



**Cottage at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan,
Pentrefoelas, Conwy LL24 OLW
(0/51078)**

February 2024 v1.0



Historic Building Record Level 2

Project Code: A0353.2

Report no. 0450

Event PRN: 218137



æon archaeology

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Aeon Archaeology

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Project Code: A0353.2

Date: 08/02/2024

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Comisiynwyd Aeon Archaeology gan Tony Green, 'y Cleient' o hyn ymlaen, i gynnal arolwg lefel 2 o adeiladau bwthyn gwag a leolir ym Mhenrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefoelas, LL24 OLW (yn ganolog ar NGR SJ 89383 50285), o hyn ymlaen 'y Safle ', (ffigurau 01-03).

Mae cais am ganiatâd Adeilad Rhestredig (cyf: 0/51078 a 0/51079) wedi'i wneud gan y Cleient i Gyngor Bwrdeistref Sirol Conwy, 'y Cyngor' o hyn ymlaen, ar gyfer trosi bwthyn gwag yn llety gwyliau. Gwnaethpwyd yr amod archeolegol a argymhellir fel rhan o'r cais:

Aeon Archaeology was commissioned by Tony Green, hereafter 'the Client', to carry out a level 2 building survey of a vacant cottage located at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefoelas, LL24 OLW (centred on NGR SJ 89383 50285), hereafter 'the Site', (figures 01-03).

An application for Listed Building consent (ref: 0/51078 and 0/51079) has been made by the Client to Conwy County Borough Council, hereafter 'the Council', for the Proposed conversion of vacant cottage into holiday let. The following recommended archaeological condition was made as part of the application:

Recommended Condition

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 will be completed by a professional archaeological contractor.

The programme of building analysis and recording must meet the standards laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists in their Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures.

On approval by the Local Planning Authority, project data must be submitted and approved for inclusion in the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust's Historic Environment Record [CPAT HER]. For any questions regarding this submission process, please contact the HER Team at her@cpat.org.uk. The full digital archive must also be submitted and approved for inclusion within the National Monuments Record, RCAHMW or the Archaeology Data Service, ADS.

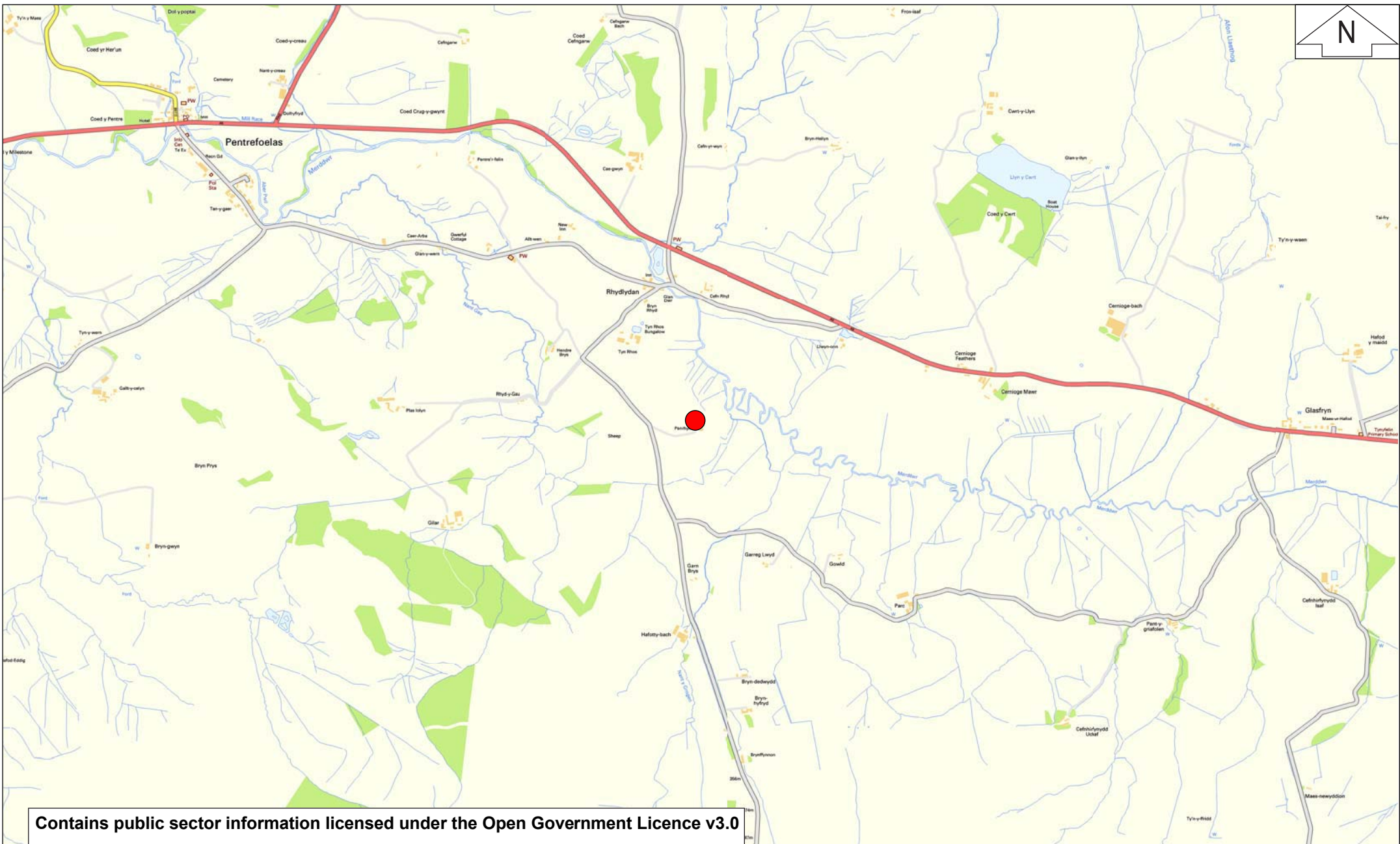
Reason: To allow an adequate analytical record of the building to be made, before alteration, to ensure that the buildings origins, use, and development are understood and the key features, character and state of preservation are recorded.

The Development Management Archaeologist (DMA) at the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) made the following consultee comments as part of the application and in their role as archaeological advisors to the Council:

The building is a Grade II listed building (No. 20610) originating in the 17th century. It is understood the building has already been partly converted, and although the recent proposals appear relatively sympathetic with regards to what remains of the historic features of the building, the conversion will inevitably remove further elements of the building's original fabric. It would be useful to obtain a record of the structure in its present form prior to

complete conversion to ensure that the buildings origins, use, and development are understood, and the main features, character and state of preservation are recorded.

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, 2023).



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Figure 01: Location of vacant cottage at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefoelas, LL24 OLW (SJ 89383 50285). Scale 1:20,000 at A4.

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Figure 02: Location of vacant cottage at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefoelas, LL24 OLW (SJ 89383 50285). Scale 1:5,000 at A4.

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Penrhyn

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Figure 03: Location of vacant cottage at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefoelas, LL24 OLW (SJ 89383 50285). 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*¹ and the *European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage*², 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*³ 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.

¹ UNESCO, 1972, *Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage*

² Council of Europe, 1992, *European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage*

³ Great Britain. *Planning (Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings) Act*. Elizabeth II.(1990), London: The Stationery Office

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 6.5.5 concerns planning applications:

The conservation of archaeological remains is a material consideration in determining a planning application, whether those remains are a scheduled monument or not. Where nationally important archaeological remains, whether scheduled or not, and their settings are likely to be affected by proposed development, there should be a presumption in favour of their physical protection in situ. It will only be in exceptional circumstances that planning permission will be granted if development would result in an adverse impact on a scheduled monument (or an archaeological site shown to be of national importance) or has a significantly damaging effect upon its setting. In cases involving less significant archaeological remains, local planning authorities will need to weigh the relative importance of the archaeological remains and their settings against other factors, including the need for the proposed development.

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 SPECIFICATION AND PROJECT DESIGN

The requirements were for an archaeological building record of the post medieval building at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefoelas prior to alteration, however should observations or desk-based research have suggested the potential for significant features to be encountered during the renovation and site clearance/ground work, the archaeological contractor should make arrangements to undertake any appropriate supplementary recording work during the development. The DCA at CPAT had requested that this building record should 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 were be viewed, described and photographed. This 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*' (2006) 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:

- 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.

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.

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

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.

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 DCA 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) 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 the post medieval building at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefoelas, LL24 OLW (centred on *NGR SJ 89383 50285*) in advance of conversion to holiday let accommodation.

6.2 Types of data

File name	File Contents	Linked File(s)	Number of files
A0353.2 Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefoelas, Level 2 HBR 1.0.PDF	PDF report		1
A0353.2_001 - A0353_2_040.JPG	JPEG site images	A0353.2_Metadata	84
A0353.2_001 - A0353_2_040.TIF	TIF site images	A0353.2_Metadata	84
A0353.2_Metadata.XLSX	Excel file of photographic metadata	A0353.2_001 - A0353.2_040 (JPEG and TIF)	1
Digital Proformae (Descriptions, .TXT)	1 x text documents		1

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.

- 146 digital photographs (TIF file)
- 1 photographic metadata file (*.accdb* file)
- 1 annotated floor plan (scanned as a PDF file)
- External and internal building descriptions (*.txt* file)

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 *Digital River's Crashplan* 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 digital (.PDF) reports and a project completion form to the Oasis database; submission of the scanned (.PDF) archive, photographic plates (.TIF), and metadata (.xlsx) (.accdb) to the Archaeology Data Service (ADS); 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 ADS and Oasis websites. Requests can also be made for data through the regional HER's and direct to Aeon Archaeology (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 (ADS, Oasis, HER) 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 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Quality Assurance Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Conflict of Interest Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Outreach Policy 2019
- Aeon Archaeology Digital Management Plan 2020

7.0 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL RECORD

Location

Penrhyn Garn and its associated outbuildings lie in a rural setting in the community of Rhydlydan, Conwy. It lies approximately 2.50 km southeast of Pentrefoelas in Conwy County Borough. The 17th century farmhouse is located to the north of a paved farmyard, which is located to the southwest. This farmyard is also bounded by an early 20th century farmhouse to the west and by a long outbuilding to the south which was once a Shippon and hayloft. The building is sighted downhill and on the lower slopes of Gam Prys (1,749 feet) roughly opposite the hamlet of Cernioge and not far from the small village of Rhydlydan.

Tithe Map

The 1840 tithe *Map of the township of Trebrys in the parish of Ysppyty in the County of Denbigh* and the associated apportionment records that the plot number allocated to the farmstead is 50/51; and is attributed to farm name: *Penrhyn*, and this is more specifically described as a *Pasture*. The landowner at this time was *Price Jones Esq.* and the occupier at this time is noted as one *William Morris*.

General

Penrhyn exemplifies a modest 17th-century farm, representing notable historical value. Despite lacking known associations with specific individuals or events and having no established connections to significant sub-medieval estates like Plas Iolyn, Giler, and Voelas in the area, there is a possibility of historical links to larger estates. Penrhyn holds historical significance due to its illustrative representation of 17th-century rural life.

Plas Iolyn (PRN 27727) is an L-shaped two storey stone building with a pitched slate roof and sash windows. Built in the 16th century and with later additions, it has an irregular plan and elevations. Giler (PRN 27199) is a long domestic range, dated 1623. It has a 5-bay north front in two storeys and constructed of whitewashed rubble with slate roof and rubble stacks. The south front has a cross-range forward on right and partly overlapping lateral chimney projection and second central projection with lean-to.

Mynydd Hiraethog

The area is located just south of the Denbigh Moors (Mynydd Hiraethog). These can be said to be located at the northern end of the Cambrian Mountains in North Wales, form a desolate and elevated expanse between the Clwyd and Conwy River valleys. This upland area, primarily between 400m and 500m above sea level, includes heather moorland that was meticulously managed as a grouse moor and shooting estate in the early 20th century. This landscape reflects both historical continuities, dating back to the Neolithic and Bronze Age, and more recent transformations, including peat extraction in the last century.

The modern managed heather moorland overlaying the earlier landscape, instituted in the early 20th century, is noteworthy for its rarity in Wales. The survival of this historic landscape owes much to the creation of a shooting estate by Viscount Devonport between 1908 and 1925. The area features remnants of dug-out and drystone shooting butts, shelters, field walls, and boundary markers, alongside the ruins of the prominent shooting box at Gwylfa Hiraethog.

Bronze Age burial cairns crown the local summits, hinting at broader ancient activity. While evidence for associated settlements is lacking, areas around Llyn Aled and Aled Isaf reservoirs have yielded significant quantities of worked flint spanning the Mesolithic period to the Bronze Age.

The Brenig reservoir, constructed between 1973 and 1976, dominates the landscape from the south, surrounded by forestry containing Bronze Age and post-medieval sites. The management of water resources, exemplified by the catchment for the Alwen reservoir (built 1911-1916) and smaller reservoirs Llyn Aled and Llyn Aled Isaf (constructed in the 1930s), is integral to the Hiraethog landscape.

This landscape, encompassing surviving blocks of heather moorland and unmanaged land, showcases a blend of historical continuity and 20th-century interventions, making it historically valuable and significant.

8.0 BUILDING DESCRIPTIONS

The Post Medieval Farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefoelas

(Figure 04, 05 & Plates 01-39)

External Descriptions

This is an L-shaped building orientated northeast to southwest and forms the northern portion of a C shaped farm yard enclosure. To the immediate south west is an early 21st century farmhouse with dressed, coursed stone construction. To the southeast is a long Shippon/barn construction (consisting of two phases), which was subject to an earlier report. This farmyard seems to have been constructed around a well which is located just to the southeast of the building. This is a stone built well with a decorative pump and wooden cover.

The roof of the building has been renovated within living memory and consists of a blue slate roof with dormers. To each end of the roof at the northeast and southeast ends are two gable chimney stacks, constructed from stone and bonded by Portland cement, surmounted by decorative red terracotta chimney pots.

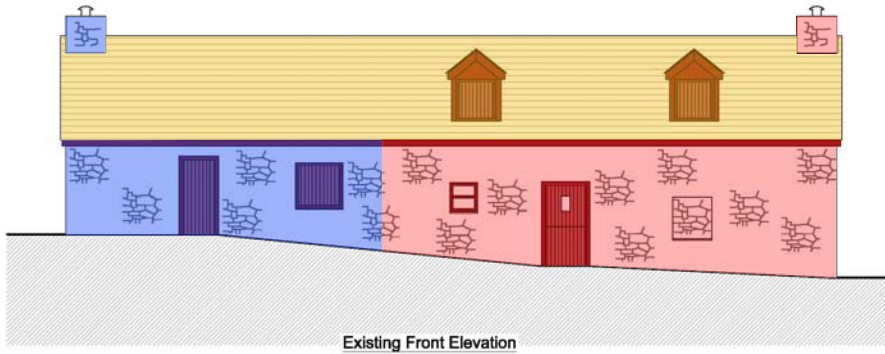
The southeast elevation

The primary elevation can be said to be the south east elevation (facing the farmyard). This appears to have been constructed in two (possibly three) separate phases. This is demonstrated on the southeast elevation by a distinct joint in the masonry slightly to the left, halfway along its length. The primary phase appears to constitute the right-hand side of the construction, with a later south-western extension to the left.

The walls comprise of various sizes of stone rubble bonded by lime mortar, this has been re-pointed in areas, notably at the eaves height, where the wall has been partially rebuilt to accommodate the new roof apparently there is a discussion surrounding raking dormers pers. comm). At the far-right hand side, some large stones, particularly at the base of the elevation have been used as quoins.

Within the centre of this primary construction, there is a doorway opening which is supported by a very thin timber lintel (suggesting replacement). This has a timber doorframe which has been painted red and a plank and batten door, which is also been painted red, with a single window in the upper portion of the door. To the right of the doorway, there is the larger window opening which has a stone lintel and the remnants of a slate windowsill. This window is now blocked up by the interior wall facing, which appears to have been built across it historically. To the left of the door is a smaller window, which also has a stone lintel and windowsill, this comprises of a casement window, comprising of two glass panes in red painted wooden frames.

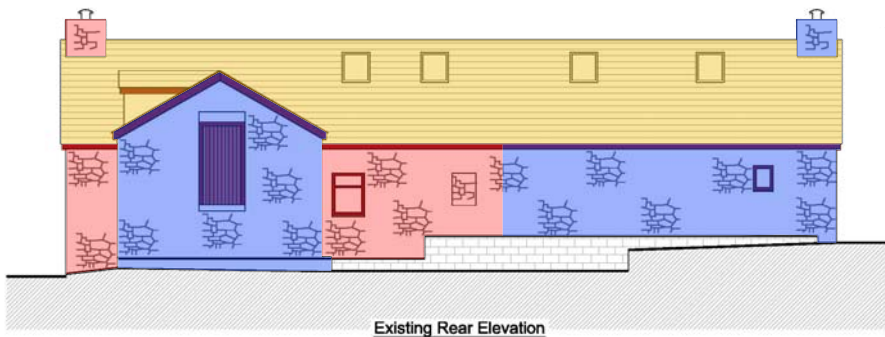
To the left of this window is the distinct masonry joint mentioned earlier, and here the stonework remains similar, although has been mortared with a cement of some kind. This elevation comprises of a doorway opening to the left-hand side of the window to the right. Both the doorway and the window sport, substantial slate lintels, which rest upon the wall, to either side. The doorway comprises of a red frame and red painted door. The window, however, is covered over with hardwood boarding.



Existing Front Elevation



Existing Side Elevation



Existing Rear Elevation



Existing Side Elevation

Key to Phase Plan

- Primary Phase** - 17th century - 2 bay farmhouse
- Secondary Phase** - 19th century extensions
- Tertiary Phase** - 21st roof rebuild



Figure 05: Phase elevation plan showing of the post medieval farmhouse and byres at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy. Scale 1:200 @ A4.

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Plate 01: Context shot of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the south - 1.00m scale



Plate 02: Southeast elevation (left) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the southeast - 1.00m scale



Plate 03: Southeast elevation (centre) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the southeast - 1.00m scale



Plate 04: Modern gable fronted dormer in modern roof construction at of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the south - no scale



Plate 05: Southeast elevation (right) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the southeast - 1.00m scale



Plate 06: Doorway (Primary phase) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the southeast - 1.00m scale



Plate 07: Doorway (Secondary phase) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the southeast - 1.00m scale



Plate 08: Southeast elevation (oblique) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the east - 1.00m scale

The southwest elevation

The southwest elevation represents the southwest facing Gable of the second phase of construction. It is comprised of stone rubble bonded by Portland cement, and this has been repointed near the apex, presumably to accommodate the new roof. At the apex of the roof. The square chimney stack is visible, and this is obscured, as is the eaves by a red painted weatherboard behind which the red painted (sawn) purlin ends are also visible.

The northwest elevation

From the northwest, the roof has been replaced demonstrating modern roof lights that are in situ, as well as lead flashing around the chimney breasts. At the left-hand side, there is a small projecting wing of the building which appears to be an addition to the original building, therefore post-dating the primary phase building. It is difficult to say what phase of construction this represents, due to a lack of physical relationship with the obvious secondary extension, although it is likely contemporary with that (see below).

The largest span of the elevation is located to the right-hand side, and this appears to have been largely repointed, comprising of stone rubble bonded by Portland cement. At the far-right hand end, there is a small window opening which is boarded up. Near the centre (the span of the elevation) the line of the secondary extension mortar joint is visible, although less so than on the south eastern elevation. To the left of this, there is a single window opening with a stone lintel above, this has been blocked up on the interior face. To the left of this there is another window opening also with stone lintel, although this is blocked up with a Perspex sheet.

As mentioned earlier, at the left-hand end, a small extension to the original building projects to the northwest on its south western elevation. It is featureless aside from a large stone near the left-hand bottom corner, which demonstrates a foundation level.

The north western elevation proper, at the left-hand end, is also constructed from Stone rubble bonded by Portland cement, and near the base are some very large stones which appear to constitute the foundation. It is possible that there was once a series of steps here allowing transit to the first floor.

This first-floor level would have been permitted access, by a large doorway opening which has a substantial slate lintel above (similar to that seen in the secondary extension). This has a red painted timber door surround, and has a red painted plank and batten door. Apart from this, the elevation is featureless.

The north eastern elevation

To the left-hand side is the large gable end of the primary phase of construction for the building. This is comprised of roughly coursed stone rubble masonry bonded by lime mortar, but repointed in areas with cement. Near the top of the elevation, it is evident where the roof has been raised and reconstructed, denoted by the distinct change in masonry pointing.

At the very top of the elevation is a stone built, square chimney stack, which is partially obscured by a modern, red painted timber weatherboard. This partially obscures the sawn purlin ends, which are also painted red.



Plate 09: Northeast elevation (oblique) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the east - 1.00m scale



Plate 10: Northeast elevation of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the northeast - 1.00m scale



Plate 11: Northeast and southeast elevations (oblique) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the north - 1.00m scale



Plate 12: Northwest elevation (left) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the northwest - 1.00m scale

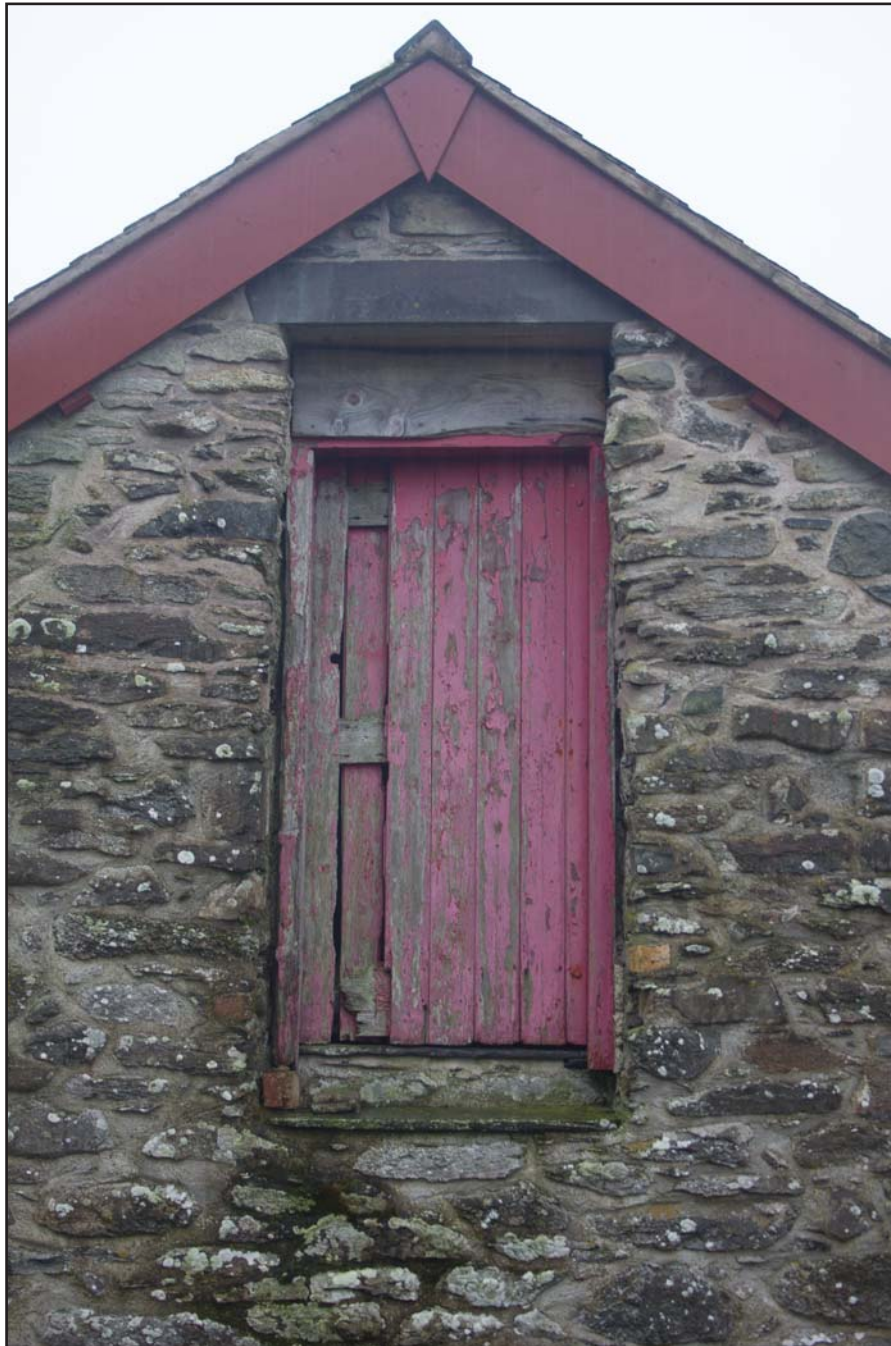


Plate 13: Loft door in northwest elevation (left) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the northwest - no scale



Plate 14: Northwest and southwest elevations (oblique) of the north western extension to the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the west - 1.00m scale



Plate 15: Southwest elevation of the north western extension to post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the northwest - 1.00m scale



Plate 16: Northwest elevation (centre) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the northwest - 1.00m scale



Plate 17: Northwest elevation (right) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the northwest - 1.00m scale



Plate 18: Northwest and southwest elevations (oblique) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the west - 1.00m scale



Plate 19: Southwest elevation of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the southwest - 1.00m scale

To the right of this is another secondary extension, which has been “hipped into” the main northeast to southwest aligned roof construction, of the primary phase. The roof ridge of this extension is slightly lower and has a modern dormer window installation. The elevation proper has a single window opening offset to the right of centre (this is boarded up), however, below there is a machine sawn slate windowsill. Also, above this there appears to be a blocked-up embrasure. At ground level there is a dry-stone wall, abutting with the north western elevation of the house, forming the perimeter to the garden which lies to the northwest.

The use of slate in both the lintel above the loft within the north western elevation, and as a windowsill seen on the north eastern facing elevation, suggest a relationship, or at least a contemporary nature with the (secondary) extension scene to the southwest. Therefore, it is suggested that these are contemporaneous with one another, and given the saw marks visible on the lintel and windowsill, suggest that they are of 19th century origin.

Internal Descriptions

Primary Phase (north eastern room)

This is a rectangular room measuring 9.85m in length by 4.58m in width (inclusive of fireplace depth, and which is orientated northeast to southwest. The room is open to the roof pitch. The roof consists of a modern construction, including sawn, wooden purlins and batons, demonstrating a dormer window construction. The room is bisected to the right of centre northwest to southeast aligned, modern breeze block wall.

The southwestern elevation is of a coursed, stone rubble construction, bonded by lime mortar. The upper portion of the wall has been rebuilt to accommodate the roof construction. The wall appears to have been faced at certain points with plaster; painted white, in the upper story and which has been painted orange, in the lower story. At ground floor level on the right-hand side, the wall has been breached to create an open-door way which permits access to the south western room, and the ground slopes upward into this space

Of interest here is a single stone corbel which projects from the wall. Due to the reconstruction of the opposite wall (north eastern elevation) in breezeblock, it is not known whether this was mirrored. However, it is likely that this once acted as a support for one of two main ceiling beams which supported the joists of the floor of the room above. Furthermore, where another Corbel should have been positioned, on the right-hand side (in the door breach) evidence for this is missing.

The north western elevation is constructed of stone rubble bonded by lime mortar. There is evidence of there having been two windows of a similar size and height within this elevation. The window on the right is still visible and has a substantial timber lintel above, and has a basic window construction of chicken wire and timber to the left. To the right-hand side, there is an equally sized area, which was once a window aperture but has now been stoned over.

As the elevation continues (beyond the line of the breezeblock partition), there is a single doorway opening, permitting access to the north western room. There is evidence of considerable rebuilding in this location with breezeblocks, forming the right-hand side and the



Plate 20: Internal shot, southwest elevation, (Primary phase room) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the northeast - 1.00m scale



Plate 21: Corbel for presumed axial beam, southwest elevation, (Primary phase room) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the east - no scale



Plate 22: Internal shot, southeast elevation (right), (Primary phase room) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the west - 1.00m scale



Plate 23: Internal shot, blocked window in northwest elevation, (Primary phase room) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the southeast - 1.00m scale



Plate 24: Internal shot, Fireplace with Bressumer Beam, transverse beam with Ovolo Moulding, First floor fireplace (Primary phase room) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the southwest - 1.00m scale



Plate 25: Internal shot, Fireplace with Bressumer Beam, (Primary phase room) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the southwest - 1.00m scale



Plate 26: Internal oblique shot, Bressumer Beam, transverse beam with Ovolo Moulding showing stone corbels (Primary phase room) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the west - no scale



Plate 27: Internal shot, Bressumer Beam, transverse beam with Ovolo Moulding showing stone corbels, First floor fireplace (Primary phase room) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the west - no scale



Plate 28: Internal shot, Bressumer Beam, transverse beam with Ovolo Moulding showing stone corbels, First floor fireplace (Primary phase room) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the south - no scale



Plate 29: Internal shot, stone corbel (right) supporting Ovolo moulded transverse beam (Primary phase room) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the east - no scale



Plate 30: Internal shot, stone corbel (left) supporting Ovolo moulded transverse beam (Primary phase room) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the east - no scale

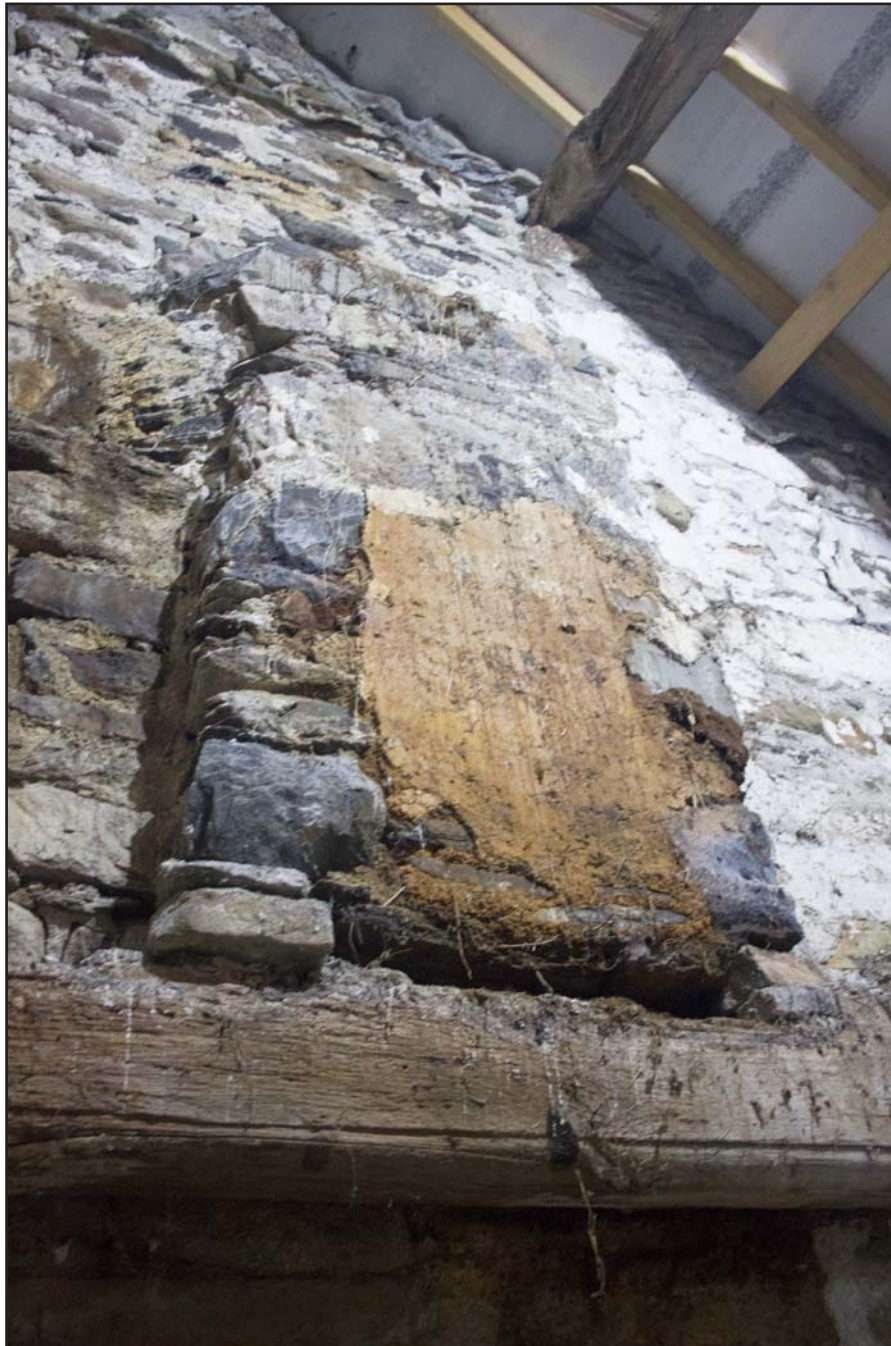


Plate 31: Internal shot, First floor fireplace supported by transverse beam (Primary phase room) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the south - no scale



Plate 32: Internal shot, southeast elevation (left), (Primary phase room) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the northwest - 1.00m scale

upper portion of the wall and above the door. The doorway has no door and supported by timber lintel. Apart from the obvious heightening of this elevation to accommodate the roof, the elevation is featureless.

The south western elevation is dominated by the large aperture for a fireplace, supported by a substantial hand-hewn, timber bressummer beam (this is approximately 5.00m long by 0.40m in depth). The elevation to either side of this and above is constructed from coursed, stone rubble bonded by lime mortar. There is some evidence for plaster having been present and this may have been painted white. The span of the inglenook created by the Bessemer is approximately 2.50m in width, and within the space there are two stone-built structures which may once have formed part of a built-in fireplace (some evidence of brickwork survives supporting this). Upon limited inspection within the chimney, this taper is upwards all the way to the chimney stack.

Set in front of the bressummer and slightly above is a transverse beam, which is hand-hewn and exhibits decorative *Ovolo moulding* (popular in Wales mid-17th century), and possesses several slots, presumably to receive the (now absent) floor joists above (this sort of carpentry is also indicative of 17th century house building). Also of interest are too large flat stones which project from the elevation below the *transverse beam* and which offer support to it. The beam is set within the south eastern elevation and may once have been set into the north western elevation, (although this has now been reconstructed in breezeblock) but has since been sawn away. Furthermore, this *transverse beam* supports a narrow stone constructed fireplace which would have sat at first floor level, this is constructed from Stone rubble bonded by lime mortar but the opening for the fireplace has been rendered closed.

The south eastern elevation is constructed from stone rubble bonded by lime mortar. In the centre of the elevation, there is a doorway opening with a flanged cheek to the right-hand side, and which permits access to the exterior of the property. This has an unpainted wooden lintel and plank and batten door. This would originally have been flanked by two window openings to the left, and right, right-hand window still exists with flared window cheeks and timber lintel above. However, the left-hand window has been stoned closed, and the aperture has been finished with a cast iron door of some description, possibly associated with a former fireplace but relocated.

At first floor level directly above the downstairs window openings. There are two much smaller window openings, which appear to have been part of the original construction although the upper portion of the window has been reconstructed to accommodate the roof. These have no frames, lintels, or sills visible from the interior of the building. The floors are of beaten earth.

South western room (secondary phase)

This is a rectangular room measuring 6.96m in length by 4.58m in width, and which is orientated northeast to southwest. The roof has been rebuilt in living memory (pers.comm). This consists of a sawn, timber, batten construction, supported by, new sawn timber purlins, which are lapped within the north eastern (former gable) elevation. However, an earlier phase of roof construction is extant in the form of an open Queens post truss, which supports a substantial hand-hewn timber purlin to the southeast, (presumably late 19th/early 20th).



Plate 33: Internal shot, southwest elevation, (secondary, southwest extension), location of former chimney, within the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the northeast - 1.00m scale



Plate 34: Internal shot, southwest elevation, (secondary, southwest extension), apex showing chimney cowl, within the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the east - 1.00m scale



Plate 35: Internal shot, former gable (Primary), northeast elevation (secondary) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the southwest - 1.00m scale



Plate 36: Internal shot, northwest wall (secondary phase room) abuts with former gable (Primary), of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the south - 1.00m scale



Plate 37: Internal shot, blocked up doorway in southeast elevation, (secondary phase room) of the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the northwest - 1.00m scale

The south western elevation is constructed from stone rubble bonded by lime mortar. It appears that there was once a chimney and fireplace located in this area, as evidenced by a chimney construction within the elevation proper, and a stone-built cowl at the top of the elevation. The apex of the elevation and to the left- and right-hand side of the roof pitch, have been rebuilt in a smaller form of stone rubble masonry, this is to accommodate the new roof.

The northwest elevation is comprised of stone rubble bonded by lime mortar that has been repointed in several areas with cement. In the centre of the elevation, one side of the Queen's -post truss is supported at the original height of the wall and set within the upward extension for the new roof. At the far-left hand side, there is a small window opening with a stone sill and slate lintel. This window demonstrates that the wall comprises of two parallel courses of stone, partially infilled in the centre with smaller pins. At the right-hand end, the wall distinctly abuts with the gable end of the former primary building.

The north eastern elevation represents the former Gable end of the primary building construction. Both the north western and south eastern walls, abut with this wall. On the left-hand side, there is a breach within the elevation with a timber lintel above permitting access through the elevation into the room beyond.

The south eastern elevation is again constructed from stone rubble bonded by lime mortar. To the left there is a large window opening with timber lintel, but as now without window. To the right of this, there is a single doorway opening permitting access to the exterior of the building this has a substantial timber lintel above which has a ovolo moulding (suggesting reuse), the opening has a red painted door and casing. Located to the right of the window. There is a distinct line of blocked up masonry suggesting that there was once a doorway in this location. The floor of the room is of beaten earth.

North western room (secondary phase)

This is a generally rectangular room measuring 3.92m in length by 3.90m in width, and which is orientated northwest to southeast. All the elevations are constructed from stone rubble bonded by lime mortar. Although they appear to have been plastered in the past.

The north western elevation is dominated at first floor height by large doorway, opening, permitting access from the exterior (presumably via a now missing set of stone steps). Slightly set in front of the elevation is a horizontal beam which may once of supported a first floor, and this is set within the north eastern and south western elevations.

The north eastern elevation has two window openings offset to the left of centre, one at ground floor level and one at first floor level. The one at ground floor level is larger and has a timber lintel, and the window above is much smaller and has been blocked up with breeze block. The south eastern elevation is mainly constructed from breezeblock, although has a doorway entrance permitting access to the primary building construction. The south western elevation is featureless aside from two of the beam slots for floor joists. The floor is of beaten earth.

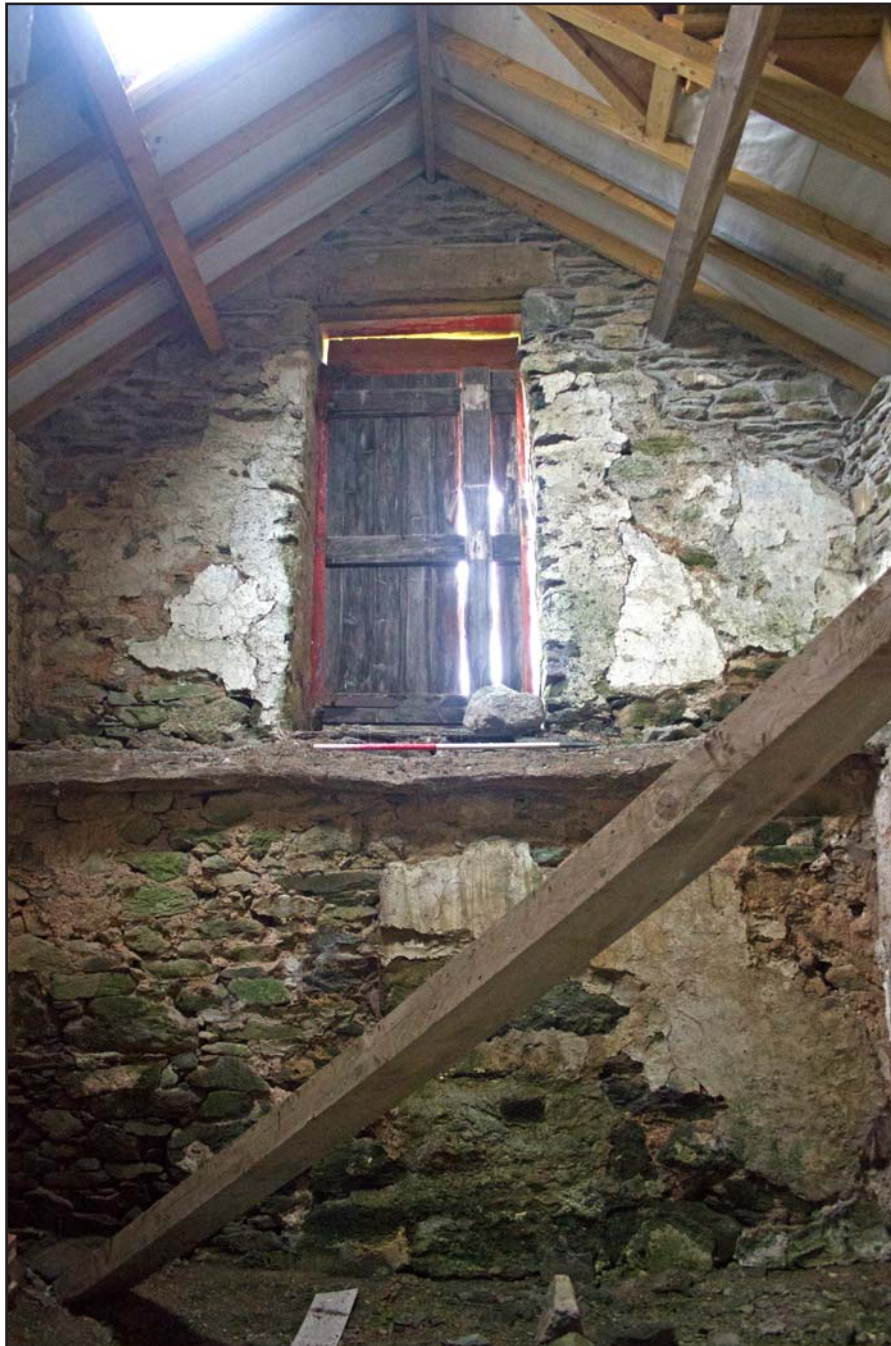


Plate 38: Internal shot, northwest elevation, (secondary, northwest extension), showing loft door, within the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the southeast - 1.00m scale



Plate 39: Internal shot, northeast elevation, (secondary, northwest extension), showing blocked windows, within the post medieval farmhouse at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefeolas, Conwy - from the southwest - 1.00m scale

9.0 CONCLUSION

The post medieval building that is the subject of this *Level 2 Building Record* the grade II Listed Building (*ref: 20610*) Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefoelas. The site is associated with two record entries within the CPAT HER; these are (**PRN 99559**) which reads;

“Grade II listed farmhouse... of 17th century origin, the former farmhouse probably pre-dates the other buildings on the property. Used as a cowhouse during the 20th century”

and (**PRN 194689**) which reads;

“Farm complex identified on OS 2nd edition 25-inch map. Likely to contain traditional farm buildings (CPAT, Farms and Farmsteads, 2021)”

In a previous report (*Aeon Archaeology report 0327*) the layout of Penrhyn Garn was detailed:

“... the southeast of the (shippon) outbuilding there is a small grassed alley and a modern metal sheeted barn. To the south of this area there is a narrow linear cattle track (ffordd gwartheg) bounded by a dry-stone rubble wall to the north and a modern wire fence boundary to the south – this cattle track then provides access to the rear of the outbuilding via a small yard (buarth bach) at the south east corner of the farm complex, or westwards to the entrance trackway (lôn fach) to the farm. The outbuilding is bounded within the wider complex of the farm via numerous, un-mortared, drystone, rubble walls which create an organised farm enclosure – these walls provide some much-needed protection from the strong winds which are a feature of this area of moorland/upland located immediately to the southeast of the Mynydd Hiraethog region. Such enclosed farmyards, with other enclosed areas around farm buildings are vernacular to this upland area. The building itself is constructed from long sub angular fragments of stone rubble and has been bonded with lime mortar.”

The primary building may be considered an example of a sub medieval cottage likely dating to the 17th century. This is due to several elements, including the general design of the house, namely a *two-unit, end chimney type house*, which is described by Peter Smith as “... (*one of the commonest of all Welsh plans*)”. However, this kind of house is also considered the dominant variation of two-unit house in Snowdonia prior to the 17th century, introducing some possible confusion. With the example of *Penrhyn Garn* the enclosed fireplace and evidence of a first floor or half loft (see below) is a general signifier that the house post-dates the 16th century.

The *partially converted* condition of the house at the time of this record has seemingly removed some of the main features, which were observed at the time of the original listing. This is specifically associated with the construction new roof, which changed the undulating ridge beam, which suggested an earlier iteration of the slate roof. And, two small raking dormers which denoted a former attic floor, these were replaced with more utilitarian gabled dormers.

Of the limited carpentry which was observed within the cottage, it is possible to suggest that the transverse beam, which was located flush with the north eastern elevation (and above the bressummer), was part of the initial construction of the building, as it is located within the wall to the southeast, and may once have been similarly secured to the northwest wall. The original northwestern wall in now demolished and was rebuilt in concrete breezeblock in the 21st century. This beam appears to have been a *joist hanger* with several observable slots for *half lap joints* or *cross lap joints* for mounting axial joists, presumably with another transverse beam (possibly to right of the door, south eastern elevation) offering support at the

other end. Also, a corbel table was observed in the south western wall which may have supported an axial beam, this would have required an upright post near the centre of the span to provide support (none observed), presumably in the area near where the entrance passage was located.

Furthermore, the use of *ovolo moulding* is a known fashionable design in Wales dating from at least the 17th century, in the early 17th century, the Jacobean style emerged, characterized by a continuation of Tudor elements with added decorative features influenced by the Renaissance. *Ovolo moulding* was one of the decorative features that gained popularity during this period. It was used in both interior and exterior applications, adding a refined and decorative touch to timber-framed structures.

With regards to the extensions to the southwest and the northwest, these are likely contemporary. The lintels observed above the doors and windows (including the blocked window in the northeast elevation of the northwest extension) are of sawn slate, possibly from the quarries of Blaenau Ffestiniog which was better suited to being sawn as it was less brittle. This technology was introduced into the slate mills of North Wales in the mid-19th century which denotes an obvious chronological gap between the creation of the two extensions and the original building. The presence of a (removed) fireplace within the south western building is also indicative of a later building which introduced a “service wing” presumably to facilitate a kitchen or was “...later adapted as a wash-house” as is described in the listing. In addition, the north western extension is possibly associated with milking and may once have possessed a hayloft above.

The level 2 historic building record was undertaken by Josh Dean BA archaeologist at Aeon Archaeology on the 29th January February 2024. Upon approval from the Client and the CPAT Development Control Archaeologist the report will be archived with the CPAT Historic Environment Record (HER); the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW); and a copy retained at Aeon Archaeology, Chester under project code **A0353.2**, *Report no# 0450*.

10.0 SOURCES

Maps.

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APPENDIX I – PROJECT DESIGN



æon archaeology

**Cottage at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan,
Pentrefoelas, Conwy LL24 OLW
(0/51078)**

**Project Design for Level 2 Building
Survey**

January 2024 v1.0



Project Code: A0353.1
Planning Ref: 0/51078
Event PRN: TBC



Cottage at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefoelas, Conwy LL24 OLW (0/51078)

January 2024 v1.0

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Project Code: A0353.2

Date: 25/01/2024

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1.0 PROJECT BACKGROUND

Aeon Archaeology has been commissioned by Tony Green, hereafter ‘the Client’, to produce a Project Design (PD) for carrying out a level 2 building survey of a vacant cottage located at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefoelas, LL24 OLW (centred on NGR **SJ 89383 50285**), hereafter ‘the Site’, (figures 01-03).

An application for Listed Building consent (**ref: 0/51078 and 0/51079**) has been made by the Client to Conwy County Borough Council, hereafter ‘the Council’, for the *Proposed conversion of vacant cottage into holiday let*. The following recommended archaeological condition was made as part of the application:

Recommended Condition

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 will be completed by a professional archaeological contractor.

The programme of building analysis and recording must meet the standards laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists in their Standard and Guidance for the archaeological investigation and recording of standing buildings or structures.

On approval by the Local Planning Authority, project data must be submitted and approved for inclusion in the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust's Historic Environment Record [CPAT HER]. For any questions regarding this submission process, please contact the HER Team at her@cpat.org.uk. The full digital archive must also be submitted and approved for inclusion within the National Monuments Record, RCAHMW or the Archaeology Data Service, ADS.

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

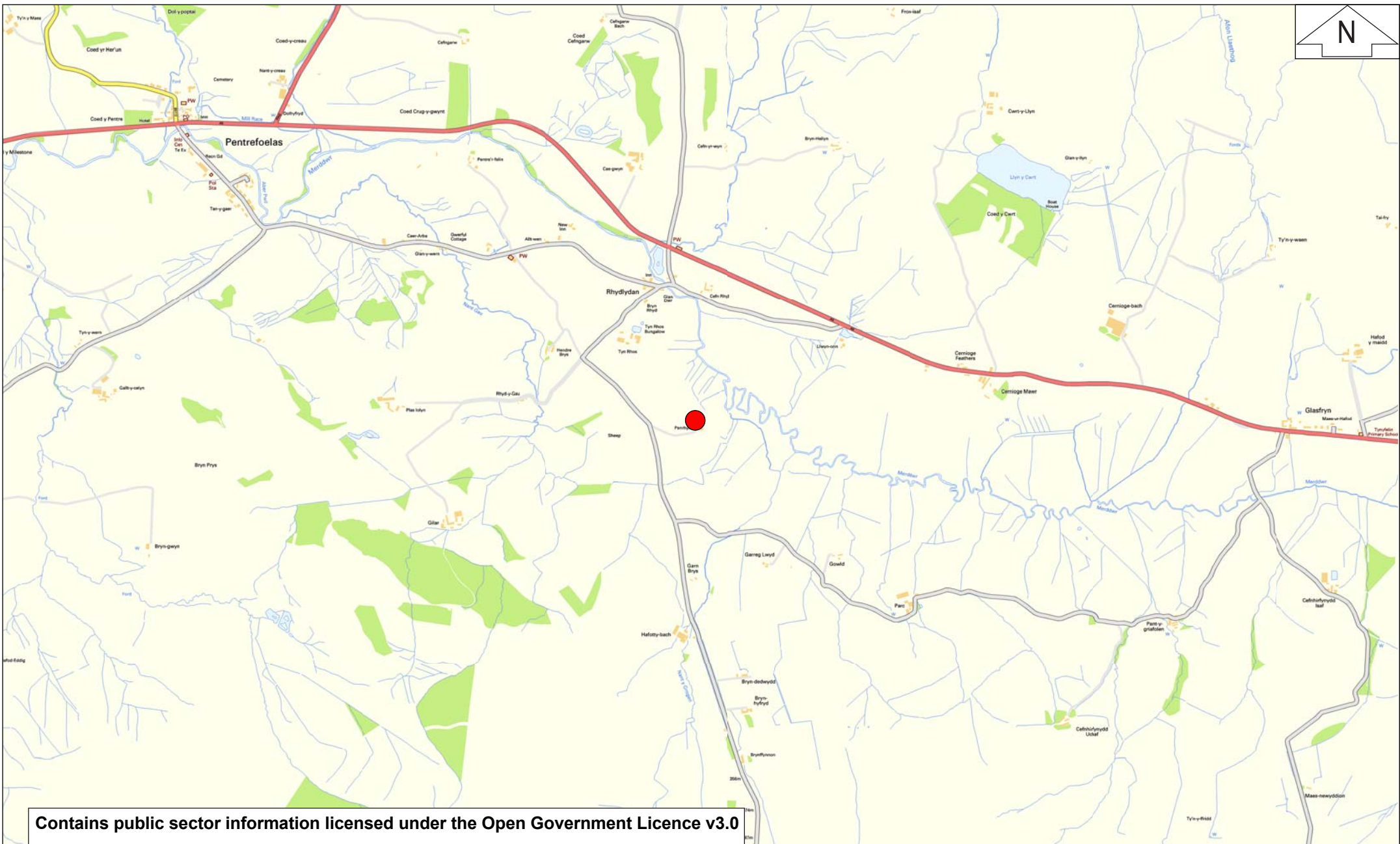
The Development Management Archaeologist (DMA) at the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) made the following consultee comments as part of the application and in their role as archaeological advisors to the Council:

The building is a Grade II listed building (No. 20610) originating in the 17th century. It is understood the building has already been partly converted, and although the recent proposals appear relatively sympathetic with regards to what remains of the historic features of the building, the conversion will inevitably remove further elements of the building's original fabric. It would be useful to obtain a record of the structure in its present form prior to complete conversion to ensure that the buildings origins, use, and development are understood, and the main features, character and state of preservation are recorded.

This PD details the aims and objectives of the project and the methods by which they will be met in order to meet the spirit and intent of the archaeological condition of applications 0/51078 and 0/51079.

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 vacant cottage at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefoelas, LL24 OLW (SJ 89383 50285). Scale 1:20,000 at A4.

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Figure 02: Location of vacant cottage at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefoelas, LL24 OLW (SJ 89383 50285). Scale 1:5,000 at A4.

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Penrhyn

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Figure 03: Location of vacant cottage at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydlydan, Pentrefoelas, LL24 OLW (SJ 89383 50285). 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 vacant cottage prior to alteration, 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 Photographic 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. All photographs will be given a unique number to be used for identification. This unique number should be used in the labelling of digital images.
- b. A general view or views of the building (in its wider setting or landscape).
- c. The building's external appearance. Typically a series of oblique views will show all external elevations of the building, and give an overall impression of its size, shape and immediate setting. Where individual elevations include complex historical information it may also be appropriate to take views at right-angles to the plane of the elevation.
- d. The overall appearance of the principal rooms and circulation areas.
- e. Any external or internal detail, structural or decorative, which is relevant to the buildings design, development and use, with scale where appropriate.
- f. A photographic register detailing the photo number, the location and direction of each view, and the composition of the shot.
- g. Photograph locations and directions of view should be marked on plans of each building separate photographed
- h. Photographs should be of archive quality using a digital SLR (minimum 12 megapixel)
- i. Photographs, where appropriate (i.e. not general shots) should include a clearly visible, graduated metric scale.
- j. Photographs should be adequately lit and not blurry. Please check all photos before leaving the survey area and before submitting the final report and retake any blurred or poorly lit photos.

A Digital SLR (Canon 600D) set to maximum resolution with appropriate photographic scale will be

used throughout.

4.1.3 Drawn Record

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.
- An updated Data Management Plan (DMP) and an archive content list with updated archive Selection Strategy will be included.

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.

A draft copy of the report will be produced within six weeks of the completion of the fieldwork and will include an updated Data Management Plan (DMP) and an archive content list with updated archive Selection Strategy. A copy of the report will be sent to the Client and the DMA at CPAT for comment prior to finalisation of the report and dissemination. Digital copies of the report and archive will be sent to the regional HER and the DMA at CPAT, with the original paper and digital archive being deposited with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) for long term archiving. Furthermore, a summary of the project will be sent to *Archaeology in Wales* for publication.

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 updated 2022) including the translation of a non-technical summary into the medium of Welsh.

6.0 DIGITAL DATA MANAGEMENT PLAN

6.1 Type of study

A level 2 building survey of a vacant cottage located at Penrhyn Garn, Rhydydan, Pentrefoelas, LL24 OLW (centred on NGR SJ 89383 50285).

6.2 Types of data

Photographs, photograph register, scaled drawings.

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*).

All written registers, pro-formas, and scaled drawings 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 PD. 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 proformae 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).

6.11 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.

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 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 – Export and General

- 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 07/09/24

Professional Indemnity Insurance – Export and General

- Limit of Indemnity £500,000 any one claim

The current period expires 07/09/24

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.

