

Welsh Government

**M4 Corridor around Newport**

Environmental Statement

Supplement

Volume 3: Appendix R8.9

Non-designated Historic  
Landscape Characterisation

M4CaN-DJV-HER-ZG\_GEN-AX-EN-0005

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# 1 Introduction

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- 1.1.1** The M4 Corridor around Newport (M4CaN) crosses the Gwent Levels Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest, one of 36 historic landscapes that have been placed on the Register of Parks, Gardens and Landscapes of Special Historic Interest in Wales.
- 1.1.2** As part of the work behind the establishment of this registered historic landscape, a programme of study was undertaken that resulted in the identification and description of a total of 21 Historic Landscape Character Areas (HLCAs). These cover the whole of the registered Gwent Levels historic landscape and in some cases extend just beyond the boundary of the registered area.
- 1.1.3** The impact of the new section of motorway on this registered historic landscape and on each of the HLCAs affected is described in a full ASIDOHL2 (Assessment of the Significance of the Impact of Development on Historic Landscape Areas (on the Register of Landscapes of Historic Interest in Wales)) assessment report, presented as Appendix 8.3 of the March 2016 Environmental Statement (ES).
- 1.1.4** However, the new section of motorway also traverses land outside the registered Gwent Levels Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest (LOHI) and outside any of the HLCAs identified in association with the designation of that historic landscape. All land has some form of historic landscape character that needs to be described in order for any impact arising from the new section of motorway to be clearly identified and assessed.
- 1.1.5** In order to undertake the assessment of impact on the undesignated historic landscape, additional HLCAs have been identified. Collectively these cover all of the land that would be directly physically impacted or indirectly visually impacted by the new section of motorway and which is outside the HLCAs identified in connection with the Gwent Levels Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest.
- 1.1.6** These additional HLCAs are identified and described within this current report. Each HLCA is prefixed with M4CaN and numbered from 100 onwards to distinguish these from the HLCAs established for the designated Gwent Levels. A total of 37 additional HLCAs have been identified (Figure 1), hence these are described below as M4CaN HLCA100 – M4CaN HLCA136.
- 1.1.7** These HLCAs have been identified and described using guidance provided in Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB), Volume 11, Section 3, Part 2 (Highways Agency *et al.*, 2007) and supplementary guidance (Highways Agency, 2007).
- 1.1.8** In Wales, the general approach to landscape assessment is known as LANDMAP (Landscape Assessment and Decision Making Process). LANDMAP is a GIS based resource where information about the landscape is recorded, organised and evaluated into a nationally consistent spatial dataset within which recognisable landscape character areas can be identified. These are known as Aspect Areas. The LANDMAP process actually comprises the establishment of five spatially related datasets that provide information about the landscape, one of which is Historic Landscape and another of which is Cultural Landscape. Consequently, Historic Landscape and Cultural Landscape Aspect Areas have been identified within the LANDMAP process. This information has been reviewed as part of the identification of the M4CaN HLCAs.

**1.1.9** The approach taken by this assessment has been a broad-brush Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC), designed to complement the existing historic landscape study undertaken for the Gwent Levels. It is based on earlier work undertaken by Wessex Archaeology for a previous iteration of a new M4 motorway passing to the south of Newport.

**1.1.10** This approach has involved:

- obtaining modern Ordnance Survey (OS) and historical mapping;
- reviewing existing HLC areas;
- defining new HLC areas for parts of the landscape not previously characterised;
- ground truthing by undertaking a rapid field survey, with a visit to each character area to obtain further details and to observe whether the 'mapped' historic character is still evident; and
- a walkover survey along the proposed route to assess direct impacts on specific historic landscape features and areas.

**1.1.11** Historic landscape character is defined by a series of attributes and elements, forming patterns derived from historic processes which can be identified as distinct landscape patterns. The present characterisation exercise has considered variations in boundary form, the density of these boundaries, and the pattern of enclosures and their historical components in the landscape, such as drainage channels, woodland cover, settlement pattern and routeways. The current character compared to the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition OS maps, published c.1887 has been used to inform the integrity and complexity of each historic landscape character area, whilst other attributes which have also been considered are the relict remains of earlier periods, from the prehistoric period to the present. All these features have been assessed to inform the integrity and longevity of the various enclosure patterns and to facilitate the recognition of discrete historic character areas.

## **2 M4CaN HLCA100 Rhymney Valley Nurseries**

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### **2.1 Character Area**

**2.1.1** Later industrialisation of a former medieval landholding, now used for horticulture.

### **2.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

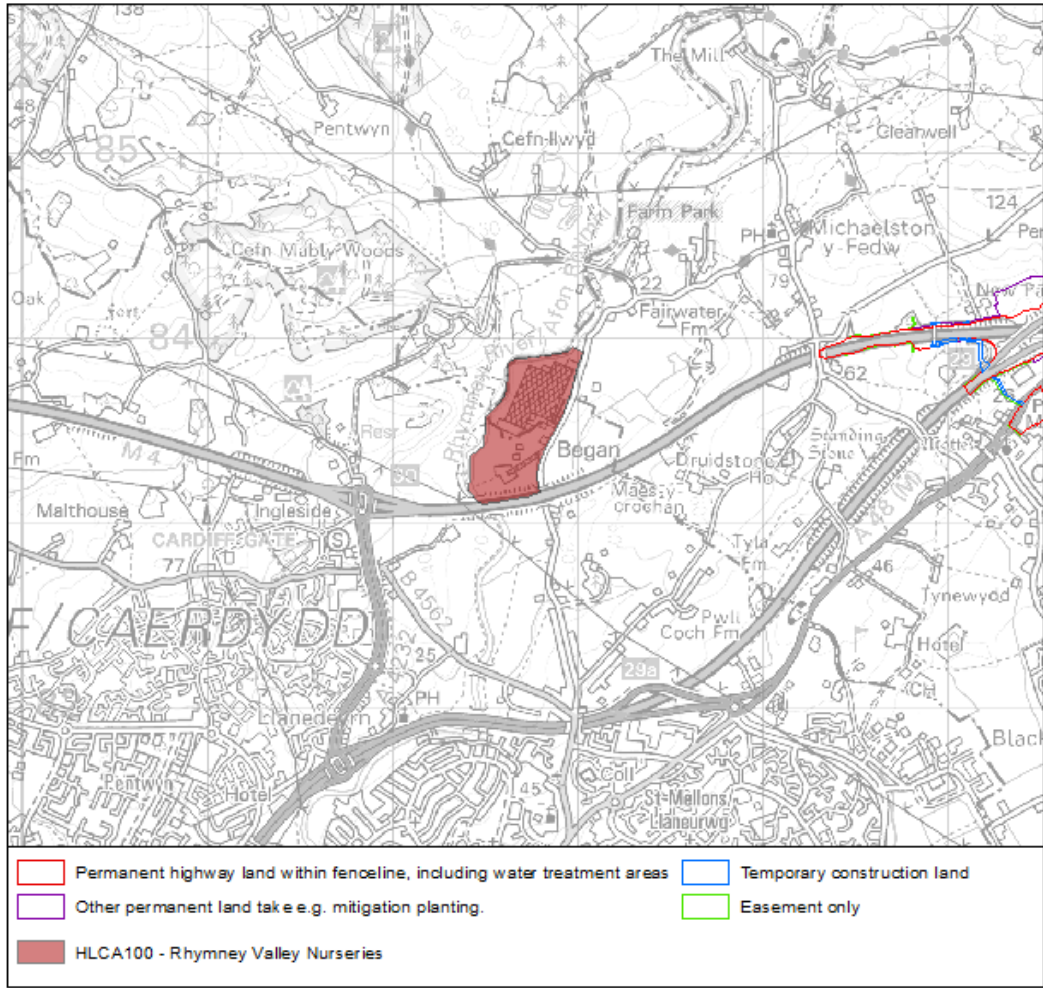
- Former medieval manor house and orchard.
- Area now used as a plant nursery.
- High, dense hedges obscuring low-rise glasshouses along the narrow adjacent roadway.
- Located on flat ground in a river valley.
- Historic public right of way.

### **2.3 Description**

**2.3.1** Began House is recorded on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887) and is described as the site of a medieval manor house by the Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) Historic Environment Record. This appears on the c. 1887 OS map as a large house with an orchard; however no trace of this exists today.

### **2.4 Integrity**

**2.4.1** The earlier field pattern is now removed and Began House is now recorded as Began Farm. This is comprised of three modern cottages with no trace of any earlier structure. The current public footpath reflects the former driveway for Began House. The HLCA is dominated by the large glasshouses at Began Farm.



**Inset 1 - M4CaN HLCA100 Rhymney Valley Nurseries**

## **3 M4CaN HLCA101 Maes-y-crochan**

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### **3.1 Character Area**

**3.1.1** Agricultural landscape with dispersed settlement and some historic woodland.

### **3.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

- Sinuous hedged boundaries forming sub-angular fields.
- Dispersed isolated farmsteads.
- Historic woodland plantations.
- Adaptive landscape pattern.

### **3.3 Description**

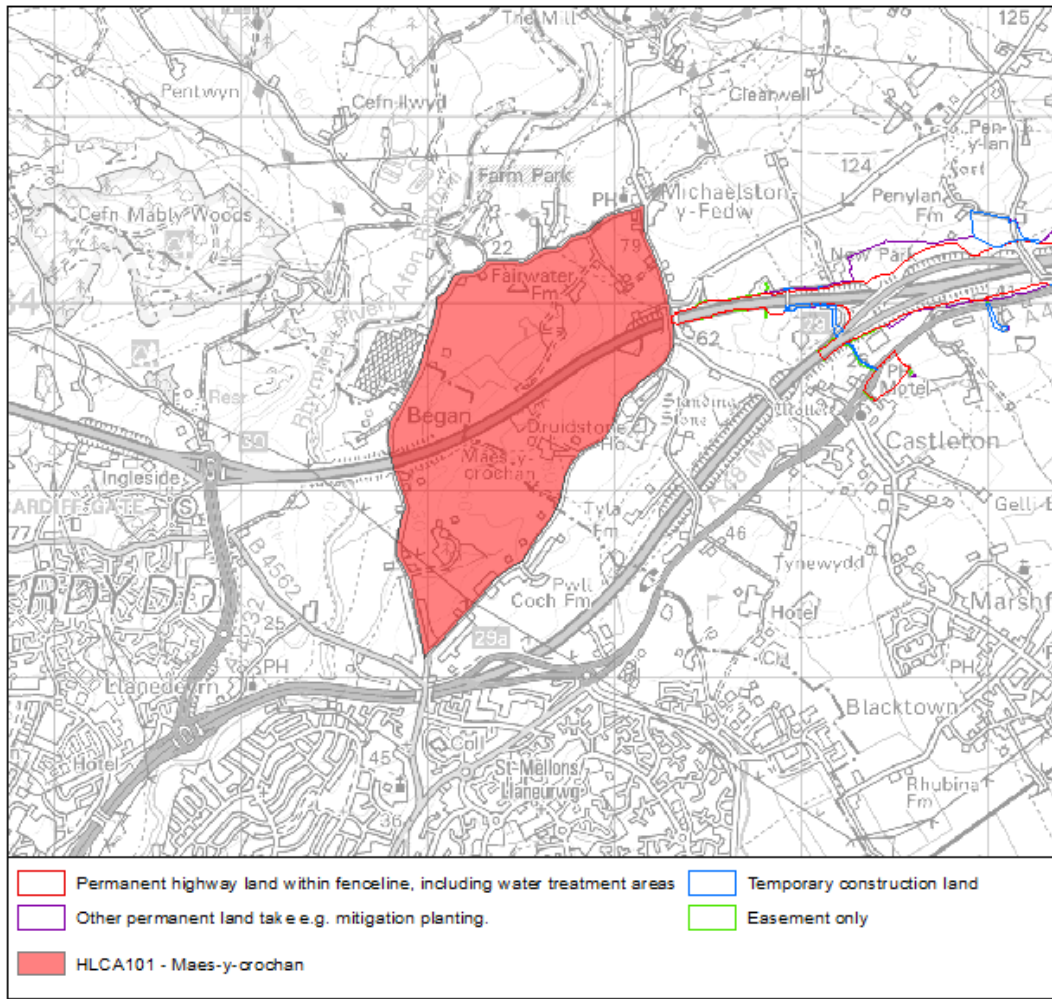
**3.3.1** This area is characterised by a number of dispersed isolated farmsteads, each with its own historic wood plantation. Some of these plantations remain, although others shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c. 1887) have since been removed.

**3.3.2** The landscape is characterised by an enclosure pattern formed by sinuous hedge boundaries which create sub-angular fields. This form originates from selected boundary change, which is particularly clear when one compares the current form with that recorded on the 1887 map. The landscape thus appears to be an adaptation of an earlier enclosure form which may derive from the medieval period, when the enclosure of former common, arable fields and rough grazing occurred.

### **3.4 Integrity**

**3.4.1** The integrity of the landscape has been compromised by the construction of the existing M4 motorway, with selective boundary loss being especially apparent in the fields bordering both sides of the carriageway. Despite this, the adaptive enclosure pattern of the hedged sinuous boundaries is still apparent throughout much of the character area. However a large solar farm has been granted planning permission within this HLCA and construction is considered to be imminent.





**Inset 2 - M4CaN HLCA101 Maes-y-crochan**

## 4 M4CaN HLCA102 Castleton Town and Fields

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### 4.1 Character Area

**4.1.1** Mixed urban and agricultural landscape which displays a retentive historic landscape character.

### 4.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- Former medieval nucleated settlement.
- Sinuous hedged boundaries.
- Small, regular-sized, sub-rectangular enclosures.
- Minimal boundary change.
- Retentive historic landscape character.
- Historic public rights of way.
- Southern edge has fen-edge character.

### 4.3 Description

**4.3.1** Once called 'Castletown', Castleton is a former medieval nucleated settlement. The remains of a motte currently stand within the grounds of a housing estate. The wider landscape area is characterised by sinuous hedged boundaries forming comparatively smaller regular-sized, sub-rectangular enclosures when compared to surrounding HLCAs. This field pattern is derived from the enclosure of former medieval landholdings.

**4.3.2** A distinctive character of this area is the limited insertion of straight boundaries to form more geometric fields. There is also a clear orientation to the field system, which follows the underlying topography and drainage and feeds into the Wentlooge Levels. When compared to the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887) there appears to have been minimal boundary change. This landscape displays a much greater retentive historic character in comparison to neighbouring M4CaN HLCA101 Maes-y-crochan.

**4.3.3** A northeast/southwest aligned ridge bounds the character area on its western side, along the top of which runs Druidstone Road. This is marked on the 1887 map as a 'supposed Roman Road'. Additionally, there is a Bronze Age standing stone, Gwal-y-Filias, located close to Druidstone House at National Grid Reference (NGR) 324140 183418, just below the highest point of the ridge at 70 metres above ordnance datum (AOD). The field system orientation seems to respect the line of Druidstone Road, which appears to be an ancient trackway across the landscape and is possibly of prehistoric origin. Numerous other historic public rights of way are retained in the landscape, as demonstrated by the network of public footpaths.

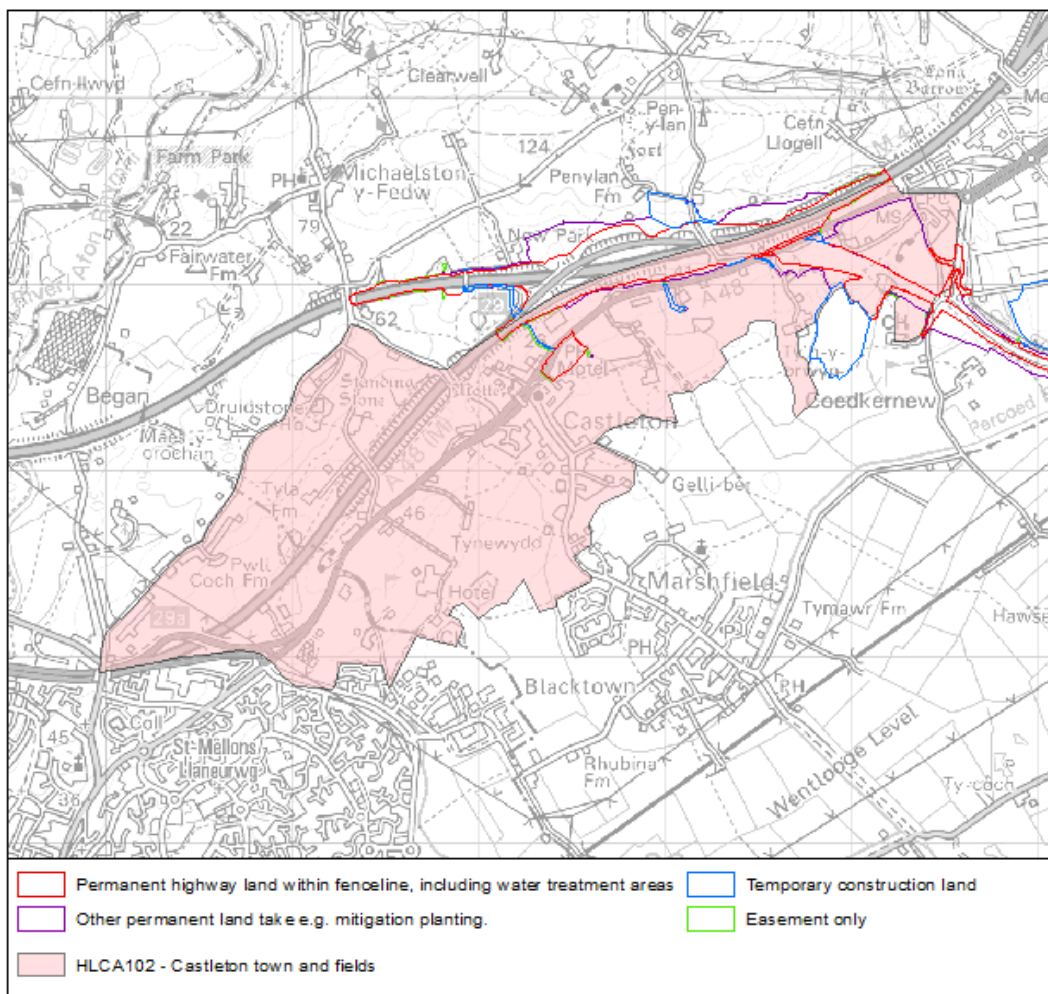
**4.3.4** The gentrified house with associated orchard and parkway 'Llanarthen' shown on the c. 1887 map (NGR 324760 182349) is now a hotel and golf course. As a result, the historic pattern of the southwest portion of the Castleton area has been removed, although the medieval chapel of Llanarthen remains. 'Llanarthen'

is a good example of a small compass 'estate' which has been inserted into a wider enclosure pattern.

**4.3.5** Castleton is now dominated by modern urban linear development.

## 4.4 Integrity

**4.4.1** This area represents a transitional zone within the landscape between the higher ground to the north and the low ground of the Wentlooge Levels to the south. The integrity of the landscape had been compromised by the construction of the current A48(M) road, with selective boundary loss in the fields bordering both sides of the carriageway. Despite this, the retentive enclosure pattern of the hedged sinuous boundaries is still apparent throughout much of this HLCA.



**Inset 3 - M4CaN HLCA102 Castleton Town and Fields**

## 5 M4CaN HLCA103 Marshfield Medieval Settlement

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### 5.1 Character Area

**5.1.1** Historic village expansion and agricultural landscape, with medieval settlement core around Church Farm.

### 5.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- Former medieval historic core.
- Sinuous boundaries.
- Sub-rectangular enclosures, retaining the earlier medieval organisation of the landscape.
- Possible Roman fen-edge settlement at Blacktown.

### 5.3 Description

**5.3.1** The original nucleated settlement of Marshfield was built around Church Farm and St Mary's Church (remains of a medieval cross are present in the churchyard). This HLCA infills an area of land between two parts of HLCA 20 Marshfield/Coedkernew.

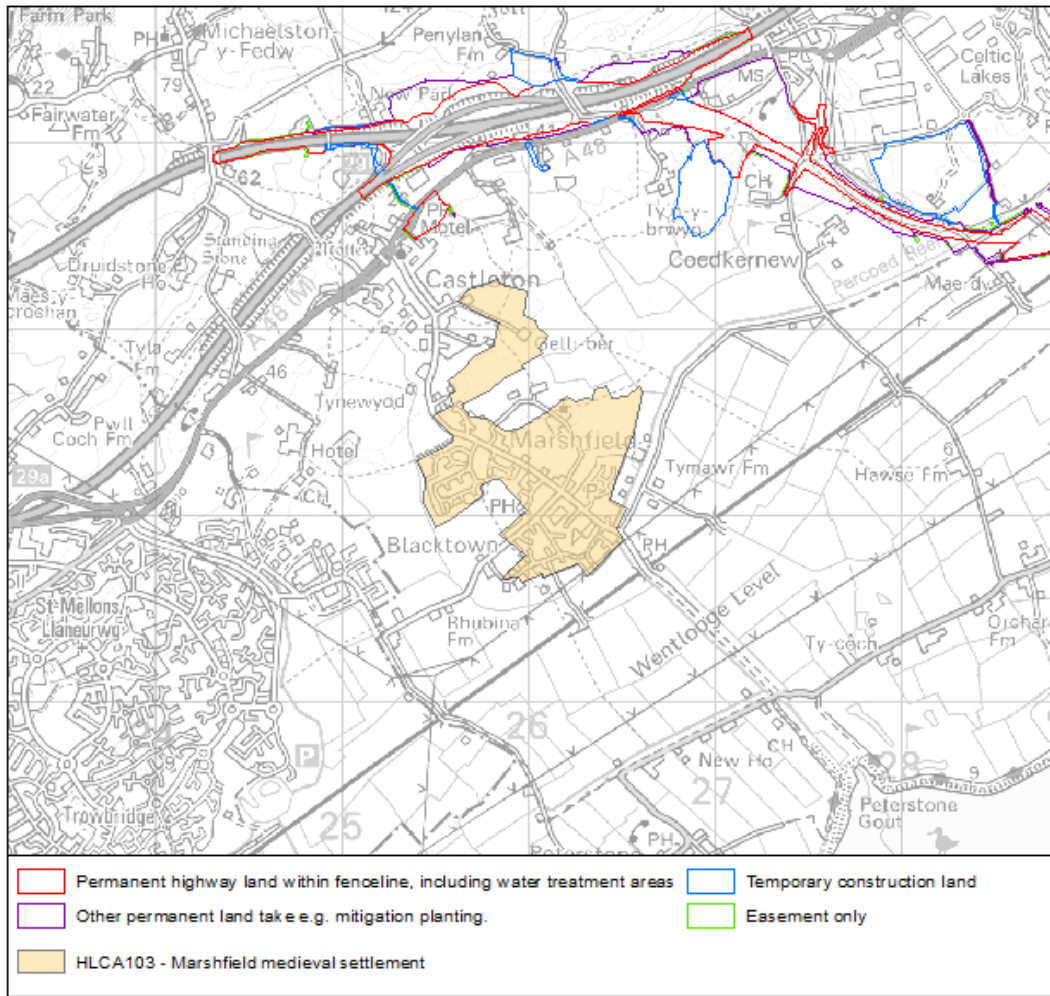
**5.3.2** This area is now dominated by the modern Marshfield development, which is situated in the area recorded as 'Blacktown' on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887). This is depicted as an intensive area of cultivation, possibly lazy beds, surrounding 'Three Elms', and is in direct contrast to the surrounding drained landscape of the Gwent Levels. The name 'Blacktown' suggests a fen-edge settlement, possibly of Roman date and also provides a second focus for medieval settlement.

**5.3.3** A northern part of the HLCA encompasses the land around the historic property known as Gelli-ber. Field boundaries here are straighter with fields generally sub-rectangular.

**5.3.4** Within this HLCA there are no drainage patterns or elements recorded in the landscape. This is in direct contrast to surrounding areas (e.g. HLCA 17 Peterstone, HLCA 20 Marshfield/Coedkernew and HLCA 21 Maerdy, which are predominantly characterised by their reens, ditches and grips.

### 5.4 Integrity

**5.4.1** The only remaining trace of the historic landscape pattern in this area is limited to the northeast area around Church Farm, the former historic heart of the town which is located on slightly higher ground. The remaining historic enclosure pattern seems to relate to the earlier medieval organisation of the landscape. This is retained by the sinuous boundaries which form sub-rectangular enclosures beyond the area of drainage defined by neighbouring HLCA 20 Marshfield/Coedkernew.



**Inset 4 - M4CaN HLCA103 Marshfield Medieval Settlement**

## **6 M4CaN HLCA104 Duffryn/Pencarn**

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### **6.1 Character Area**

**6.1.1** Modern industrial.

### **6.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

- Former parkland.
- Adjacent to Nant-y-Moor Reen.

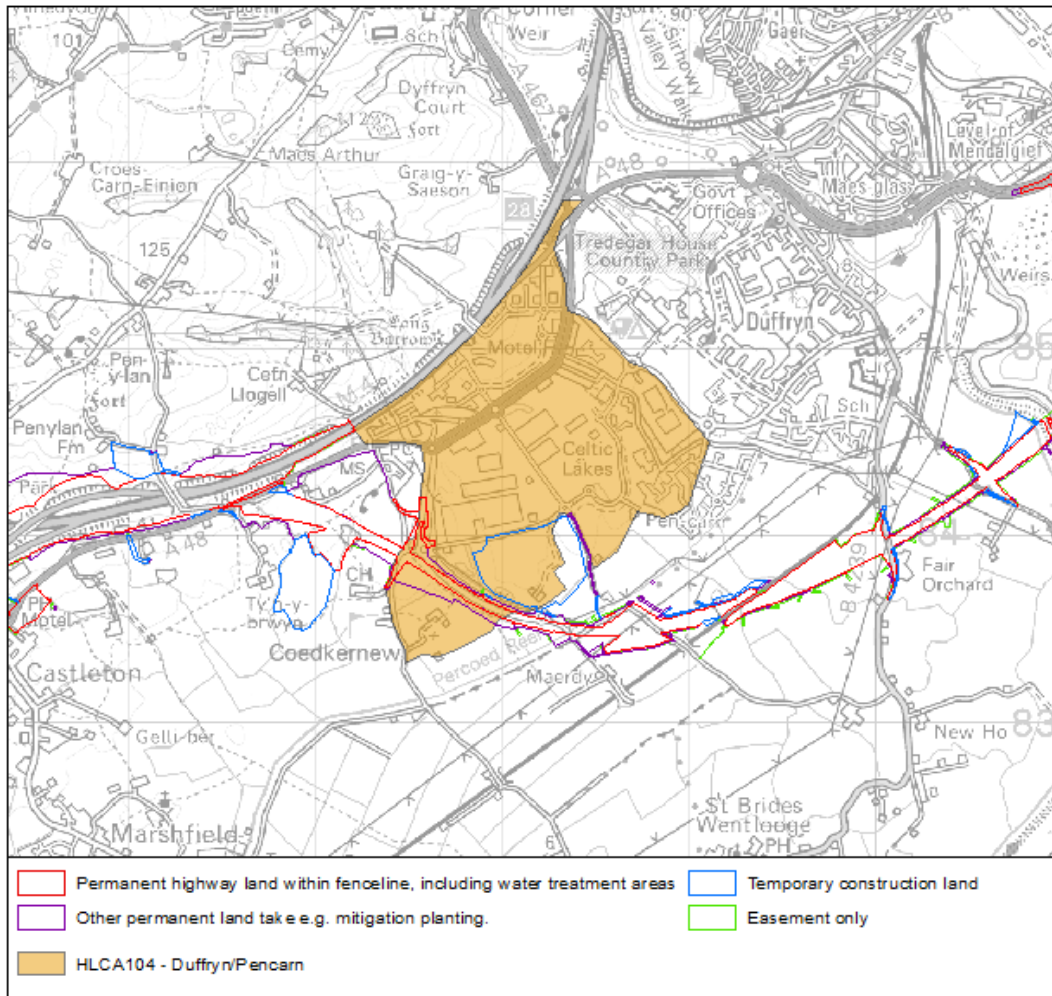
### **6.3 Description**

**6.3.1** ‘Dyffryn’ is shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887) as a substantial set of buildings set within the surrounding parkland of the Tredegar House estate and adjacent to Nant-y-Moor Reen. The regional Historic Environment Records (HER) registers a house here dating to the medieval period, which is known to have been extant from at least the 14<sup>th</sup> century.

**6.3.2** During the construction of the LG development, buildings were destroyed which dated to the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Local information suggests these buildings had been used as stables and a stud farm for Lord Tredegar and were therefore part of the Tredegar Park estate prior to redevelopment for light industrial usage.

### **6.4 Integrity**

**6.4.1** All traces of the historic landscape were obliterated during redevelopment for light industrial use (LG plant) in the late 20<sup>th</sup> century.



**Inset 5 - M4CaN HLCA104 Duffryn/Pencarn**

## **7 M4CaN HLCA105 Michaelstone**

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### **7.1 Character Area**

**7.1.1** Agricultural landscape with dispersed settlement and some historic woodland.

### **7.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

- Retained medieval field pattern.
- Sinuous boundaries forming sub-rectangular enclosures.
- Little boundary change since 1887.
- Dispersed settlement, some likely to be of medieval date.
- Historic woodland.
- Public rights of way.

### **7.3 Description**

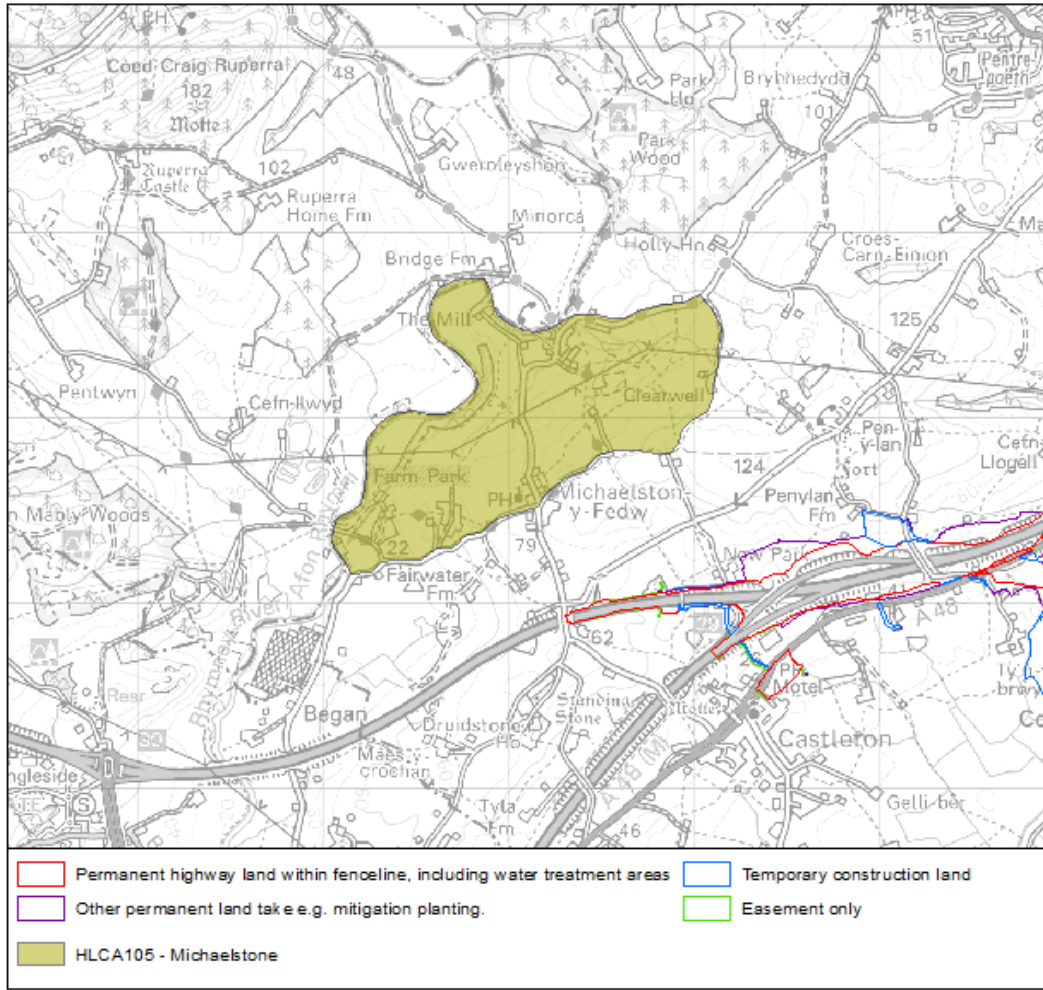
**7.3.1** This landscape is characterised by medieval nucleated settlements with a retained medieval field pattern which is characterised by sinuous boundaries forming sub-rectangular enclosures. Very little boundary change has occurred between the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887) and the present. The regional HER records a deserted rural settlement of likely medieval date to the south and west of St Michael's Church at Michaelston-y-Fedw, which is first referenced in documentary sources in 1254.

**7.3.2** A belt of historic woodland which is shown in the western extent of the area on the c. 1887 map remains today. A further plantation is situated to the west of Michaelstone Bridge, another possible medieval nucleated settlement further north which lies close to the site of a disused mill.

### **7.4 Integrity**

**7.4.1** This area is a good example of retained historic character, in direct contrast with neighbouring M4CaN HLCA101 Maes-y-Crochan, which is much more adaptive in character. The area displays a historic pattern of valley-side lowland grazing and arable, with a dense network of public footpaths representing historic routeways which connected the dispersed farmsteads.





**Inset 6 - M4CaN HLCA105 Michaelstone**

## 8 M4CaN HLCA106 Croes-Carn-Einion

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### 8.1 Character Area

8.1.1 Agricultural landscape with dispersed settlement and sparse historic woodland.

### 8.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- Settlement since the prehistoric period.
- Mostly straight but occasionally sinuous boundaries.
- Sparse historic woodland.
- Good example of a small compass survey-planned reorganisation of an earlier medieval and post-medieval enclosure pattern.

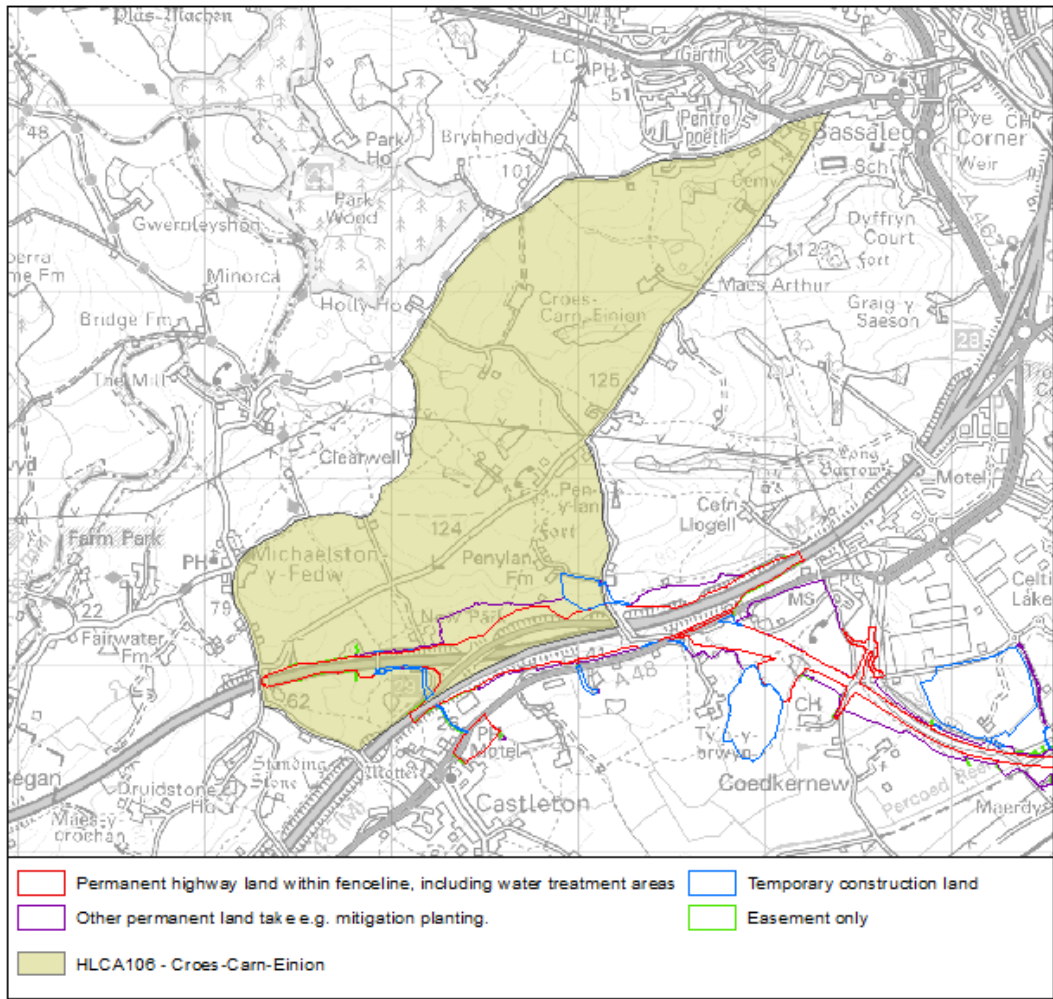
### 8.3 Description

8.3.1 This area is characterised by predominantly straight field boundaries with occasional sinuous examples and sparse historic woodland. The fields are generally larger than in the adjacent areas of M4CaN HLCA 105 Michaelstone and M4CaN HLCA107 Cefn Llogell.

8.3.2 The landscape comprises several local knolls that rise from the Wentlooge Levels, west of Newport. This high ground has been utilised since the prehistoric period. Scattered finds of prehistoric material exist across the area and evidence for activity of this date includes the hilltop earthwork enclosure of Pen-y-Lan, possibly a small Iron Age hillfort similar to the one at Graig-y-Saeson, c. 2 km to the east. A further possible example is located just to the north of Cross-Carn-Einion. These sites demonstrate that this was a defended landscape with an early settlement pattern.

### 8.4 Integrity

8.4.1 The landscape character today is of a simplified arrangement. There has been considerable boundary loss when compared with the pattern seen on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c. 1887), and the areas adjacent to the existing M4 motorway now comprise large, open, cultivated, arable fields. This HLCA is a good example of a small compass survey-planned reorganisation of an earlier medieval and post-medieval enclosure pattern. At least three wind turbines have been constructed within this HLCA.



**Inset 7 - M4CaN HLCA106 Croes-Carn-Einion**

## 9 M4CaN HLCA107 Cefn Llogell

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### 9.1 Character Area

9.1.1 Agricultural landscape with dispersed settlement and historic woodland.

### 9.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- Intimate enclosure pattern.
- Historic woodland.
- Retains medieval and post-medieval enclosure pattern, with minimal adaptation.
- Sinuous boundaries.
- Historic rights of way.

### 9.3 Description

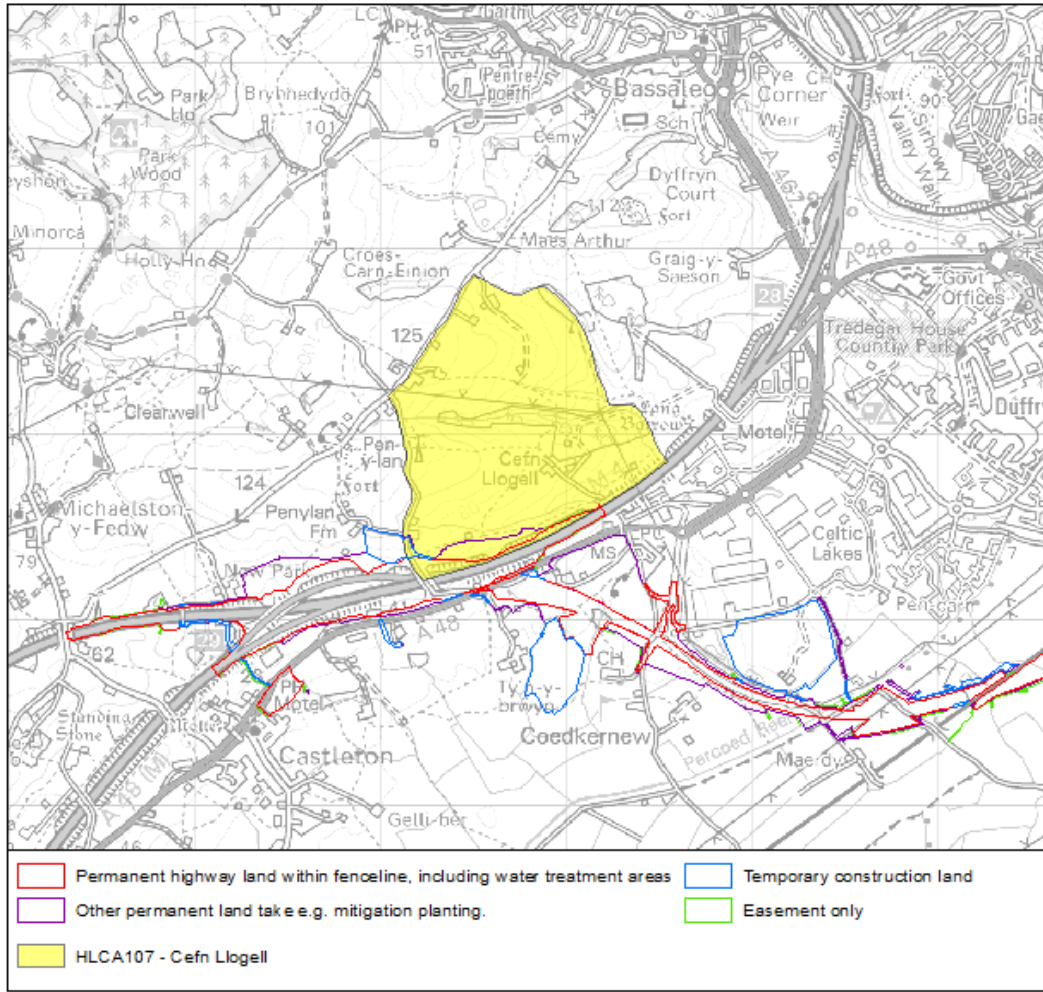
9.3.1 The character of this area is similar to that of neighbouring Croes-Carn-Einion (M4CaN HLCA106), but it shows less boundary loss when the present configuration is compared with the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c. 1887). Large areas of the woodland shown on this map are also retained and the area demonstrates a more intimate enclosure pattern.

9.3.2 It is possible that part of this area is derived from assarts, with the clearance of earlier medieval woodland making way for cultivation. In the southwest of the area, the regional HER records an area of ridge and furrow and the possible site of a small defended enclosure.

9.3.3 This character area is separated from M4CaN HLCA102 by the existing M4 motorway and both areas are very similar in their retained historic character. The existing M4 can therefore be seen as an artificial barrier between two landscapes, both of which are characterised by their medieval and post-medieval enclosure patterns.

### 9.4 Integrity

9.4.1 This landscape retains its medieval and post-medieval enclosure pattern, with limited insertion of later straight boundaries, as seen in the Michaelstone area (M4CaN HLCA105). Where new straight boundaries have been inserted, these have respected the earlier sinuous boundaries. Therefore this landscape is a good example of a retained historic landscape pattern with minimal adaptation. Sinuous hedged boundaries of mature trees delineate small irregular fields, with historic rights of way maintained with a network of public footpaths.



**Inset 8 - M4CaN HLCA107 Cefn Llogell**

## 10 M4CaN HLCA108 Bassaleg/Ebbw Vale

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### 10.1 Character Area

10.1.1 Peri-urban/recreational.

### 10.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- Unenclosed land.
- Dominated by Tredegar Fort Scheduled Monument.
- Former deer park and part of the Tredegar House estate.

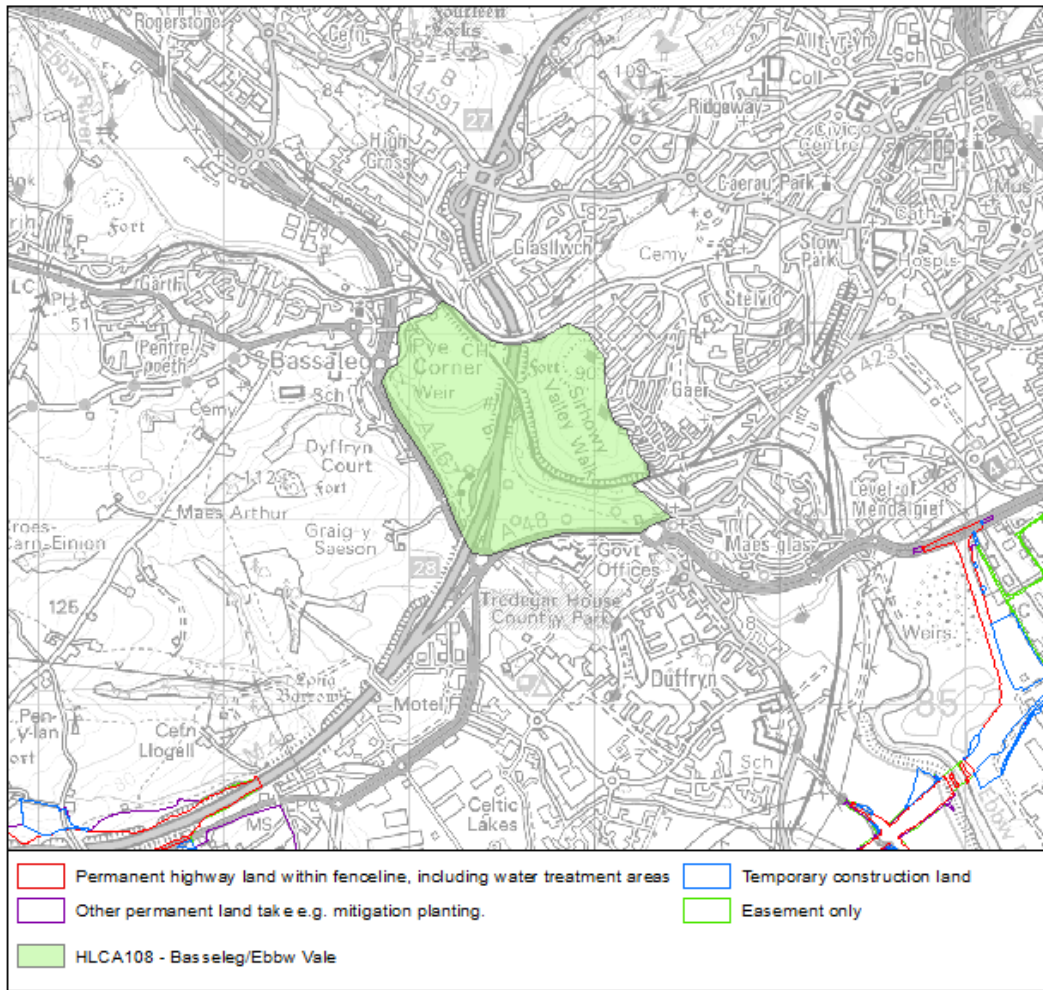
### 10.3 Description

10.3.1 To the west of the existing M4 motorway, this area consists of unenclosed land, now a golf course, with dense trees. This area is now encroached upon by the modern course of the existing M4 motorway across the Ebbw valley and the urban expansion of western Newport. To the east of the existing M4 motorway, the area is dominated by the Scheduled Monument of Tredegar Fort (SM MN084) – a multivallate hillfort almost certainly of Iron Age date. Tredegar Fort has been encroached upon on its eastern side by modern development (M4CaN HLCA112 Newport West). To the south of the river there is an area of sports facilities.

10.3.2 There are extensive views southwards across the Gwent Levels, although the appreciation of the area is dominated by the traffic noise from the existing M4 motorway and other local roads. Historic mapping shows this area to have formally been a deer park, once part of the more extensive Tredegar House estate, from which it is now separated by the existing M4 motorway.

### 10.4 Integrity

10.4.1 This area is now a semi-urban landscape passed over to recreational uses (golf course, sports ground and open space to the west of the Newport suburbs). The golf course is currently subject to on-going residential development.



**Inset 9 - M4CaN HLCA108 Bassaleg/Ebbw Vale**

## 11 M4CaN HLCA109 Tredegar Park

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### 11.1 Character Area

11.1.1 Historic parkland and modern urban development.

### 11.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- Part of Tredegar Park, once a much larger parkland estate.
- Some historic woodland.
- Modern road system reflects the boundary of the park.
- Current parkland Grade II\* registered.

### 11.3 Description

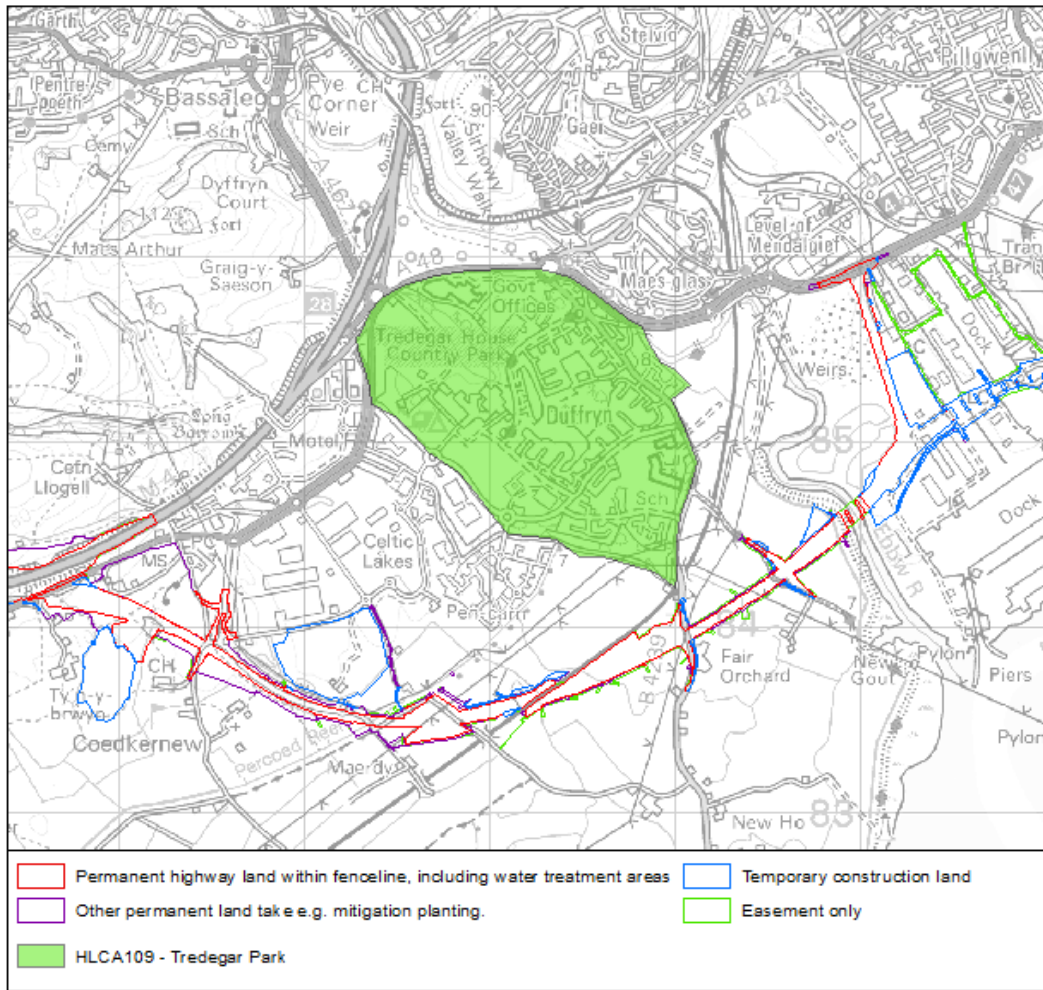
11.3.1 This area consists of Tredegar House Country Park, the modern Duffryn housing development, offices and schools. This HLCA was formerly part of the Tredegar Park, a substantial country house and parkland estate, which was owned by the Morgan family for 500 years. The eastern portion of the area is dominated by the Duffryn housing development, with considerable urban expansion also apparent in the south.

11.3.2 During excavations within the Orangery Garden at Tredegar House, some Roman brick and tile fragments, including *tegula*, were recovered. The current parkland is a Grade II\* Registered Park and Garden of Special Historic Interest which was originally much more extensive. Parts of the house date to the early 16<sup>th</sup> century, although much of the fabric dates from the 1670s. The Morgan family have lived on the site of Tredegar House since 1402 and were an extremely powerful and influential family throughout Monmouthshire, Brecon and Glamorgan.

### 11.4 Integrity

11.4.1 The modern road system reflects, to some extent, the historic extent of the easternmost park boundary, with the current B4239 now running along the former eastern edge of Tredegar Park. Only one block of historic woodland survives from the original Tredegar Park within the character area, at the most southerly point where it abuts the South Wales Main Line railway and also HLCA 15 Eastern St Brides. This area of woodland appears unchanged since the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887) and forms a screen along the southern edge. The historic parkland nature is retained only in the northwest corner of the character area forming the current Tredegar House Country Park until it is cut by the route of the existing M4 motorway at Junction 28.





**Inset 10 - M4CaN HLCA109 Tredegar Park**

## **12 M4CaN HLCA110 Marsh/Saltmarsh**

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### **12.1 Character Area**

**12.1.1** Reclaimed undeveloped saltmarsh between Newport Docks and Tredegar Park.

### **12.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

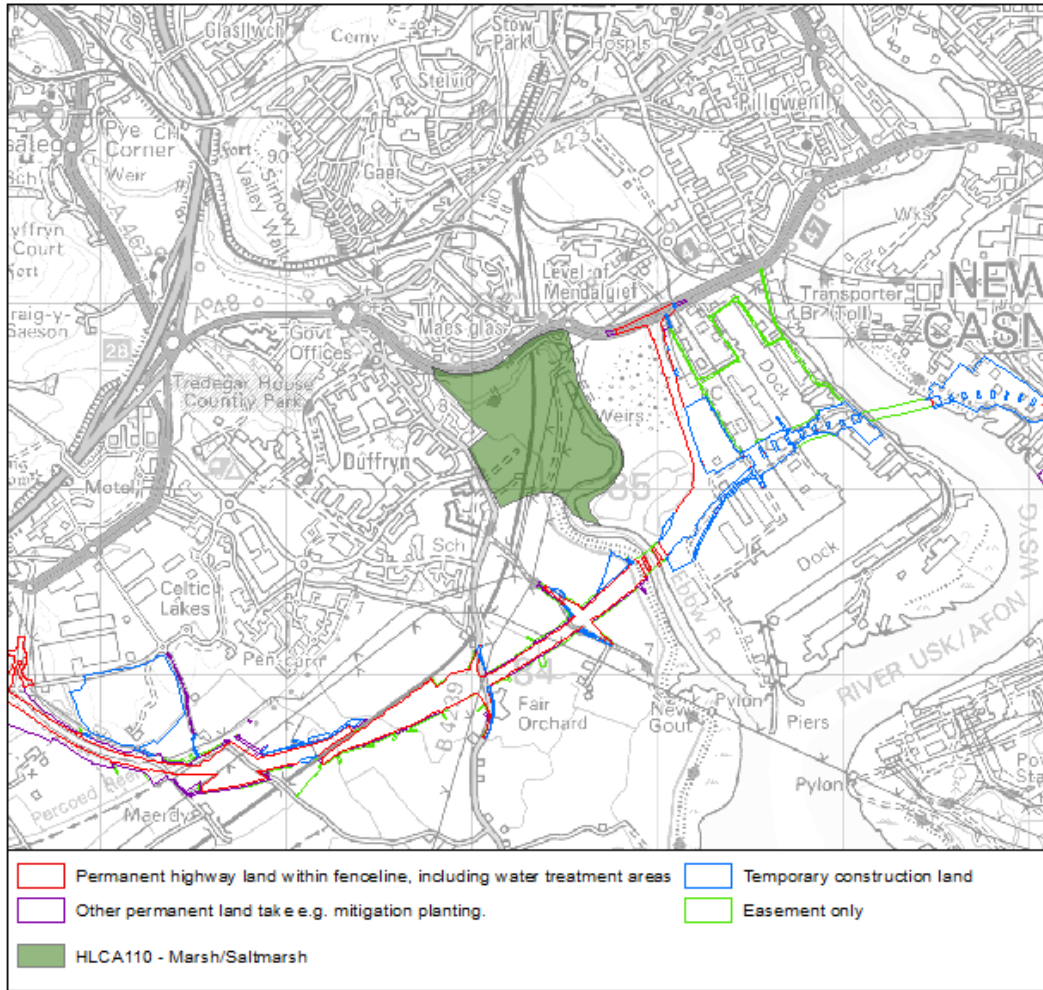
- Character largely unchanged since at least the medieval period.
- Undeveloped, unenclosed salt marsh.
- Bisected by 19<sup>th</sup> century railway (now South Wales Main Line).

### **12.3 Description**

**12.3.1** The landscape character of the area is one of undeveloped, unenclosed salt marsh to the west of the River Ebbw, now bisected by the railway line. There are possible indications of former attempts at drainage within the area which are comparable to the neighbouring HLCA 15 Eastern St Brides.

### **12.4 Integrity**

**12.4.1** The historic character of the area is largely unchanged since at least the medieval period, except for the course of the river channel and the presence of the railway, shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887) as the Great Western Railway.



**Inset 11 - M4CaN HLCA110 Marsh/Saltmarsh**

## 13 M4CaN HLCA111 Newport Docks

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### 13.1 Character Area

**13.1.1** Industrial. Docks on the west side of the Usk estuary and Cold Harbour Reach.

### 13.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- 19<sup>th</sup> century North Dock.
- Historic dockyard buildings.

### 13.3 Description

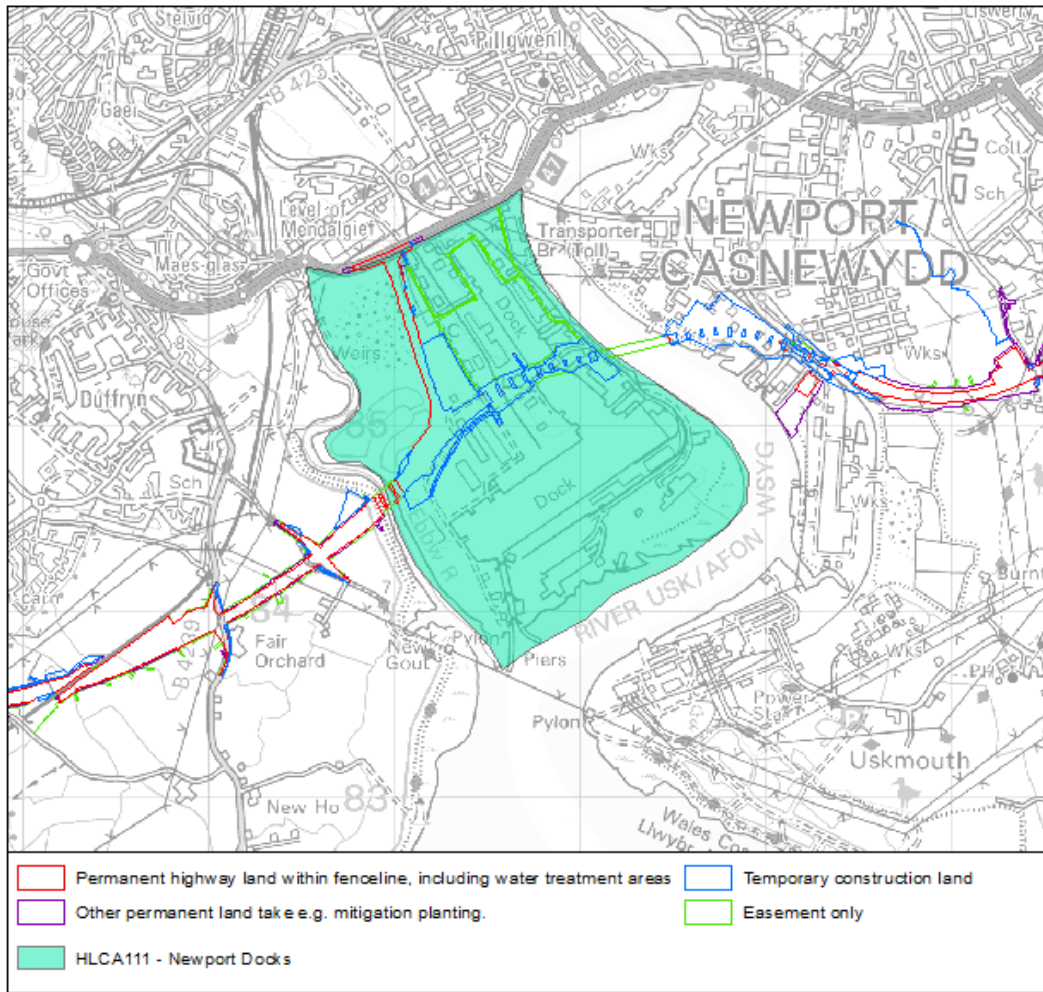
**13.3.1** The area of Newport Docks, defined by a large basin surrounded by dockland buildings and structures, was fully constructed by 1922. This altered the course of the River Ebbw to enable the building and watering of the dock facility. The 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887) shows an extensive enclosure and drainage pattern, comprising of an irregular drainage system of reens, with moorings, pills and pontoons also depicted.

**13.3.2** By the publication of the 1887 map, the North Dock had already been constructed, but the southern portion of the area was still sub-divided into irregular enclosures by tree-lined reens, suggesting a long-established piecemeal reclamation of the area. A boat, possibly dating to the 10<sup>th</sup> century, was discovered in 1848 during excavations for a new Timber Float at Alexandria Dock at NGR 33125 18546. It is possible that other ancient sea-going craft may be preserved within undeveloped parts of this HLCA, particularly areas in close proximity to the River Ebbw.

**13.3.3** The 1887 map also depicts a 'Magazine' at NGR 332787 184852, located beyond the sea wall this was presumably a store for ammunition, perhaps to supply and defend the River Usk Estuary in the face of possible invasion in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

### 13.4 Integrity

**13.4.1** The construction of the modern docks completely removed the former historic landscape character previously seen on the 1887 map. However, within the dockland there are some historic buildings associated with the 19<sup>th</sup> century North Dock, principally a group of former locomotive running sheds later used for maintenance of the dockyard railway engines and rolling stock along with other dockyard equipment. The north western part of the HLCA is now a large area of landfill with several completed cells.



**Inset 12 - M4CaN HLCA111 Newport Docks**

## 14 M4CaN HLCA112 Newport West

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### 14.1 Character Area

14.1.1 Modern urban development.

### 14.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

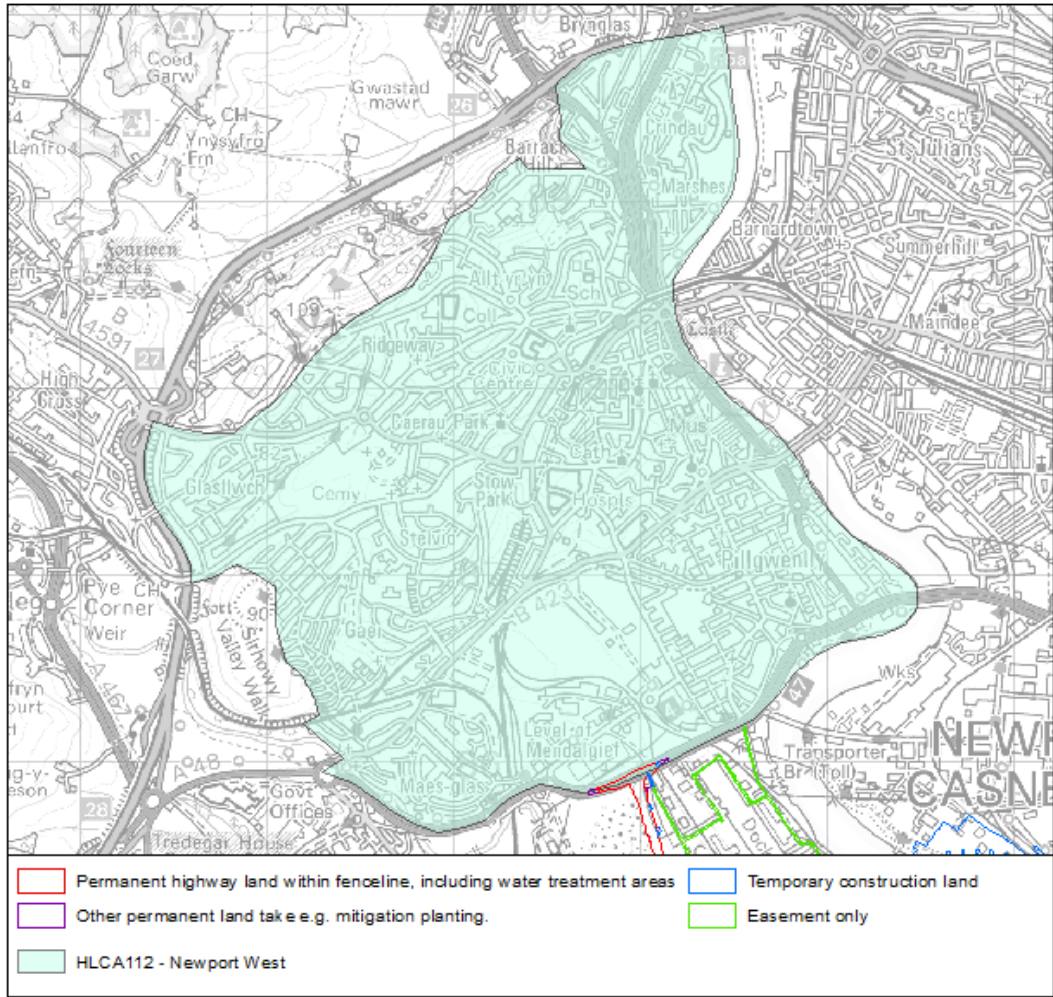
- Historic core of Newport town on the west bank of the River Usk.

### 14.3 Description

14.3.1 An area of urban development in Newport, this HLCA is situated to the west of the River Usk and to the south of the existing M4 motorway. This area is modern urban in character, with the historic core of Newport situated on the west bank of the River Usk. Newport has expanded westwards considerably during the 20<sup>th</sup> century, although its expansion began in earnest in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, when its population exploded from just over 1000 at the turn of the century to 67,000 by 1900. The town was already considerably developed by the publication of the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c. 1887).

### 14.4 Integrity

14.4.1 The historic core of the town was originally focussed around St Woolos Church (now cathedral) and adjacent earthen motte castle, and subsequently around the 13<sup>th</sup> century stone-built castle on the western bank of the River Usk, of which only the eastern range exists today. Many 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> century buildings have been replaced with 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century structures.



**Inset 13 - M4CaN HLCA112 Newport West**

## 15 M4CaN HLCA113 Newport East

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### 15.1 Character Area

15.1.1 Modern urban development.

### 15.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- An area of 19<sup>th</sup> century urban development situated at Barnard Town, now incorporated into Newport, shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887).

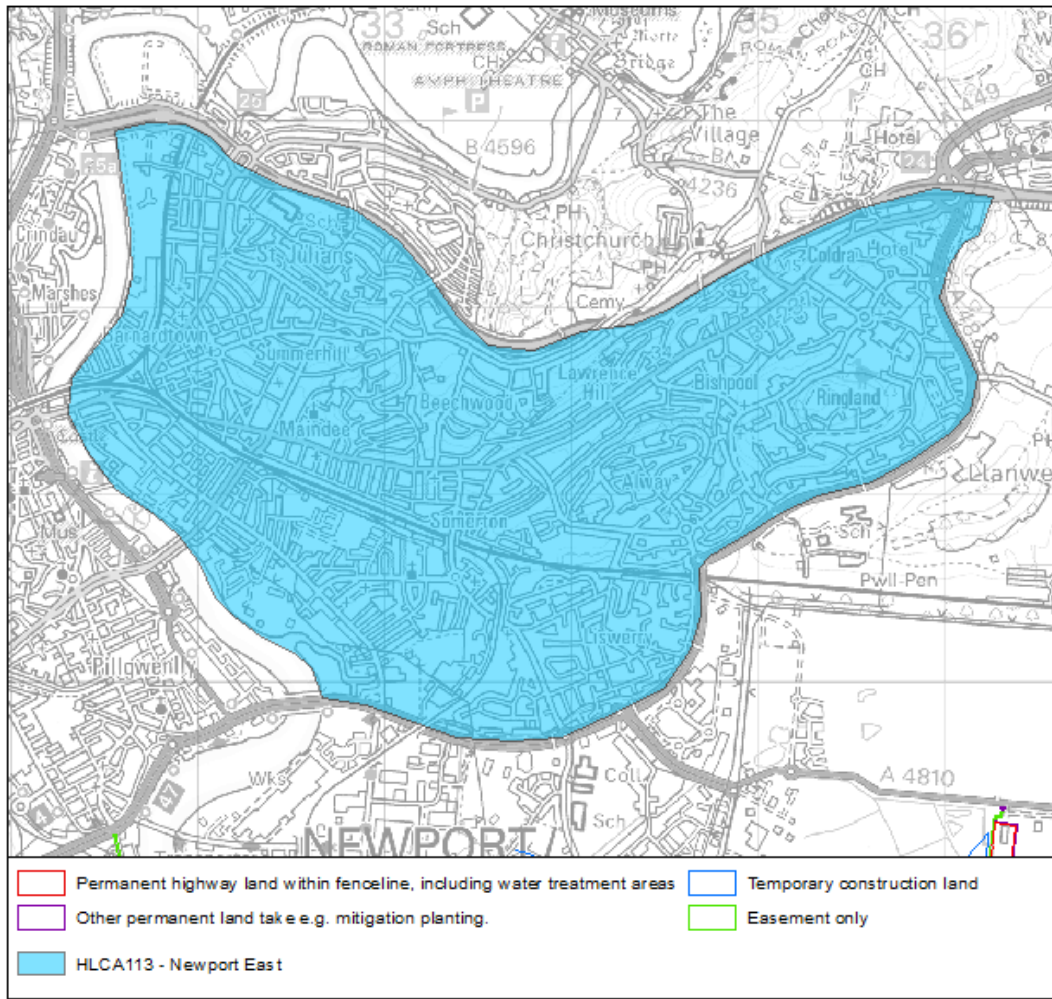
### 15.3 Description

15.3.1 An area of urban development in Newport, this HLCA is situated to the east of the River Usk and to the south of the existing M4 motorway. This area comprises the modern urban expansion of Newport to the east of the River Usk and the historic core of the town which lay on the western side of the river. Another, later, settlement core was found at Barnard Town/Maindee, which has now been subsumed into the modern expansion of Newport, during the considerable eastwards spread of the town in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### 15.4 Integrity

15.4.1 Any previous historic landscape features obliterated by the modern urban development of the City of Newport.





**Inset 14 - M4CaN HLCA113 Newport East**

## **16 M4CaN HLCA114 Ridgeway**

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### **16.1 Character Area**

**16.1.1** Open ground and historic woodland.

### **16.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

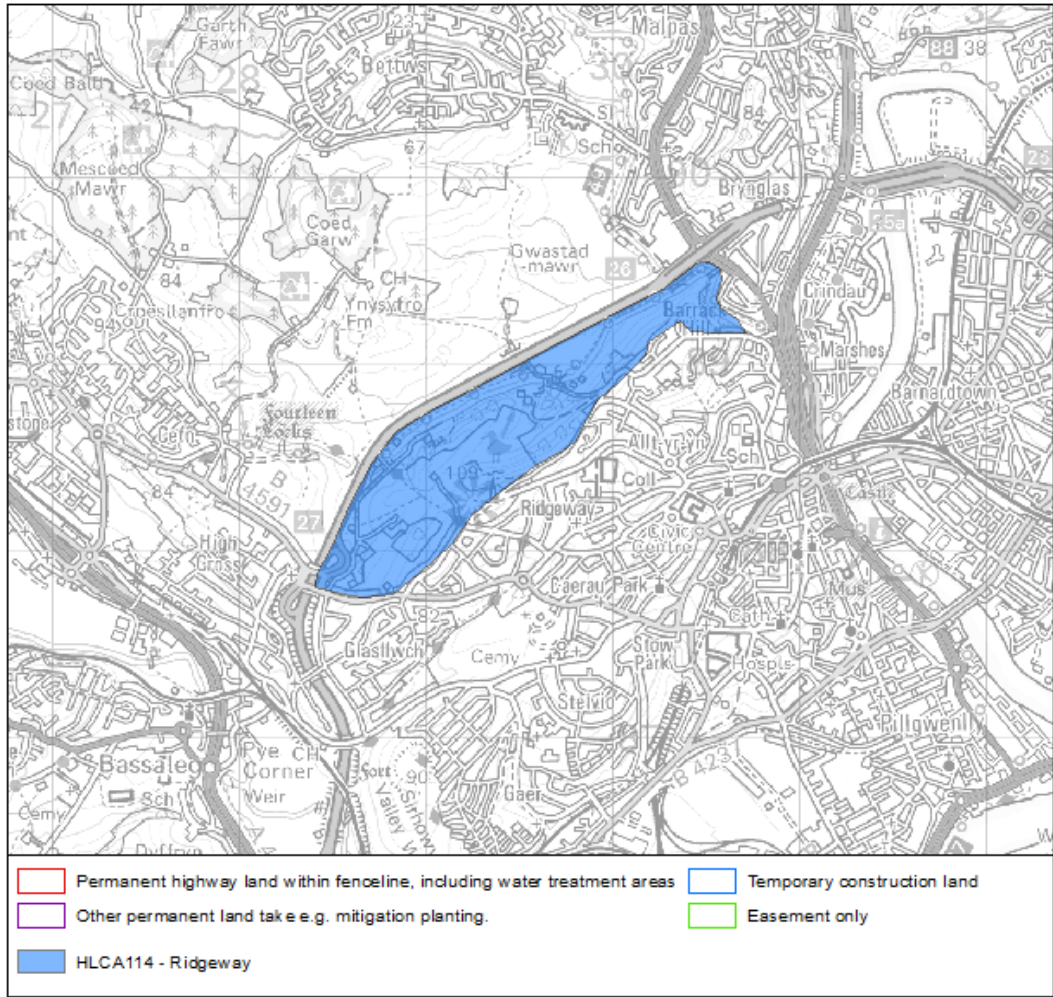
- Sinuous boundaries.
- Sub-rectangular enclosures.
- Historic woodland.

### **16.3 Description**

**16.3.1** This area is characterised by sinuous boundaries forming sub-rectangular enclosures, possibly derived from clearing woodland on the north-west facing slope. The area contains part of the Monmouthshire and Brecon Canal, which lies at the base of the slope, with the modern existing M4 motorway defining the northern edge of the area.

### **16.4 Integrity**

**16.4.1** The area retains much of its historic woodland as depicted on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887).



**Inset 15 - M4CaN HLCA114 Ridgeway**

## 17 M4CaN HLCA115 Uskmouth Industrial Development

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### 17.1 Character Area

17.1.1 Industrial.

### 17.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- Reclaimed land.
- Activity in the area from the Mesolithic period to the present.
- Historic character akin to HLCA 01 Nash/Goldcliff coastal zone, with formal enclosures and reens reorganised to suit modern land uses.

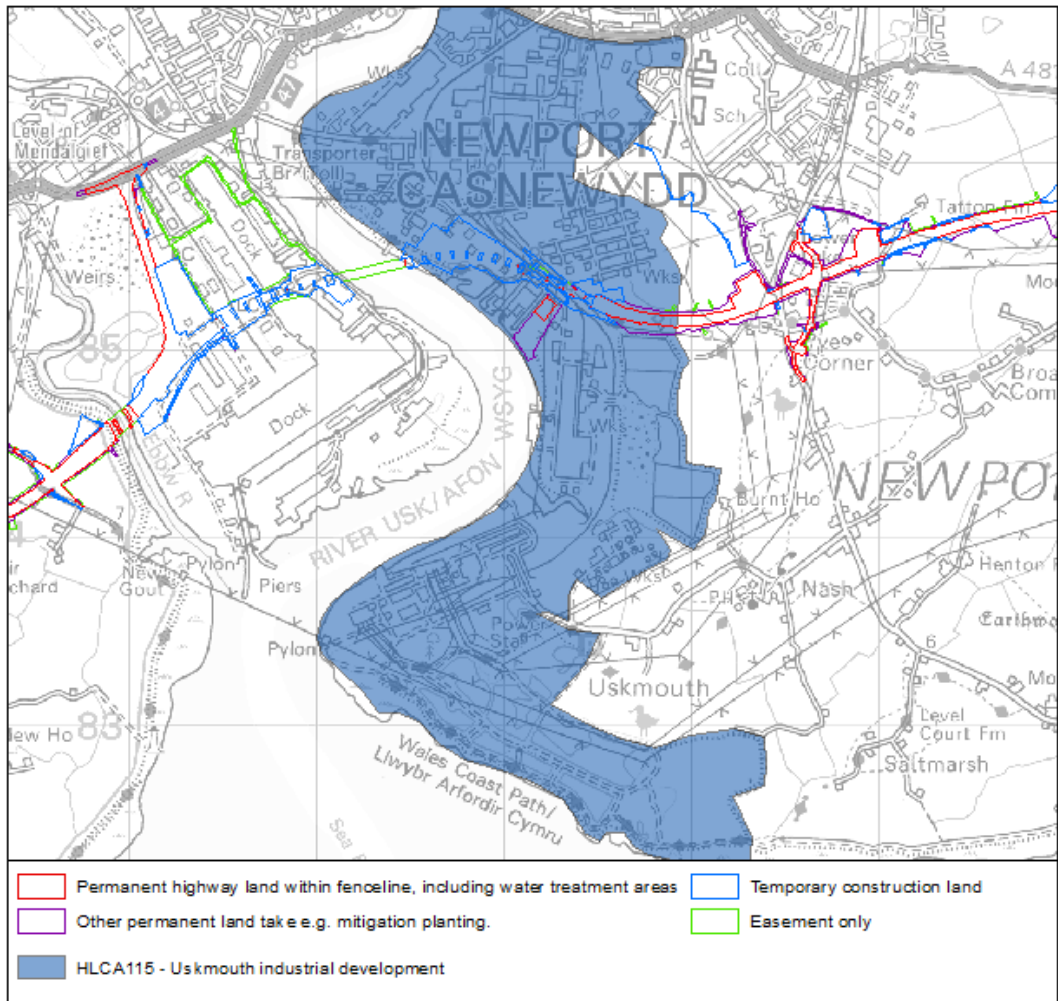
### 17.3 Description

17.3.1 On reclaimed land, this area is now largely industrialised. Evidence of Roman occupation was found when the Nash sludge pits were dug during construction of the Uskmouth Power Station at NGR 33370 18400. Sherds of Roman pottery representing at least 40 vessels were also discovered nearby during construction works at the water treatment/sewage disposal works. Stray prehistoric finds are also recorded in this area, including a possible Neolithic skull and two Bronze Age flat axes. Most significantly, Late Mesolithic human footprints, impressed into the lower Wentlooge Formation, have been found preserved in estuarine clay at Uskmouth. Excavations at the Nash Waste Water Treatment Works identified a large area of Roman landscape c. 1m below the current ground level.

17.3.2 In terms of its historic character, the area as defined on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887) was akin to the HLCA 01 Nash/Goldcliff coastal zone. However, this was totally transformed during the 20<sup>th</sup> century into a heavy industrial river and coastal frontage, with several large works and a power station now redefining the landscape. Where enclosures and reens still exist, they have been reorganised to serve the modern land usage. This can be seen at the Uskmouth Power Station, which is served by reens not shown on the 1887 map.

### 17.4 Integrity

17.4.1 Although there is no retention of historic character, there is the potential for significant buried archaeological deposits to be present within this area, which has already yielded evidence for a preserved Roman field system and earlier prehistoric activity.



**Inset 16 - M4CaN HLCA115 Uskmouth Industrial Development**

## **18 M4CaN HLCA116 Liswerry**

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### **18.1 Character Area**

**18.1.1** Retail park, college, school and industrial estate, formerly back-fen.

### **18.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

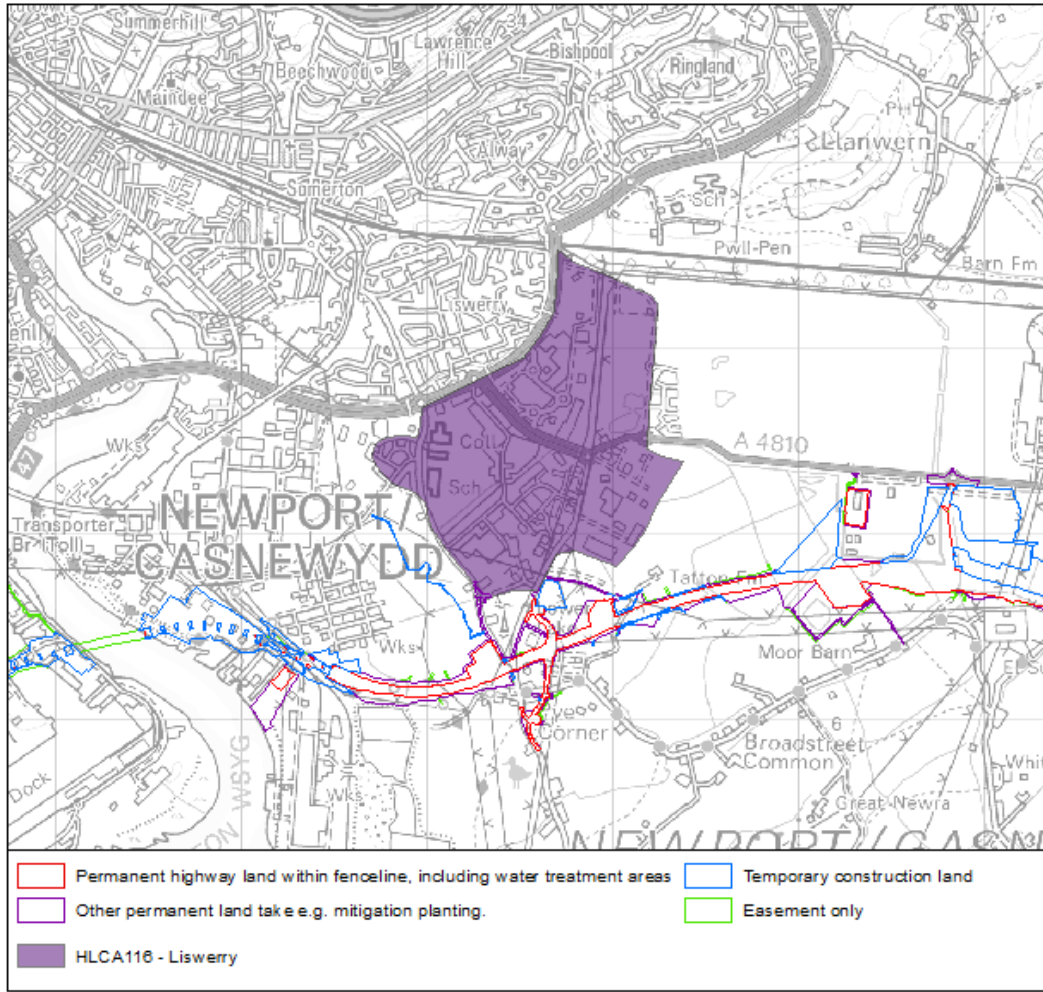
- Originally back-fen which was characterised by drained enclosure and reens.
- 'Longditch Lane' historic routeway still utilised today.

### **18.3 Description**

**18.3.1** The historic character of this area consisted of back-fen characterised by drained enclosure and reens, as shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887). It is now heavily developed with retail and light industrial units as well as a school and a college.

### **18.4 Integrity**

**18.4.1** 'Longditch Lane', which crossed the area southwards in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, still runs centrally through part of the area. This is the only partially-surviving historic element remaining in this otherwise transformed landscape area.



**Inset 17 - M4CaN HLCA116 Liswerry**

## 19 M4CaN HLCA117 Pye Corner

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### 19.1 Character Area

19.1.1 Agricultural landscape with dispersed settlement.

### 19.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- Defined by 19<sup>th</sup> century reens on its east and west sides.
- Similar to HLCA 01 Nash/Goldcliff coastal zone.
- Irregular landscape, comprising irregular-shaped fields, sinuous lanes and dispersed settlement.
- Reclaimed during the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries.

### 19.3 Description

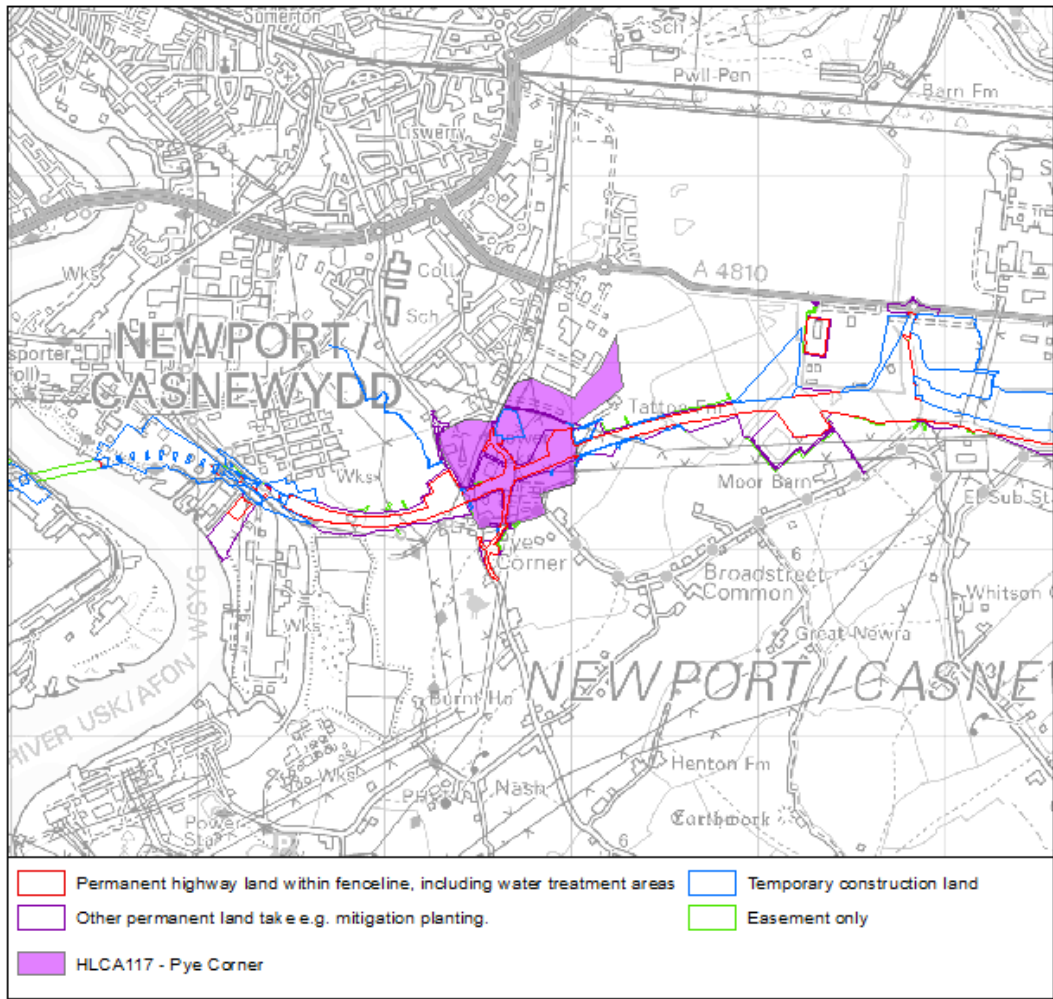
19.3.1 This area is defined on its east side by Julian's Reen and its west side by Lakes Reen and Nash Road, all of which are shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887). The drainage pattern shown on this map also survives today and this area should perhaps be seen as part of HLCA 01 Nash/Goldcliff coastal zone due to its similar character.

### 19.4 Integrity

19.4.1 Both this area and the Nash/Goldcliff zone are irregular landscapes reclaimed during the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> centuries and consist of irregular-shaped fields, sinuous lanes and dispersed settlement.

19.4.2 The area is associated with the monastic lands of Goldcliff priory and it is likely to have been reclaimed and had its drainage improved as a result of its association with the monastery during the medieval period.





**Inset 18 - M4CaN HLCA117 Pye Corner**

## 20 M4CaN HLCA118 Llanwern Steelworks

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### 20.1 Character Area

**20.1.1** Industrial - Eastern area includes the recently development known as the Gwent Europark. Western area is currently being redeveloped for residential use. All of this was formerly back-fen.

### 20.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- Former medieval drainage and enclosure.
- Underlying reens onto which later earthworks and reens attributed to the steelworks are overlain.
- Some historic reens still extant.

### 20.3 Description

**20.3.1** Originally part of the back-fen, the historic landscape of the area, now largely occupied by the Llanwern Steelworks, was characterised by a series of commons located on the fen edge, which were largely destroyed by 20<sup>th</sup> century redevelopment. The historic character resulted from reclamation and early enclosure of the back-fen. This is shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c. 1887) as a series of tree-lined reens, similar in size and shape to the enclosures visible in the neighbouring HLCA 02 Christchurch/Nash/Whitson back-fen.

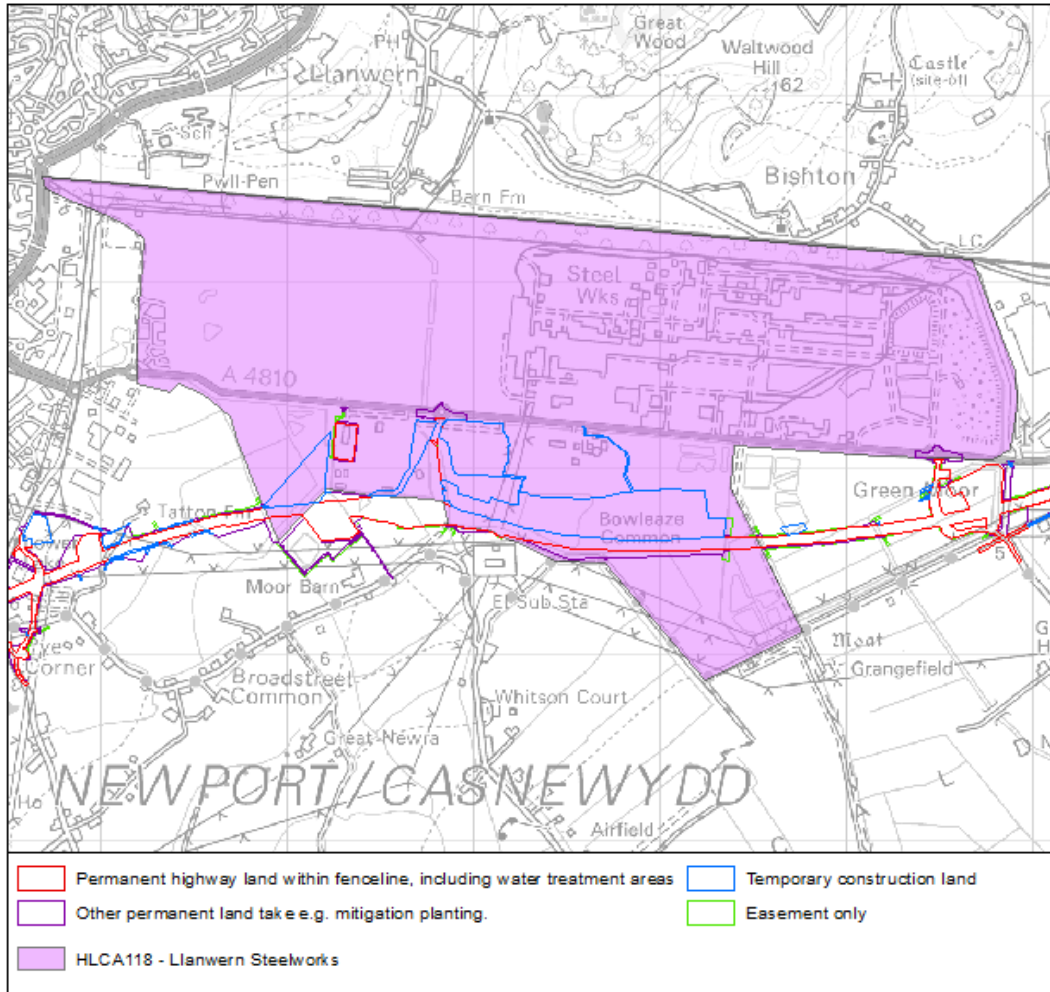
**20.3.2** The former historic landscape of medieval drainage and enclosure, with a visible stratigraphy to the drainage pattern, consisted of underlying reens onto which later earthworks and reens were overlain. This distinguishes the area from neighbouring HLCA 03 Whitson to the south and HLCA 09 Green Moor to the east. These later earthworks and reens can be attributed to the steelworks, without which the area would be identical in character to the Green Moor HLCA (as is clear from the 1887 map).

**20.3.3** The steelworks played a significant part in the economic and social development of Newport and the surrounding area, bringing a new increase in population to the area throughout the 1960s and 1970s. They represent a historic feature within the landscape in their own right but have been much reduced in recent years.

### 20.4 Integrity

**20.4.1** A number of historic reens cross the steelworks, including Gout Reen, part of which still exists within the character area, defining its southeast edge. Further south, this becomes Elver Pill Reen and forms the boundary between HLCA 04 Porton and HLCA 07 Redwick/Broadmead. Monks' Ditch Reen, a principal drain, runs through the central part of the area and appears to have been accommodated by the steelworks during building. The name 'Monks' Ditch' suggests this may have been the work of the Benedictine monks of Goldcliff Priory (c.1113-1414) and it is first documented in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. This particular reen is embanked, meaning the water level is higher than the surrounding

landscape, and it channels water from the uplands to the north across the levels to the coast.



**Inset 19 - M4CaN HLCA118 Llanwern Steelworks**

## 21 M4CaN HLCA119 Wilcrick

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### 21.1 Character Area

21.1.1 A retentive enclosure of medieval former common arable fields.

### 21.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- Retentive landscape.
- Sinuous boundaries forming sub-rectangular and angular fields.
- Radial pattern to fields based on the declivity of Wilcrick Hill, an Iron Age hillfort.
- Medieval strip fields and dog-leg boundaries.

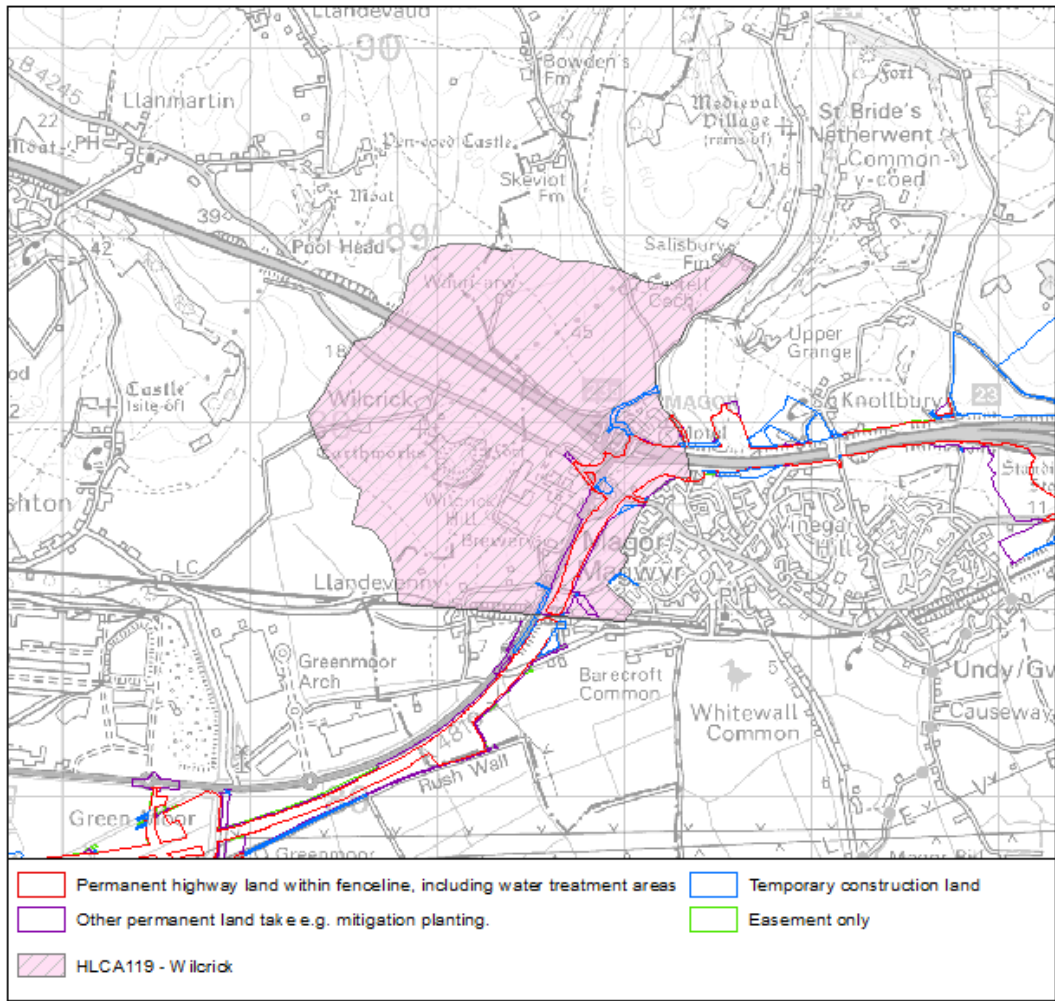
### 21.3 Description

21.3.1 Located above the Levels, the declivity of Wilcrick Hill provides the basis for the underlying radial pattern to the enclosure model which characterises this area. The Wilcrick Hill area comprises a retentive landscape with sinuous boundaries forming sub-rectangular and angular enclosures. Dispersed through the area are clusters of individually enclosed strip fields and dog-leg boundaries indicative of former common arable fields under cultivation from at least the medieval period.

21.3.2 The field systems relate to the village of Wilcrick in the north of the area and would also have served Llandevenny, although this hamlet (now in HLCA 09 Green Moor) was later separated from the character area by the railway. It is likely that the community of the medieval village of Magor (M4CaN HLCA121) would also have used Wilcrick Hill for upland arable farming during the summer months.

### 21.4 Integrity

21.4.1 The landscape area has been bisected by the course of the existing M4 motorway and it has also been disturbed by the construction of the Wilcrick Brewery (M4CaN HLCA120) and further modern development just to the north. Despite this, it remains a largely intact landscape with a clear historic character. The intimate nature of the historic landscape character is retained despite close proximity to industrial facilities, businesses, major transport links and modern settlement.



**Inset 20 - M4CaN HLCA119 Wilcrick**

## **22 M4CaN HLCA120 Wilcrick Brewery**

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### **22.1 Character Area**

**22.1.1** Industrial - brewery.

### **22.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

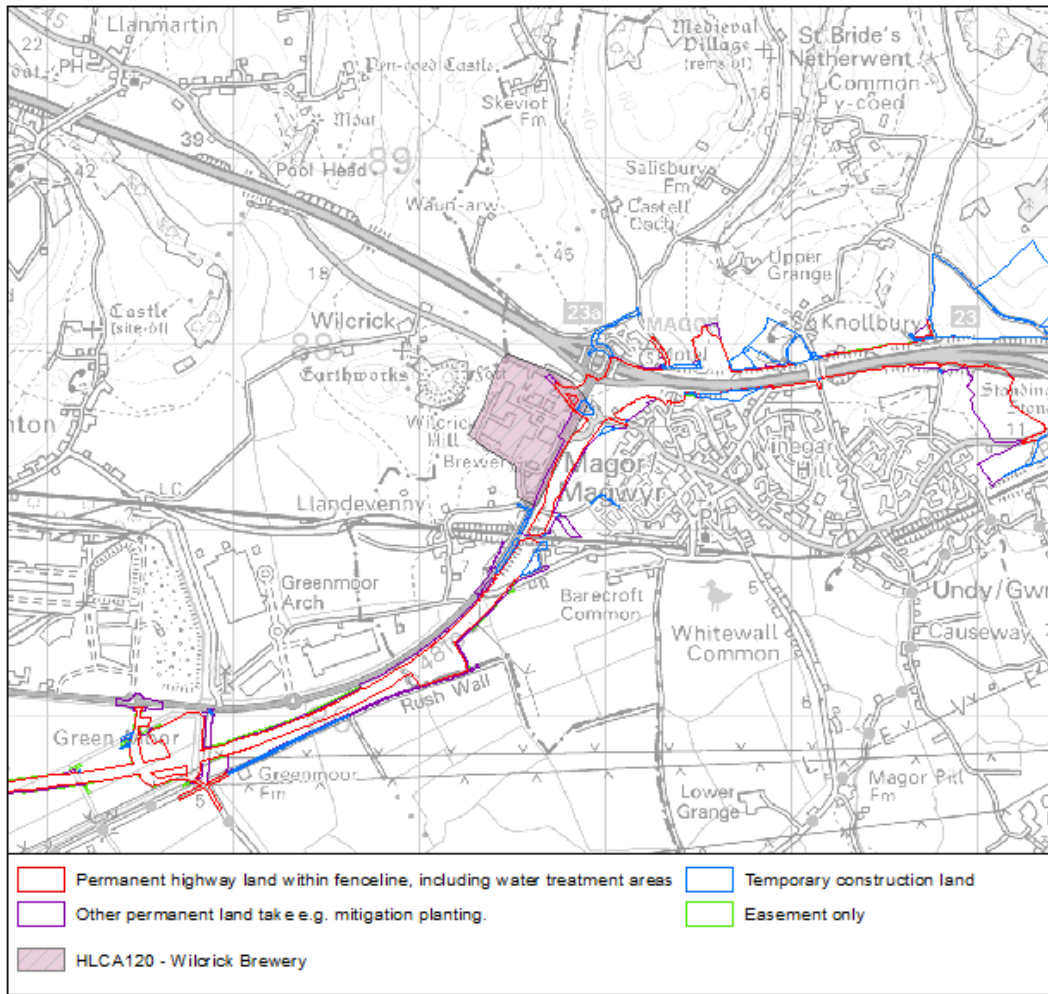
- Located within the Wilcrick HLCA (M4CaN HLCA119).

### **22.3 Description**

**22.3.1** This area is within the Wilcrick HLCA (M4CaN HLCA119) and was developed as a brewery by Whitbread following the construction of the existing M4 motorway. The brewery is now run by Inbev.

### **22.4 Integrity**

**22.4.1** This area was made up of radial fields on the southeast side of Wilcrick Hill, as shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887). The area has been transformed and boundaries have been lost as a result of the establishment of the brewery.



**Inset 21 - M4CaN HLCA120 Wilcrick Brewery**

## 23 M4CaN HLCA121 Magor and Undy

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### 23.1 Character Area

23.1.1 Modern urban expansion of earlier medieval settlements.

### 23.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- Former fen-edge medieval settlements.
- Street plans contain elements of the former medieval village cores.
- Both Magor and Undy are focused around extant 13<sup>th</sup> century churches.

### 23.3 Description

23.3.1 This is the urban area of Magor and Undy, the modern extent of which has expanded from former fen-edge medieval settlements. The expansion is largely a consequence of the route of the existing M4 motorway and the demand for commuter-belt housing.

23.3.2 The major surviving component of the medieval village of Magor is the church, which contains fabric dating to the 13<sup>th</sup> century (originally dedicated to St Leonard, re-dedicated to St Mary following major rebuilding during the 19<sup>th</sup> century). The present street plan of Magor village is likely to retain elements of the medieval core, which was centred on a large market square extending north of the present one. The street pattern was however altered following the construction of the toll road to the north (now the B4245) and more radically by the construction of the railway, which cut the settlement off from the levels.

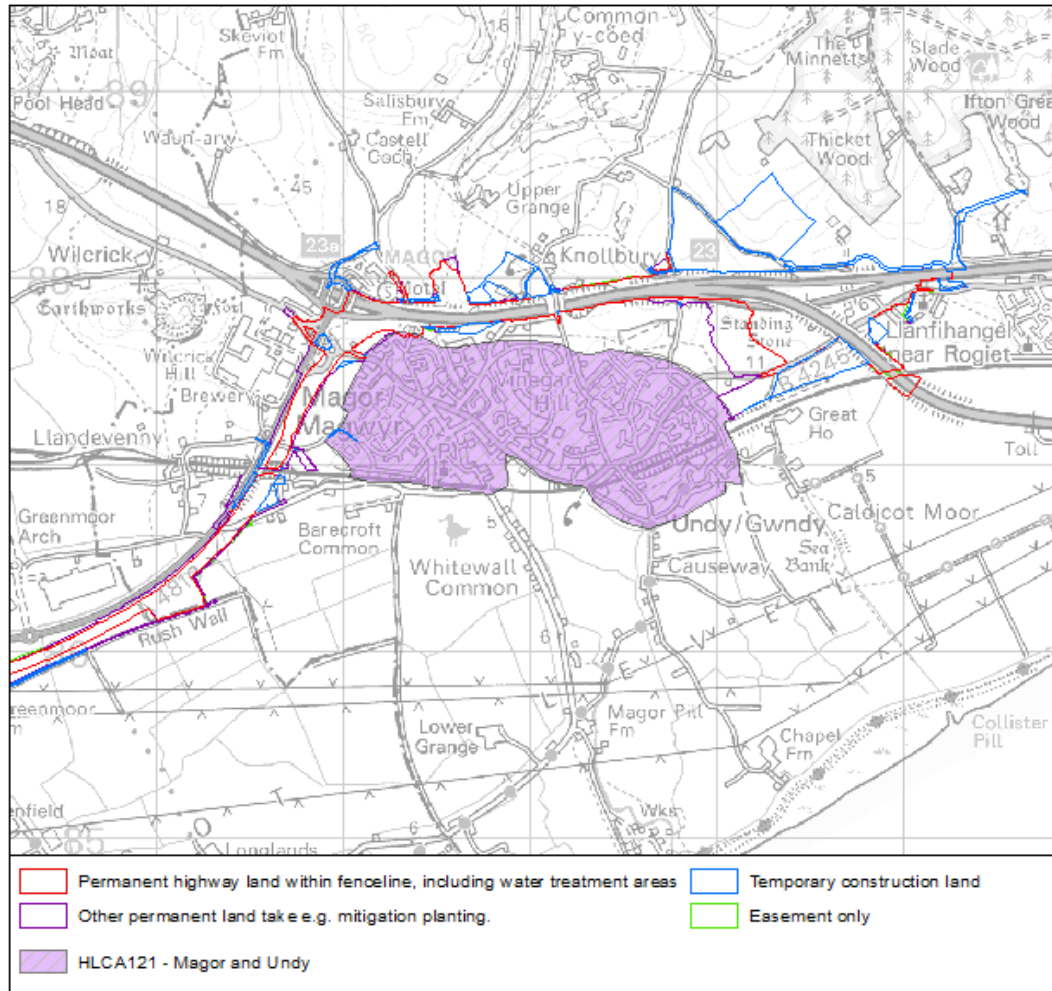
23.3.3 Some expansion came to Magor with the arrival of the railway in 1850, especially along the turnpike road to the north of the village. The construction of the existing M4 motorway has had a major impact on the area, with large modern housing estates being added to the north and east of the original village, absorbing the medieval village of Undy into the urban conurbation. The medieval settlement of Undy is centred on the Church of St Mary, with the earliest surviving masonry dated between the late 12<sup>th</sup> and early 13<sup>th</sup> centuries (Norman font). The settlement may have never been large, with the nearby moated site at Elm Farm (NGR 343900 187380) being another settlement core.

23.3.4 Iron Age and Roman material has also been found in Undy. A Roman burial in a stone sarcophagus was recorded by the Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) at Oak Crest, Undy (NGR 34350 18720) and sherds of Roman pottery comprising various wares were recovered from a garden at 15 Arlington Close (NGR 34380 18720). The regional HER also records a Roman building at NGR 34340 18740, of which no further details are given. A stone building of Roman date and probably for agricultural use was found on the Undy playing fields (NGR 34370 18685). The available evidence therefore suggests that a Roman fen-edge settlement was established at Undy.



## 23.4 Integrity

**23.4.1** Despite the conglomeration of Magor and Undy, both villages retain elements of their medieval character, largely in their street plans and historic settlement cores which surround their respective churches.



**Inset 22 - M4CaN HLCA121 Magor and Undy**

## **24 M4CaN HLCA122 St Brides Valley**

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### **24.1 Character Area**

**24.1.1** Agricultural landscape. Part of the former monastic holding of Tintern Abbey.

### **24.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

- Nucleated settlement of Upper Grange.
- Limited post-medieval enclosure.
- Historic woodland.
- Common land and upland grazing.
- Little change in pattern since 19<sup>th</sup> century.

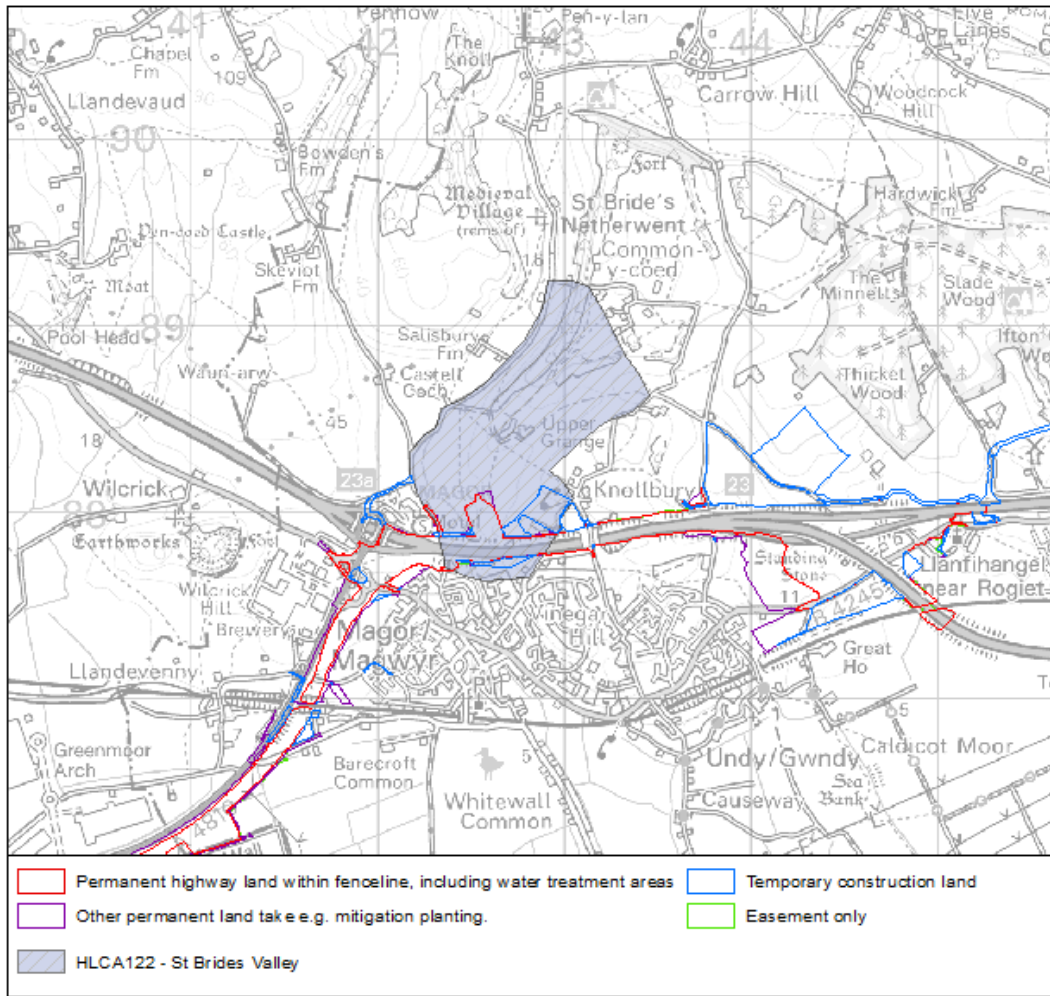
### **24.3 Description**

**24.3.1** This area is dominated by the former monastic grange at Upper Grange and the sloping uplands to the east of St Brides Brook.

**24.3.2** The former Merthyrgeryn Church (NGR 34266 18848) now survives only as an earthwork and was first mentioned in c.905 AD. This was situated in the same position as the modern farm of Upper Grange. The monastic grange was granted to Tintern Abbey in 1307, and the Abbey held considerable lands in the area based around Merthyr Garen, where there was presumably once a medieval manor.

### **24.4 Integrity**

**24.4.1** The character area comprises common land and upland grazing, with limited post-medieval enclosure. The pattern shows little change when compared to the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887). Some belts of historic woodland are also retained. The southern part of the HLCA has been severed from the main part by the existing M4 motorway.



**Inset 23 - M4CaN HLCA122 St Brides Valley**

## **25 M4CaN HLCA123 Knollbury Fields**

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### **25.1 Character Area**

**25.1.1** Agricultural with dispersed settlement.

### **25.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

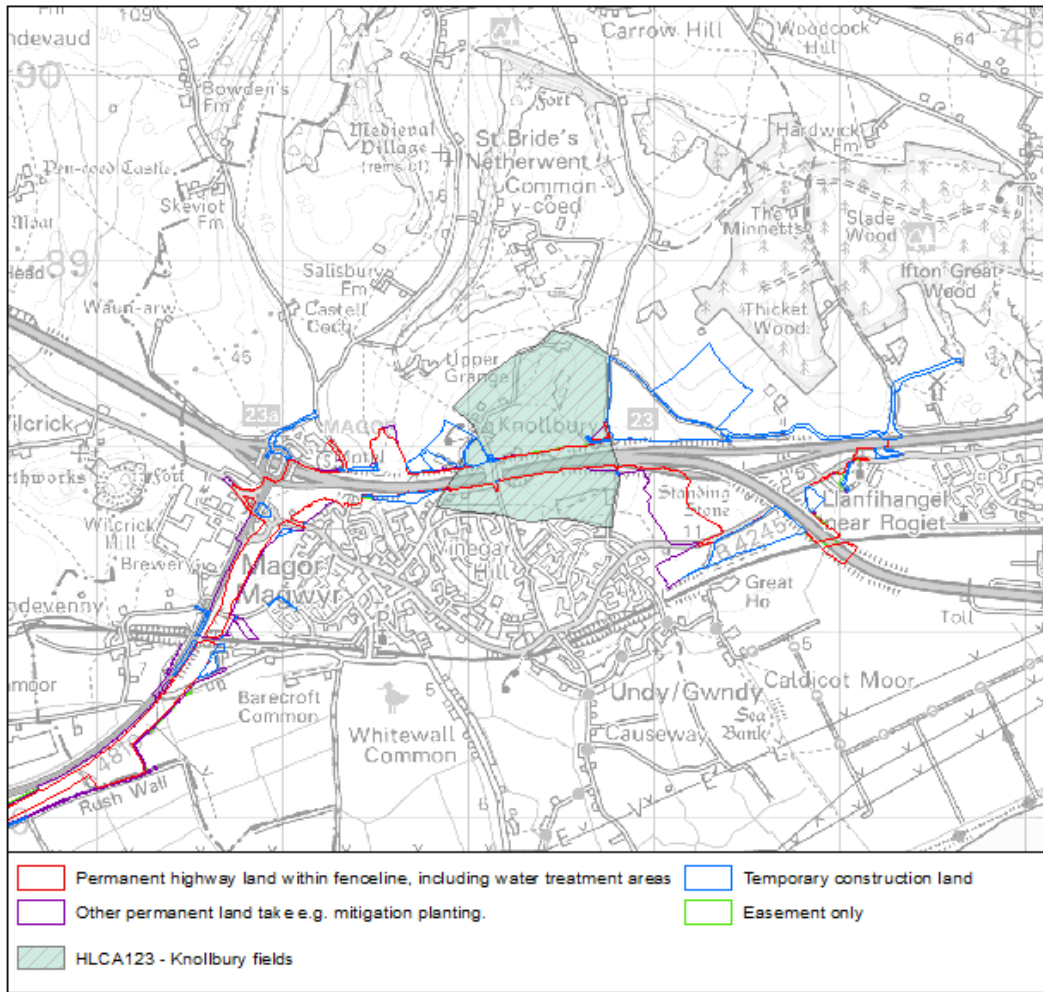
- Sinuous boundaries and irregular-shaped fields.
- Remnants of medieval strip fields.
- Area derived from the enclosure of former common arable fields during the medieval period.
- Pockets of historic woodland.

### **25.3 Description**

**25.3.1** The Knollbury character area is dominated by sinuous, irregular-shaped fields which indicate a degree of historic boundary change. Limited surviving strip fields are still visible. The settlement pattern consists of isolated houses and small hamlets.

### **25.4 Integrity**

**25.4.1** The present survival of remnants of strip fields suggests this area is derived from the enclosure of former common arable fields, possibly during the medieval period. The area is interspersed with small pockets of woodland, some of which appear on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887). The irregularity of the enclosure pattern may indicate a continual flux between woodland and cultivation from the medieval period onwards. This area would have originally served the medieval settlement at Undy, but the two are now separated by the existing M4 motorway.



**Inset 24 - M4CaN HLCA123 Knollbury Fields**

## **26 M4CaN HLCA124 Rockfield Farm**

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### **26.1 Character Area**

**26.1.1** Agricultural with dispersed settlement and modern woodland.

### **26.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

- Mixture of sinuous and straight boundaries, forming geometric and sub-rectangular enclosures.
- Landscape reconfigured during the post-medieval period, but retains some medieval patterning.
- Isolated farmsteads.

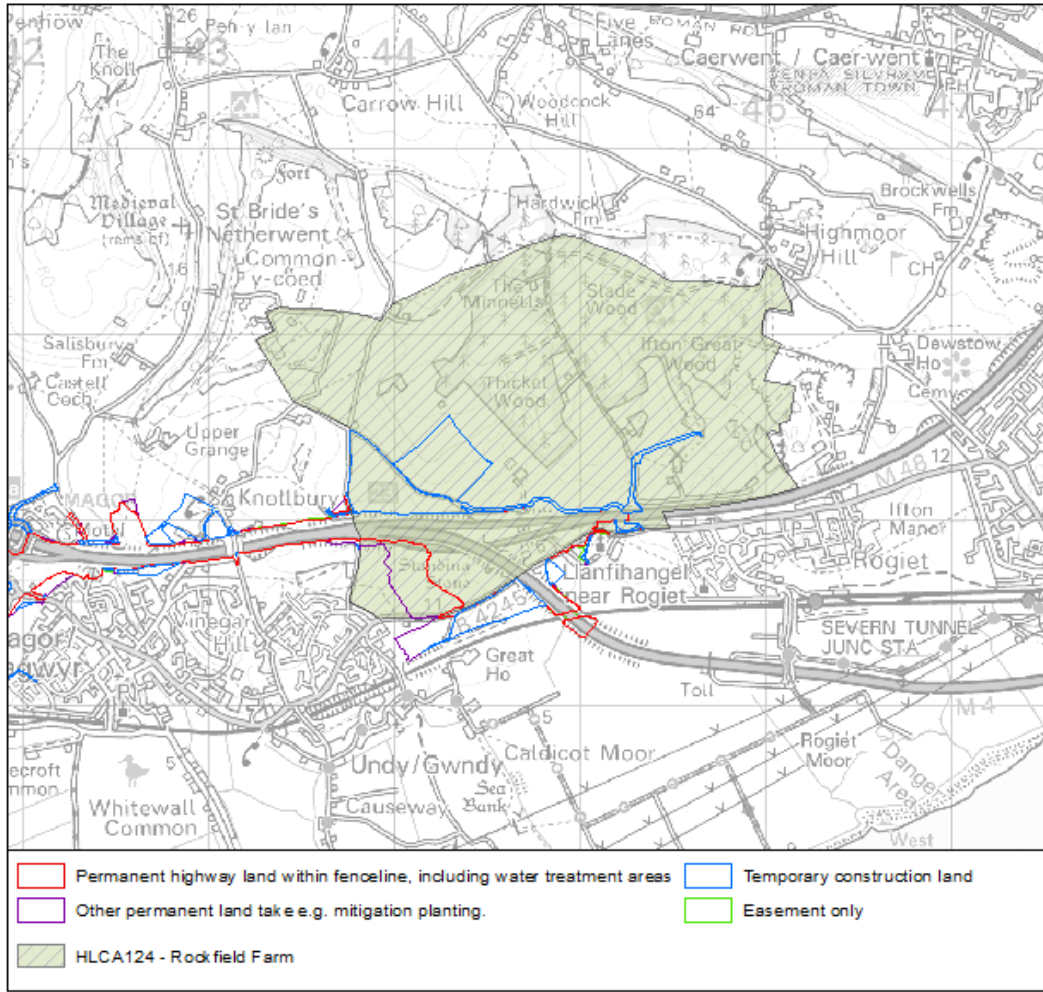
### **26.3 Description**

**26.3.1** This area is bisected by both the existing M4 and M48 motorways, which converge at Junction 23 in the south western part of the HLCA.

**26.3.2** The northern part of the HLCA contains extensive tracts of woodland (Slade Wood, Thicket Wood etc), almost all of which is present on the earliest Ordnance Survey maps.

### **26.4 Integrity**

**26.4.1** The area consists of a mixture of sinuous and straight boundaries, forming geometric and sub-rectangular enclosures. The straight boundaries adhere to the earlier alignments of the sinuous boundaries and thus continue to provide a cohesive landscape pattern. Although the straight boundaries sub-divide the sinuous boundaries, they nonetheless respect their original orientation and represent a reconfiguration of the landscape during the later post-medieval and/or modern period. There has been some loss of integrity as a result of the construction of the two motorways within the southern part of the HLCA.



**Inset 25 - M4CaN HLCA124 Rockfield Farm**

## 27 M4CaN HLCA125 Moorgate

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### 27.1 Character Area

27.1.1 Agricultural with dispersed settlement.

### 27.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- Good integrity, with field pattern unchanged since the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- Fen-edge settlement.
- Surviving medieval church and historic farmsteads at Llanfihangel Rogiet.
- Sinuous boundaries forming sub-rectangular fields.

### 27.3 Description

27.3.1 The HLCA includes the hamlet of Llanfihangel Rogiet, formerly a much larger village that surrounded a surviving medieval church.

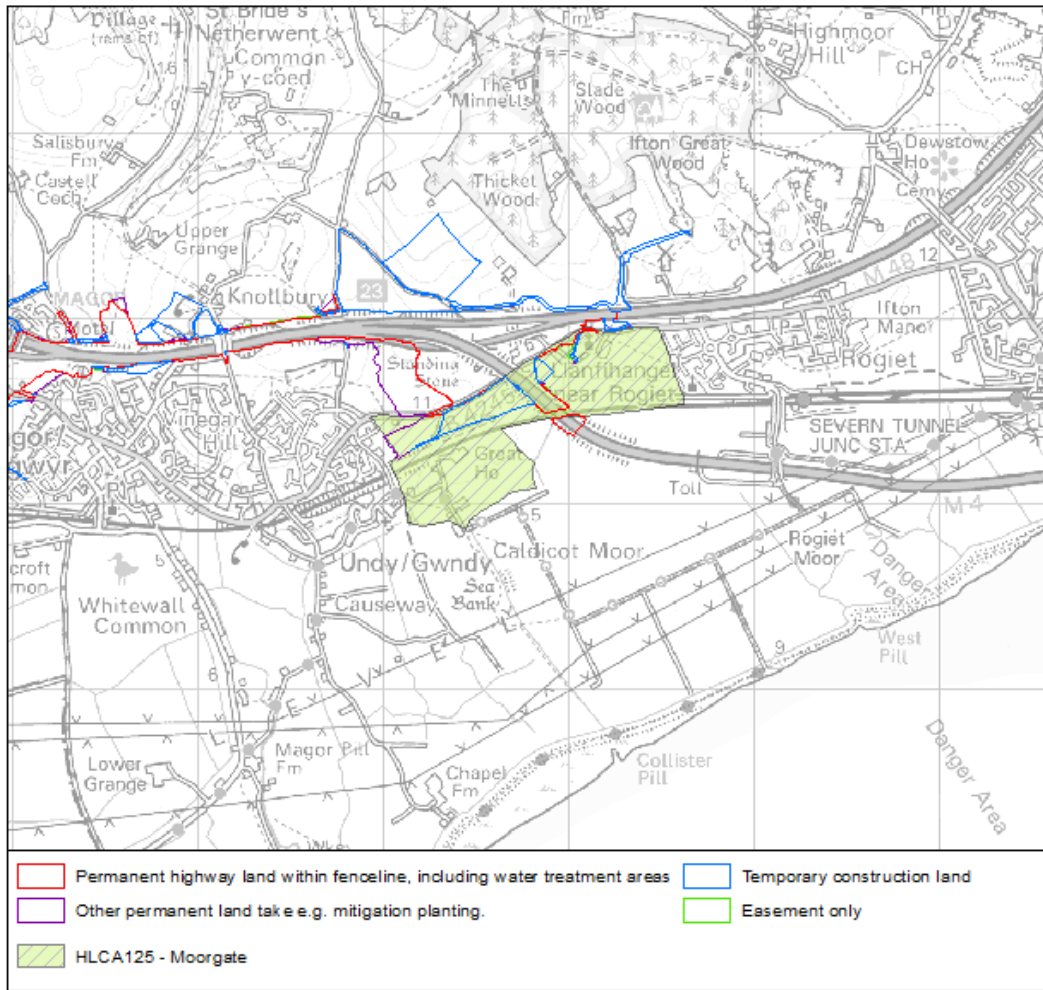
27.3.2 The landscape pattern in this area remains largely unchanged since the 19<sup>th</sup> century, although two small areas of historic woodland have been cleared and the existing M4 motorway bisects the HLCA. This landscape area is located on the edge of the Caldicot Moor and gave access to the fen. Caldicot Moor itself was largely open until Parliamentary Enclosure during the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

27.3.3 The area is characterised by sinuous boundaries forming sub-rectangular fields. Vurlong Reen provides a boundary to the fen-edge farmed landscape south of the railway, which is focused around two isolated farmsteads, Great House and Moorgate. The name of the latter farmstead is a good indication of its location at the edge of Caldicot Moor and its access to the fen.

### 27.4 Integrity

27.4.1 The field pattern is largely unchanged since the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c. 1887) other than the construction of the existing M4 motorway, otherwise the integrity of the HLCA is reasonable.





**Inset 26 - M4CaN HLCA125 Moorgate**

## 28 M4CaN HLCA126 Rogiet

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### 28.1 Character Area

**28.1.1** Modern urban expansion of an earlier medieval nucleated settlement.

### 28.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- Fen-edge settlement.
- Surviving medieval Church of St Mary.
- Current street pattern of the modern expansion reflects the former underlying historic field pattern.

### 28.3 Description

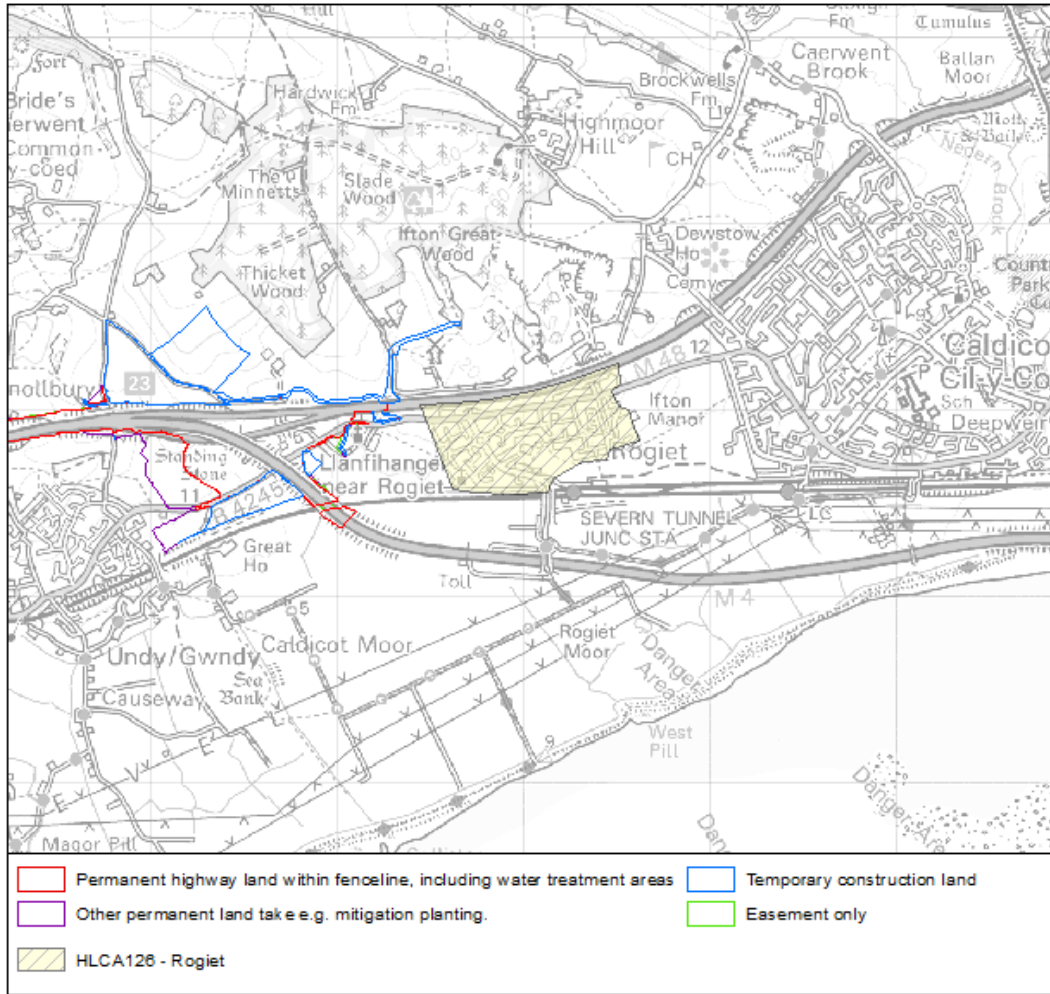
**28.3.1** Rogiet is a small settlement of probable Norman/medieval date, although it is now dominated by more sprawling late 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century housing, largely as a consequence of the construction of the Severn Tunnel Junction marshalling yards. The historic core of Rogiet is situated in the southwest corner of the HLCA and originally was located on the fen-edge.

**28.3.2** The historic core is based around the Church of St Mary, which is mentioned as being in the deanery of Lower Gwent during the time of Henry, Bishop of Llandaff (1193-1218) and may have an earlier foundation. The church stands in the corner of its large churchyard adjacent to the manor house.

**28.3.3** During a watching brief of topsoil stripping at Manor Farm Housing Development (NGR 34650 18795), located adjacent to the church at Rogiet, a Romano-British building was recorded. This, along with black-burnished and grey wares also found on the site, was dated between the late 3<sup>rd</sup> and early 4<sup>th</sup> centuries AD.

### 28.4 Integrity

**28.4.1** Archaeological finds reflect the area's association with Caldicot Moor and the Severn Estuary. Its relationship with the wider landscape (such as Ifton Quarries (M4CaN HLCA128), with which it had a social and historical connection) has been degraded firstly by the construction of the Great Western Railway in the 19<sup>th</sup> century and later by the construction of the existing M4 and M48 motorways. Nevertheless, the layout of the current street pattern of Rogiet does appear to reflect the former underlying field pattern as seen on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c.1887).



**Inset 27 - M4CaN HLCA126 Rogiet**

## 29 M4CaN HLCA127 Ifton Manor

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### 29.1 Character Area

**29.1.1** Agricultural - An area of green belt separating Caldicot from Rogiet.

### 29.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- Former medieval manor.
- Unchanged field pattern since the 19<sup>th</sup> century.
- Cropmark evidence of two defended enclosures, possibly Iron Age in date.

### 29.3 Description

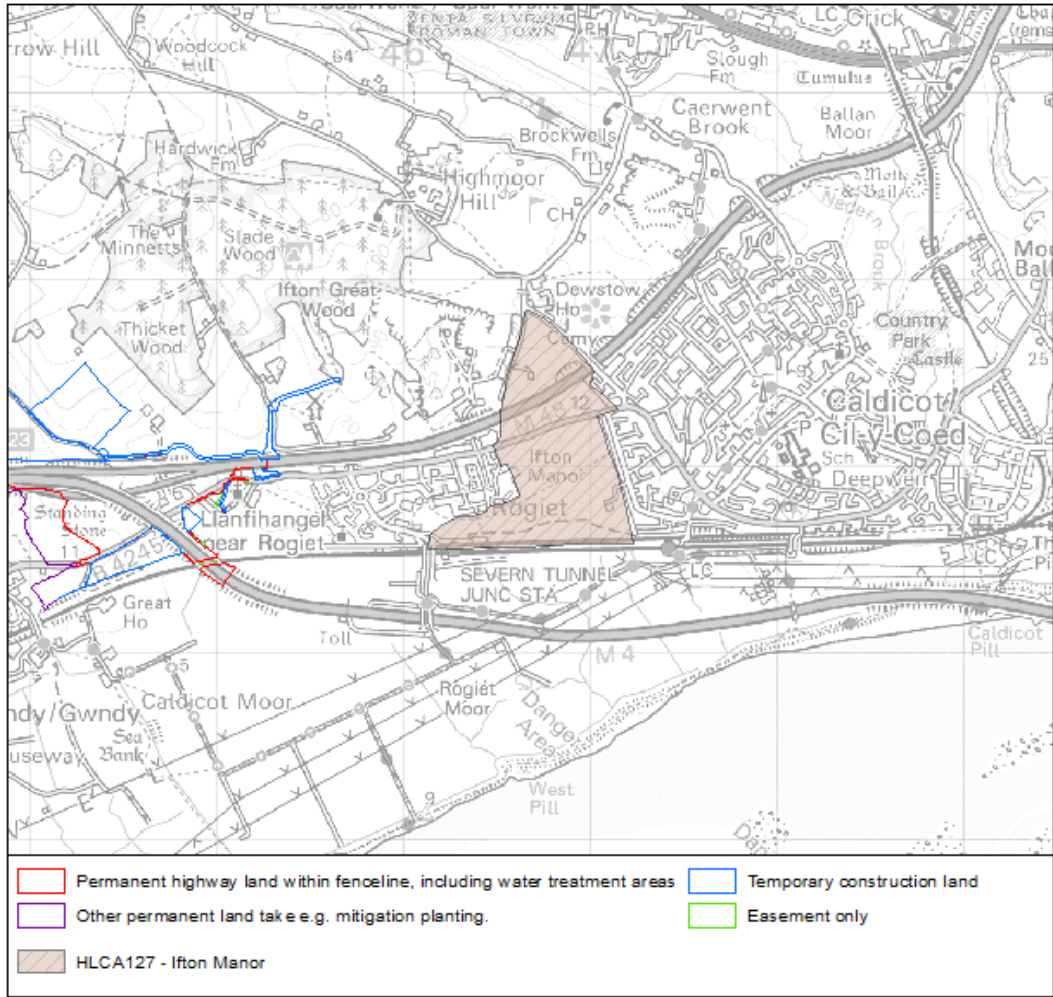
**29.3.1** This area comprises open fields between Rogiet (M4CaN HLCA126) to the southwest, Ifton Quarries (M4CaN HLCA128) to the northwest and Caldicot urban (M4CaN HLCA130) in the east.

**29.3.2** Ifton Manor appears to be a manor of medieval date with a surrounding hamlet, comprising of some workers' cottages, a smithy and (the site of) a church, as shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (1887).

**29.3.3** Cropmark evidence suggests the presence of two defended enclosures, possibly of Iron Age date, located in the green belt between Ifton Manor and the modern western extent of urban Caldicot. Roman pottery has been found in conjunction with an east-west aligned cist at Ifton Manor, also some evidence for Roman and medieval activity has been found in this area in association with a palaeochannel. In the north of the area Roman burials, miscellaneous finds and a possible paved road were found in 1903-04 when a lime quarry was opened near Dewstow Farm.

### 29.4 Integrity

**29.4.1** Although compromised by the current M48 motorway, the line of the road through the area actually follows a former routeway from Ferney Cross to Ifton, as shown on the 1887 map. The field pattern appears to be largely unchanged since the publication of this map, although the area has been truncated by the B4245.



**Inset 28 - M4CaN HLCA127 Ifton Manor**

## **30 M4CaN HLCA128 Ifton Quarries**

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### **30.1 Character Area**

**30.1.1** Industrial.

### **30.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

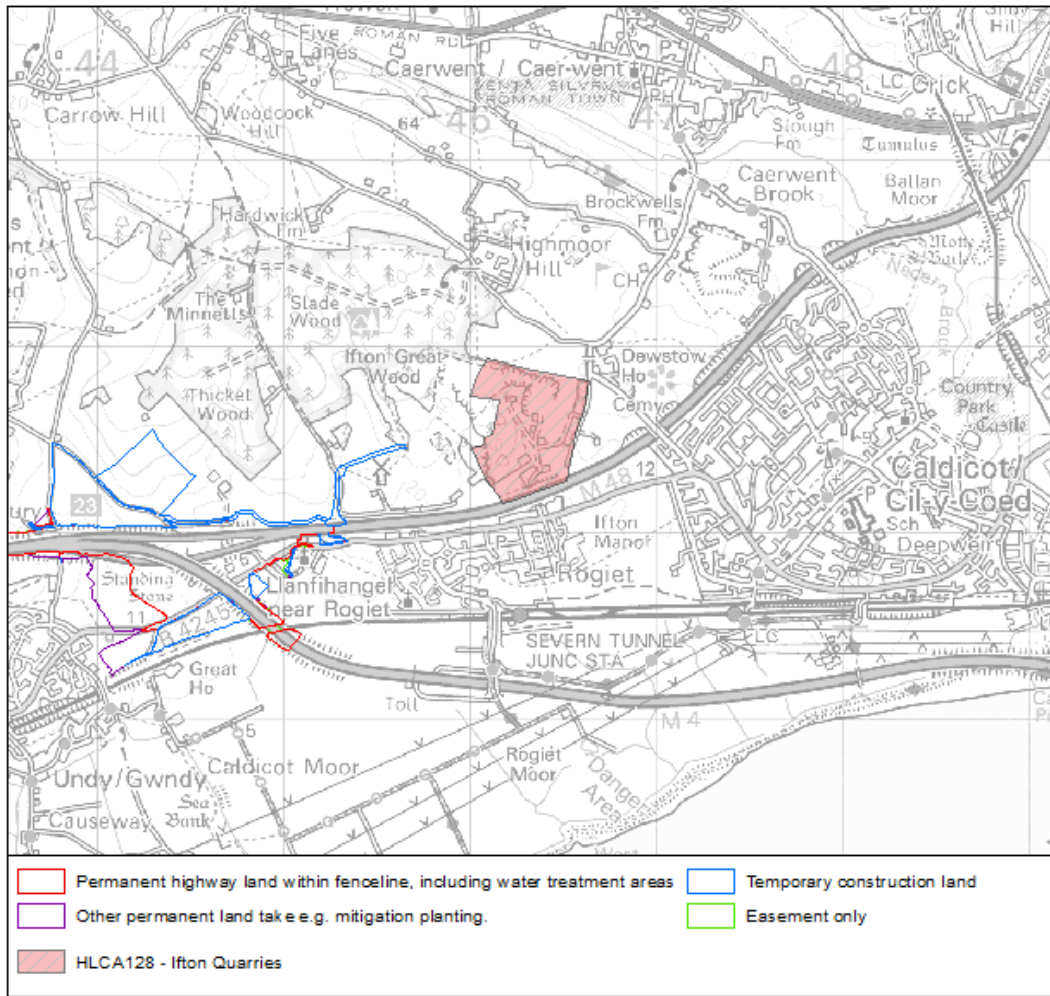
- Originally connected to Rogiet (M4CaN HLCA 126).
- Area of late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup> century quarries.
- Historic woodland.

### **30.3 Description**

**30.3.1** The quarries were used as training areas by the Home Guard during the Second World War. Late Neolithic human remains were also found there in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

### **30.4 Integrity**

**30.4.1** This area once had social and historical connections with Rogiet (M4CaN HLCA126), which have been compromised since the two have been separated by the current route of the M48 motorway. Some elements of historic woodland are retained and the quarries form a historic feature of the landscape in their own right.



**Inset 29 - M4CaN HLCA128 Ifton Quarries**

## **31 M4CaN HLCA129 Dewstow Park and Golf Course**

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### **31.1 Character Area**

**31.1.1** Recreational - Designed landscape.

### **31.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

- Former medieval manorial settlement.
- Grade I Registered Edwardian gardens.

### **31.3 Description**

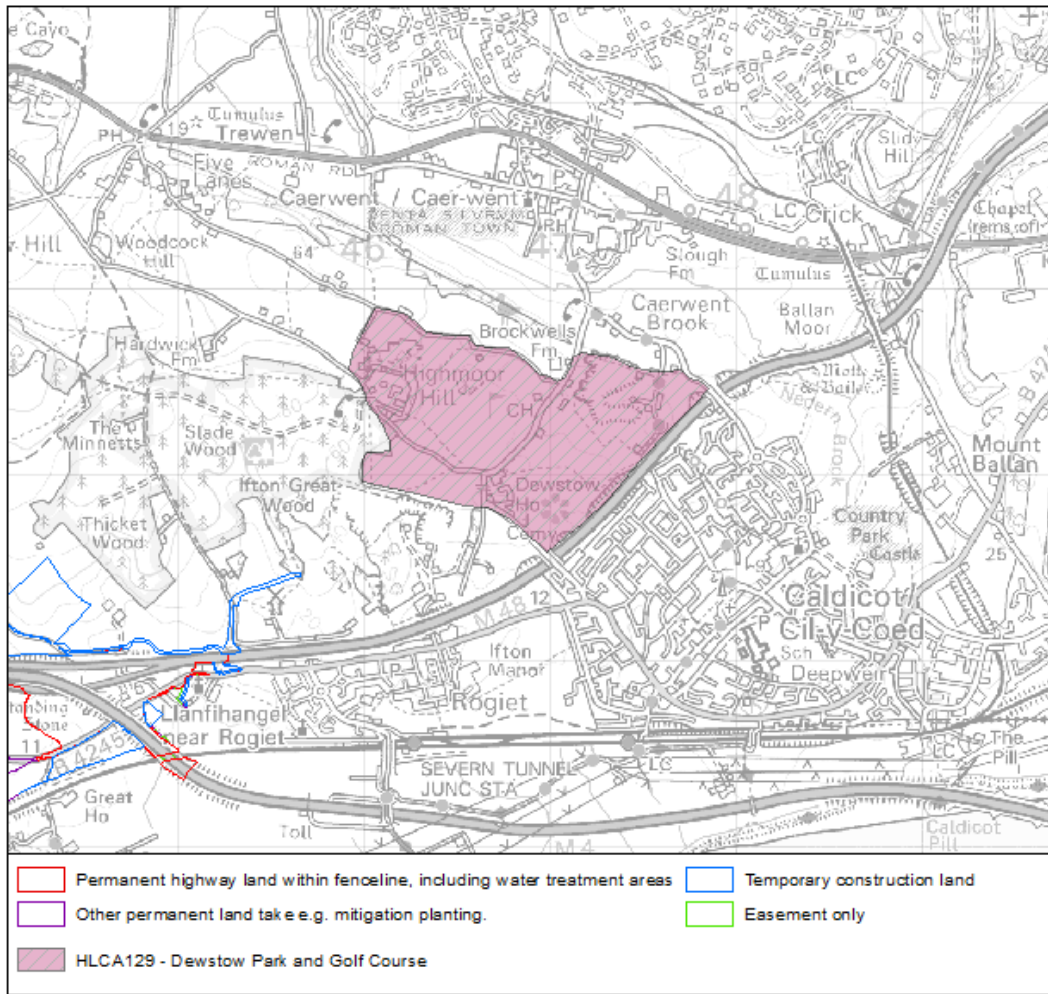
**31.3.1** Dewstow House is a medieval manorial settlement. Its former parkland is now largely occupied by Dewstow Park Golf Course.

**31.3.2** Dewstow Gardens at Dewstow House are the recently rediscovered gardens and landscapes created around the turn of the century by James Pulham & Sons Landscapers, Rock Builders and Garden Designers. The gardens had been buried around the 1940s and 50s and were rediscovered in 2000 and most of the repairs and restoration work have now been completed. These gardens contain many ponds and rills, underground grottoes, tunnels and sunken ferneries. The Edwardian gardens are now a Grade I registered Park and Garden of Special Historic Interest.

### **31.4 Integrity**

**31.4.1** Retention of the parkland history character is good. Selective boundary removal has occurred following the development of part of this area as a golf course.





**Inset 30 - M4CaN HLCA129 Dewstow Park and Golf Course**

## **32 M4CaN HLCA130 Caldicot Urban**

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### **32.1 Character Area**

**32.1.1** Modern urban expansion of a former medieval settlement.

### **32.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

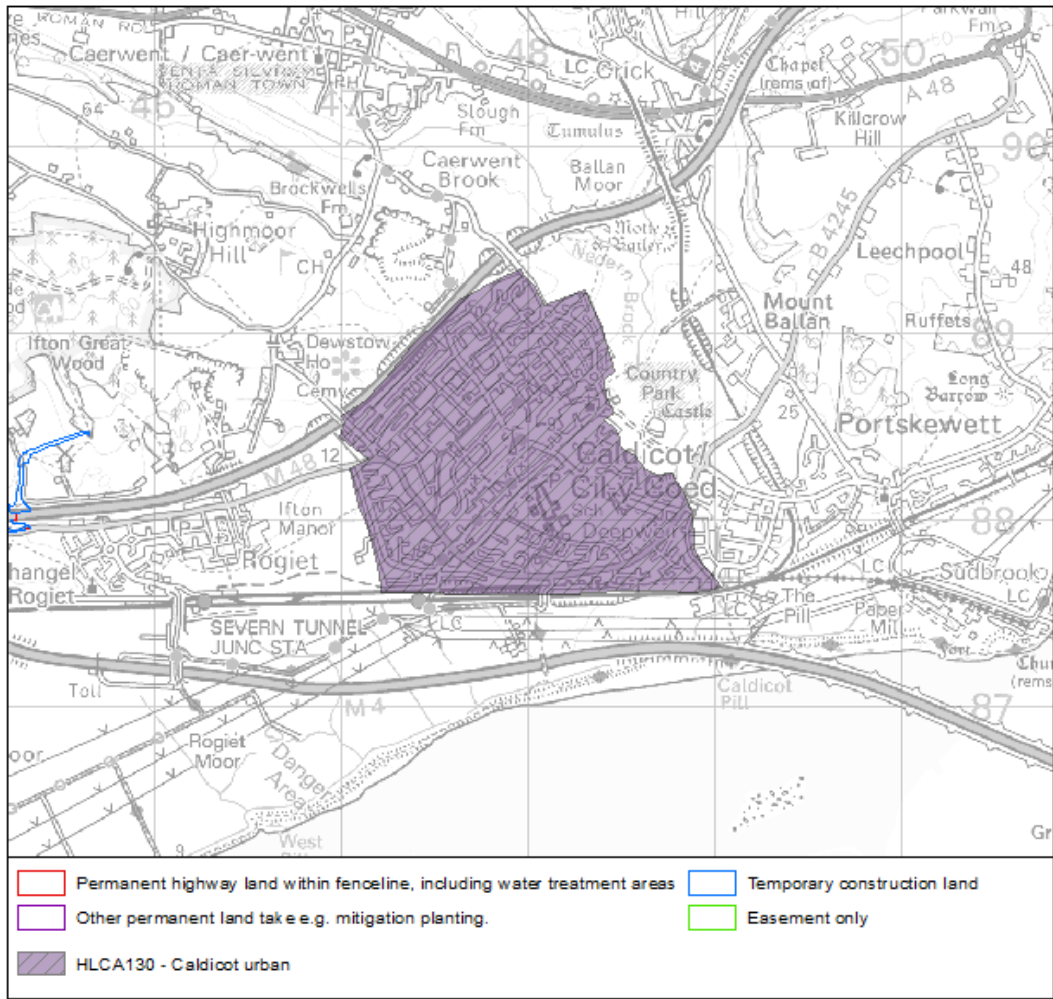
- Originally a small village dominated by a church and a ruined castle.
- Expansion following the arrival of the Great Western Railway in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century.
- Former enclosure pattern reflected in the street pattern of the modern suburbs.

### **32.3 Description**

**32.3.1** Caldicot was a small village dominated by a church and ruined castle until 1850. The population of the town doubled in the mid-19<sup>th</sup> century due to the coming of the Great Western Railway and also some small-scale industry. Further expansion was also seen in the 1960s with the opening of the Llanwern Steelworks to the west (M4CaN HLCA118). The town has continued to expand due to its position within the existing M4 corridor. Roman pottery kilns were found during the construction of the south west suburbs.

### **32.4 Integrity**

**32.4.1** In the north and west of the area the former enclosure pattern is reflected in the street plan of what are now the modern suburbs of Caldicot.



**Inset 31 - M4CaN HLCA130 Caldicot Urban**

## **33 M4CaN HLCA131 Graig-y-Saeson**

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### **33.1 Character Area**

**33.1.1** Former parkland, now mostly pasture with some historic woodland.

### **33.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

- Settlement and burial activity since the prehistoric period.
- Large fields with some sinuous boundaries.
- Some historic woodland.
- Includes land formerly part of the park associated with Tredegar House and also an earlier park surrounding a medieval house at Gwern-y-Cleppa.

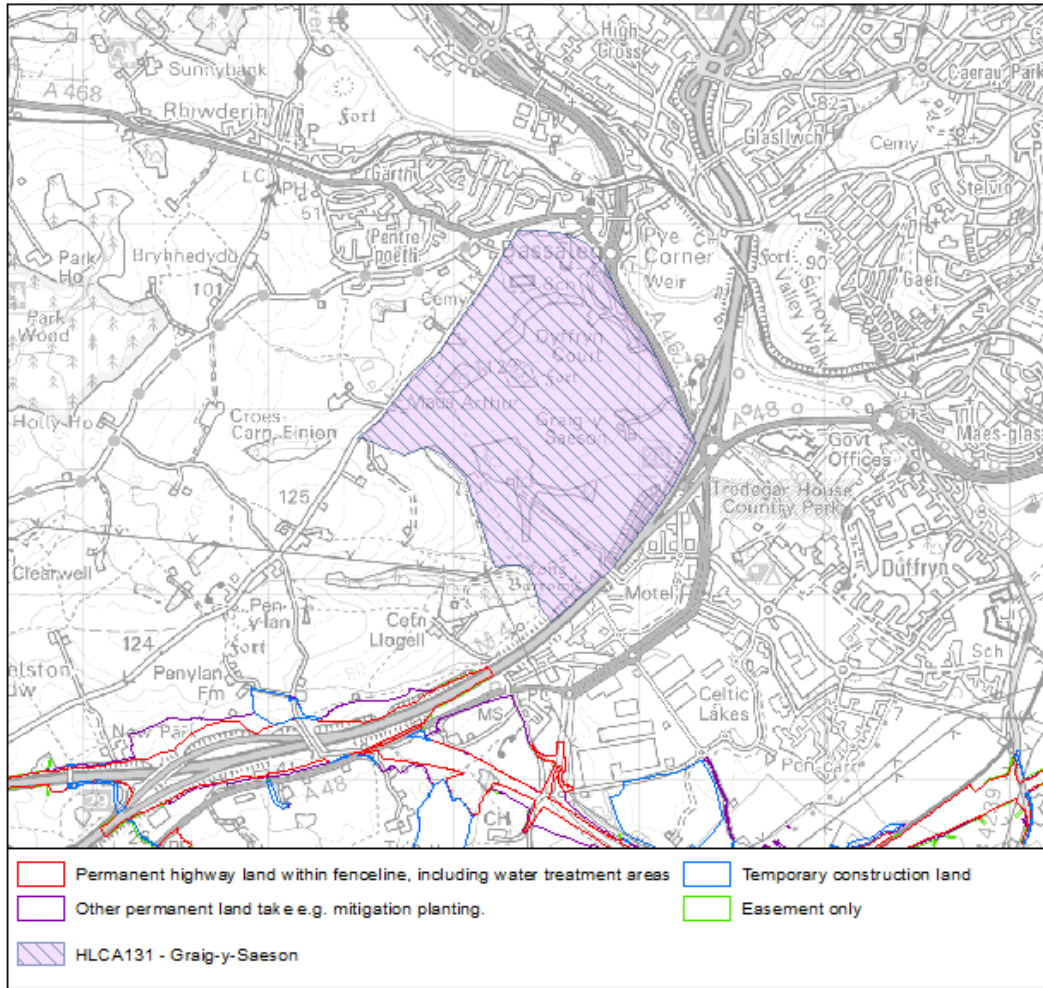
### **33.3 Description**

**33.3.1** This area is characterised by larger fields with some sinuous boundaries and stands of historic woodland. Smaller fields with straight boundaries are present in the northern part of the HLCA. Much of this HLCA was formerly part of the park associated with Tredegar House; the avenue of trees leading north west from the house crosses the land within the HLCA and is a prominent historic landscape element in this area. There are also elements associated with an earlier park surrounding the medieval house at Gwern-y-Cleppa.

**33.3.2** The landscape comprises rising ground north of the Wentlooge Levels, west of Newport. This high ground has been utilised since the prehistoric period. Scattered finds of prehistoric material exist across the area and activity has been traced back as far as the Neolithic, with the Gwern-y-Cleppa chambered tomb at NGR 327658 185047. An earthwork enclosure, possibly a small Iron Age hillfort, is present at Graig-y-Saeson (also known as Coed-y-Defaid) and together with a similar example 2 km to the west at Pen-y-Lan demonstrates that this was a defended landscape with an early settlement pattern.

### **33.4 Integrity**

**33.4.1** The HLCA is separated from Tredegar House by the existing M4 motorway and the A48 road, although the avenue of trees still provides evidence for this association. Much of the woodland shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c. 1887) has survived and field boundary loss has been limited.



**Inset 32 - M4CaN HLCA131 Graig-y-Saeson**

## **34 M4CaN HLCA132 Llanwern Park**

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### **34.1 Character Area**

**34.1.1** Former parkland, now mixture of pasture and historic woodland with some parkland planting still visible.

### **34.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

- Former parkland surrounding Llanwern House.
- Blocks of woodland represent unchecked growth of former designed planting.
- Large fields with predominantly straight boundaries.

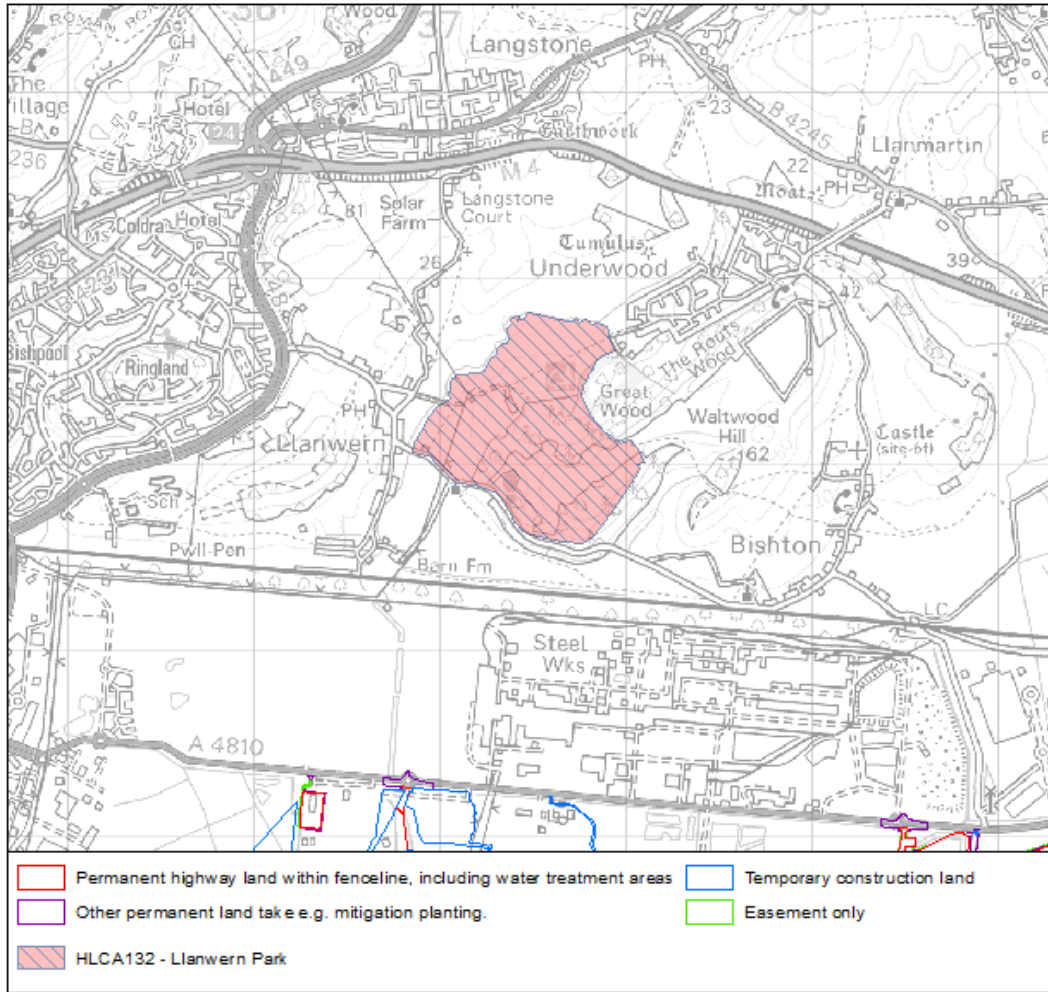
### **34.3 Description**

**34.3.1** This area comprises the former parkland associated with Llanwern House. The woodland planting installed within the park has grown unchecked in several places to become blocks of mature woodland. These are separated by an area of grassland with some designed tree planting still present. In the north western part of the HLCA are large fields with mostly straight boundaries. Llanwern House has been demolished and replaced with a modern residential dwelling, whilst the former ornamental and kitchen gardens have also been removed.

**34.3.2** The landscape comprises rising ground north of the Gwent Levels, east of Newport.

### **34.4 Integrity**

**34.4.1** The boundaries of the former park are still clearly defined, along with the winding drive leading to the site of the former house. However much has been lost from here and there has been some internal boundary loss and adjustment.



**Inset 33 - M4CaN HLCA132 Llanwern Park**

## 35 M4CaN HLCA133 Bishton and Llanwern

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### 35.1 Character Area

35.1.1 Agricultural with historic linear settlements and historic woodland.

### 35.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- Mixture of sinuous and straight boundaries, forming geometric and sub-rectangular enclosures.
- Landscape reconfigured during the post-medieval period, but retains some medieval patterning.
- Includes small area of fen-edge either side of Oxleaze Reen.
- Historic linear settlements at Llanwern and Bishton, modern settlement block at Underwood, golf course in south western part.

### 35.3 Description

35.3.1 This area is bounded by the existing M4 motorway to the north and the railway line to the south, with the A48 road to the west, beyond which is built development.

35.3.2 There are historic linear settlements in the western part of the HLCA (Llanwern) and in the eastern part (Bishton). In the northern part is the modern settlement of Underwood, constructed in former farmland adjacent to the historic woodland known as Great Wood and The Routs Wood. There are also dispersed farmsteads and churches which are distinctly separate from the settlements.

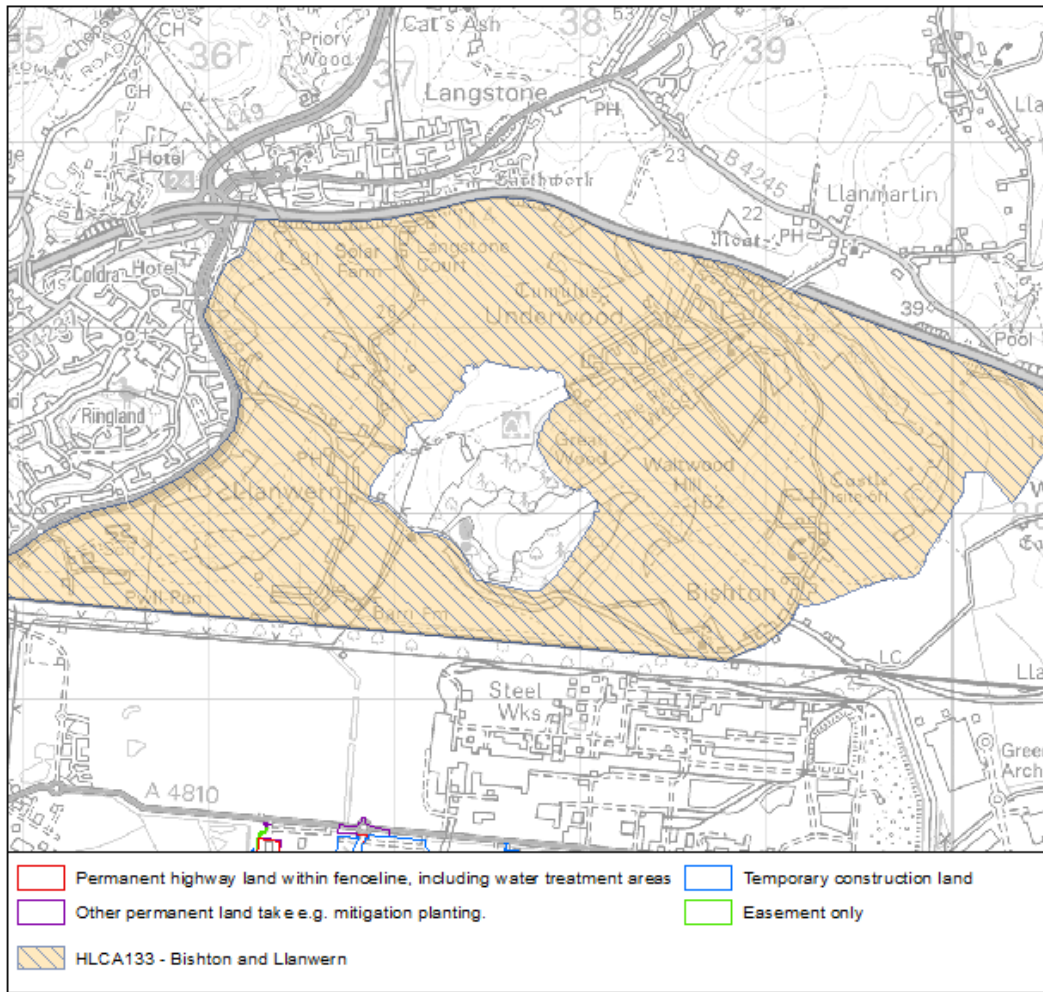
35.3.3 Field boundaries are a mixture of straight and slightly sinuous, with fields generally large or medium. One exception to this pattern is in the very southern part of the HLCA where there is a small area of fen-edge on either side of Oxleaze Reen. Here the land has been enclosed and drained, with all boundaries being reens which have very straight alignments.

35.3.4 The western part of the HLCA includes Monk's Ditch which runs around the western side of Llanwern Park (HLCA 132). Here the stream is in its natural channel, before being canalised and continuing as a raised channel across the Levels. The eastern part of the HLCA is similarly drained by the Llan Allen Winter Sewer.

### 35.4 Integrity

35.4.1 There has been some boundary loss and readjustment since the layout shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c. 1886) but in some areas this has been very limited and the historic landscape pattern is still very visible. There has been some loss of integrity as a result of the establishment of a golf course and also a school in the south western part of the HLCA, along with the new settlement at Underwood.





**Inset 34 - M4CaN HLCA133 Bishton & Llanwern**

## 36 M4CaN HLCA134 Llandeivaud

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### 36.1 Character Area

**36.1.1** Agricultural with largely dispersed settlement and a small amount of woodland.

### 36.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics

- Predominantly straight boundaries although one area has some sinuous examples.
- Landscape reconfigured during the post-medieval period.
- Includes historic dispersed settlements at Llandeivaud and Llanmartin, also a fortified Tudor mansion at Pencoed and at least two moated enclosures.
- Very little historic woodland survives here.

### 36.3 Description

**36.3.1** This area is bounded by the existing M4 motorway to the south and the A48 road to the north.

**36.3.2** There are dispersed farmsteads throughout the HLCA including several in the very eastern part. The modern settlement at Llandeivaud is based around a historic farmstead and an area of common land with some former settlement, whereas Llanmartin has not expanded much at all from the extent indicated on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c. 1886).

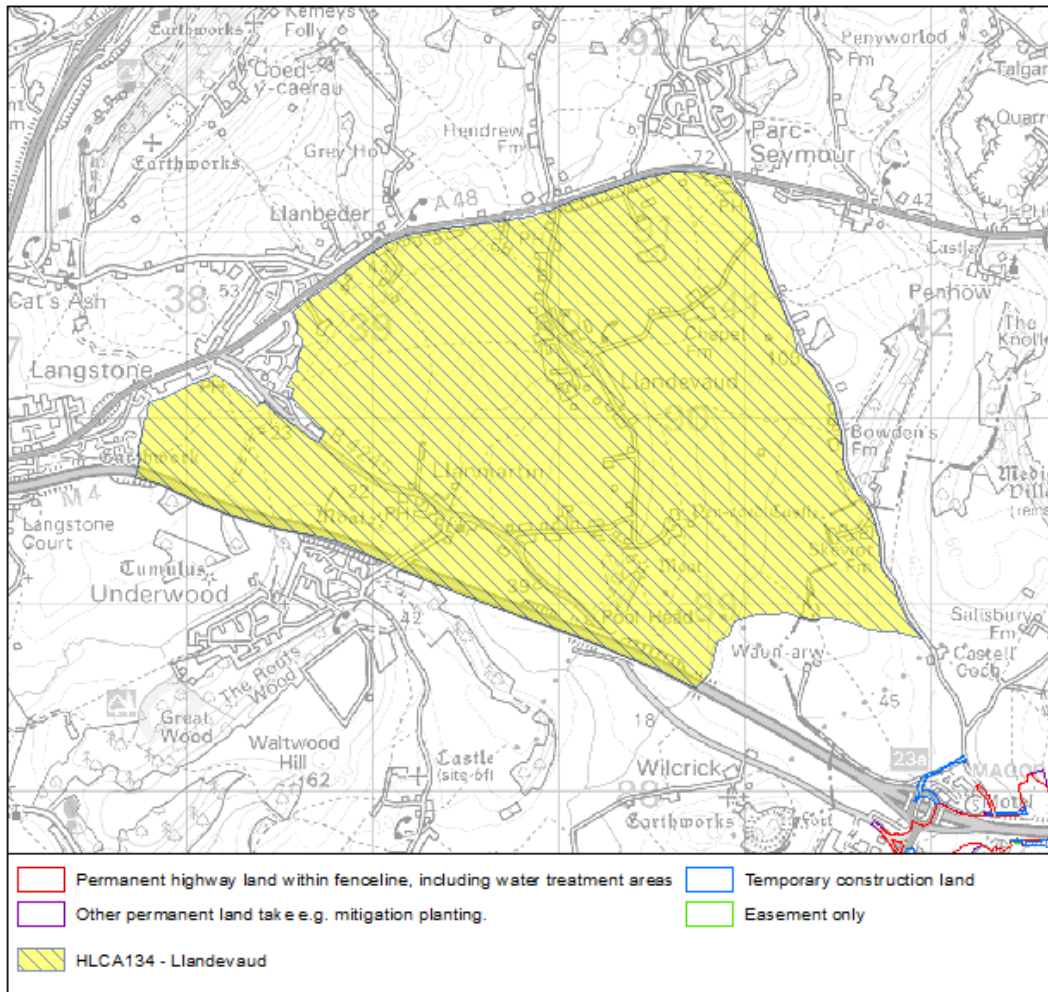
**36.3.3** Field boundaries are predominantly straight with fields generally large or medium, indicating post-medieval reorganisation of the landscape. The main exception to this pattern is in the western part of the HLCA, where several of the field boundaries are sinuous; this may reflect a landscape that has retained more of the medieval layout.

**36.3.4** The very narrow fields with parallel straight boundaries located immediately to the south of Llandeivaud are actually modern rather than being relict strip fields – they may well represent the provision of land following the development of the former common here for residential use.

**36.3.5** Pencoed Castle in the southern part of the HLCA is a fortified Tudor mansion probably constructed in the first quarter of the 16<sup>th</sup> century on the site of a moated Norman castle.

### 36.4 Integrity

**36.4.1** There has been some boundary loss and readjustment since the layout shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c. 1886) but in some areas this has been very limited and the historic landscape pattern is still very visible.



**Inset 35 - M4CaN HLCA134 Llandeud**

## **37 M4CaN HLCA135 Langstone**

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### **37.1 Character Area**

**37.1.1** Agricultural with considerable amount of modern development and a small amount of woodland.

### **37.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

- Predominantly straight boundaries with large fields.
- Landscape reconfigured during the post-medieval period.
- Considerable modern development includes hotels as well as residential development.

### **37.3 Description**

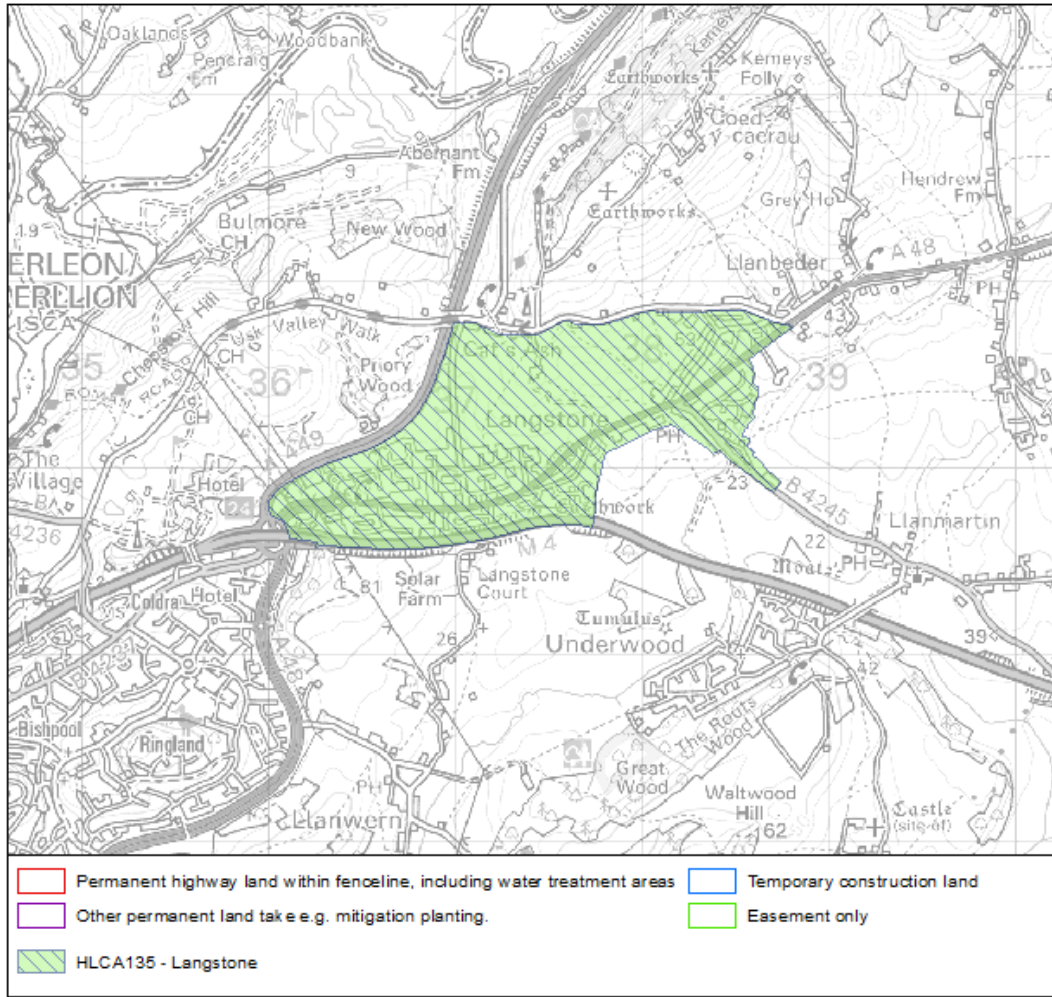
**37.3.1** This area is bounded by the existing M4 motorway to the south and the A449 road to the west, and is bisected by the A48 road.

**37.3.2** There is considerable modern development in the southern and eastern parts of the HLCA, along either side of the A48 road. This includes hotels and retail/business developments close to Junction 24 of the existing M4 motorway, along with residential developments at Langstone and Llanbedr further east along the A48 road. Prior to this development, the settlement pattern was one of dispersed farmsteads.

**37.3.3** Some agricultural land has been retained in the northern part of the HLCA. Field boundaries are predominantly straight with fields being medium to large in size.

### **37.4 Integrity**

**37.4.1** Where the land remains undeveloped there has been some boundary loss and readjustment since the layout shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c. 1886), but the post-medieval landscape pattern is still clearly visible.



**Inset 36 - M4CaN HLCA135 Langstone**

## **38 M4CaN HLCA136 Celtic Manor Resort**

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### **38.1 Character Area**

**38.1.1** Leisure complex predominantly occupied by golf courses but includes hotels and other accommodation along with ancillary uses.

### **38.2 Key Historic Landscape Characteristics**

- Considerable modern development includes golf courses and hotels.
- Some survival of historic woodland.

### **38.3 Description**

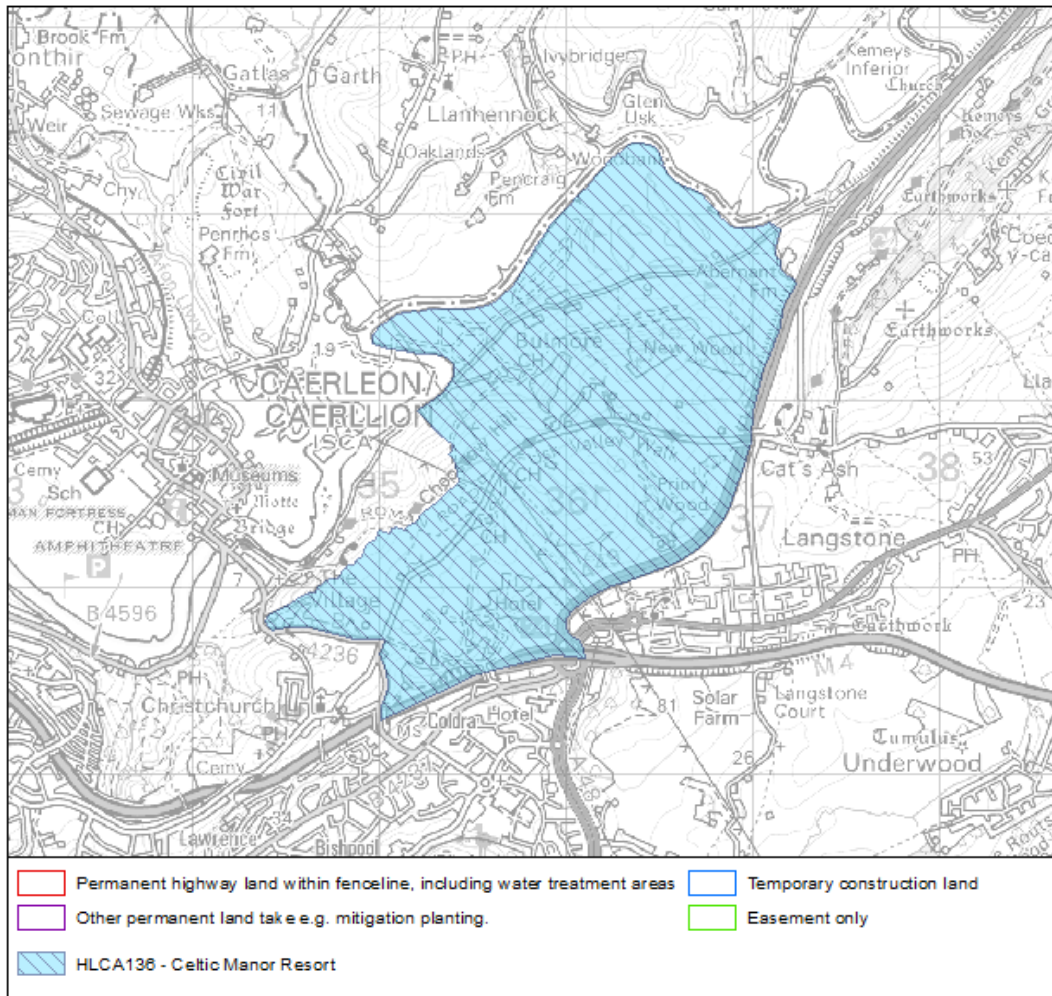
**38.3.1** This area is bounded by the existing M4 motorway to the south and the A449 road to the east, and in part by the River Usk to the north.

**38.3.2** Virtually all of this HLCA is occupied by the golf courses and associated development of the Celtic Manor Resort. It has been heavily landscaped, although some blocks of historic woodland have been incorporated into the development.

**38.3.3** Some agricultural land has been retained in the south-eastern part of the HLCA, adjacent to Priory Farm.

### **38.4 Integrity**

**38.4.1** The landscape has been completely altered since the situation indicated on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition OS map (c. 1886).



**Inset 37 - M4CaN HLCA136 Celtic Manor Resort**

## 39 References

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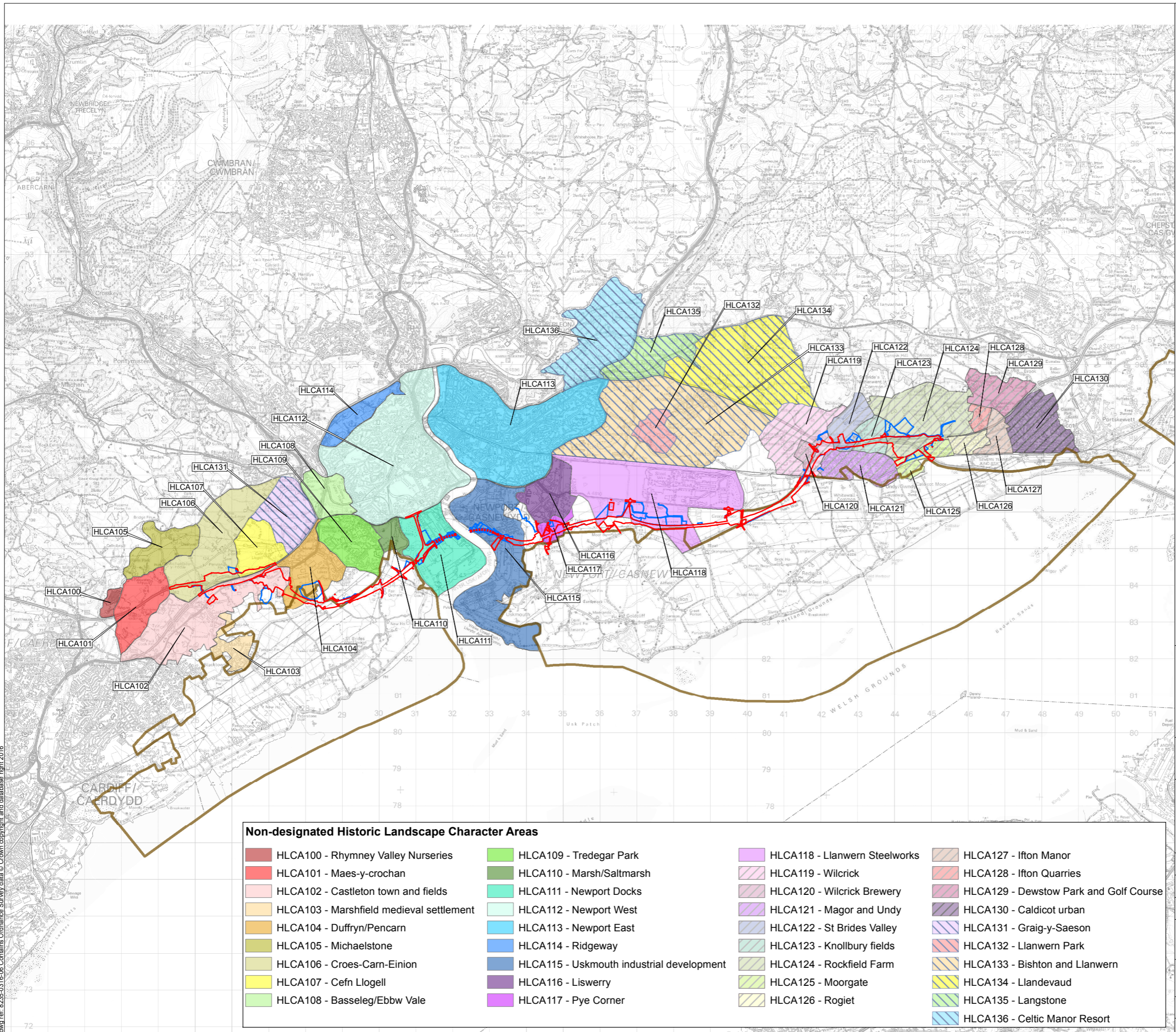
Highways Agency (2007) Assessing the Effect of Road Schemes on Historic Landscape Character. March 2007.

Highways Agency, Transport Scotland, Welsh Assembly Government, the Department for Regional Development Northern Ireland (2007) Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB), Volume 11, Section 3, Part 2: HA 208/07. Cultural Heritage.



# Figures

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- Legend**
- Permanent highway land within fence line, including water treatment areas
  - Temporary construction land
  - Gwent Levels Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest

**Non-designated Historic Landscape Character Areas**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #C0392B; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA100 - Rhymer Valley Nurseries</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #E74C3C; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA101 - Maes-y-crochan</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #F08080; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA102 - Castleton town and fields</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #FFDAB9; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA103 - Marshfield medieval settlement</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #FFD700; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA104 - Duffryn/Pencarn</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #90EE90; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA105 - Michaelstone</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #90EE90; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA106 - Croes-Carn-Einion</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #90EE90; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA107 - Cefn Llogell</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #90EE90; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA108 - Basseleg/Ebbw Vale</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #90EE90; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA109 - Tredegar Park</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #3CB371; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA110 - Marsh/Saltmarsh</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #40E0D0; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA111 - Newport Docks</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #ADD8E6; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA112 - Newport West</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #4682B4; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA113 - Newport East</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #4169E1; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA114 - Ridgeway</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #4682B4; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA115 - Usk mouth industrial development</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #800080; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA116 - Liswerry</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #800080; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA117 - Pye Corner</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #DDA0DD; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA118 - Llanwern Steelworks</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; 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width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #DDA0DD; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA126 - Rogiet</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #DDA0DD; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA127 - Ifton Manor</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #DDA0DD; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA128 - Ifton Quarries</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #DDA0DD; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA129 - Dewstow Park and Golf Course</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #DDA0DD; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA130 - Caldicot urban</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #DDA0DD; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA131 - Graig-y-Saeson</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #DDA0DD; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA132 - Llanwern Park</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #DDA0DD; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA133 - Bishton and Llanwern</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #DDA0DD; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA134 - Llandevaud</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #DDA0DD; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA135 - Langstone</li> <li><span style="display: inline-block; width: 15px; height: 10px; background-color: #DDA0DD; margin-right: 5px;"></span> HLCA136 - Celtic Manor Resort</li> </ul>
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Welsh Government

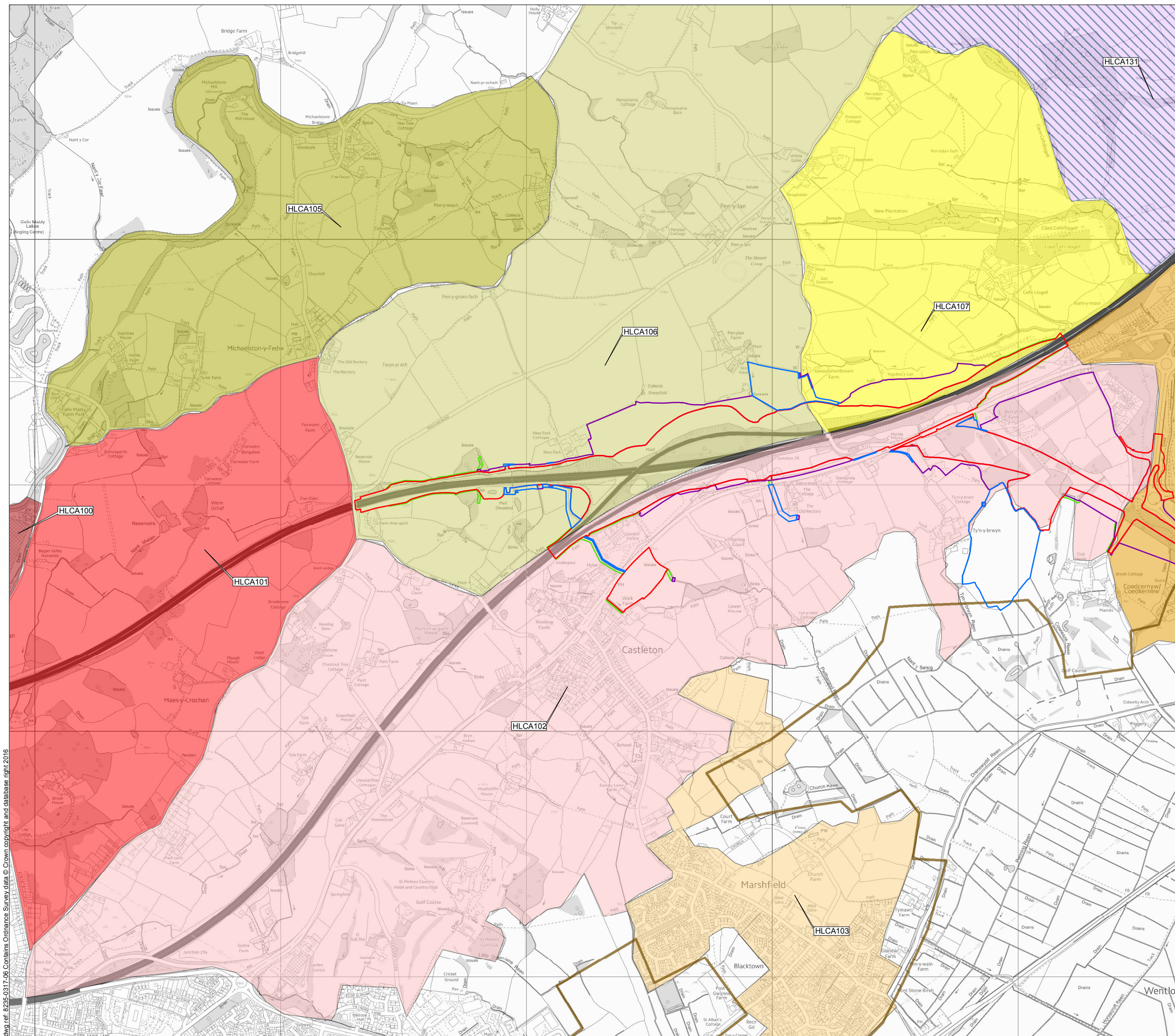
Appendix R8.9 - Non-designated Historic Landscape Characterisation

Non-designated Historic Landscape Character Areas

Figure: 1	Revision: -
Date: September 2016	Status: AT ISSUE
Drawn: MP	Checked: MR



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- Legend**
- Permanent highway land within fenceline, including water treatment areas
  - Other permanent land take e.g. mitigation planting.
  - Temporary construction land
  - Easement only
  - Gwent Levels Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest
- Non-designated HLCA**
- HLCA100 - Rhymney Valley Nurseries
  - HLCA101 - Maes-y-crochan
  - HLCA102 - Castleton town and fields
  - HLCA103 - Marshfield medieval settlement
  - HLCA104 - Duffryn/Pencarn
  - HLCA105 - Michaelstone
  - HLCA106 - Croes-Carn-Einion
  - HLCA107 - Cefn Llogell
  - HLCA131 - Graig-y-Saeson

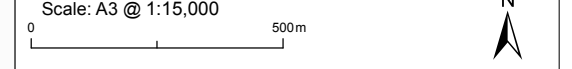


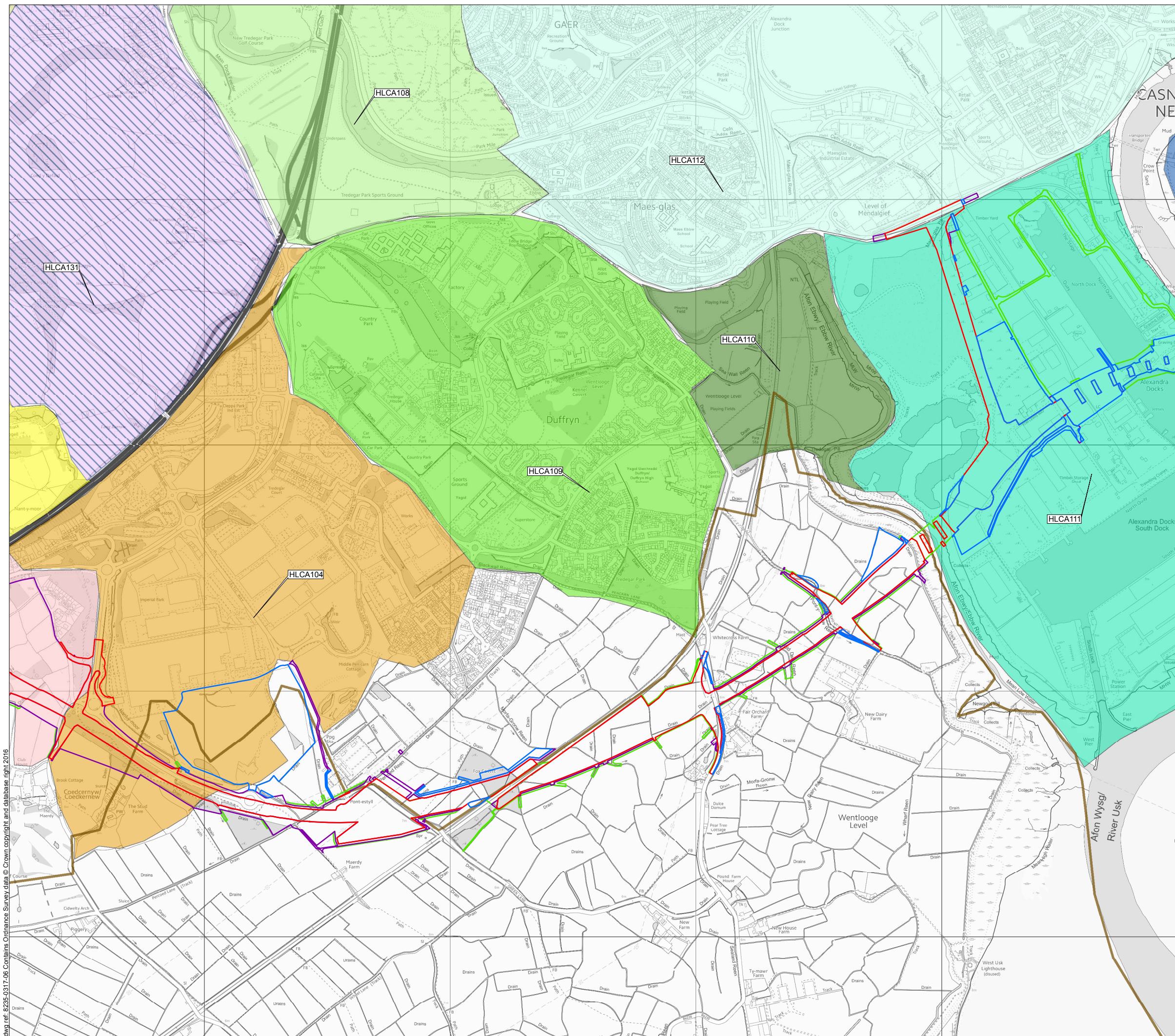
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Appendix R8.9 - Non-designated Historic Landscape Characterisation

Non-designated Historic Landscape Character Areas

Figure: <b>2a</b>	Revision: -
Date: September 2016	Status: AT ISSUE
Drawn: MP	Checked: MR





**Legend**

- Permanent highway land within fenceline, including water treatment areas
- Other permanent land take e.g. mitigation planting.
- Temporary construction land
- Easement only
- Gwent Levels Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest

**Non-designated HLCA**

- HLCA102 - Castleton town and fields
- HLCA104 - Duffryn/Pencarn
- HLCA106 - Croes-Carn-Einion
- HLCA107 - Cefn Llogell
- HLCA108 - Basseleg/Ebbw Vale
- HLCA109 - Tredegar Park
- HLCA110 - Marsh/Saltmarsh
- HLCA111 - Newport Docks
- HLCA112 - Newport West
- HLCA115 - Uskmouth industrial development
- HLCA131 - Graig-y-Saeson

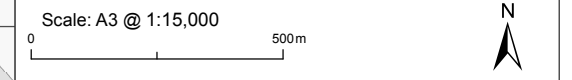


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Welsh Government

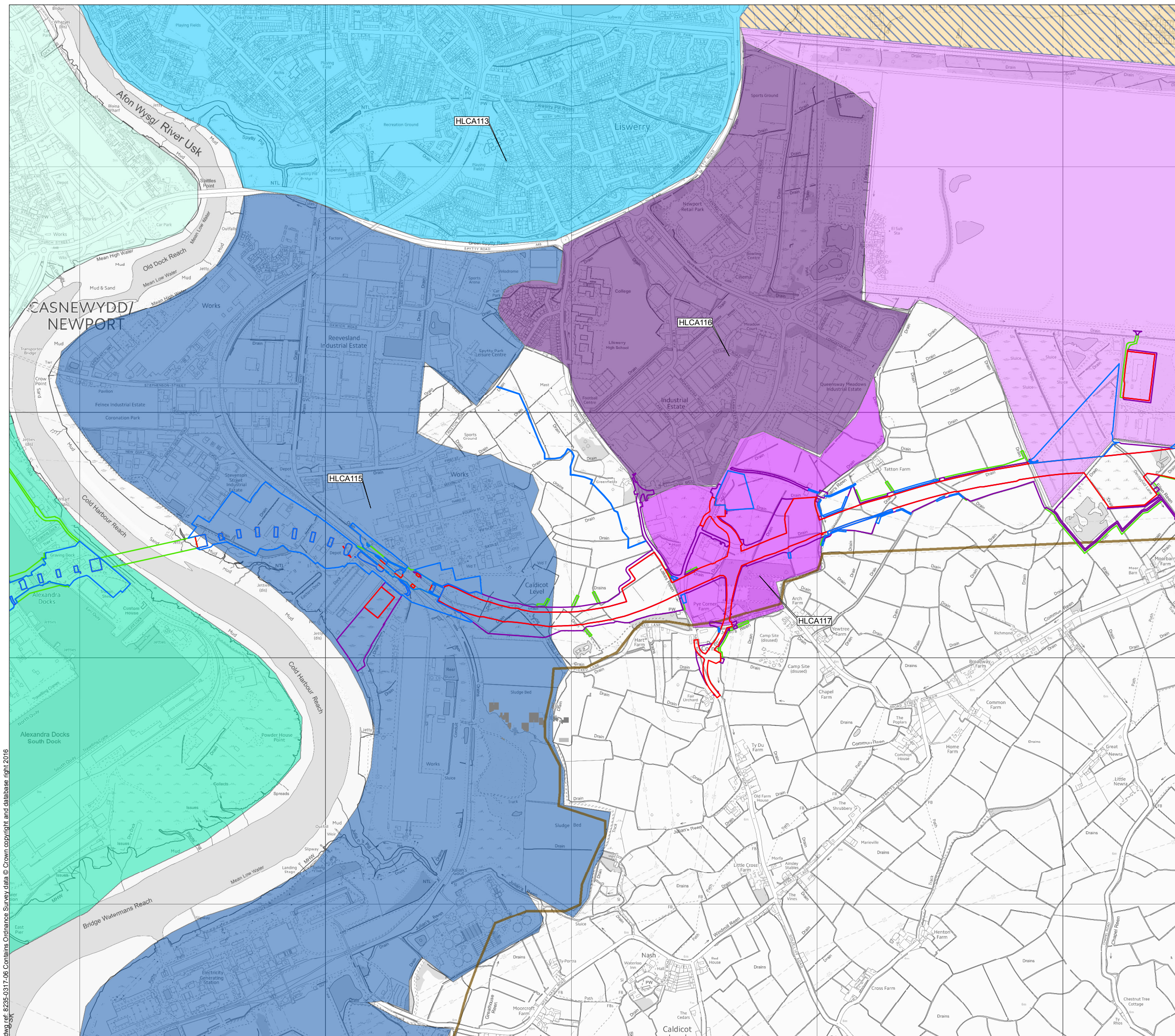
Appendix R8.9 - Non-designated Historic Landscape Characterisation

Non-designated Historic Landscape Character Areas

Figure: <b>2b</b>	Revision: -
Date: September 2016	Status: AT ISSUE
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**Legend**

- Permanent highway land within fenceline, including water treatment areas
- Other permanent land take e.g. mitigation planting.
- Temporary construction land
- Easement only
- Gwent Levels Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest

**Non-designated HLCA**

- HLCA111 - Newport Docks
- HLCA112 - Newport West
- HLCA113 - Newport East
- HLCA115 - Uskmouth industrial development
- HLCA116 - Liserry
- HLCA117 - Pye Corner
- HLCA118 - Llanwern Steelworks
- HLCA133 - Bishton and Llanwern

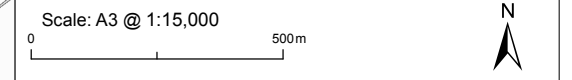


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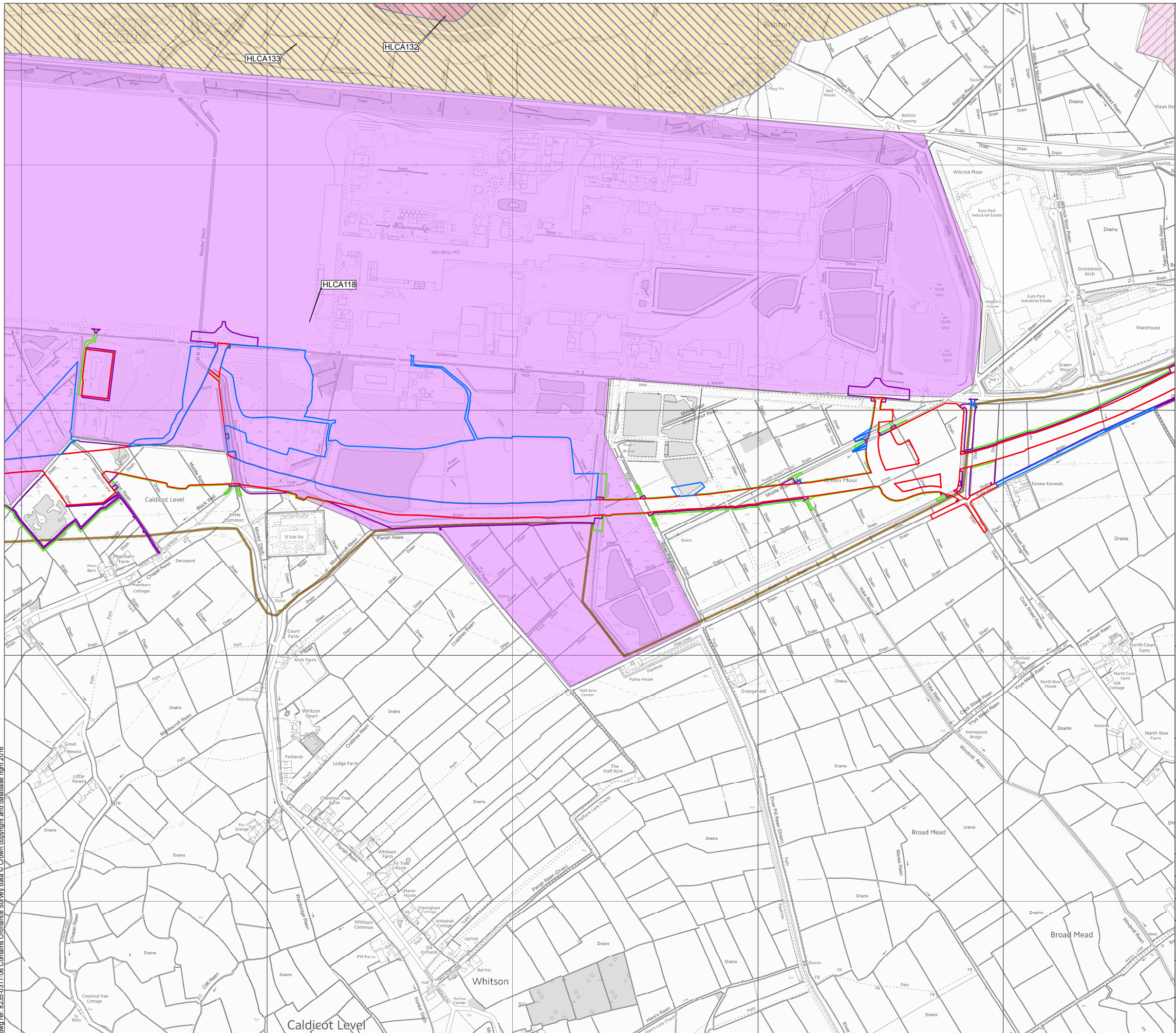
Appendix R8.9 - Non-designated Historic Landscape Characterisation

Non-designated Historic Landscape Character Areas

Figure: <b>2C</b>	Revision: -
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**Legend**

- Permanent highway land within fenceline, including water treatment areas
- Other permanent land take e.g. mitigation planting.
- Temporary construction land
- Easement only
- Gwent Levels Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest

**Non-designated HLCA**

- HLCA118 - Llanwern Steelworks
- HLCA119 - Wilcrick
- HLCA132 - Llanwern Park
- HLCA133 - Bishton and Llanwern

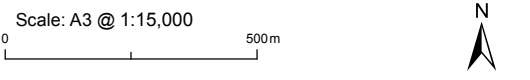


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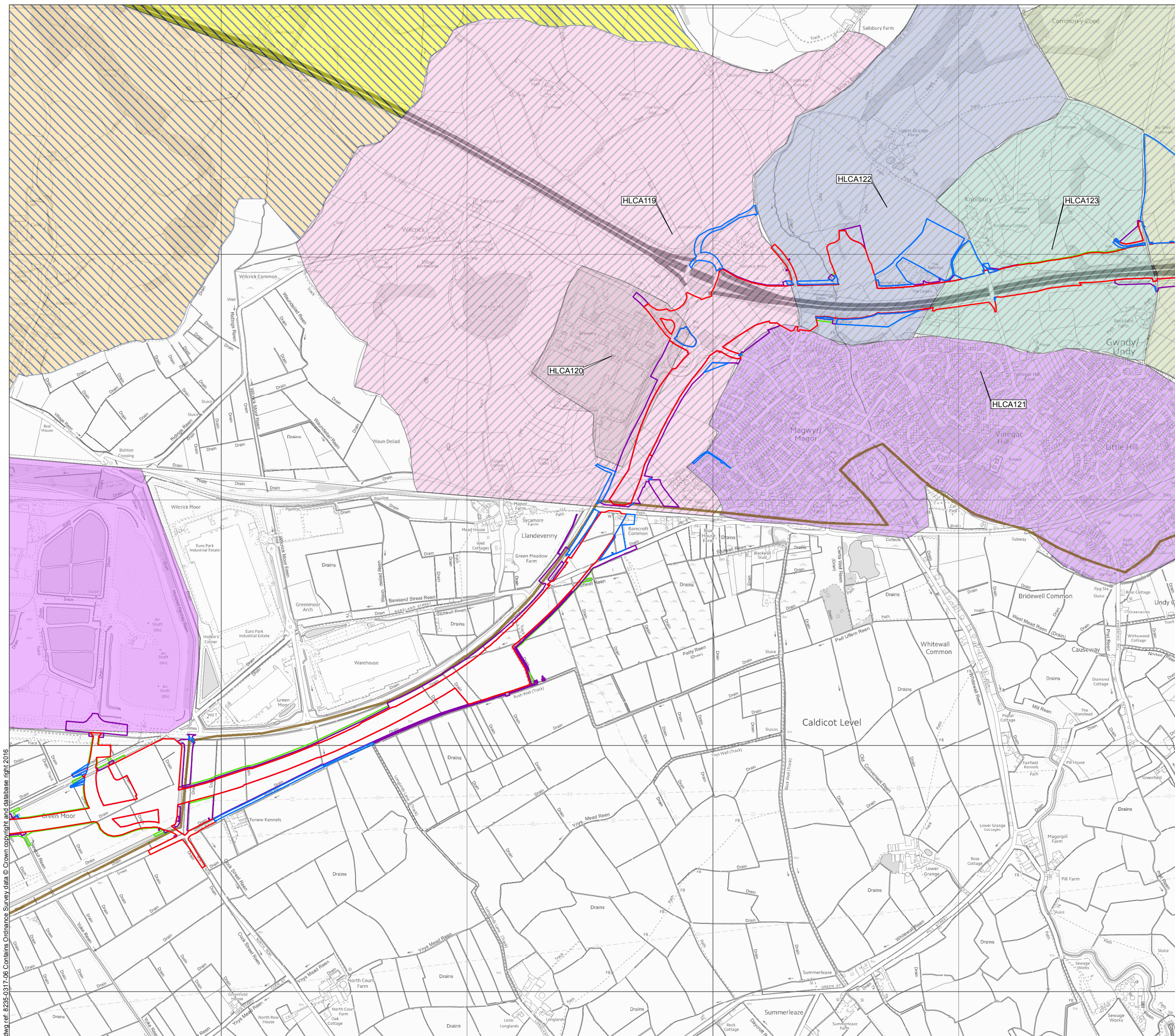
**Appendix R8.9 - Non-designated Historic Landscape Characterisation**

**Non-designated Historic Landscape Character Areas**

Figure: <b>2d</b>	Revision: -
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- Legend**
- Permanent highway land within fenceline, including water treatment areas
  - Other permanent land take e.g. mitigation planting.
  - Temporary construction land
  - Easement only
  - Gwent Levels Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest
- Non-designated HLCA**
- HLCA118 - Llanwern Steelworks
  - HLCA119 - Wilcrick
  - HLCA120 - Wilcrick Brewery
  - HLCA121 - Magor and Undy
  - HLCA122 - St Brides Valley
  - HLCA123 - Knollbury fields
  - HLCA124 - Rockfield Farm
  - HLCA133 - Bishton and Llanwern
  - HLCA134 - Llandeudau

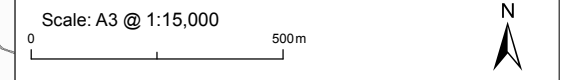


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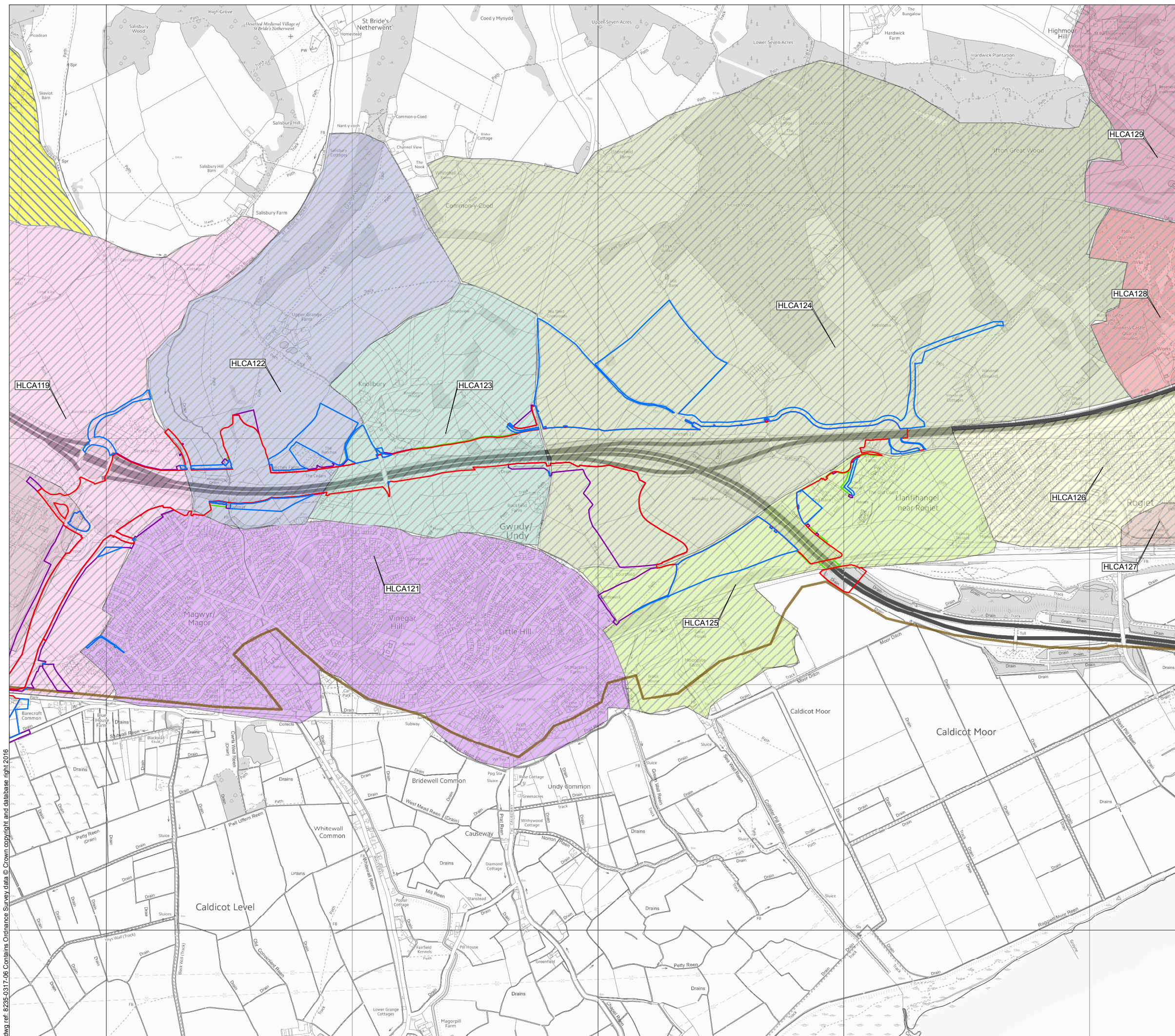
Appendix R8.9 - Non-designated Historic Landscape Characterisation

Non-designated Historic Landscape Character Areas

Figure: 2e	Revision: -
Date: September 2016	Status: AT ISSUE
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- Legend**
- Permanent highway land within fenceline, including water treatment areas
  - Other permanent land take e.g. mitigation planting.
  - Temporary construction land
  - Easement only
  - Gwent Levels Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest
- Non-designated HLCA**
- HLCA119 - Wilcrick
  - HLCA120 - Wilcrick Brewery
  - HLCA121 - Magor and Undy
  - HLCA122 - St Brides Valley
  - HLCA123 - Knollbury fields
  - HLCA124 - Rockfield Farm
  - HLCA125 - Moorgate
  - HLCA126 - Rogiet
  - HLCA127 - Ifton Manor
  - HLCA128 - Ifton Quarries
  - HLCA129 - Dewstow Park and Golf Course
  - HLCA134 - Llandeud

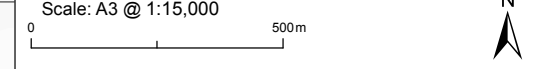


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Appendix R8.9 - Non-designated Historic Landscape Characterisation

Non-designated Historic Landscape Character Areas

Figure: 2f	Revision: -
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