



A.P.A.C. Ltd.

Archaeological Perspectives Analysis Consultancy

**WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION
FOR A
PROGRAMME OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WORK**

**WATCHING BRIEF
WB/LPA/17-D2**

Great Triley East

Brecon Beacons National Parks Authority

Planning Application No: 16/13919/FUL

PREPARED BY DR N PHILLIPS
31/ JAN/2017
06/03/17



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 a single storey extension rear extension to an existing residential annex.

As part of the planning process Brecon Beacons National Parks Authority (BBNPA) advised that the proposed work at the site could likely impact on archaeological resources.

As a result, planning permission was approved with conditions one of which required that an archaeological watching brief should be undertaken during any ground disturbance works.

This document is the written scheme of investigation for that archaeological watching brief.

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Introduction

This Written Scheme of Investigation has been prepared by Dr Neil Phillips, A.P.A.C. Ltd, in response to a proposed program of works to erect a single storey extension to an existing residential annex at Great Triley East, Llantilio Pertholey, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire NP7 8AT.

A Planning Application was applied for; Brecon Beacons National Parks Authority (BBNPA) 16/13919/FUL, by Mr S Leaver of Powells Chartered Surveyors (agent) on behalf of Mr & Mrs Aspley, owners.

Approval; with a number of conditions was given, one of which required that an archaeological watching brief should be maintained during any ground disturbance work.

Condition 3:

Prior to the commencement of the development hereby approved, the developer will ensure that a written scheme of investigation is submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority and must meet the standards laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists in their Standard & Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief.

The developer will ensure that a suitably qualified archaeological contractor is present during the undertaking of any ground works in the development area, so that an archaeological watching brief can be maintained.

The archaeological watching brief will be carried out in accordance with the approved written scheme of investigation.

The Local Planning authority must be informed at least 2 weeks prior to the commencement of the development of the name of the archaeological contractor appointed to undertake the watching brief.

A copy of the watching brief report shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority for approval.

Following approval the report will be submitted to the National Park Archaeologist and the Local Welsh Archaeological Trust for inclusion in the Regional Historic Environment Record (HER).

BBNPA Notice of decision 16/13919/FUL

Location of the Site

The location of the site, Great Triley East, NP7 8AT, is some 4 km north/north east of Abergavenny at the western foot of the Ysgyrd Fawr (Big Skirrid), NGR 331454 217606, fig 01.

On leaving Abergavenny towards Hereford on the A465 bypass, a sign left will state Abergavenny, whilst a staggered junction to the right will lead directly to Great Triley.

Brief archaeological and historical background

The general area has a great deal of archaeological and historical resources, in relatively close proximity is a complex of three phases of Iron Age Hillfort (Skirrid), a Roman road route (A465) a Norman Motte (Penyclawdd) as well as various small finds spots from various periods.

The Triley complex itself is in an archaeologically sensitive area; believed to be on the site of, or even incorporating a 14th century Manor house.

The present house was built around 1923 the annex to which the extension will be added is even more modern.



Aims and Objectives

The proposal for planning consent is the erection of a single story extension to the rear of property for the expansion of living quarters.

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 or regional context, will be considered, although the survey and 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:



- Abergavenny Museum
- 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

A date for the proposed commencement of the work will be agreed with the client and the BBNPA in advance.

The Archaeological Adviser at the BBNPA will be informed when the watching brief commences at the site and development work will be begin.

At which point an archaeologist will be on site to watch all ground disturbing work and to record anything of archaeological significance.

As the site includes a standing building with known internal obscured features, the watching brief will also cover any demolition in order to record any instances of early construction phases or period features.

The archaeology of the development site as a whole will be considered when any archaeology exposed 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 The BBNPA archaeological advisor 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.

An archaeological excavation:

The definition of archaeological excavation is a programme of controlled, intrusive fieldwork with defined research objectives which examines, records and interprets archaeological deposits, features and structures and, as appropriate, retrieves artefacts, ecofacts and other remains within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater. The records made and objects gathered during fieldwork are studied and the results of that study published in detail appropriate to the project design. (CIFA 2014).

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



In the event of artefacts remaining of archaeological importance being recovered, resulting from ground works at the site, (BBNPA) 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, watching brief report will be submitted to BBNPA (planning) for approval.

Following approval, the report will be submitted to the Regional Historic Environment Record.

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 (plan 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, a suitable local 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 report will be deposited in the Gwent Records Office with the original copy retained by A.P.A.C. Ltd.

A further copy of the archive will be sent to the RCAHMW.

The project archives will consist of all original records, artefacts, ecofacts/samples and all documentation that relates to the evaluation.

Copies of the Written Scheme of Investigation 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. As a matter of courtesy, a copy of this written scheme of investigation will be sent to the monitoring authority (BBNPA).



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 1st 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. Currently at AIFA standard he is about to apply for an upgrade to MIFA. Steve Clarke MIFA of Monmouth Archaeology has agreed to cover him in this regard if the need arises.

Dr Phillips interests lie locally with the medieval period and industrial 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 (24765101CHC/000291) & Professional Indemnity (HU PI 9129989/1126) Insurance with Towergate.

Resources:

- Project Director: Dr Neil Phillips. (Director; preparation of report text),
- Specialist Consultant Archaeologist: Steve Clarke
- Archaeologist (Finds Specialist): Steve Clarke
- Assistant (Finds & Survey): A.O. Phillips
- Industrial (Dr T. Young)
- Fauna (P. Forward)
- Environmental (Dr T. Davies)

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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 Project Design.



Bibliography and References:

BBNPP 16/13919/FUL August 2016. Application for Planning Permission. Erection of a single storey extension to an existing residential annex. Great Triley East, Llantillio Pertholey, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire NP7 8AT.

16/13919/FUL August 2016. Notice of Decision. Erection of a single storey extension to an existing residential annex. Great Triley East, Llantillio Pertholey, Abergavenny, Monmouthshire NP7 8AT.

English Heritage Management of Archaeological Projects (1991).

Chartered Institute For Archaeologists. Standards and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief. 2014.

Code of Conduct and the Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology. 2014.

Standards and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials. 2014.

acad solutions Extension at Rear of Great Triley East, Abergavenny, Mon. NP7 8AT

Plans:

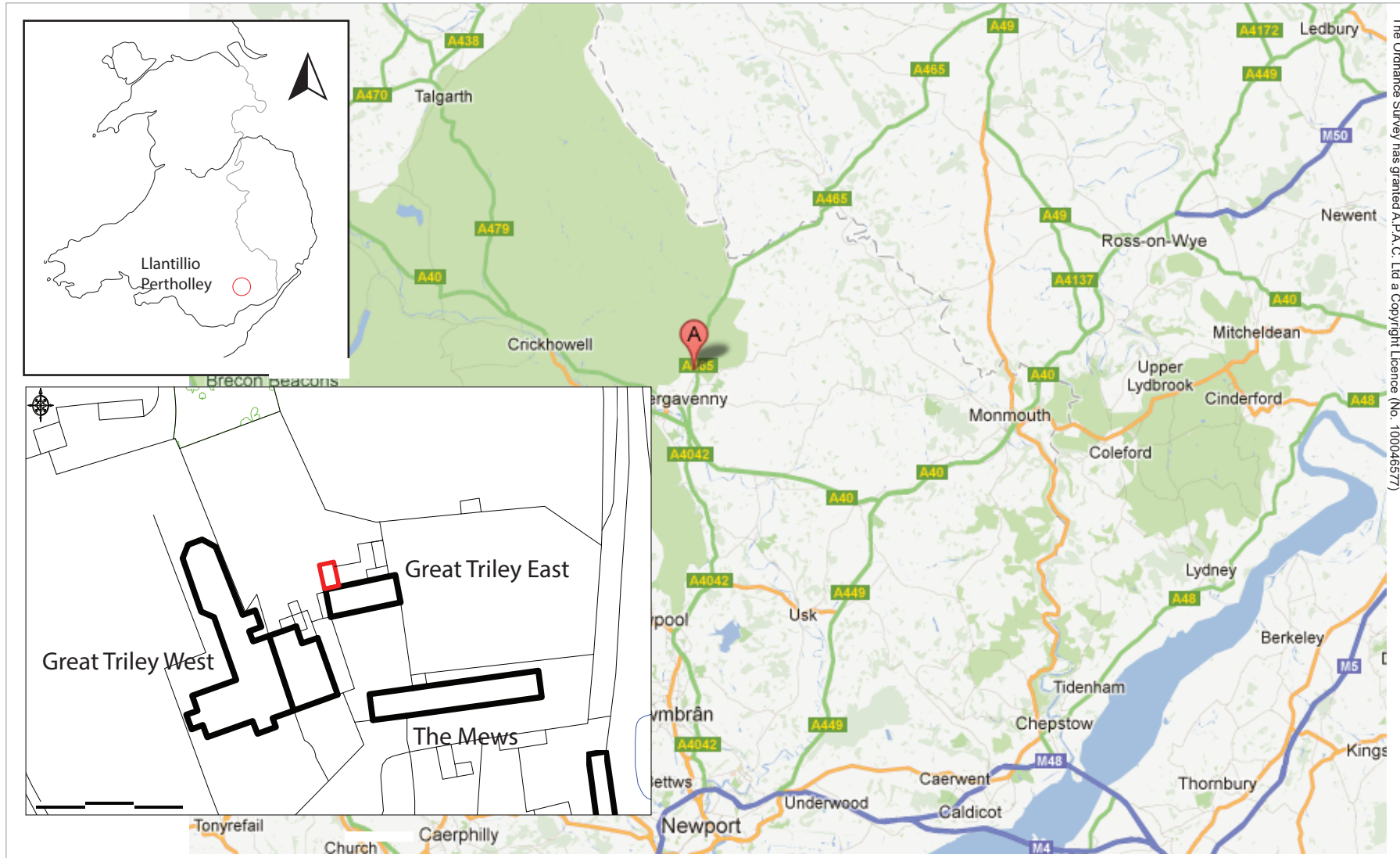
| | |
|--|----------------|
| Site Location Plan: | NP1v1 |
| Site layout Plan: | NP2v1 |
| Amendment to proposed Floor Plan and Elevations: | NP4v1 April 16 |

Historic England Understanding Historic Buildings *A guide to good Recording Practice*. 2016

The Society of Museum Archaeologists *Towards An Accessible Archive* (1995)

United Kingdom Institute for Conservation. (Archaeology Section) Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-Term Storage (1990)

www.googlemaps.co.uk



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Fig 01: Location