



**A.P.A.C. Ltd.**

Archaeological Perspectives Analysis Consultancy

**WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION FOR AN  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF**

WSI: WB/CMC/16

**No 6, Castle Mews, Caerleon, Newport.**

**Newport City Council  
16/0691**

Prepared by Mr A Phillips  
20<sup>th</sup> September 2016



## Summary

*This document comprises a Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief to be undertaken during ground disturbance works necessary for the erection of single storey front and rear extensions on an existing property.*

*Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT) advised Newport City Council (NCC) that as the proposed work at the site could likely impact on archaeological resources; a condition requiring an archaeological watching brief should be imposed.*

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## Introduction

This Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological Watching Brief has been prepared by Mr. A. Phillips, APAC Ltd, for Mr S Jeremiah, in response to a proposed programme of works for: RE: Erection of single story front and rear extensions 6 Castle Mews, Caerleon, Newport, NP18 1BY Pl.App.No.: 16/0691

The Planning Approval carried a condition requiring the need for a programme of archaeological investigation; Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust, (GGAT); consultants to Newport City Council, (NCC):

The proposal will require archaeological mitigation due to the application area being situated close to the Legionary Fortress (Cadw ref. MM230) and Caerleon Castle, a scheduled Monument. We also note it is located within the Conservation Area and Archaeologically Sensitive area of Newport. Due to the proximity of the proposal to a Scheduled Monument.

NPT1357/RD

The response stated the need for archaeological investigation suggesting that NCC word the condition it in line with the model given in Welsh Office Circular 60/96, Section 23:

*No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured agreement for a written scheme of historic environment mitigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the local planning authority. Thereafter, the programme of work will be fully carried out in accordance with the requirements and standards of the written scheme.*

*Reason: To identify and record any features of archaeological interest discovered during the works, in order to mitigate the impact of the works on the archaeological resource.*

NPT1357/RD

In accordance with the CIFA standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief, this Written Scheme of Investigation has been prepared to set out the programme of work to be undertaken, (CIFA 2014).

## Location of the Site

The proposed site of the watching brief is centred on NGR 334293 190457, centred on, N0. 6 Castle Mews, Caerleon, Newport, NP18 1BY, fig 01.

The location of the property can be gained from the B4596, Caerleon to Newport Rd.

Proceed through the town of Caerleon along the high street after crossing the river bridge. Take the second right and follow to the junction onto Castle St.

Take a right, then second left to reach the property.

## Brief archaeological and historical background

As stated above, an advisory letter from GGAT to planning NPT1357/RD details the historical importance of Caerleon.

The town well known for its Roman occupation. Includes the Roman Legionary fortress, Cadw ref. MM230, multiple Roman civilian settlements including one, 100 meters east of the property. Cadw ref. MM244.

The property also lies south east, across the road from the medieval defence motte of Caerleon castle Cadw ref: MM014.

The castle itself, built upon the already situated Roman fortress, is thought to have begun as a motte and bailey castle



later converted to masonry with of defensive curtain wall, barbican and three stone towers.

The castle motte, was also apparently surmounted by a round tower which collapsed in 1793.

Of the known three known defensive towers only one survives; incorporated within the building “The Hanbury Arms”, a 16<sup>th</sup> c grade II listed building, ref. Cadw Building ID: 2995

The site itself is situated within a row of post-medieval buildings built differently from most modern structures, so therefore predating them however, their presence would suggest that periods of archaeological importance will have possibly already been disturbed.

There is still a probability that any remaining evidence of archaeological importance may still remain and will possibly be disturbed by the future proposed ground works.

## Aims & Objectives

The proposal for planning consent is for the erection of single story front and rear extensions

There is a possibility that the excavation work may impact upon archaeological resources within the development area.

The aim of the watching brief is to establish the presence/absence of archaeological structures or other significant features within the works area.

Should any archaeological resources be revealed their presence will be recorded and a decision made as to any mitigation measures.

To carry out an archaeological watching brief to the standards laid down in the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists, Guideline for Watching Briefs 2014.

### An archaeological watching brief:

*The definition of an archaeological watching brief is a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive.*

*This definition and Standard do not cover chance observations, which should lead to an appropriate archaeological project being designed and implemented, nor do they apply to monitoring for preservation of remains in situ. A watching brief will preserve by record, within the resources available, any archaeological deposits uncovered during groundwork.*

*The watching brief will ensure that: in the event of archaeological resources of significance, being discovered and requiring treatment beyond the remit of the watching brief; then steps would be implemented to ensure that their treatment would be undertaken within the standards recommended by the CIFA.*

*Resulting from the watching brief, a report on the results will be produced, which will include a detailed summary of the methodology, site history, deposits/features/structures/artefacts uncovered and interpretation of the results.*

(CIFA. 2014).



## Scope of the Work

The archaeology of the application site as a whole, in its wider local, regional or national context, will be considered, although the watching brief will be confined to those areas which will be directly affected by the development, or some aspect of it.

Any remains of potential interest will be considered, whatever their date.

## Procedures

### Documentary Research

Sufficient documentary research will be undertaken to complete a brief background history of the site in order to place the results of the watching brief in their historic context.

The following may be contacted towards this end:

- Newport Museum
- Chepstow Museum
- Newport Library
- Chepstow Library
- Cadw (Cardiff)
- Current site data from the landowner
- Glamorgan Gwent Historic Environment Record (HER) (Swansea)
- National Library of Wales (Aberystwyth)
- Public Record Office, Ebbw Vale

### The watching brief

At an agreed date, development work will begin, from which point an archaeologist will be on site to watch all ground disturbing work and to record anything of archaeological significance.

GGAT will be notified at least 1 week in advance, of the proposed date for commencement of the ground disturbance work.

The archaeology of the development site as a whole will be considered, if/when, any exposed archaeology is examined.

All remains of potential interest will be recorded and finds retained, regardless of date.

If archaeological features are discovered, work will cease in the immediate area until the archaeologist has been able to fully inspect the feature and determine its importance.

If in the opinion of the archaeologist, the archaeological feature can be rapidly recorded to the required standard in accordance with the watching brief guidelines this will be done.

If the archaeologist determines that the archaeological feature requires more investigation, and recording than he can undertake as part of the watching brief, both the client and (GGAT), will be informed and an 'on-site' meeting arranged as soon as possible.

Until the meeting has taken place, no work will be undertaken in the vicinity of the archaeological feature.

Such a meeting will determine what works are required to be undertaken to ensure that the archaeological feature is fully dealt with.

This may result in a decision to:

"Preserve in situ" which will involve adequate cleaning of the feature to allow for suitable recording



Or to undertake archaeological excavation to provide more information to allow for a decision to be made concerning further work.

In most cases, a detailed project design for this work will be prepared and submitted to the client and, (GGAT), prior to the commencement of the agreed work.

In the event of artefact remains of archaeological importance being recovered, resulting from ground works at the site, (GGAT), will be informed.

Although the requirements for conservation of artefacts are unpredictable, A.P.A.C. Ltd, will undertake to ensure that the minimum standards are achieved as in the UK Institute of Conservation's "Guidelines for the treatment of Finds from Archaeological Sites".

In the event of need for specialist procedures or services; arising from ground works, relevant parties will be contacted by the contractor, A.P.A.C. Ltd, and arrangements made for necessary post ex-work.

In consultation with specialist archaeological advisors, a decision will be made, as to steps necessary for conservation or investigation of such artefacts.

Such specialist procedures or services may incur charges that will be borne by the developer.

Although it is not expected that human remains will be found on the site, any occurrence will be dealt with by initially leaving in-situ and if removal is necessary, the appropriate Home Office permission obtained.

## **Analysis and Reports**

Within three months of the completion of the fieldwork, a fully illustrated report will be submitted to the client, NCC (Planning), and GGAT.

Each report will contain the following elements: -

- A non-technical summary.
- A table of contents.
- An introduction with acknowledgements, including a list of all those involved in the project and the location and description of the study area.
- A statement of the project aims.
- The archaeological/historical background of the evaluation area, indicating past and present land use, accompanied by relevant maps, plans and photographs.
- A location plan and gazetteer of areas/sites of known or potential archaeological significance within the project area.
- A summary description of the evaluation results including any archaeologically significant features/deposits or potential features/deposits identified within each trench.
- A discussion of the location, nature, extent, date, quality, condition and significance of any archaeological deposits/features uncovered, together with a discussion of their relationship with known archaeology in the vicinity.
- Survey and excavation plans at appropriate scales. Each trench will be presented in the report with at least one plan (scale 1:20) and section (scale 1:10) as well as a photograph.
- Other maps, plans, drawings and photographs as appropriate.
- A description of the finds and environmental samples collected including an exposition of the methodologies employed, a statement on the presence or absence of material and an assessment of preservation.
- A summary interpretation of the finds including reference to any unusual or important features of the assemblage will also be included. Specialist reports will be included of important groups of finds, materials and samples.
- An interpretation of the results with a statement of the significance of any identified archaeological features/sites on a local, regional and national scale.
- An identification of any research implications arising from the work.
- A bibliography of sources consulted and a supplementary bibliography of any sources identified but not available for consultation.



- An index to the project archive and a statement of its location/proposed repository.
- A summary report on the evaluation will be published in a suitable local journal, with a record note presented to the appropriate national period journal(s).

## **Archive**

In the event of artefacts being collected, the archaeological contractor will endeavour to persuade the legal owner of any artefacts, to transfer them to a suitable local museum.

In such a case, Newport Museum will be notified of the intention to deposit the project archives with them.

The project will be designated a project code with all significant documents and packaging carrying this code number.

If the archive has no artefacts, then copies of the archive will be deposited with Gwent Archives and the RCAHMW with the original copy retained by A.P.A.C. Ltd.

The project archives will consist of all original records, artefacts, ecofacts/samples and all documentation that relates to the evaluation; copies of the WSI and any relevant correspondence will be included.

The archives will be prepared according to the Management of Archaeological Projects, English Heritage, Second Edition, (1991) so the records will be fully ordered and indexed.

The archive will comply with the United Kingdom Institute for Conservation (Archaeology Section) Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage (1990) the Society of Museum Archaeologists Towards An Accessible Archive (1995) and to the reasonable requirements of the designated Museum.

The archives will be deposited within twelve months of the completion of the evaluation and with the agreement of the landowner.

A synopsis of the project will be submitted to CBA Wales.

## **Health & Safety:**

The Project Team will operate in accordance with the health and safety procedures as set out in:-

- The Health and Safety Work Act (1974) and related legislation.
- The Standing Conference of Archaeology Unit Managers Health and Safety Manual (2002).
- The Council for British Archaeology Handbook no. 6, Safety in Archaeological Fieldwork (1989).
- In accordance with the CDM Regulation, The Project Team will prepare a Risk Assessment in relation to the archaeological works prior to the commencement of the evaluation.

All necessary protective clothing and equipment will be used.

A First-Aid kit and Accident Book will be kept on site at all times, with a Health and Safety file.

Project monitoring: A.P.A.C. Ltd., understands that the project may require monitoring involvement.

A copy of this WSI will be sent to the monitoring authorities GGAT for their approval.

## **Project Management**

Dr Neil Phillips, A.P.A.C. Ltd, will manage the project.

Dr N. Phillips has been active in archaeology since 1997, completing his 1<sup>st</sup> degree in 1999 followed by a research Phd in 2004. Dr Phillips started and has been director of A.P.A.C. Ltd since 2004.

A.P.A.C. Ltd is an archaeological consultancy specialising in landscape archaeology and survey work. Dr Phillips interests lie locally with the medieval period and industrial





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period although he has been involved in international Palaeolithic projects both in the UK as well as Europe and Africa. Scibd currently carries a range of archaeological projects completed by APAC Ltd (search APAC. Ltd or Dr N Phillips).

APAC. Ltd has current Public Liability (924765101 CHC) and Professional Indemnity (RKK865819/1126) Insurance with Towergate

## **Resources:**

- Project Director: Dr Neil Phillips. (Director; fieldwork and preparation of report).
- Specialist Consultant Archaeologist: Steve Clarke
- Archaeologist (Finds Specialist): Steve Clarke & A OPhillips
- Industrial (Dr T. Young)
- Environmental (Dr T Davies)
- Fauna (F. Taylor)
- Fieldwork assistants TBA

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A.P.A.C. Ltd hereby gives permission for the monitoring authority to use any documentation directly relating to the project as described in this WSI.



## Bibliography and References:

DWR Cymru	Re Erection of single story front and rear extensions, 6 Castle Mews, Caerleon, Newport, NP18 1BY						
CNDplanning	Magor Conservation Area Appraisal & Management Proposals. Draft. 25/03/2013.						
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Proposed extension	SP18001-DWG-001	02/2016					
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Health and Safety at Work Act 1974							