

Hoover Factory, Pentrebach, Merthyr Tydfil

Level 2 Building Recording

February 2026



Report No. 2457



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Prepared for Walters

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Summary

In January 2026, Archaeology Wales Ltd was commissioned to undertake a Level 2 Building Recording of the factory frontage and the semi-circular security hut on the former Hoover Site, Pentrebach Road, Pentrebach, CF45 4TU.

The Level 2 Building Recording relates to the comprehensive redevelopment of the former Hoover site to create a new neighbourhood, including up to 441 new homes, 1.5 hectares of employment land, community hub, community heat hub, metro station and transport hub, a network of open spaces, together with associated works, including improvement/works to the highway network. The associated Planning Reference Number is P/25/0165.

The Hoover factory was officially opened on the 12th of October 1948. It was designed by Wallis, Gilbert and Partners who had previously designed the Art Deco styled Perivale Hoover Headquarters and factory in London which opened in the early 1930s.

The frontage that we can see today dates to the early 2000s following structural repairs to the main entrance. It is likely at this time that the original red brick façade was replaced with the current frontage which endeavoured to replicate the original design including the reuse of the door and window canopies.

The interior of this entrance area retains many of the Art Deco elements it would have likely contained at the time of construction. It is likely that the staircase, railings and doors are original features.

While the security hut was designed to be more functional, externally, it reflected the Art Deco style of the nearby frontage. While this building has changed little over the years, there are few architectural details within, the more interesting components of the security hut are the surviving control panels which appear to be original and in situ.

The elements recorded during the survey, especially within the main entrance, are a snapshot of a significant period of time for industrial architecture. This architectural movement, championed by the designers Wallis, Gilbert and Partners, was known for celebrating the industrial buildings, resulting in palatial frontages to many mid-century factories seen around the country.

All works were carried out in accordance with the CIfA Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures (2019).

Crynodeb Annechnegol

Ym mis Ionawr 2026, comisiynwyd Archaeology Wales Ltd i gynnal Cofnodi Adeilad Lefel 2 o flaen y ffatri a'r bwth diogelwch hanner crwn ar hen Safle Hoover, Heol Pentrebach, Pentrebach, CF45 4TU.

Mae'r Cofnodi Adeilad Lefel 2 yn ymwneud â'r ailddatblygiad cynhwysfawr o hen safle Hoover i greu cymdogaeth newydd, gan gynnwys hyd at 441 o gartrefi newydd, 1.5 hectar o dir cyflogaeth, canolfan gymunedol, canolfan wres cymunedol, gorsaf metro a chanolfan drafnidiaeth, rhwydwaith o fannau agored, ynghyd â gwaith cysylltiedig, gan gynnwys gwelliannau/gwaith i'r rhwydwaith traffig. Y Rhif Cyfeirnod Cynllunio cysylltiedig yw P/25/0165.

Agorwyd ffatri Hoover yn swyddogol ar y 12fed o Hydref 1948. Fe'i cynllunwyd gan Wallis, Gilbert and Partners, a oedd eisoes wedi cynllunio pencadlys a ffatri Hoover arddull Art Deco yn Perivale, Llundain, a agorodd yn gynnar yn y 1930au.

Mae'r ffasâd sy'n weladwy heddiw yn dyddio o'r 2000au cynnar yn dilyn gwaith atgyweiriadau strwythurol i'r brif fynedfa. Mae'n debygol mai bryd hynny y cafodd y ffasâd brics coch gwreiddiol ei ddisodli gan y ffasâd bresennol, a ddyluniwyd i ail-greu'r cynllun gwreiddiol gan aildddefnyddio'r canopiâu drws a ffenestri.

Yn y tu mewn i'r ardal mynediad hon, cedwir nifer o'r nodweddion Art Deco y byddai'n debygol o fod wedi'u cynnwys ar adeg adeiladu. Mae'n debygol bod y grisiau, y rheiliau a'r drysau yn nodweddion gwreiddiol.

Er i'r bwth diogelwch gael ei gynllunio i fod yn fwy swyddogaethol, yn allanol roedd yn adlewyrchu arddull Art Deco y ffasâd gerllaw. Er nad yw'r adeilad hwn wedi newid llawer dros y blynyddoedd, ychydig o nodweddion pensaernïol sydd y tu mewn; y nodweddion mwyaf diddorol yn y bwth diogelwch yw'r paneli rheoli sy'n ymddangos yn wreiddiol ac yn eu lle.

Mae'r elfennau a gofnodwyd yn ystod yr arolwg, yn enwedig o fewn y brif fynedfa, yn bortread o gyfnod arwyddocaol ym myd pensaernïaeth ddiwydiannol. Roedd y mudiad pensaernïol hwn, dan arweiniad Wallis, Gilbert and Partners, yn nodedig am ddathlu adeiladau diwydiannol, gan greu ffasadau palasaidd i lawer o ffatrioedd canol-yr-ugeinfed ganrif ledled y wlad.

Cynhaliwyd yr holl waith yn unol â Safon a Chanllawiau CIfA ar gyfer Ymchwilio ac Archwilio Archeolegol i Adeiladau neu Strwythurau (2019).

1. Introduction

1.1.1. In January 2026, Archaeology Wales Ltd (henceforth-AW) was commissioned to undertake a Level 2 Building Recording of the factory frontage which comprises the curved entrance at the eastern corner and the semi-circular security hut on the former Hoover site, Pentrebach Road, Pentrebach, CF45 4TU. The site is centred on NGR SO 05740 04176 (Figure 1).

1.1.2. The Level 2 Building Recording relates to the comprehensive redevelopment of the site to create a new neighbourhood, including up to 441 new homes, 1.5 hectares of employment land, community hub, community heat hub, metro station and transport hub, a network of open spaces, together with associated works, including improvement/works to the highway network. The associated Planning Reference Number is P/25/0165.

1.1.3. Archaeological Planning Heneb Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeology (AP-HGGA), in their role as advisors to the local planning authority, wrote in a response to the application dated 31st July 2025, that:

"...the potential impact on both the Hoover Factory frontage, and the semi-circular security hut will likely require archaeological mitigation in order to preserve the structures by record. This is consistent with our response to the LDP.

Therefore, we recommend that a historic building survey is made prior to any work commencing. We would recommend that this takes the form of a Level 2 survey as set out in "Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice", Historic England, 2016. This will include a measured scale in the photographs and a directional plan."

1.1.4. As a consequence, Condition 30 was attached to the Grant of Planning Permission issued by Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council (MTCBC), which stated:

"No works shall commence on site until an appropriate programme of historic building recording and analysis has been secured and implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason - As existing buildings are of architectural and cultural significance the specified records are required to mitigate their loss and accord with Policy CW1 of the Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council Replacement Local Development Plan."

- 1.1.5. A Written Scheme of Investigation was prepared by Pete Clarke, Archaeology Wales Project Officer, prior to the site visit (Appendix II). The building recording was completed on 27th of January 2026 by Charley James-Martin.
- 1.1.6. All works were carried out in accordance with the CIfA *Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures* (2020) and Historic England's *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (2016). Archaeology Wales Ltd is a Registered Organisation with CIfA.

2. Site Description

- 2.1.1. The site of the former Hoover factory is located between the village of Pentrebach and town of Merthyr Tydfil, centre on NGR SO 05740 04176 (Figure 1). It is situated along the south-western side of Merthyr Road (A4054).
- 2.1.2. The former factory is located on a roughly triangular parcel of land, wider to the south and tapering to the north. It is bound to the south by a cricket ground, with the main Cardiff to Merthyr Tydfil railway line on its western edge, and Merthyr Road on its eastern boundary.
- 2.1.3. The buildings of the former factory remain in situ. The main building was extended to the north during the late 20th century, with several phases of

expansion occurring between 1951 and the 1970s. Various ancillary buildings are located to the rear of the building, bordering the railway. A warehouse, constructed in 2005, is located to the south-west end of the factory complex.

3. Methodology

- 3.1.1. A Level 2 Building Recording is a descriptive record. Its primary objective is to describe and record, by means of high-resolution digital photography, all of the key components of the affected building so that a permanent record survives prior to works.
- 3.1.2. The research and investigation into the building and its setting has included an examination of primary and secondary sources, all relevant archaeological reports on works undertaken on the site and in the area, aerial photographic evidence, historic mapping, place name evidence and all relevant sources held in local, regional and national archives.
- 3.1.3. The Level 2 Building Recording was undertaken by a suitably experienced building recording archaeologist who can understand and interpret the structure and record the important details. The survey was undertaken prior to any development works on the structure.
- 3.1.4. Full access was possible to the exterior of both the main building and security hut, likewise the interiors. The only internal space not accessed was the security hut storeroom. Descriptive records were made, and photographs were taken. Plans of the existing building were provided by the client and amended/updated following the site visit (Figure 2). Photographs were taken in high-resolution digital format with a measured scale where access was possible. Plans showing the photo locations have been produced (Figure 2).
- 3.1.5. The work has been completed in accordance with CIfA's *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing*

buildings or structures (2020) and to a standard equivalent to Historic England Level 2, laid out in *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (2016).

4. Historical Background

- 4.1.1. The site of the former Hoover factory is located on land that was once owned by the Pentrebach Forges, itself part of the Plymouth Ironworks, and used as a rubbish tip for industrial waste from the Ironworks – as seen in the 1850 Tithe map apportionment. The site continued to be used for waste disposal until the closure of the Pentrebach Ironworks in 1882. Historic maps throughout the early 20th century show the continued presence of the disused waste rubbish tips well after the Ironworks' closure.

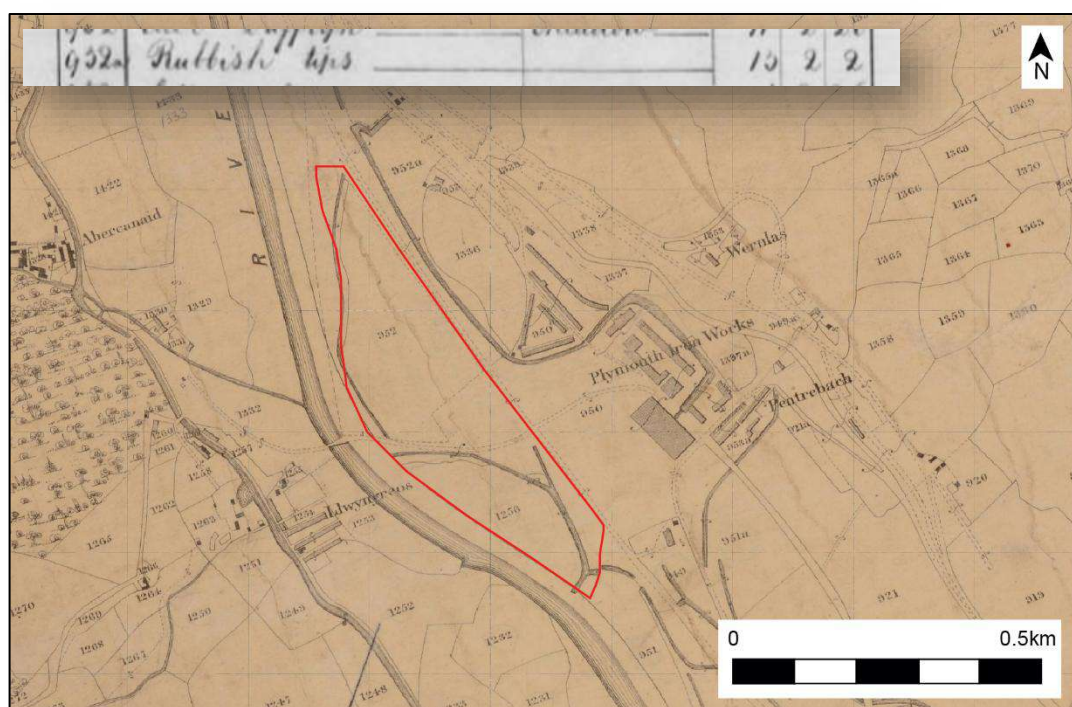


Plate 1. Plan of the parish of Merthyr Tydfil in the County of Glamorgan dated 1850 showing the area of the Hoover site (red).

- 4.1.2. In 1945, Hoover Ltd acquired the rights to manufacture an electric washing machine invented by G. Gibson of Bellevue, Iowa, USA. Having no space at its current UK factories, the company sought a new site for large scale

manufacture of the machine. Government policy at the time restricted the opening of new industrial sites outside of key development areas. Therefore, Hoover agreed to build a new factory just south of Merthyr Tydfil, on the site of the disused Pentrebach Ironworks waste tips (Gooberman, 2017).

- 4.1.3. The new Hoover Factory was officially opened on the 12th of October 1948. It was designed by Wallis, Gilbert and Partners following the success of the London Hoover site in Perivale, London.
- 4.1.4. The day of the opening saw guests, who were invited to tour the factory, arrive via a special train from London. After the guests' departure, the factory workers were treated to a fireworks display, dance and cabaret – the last of which was broadcast live of the BBC's Light Programme (People's Collection Wales).



Plate 2. Programme for the official opening of the Hoover factory, Pentrebach, Merthyr Tydfil, 12 October 1948. Courtesy of Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council, Central Library.

- 4.1.5. The building is two-storeys high but has a raised façade on the corner. The

curved eastern corner is located at the centre, with its large door and window, and associated concrete lintel visible in the drawing. The eastern aspect of the building shows the building extending for a great deal further than the original 1948 structure. Whether this demonstrates that the company always planned to extend the building northward, or just simply a desire for the aesthetics of symmetry on the programme's front cover, is unclear. The security hut is not included in this image.



Plate 3. Photograph taken on the opening day of the Hoover Factory in 1948. Courtesy of Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council, Central Library.

- 4.1.6. A photograph taken on the opening day shows a clear view of the frontage (Plate 3). The building looks very similar to the design seen on the programme's front cover, with the clearest difference being the shorter eastern aspect. The "HOOVER" sign above the central window is included, as are three flagpoles atop the eastern corner. The large, rounded staircase leading up to the main doorway is now visible. The security hut is present, with its semi-circular aspect facing the photographer. Large marquees are located on the left of the photograph, immediately to the south of the security hut. These block the view of the canteen building which can be seen in an aerial

photograph, also taken on the opening day (Plate 4).



Plate 4. Aerial photograph taken on the opening day of the Hoover Factory in 1948. Courtesy of alangeorge.co.uk

- 4.1.7. The 1951 Ordnance Survey map shows the new buildings of the Hoover factory. The main building, with its curved eastern corner, is the focal point of the new complex, with the security hut located adjacent. The canteen building as well as other ancillary buildings to the south-west are also visible. The land to the north of the factory still shows the presence of disused rubbish tips.
- 4.1.8. Another photograph, taken from a similar viewpoint in the 1950s shows the factory largely unchanged. By now the main factory building has extended both to the north and the west. Both eastern and southern aspects have "HOOVER WASHING MACHINES" signage above the first-floor windows.
- 4.1.9. The 1964 National Grid map shows the factory complex in greater detail than the previous survey. The main warehouse has doubled in size, extending to the north, with another building of a similar size and shape having been built to the north. Further ancillary buildings are located south-west of this new

building. The curved corners of the factory's frontage are clearly visible, as are the steps leading up to the main doorway. The semi-circular shape of the security hut can be seen next to the entrance to the factory complex.

- 4.1.10. A photograph, taken in the 1960s, shows six Hoover-branded articulated lorries parked outside the main entrance (Plate 5).



Plate 5. Photograph taken in the 1960s of the Hoover Factory entrance. Courtesy of alangeorge.co.uk

- 4.1.11. The lorries block some of the lower portions of the frontage, but most of the eastern corner and first floors are visible. The proximity of the photograph to the building shows greater detail than previous images but does not include the security hut. The brickwork is continuous with no clear breaks for the majority of the frontage. The brickwork appears to have a different texture above the first-floor windows, and the outer parts of the raised corner façade. This could possibly represent a different mortar or brickwork used on this portion of the frontage. The "HOOVER WASHING MACHINES" signage seen in the 1950s photograph has been removed.

- 4.1.12. The 1972 National Grid map shows further extensions of the factory complex to the north. This is the final significant addition to the factory complex, representing the peak of production at the site. By 1973, the Hoover Factory employed over 5,000 workers, making it the largest employer in Merthyr Tydfil, earning the town the nickname of “Hooverville” (Armstrong, 2017).
- 4.1.13. The Hoover company was sold to Italian company Candy in 1995, and staff number began to decline. Candy moved its production abroad, with the factory closing in May 2009. Since then, the buildings of the complex have served as a national distribution centre for Hoover Caddy. Modern satellite imagery shows the construction of another warehouse to the south of the site in the early 2000s. No further changes are made in the layout of the factory complex up to the present day.

5. Building description

5.1. Hoover Factory Frontage

- 5.1.1. The Hoover factory frontage is formed by the south-eastern corner of the main factory building which faces out into the site's main entrance and security hut. It is recorded on the HER as GGAT09268m – Hoover Factory Frontage, Merthyr Tydfil, and the description relates to an earlier, now demolished/obscured, 1948 frontage.
- 5.1.2. The frontage that we can see today dates to the early 2000s. In April 2000, planning permission was granted (Ref-P/00/0061) for structural repairs to the piers and to the main entrance of the offices. It is at this time that the original red brick façade was replaced with the current frontage (Plate 6). No information has been found to help determine the extent of the damage to the original façade. It is possible it was completely removed or has been covered by a replacement brick skin.

- 5.1.3. The current frontage is formed from a buff-coloured curving brick façade that stands proud of the rest of the structure (Plate 6 and 7). This is flanked by brick piers that stand the full height of the frontage. At the base of the piers are projecting brick end wall planters (Plate 8).
- 5.1.4. At the base of the exterior is a set of wide curving concrete steps that lead to the double door covered entrance way (Plate 9). The entrance contains two, likely original, oak doors with tarnished brass handles with a tiered canopy with scalloped leadwork trim above (Plates 10 and 11). This looks to be the original canopy. The brickwork flanking the entrance curves in towards the doorway reflecting the original façade with its Art Deco style.
- 5.1.5. Above the entranceway is a tall, rectangular, vertically oriented, multi-light window, also flanked by curved brickwork in a similar style to the doorway below (Plate 12). In the centre of the upper half of the window is a geometric patterned stained-glass window, which is best viewed from the interior (Plate 13). This window is topped by the original tiered canopy as seen on historic photographs (see Plate 12).
- 5.1.6. Flanking the main doorway, at the outer edge of the curved façade are small rectangular tri-light windows. These have white painted concrete sills and lintels (Plate 14).
- 5.1.7. A second set of double doors enclosed the square entrance that led to the reception area (Plates 15 and 16). The doors have multi-light glazing, currently containing geometric stained-glass which is also present in the triple transom window above. This style of door is also visible at the rear of the reception area but without the stained-glass element.
- 5.1.8. Internally, the Art-Deco style is replicated, with the architectural elements of the stringline and cornice following the contours of the curving frontage (Plates 16 and 17). The walls are painted plaster and the flooring a combination

of patterned marble/terrazzo flooring and carpet. At the outer edge of the south-western curve is a plain pilaster that stretches from the floor to the ceiling. Whilst either side of the tall lancet window, the walls curve outwards, and have been rounded to replicate columns.

- 5.1.9. The reception area contained a half-landing staircase which the style suggests is original to the building's construction (Plate 18). The handrails which continue along the first-floor gallery overlooking the reception area and 'H' finial are similar in style to that of the Perivale Hoover Headquarters (Plate 19).
- 5.1.10. At the half landing are two stained glass windows, in the same style as that on the frontage (Plate 18). A smaller stained-glass window lies on the opposite wall above the curved gallery (Plate 19).
- 5.1.11. Many of the internal fittings appear to be original, or at least in the style of, including the remaining doors with their brass fittings, the staircase and railings including a decorative 'H' finial and light fitting (Plates 15-21), these have not been described in detail as they lay outside of the scope of the building recording.

5.2. Security Hut

- 5.2.1. This building is recorded on the HER as GGAT09269m - Circular security hut to the front of Hoover Factory, Merthyr Tydfil.
- 5.2.2. The security hut is a semi-circular building around 10-15m south-east of the main entrance and respects the curved frontage style of the main building (Plate 22).
- 5.2.3. The exterior of the structure is beige painted brick with a black damp course at the base (Plates 23-26). Visually, it appears to be barely altered since its construction, which was contemporary with the main building. The appearance of the security hut is dominated by the extensive windows that span the entire curved section, along with a central doorway, all of which are shaded by a flat

concrete and felt canopy, painted white. The current glazing and door are modern PVC replacements in a similar style to those seen in historical photos.

- 5.2.4. The rear of the security hut is flat fronted and flat roofed and has two doorways that lead into a utility room and a storeroom (Plates 27 and 28). This elevation was originally symmetrical in nature, however the southern doorway has been reduced and infilled by the addition of brickwork and now houses a single PVC door and two lancet windows. In comparison, the northern doorway comprises white painted timber panelled triple opening with central door all with plain transom windows above.
- 5.2.5. Adjoining the rear elevation was a red brick enclosure used as a planter. It's unclear from historic mapping if this is contemporary with the building or is a later construction.
- 5.2.6. Internally the security hut is separated into six rooms. The main doorway leads to a security reception area (Plates 29-34). This had painted plaster walls and carpet tiles over painted concrete floor. The room contains a front desk and a partitioned area used for monitoring security cameras. Behind the front desk was a window through to the adjoining room. Further along this wall to the right of the door to the office was a combination dial lock built into the wall.
- 5.2.7. On the northern side of the reception area, adjacent to the door leading through to the next room, there are multiple control panels fitted within the wall.
- 5.2.8. On the southern side of the reception area, a doorway leads to an office space with painted plaster walls and carpet tiles. Leading from this space is a utility area and WC which both have painted brickwork and painted concrete floor. A doorway from the utility area leads to the rear of the building.
- 5.2.9. On the northern side of the reception area, is a small irregular shaped room that contained a free-standing safe and wall mounted electrical equipment.

- 5.2.10. A remaining part of the building was an inaccessible area accessed from the rear entrance noted on plans as a store. A sign on the exterior of the building notes it as being FSE Store.

6. Discussion and Interpretation

- 6.1.1. The site of the former Hoover factory once formed part of the Plymouth/Pentre-bach Ironworks being largely used to store the waste tips from the works. Historic maps through the early 20th century show the continued presence of the disused waste rubbish tips after the Ironworks' closure.
- 6.1.2. In 1945 Hoover Ltd were seeking new premises to accommodate the new acquired rights to manufacture an electric washing machine. Due to government restrictions on the construction of new industrial sites outside of key development areas, the site at Pentrebach was selected.
- 6.1.3. The new Hoover factory was officially opened on the 12th of October 1948. It was designed by Wallis, Gilbert and Partners who had previously designed the Perivale Hoover Headquarters and factory in London which opened in the early 1930s.
- 6.1.4. The design of the new factory in Merthyr was in-keeping with the Perivale HQ in the Art Deco style that Wallis, Gilbert and Partners were known for. The focal point of the factory was the entrance to the office formed from a tall palatial façade and oversized glazing which are common elements favoured by the architects (Jones 1985).
- 6.1.5. However, the frontage that we can see today dates to the early 2000s following planning consent being granted for structural repairs to the piers and to the main entrance of the offices in April 2000. It is presumably at this time that the original red brick façade was replaced with the current frontage which has tried

to respect the original design, including the reuse of the original features such as the door and window canopies.

- 6.1.6. The interior of this entrance area retains many of the original architectural elements it would have likely had at the time of construction, although it is difficult to determine if these are original or stylistically in-keeping following renovation. The staircase, railings and doors are likely to be original.
- 6.1.7. While the security hut was designed with function in mind, externally, it reflected the Art Deco style of the nearby frontage and itself looked practically futuristic in its surrounding environment of the time. While this building has changed little over the years, there are few architectural details within, the more interesting components of the security hut are the surviving control panels which appear to be original and in situ.

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Ordnance Survey National Grid maps, *SO0404-SO0504 – AA*, revised 1962, published 1964, 1:2,500.

Ordnance Survey National Grid maps, *SO0404-SO0504 – BB*, revised 1971, published 1972, 1:2,500.



Figures

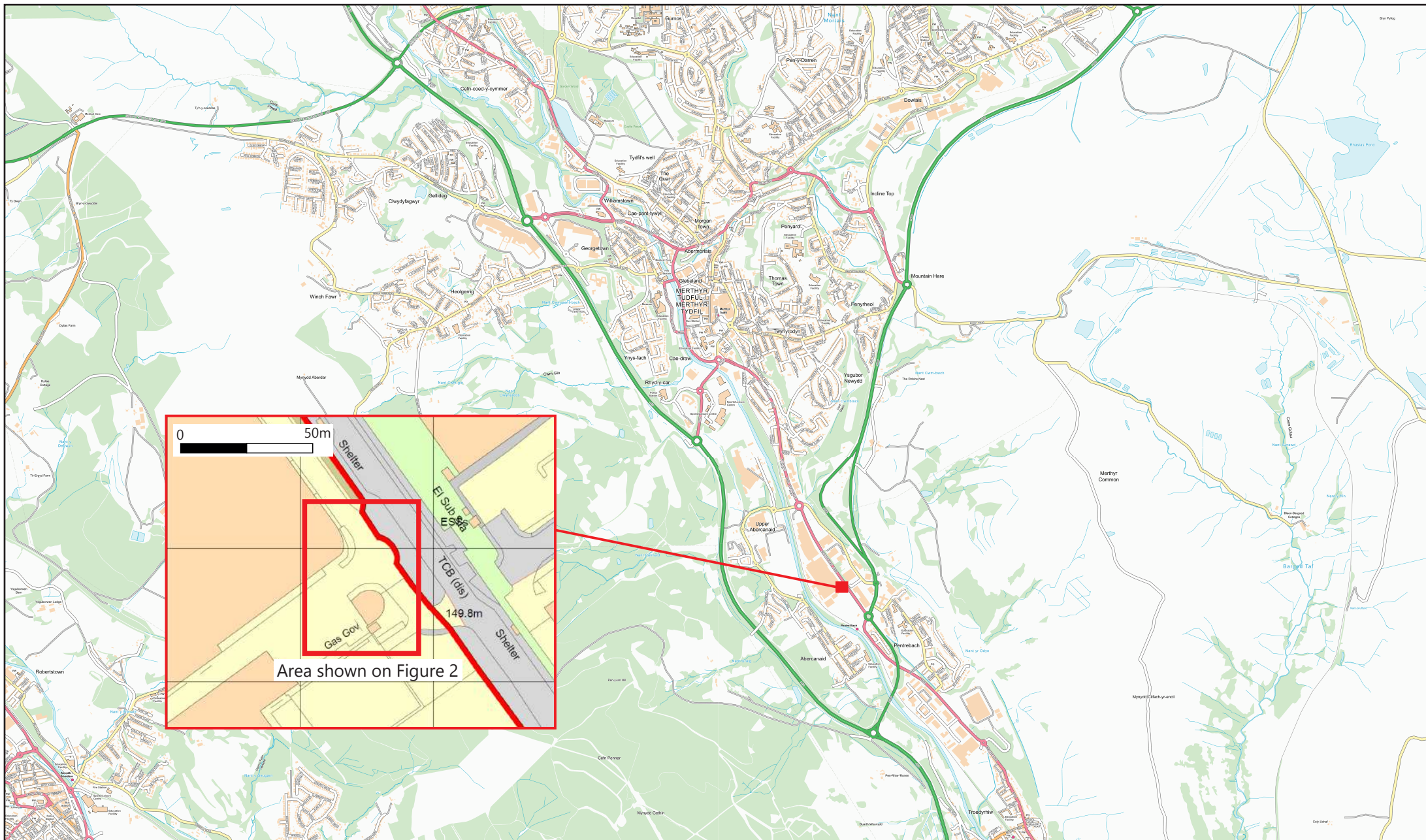


Figure 1. Site location

— Site



0 1km 2km



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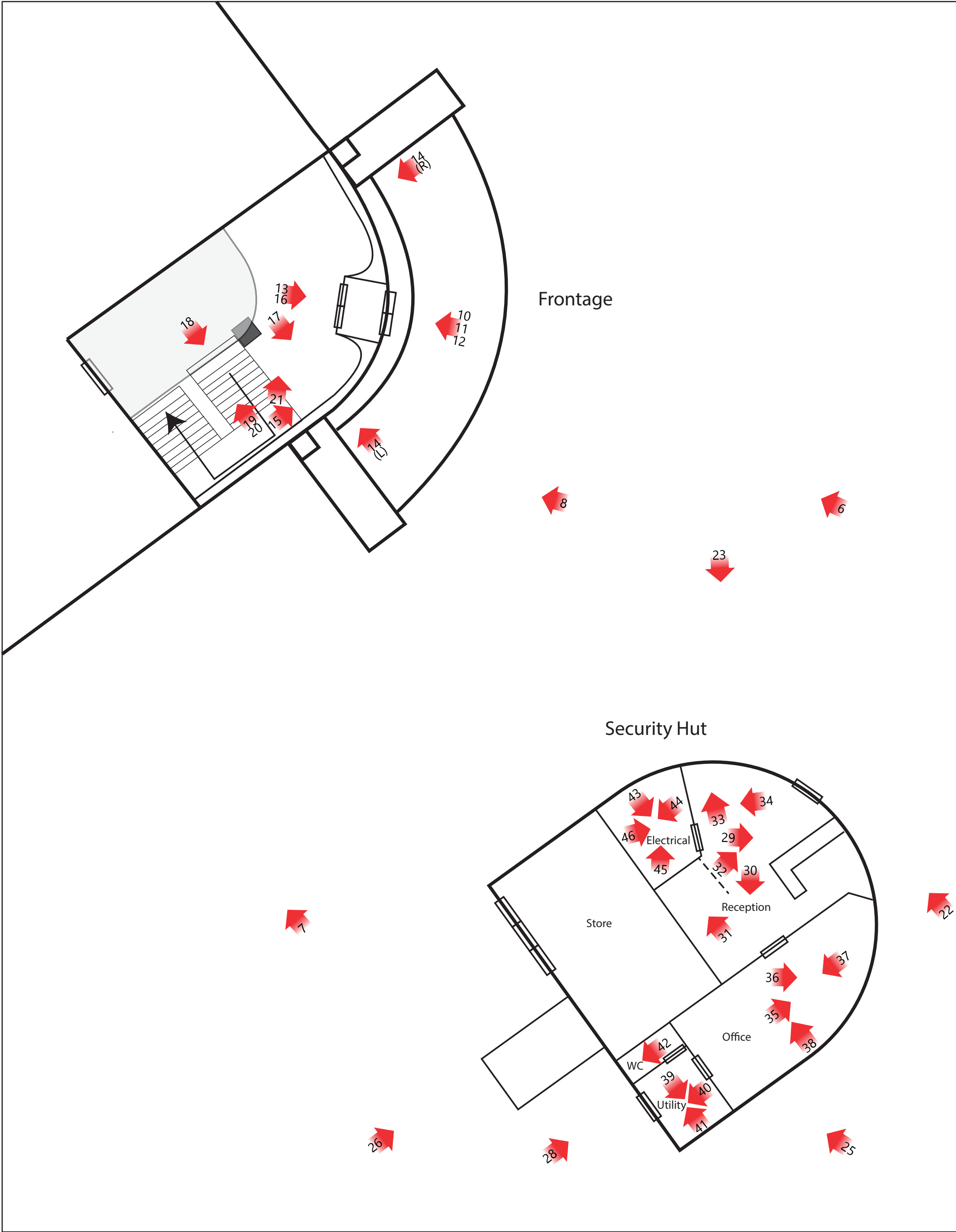


Figure 2. Building layout and photograph location





Plates



Plate 6. Frontage of Hoover main building, view to the north-west



Plate 7. South-east facing elevation of Hoover main building.



Plate 8. Step end wall and planter, view to the north-west.



Plate 9. Steps at the main entrance, view to the north.



Plate 10. Front door of main entrance, view to the north-west.



Plate 11. Detail of front door, view to the north-west.



Plate 12. Window within front elevation, view to the north-west.



Plate 13. Stained glass window detail, as seen from the interior, view to the south-east.

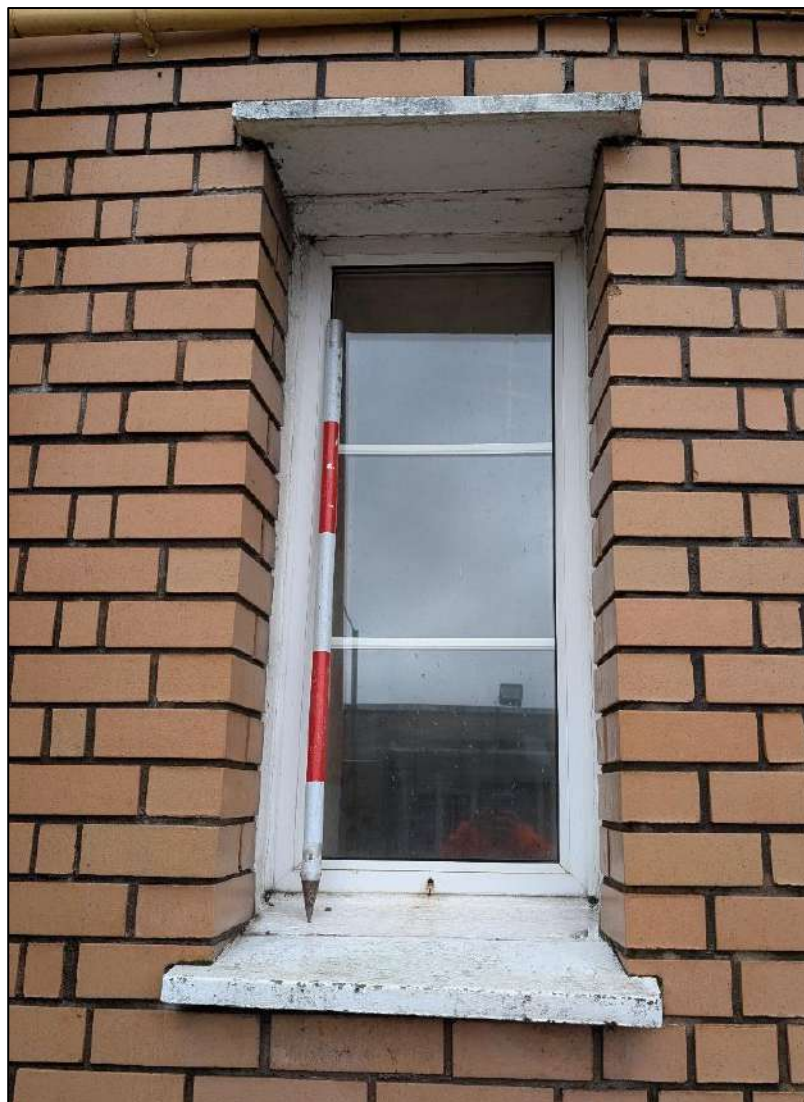


Plate 14. Windows flanking the main doorway. Left – western window, view to the north-west. Right – eastern window, view to the south-west

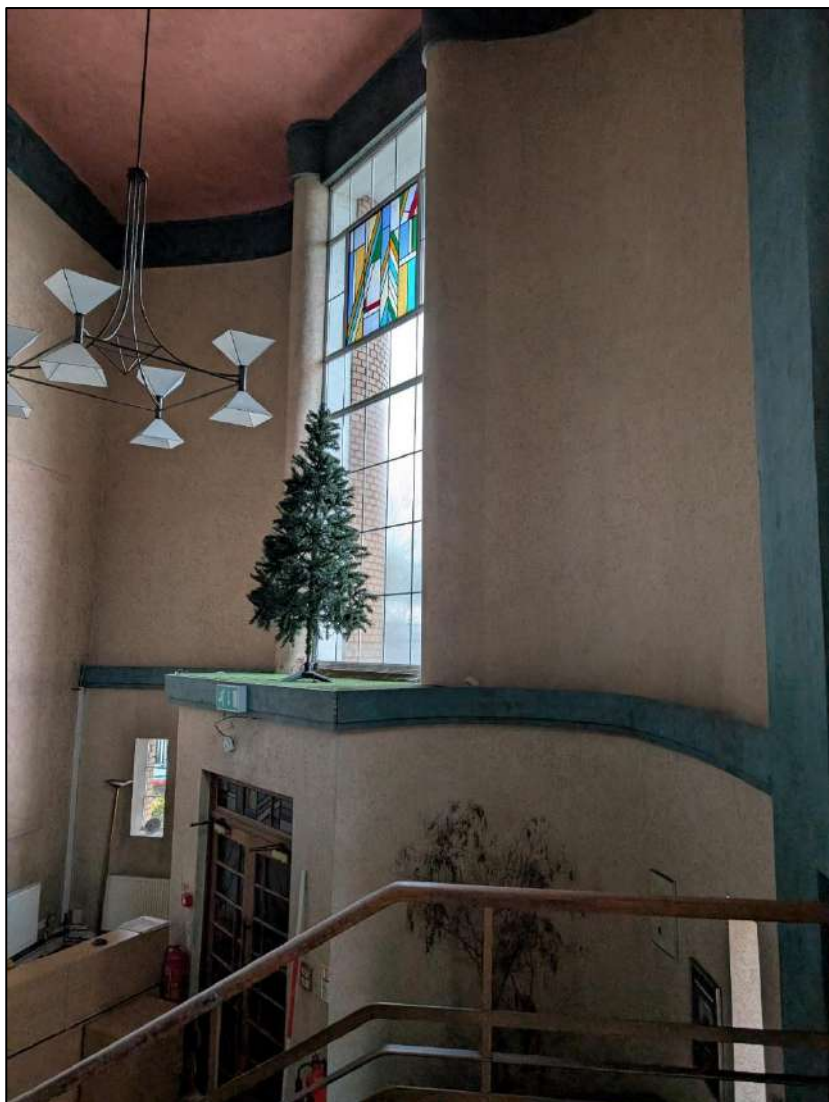


Plate 15. Internal elevation of the frontage, view to the north-east.

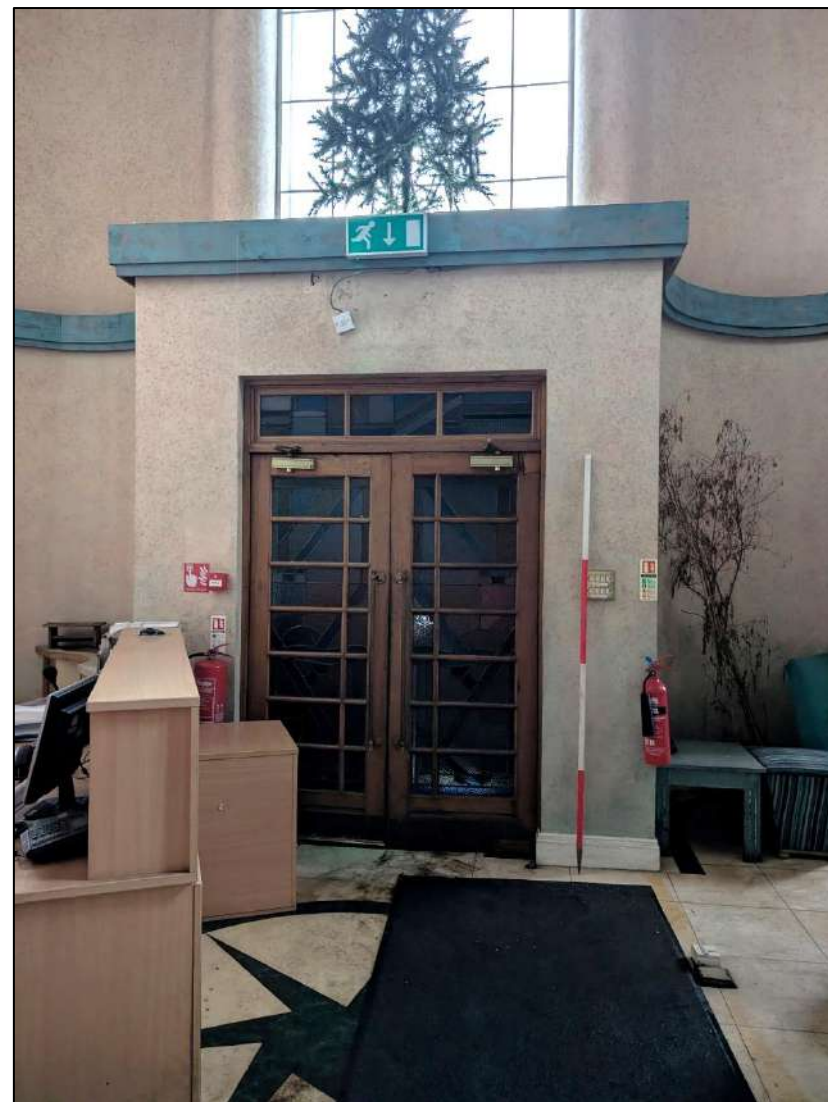


Plate 16. Internal elevation of the frontage, view to the south-east



Plate 17. Internal elevation of the frontage, view to the south.

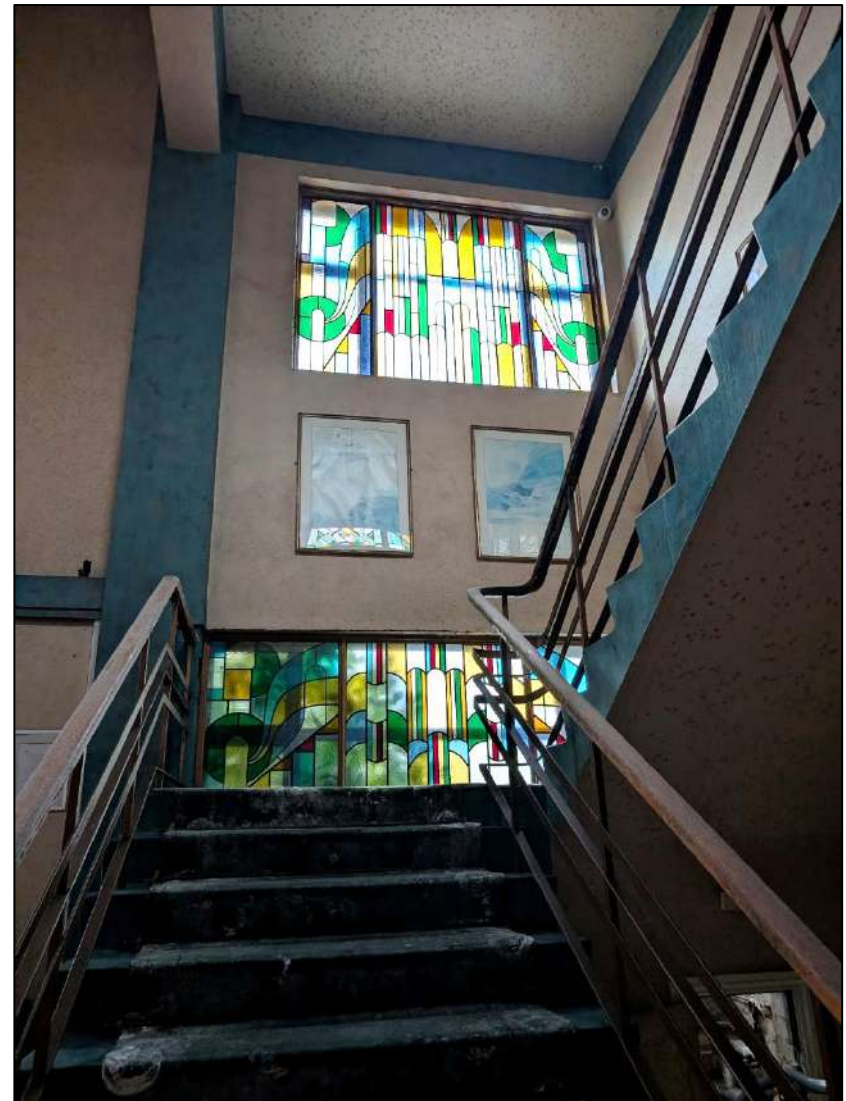


Plate 18. Staircase leading up from main reception area, view to the south-east.

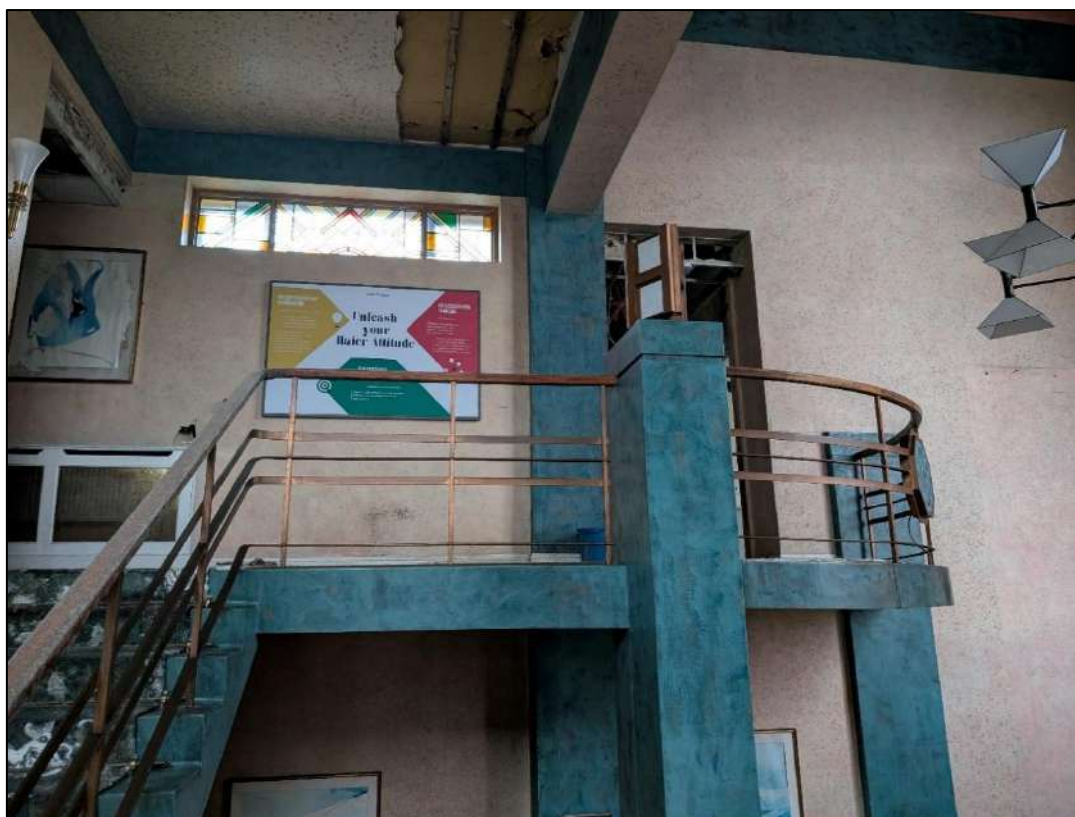


Plate 19. Balcony of upper floor overlooking reception area within main entrance showing likely original railing and 'H' finial, view to the north north-west

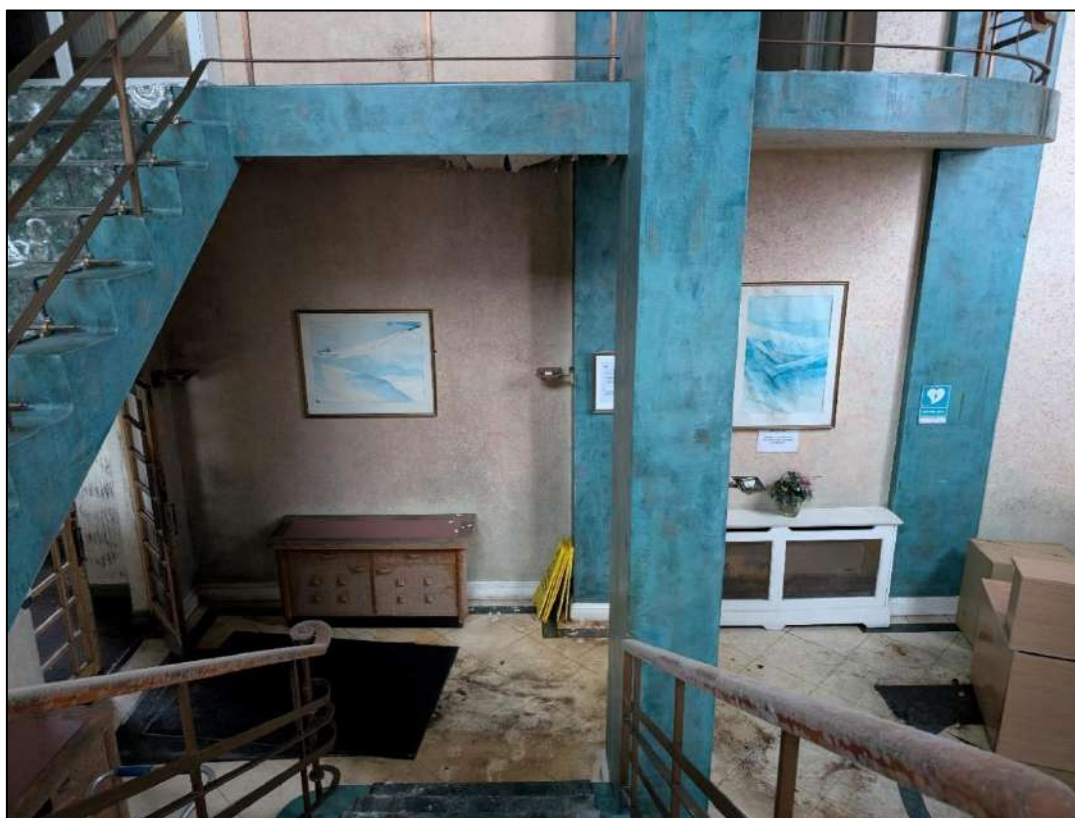


Plate 20. View to reception area from stairs showing likely original railing, view to the north north-west



Plate 21. Detail of chandelier and railings over the main reception area, view to the north.



Plate 22. Security hut and main frontage, view to the north-west.



Plate 23. Security hut exterior, view to the south.



Plate 24. Security hut exterior, view to the south-east.



Plate 25. Security hut exterior, view to the north-west.



Plate 26. Security hut exterior, view to the east-north-east.



Plate 27. Left rear door, view to the north.



Plate 28. Right side rear door, view to the north-east.



Plate 29. Reception area, front desk, view to the east.

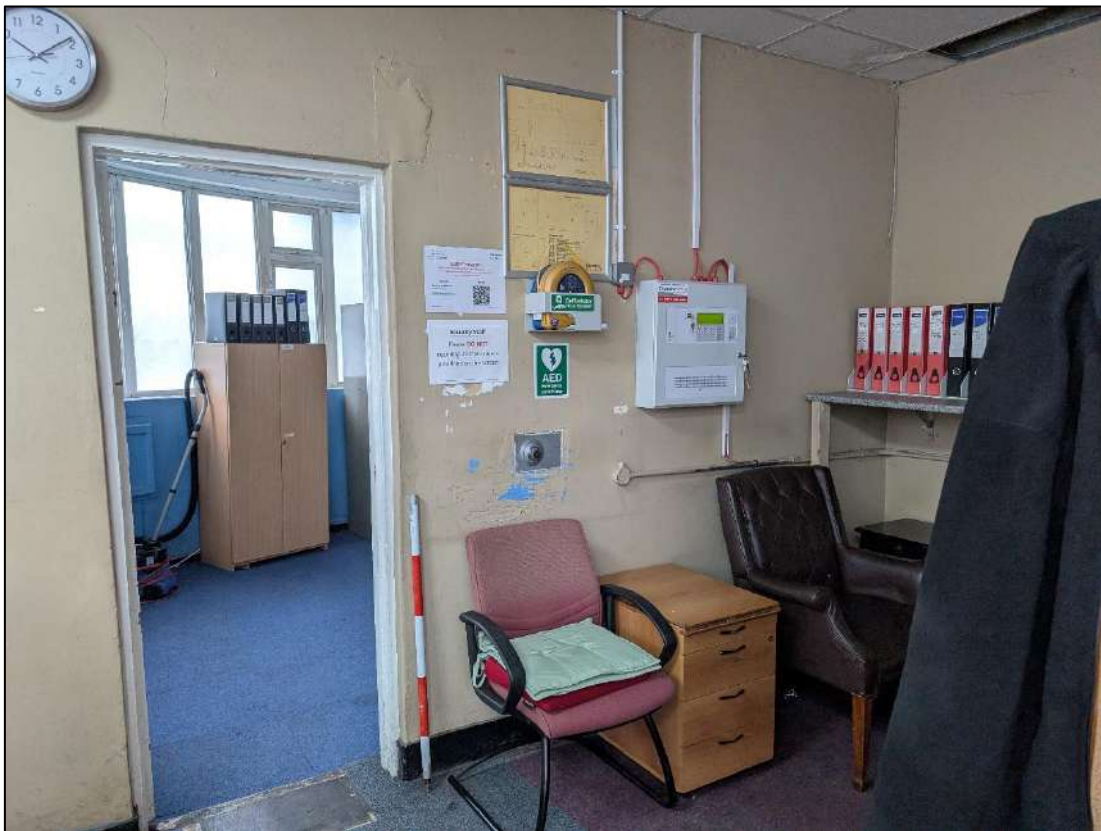


Plate 30. Reception area, door leading to office, view to the south.



Plate 31. Partitional area of reception, view to the north-west.



Plate 32. Front interior of security hut, view to the north-east.



Plate 33. Interior of security hut, view to the north-west.



Plate 34. Doorway to electrical room showing control panels, view to the west.



Plate 35. Office, view to the north-east.



Plate 36. Office, view to the east.



Plate 37. Office, view to the south-west.



Plate 38. Office, view to the north-west.



Plate 39. Utility room, view to the south-east.



Plate 40. Utility room, view to the south-west.



Plate 41. Utility room, view to the north-west towards WC.



Plate 42. WC, view to the south-west.



Plate 43. Electrical room, view to the south-east.

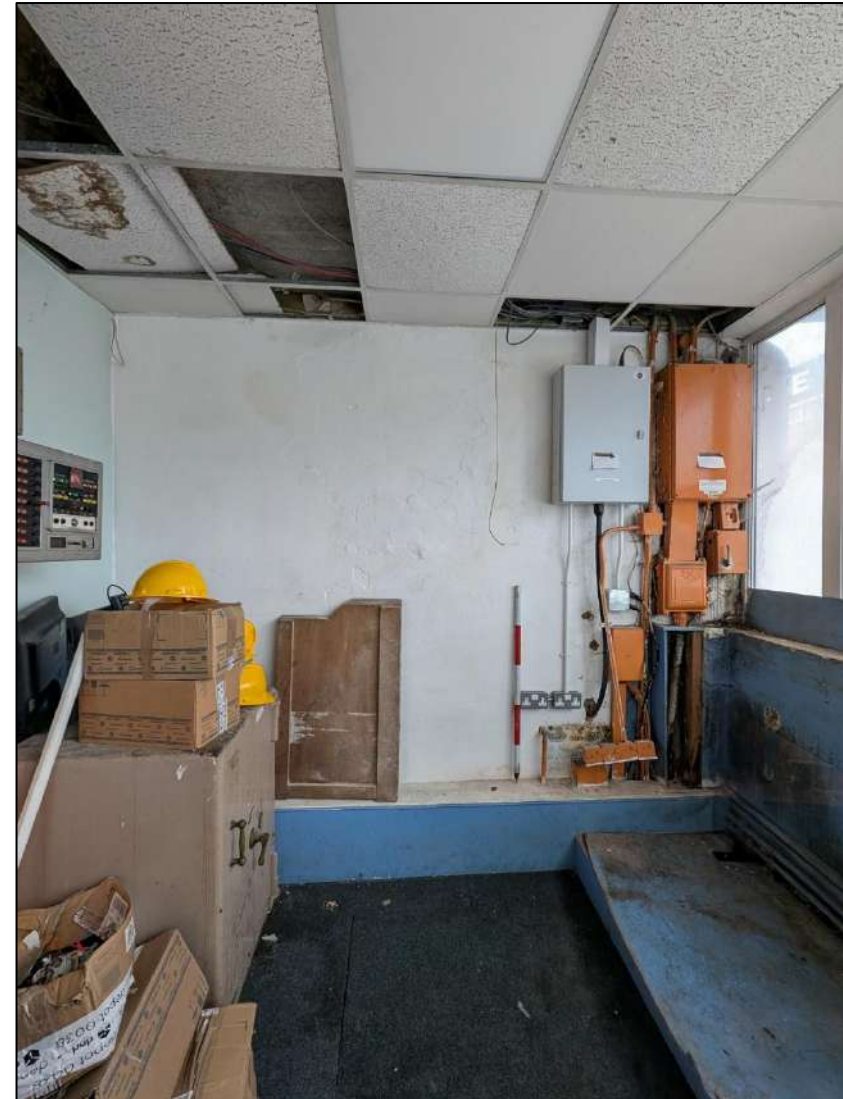


Plate 44. Electrical room, view to the south-west.



Plate 45. Electrical room, view to the north.



Plate 46. Electrical room, view to the east

Appendix I: Data Management Plan

Section 1: Project Administration

Project ID
3267
Project Name
Hoover Factory Pentrebach, Merthyr Tydfil
Project Description
Programme of archaeological building recording (Level 2) on the Hoover Factory frontage and security hut at the former Hoover Site, Pentrebach Road, Pentrebach, CF45 4TU. The work is associated to Condition 30 of Planning Application P/25/0165.
Project Funder / Grant reference
Walters Land Ltd
Project Manager
Charley James-Martin
Principal Investigator / Researcher
As above
Data Contact Person
Charley James-Martin - charley@arch-wales.co.uk
Date DMP created
20/01/2026
Date DMP last updated
06/02/2026
Version
V2
Related data management policies
This DMP is guided by the Project Brief, ClfA Standards and guidance, trusted digital repository guidelines (RCAHMW) or other best practice guidance (see brief for details)

Section 2: Data Collection

What data will you collect or create?
The table below provides a summary of the data types, formats and estimated archive volume for data collected / created as part of this project. As the project progresses, more detail regarding files will be added to this DMP.

Type	Format	Estimated volume (Data Archived)
Spreadsheets	Excel (.xlsx)	0
Text/documents	Word (.docx)	2
	PDF (.pdf and .pdf/a)	2
Images	Photographs (.jpg)	123
	Scanned drawings (.pdf)	
GIS	Shapefiles (.shp plus associated files)	1

How will the data be collected or created?

Data Standards / Methods

- Standard methods of data collection will be applied throughout the project, working to best practice guidance where applicable / available. In general, data acquisition standards are defined against RCAHMW Guidelines. Specific or additional guidance relevant to this project are listed below and will be updated as the project progresses.
- Methods of collection are specified within the Project Design (Huckfield 2024 - WSI) and will meet the requirement set out in the Project Brief, the organisation recording manual and relevant ClfA Standards and guidance.
- Where appropriate, project contributors external to the organisation will be required to include data standards, collection methodology and metadata with individual reports and data.
- Specific guidance: The archaeological works will be conducted according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (ClfA) Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures (2020).

Data storage / file naming

- The data produced will be uploaded at regular intervals during the project as a way of backing up the information.
- The working project archive will be stored in a project specific folder on the internal organisational server. The internal organisation server is backed up to a cloud based storage system to maintain an up to date security copy of the organisation wide data.
- Project folders are named following established organisational procedures and the folder hierarchy and organisation devised will be understood by all members of staff involved in the project.
- Data collected will be downloaded and raw data will be stored in the appropriate folder.
- File naming conventions following established organisational procedures, based on RCAHMW file naming guidance, and include version control management.
- The data stored will be checked by the project manager regularly as a means of quality assurance.

Section 3: Documentation and metadata

What documentation and metadata will accompany the data?

- Data collected will include standard formats which maximise opportunities for use and reuse in the future (see Section 2, above).
- A RCAHMW metadata document will be included with the digital archive and include all data types included within the archive. A working copy will be kept on the organisational server in the Project Folder. A copy of the form containing HER required data will also be created.
- Data documentation will meet the requirement of the Project Brief, Museum Deposition Guidelines, Digital Repository Guidelines and the methodology described in the Project Design methodology.
- An archive catalogue documenting both physical and digital archive products will be maintained and submitted with both the Museum and Trusted Digital Repository

Section 4: Ethics and legal compliance

How will you manage any ethical, copyright and Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) issues?

- The project archive will include the names and contact details of individuals who intend to volunteer or participate in the excavation and post excavation stages. We have a GDPR compliant Privacy Policy which underpins the management of personal data; any personal data is managed through a secure cloud-based database and not retained on the project specific folders.
- Personal data will be removed from the archaeological project archive and permission to include individual's names in any reporting is gained prior to use.
- Copyright for all data collected by the project team belongs to the organisation, and formal permission to include data from external specialists and contractors is secured on the engagement of the specialist or contractor.
- Where formal permissions and/or license agreements are linked to data sharing, they will be included in the project documentation folders and will accompany the archaeological project archive.

Section 5: Data Security: Storage and Backup

How will the data be stored, accessed and backed up during the research?

- Organisational IT is managed by an external data management provider, who is also responsible for the management and verification of our daily back-ups and who supports access to security copies as needed
- Sufficient data storage space is available via the organisational server, which includes permissions-based access. The server is accessible by staff on and offsite through a secure log-in
- Off-site access to the project files on the organisation's server is provided to support back-up of raw data while fieldwork is ongoing. Where internet access for data backup is not possible, the raw data will be backed up to a separate media device (such as laptop and portable external hard drive).
- Project files will be shared with external specialists and contractors directly using the

same system, with the wider project team gaining access to only the files needed using permissions-based access

Section 6: Selection and Preservation

Which data should be retained, shared, and/or preserved?

- The Selection Strategy and DMP will be reviewed and updated as part of the Post Excavation Assessment and Updated Project Design and following full analysis. Updated documentation will be included in all reporting stages.
- Prior to deposition, the Selection Strategy and DMP will be updated and finalised in agreement with all project stakeholders (including the Local Planning Archaeologist, Client, RCAHMMW).
- Selection will be informed by the Project Design, defined against the research aims, regional and national research frameworks, specialist advice and the significance of the project results.
- The project will be published as an online technical report (accessible via RCAHMMW and as part of this the archive), with full access to research data.
- The data archive will be ordered, with files named and structured in a logical manner, and accompanied by relevant documentation and metadata, as outlined in Sections 2 and 3 of this DMP.
- Deselection will be undertaken automatically on any duplicate or unusable files, such as blurry or superfluous photographs.

What is the long-term preservation plan for the dataset?

- The digital archive will be deposited with the RCAHMMW, which is working towards becoming a certified repository with Core Trust Seal.
- The archive will be prepared for deposition by the project team and the costs for the time needed for preparation, and the cost of deposition have been included in the project budget.

Have you contacted the data repository?

- RCAHMMW is the intended repository for digital data. AW have an ongoing agreement with the repository

Have the costs of archiving been fully considered?

- A costing estimate has been produced to allow for the preparation of the archive and has been included in the project budget.

Section 7: Data Sharing

How will you share the data and make it accessible?

- The digital archive repository and will be updated as the project progresses.

• The investigations are likely to result in a number of documents: Final Report, Journal submission. • The final report is expected to be completed within 3 months of the completion of fieldwork. • A final version of the project report will be supplied to the Historic Environment Record, and any data which they request can also be provided directly. • The location (s) of the final Archaeological Archive will be included in the final report
Are any restrictions on data sharing required?
• A temporary embargo may be required on the sharing of the project results. If this is the case, specific details once agreed will be included in the updated version of this DMP and will be documented in the overarching Project Collection Metadata. • Data specific requirements, ethical issues or embargos which are linked to particular data formats will be documented within the relevant metadata tables accompanying the project archive

Section 8: Responsibilities

Who will be responsible for implementing the data management plan?
• The Project Manager and Post Excavation Manager will be responsible for implementing the DMP, and ensuring it is reviewed and revised at each stage of the project. • Data capture, metadata production and data quality is the responsibility of the Project Team, assured by the Project Manager and Post Excavation Manager. • Storage and backup of data in the field is the responsibility of the field team. • Once data is incorporated into the organisations project server, storage and backup is managed by an external company. • Data archiving is undertaken by the project team under the guidance of the Post Excavation Manager, who is responsible for the transfer of the Archaeological Project Archive to the agreed repository. • Details of the core project team can be found in the Project Design.

Appendix II: Written Scheme of Investigation

**Written Scheme of Investigation
Level 2 Archaeological Building Recording
At Former Hoovers Site, Pentrebach Road, Pentrebach, CF45
4TU**

Project No: 3267

January 2026



Archaeology Wales Limited

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Summary

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) details a programme of archaeological building recording (Level 2) on the Hoover Factory frontage and security hut at the former Hoover Site, Pentrebach Road, Pentrebach, CF45 4TU. The work is associated to Condition 30 of Planning Application P/25/0165.

1. Introduction

- 1.1.1. This WSI details a programme of archaeological building recording (Level 2) to be carried out by Archaeology Wales (AW) at the request of Walters Land Ltd (the client).
- 1.1.2. The scope of the Level 2 Building Recording will include detailed documentation of the two assets within the former Hoover Site, Pentrebach Road, Pentrebach, CF45 4TU. These are both Locally Listed Buildings, the Hoover Factory frontage (MT121, PRN09268m) and the semi-circular security hut to the front of the Hoover Factory (MT122). The site is centred on NGR SO 05740 04176 (Figure 1).
- 1.1.3. The works is associated to Planning Application P/25/0165 involving the comprehensive redevelopment of the former Hoover site to create a new neighbourhood, including up to 441 new homes, 1.5 hectares of employment land (including B1 (business), B2 (general industrial), B8 (storage and distribution) and sui generis uses), community hub (including A1 (shops), A2 (financial and professional services) A3 (food and drink), B1 (business), D1 (non-residential institutions) and sui generis uses, community heat hub, metro station and transport hub (including transport interchange and parking), a network of open spaces (including parkland, active travel routes, areas for informal recreation and SUDS attenuation features) together with associated works, including improvement/works to the highway network.
- 1.1.4. Condition 30 of the approval letter issued by Merthyr Tydfil County Borough

Council (MTCBC) states that:

"No works shall commence on site until an appropriate programme of historic building recording and analysis has been secured and implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason - As existing buildings are of architectural and cultural significance the specified records are required to mitigate their loss and accord with Policy CW1 of the Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council Replacement Local Development Plan."

- 1.1.5. This WSI has been prepared by Pete Clarke. The AW project number is 3267, and the side code is HOO/26/BR.
- 1.1.6. All work will be undertaken to the standards and guidance set by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures (2020a). AW is a Registered Organisation with the CIfA.

2. Site Description

- 2.1.1. The site comprises the former Hoover Factory, located at the north end of the village of Pentrebach, but within industrial estates situated at the southern end of Merthyr Tydfil. It is centred on NGR SO 05740 04176.
- 2.1.2. The site contains three separate parcels of land, comprised of the main factory site to the west of Merthyr Road, and to smaller parcels to the east of Merthyr Road. The two smaller parcels comprise the former staff car park, and sprinkler and pump house associated with the Factory. The Hoover Factory frontage and the semi-circular security hut are located in the parcel to the west of Merthyr Road.
- 2.1.3. The Hoover Factory at Pentrebach was constructed between 1946 and 1948, replacing the spoil heaps of the former Pentrebach Ironworks of the Plymouth

Ironworks. The earliest buildings were constructed at the southern end of the complex, and include the factory's frontage and semi-circular security hut, as well as the canteen building. The security hut would have been located at the factory's main entrance. The factor went through several phases of expansion northward, between 1951 and the 1970s, largely comprised of new warehouse units and ancillary buildings. A modern building was constructed in 2005 to the southwest end of the factory complex, next to the cricket ground. The factory remained in use by Hoover until its closure in 2009 (EDP 2025).

- 2.1.4. The Hoover Factory Frontage is in a post-war style, with the main entrance to the eastern corner. Overall, the building is a square shape with rounded corners. Less than 20 metres to the southeast, the semi-circular security hut is located, also designed in a post-war style.

3. Objectives

- 3.1.1. This WSI sets out a programme of works to ensure that the Level 2 Building Recording will meet the standard required by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologist's *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (2020a) and according to Historic England's *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (2016).
- 3.1.2. The primary objective of the Building Recording will be to describe and record, by means of high-resolution digital photography and measured drawings, all the key internal and external components of the Hoover Factory frontage and the security hut, so that a permanent record survives prior to demolition or renovation. This will be completed by means of a Historic England Level 2 building survey.
- 3.1.3. A Level 2 survey is a descriptive record and will comprise an introductory

description followed by an analysis of the building's development and use and the record will include the conclusions reached, but it will not discuss in detail the evidence on which this analysis is based.

4. Timetable of Works

4.1. Fieldwork

- 4.1.1. The building recording will be undertaken prior to the commencement of works associated with the proposed development. AW will update Archaeological Planning – Heneb Glamorgan Gwent Archaeology (AP-HGGA) with the exact date, once known.

4.2. Report delivery

- 4.2.1. The report will be submitted to the Client and to AP-HGGA within a month of the completion of the fieldwork. A copy of the report will also be sent to the regional HER.

5. Details of Work

5.1. Standards

- 5.1.1. The archaeological works will be conducted according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures* (2020a). The survey will be undertaken to a standard equivalent to a Historic England Level 2 building survey as defined in 'Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice' (2016). A Level 2 survey is intended to create a descriptive record of the building, and will include:

Drawings

- 5.1.2. A plan and sometimes other drawings may be made but the drawn record will

normally not be comprehensive and may be tailored to the scope of a wider project.

- 5.1.3. Wherever possible, existing plans and elevations will be used to supplement the report and further measured plans and elevations may also be provided to illustrate features not readily obtained by photography. Any existing plans and elevations will be checked on site and amended where necessary. Plans will be used to highlight photographic locations within the final report.

Photographs

- 5.1.4. General view or views of the building in its wider setting or landscape.
- 5.1.5. The building's external appearance. Typically, a series of oblique views will show all external elevations of the building and give an overall impression of its size and shape. Where individual elevations include complex historical information, it may also be appropriate to take views at right-angles to the plane of the elevation.
- 5.1.6. All photographs will be taken in a high-resolution digital format. For both general and specific photographs, a photographic scale shall be included. The photographic record shall be accompanied by a photographic register detailing, as a minimum, location and direction of shot. All digital photography will be undertaken in accordance with Historic England's Guidelines for Digital Image Capture and File Storage (2015).

Written Record

- 5.1.7. The precise location of the building as an address and in the form of a National Grid reference.
- 5.1.8. A note of any statutory designation and possibly non-statutory designations.
- 5.1.9. The date when the record was made, the name of the recorder and the location of any archive material.

- 5.1.10. A statement summarising the building's form, function, date and sequence of development. The names of architects, builders, patrons and owners should be given if known. Its purpose is to describe the building when no fuller record is necessary.

6. Monitoring

- 6.1.1. The AP-HGGA will be contacted prior to the commencement of archaeological works, and subsequently once the work is underway.
- 6.1.2. Any changes to the WSI that AW may wish to make after approval will be communicated to the AP-HGGA for approval.
- 6.1.3. Representatives of AP-HGGA will be given access to the site so that they may monitor the progress of the building recording. The AP-HGGA will be kept regularly informed about developments.

7. Archive and reporting programme

7.1. The Site Archive

- 7.1.1. An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with: Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) (Historic England 2006) upon completion of the project.
- 7.1.2. The site archive will be prepared in accordance with the National Monuments Record (Wales) agreed structure and deposited with an appropriate receiving organisation, in compliance with CIfA Guidelines (Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives, 2020b).

7.2. Reports and Archive Deposition

Report to Client

- 7.2.1. Copies of all reports associated with the building survey, together with inclusion of supporting evidence in appendices as appropriate, including photographs and illustrations, will be submitted to the client and to the AP-HGGA.
- 7.2.2. Once the report has been approved by the AP-HGGA, the applicant must deposit a copy of the photographs and all additional plans and information to the regional HER.
- 7.2.3. The submission of the approved Level 2 building recording to the AP-HGGA for inclusion in the Historic Environment Record is one of the requirements of the planning condition, and the condition cannot be discharged until this step is complete.

Selection Strategy

- 7.2.4. It is envisaged that the archive will be solely born-digital. The digital archive will be appraised prior to deposition and any duplicate or voided files and photographs will be discarded.

Archive Deposition

- 7.2.5. Although there may be a period during which client confidentiality will need to be maintained, copies of all reports and the final archive will be deposited no later than six months after completion of the work.
- 7.2.6. The archive will conform to the guidelines set out ' *The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales*' (National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales 2019).
- 7.2.7. The archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Record, RCAHMW including a copy of the final report. This archive will include all written, drawn,

survey and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken. NMR Digital archives will follow the standard required by the RCAHMW (RCAHMW, 2015). A copy of the archive index and report will also be lodged with the Historic Environment Record at Heneb: Glamorgan Gwent Archaeology. The project will adhere to Heneb's *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HER)* (2024).

- 7.2.8. Wherever the archive is deposited, this information will be relayed to the HER. A summary of the contents of the archive will be supplied to HGGA.

Summary Reports for Publication

- 7.2.9. Short archaeological reports will be submitted for publication in relevant journals; as a minimum, a report will be submitted to the annual publication of the regional CBA group or equivalent journal.

8. Staff

- 8.1.1. The project will be managed by Charley James-Martin (AW Project Manager), and the fieldwork undertaken by archaeologists from Archaeology Wales Ltd. Any alteration to staffing before or during the work will be brought to the attention of the client.

9. Health and Safety

9.1. Risk Assessment

- 9.1.1. Prior to the commencement of work AW will carry out and produce a formal Health and Safety Risk Assessment in accordance with The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1999. A copy of the risk assessment will be kept on site and be available for inspection on request. A copy will be sent to the client (or their agent as necessary) for their information. All members of AW

staff will adhere to the content of this document.

9.2. Other Guidelines

- 9.2.1. AW will adhere to best practice with regard to health and safety in archaeology as set out in the Fame (Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers) Health and Safety Manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (2002).

10. Community Engagement and Outreach

- 10.1.1. Wherever possible, AW will ensure suitable measures are in place to inform the local community and any interested parties of the results of the survey work. The form of any potential outreach activities may include lectures and talks to local groups, interested parties and persons, information boards, flyers and other forms of communication (social media and websites), and press releases to local and national media. This will be discussed with and in agreement with the client. The form of any outreach will respect client confidentiality or contractual agreements. As a rule, outreach will be proportional to the size of the project.

11. Insurance

- 11.1.1. AW is fully insured for this type of work and holds insurance with Aviva Insurance Ltd and Hiscox Insurance Company Limited through Towergate Insurance. Full details of these and other relevant policies can be supplied on request.

12. Quality Control

12.1. Professional Standards

- 12.1.1. AW works to the standards and guidance provided by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. AW fully recognise and endorse the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' Code of conduct, code of approved practice for the regulation of contractual arrangements in field archaeology and the standard and guidance for archaeological building investigation and recording currently in force. All employees of AW, whether corporate members of the chartered institute for archaeologists or not, are expected to adhere to these codes and standards during their employment.

12.2. Project Tracking

- 12.2.1. The designated AW manager will monitor all projects in order to ensure that agreed targets are met without reduction in quality of service.

13. Arbitration

- 13.1.1. Disputes or differences arising in relation to this work shall be referred for a decision in accordance with the rules of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators' Arbitration Scheme for The Institute for Archaeologists applying at the date of the agreement.

14. Sources

General

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. 2020a. *Standard and guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures*

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020b. *Standard and guidance for the collection, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*

EDP, 2025. Hoover Factory, Merthyr Tydfil, Archaeological Assessment.

English Heritage, 2006. *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MORPHE)*.

Heneb, 2024. *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HER)*.

Historic England 2015 image capture and fire storage

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National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales, 2019. *The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales*.

RCAHMW. 2016. *Guidelines for Digital Archaeological Archives*

Figures

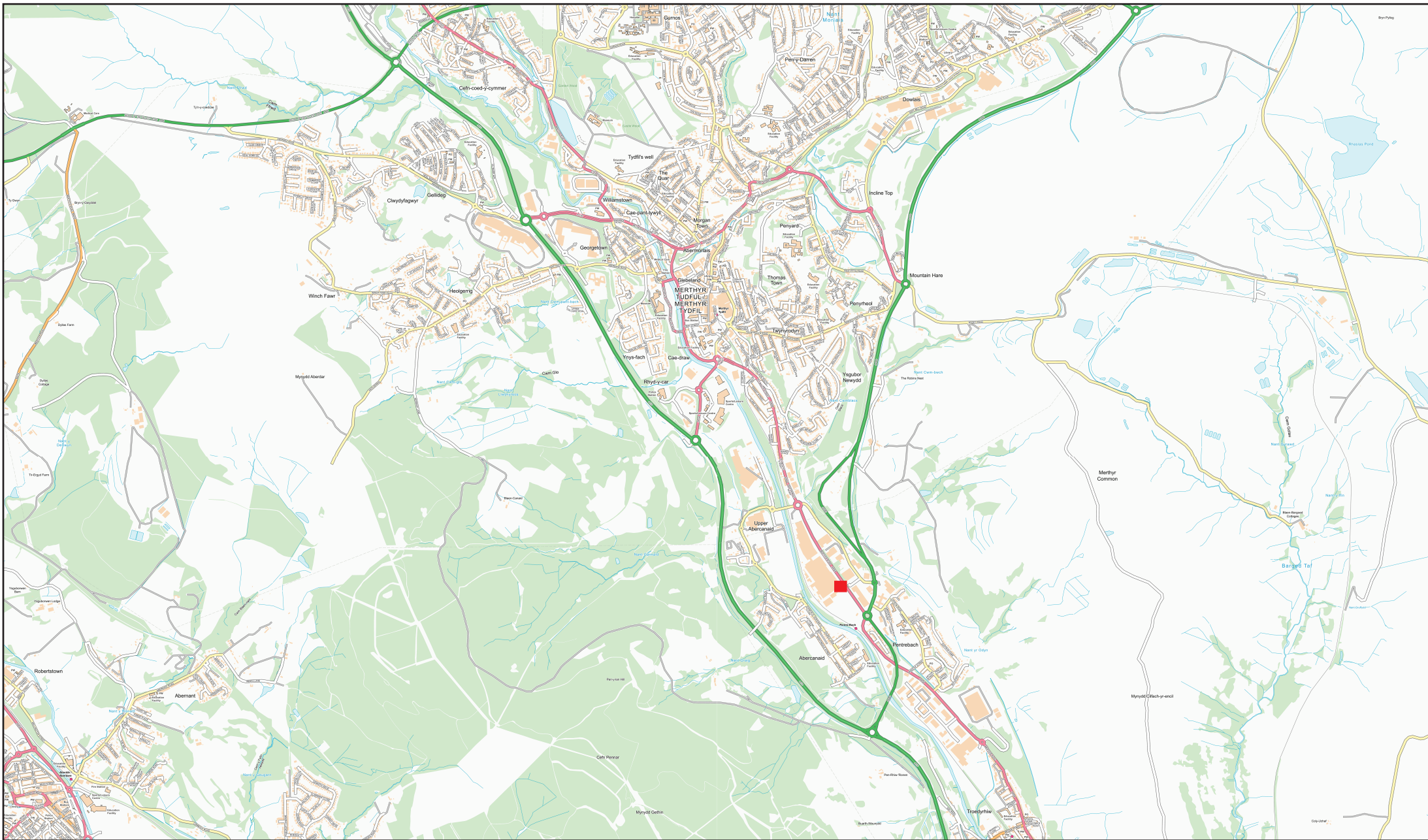


Figure 1. Site location

— Site



0 1km 2km





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