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# The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys LD7 1PE.

## July 2023 V 1.0



Historic Building Record Level 2

Project Code: A0434.1

Report no. 0417

Event PRN: 214045





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## **July 2023 v1.0**

Report no. 0417 / Event PRN: 214045

Historic Building Record Level 2

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Project Code: A0434.1

Date: 24/07/2023

Client: Samuel Hornsey

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# The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys LD7 1PE.

## July 2023 v1.0

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

*Comisiynwyd Aeon Archaeology gan Samuel Hornsey, ‘y Cleient’ o hyn ymlaen, i gynnal cofnod adeiladu hanesyddol lefel 2 o adeilad fferm yn The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Tref y Clawdd, Powys LD7 1PE (SO 27231 69986) cyn creu estyniad adeiledig, i gynnwys dymchwel adeilad allanol.*

*Cafwyd Caniatâd Cynllunio gan y Cleient gan Gyngor Sir Powys, ‘y Cyngor’ o hyn ymlaen, ar 1 Mawrth 2023 (22/2184/HH), gyda’r amod canlynol yn ymwneud ag archeoleg wedi’i gymhwysu:*

Aeon Archaeology was commissioned by Samuel Hornsey, hereafter ‘the Client’, to carry out a level 2 historic building record of a farm building at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys LD7 1PE (SO 27231 69986) in advance of *erection of an extension, to include the demolition of an outbuilding.*

Planning Permission was obtained by the Client from Powys County Council, hereafter ‘the Council’, on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 (22/2184/HH), with the following condition concerning archaeology being applied:

### *Condition 6*

*No development shall take place until a programme of building recording and analysis, equivalent to an Historic England Level 2 building survey, has been secured and implemented, in accordance with a brief issued by the local planning authority and a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The survey shall be completed by a professional archaeological contractor.*

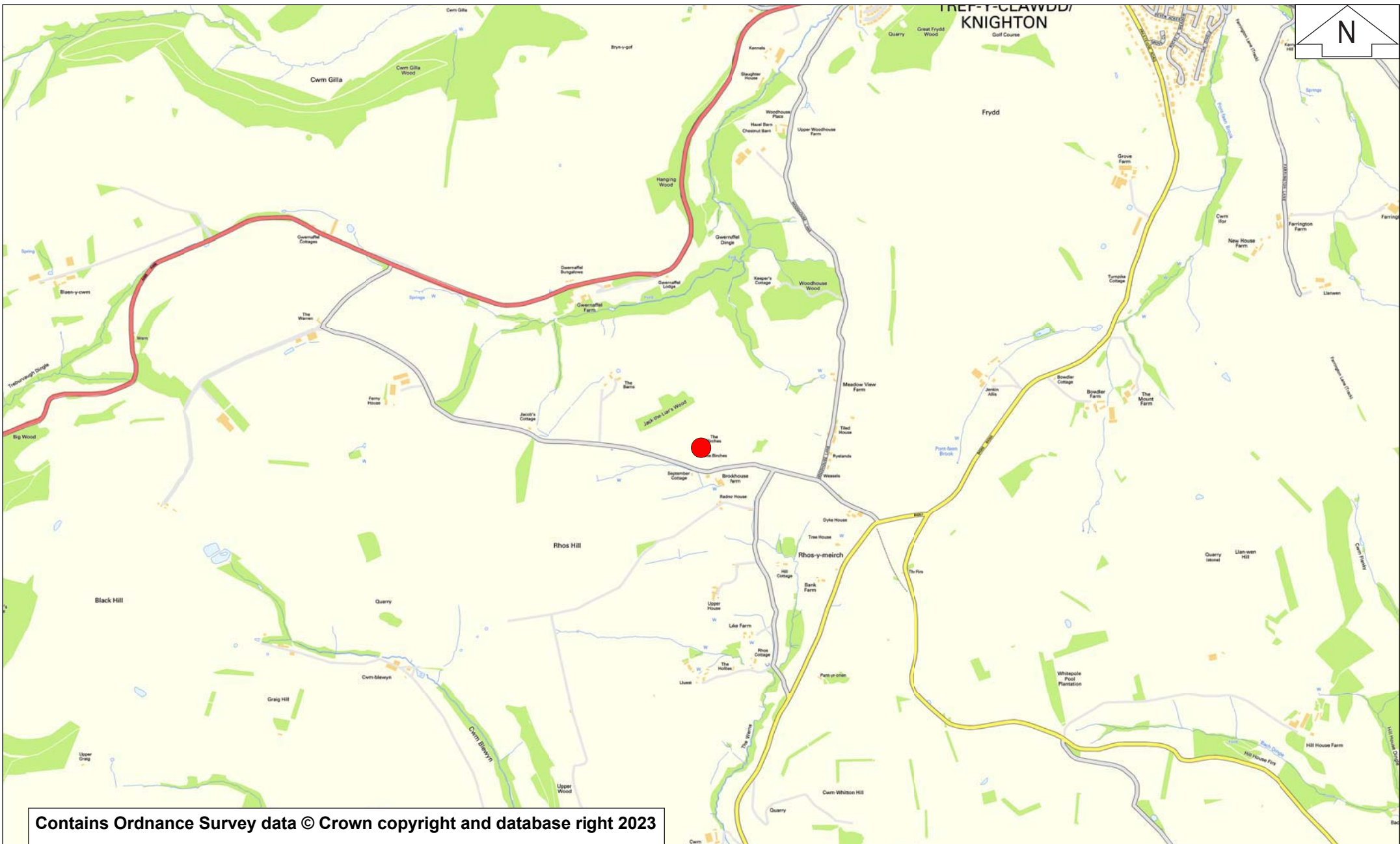
*Reason: To allow an adequate analytical record of the building to be made, before conversion, to ensure that the buildings origins, use, and development are understood and the key features, character and state of preservation are recorded.*

The Development Management Archaeologist (DMA) at the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) made the following consultee comments in their role as archaeological advisor to the Council:

*The building is a 19th century traditional brick farm building which retains features of local vernacular and historical interest. We would recommend that an appropriate level of building recording is completed to record the building in its current form. In this case we would advise that a Level 2 historic building survey is completed in accordance with the Planning Policy Wales (Feb 2021) and TAN 24 (May 2017) guidance, and an appropriate condition is supplied below.*

This design and all subsequent mitigation will conform to the guidelines specified in Historic England’s ‘*Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice*’ (2016) & *Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures* (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020).





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**Figure 01:** Location of The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys LD7 1PE (SO 27231 69986). Scale 1:20,000 at A4.



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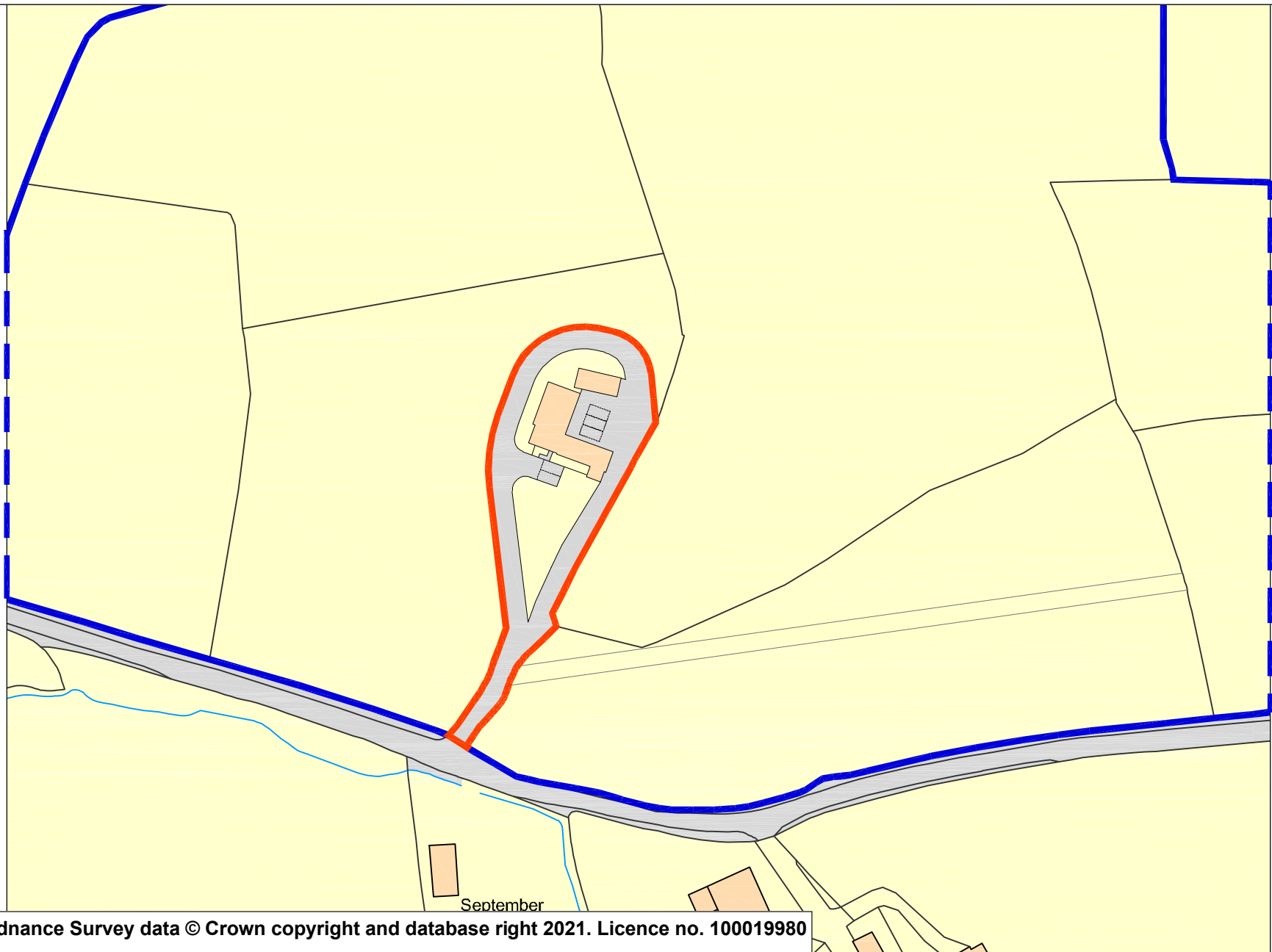


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**Figure 02:** Location of The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys LD7 1PE (SO 27231 69986). Scale 1:5,000 at A4.

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**Figure 03:** Location of The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys LD7 1PE (SO 27231 69986). Scale 1:1,250 at A4.

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## 2.0 POLICY CONTEXT

At an international level there are two principal agreements concerning the protection of the cultural heritage and archaeological resource – the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage and the European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, commonly known as the Valetta Convention. The latter was agreed by the Member States of the Council of Europe in 1992, and also became law in 1992. It has been ratified by the UK, and responsibility for its implementation rests with Department for Culture Media and Sport.

The management and protection of the historic environment in Wales is set out within the following legislation:

- The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (As amended)
- The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016
- The Town and County Planning Act 1990
- The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
- The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 1995 (As amended)

The Historic Environment (Wales) Act is the most recent legislation for the management of the Historic Environment and amends two pieces of UK legislation — the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The new Act has three main aims:

- to give more effective protection to listed buildings and scheduled monuments;
- to improve the sustainable management of the historic environment; and
- to introduce greater transparency and accountability into decisions taken on the historic environment.

With respect to the cultural heritage of the built environment the Planning (Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings) Act 1990 applies. The Act sets out the legislative framework within which works and development affecting listed buildings and conservation areas must be considered. This states that: -

“In considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the local planning authority or, as the case may be, the Secretary of State shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses” (s66(1))

Other known sites of cultural heritage/archaeological significance can be entered onto county-based Historic Environment Records under the Town and Country Planning 1995.

Planning Policy Wales sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government. Chapter 6 covers the historic environment and emphasises that the positive management of change in the historic environment is based on a full understanding of the nature and significance of historic assets and the recognition of the benefits that they can deliver in a vibrant culture and economy.

Various principles and policies related to cultural heritage and archaeology are set out in the Planning Policy Wales which guide local planning authorities with respect to the wider historic environment.

The following paragraphs from Planning Policy Wales are particularly relevant and are quoted in full:

Paragraph 6.1.5 concerns planning applications:

*The planning system must take into account the Welsh Government's objectives to protect, conserve, promote and enhance the historic environment as a resource for the general well-being of present and future generations. The historic environment is a finite, non-renewable and shared resource and a vital and integral part of the historical and cultural identity of Wales. It contributes to economic vitality and culture, civic pride, local distinctiveness and the quality of Welsh life. The historic environment can only be maintained as a resource for future generations if the individual historic assets are protected and conserved. Cadw's published Conservation Principles highlights the need to base decisions on an understanding of the impact a proposal may have on the significance of an historic asset.*

Planning Policy Wales is supplemented by a series of Technical Advice Notes (TAN). Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment contains detailed guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan, preparation and decision making on planning and listed building consent applications. TAN 24 replaces the following Welsh Office Circulars:

- 60/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology
- 61/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas
- 1/98 Planning and the Historic Environment: Directions by the Secretary of State for Wales



### 3.0 HISTORIC BACKGROUND

#### ***Site Location***

*Rhos y Meirch* is a small hamlet located in the old county of Radnorshire, now Powys, and lies approximately 6.50km southwest of the town of Knighton and 5.09km to the northwest of Presteigne. The hamlet is situated near Offa's Dyke, a National Trail that runs along the border between Wales and England. A nearby landmark is the Radnor Forest, situated approximately 11km away to the west/southwest. The area around *Rhos y Meirch* is historically associated with upland agriculture, and the hamlet was likely once a social centre for the outlying farms. The 'Rhos' in contextual Welsh likely refers to the gently sloping upland character of the area and heathland which is covered in short grasses and heather.

#### ***Welsh Medieval Land Organisation***

It is often confusing when discussing the historic settlements in Wales due to some key differences with England. How the land was organised in the medieval period. The smallest unit of land during the medieval period was known as *tref*, which is a settlement or a small village. In principle, a *cantref* was composed of 100 *trefi* (The plural form is *cantrefi*), meaning "one hundred settlements"; roughly equivalent in meaning to the English *hundred*. Along with the *cantrefi*, *commotes* were the spatial divisions that were responsible for organizing defence and justice. A lord, probably related to the ruling Prince of the Kingdom, was in charge of a commote. The court of this lord was located in a specific *tref*, referred to as *maerdref*. Bonded villagers who worked on the lord's estate lived here, along with the court officials and servants. *Maenorau* or *maenolydd* were divisions of commotes that applied when they were further subdivided into smaller units.

#### ***Regional Archaeology & History***

Knighton is located in eastern Radnorshire, on the south side of the River Teme, which acts as the boundary between England and Wales (Davies 2008, Hume 2021). The town is situated on a spur that extends into the river valley, with Knighton castle and the old town situated on a knoll on this spur (Salter, 2001). The earliest recorded name for Knighton appears in Domesday Book as *Chenistetone* in 1086, which means 'settlement of the followers' or 'freemen', and later as *Cnicheton* in 1193. The Welsh name for Knighton, '*Tref-y-Clawdd*', refers to Offa's Dyke (Hume, 2021).

There is debate about the origins of Knighton, with some suggesting a pre-Conquest origin due to its location on Offa's Dyke (Davies, 2008). The construction of Bryn y Castell, a motte, may indicate the beginnings of Knighton as a strategic route out of England (Gibson, 2012). Another castle, built by William de Braose around 1191-1192 and possibly earlier, is also associated with Knighton (Salter, 2001).

The foundation of the town is uncertain, although a market grant was obtained in 1230 and documents from 1361 and 1383 confirm its status as a borough (Andrew 2017, Langton, 2011). The population of Knighton in the late 13th century consisted of primarily Welsh descent individuals, suggesting organic growth rather than a planned settlement (Andrew 2017).

Knighton suffered destruction and seizure during various conflicts, including attacks by Llywelyn ap Gruffudd in 1260 and by Glyndŵr in 1402 (Davies, 2008). Population estimates in the 16th and 17th centuries suggest limited growth, with around 400-500 inhabitants (Belford, 2021). However, further growth occurred in the 18th and 19th centuries, attributed to the local woollen industry (Salter, 2001).

## 4.0 METHOD STATEMENT

### 4.1 Level 2 Building Record

The requirements are for an archaeological building record to be taken of an outbuilding at: *The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys LD7 1PE (SO 27231 69986)* in advance of erection of an extension, to include the demolition of an outbuilding. However, should observations or desk-based research suggest the potential for significant features to be encountered during the demolition works, the archaeological contractor should make arrangements to undertake any appropriate supplementary recording work during the development. The CPAT Development Control Archaeologist has requested that the building record be roughly commensurate with the English Heritage '*Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice*' (2016) **Level 2**.

#### 4.1.1 Written Account

The written account will include:

- The building's precise location as a National Grid Reference and address form;
- A note of any statutory designation and non-statutory designation;
- The date of the record, name(s) of the recorder(s) and archive location;
- A summary of the building's form, function, date, and sequence of development.
- An introduction, setting out the circumstances in which the record was made, its objectives, methods, scope and limitations, and any constraints which limited the achievement of objectives.
- Acknowledgements to all those who made significant contributions.
- A discussion of published sources relating to the building and its setting, an account of its history as given in published sources, an analysis of historic map evidence and a critical evaluation of previous records of the building, where they exist.
- An account of the building's overall form and its successive phases of development, together with the evidence supporting this analysis.
- An account of the past and present uses of the building and its parts, with the evidence for these interpretations.
- Any evidence for the former existence of demolished structures or removed plant associated with the building.
- Full bibliographic and other references.

#### 4.1.2 Photographs

The photographic record will include:

- A general view or views of the building;
- The building's external appearance. Typically, a series of oblique views will show all external elevations of the building and give an impression of its size and shape;
- The overall appearance of the rooms to be altered.
- Any internal or external detail.
- Any machinery or other plant, or evidence for its former existence.
- Any dates or other inscriptions.
- Any building contents or ephemera which have a significant bearing on the building's history.
- Copies of maps, drawings, views and photographs present in the building and illustrating its development or that of its site.

A Digital SLR (Canon 600D) set to maximum resolution will be used throughout.

#### **4.1.3 Drawings**

The drawn record will include:

- A measured site plan showing the location and orientation of photographs. This will label all room spaces and indicate any architectural features of note.
- Measured elevation drawings of all external elevations.

#### **4.2 Processing data, illustration, report and archiving**

Following completion of the record as outlined above, a report will be produced incorporating the following:

- A copy of the design brief and agreed specification
- A site location plan
- A plan illustrating the location and direction of photographs
- Basic background and relevant historical, descriptive or analytical detail
- A full bibliography of sources consulted
- Illustrations, including plans and photographs, will be incorporated within the report.



## **5.0 DIGITAL DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN**

### **5.1 Type of study**

A level 2 historic building record of a farm outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys LD7 1PE (SO 27231 69986) in advance of *erection of an extension, to include the demolition of an outbuilding.*

Photographs, digital text, annotated plans.

### **5.2 Format and scale of the data**

Photographs taken in *RAW* format and later converted to *TIF* format for long term archiving and *JPEG* format for use in the digital report, converted using *Adobe Photoshop*. All photographs renamed using *AF5* freeware with the prefix (*project code\_frame number*) and a photographic metadata created using Microsoft Excel (*.xlsx*) or Access (*.accdb*). Written descriptions taken in digital *.txt* format and sent via email to ensure a digital backup copy at time of record.

### **5.3 Methodologies for data collection / generation**

Digital data will be collected / generated in line with recommendations made in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (2014. Rev 2020). Sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.3 are relevant:

*3.3.1 Project specifications, research designs or similar documents should include a project specific Selection Strategy and a Data Management Plan.*

*3.3.3 Project designs or schedules of works etc should outline the methodology used in recording all information, in order to demonstrate that all aspects of archive creation will ensure consistency; for instance in terminologies and the application of codes in digital data sets, highlighting relevant data standards where appropriate*

### **5.4 Data quality and standards**

Consistency and quality of data collection / generation shall be controlled and documented through the use of standardised procedure as outlined in the WSI. This will include the use of standardised data capture file formats, digital proformas, data entry validation, peer review, and use of controlled vocabularies.

### **5.5 Managing, storing and curating data.**

All digital data will be organised into Aeon Archaeology proforma project file systems and backed up to the cloud using *Acronis Cyber Protect* with additional copies made to external physical hard drive.

### **5.6 Metadata standards and data documentation**

Digital metadata created using Microsoft Excel (*.xlsx*) or Access (*.accdb*) of all photographic plates.

Paper metadata created from Aeon Archaeology proformas for contexts, artefacts, environmental samples, watching brief day sheets, trench sheets, and basic record sheets and then scanned to create digital *.PDF* copies.

## **5.7 Data preservation strategy and standards**

Long term data storage will be through the submission of digital (.PDF) reports to the regional Historic Environment Record (HER); submission of digital (.PDF) reports and the digital / paper archive to the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments in Wales RCAHMW; and retention of copies of all digital files at Aeon Archaeology on physical external hard drive and uploaded to The Cloud.

## **5.8 Suitability for sharing**

All digital data will be placed within the public realm (through the channels in 6.8) except for where project confidentiality restricts the sharing of data. All data sets will be selected / discriminated by the Senior Archaeologist at Aeon Archaeology and written permission will be sought from all project specific Clients prior to the sharing of data.

## **5.9 Discovery by potential users of the research data**

Potential users of the generated digital data (outside of the organisation) will be able to source the data and identify whether it could be suitable for their research purposes through access granted via the RCAHMW website. Requests can also be made for data through the regional HER's and directly to Aeon Archaeology ([info@aeonarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:info@aeonarchaeology.co.uk)).

## **5.10 Governance of access**

The decision to supply research data to potential new users will be via the associated website request (RCAHMW, HER) or via the Senior Archaeologist when made directly to Aeon Archaeology.

## **5.11 The study team's exclusive use of the data**

Aeon Archaeology's requirement is for timely data sharing, with the understanding that a limited, defined period of exclusive use of data for primary research is reasonable according to the nature and value of the data, and that this restriction on sharing should be based on simple, clear principles. This time period is expected to be six months from completion of the project however Aeon Archaeology reserves the right to extend this period without notice if primary data research dictates.

## **5.12 Restrictions or delays to sharing, with planned actions to limit such restrictions**

Restriction to data sharing may be due to participant confidentiality or consent agreements. Strategies to limit restrictions will include data being anonymised or aggregated; gaining participant consent for data sharing; and gaining copyright permissions. For prospective studies, consent procedures will include provision for data sharing to maximise the value of the data for wider research use, while providing adequate safeguards for participants.

## **5.13 Regulation of responsibilities of users**

External users of the data will be bound by data sharing agreements provided by the relevant organisation or directly through Aeon Archaeology.

#### **5.14 Responsibilities**

Responsibility for study-wide data management, metadata creation, data security and quality assurance of data will be through the Senior Archaeologist (Richard Cooke BA MA MCifA) at Aeon Archaeology when concerning data generation and early/mid-term storage. Upon deposition with digital depositories the study-wide data management, metadata creation, data security and quality assurance of data will be the responsibility of the specific organisations' themselves.

#### **5.15 Organisational policies on data sharing and data security**

The following Aeon Archaeology policies are relevant:

- Aeon Archaeology Archive Deposition Policy 2022
- Aeon Archaeology Quality Assurance Policy 2022
- Aeon Archaeology Conflict of Interest Policy 2022
- Aeon Archaeology Outreach Policy 2022
- Aeon Archaeology Digital Management Plan 2022

## 6.0 LEVEL 2 HISTORIC BUILDING SURVEY

The outbuilding at the The Birches, Rhos Y Meirch, was the subject of a level 2 historic building record prior to its demolition and the erection of a new extension. The site was attended by Josh Dean BA on the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023. The Birches is located to the west of the hamlet of *Rhos Y Meirch*, Knighton, Powys on a road known as (*C1076 From A488 Junction Opposite Layby To B4357 Junction By Dyke House, Rhos-Y-Meirch*), (centred **SO 27231 69986**).

### 6.1 The External Elevations, Outbuilding, The Birches, Rhos Y Meirch

(*Plates 1 – 27, Figures 04-05*)

This is a two-storey, rectangular building, which is orientated west-northwest to east-southeast (simplified east to west). The building measures 9.80m in length by 4.35m wide. Furthermore, it is located to the northern end of a ‘U-shaped’ farmstead complex. Such consolidated courtyard plans can sometimes be indicative of a late Victorian date as some farms became less dispersed (Lake et al. 2006), however in this region it is just as likely that they were a response to prevailing weather systems, affording shelter to the east. All of the other farm buildings to the south have been re-developed and the courtyard is now covered with loose stone.

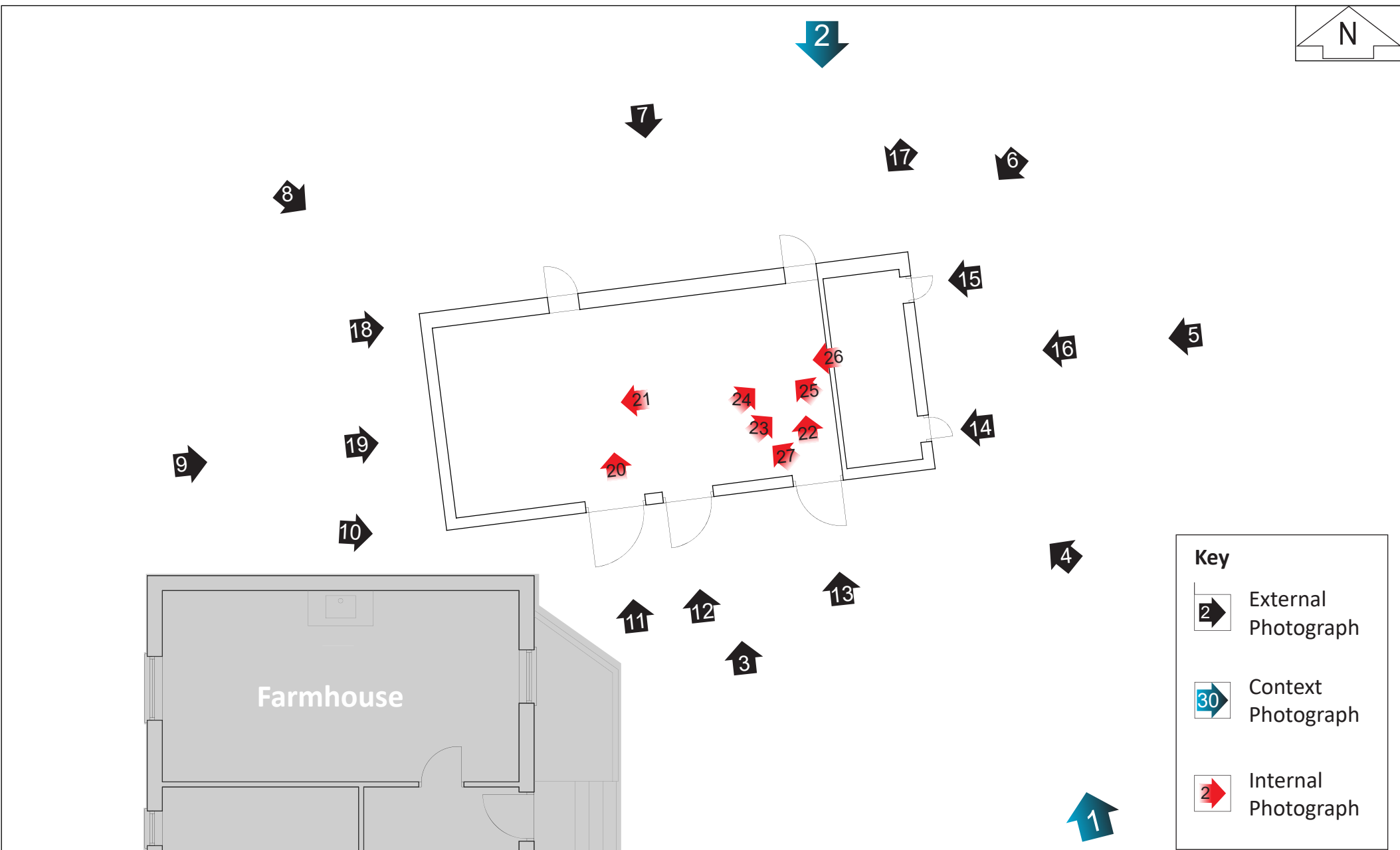
The building has a double-pitch or gable roof construction, which has been roofed with blue slate and has cement ridge tiles. At eaves height, on the northern and southern elevations, there is a grey PVC gutter.

#### **The southern elevation**




The southern elevation presents onto the former courtyard of the farm complex at *The Birches*. As previously mentioned, it is constructed from red brick bonded by Portland cement in a common bond. Visible at the right-hand side and near the bottom of the elevation, there is an element of stone rubble construction, which suggests a primary phase of construction in stone followed by a rebuilding in brick. At first floor level and offset to the right of centre, there is a hayloft (*Cymraeg: taflod y gwair, taflodau*) loading hatch, this has a modern wooden board door and two cast iron door hinge hangers are visible to the right hand side.

At ground floor level there are three stable (*Cym: ceffyllydy, marchdy neu stabl*) doors, which are staggered along the previous ground level, with the lowest being at the right-hand end, and the highest being at the left-hand end. Presumably, this was once to suit the topography of the courtyard, which slopes to the east to this day.

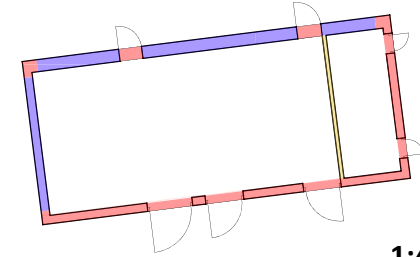
The door on the right-hand side permits access to the eastern, ground floor room and consists of an unpainted, wooden board, stable door in unpainted wooden frames with a stone threshold and with a double course of, red-brick headers, forming the lintel. To the left of this, and offset to the left of centre, there is another doorway opening which formerly permitted access to the eastern room but now has been sealed. This consists of an unpainted, wooden board door in unpainted wooden frames, with a brick threshold and with a double course of, red-brick headers, forming the lintel.



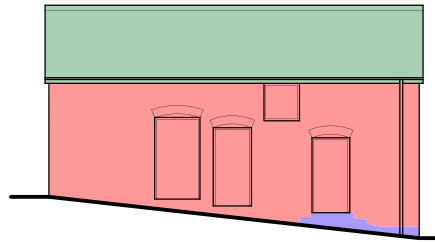
**Key**

-  External Photograph
-  Context Photograph
-  Internal Photograph

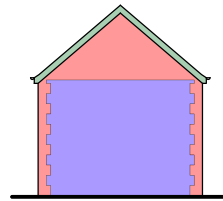
**Figure 04:** Location of Photographic Plates of Outbuilding, The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys, LD7 1PE (centred on NGR **SO 27231 69986**). Scale 1:100 @ A4.



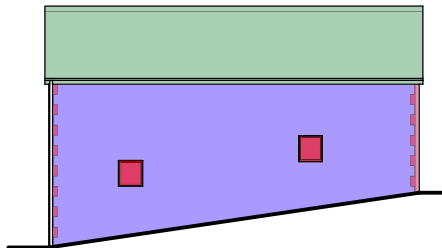
1:400 @ A4



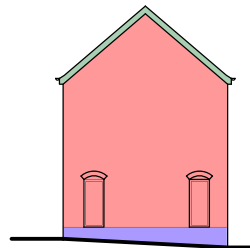
Side Elevation



Rear Elevation



Side Elevation



Front Elevation

1:200 @ A4

### ***Suggested Phasing for Building***

- **1st Phase** - Roughly coursed, Stone rubble construction with lime mortar bonding **Likely early-mid 19th century?**
- **2nd Phase** - Wire-cut, Red Brick bonded with Portland Cement In a common bond **Possible late 19th-early 20th century?**
- **3rd Phase** - Wooden construction/ configuration of Pigsty - unknown date - **possible early 20th century**
- **4th Phase** - Reroofed with sawn timber trusses? and rafters - unknown date - **mid-late 20th century?**



**Figure 05:** Plan and elevation plan showing suggested phasing for the Outbuilding, The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys, LD7 1PE (centred on NGR SO 27231 69986). Scale as shown.

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**Plate 01:** Context shot of outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the south - 2.00m scale





**Plate 02:** Context shot of outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the north - 2.00m scale





**Plate 03:** Southern elevation of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the south - 2.00m scale



**Plate 04:** Oblique shot of southern and eastern elevations of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the southeast - 2.00m scale

The door on the left-hand side of the elevation permits access to the western, ground floor room and is identical to the door on the right-hand side: it consists of an unpainted, wooden board, stable door in unpainted wooden frames with a stone threshold and with a double course of, red-brick headers, forming the lintel.

### **The eastern elevation**

The eastern elevation is a gable end elevation, with a black painted weatherboard at eaves height. Visible beneath this are the protruding ends of two sawn purlins and sawn timber wall plates. At the apex of the roof, there is a diaper shaped ventilation embrasure for the hayloft.

The elevation is comprised of red brick bonded by Portland cement (the client advises that these bricks were made in a local kiln not far away). At the very base of the elevation. There is a stone rubble phase of wall construction and this is bonded by lime mortar. It is believed that this stone walling, represents the primary phase of construction, whereas the red brick is a secondary phase, indicating a probable a rebuild of the southern and eastern elevations in redbrick.

At the base of the elevation, there are two small doorway openings, which permit access to a presumed double stall pigsty inside. These portals are very low and very narrow and sport single course, red brick headers as lintels. It is presumed that the ground level once sloped up to these doors, permitting access to the pigsties for the animals, however, since redevelopment of the area, the ground level has been reduced, leaving these doors, suspended higher up. The left-hand door has a simple unpainted wooden frame with wire mesh door, whereas the door on the right has a smaller version of the wooden board door seen on the southern elevation.

### **The northern elevation**

This elevation appears to be entirely constructed of roughly coursed and dressed stone rubble bonded by lime mortar. At either end of the elevation, red brick quoins are visible. There is no apparent phasing on the elevation, with regards to the stonework, although it is surmised that this is likely a primary construction elevation for the building with the red brick elements representing a secondary phase, possibly representing the rebuilding of a dilapidated building.

Of notes are to small hatches located on the elevation. These are offset from the centre to the left and right, and as with the doors on the southern elevation are staggered, likely, reflecting the slope of the terrain. It is likely that these hatches were added during the secondary phase of construction in brick (inside the eastern window, the wall cheeks are faced in brick, supporting this theory). These hatches have unpainted wooden frames and wooden board doors with cast iron hinges and latches. At the base of the elevation on the right-hand side, there is an exit channel for a former drain, indicating that the western room likely housed an animal, likely a horse within a stable.

### **The western elevation**

The lower two thirds of the elevation is constructed from roughly coursed and dressed stone rubble bonded by lime mortar. However, the sides and the upper part of the Gable have been rebuilt in red brick. Once again, a black painted weatherboard forms at the eaves, and the sawn ends of timber purlins and wall plates are visible. At the apex of the gable there is a diaper shaped ventilation embrasure, which mirrors that scene on the eastern elevation. Apart





**Plate 05:** Eastern elevation of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the east - 2.00m scale



**Plate 06:** Oblique shot of northern and eastern elevations of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the northeast - 2.00m scale





**Plate 07:** Northern elevation of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the north - 2.00m scale



**Plate 08:** Oblique shot of northern and western elevations of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the northwest - 2.00m scale





**Plate 09:** Western elevation of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the west - 2.00m scale





**Plate 10:** Oblique (acute) shot of southern/western elevation of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the west - no scale



**Plate 11:** Southern elevation, left door of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the south - 2.00m scale





**Plate 12:** Southern elevation, central door of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the south - 2.00m scale



**Plate 13:** Southern elevation, right door of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the south - 2.00m scale





**Plate 14:** Eastern elevation, left door of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the east - 0.50m scale



**Plate 15:** Eastern elevation, right door of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the east - 0.50m scale





**Plate 16:** Eastern elevation, diaper/diamond shaped ventilation embrasure on the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the east - no scale



**Plate 17:** Oblique shot of window hatches on northern elevation of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the northeast - no scale





**Plate 18:** Brick quoin detail on western elevation of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the west - 2.00m scale



**Plate 19:** Western elevation, diaper/diamond shaped ventilation embrasure on the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the west - no scale

from this, the elevation is featureless. The stone wall may have been rebuilt between the red brick quoins.

## **6.2 The Internal Elevations, Outbuilding, The Birches, Rhos Y Meirch**

### **The western room**

This is a rectangular orientated north to south and which was not measured due to the presence of two Doberman guard dogs. This room is accessed via a doorway in the southern elevation from the former courtyard area. The ceiling and all the elevations have been boarded out with modern chipboard floor is of hay. The room now acts as a kennel for the two guard dogs - and a cast iron cage is located in the north-western corner.

### **The eastern room**

This is a rectangular room orientated east to west, and which measures 4.16m long by 3.81m wide. This room is open to the roof pitch which demonstrates that the roof has been replaced with modern sawn rafters, and purlins. There are two sawn timber trusses with slanted struts, which support the roof, and these are situated upon sawn timber wall plates. Of potential interest within the eastern room are too rough-hewn timber beams which have been slotted into the southern and northern elevations but only loosely, which indicates that they are not structural tie beams. It is suspected that these may once have supported joists for a first-floor hayloft, although no nails or holes are visible in the upper surface, suggesting that a floor may have simply rested on these beams at one point.

The southern elevation is constructed from red brick bonded by Portland cement. There is a centralised doorway which permits access to the southern courtyard. Above this into the right at first floor level, there is a former hayloft hatch. The eastern elevation is of red brick bonded put in Portland cement. Near the apex of the roof is the diamond shaped ventilation, embrasure. The eastern side of the room has been partitioned with a low concrete wall and timber frame, this forms an area for the former pigsty, which has been partitioned into two stalls with vertically placed corrugated iron sheeting.

The northern elevation is of stone rubble bonded by lime mortar. Within the centre of the elevation near the ground level is a hatchway opening with hand-hewn timber lintel (and red brick wall cheeks). Visible on the right-hand side of this hatchway is a course of red brick, into which part of the pigsty frame is inserted, suggesting that this pigsty is a later addition to the building.

The western elevation is open, in its upper half permitting a view of the hayloft level.

However, this is a false level as the kennel inserted into the western half of the building at ground floor level has effectively created a chipboard cell within the original structure. Up against this elevation at ground floor level are the remains of a suspected roughhewn, timber and wire mesh feeder and support for water trough suggesting that this may once have been a byre (Cym: *beudy*, *buarth*, *cawty*, *glowty neu gody*). Visible beyond the chipboard kennel construction at first floor level, is the red brick construction of the western elevation with its diamond shaped, ventilation embrasure, allowing light into the loft space. The floor on the western side of the room is of wooden sleepers, and on the eastern side is of exposed stone.





**Plate 20:** Western internal (kennel) room of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the south - 1.00m scale



**Plate 21:** Western internal (kennel) room of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the east - 1.00m scale





**Plate 22:** Northern elevation, of the eastern internal room of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the south - 1.00m scale



**Plate 23:** Eastern elevation, of the eastern internal room of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the southwest - no scale





**Plate 24:** Pigsty construction and inserted window in the eastern room of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the southwest - no scale



**Plate 25:** Handhewn beams in the eastern room of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the southeast - no scale





**Plate 26:** View above the western room (1st floor level) from the eastern room of the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the east - no scale





**Plate 27:** Sawn timber roof trusses in the outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys - from the southeast - no scale

## 7.0 CONCLUSION

The building record of the *Outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos Y Meirch* has sought to be commensurate with the Historic England's '*Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice*' (2016) **Level 2**. During the observations made during this survey and following a short period of desk-based research it has been possible to recommend a general phasing for the building (*Figure 05*).

The southern and eastern elevations of the outbuilding are of red brick bonded by Portland cement, whereas the northern and western elevations are of a loosely, coursed stone rubble construction bonded with lime mortar and with brick quoin detailing. Therefore, the rough stone-rubble coursing bonded by lime mortar represents a primary phase of construction likely dating to the mid-late 19<sup>th</sup> century.

Then after a period of dilapidation the southern and eastern walls were reconstructed in red brick in a *common bond* and bonded with Portland cement, probably in the late 18<sup>th</sup>/early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The western wall may perhaps have been rebuilt at this time in stone as a red brick quoin was added to the north western corner of the building, as well as the apex of the western gable having been rebuilt in red brick. In addition, two hatch windows were likely added to the northern elevation of the building during this secondary phase of construction. Timber stall work was then added to the interior for a pigsty arrangement and sometime after the building was reroofed, although the sawn slanted strut trusses were retained – probably in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

The Level 2 building record at *Outbuilding at The Birches, Rhos Y Meirch* has been undertaken by the Client in response to the archaeological condition which was placed on the planning application, and following on from comments made by the DMA at CPAT, they have then produced this time-stamped photographic and descriptive record of the property.

## 8.0 SOURCES

### *Maps.*

Ordnance Survey Open Data maps SO NW26, NE26, SE26 and SW26.

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**The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch,  
Knighton, Powys LD7 1PE  
(22/2184/HH)**

**Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)  
for Level 2 Historic Building Record**

**July 2023 v1.0**



Project Code: A0434.1  
Planning Ref. 22/2184/HH  
Event PRN: Tbc

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# **The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys LD7 1PE (22/2184/HH)**

## **July 2023 v1.0**

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## 1.0 PROJECT BACKGROUND

Aeon Archaeology has been commissioned by Samuel Hornsey, hereafter 'the Client', to produce a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for carrying out a level 2 historic building record of a farm building at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys LD7 1PE (SO 27231 69986) in advance of erection of an extension, to include the demolition of an outbuilding.

Planning Permission was obtained by the Client from Powys County Council, hereafter 'the Council', on the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 (22/2184/HH), with the following condition concerning archaeology being applied:

### *Condition 6*

*No development shall take place until a programme of building recording and analysis, equivalent to an Historic England Level 2 building survey, has been secured and implemented, in accordance with a brief issued by the local planning authority and a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The survey shall be completed by a professional archaeological contractor.*

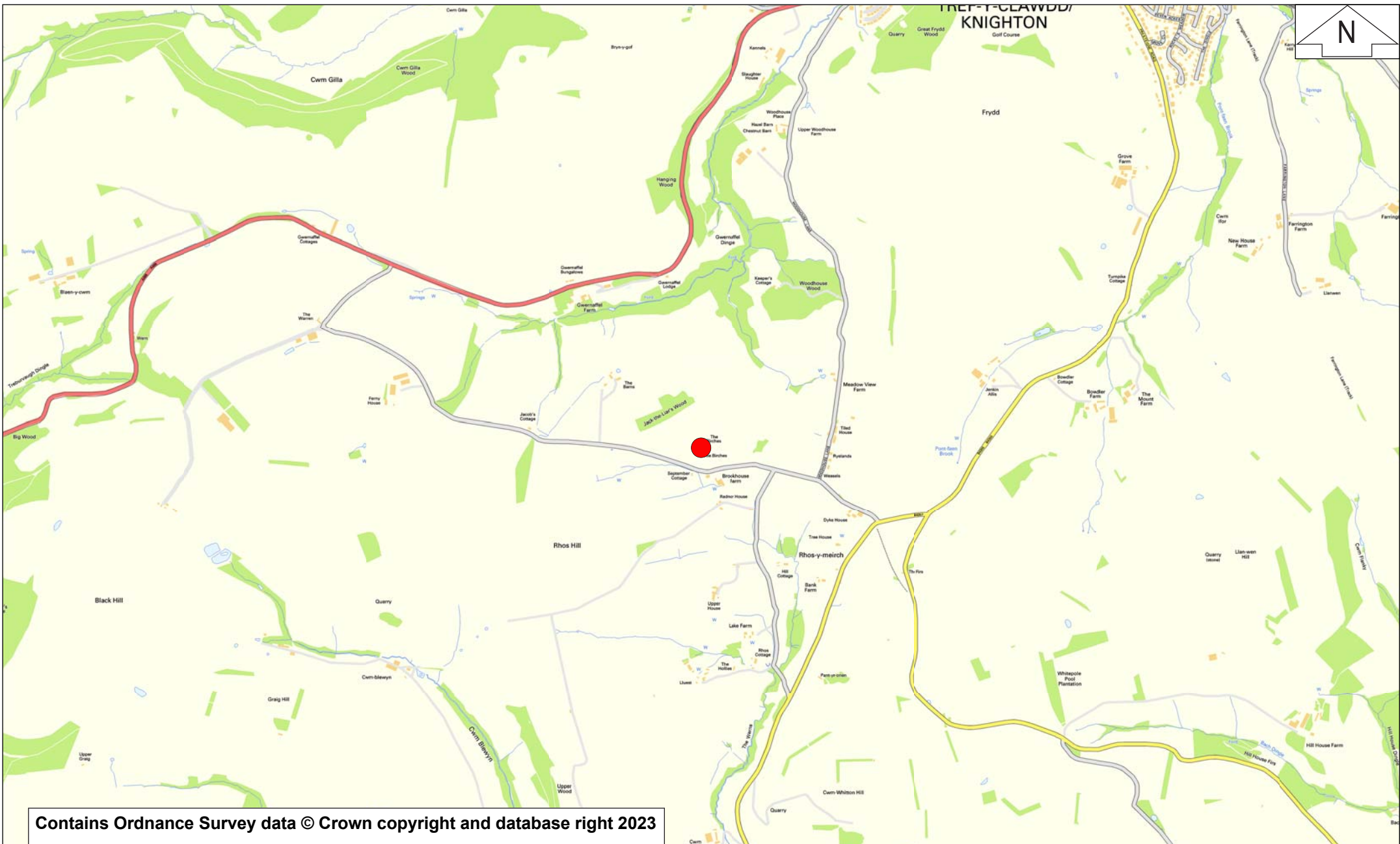
*Reason: To allow an adequate analytical record of the building to be made, before conversion, to ensure that the buildings origins, use, and development are understood and the key features, character and state of preservation are recorded.*

The Development Management Archaeologist (DMA) at the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) made the following consultee comments in their role as archaeological advisor to the Council:

*The building is a 19th century traditional brick farm building which retains features of local vernacular and historical interest. We would recommend that an appropriate level of building recording is completed to record the building in its current form. In this case we would advise that a Level 2 historic building survey is completed in accordance with the Planning Policy Wales (Feb 2021) and TAN 24 (May 2017) guidance, and an appropriate condition is supplied below.*

This design and all subsequent mitigation will conform to the guidelines specified in Historic England's 'Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice' (2016) & Standard and Guidance for the Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures (Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2020).

It is a requirement that this WSI is submitted to and approved in writing by the Planning Officer and the Development Management Archaeologist (DMA) at the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) prior to the works being undertaken.



**Figure 01:** Location of The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys LD7 1PE (SO 27231 69986). Scale 1:20,000 at A4.



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**Figure 02:** Location of The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys LD7 1PE (SO 27231 69986). Scale 1:5,000 at A4.

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**Figure 03:** Location of The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys LD7 1PE (SO 27231 69986). Scale 1:5,000 at A4.. Scale 1:1,250 at A4.

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## 2.0 POLICY CONTEXT

At an international level there are two principal agreements concerning the protection of the cultural heritage and archaeological resource – the UNESCO Convention Concerning the Protection of World Cultural and Natural Heritage and the European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage, commonly known as the Valetta Convention. The latter was agreed by the Member States of the Council of Europe in 1992, and also became law in 1992. It has been ratified by the UK, and responsibility for its implementation rests with Department for Culture Media and Sport.

The management and protection of the historic environment in Wales is set out within the following legislation:

- The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 (As amended)
- The Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2016
- The Town and Country Planning Act 1990
- The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
- The Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order) 1995 (As amended)

The Historic Environment (Wales) Act is the most recent legislation for the management of the Historic Environment and amends two pieces of UK legislation — the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 and the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990. The new Act has three main aims:

- to give more effective protection to listed buildings and scheduled monuments;
- to improve the sustainable management of the historic environment; and
- to introduce greater transparency and accountability into decisions taken on the historic environment.

With respect to the cultural heritage of the built environment the Planning (Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings) Act 1990 applies. The Act sets out the legislative framework within which works and development affecting listed buildings and conservation areas must be considered. This states that:-

“In considering whether to grant planning permission for development which affects a listed building or its setting, the local planning authority or, as the case may be, the Secretary of State shall have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building or its setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses” (s66(1))

Other known sites of cultural heritage/archaeological significance can be entered onto county-based Historic Environment Records under the Town and Country Planning 1995.

Planning Policy Wales sets out the land use planning policies of the Welsh Government. Chapter 6 covers the historic environment and emphasises that the positive management of change in the historic environment is based on a full understanding of the nature and significance of historic assets and the recognition of the benefits that they can deliver in a vibrant culture and economy.

Various principles and policies related to cultural heritage and archaeology are set out in the Planning Policy Wales which guide local planning authorities with respect to the wider historic environment.

The following paragraphs from Planning Policy Wales are particularly relevant and are quoted in full:

Paragraph 6.1.5 concerns planning applications:

*The planning system must take into account the Welsh Government's objectives to protect, conserve, promote and enhance the historic environment as a resource for the general well-being of present and future generations. The historic environment is a finite, non-renewable and shared resource and a vital and integral part of the historical and cultural identity of Wales. It contributes to economic vitality and culture, civic pride, local distinctiveness and the quality of Welsh life. The historic environment can only be maintained as a resource for future generations if the individual historic assets are protected and conserved. Cadw's published Conservation Principles highlights the need to base decisions on an understanding of the impact a proposal may have on the significance of an historic asset.*

Planning Policy Wales is supplemented by a series of Technical Advice Notes (TAN). Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment contains detailed guidance on how the planning system considers the historic environment during development plan, preparation and decision making on planning and listed building consent applications. TAN 24 replaces the following Welsh Office Circulars:

- 60/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Archaeology
- 61/96 Planning and the Historic Environment: Historic Buildings and Conservation Areas
- 1/98 Planning and the Historic Environment: Directions by the Secretary of State for Wales



## 3.0 REQUIREMENTS

### 3.1 Building Record

The requirements are for an archaeological building record of the farm outbuilding, however should observations or desk-based research suggest the potential for significant features to be encountered during the renovation works, the archaeological contractor should make arrangements to undertake any appropriate supplementary recording work during the development. The DMA at CPAT has requested that the building record be roughly commensurate with the Historic England's '*Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice*' (2016) **Level 2**.

Both the exterior and the interior will be viewed, described and photographed. The record will present conclusions regarding the building's development and use, but will not discuss in detail the evidence on which these conclusions are based.

The detailed photographic record will consist of Historic England's '*Understanding Historic Buildings: a guide to good recording practice*' (2106) elements:

written account: 1-3, 6

drawings: sometimes 1, sometimes one or more of 2-7

photographs: 1,2,4

## **4.0 METHOD STATEMENT**

### **4.1 Level 2 Record**

#### **4.1.1 Written Account**

The written account will include:

A written account will be prepared to include the buildings' precise locations along with details of any statutory or non-statutory designations. The date of the record, the name(s) of the recorder(s) and the proposed location for the archive of the record will also be confirmed.

Information on the Buildings' types and purposes, historically and at present, materials, and possible date(s) and phasing, in so far as these are apparent from an appropriate inspection will also be presented as a summary statement. The written account will summarise the Building's form, function, date and sequence of development. The names of architects, builders, patrons and owners will be given if known.

The written record will be completed via Aeon Archaeology pro-formas.

#### **4.1.2 Photographs**

The photographic record will include:

- A general view or views of the building;
- The building's external appearance. Typically a series of oblique views will show all external elevations of the building and give an impression of its size and shape;
- The overall appearance of the principal rooms and circulation areas.

The photographic record will be maintained throughout using a digital SLR camera (Canon 600D) set to maximum resolution (72 dpi) with photographs taken in RAW format and later converted to TIFF format for long-term storage and JPEG format for presentation and inclusion in the archive. The standards for the digital archive will adhere to those set out in 'Digital Archiving: Appendix 6. Digital Archive Repository Requirements (Archaeological Data Service, 2015).

All photographs forming part of the record will be in focus, with an appropriate use of depth of field; they will be adequately exposed in good natural light, or where necessary well-lit by artificial means. In order to produce the best possible results in limited time site photography will be planned to coincide with variations in natural light.

A tripod will be utilised throughout thus ensuring that images are unaffected by camera shake. When using a DSLR with a choice of lenses the least distorted image can be obtained using standard or slightly telephoto lenses. Wideangle lenses will not be used. Care taken in levelling the camera will help to avoid introducing distortions.

When photographing details the camera will be located straight on to the subject, and will include a clearly marked and suitably sized scale parallel to one edge of the photograph.

The main source of artificial light for interior photography is electronic flash. This has the advantage of being similar in colour balance to daylight, making it the most practical choice for most colour image capture. An integral flash, as supplied on many DSLRs, is often not powerful enough to meet

the range of demands in architectural work. In such cases the use of natural light, in conjunction with a tripod, may produce a better image.

#### **4.1.3 Drawings**

The drawn record will include:

- A site plan showing the location and orientation of photographs. This will label all room spaces and indicate any architectural features of note.

Caution will be exercised in using drawings created for other purposes, particularly for estate agents particulars etc, as these often rationalise plans and remove irregularities which may be key to understanding a building. Detailed plans made by surveyors for purposes of design or alteration may form a satisfactory basis for drawings which aim to show the evolution of a building, but their accuracy will need to be confirmed and they will sometimes need to be adapted to show a greater range of historical evidence.

#### **4.2 Processing data, illustration, report and archiving**

Following completion of the record as outlined above, a report will be produced incorporating the following:

- A copy of the design brief and agreed specification
- A site location plan
- A plan illustrating the location and direction of photographs
- Basic background and relevant historical, descriptive or analytical detail
- A full bibliography of sources consulted
- Illustrations, including plans and photographs, will be incorporated within the report.

## **5.0 DISSEMINATION AND ARCHIVING**

A full archive including plans, photographs, written material and any other material resulting from the project will be prepared. All plans, photographs and descriptions will be labelled, and cross-referenced, and lodged with the RCAHMW within six months of the completion of the project.

Upon completion of the project copies of the report will be sent to the Client, regional HER and DMA at CPAT.

The project report and archive will adhere to the Welsh Trusts' and Cadw's *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (2018 rev 2020) including the translation of a non-technical summary into the medium of Welsh.



## **6.0 DIGITAL DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN**

### **6.1 Type of study**

Level 2 historic building record of a farm building at The Birches, Rhos-Y-Meirch, Knighton, Powys LD7 1PE (SO 27231 69986).

### **6.2 Types of Data**

Photographs, digital text, annotated plans.

### **6.3 Format and scale of the data**

Photographs taken in *RAW* format and later converted to *TIF* format for long term archiving and *JPEG* format for use in the digital report, converted using *Adobe Photoshop*. All photographs renamed using *AF5* freeware with the prefix (*project code\_frame number*) and a photographic metadata created using Microsoft Excel (*.xlsx*) or Access (*.accdb*).

Written descriptions taken in digital *.txt* format and sent via email to ensure a digital backup copy at time of record.

Annotated plans scanned as *.PDF* files.

### **6.4 Methodologies for data collection / generation**

Digital data will be collected / generated in line with recommendations made in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (2014. Rev 2020). Sections 3.3.1 and 3.3.3 are relevant:

*3.3.1 Project specifications, research designs or similar documents should include a project specific Selection Strategy and a Data Management Plan.*

*3.3.3 Project designs or schedules of works etc should outline the methodology used in recording all information, in order to demonstrate that all aspects of archive creation will ensure consistency; for instance in terminologies and the application of codes in digital data sets, highlighting relevant data standards where appropriate*

### **6.5 Data quality and standards**

Consistency and quality of data collection / generation shall be controlled and documented through the use of standardised procedure as outlined in the WSI. This will include the use of standardised data capture file formats, digital proformas, data entry validation, peer review, and use of controlled vocabularies.

### **6.6 Managing, storing and curating data.**

All digital data will be organised into Aeon Archaeology proforma project file systems and backed up to the cloud using *Acronis Cyber Protect* with additional copies made to external physical hard drive.

## **6.7 Metadata standards and data documentation**

Digital metadata created using Microsoft Excel (.*xlsx*) or Access (.*accdb*) of all photographic plates.

Paper metadata created from Aeon Archaeology proformas for contexts, artefacts, environmental samples, watching brief day sheets, trench sheets, and basic record sheets and then scanned to create digital .PDF copies.

## **6.8 Data preservation strategy and standards**

Long term data storage will be through the submission of digital (.PDF) reports to the regional Historic Environment Record (HER); submission of the scanned (.PDF) archive, photographic plates (.TIF), and metadata (.*xlsx*) (.*accdb*) to the RCAHMW; and retention of copies of all digital files at Aeon Archaeology on physical external hard drive and uploaded to the cloud.

## **6.9 Suitability for sharing**

All digital data will be placed within the public realm (through the channels in 6.8) except for where project confidentiality restricts the sharing of data. All data sets will be selected / discriminated by the Senior Archaeologist at Aeon Archaeology and written permission will be sought from all project specific Clients prior to the sharing of data.

## **6.10 Discovery by potential users of the research data**

Potential users of the generated digital data (outside of the organisation) will be able to source the data and identify whether it could be suitable for their research purposes through access granted via the RCAHMW website. Requests can also be made for data through the regional HER's and directly to Aeon Archaeology ([info@aeonarchaeology.co.uk](mailto:info@aeonarchaeology.co.uk)).

## **6.11 Governance of access**

The decision to supply research data to potential new users will be via the associated website request (HER, RCAHMW) or via the Senior Archaeologist when made directly to Aeon Archaeology.

## **6.12 The study team's exclusive use of the data**

Aeon Archaeology's requirement is for timely data sharing, with the understanding that a limited, defined period of exclusive use of data for primary research is reasonable according to the nature and value of the data, and that this restriction on sharing should be based on simple, clear principles. This time period is expected to be six months from completion of the project however Aeon Archaeology reserves the right to extend this period without notice if primary data research dictates.

## **6.13 Restrictions or delays to sharing, with planned actions to limit such restrictions**

Restriction to data sharing may be due to participant confidentiality or consent agreements. Strategies to limit restrictions will include data being anonymised or aggregated; gaining participant consent for data sharing; and gaining copyright permissions. For prospective studies, consent procedures will include provision for data sharing to maximise the value of the data for wider research use, while providing adequate safeguards for participants.

## **6.14 Regulation of responsibilities of users**

External users of the data will be bound by data sharing agreements provided by the relevant organisation or directly through Aeon Archaeology.

## **6.15 Responsibilities**

Responsibility for study-wide data management, metadata creation, data security and quality assurance of data will be through the Senior Archaeologist (Richard Cooke BA MA MCIfA) at Aeon Archaeology when concerning data generation and early/mid-term storage. Upon deposition with digital depositories the study-wide data management, metadata creation, data security and quality assurance of data will be the responsibility of the specific organisations' themselves.

## **6.16 Organisational policies on data sharing and data security**

The following Aeon Archaeology policies are relevant:

- Aeon Archaeology Archive Deposition Policy 2022
- Aeon Archaeology Quality Assurance Policy 2022
- Aeon Archaeology Conflict of Interest Policy 2022
- Aeon Archaeology Outreach Policy 2022
- Aeon Archaeology Digital Management Plan 2022

## **7.0 PERSONNEL**

The work will be managed and undertaken by Richard Cooke BA MA MCIfA, Archaeological Contractor and Consultant at Aeon Archaeology. Full details of personnel involved, with *curricula vitae*, can be supplied upon request.

## **8.0 MONITORING AND TIMING**

Monitoring visits can be arranged during the course of the project with the Client and with the DMA at CPAT.

## **9.0 HEALTH AND SAFETY**

Aeon Archaeology has a Health and Safety Policy Statement which can be supplied upon request. Furthermore, site-specific Risk Assessments and Method Statements are compiled and distributed to every member of staff involved with the project.

## **10.0 INSURANCE**

### *Liability Insurance*

- Employers' Liability: Limit of Indemnity £10m in any one occurrence
- Public Liability: Limit of Indemnity £2m in any one occurrence
- Legal Defence Costs (Health and Safety at Work Act): £100,000

The current period expires 07/09/23

### *Professional Indemnity Insurance*

- Limit of Indemnity £500,000 any one claim

The current period expires 07/09/23

## **11.0 GENERAL**

All project staff will adhere to the *Code of Conduct of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists*.

The project will follow the requirements set down in the *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures (2020)* prepared by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

A Method Statement and Risk Assessment will be prepared prior to the commencement of fieldwork and circulated to all staff concerned.



