

WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION

FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL

DESK-BASED ASSESSMENT

AT HENSOL CASTLE, HENSOL, PENDEULWYN,

VALE OF GLAMORGAN

Prepared for:

Geraint John Planning Ltd

Planning Reference Number: 2016/00078/PRE

Gwent-Glamorgan Archaeological Trust File ref.: VOG1353

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Figure 1. Site location map

Figure 2. Site location plan

Figure 2. Detailed plan of the site, showing areas of proposed investigation

Summary

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) details the proposal for an archaeological Desk Based Assessment and Site Visit associated with 'Enabling development proposal involving the restoration of Hensol Castle, facilitated by the residential development of the land at The Vale Resort' at Hensol Castle, Hensol, Pendeulwyn (Vale of Glamorgan) and two adjacent parcels located in the immediate area. It has been prepared by Archaeology Wales Ltd for Geraint John Planning Ltd prior to the proposed submission of a planning application. The associated Planning Reference No. is 2016/00078/PRE.

Hensol Castle is a 17th century castellated mansion built in the neo-Gothic style, and Grade I listed with Cadw Reference 13482. The proposed works lie within, or immediately adjacent to, the Hensol Castle Registered Park and Garden (Cadw Ref.: GM41). Furthermore, this area of the Vale of Glamorgan is rich in archaeological resource from multiple periods, therefore can be assumed a potential for buried archaeological remains within the proposed development area.

All work will be undertaken in accordance with the standards and guidelines of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2014).

1. Introduction and planning background

This WSI details the proposal for an archaeological Desk Based Assessment and Site Visit to be undertaken in association with the proposed development of 'Enabling development proposal involving the restoration of Hensol Castle, facilitated by the residential development of the land at The Vale Resort', to be undertaken at Hensol Castle, 7 Hensol Villas, Pontyclun, CF72 8JZ, centred on 304746 178944 (ST); and two adjacent parcels located north from Hensol Castle, Gardeners Mews centred on 304771 179240 (ST) and Castle Villas centred on 304684 179302 (ST) (Figures 1 and 2).

This WSI has been prepared by Archaeology Wales Ltd for Geraint John Planning Ltd prior to the proposed submission of a planning application. The associated Planning Reference No. is 2016/00078/PRE, and the Gwent-Glamorgan Archaeological Trust file reference is: VOG1353.

Hensol Castle is a 17th century castellated mansion built in the neo-Gothic style, and Grade I listed with Cadw Reference 13482, suggested that this may have been the work of the renowned London architect Roger Morris (Cadw 2017). The proposed

works at Hensol Castle and Gardeners Mews are within the Hensol Castle Registered Park and Garden (Cadw Ref.: GM41). The proposed work at Castle Villas lies immediately outside of Hensol Castle Registered Park and Garden, and located within the Essential Setting of the designated asset. There is also a single find of a bronze socketed *celt* within the area (PRN 00321s). The surrounding area of the Vale of Glamorgan is rich in archaeological resource from multiple periods, hence it can be assumed a potential for other buried archaeological remains to exist within the proposed development areas.

This WSI has been prepared by Aurea Izquierdo Zamora, Project Manager, Archaeology Wales Ltd (henceforth - AW) at the request of Geraint John Planning Ltd (henceforth – the client).

The methodology set out in this WSI has been agreed with Gwent-Glamorgan Archaeological Trust (henceforth – GGAT) in its capacity as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority, Vale of Glamorgan Council – Head of Planning and Transportation. GGAT has recommended that an archaeological Desk Based Assessment and Site Visit of the development site is undertaken prior to the submission of a planning application to assess the impact of the proposed development on the archaeological resource.

The recommendations made by GGAT are set out in a letter to Vale of Glamorgan Council – Head of Planning and Transportation, dated 8th July 2016.

All work will conform to the Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (CIfA 2014) and be undertaken by suitably qualified staff to the highest professional standards. AW is a Registered Organisation with the CIfA.

2. Development Details & Site Description

The proposed development of *'Enabling development proposal involving the restoration of Hensol Castle, facilitated by the residential development of the land at The Vale Resort'*, to be undertaken at Hensol Castle will consist on the following works (Figure 3):

- Hensol Castle, centred on 304746 178944 (ST): works to the Grade I Listed Hensol Castle itself including amending the proposed location of the restaurant to the rear of the property.

- Gardeners Mews, located approximately 300m to the north from Hensol Castle, centred on 304771 179240 (ST): residential development of 10 units directly to the north of the walled garden.
- Castle Villas, located approximately 350m to the north from Hensol Castle, centred on 304684 179302 (ST): residential development of 6 units to the west of the residential property Sail Newydd, directly to the east of The Vale Hospital.

All the surrounding areas of the proposed development works have been urbanized and/or landscaped thus the topography is levelled, slightly undulating. Hensol Castle complex and Gardeners Mews are areas bounded with wall or adjacent buildings or local road. Castle Villas is bounded by fence and hedges, and separated from Gardeners Mews by a local road.

The underlying geology in the area comprises Llanishen conglomerate with subequal sandstone interbedded, sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 398 to 416 million years ago (Devonian) within a local environment previously dominated by shorelines. The superficial soils consist of diamicton till deposits formed up to 2 million years ago in (Devensian) within a local environment previously dominated by ice age conditions (BGS 2017).

3. Objectives

The primary objective will be to assess the impact of the development proposals on the historic environment by means of a Desk Based Assessment and Site Visit. This will help inform future decision making, design solutions and potential mitigation strategies. The aim will be to make full and effective use of existing information in establishing the archaeological significance of the site, to elucidate the presence or absence of archaeological material, its character, distribution, extent, condition and relative significance.

The work will include a comprehensive assessment of regional context within which the archaeological evidence rests and will aim to highlight any relevant research issues within national and regional research frameworks.

The work will result in a report that will provide information of sufficient detail to allow informed planning decisions to be made which can safeguard the archaeological resource. Preservation *in situ* will be advocated where at all possible, but where engineering or other factors result in loss of archaeological deposits, preservation by record will be recommended.

4. The proposed archaeological work

The aim of the work will be to establish and make available information about the archaeological resource existing on the site. The work will include the following elements:

- Desk Based Assessment (Stage 1)
- A site visit (Stage 2)
- The production of an illustrated report (Stage 3)

5. Method Statement for a Detailed Desk Based Assessment (Stage 1)

The assessment will consider the following:

a) The nature, extent and degree of survival of archaeological sites, structures, deposits and landscapes within the study area through assessment of various readily available primary sources:

1. Collation and assessment of all relevant information held in the regional HER at Swansea, including listed building records, within a 1km radius of the assessment area boundary.
2. Assessment of all available excavation report and archives including unpublished and unprocessed material affecting the site and its setting.
3. Assessment of all relevant extant aerial photographic (AP) evidence. This will include those held by the regional HER, the RCAHMS, Aberystwyth and the Central Register of Air Photography for Wales (Cardiff).
4. All sources indexed in the County Archive
5. Heritage Gateway sources
6. Records held by the developer e.g. bore hole logs, geological/geomorphological information, aerial photographs, maps, plans
7. Map regression analysis using all relevant cartographic sources e.g. All editions of the Ordnance Survey County Series, Tithe and early estate maps (as available).
8. Place name evidence
9. Internet sourced satellite imagery
10. Historic documents (e.g. Charters, registers, estate papers).

b) The significance of any remains in their context both regionally and nationally and in light of the findings of the desk based study.

6. The Site Visit (Stage 2)

The site visit will be a visual walked search of the entire development area. The ground surface will be visually inspected for all earthworks, structures and finds. The location of any environmental archaeological deposits, or areas which may have a potential for such deposits, will also be taken into account along with the more traditional 'visible' archaeology.

All located sites or finds will be accurately fixed by means of GPS. Each individual find or site location will have an accurate NGR reference attached. Where a close cluster of related features is identified a single NGR for the centre of the cluster will be used, and each constituent feature separately described in the text.

The character, function, condition, vulnerability, potential dating and relationship to other features of each identified site or find will be described fully. The importance of the site or find will be assessed in terms of local, regional or national significance.

A sketch survey of each identified site layout will be made with accompanying metric measurements

Written, drawn and photographic records of an appropriate level of detail will be maintained throughout the course of the project. Digital photographs, including metric scales, will be taken using cameras with resolutions of 14 mega pixels or above. Photographs will be taken in RAW format.

Illustrations will be drawn to a scale of 1:50, 1:20 and 1:10 as required, and these will be related to Ordnance Survey datum and published boundaries where appropriate.

7. The production of illustrated report and deposition of site archive (Stage 3)

A report will be produced which synthesises the results of stages 1 and 2 and thereby assesses the total archaeological resource within the development area.

The results will be presented in such a way that data and supporting text are readily cross-referenced. The regional HER Officer will be contacted to ensure that any sites or monuments not previously recorded in the HER are given a Primary Record Number

(PRN) and that data structure is compatible with the HER. The historical development of the site will be presented in phased maps and plans comprising clearly, the outline of the site.

Within the report an attempt will be made to indicate areas of greater or lesser archaeological significance and the sites will be ranked in level of overall archaeological importance (locally, regionally and nationally).

All relevant aerial photographs and historic maps will be included and be fully referenced. Any site photographs included in the report will be appropriately captioned and clearly located on a suitably scaled site plan.

The report will be used to inform future decision making regarding further stages of archaeological work (Field Evaluation, Watching Brief etc), the development construction and processes used.

The report will specifically include the following:

1. a copy of the design brief
2. a location plan
3. all identified sites plotted on an appropriately scaled plan of the proposal site
4. a gazetteer of all located sites and finds with full dimensional and descriptive detail including grid reference and period

Copies of the report will be sent to: Simon Williams (Asbri Planning Ltd), GGAT, and for inclusion in the regional HER. Digital copies will be provided in pdf format if required.

Any further stages of archaeological work, after the submission of the report for stages one and two outlined above, will be the subject of an additional GGAT curatorial brief against which a further AW specification will be drawn up.

The site archive

A project archive will be prepared in accordance with the National Monuments Record agreed structure and be deposited with the County Museum on completion of site analysis and report production. It will also conform to the guidelines set out in 'management of research projects in the historic environment' (English Heritage, 2006).

Arrangements will be made for deposition of the physical archive with the County Museum before work starts.

The digital archive will be deposited with the Archaeological Data Service.

Although there may be a period during which client confidentiality will need to be maintained, the report and the archive will be deposited not later than six months after completion of the work.

Other significant digital data generated by the survey (ie AP plots, EDM surveys, CAD drawings, GIS maps, etc) will be presented as part of the report on a CD/DVD. The format of this presented data will be agreed with the curator in advance of its preparation.

8. Staff

The project will be managed by Aurea Izquierdo Zamora (AW Project Manager) and the fieldwork undertaken by Loretta Nikolic (Archaeology Wales). Any alteration to staffing before or during the work will be brought to the attention of GGAT and the client.

Additional Considerations

9. Health and Safety

9.1. Risk assessment

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* 1992. 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

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. Insurance

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.

11. Quality Control

11.1. Professional standards

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 watching briefs* 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.

11.2. Project tracking

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

12. Arbitration

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.

13. References

British Geological Survey: <http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html>, retrieved 02/06/2017.

Cadw: <http://cadwpublic-api.azurewebsites.net/reports/listedbuilding/FullReport?lang=en&id=13482>, retrieved 02/06/2017.



Figure 1: Location Map of site (target) within Vale of Glamorgan; scale: 1:120,000



0 1 2 3 km

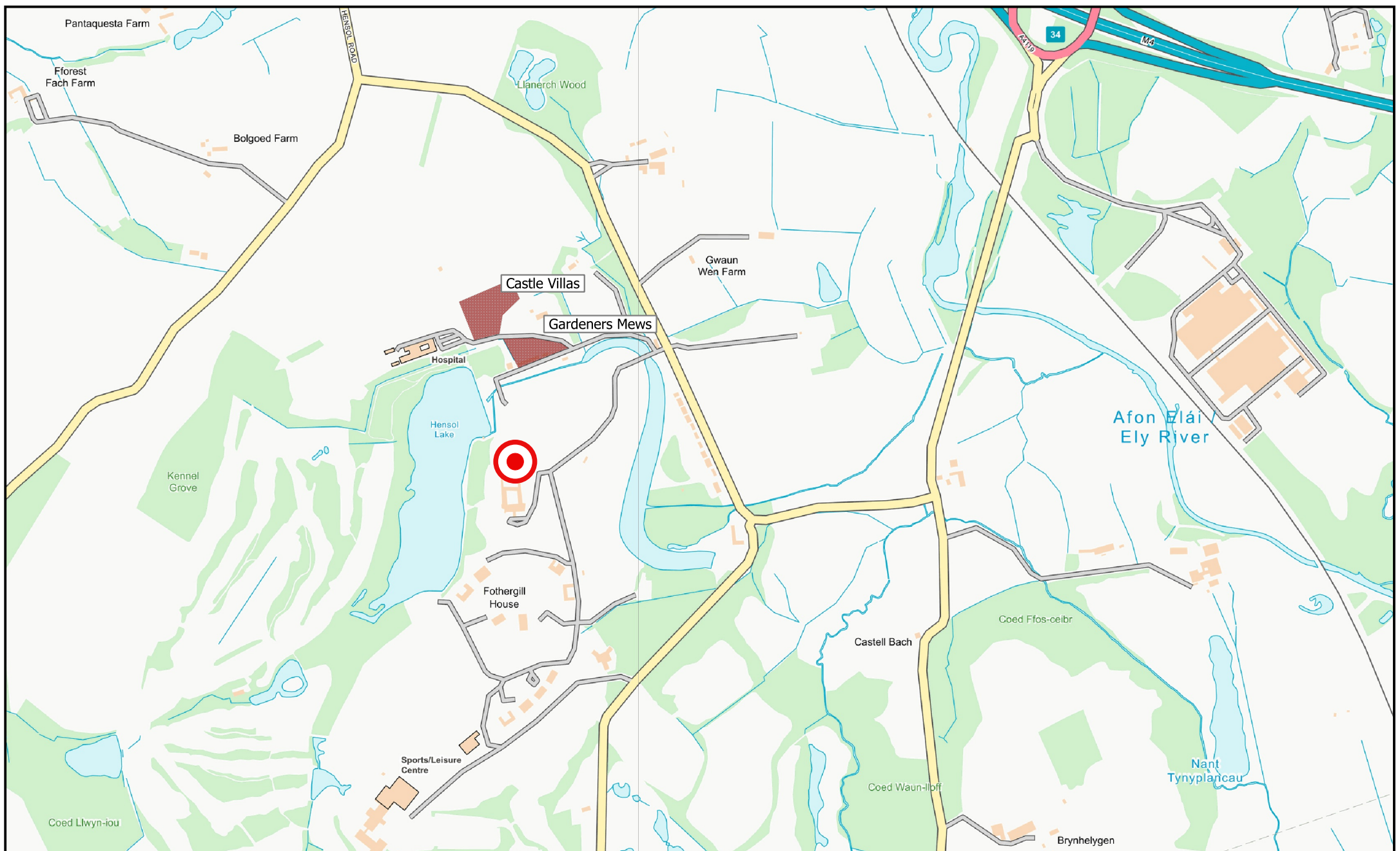


Figure 2: Location Map of Hensol Castle (target) and development areas (red) within Pendewlyn; scale: 1:10,000



0 100 200 300 m

