

Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust

Better Woodlands for Wales
-
Pilot Historic Environment Survey

Report by David Bull

Dinam Estate, Llandinam



CPAT Project No:1186/CPAT Report No: 634

Dinam Estate, Llandinam

Better Woodlands for Wales Historic Environment Survey

by **D E Bull**

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report prepared by CPAT

CPAT Project No 1186

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CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Better Woodlands for Wales – Pilot Historic Environment Survey

Report by David Bull

**DINAM ESTATE
MPP16 CPAT**

Project number: 1186/Report number: 634

Introduction

This woodland survey carried out as part of the Better Woodland for Wales pilot, looking specifically at a number of archaeological sites identified within the initial historic environment desktop survey for Dinas Estate, Llandinam. The survey undertaken over two days was limited to three areas of woodland to the west of the River Severn including mature conifer plantations, mature mixed woodland and young deciduous plantations. The nature of the management of some of the woodlands made investigating all the sites impractical.

Archaeological and historical content

The surviving archaeological remains examined as part of this historic environment survey are post medieval in origin and roughly contemporary. The farmstead (prn67294) within Coed Mawr appears to have been abandoned by the time of the 1890 OS survey of the area as the enclosures and buildings appear abandoned and are unnamed on the first edition maps. Whether this abandonment was a result of the establishment of the woodland, which is not ancient, it is not clear. The surviving remains suggest a small holding of at least one stone building with a small system of closes or paddocks associated with it. The evidence of mining or at least trials at Carnedd Wood to the north, include a well-preserved level (prn22921) and two shafts only one of which prn67287 is within the survey area. Although a magazine is also known of it was not possible for various reasons to identify its position and condition. These features are a good example of probably late 18th/early 19th century mineral exploration, which judging by the lack of further investment proved fruitless.

Management objectives

The following sites require active management: (See individual records for details.)

22921: Carnedd, mine level - Remove all small trees of a diameter smaller than 30cm surrounding the opening of the level to ensure that it is not damaged or forced to collapse by

tree roots or wind blown trees. Remove all brash, small trees and scrub from the interior and sides of the approach to the level entrance.

See individual records in the site list for management recommendations for the remain sites.

Sources consulted

CPAT Sites & Monuments Record
CPAT OS Digital Mapping (GIS)
OS map, 1890 1st edition, 6 inch: Montgomeryshire 42NE & SW
OS map, 1891 1st edition, 6 inch: Montgomeryshire 42NW & SE
OS map, 1963, 6 inch: SN98 NE, SO08 NW
OS map, 1963, 6 inch: SO09 SW
Earwood, C. 1998/9. 'Managing Historic Landscapes within Woodland' from Quarterly Journal of Forestry
Forestry Commission. 1995. 'Forests and Archaeology Guidelines', HMSO.

Site list with management recommendations

Cae Domen, Mound (PRN 4713)

Medieval Motte ?
SO0309089170

Mound called Domen (RCAHM, 1911). Site now occupied by a turf terrace. Mound either built into or destroyed by this feature (OS, 1978).

Not seen. Site now occupied by level paddocks and a small vegetable garden (CPAT 1998).

Site not visited. (CPAT Better Woodland for Wales assessment, 2004)

Management recommendations

Although CPAT was not asked to examine this site for the Better Woodlands for Wales pilot, the following management recommendations may be relevant:

Though this site has been destroyed, any artefacts found in the vicinity should be reported to CPAT.

Carnedd, Mine Level (dis) (PRN 22921)

Post Medieval Level
SO0192890750

Level, captured from 1:25,000 map (OS, 1988)

A small mine level cut into a north facing heavily wooded slope related to a small shaft prn67287 and magazine prn67288. The level has a wide, open approach roughly 8m long and 4m wide with a cave-like entrance 1.5m high and 1m wide and at least 4m deep. The interior of the level is waterlogged and appears to have been partly in filled either naturally or on purpose. Although the approach and entrance can be identified it is surrounded and partially obscured by young unmanaged mixed woodland. (CPAT Better Woodlands for Wales assessment, 2004)

Management recommendations

1. Remove all small trees of a diameter smaller than 30cm surrounding the opening of the level to ensure that it is not damaged or forced to collapse by tree roots or wind blown trees.
2. Remove all brash, small trees and scrub from the interior and sides of the approach to the level entrance.
3. Do not infill or obscure the approach or the level entrance or interior.
4. Care should be taken when extracting timber or carrying out any woodland management exercises in on or near this site.

Last visited 24/05/2004 (CPAT)

Photo references [1652.006](#), [1652.007](#), [1652.008](#), [1652.009](#)

Carnedd Wood, mine (PRN 67287)

Post Medieval Mine SO0190090642

Small area of mining with a trial shaft, level (prn 22921) and magazine (prn 67288) in Carnedd Wood, marked on 1st edition OS map, 1890.

The remains of a small shaft, one of two sunk into a north-facing slope associated with level to the north (prn22921) and magazine (prn67288). This shaft is located in an area of young unmanaged mixed woodland; the second shaft (prn48792) is outside the wood 15m to the south. The head of the shaft within the woodland, which appears to be in filled, is roughly 4m wide and 0.5m deep in its centre with a slight bank no more than 0.3m-0.4m high. (CPAT Better Woodland for Wales assessment, 2004)

Management recommendations

1. Although the shaft appears to be in filled there is a danger that the shaft may still be unstable.
2. Do not infill or obscure the head of the shaft.
3. Care should be taken when extracting timber or carrying out any woodland management

exercises in on or near this site.

Last visited 24/05/2004 (CPAT)

Photo references [1652.013](#), [1652.014](#), [1652.015](#)

Carnedd Wood, magazine (PRN 67288)

Post Medieval Magazine
SO0176990603

Magazine marked on 1st edition OS map, 1890. Presumed to be related to other mining remains in Carnedd Wood (prns 22921 and 67287).

Site not located due to the impenetrable nature of the woodland it was not possible to identify the location, nature or condition of the magazine. (CPAT Better Woodland for Wales assessment, 2004)

Management recommendations

Should this feature be identified:

1. Do not remove any building materials from this site or disturb the ground in any way.
2. All mining features within woodland should be retained and protected from damage.
3. Care should be taken when extracting timber or carrying out any woodland management exercises in on or near this site.

Last visited 24/05/2004 (CPAT)

Cross Pipes, well (PRN 67289)

Post Medieval ? Well
SO0429889092

Well marked on 1st edition OS map (1890), just to south-west of Cross Pipes.

Site not visited. (CPAT Better Woodland for Wales assessment, 2004)

Management recommendations

Although CPAT was not asked to examine this site for the Better Woodlands for Wales pilot, the following management recommendations may be relevant:

This feature may contain important archaeological deposits.

1. Retain features and setting if they survive.
2. Do not infill. clean out or obscure.

3. Care should be taken when extracting timber or carrying out any woodland management exercises in on or near this site.

Pen-y-wern, house site (PRN 67290)

Post Medieval ? House ?
SO0394788749

House or small farmstead depicted on 1st edition OS map (1890). Not shown on modern digital mapping so presumed destroyed or ruined.

Site not located. (CPAT Better Woodland for Wales assessment, 2004)

Management recommendations

Although CPAT was not asked to examine this site for the Better Woodlands for Wales pilot, the following management recommendations may be relevant:

1. Do not remove any building material.
 2. There may be buried remains relating to the domestic or agricultural nature of the site. Do not disturb ground in any way.
 3. Control bracken, gorse and growth of woody plants, to prevent root damage to any archaeological deposits, upstanding features and to discourage burrowing animals.
 4. Vehicles, tractors and equipment should not be driven across or parked on or near to site as erosion caused by such machinery may damage above ground and/or buried archaeological deposits.
 5. Care should be taken when extracting timber or carrying out any woodland management exercises in on or near this site.
-

Pen-y-wern, well (PRN 67291)

Post Medieval ? Well
SO0396888784

Well depicted on 1st edition OS map (1890), just to north of house or small farm (prn 67290).

Site not located. (CPAT Better Woodland for Wales assessment, 2004)

Management recommendations

Although CPAT was not asked to examine this site for the Better Woodlands for Wales pilot, the following management recommendations may be relevant:

This feature may contain important archaeological deposits.

1. Retain features and setting if they survive.
 2. Do not infill, clean out or obscure.
 3. Care should be taken when extracting timber or carrying out any woodland management exercises in on or near this site.
-

Cottage Wood, pound (PRN 67292)

Post Medieval Pound SO0155989014

'Pound' marked on 1st edition OS map (1890), on north-western edge of Cottage Wood.

No evidence of a pound or any other form of enclosure could be identified with in this area of woodland. The name 'pound' as recorded on the first edition OS map may refer to a temporary structure for corralling farm animals. (CPAT Better Woodlands for Wales assessment, 2004)

Management recommendations

No management recommendations appropriate.

Last visited 23/04/2004 (CPAT)

Craig-y-don, quarry (PRN 67293)

Post Medieval ? Quarry SO0041788930

'Old Quarry' depicted on 1st edition OS map to south-west of Craig-y-don farm.

Site not located. (CPAT Better Woodland for Wales assessment, 2004)

Management recommendations

Although CPAT was not asked to examine this site for the Better Woodlands for Wales pilot, the following management recommendations may be relevant:

1. Do not infill or dump material.
 2. Maintain existing access ways and alignments to quarry.
 3. Control bracken, gorse and growth of woody plants, to prevent root damage to any archaeological deposits, upstanding features and to discourage burrowing animals.
 4. Care should be taken when extracting timber or carrying out any woodland management exercises in on or near this site.
-

Coed Mawr, farmstead (PRN 67294)

Post Medieval Farmstead SO0165487398

Area of irregular field boundaries within Coed Mawr containing an L-shaped feature, presumably a building. The likely interpretation of this is a small farmstead with surrounding enclosures, either pre-dating Coed Mawr, or if Coed Mawr is ancient woodland, an area of reclamation of that woodland.

It would appear from the map evidence and the age of the surrounding woodland that the house site un-named and ill defined on the first edition OS map had been abandoned by the time of its survey in 1890. The remains which include the slight evidence of at least one stone walled building and some earthen banks representing enclosure boundaries are located in an area of mature broadleaved woodland which is itself within an area of coniferous and broadleaved plantations. The evidence of the building suggests a single two celled stone building some 3m wide and 8m long with walls surviving only in outline no more than 0.2m high. A large amount of rubble stone building materials, not noted elsewhere within this area of woodland, may derive from this structure. The enclosure is defined by an earthen bank with the depleted remains of a previously layered mixed species hedge. The bank, which is between 0.5m-0.9m high and 0.4m-0.5m wide, probably defined a collection of small closes perhaps cleared from the woodland as assarts. (CPAT Better Woodlands for Wales assessment, 2004)

Management recommendations

1. Do not remove any building material from the site.
2. There are likely to be buried remains relating to the domestic and/or agricultural nature of the site. Do not disturb ground in any way.
3. Vehicles, tractors and equipment should not be driven across or parked on or near to site or the boundary banks during timber extraction and woodland management exercises as erosion caused by such machinery may damage above ground earthworks and/or buried archaeological deposits.
4. Care should be taken when extracting timber or carrying out any woodland management exercises in on or near this site.

Last visited 23/04/2004 (CPAT)

Photo references [1652.001](#), [1652.002](#), [1652.003](#), [1652.004](#), [1652.005](#),

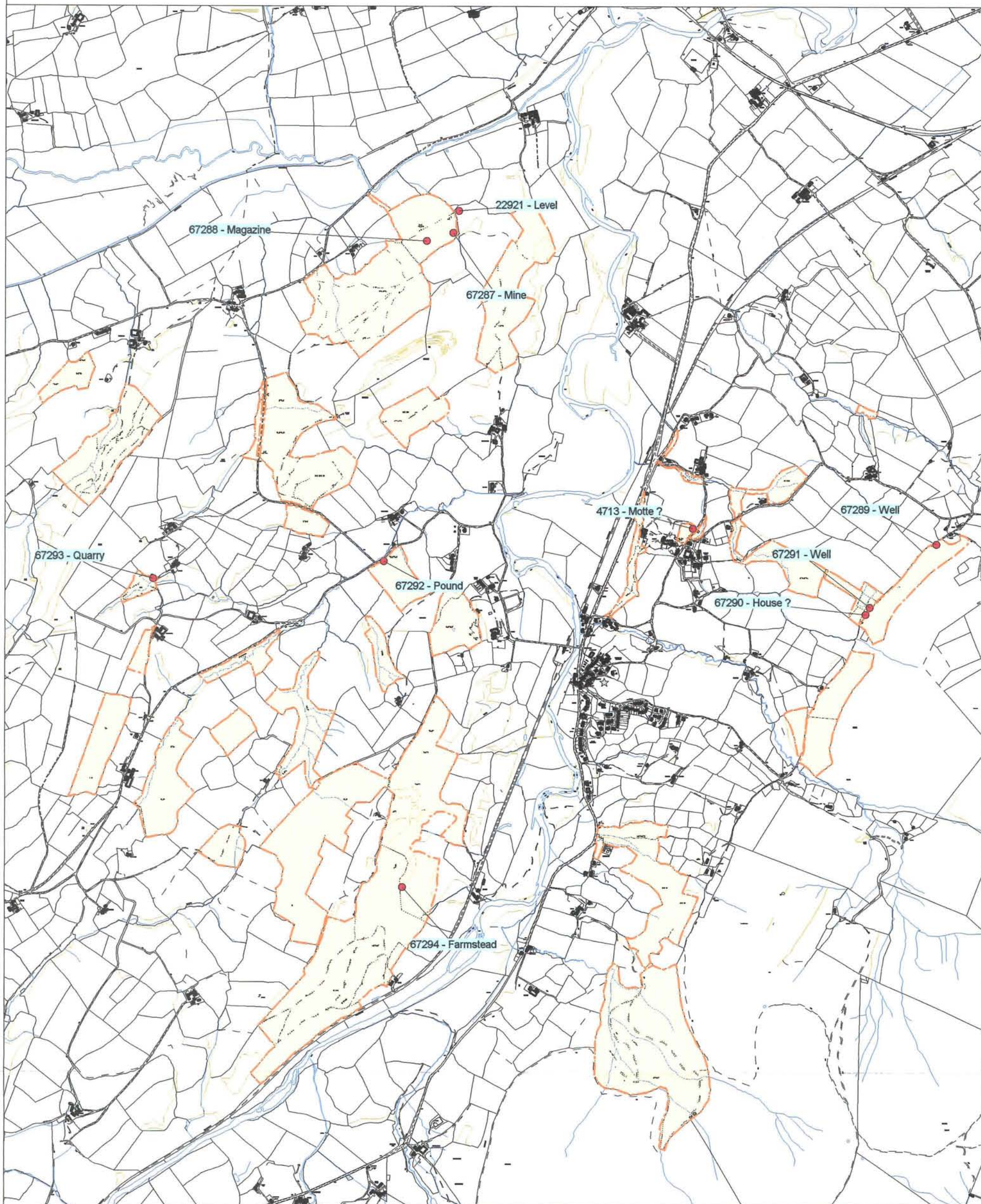
*CM - 10/05/2004 (14:46:29) - HTML file produced for Tir Gofal HE2 report.
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This HE2 report supercedes the information given in the [HE1 report](#) for this farm.

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Better Woodlands for Wales - Pilot Historic Environment Survey
Dinam Estate CPAT Project number: 1186/CPAT Report number: 634

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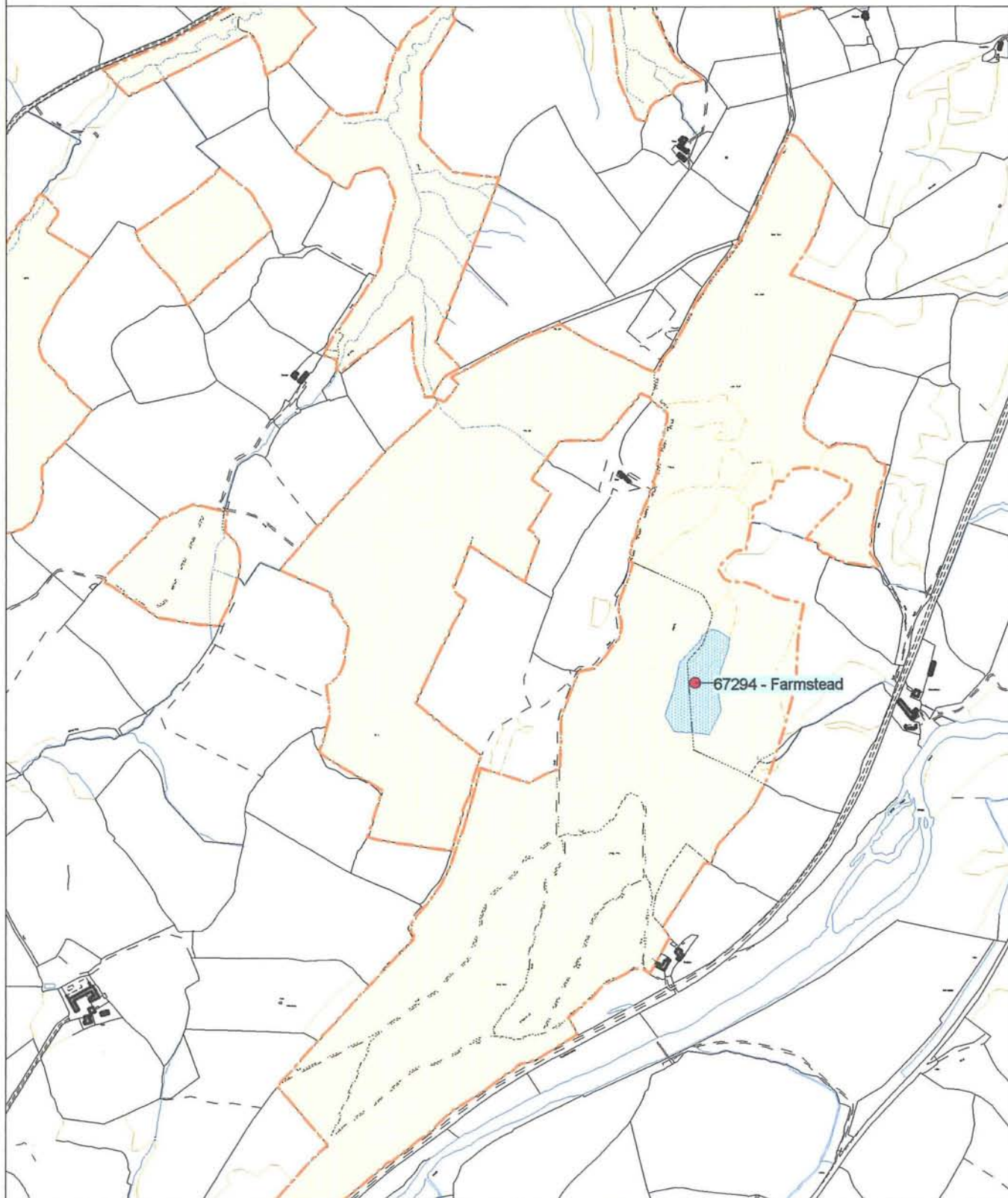
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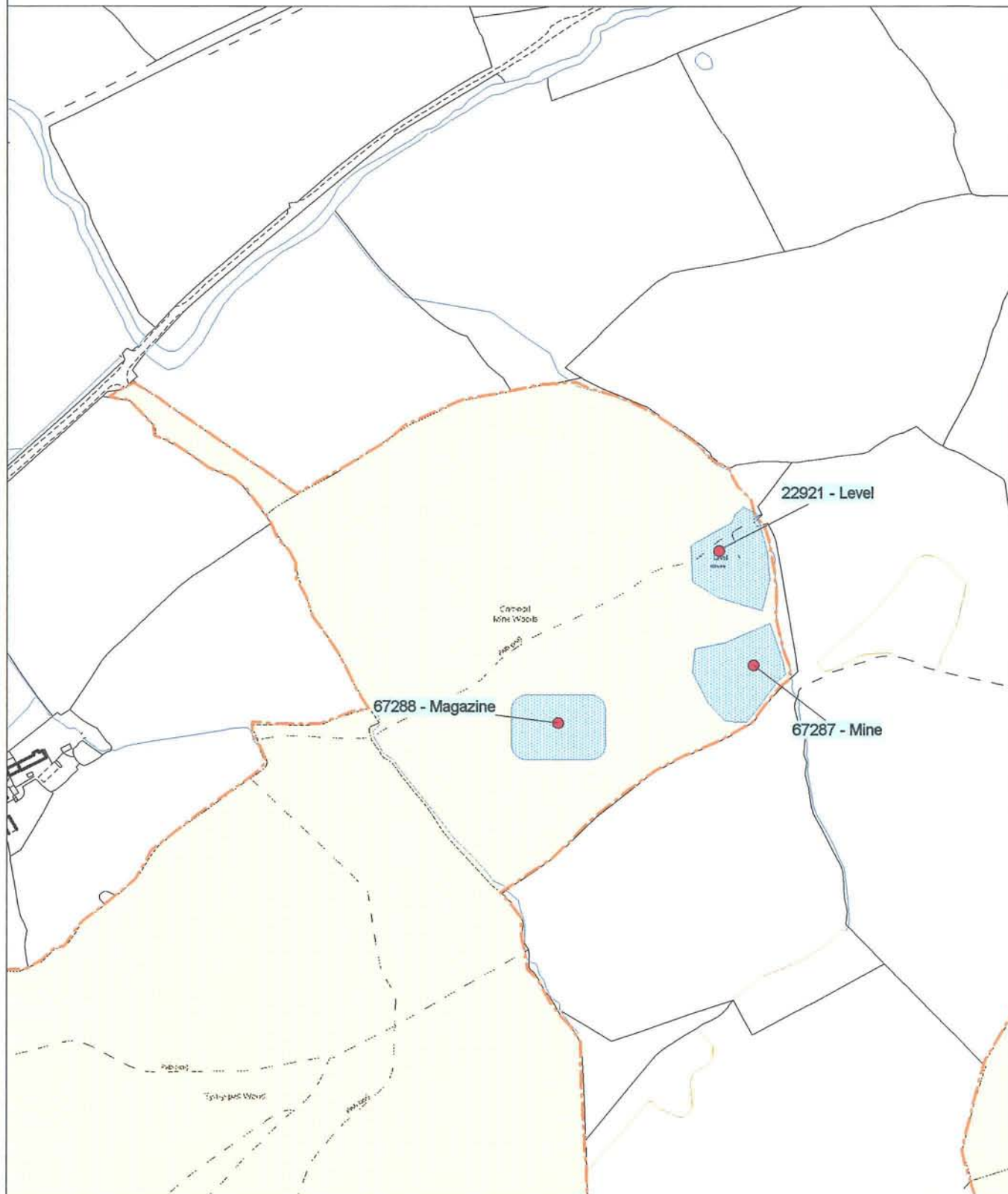
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