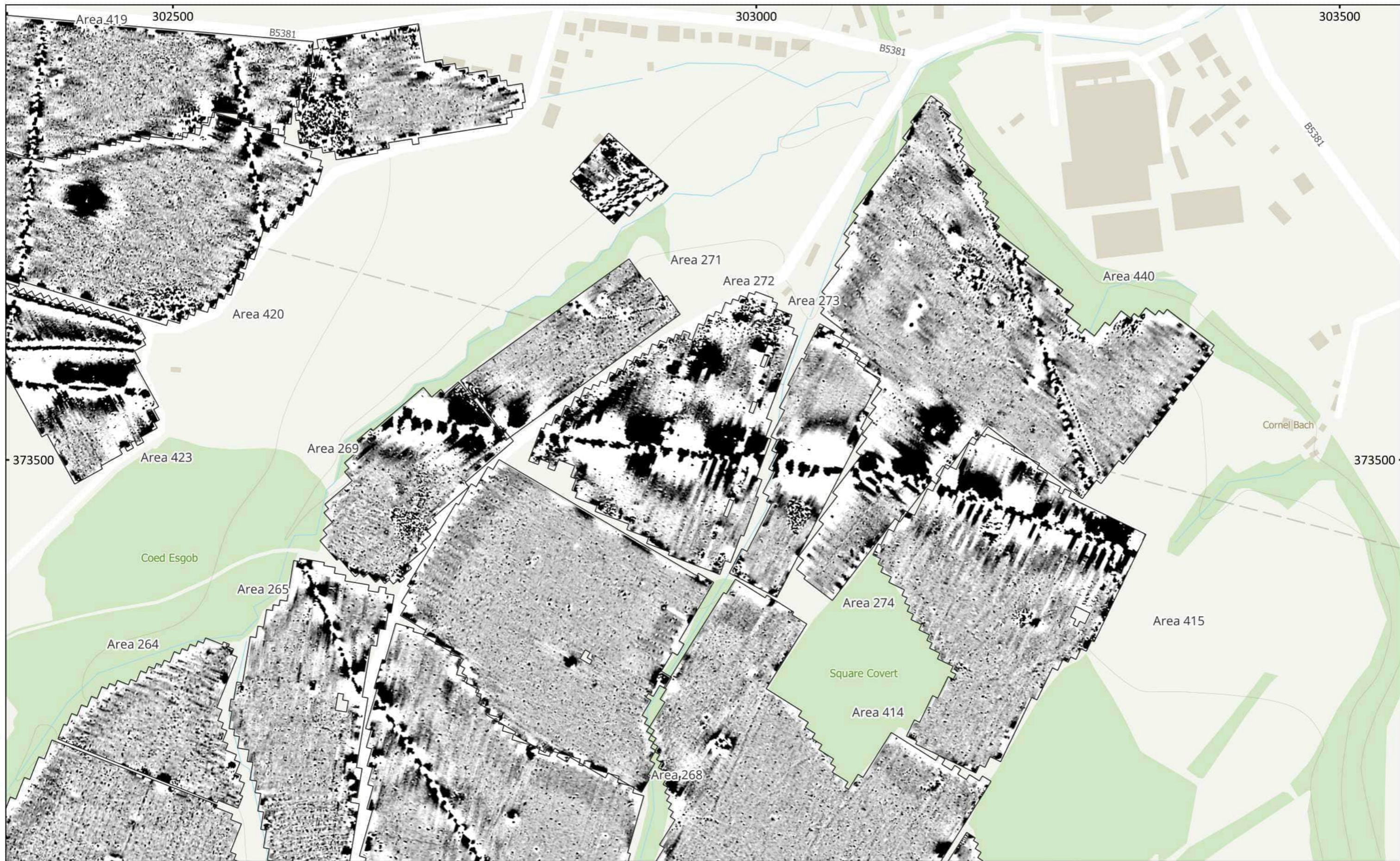
MSSH1444 - Mona Onshore Cable Route, North Wales  
 Figure 101 - Magnetic Interpretation Over Historical Maps (Overview) (Areas 261 (East), 263, 265-267 (South) and 407-413 and 414 (South))  
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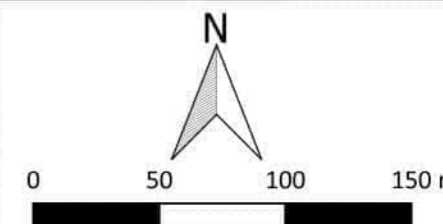
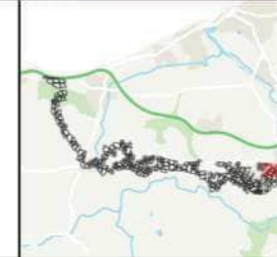
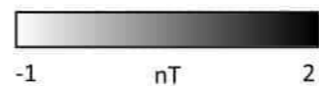
MSSH1444 - Mona Onshore Cable Route, North Wales  
 Figure 102 - Magnetic Total Field (Lower Sensor) (Overview) (Areas 264-274, 414-420, 423 and 440)  
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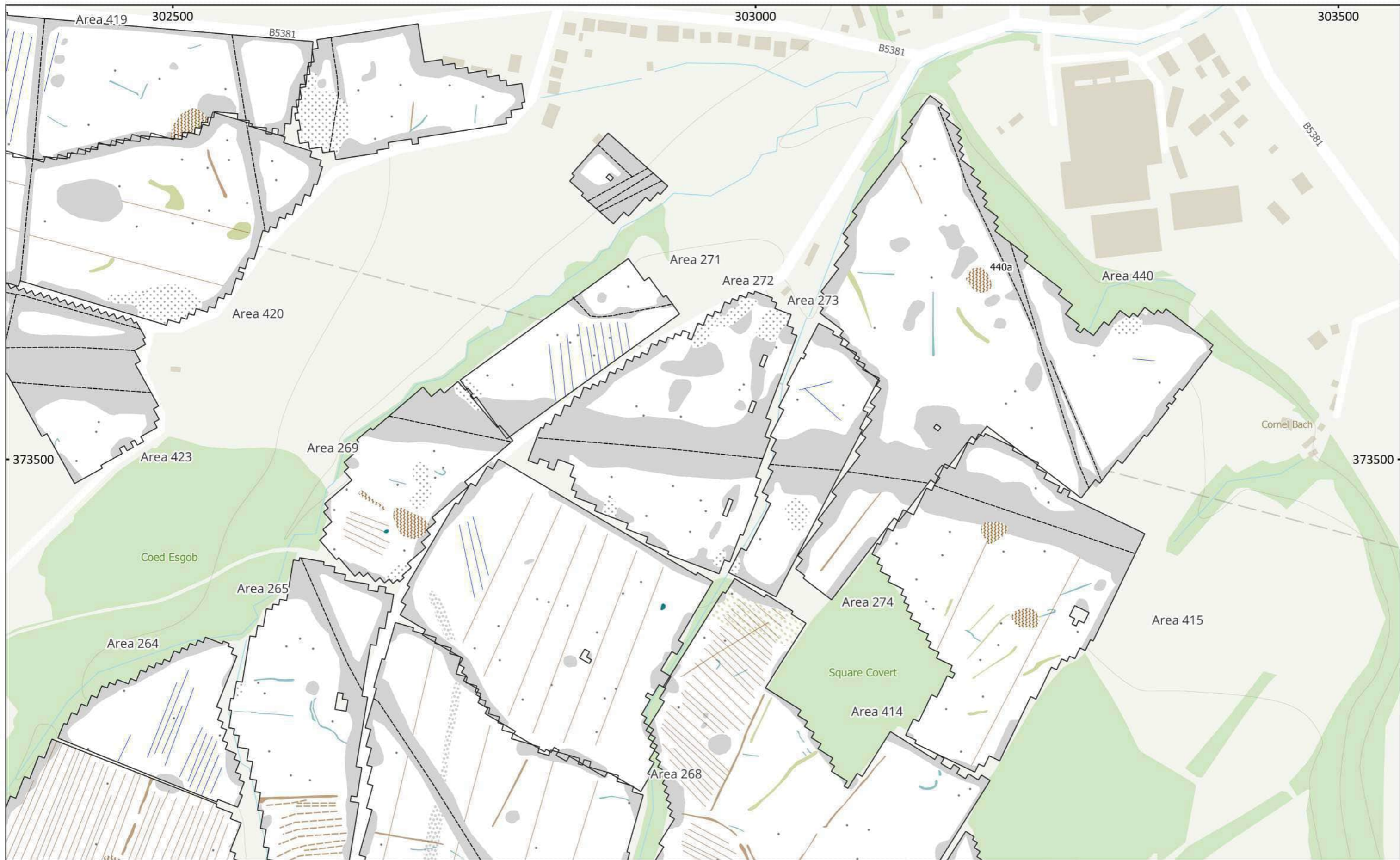


MSSH1444 - Mona Onshore Cable Route, North Wales  
 Figure 103 - Magnetic Gradient (Overview) (Areas 264-274, 414-420, 423 and 440)  
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 Mona Proposed Onshore Development Area

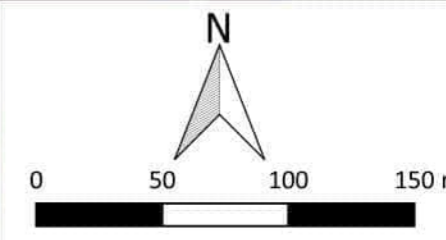
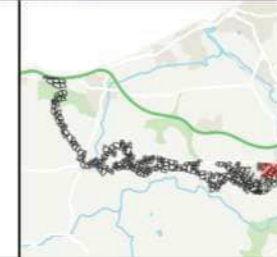


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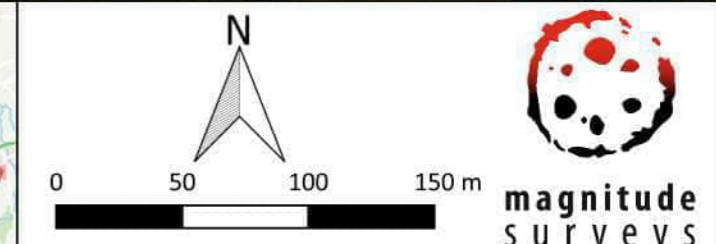
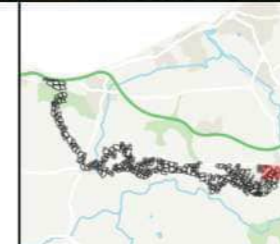
MSSH1444 - Mona Onshore Cable Route, North Wales  
 Figure 104 - Magnetic Interpretation (Areas 264-274, 414-420, 423 and 440)  
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- |  |                       |                          |                  |
|--|-----------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Agricultural (Weak)                    | Natural (Weak)        | Overhead Cables          | Drainage Feature |
| Agricultural (Spread)                  | Natural (Spread)      | Agricultural (Trend)     | Ferrous (Spike)  |
| Magnetic Disturbance                   | Undetermined (Strong) | Service                  |                  |
| Ferrous/Debris (Spread)                | Undetermined (Weak)   | Ridge and Furrow (Trend) |                  |
| Mona Proposed Onshore Development Area |                       |                          |                  |





MSSH1444 - Mona Onshore Cable Route, North Wales  
 Figure 105 - Magnetic Interpretation Over Historical Maps (Overview) (Areas 264-274, 414-420, 423 and 440)  
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# **Appendix E    Proposed Development Plan**

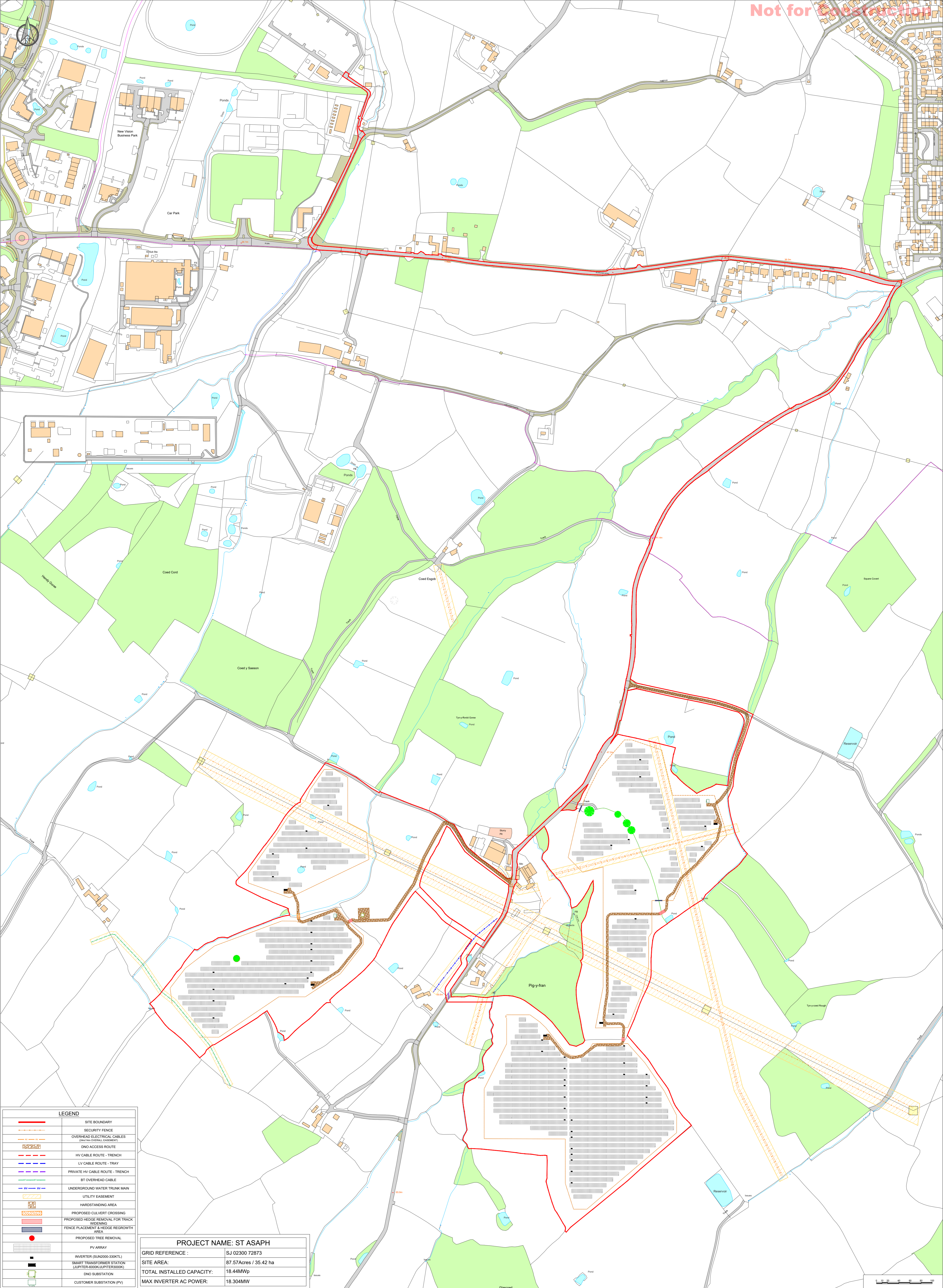
**St. Asaph Solar Farm, Denbighshire**

**Updated Historic Environment Desk-Based Assessment**

**Anesco Limited**

SLR Project No.: 407.064769.00001

22 April 2025



LEGEND	
	SITE BOUNDARY
	SECURITY FENCE
	OVERHEAD ELECTRICAL CABLES (SHOWS OVERALL EASEMENT)
	DNO ACCESS ROUTE
	HV CABLE ROUTE - TRENCH
	LV CABLE ROUTE - TRAY
	PRIVATE HV CABLE ROUTE - TRENCH
	BT OVERHEAD CABLE
	UNDERGROUND WATER TRUNK MAIN
	UTILITY EASEMENT
	HARDSTANDING AREA
	PROPOSED CULVERT CROSSING
	PROPOSED HEDGE REMOVAL FOR TRACK WIDENING
	FENCE PLACEMENT & HEDGE REGROWTH AREA
	PROPOSED TREE REMOVAL
	PV ARRAY
	INVERTER (SUN2000-330KTL)
	SMART TRANSFORMER STATION (LUPITER-6000(LUPITER3000K))
	DNO SUBSTATION
	CUSTOMER SUBSTATION (PV)

<b>PROJECT NAME: ST ASAPH</b>	
GRID REFERENCE :	SJ 02300 72873
SITE AREA:	87.57 Acres / 35.42 ha
TOTAL INSTALLED CAPACITY:	18.44MWp
MAX INVERTER AC POWER:	18.304MW

Installer Details  
 Anesco Ltd.  
 The Green,  
 Easter Park,  
 Berrym Road,  
 Reading,  
 RG7 2PQ  
 Tel: 0845 894 4444

Revision	Description	Revised By	Date	Revision	Description	Revised By	Date	Drawn By
A	Issued for comment	MS	19/11/2020	N	DNO Track Added	LD	28/11/2023	JH
B	Land reduced from the North and extended to the South	MS	05/03/2021	P	Red Line Boundary amended & access track added in the North	JH	19/12/2023	JH
C	Boundary Line Extended	MS	05/05/2021	Q	Redesign due to array relocation	JS	19/03/2024	JH
D	Boundary Line Extended and site maximised	MS	12/05/2021	R	Redesign	MS	01/08/2024	JH
E	Planning Site Layout	JH	10/11/2021	S	Access Altered	MS	20/09/2024	JH
F	Module Wattage Changed	MS	07/12/2021	T	Hedgerow added and panel locations amended	MS	11/11/2024	JH
G	Site resign to 21KTL & 60kV Modules	JH	02/03/2022	U	Inverters added	RD	20/01/2024	JH
H	Site redesigned due to tree shading implications	MS	18/08/2022	V4	Topo and service searches added	RD	31/03/2025	JH
J	Red Line Boundary amended to include Private HV	JH	03/08/2022					
K	Site redesign	JH	15/05/2023					
L	Site redesign using new modules and new private HV cable	JH	08/07/2023					
M	Site area amended and module redesign	JH	22/11/2023					

Installation Address  
 Cefnmeiriadog,  
 St Asaph,  
 Denbighshire,  
 Wales,  
 LL17 0HF

Project	St Asaph
Title	Site layout planning
Drawing No.	C0002452_02
Rev.	V4



