




CPAT Report No. 1999

9-10 Hall Street, Welshpool

Watching Brief



YMDDIRIEDOLAETH ARCHAEOLEGOL CLWYD-POWYS
CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2022-3

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Summary

In December 2023 and January 2024 the Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) carried out a watching brief in respect of an extension to an existing building at 9-10, Hall Street, Welshpool. The watching brief revealed the remains of a brick building with a flagstone floor, underlying a deposit of stone rubble containing 19th to 20th century ceramic and glass.

Crynodeb

Fis Rhagfyr 2023 a mis Ionawr 2024, bu Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Clwyd Powys (CPAT) yn gwneud briff gwylio o ran estyniad i adeilad a oedd yn bodoli yn 9-10, Stryd y Neuadd, y Trallwng. Datgelodd y briff gwylio weddillion adeilad brics â llawr llorlechi, o dan dyddodion rwbel cerrig yn cynnwys crochenwaith a gwydr o'r 19eg a'r 20fed ganrif.

1 Introduction

1.1. The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) was instructed by Elite Developments Shropshire to undertake an archaeological watching brief for the proposed demolition of an existing single storey structure and erection of replacement flat roofed extension, external staircase and the formation of a first floor access (23/0092/FUL). The site which is approximately 0.05 hectares in size and is currently in commercial use as a kitchen with access to residential property above is located at 9-10 Hall Street, Welshpool, SY21 7RY, NGR SJ224076.

1.2. Planning was approved in May 2023, subject to a series of conditions including one relating to historic environment:

7. The developer shall ensure that a suitably qualified archaeological contractor is present during all the ground reduction for the application area so that an archaeological watching brief can be conducted. The archaeological watching brief must meet the standards laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching briefs.

Reason-To secure preservation by record of any archaeological remains which may be revealed during ground excavations for the consented development.

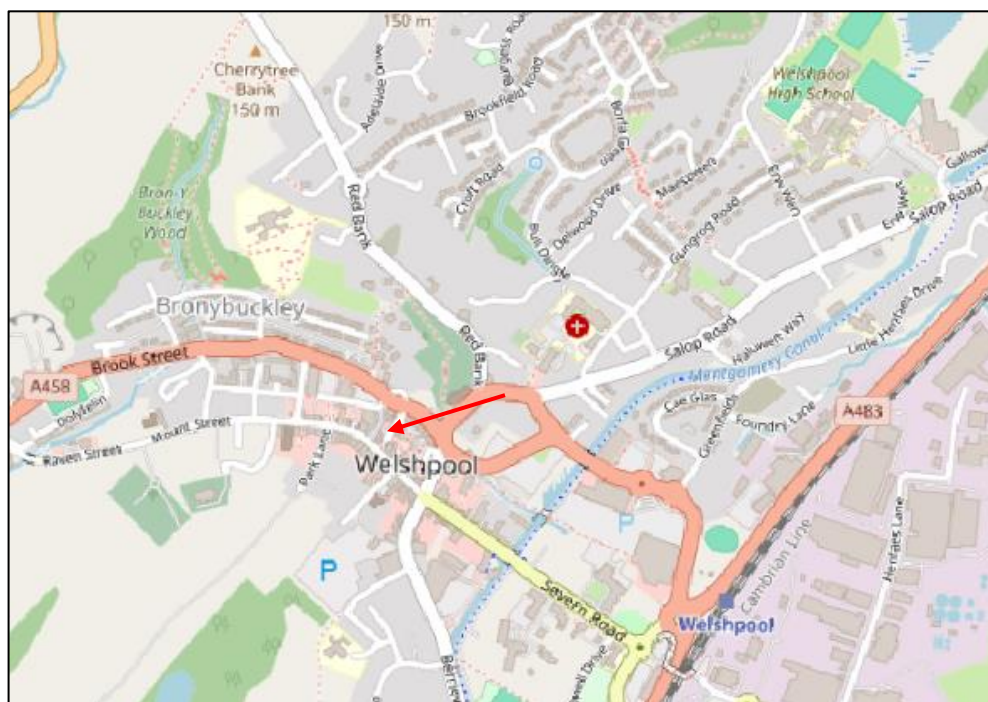


Figure 1: Location of site

Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2023



Figure 2: Google Imagery © 2023 Bluesky, Infoterra Ltd & COWI A/S, Getmapping plc, Maxar Technologies Map data ©2024"



Figure 3: Site location in red circle. 1885 OS map 1:500 Montgomeryshire, Sheet XXIII.7.20. Map reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland



Figure 4: 1885 OS town map Site location circled. 1:500 Montgomeryshire, Sheet XXIII.7.20 Map reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland

- 1.3. The site is located directly opposite the town hall. It is located within the Welshpool Conservation Area (Powys County Council, 2010).

2 Historical Background

- 2.1. This section provides a brief summary of the archaeology and history of the study area and its immediate surrounds, to enable the findings of the assessment to be placed in a wider context. Paragraphs 2.3 to 2.8 are reproduced from Montgomery Historic Settlements (Silvester, 1992 p. 167)

Roman Period (AD 43 – 410)

- 2.2. Two roman coins were found during construction of the town hall's sewer prior to 1911. The coins were dated to Antoninus (AD 138-161) and 1 of Severus (AD 193-211) (RCAHMW 2024).

Medieval Period (410 - 1500)

- 2.3. Records of 1253-4 provide the earliest names for the town. Capella de Trallu'g means 'pool town' and the latinised form Pola also appeared. Leland is credited with the first reference to Welshpool around 1530. The Pool was a large sheet of water, now much reduced in size, in Powis Park.

- 2.4. Welshpool is said to have been the site of churches founded by St Cynfelyn and his brother Llywelyn in the 6th century. The location and nature of these churches and any accompanying settlement remains unknown.
- 2.5. Domen Gastell, a motte and bailey castle was thrown up closer to the flood plain, but at what date is uncertain. The earliest reference which seems to relate to this earthwork comes in 1196, but it is possible that it was constructed as early as 1111. It may have continued in use into the later 13th century, but at this time and possibly even earlier Powis Castle became the major stronghold in the neighbourhood. Thus, the reference to houses surrounding a castle at Welshpool being razed for defensive purposes unfortunately cannot be attributed to a specific fortification although it seems more likely that dwellings would have grown up around Domen Gastell than Powis Castle.
- 2.6. The borough of Welshpool may have been established by the Prince of Powys as early as the 1240s when the burgesses received a foundation charter. A market was recorded in 1252 and forty years later there were 106 taxpayers in the town, a total which had risen to 225 by 1322.
- 2.7. In 1253 a documentary record confirms two ecclesiastical buildings in the town (Ecclesia de Pola and Capella de Trallug).
- 2.8. The Glyndwr rebellion and the general decline apparent in many Welsh border towns in the 15th and 16th centuries, seem to have had a restricted effect on Welshpool, to judge from the picture of the town on an estate map of 1629. Leland termed it the best market in Powysland in the 1530s, replacing Montgomery as the regional centre because of its better location.

Post-Medieval and Modern Periods

- 2.9. The site of the current town hall has been in long-use for a public building: there was a guildhall here by at least 1629, and when a market building (which had stood in the centre of Broad Street to the E of this site) was demolished as unsafe in 1761, the general, corn and flannel markets were re-housed in the guildhall buildings. (RCAHMW 2024)
- 2.10. A new town hall accommodating all these functions was built between 1795 and 1804, by Simpson and Hazeldine of Shrewsbury, and it was extended by the erection of a Butter Cross (on the N side of the site) in 1815. In 1874, a new building was commissioned, designed by Benjamin Lay, architect, of Welshpool. The new building probably incorporated some of the fabric of its predecessors (notably in the market hall to the rear), and it was itself enlarged in 1881 (RCAHMW 2024).
- 2.11. The site is located to the rear of a house and café forming part of a line of terraced properties which have been dated back to the early 19th century. The property is not a listed building, however the majority of the buildings within the terrace are grade II listed.
- 2.12. There may have previously been a pig sty to the rear of the property (pers. comm. 2023).

3 Watching Brief

- 3.1. The watching brief was conducted between December 2023 and January 2024 in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) (2020b) *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief*. A3 Drawings at the end of this report provide site plans.

- 3.2. The groundworks comprised the hand excavation of a foundation trench which extended from the breezeblock retaining wall out into the courtyard, before turning at a right angle towards the building (Drawing 3, and Figure 5). The trench measured 0.85 to 0.90 meter in depth.
- 3.3. It was subsequently deemed necessary to excavate an additional foundation trench. The separate footing was also excavated to a depth on 0.85m. Deposition consisted of top soil (1) overlying the yellow clay natural (7).

Table 1: List of contexts

Context	Length (m)	Width (m)	Depth (m)	Description
1	N/a	N/a	0.20-0.30	Mid brown black silt top soil layer below removed layer of concrete. Contained a mixture of late 19 th to early 20 th century ceramics, plastics, glass, animal bone fragments, and construction waste.
2	N/a	N/a	0.50-0.60	Rubble and ceramic layer. Contained sub angular to rounded river cobbles mixed in with a large amount of 18 th to 20 th century ceramics and glass. Ceramics included clay pipes, plate and platter fragments, and tea pot fragments. Mixture of ceramics included willow pattern, white glazed, Buckley ware, slipware, pearl ware, and earthenware.
3	1.10	N/a	0.90	Stone wall. Stonewall constructed from irregular stone coursing. Modern stone wall constructed on top of it.
4	N/a	N/a	N/a	Modern pipeline truncating [5]. Modern sewage pipeline travelling across site to the manhole cover. Pipe line truncates brick wall with all bricks in the middle of the wall exposed in the trench removed. Pipe line filled with red builders sand.
5	0.30	0.20	0.70	Brick wall. Red brick wall abutting stone wall [3] with pipe line [4] truncating it in the middle.
6	1.50	0.70	0.10 to 0.25	Flagstone floor. Slate flagstones contained within walls [5] and [3]. One stone extending slightly beyond wall

				[5] into trench Solid slabs varying between 0.10 to 0.25m in thickness
7	N/a	N/a	0.35-0.85	Yellow clay layer. Clean yellow clay layer with no stone or archaeological material present within in. Appears to be a natural layer. Sloping across trench where (2) truncated.
8	N/s	N/a	0.85-95	Blue grey clay layer. Clean blue grey clay layer with no stone or archaeological material present within it. Appears to be a natural layer.
9	0.10	0.12	0.10	Post within clay layer (8). Remains of post from within clay layer. Surrounded by (2) with 18 th -20 th century pottery.

- 3.4. A small extension previously attached to the building was demolished prior to works. It is probably the extension visible in the 1885 map (Figure 4). The shape of the extension was visible on the wall of the building (Figure 7). The brick wall [5] may possibly have been related to this extension.



Figure 5: Location of trench on site. Facing south west. CPAT 2752_008



Figure 6: Stone wall on site. Facing east. CPAT 2752_009



Figure 7: Location of previous extension on site. Facing west. CPAT 2752_058

- 3.5. Excavations revealed the foundations [5] of a previous building or cellar which had been demolished and backfilled, before being covered with a layer of top soil (Figures 10 and 11). This appeared to be a different building than the extension which was demolished, as its positioning was slightly forward towards the centre of the courtyard, whereas the extension appeared to be slightly backwards aligned with the back wall.
- 3.6. Within the trench a layer of top soil (1) had a mixture of top soil, modern brick, plastics, glass, late 19th to early 20th century ceramic, and small fragments of animal bone. There was a variety

in ceramics present and some glass, which did not appear to be any earlier than late 1800s to early 1900s.

- 3.7. Underlying the topsoil a stone rubble layer was revealed (2) (Figure 8), which consisted of sub angular or rounded river pebbles and cobbles. The stones did not appear to have any kind of bonding material, indicating that it was imported to deliberately level the layer rather than reusing material which had come from a demolished building on site.
- 3.8. Large quantities of ceramics and occasional glass were recovered from layer (2) (Figures 18-21) (Table 2). The assemblage dated from the late 18th/early 19th century to the early 20th century. The ceramics include willow pattern, slipware, and pearlware fragments, and had a variety of different uses. There were pieces of large dishes, cups, plates, jugs, teapots, and other unidentified ceramic pieces. There were multiple clay pipe stems, one mostly intact clay pipe, and a cheshire clay pipe bowl. The glass pieces included bottles, windowpane glass, and a possible wine glass.



Figure 8: Stone rubble fill (2) present in the trench. Facing south west. CPAT 2752_025

- 3.9. This layer (2) was disturbed due to a modern sewage line. There was a sewage pipe which extended from the corner of the courtyard towards the manhole cover. The pipe was approximately 30cm below (1), but the space directly below the pipe line appears to have also been disturbed.
- 3.10. Layer (2) was within the space between the walls [3] and [5] (Figures 10 and 11) present below (1). The walls were below the existing stone wall on site (Figure 6) and appear to be the remains of either an earlier 18th/19th building which was demolished or potentially a small cellar. The full extent of the building was not reached as it was outside the limit of excavation. The wall [3] appeared to be constructed of irregular stone coursing and was abutted onto by a brick wall [5]. The brick was extended from the stone wall outwards from the existing building. A large section of it was missing in the middle which had been removed for the installation of a modern sewage pipe [4].
- 3.11. Below layer (2) was the flagstone floor (6) (Figure 9). The floor was contained within the stone wall and the brick wall and did not continue in the area of the trench which extended between the brick wall and the breezeblock wall. Part of the stone wall [5] had been constructed on top of the flagstone floor as the flagstones continued underneath the wall.



Figure 9: Flagstone floor (6). Facing south west. CPAT 2752_002



Figure 10: Stone wall [5] with flagstone floor [6] visible beneath. Facing south east. CPAT 2752_049.



Figure 11: Stone wall [5] from top layer down to the yellow clay layer (7). Facing south. CPAT 2752_081.

- 3.12. Below (6) was a yellow clay layer (7), interpreted as the natural subsoil (Figures 12 and 13). It sloped steeply from the extant building towards the stone wall with stone rubble (2) cutting into the layer. A truncated wooden post was cut into layer (7) (Figures 15 and 16). The post presumably dates to the late 19th to early 20th century due to the surrounding ceramics as the post was surrounded by layer (2) as it was not part of the flagstone floor (6). Alternatively it may be later in date and was driven into the layer from above, potentially as part of works from when the modern sewage pipe was installed. Beneath (7) was the lowest layer (8) which was a blue grey clay with patches of yellow.



Figure 12: Natural layer (7) once flagstone layer [6] removed. Rubble fill (2) visible to the right. Facing southwest. CPAT 2752_077.



*Figure 13: Base of wall at southwest end of trench, with brick and stone wall on top of the clay layer (7).
Facing southwest. CPAT 2752_040*



Figure 14: Layers within the trench. Red builders' sand visible in middle left of image where sewage pipe lines connected to modern man hole. Manhole removed. Facing southwest. CPAT 2752_073.



Figure 15: Remains of post visible in trench. Photo taken from gap in wall [5] where the pipeline passed through the wall. Facing southwest. CPAT 2752_060.



Figure 16: Close up of post remains in the trench. CPAT 2752_062.



Figure 17: Post ex of trench facing the building. Facing northwest. CPAT 2752_085

- 3.13. A selection of the pottery and glass from layer (2) was retained as dating material for the layer. Most was selected to be discarded, but a small selection of each type was retained to be cleaned, weighed, and quantified.

Table 2: quantified finds

Type	Body	Rim	Base	Weight (g)	Quantity
Pearlware	0	11	1	280	12
Bottles	N/A	N/A	N/A	319	3
Clay pipes	2	N/A	N/A	58	11
Glass fragments	2	0	1	328	3
Red decorated ceramic	3	1	2	178	6
Yellow glazed ceramic	0	1	1	114	2
Buckley ware	0	1	0	18	1
Plain white glazed	2	0	4	548	6
Decorated white glazed	2	2	2	249	6
Slipware	5	0	2	499	7
Red non glazed ceramic	0	2	0	36	2
Willow pattern	3	6	3	856	12
Glass bottle	1	0	0	364	1



Figure 18: Example of clay pipe recovered from (2).



Figure 19: Example of glass recovered from (2).



Figure 20: Example of pottery recovered (unstratified).



Figure 21: Example of pottery recovered from (2).

4 Conclusions

- 4.1. Excavations revealed that the courtyard area had been built up from its original height, covering the foundations of either a previous outbuilding or possible cellar.
- 4.2. The foundations had been backfilled with a mixture of stone rubble and ceramic and glass waste. The ceramics and glass are dated from the late 18th century to the late 19th century, possibly the early 20th century. The foundations were surrounded on two sides by the remains of a stone wall and a brick wall, with a flagstone floor beneath. It is possible that it may be the remains of a pig sty or a similar small building.
- 4.3. The site is located in the same row of terraced buildings which contained two public houses, The Crown (now the Owl and the Pussycat) and The Foxes, which is now a private dwelling (Figure 4). It is possible that some of the ceramic and glassware on the site may have originated from these properties.

5 Sources

Unpublished sources

Silvester, R. J., 1992, *Montgomeryshire Historic Settlements*, CPAT Report No. 40

Online sources

RCAHMW. Available at: <https://rcahmw.gov.uk/> (Accessed: 16 January 2024).

Home (no date) National Library of Scotland. Available at: <https://www.nls.uk/> (Accessed: 16 January 2024).
















Cartographic sources

1885 Ordnance Survey towns 1:500 2nd edition Montgomeryshire Sheet XXIII.7.20

2010 Conservation Area Map for Welshpool, Powys County Council

6 Archive Selection Strategy

2752-Hall Street, Welshpool (NGR SJ22439 07610)	
Watching brief	
January 2024	
Selection Strategy v2.0	
CPAT Project Management	
Project Manager	Tim Malim
Project Supervisor	Sophie Cooledge
Archives Manager	Sophie Watson
Project Stakeholders	
Project Lead / Project Assurance	Neil Bayliss
Client / Landowner	Frankie Pullen
Other	N/a
Collecting Institutions	
Regional HER	Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust
HER Enquiry Number	N/A
HER Event PRN	215588
Digital Archive Repository	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales
Documentary Archive Repository	N/A
Finds Archive Repository	N/A
Museum Accession Number	N/A

Digital Project Data			
Project sub-folders	Data	Retained	Selected for Archive
 Admin			
 H&S - RAMS	Risk Assessment	Y	N
 WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation	Y	Y (as report appendix 1)
 Client Data	Planning documents/other files provided by the client.	Y	N
 Correspondence	Correspondence records relevant to the project	Y	N
 Drafting	Working site drawings/illustrations	Y	N
 Finds data	Finds catalogues/specialist reports etc	Y	Y
 GIS data	Survey data	N/A	N/A
 Metadata	Metadata report for all files submitted as part of the archive.	Y	Y
 Photography	35 digital photographs (.tif)	Y	Y
 Report	CPAT Report 1999 (.docx/.pdf)	Y	Y
 Report Illustrations	Illustrations generated for inclusion within the project report	Y	N
 Research Data	Research data – always secondary sources and available elsewhere	Y	N
 Site data	Scanned site records	N/A	N/A
 Temporary	Temporary storage for temporary files – always deleted at project completion	N	N

Physical Project Data (Documentary)			
Not applicable (N/A)			
	Quantity	Retained by CPAT	Selected for Archive
Context register	N/A	N/A	N/A
Drawings register	N/A	N/A	N/A
Finds register	N/A	N/A	N/A
Levels register	N/A	N/A	N/A
Photo register	N/A	N/A	N/A
Context sheets	N/A	N/A	N/A
Finds/samples record	N/A	N/A	N/A
Skeleton record forms	N/A	N/A	N/A
Staffing record form	N/A	N/A	N/A
Trench record forms	N/A	N/A	N/A
Watching brief forms	N/A	N/A	N/A
A1 plans	N/A	N/A	N/A
A2 plans	N/A	N/A	N/A
A3 plans	N/A	N/A	N/A
A4 plans	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other	N/A	N/A	N/A

Physical Project Data (Materials)

Not applicable (N/A)

***Finds Deposition
Agreement obtained
Archive Repository
Accession Number***

N/A
N/A
N/A

Pottery/Ceramics

	<i>collected</i>	<i>processed</i>	<i>catalogued</i>	<i>specialist</i>	<i>conserved</i>	<i>discarded</i>
Prehistoric	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Roman	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Medieval	N/A	N/A	N	N	NA	N/A
Post-medieval	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y
Modern	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Undated	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CBM	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Clay Pipe	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other (specify)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Stone

	<i>collected</i>	<i>processed</i>	<i>catalogued</i>	<i>specialist</i>	<i>conserved</i>	<i>discarded</i>
Stone Artefacts	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Roofing Tile/Slate	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Building Materials	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Flint/Chert	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other (specify)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Metalwork

	<i>collected</i>	<i>processed</i>	<i>catalogued</i>	<i>specialist</i>	<i>conserved</i>	<i>discarded</i>
Ironwork	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Copper Alloy	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lead	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Silver	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Metalworking Residues	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other (specify)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Bone/Animal Remains

	<i>collected</i>	<i>processed</i>	<i>catalogued</i>	<i>specialist</i>	<i>conserved</i>	<i>discarded</i>
Animal Bone	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Human Skeletal Material	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Shell	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other (specify)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Samples

	<i>collected</i>	<i>processed</i>	<i>catalogued</i>	<i>specialist</i>	<i>conserved</i>	<i>discarded</i>
Bulk soil	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Charcoal	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Other (specify)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Finds Catalogues

Box Catalogue

N/A	N/A		
N/A	N/A	Number of boxes	N/A

Appendix 1: CPAT WSI 2752

1 Introduction

- 1.1. The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) has been instructed by Elite Developments Shropshire (the client) to undertake an archaeological watching brief for the proposed demolition of an existing single storey structure and erection of replacement flat roofed extension and the erection of an external staircase and formation of access door at first floor (planning reference 23/0092/FUL). The site is approximately 0.05 hectares in size which is currently in commercial use as a kitchen with access to residential property above, located at 9-10 Hall Street, Welshpool, SY21 7RY, NGR SJ224076 (Figs. 1 and 2).
- 1.2. The existing and proposed plans are reproduced at the end of this report. A very small area will require archaeological supervision after the existing extension has been demolished and while footings are being excavated for the new extension.

Location, geology and topography

- 1.3. Located within the town of Welshpool the site lies within the valley of the River Severn. The river itself lies approximately 1km to the east of the site.
- 1.4. The underlying bedrock consists of Nantglyn Flags Formation consisting of mudstone, siltstone and sandstone, it is a sedimentary rock formed 433.4 to 423.6 million years ago during the Silurian Period. Superficial deposits consist of Glaciofluvial Fan deposits consisting of Devensian sands and gravels formed 116 to 11.8 thousand years ago during the Quaternary Period.

Planning background

- 1.5. The local planning authority or their archaeological planning advisor (APA) has recommended the following programme of archaeological work *to secure preservation by record of any archaeological remains which may be revealed during ground excavations for the consented development.*

Condition 7 of the planning permission states:

The developer shall ensure that a suitably qualified archaeological contractor is present during all the ground reduction for the application area so that an archaeological watching brief can be conducted. The archaeological watching brief must meet the standards laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for archaeological watching briefs.

Historic background

- 1.6. The development is located within the medieval core of the town of Welshpool. A market is recorded as being held in the town as early as 1252 though the town itself likely has earlier origins with several Roman coins being found in the town and a 2nd century Roman burial being excavated in the area of Smithfield in 1959.
- 1.7. Domen Gastell, a 12th Century Motte and bailey castle lies approximately 600m to the east of the site.
- 1.8. Powys Castle lies approximately 1.5km to the south of the site.

2 Aims and Objectives

- 2.1. The aim of this mitigation is to target archaeological investigation on significant remains found during the watching brief, and to ensure an appropriate level of supervision and recording over other groundworks.
- 2.2. The purpose is to enhance our understanding of the archaeological remains and to ensure that significant information is preserved through record. This will be conducted by archaeological monitoring of the layers as they are removed down to the desired depth for development.
- 2.3. Successful completion of the watching brief will allow the archaeological advisor confidence in recommending discharge of the planning condition, and ensure that any significant archaeological features have been investigated, sampled, and recorded prior to the development taking place.
- 2.4. The objectives of the archaeological monitoring are:
- 2.5. to identify the nature, depth, and date of any surviving sub-surface features uncovered during the watching brief.
- 2.6. To obtain diagnostic material from features, such as artefacts or ecofacts, and samples for scientific dating, that will enhance our understanding of the site to prepare a report outlining the results of site investigations.

3 Methodology

- 3.1. The watching brief will be conducted according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Brief* (2020). This states that the purpose of a watching brief is to:
 - a. Allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works
 - b. Provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard
- 3.2. It is anticipated that the fieldwork will be carried out during December 2023. The LPA's APA will be informed when the work is about to commence and an arrangement will be made for site monitoring following the completion of the groundworks.
- 3.3. If necessary, the excavation will be surveyed in by a GPS system capable of up to 10cm accuracy and marked out by appropriate means, however, as this is a small-scale extension to an existing building, measured plans on an Ordnance Survey base map would be sufficient. The hardcore overburden will be removed by a mechanical excavator under close supervision of an appropriately qualified archaeologist. The mechanical excavator will utilise non-toothed ditching buckets beneath any concrete.
- 3.4. The excavation of archaeological features or deposits will be undertaken by hand using the conventional techniques for archaeological excavation:
- 3.5. All features will be located as accurately as possible on an overall plan of the excavation at an appropriate scale, showing boundaries depicted on Ordnance Survey mapping.

- 3.6. Large features relating to possible industrial activity will be excavated to an extent appropriate for determining their function and date, with a minimum sample of no less than 25% unless otherwise agreed with the HET.
- 3.7. Smaller industrial features will be 100% excavated and sampled.
- 3.8. Other discrete features such as pits will be 100% excavated and sampled.
- 3.9. Linear features will be excavated according to heritage significance (between 10 – 25% for prehistoric, Roman or medieval features).
- 3.10. Contexts will be recorded on individual record forms, using a continuous numbering system, and be drawn and photographed as appropriate.
- 3.11. Stratigraphic units will be assigned a record number and entered along with a description on an individual record form or trench recording sheet as appropriate.
- 3.12. Plans will be drawn on permatrace to a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50, as appropriate.
- 3.13. All photography will be taken using a digital SLR camera with a minimum resolution of 12 mega pixels, including a metric scale in each view, with views logged in a photographic register.
- 3.14. In the event of human burials being discovered, the Ministry of Justice will be informed. The remains will initially be left in situ, and if removal is required, an MoJ licence will be obtained.
- 3.15. In the event of finding any artefacts covered by the provisions of the Treasures Act 1996, the appropriate procedures under this legislation will be followed.

Artefact selection strategy

- 3.16. In accordance with section 4 of *Archaeological Archives: A guide to best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation* Archaeological Archives Forum 2007 (revised 2011) a rigorous process of selection and discard will be followed so that only those elements that are considered of significance for potential future study will be retained. Bulk items such as ceramic building materials, stonework, large quantities of undiagnostic pottery, and material that is difficult to conserve such as worked wood, may be selected for discard once appropriate recording and analysis has been undertaken, on site or in the laboratory post-excavation.
- 3.17. Selection and discard is detailed below, but in general unstratified finds will only be collected where they contribute significantly to the project objectives or are of particular intrinsic interest. All artefacts will be retained from stratigraphically secure contexts of 18th-century date or earlier. In the case of later or disturbed contexts, all 18th-century or earlier material will be retained, together with a sample of later finds to assist with dating and phasing, unless later deposits/artefacts are deemed to be of high archaeological value.
- 3.18. CPAT has a retention policy for artefacts which prioritises as follows:

High priority for retention

- Rare finds from stratified and unstratified contexts
- Prehistoric and early medieval assemblages
- Key stratigraphic dating assemblages crucial to the structural development of the site
- Assemblages which are not well represented in museum collections

High priority for disposal

- Unstratified material unless intrinsically dateable and unusual/rare
- Artefacts from residual/intrusive contexts unless of key stratigraphic importance
- Assemblages already well represented in museum collections
- Unprocessed environmental/soil samples

Post-excavation and reporting

3.19. All artefacts and environmental samples will be treated in a manner appropriate to their composition and a sampling strategy will be developed as appropriate:

- All stratified finds will be collected by context, or where appropriate, individually recorded in three dimensions. Unstratified finds will only be collected where they contribute significantly to the project objectives or are of particular intrinsic interest.
- All finds and samples will be collected, processed, sorted, quantified, recorded, labelled, packed, stored, marked, assessed, analysed and conserved in a manner appropriate to their composition and in line with appropriate guidance.
- arrangements will be made to assess and study any artefacts, assemblages and environment samples, should this be required to fulfil the objectives of the evaluation.
- Any artefacts recovered during the evaluations will be deposited with an appropriate museum, subject to the permission of the owner.

4

4.1. Following the on-site work an illustrated report will be prepared containing conventional sections to include:

- Non-technical summary
- Introduction
- Site location
- Archaeological Background
- Aims & objectives
- Methodology
- Evaluation results
- Conclusions
- References
- Appropriate appendices on archives and finds

5

5.1. If material evidence is recovered that requires specialist assessment, CPAT has a team of external specialists who advise and undertake the appropriate levels of study. These include the following:

- Lithics Pippa Bradley
- Prehistoric pottery Francis Lynch
- Roman pottery Peter Webster
- Medieval pottery Stephanie Ratkai or Julie Edwards, Grosvenor Museum
- Thin section analysis Chris Doherty University of Oxford
- Roman glass Hilary Cool
- Metalwork identification and conservation Phillip Parkes University of Cardiff
- Faunal remains Archaeological Services University of Durham
- Palaeoenvironment Archaeological Services University of Durham
- Pollen Fiona Grant or Lampeter University
- Metallurgy Tim Young University of Cardiff
- C14 and OSL SUERC

5.2. The report summary will be provided in English and Welsh, in accordance with the *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs) V1* (July 2018).

Site archive

5.3. The overall archive will conform to guidelines described in Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE), Historic England 2015, the CifA (2020b) Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives

and The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales (NPAAW, 2017).











- 5.4. The paper and digital archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Record (NMR), RCAHMW, including a copy of the final report. This archive will include all written, drawn, survey and photographic records relating directly to the investigations undertaken. A digital copy of the report (and any digital photographs or other data required) will also be lodged with the Historic Environment Record.








6 Digital Data Management Plan (DDMP) (Version 3: October 2023)

- 6.1. The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust is committed to managing digital records generated through our work to the highest standards. The Digital Data Management Plan (DDMP) has been designed in accordance with current guidance from the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), Historic England's *Archaeological Digital Archiving Protocol* (ADAPt) (2016), The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales *RCAHMW Guidelines for Digital Archives* (2015) and the Archaeology Data Services (ADS) *Guidelines for Depositors* (2021). CPAT also employs the FAIR Principles, to ensure that all relevant data is Findable, Accessible, Interoperable and Reusable.

Data Collection

- 6.2. All digital project data will be stored within a standard folder template, utilizing digital proformas where required and following a strict file naming policy. All digital files selected for archive will be pre-fixed with the unique project code. An example of the CPAT folder structure and common data formats is provided below.

	Project Folder		
	Folder name	Contents	Files
	 Admin		
	 H&S RAMS	Risk assessments	DOCX, PDF
	 WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation	DOCX, PDF
	 Client data	Planning documents, plans, background	JPG, PDF
	 Correspondence	Emails and letters	PDF, Outlook.msg
	 Drafting	Working drawings	AI
	 Finance	Quote, purchase order, costings	DOCX, PDF, XLSX
	 Finds data	Catalogues, specialist reports etc	DOCX, PDF, XLSX
	 GIS data	Project generated GIS including HER data, Mapping data	MAP, SHP, XLSX, PRJ, DXF, TAB, SHX, QPJ, DAT, DBF, ID, DXF,

		Geophysical Survey data etc	DWG, BMP, JPG, ASC, QGS, XML, PMW, XCP
	 Metadata	Project specific metadata	7 XLS
	 Photography	Original and reduced images	8 NEFF, JPG, TIFF
	 Report	Project report	DOCX, PDF
	 Report Illustrations	Illustrations selected for the final report	JPG, PDF
	 Research data	Background research	DOCX, PDF, JPG
	 Site data	Site registers, recording forms, plans etc	DOCX, PDF, XLSX
	 Temporary files	Storage for temporary files to be deleted prior to archiving	N/A

- 8.1. Where projects require specialist archaeological techniques, additional datasets may be generated. These will be incorporated into the folder structure as required and re-named accordingly.

Data Storage

- 8.2. Throughout the course of the project, data will be stored securely on CPAT IT infrastructure.

Data Selection

- 8.3. The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust works across the regions of both England and Wales in which the following guidance may apply, depending on the project location.
- *CIfA Standard and Guidance for the Creation, Compilation, Transfer and Deposition of Archaeological Archives* (2020b).
 - *CIfA Toolkit for selecting archaeological archives*.
 - *CIfA Toolkit for managing digital data*.
 - *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The (MoRPHE Project Manager's Guide* (2015).
 - *National Standard and Guidance for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales* (2017).
 - The Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales *RCAHMW Guidelines for Digital Archives* (2015)
 - *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs) Version:2*
 - Historic England's *Archaeological Digital Archiving Protocol* (ADAPt) (2016)
 - Archaeology Data Services (ADS) *Guidelines for Depositors* (2021).
 - *FAIR Guiding Principles for scientific data management and stewardship* (2016)

-
- 8.4. While some projects will generate a standard set of data, most project archives are unique and the creation of data is fluid, requiring periodic management and review throughout the course of the project to meet the specific requirements of individual stakeholders.
 - 8.5. Data generated by a relatively small-scale project is likely to comprise; the final report (.pdf/.docx), digital photographs (.tif), site records including proformas/drawings (.pdf), metadata (.xls).
 - 8.6. Larger projects may include additional data sets, such as site survey data, GIS polygons, specialist reports etc, and where required, additional digital sub-folders will be generated.
 - 8.7. All project data, including digital, documentary, artefactual or environmental will be recorded in the final project selection strategy, a copy of which will be included in all project reports. Data that has been selected for retention, and/or deposition with a suitable repository beyond CPAT is recorded therein.
 - 8.8. Correspondence records, financial records, research data and temporary files will automatically be de-selected from the final archivable dataset, as these do not form part of the overall archaeological record and may contain sensitive data.

Metadata

- 8.9. All digital data generated by the project and selected for archive will be accompanied with appropriate metadata, where required.

Preservation

- 8.10. Digital data selected for preservation within Wales will be deposited with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales. Digital data selected for preservation for projects undertaken in England will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service.
- 8.11. A digital PDF report, along with relevant photographs will also be deposited with the relevant Historic Environment Record (HER) and OASIS.
- 8.12. Associated physical archive material will be summarised within the final grey literature report/selection strategy to ensure that the physical archive is also traceable once disseminated.

Accessibility

- 8.13. Data will use standard software and formats where possible to maximise opportunities for use and reuse in the future.
- 8.14. Data submitted for long term preservation will be discoverable to interested parties through the RCAHMS/OASIS/ADS or HER websites and may also be promoted by CPAT via the Trust's website or social media.

Responsibilities

- 8.15. The Project Manager will be responsible for the implementation of the DDMP throughout the course of the project.
- 8.16. The Project Manager, Project Supervisor and Head of Technology, Information and Planning will be responsible for data accumulated during the project, including its appropriate management, storage and backup.
- 8.17. Data will be checked routinely by the Project Manager as a means of quality assurance.

- 8.18. The Information and Archives Officer will be responsible for the compilation of all project specific metadata and final deposition of the digital project data and wider archive.
- 8.19. Following deposition with the relevant digital repository, data management will become the responsibility of the receiving organization.
- 8.20. A copy of relevant files generated by the project may be retained and stored securely by CPAT for future reference should it be required.

Ethics and Legal Compliance

- 8.21. CPAT has security protocols and policies in place relating to the ethical use of data which comply National Law and Industry Guidelines. Our Privacy Policy can be viewed [here](#).
- 8.22. All data, including any sensitive data is stored securely to protect against its loss, misuse and alteration.
- 8.23. CPAT will take steps to ensure that any businesses we share data with will have security protocols and policies in place to manage and record data privacy and preferences correctly and that data is stored correctly.
- 8.24. Copyright for all data belongs to the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust. Formal permissions from external specialists and contractors will be secured upon their engagement, where appropriate.

9 Resources and programming

- 9.1. The watching brief will be undertaken by a skilled archaeologist under the overall supervision of Tim Malim, a senior member of CPAT's staff who is also a member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). CPAT is also a CIfA Registered Organisation and as such agrees to abide by their *Code of Conduct* (2014) and the *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* (2014).
- 9.2. All report preparation will be completed by or with the assistance of the same field archaeologist(s) who conducted the site work. Copies of the report will be deposited with the client and the regional Historic Environment Record within one month of the completion of on-site works, subject to possible delays should specialist investigation of artefacts, samples etc be necessary. If appropriate, a short report will be published in *Archaeology in Wales*.
- 9.3. The client should be aware that in the event that significant archaeological remains are revealed there may be a requirement for more detailed excavation and specialist services. Any further work over and above the original watching brief and report would be the subject of a separate WSI and costing.

10 Appendix 1 Selection Strategy

11 2752-Hall Street, Welshpool (NGR SJ224076)

12 Watching Brief

13 22/11/2023

Selection Strategy v1.0

CPAT Project Management	
Project Manager	Tim Malim
Project Supervisor	tbc
Archives Manager	Sophie Watson
Project Stakeholders	
Project Lead / Project Assurance	Richard Cosgrove, Elite Developments
Client / Landowner	Mrs Frankie Pullen
Other	
Collecting Institutions	
Regional Historic Environment Record	Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust
Digital Archive Repository	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales
Documentary Archive Repository	N/A
Finds Archive Repository	N/A
Other	N/A
Project Data	
Digital Project Data - Management	
Digital data generated by the project will be managed in accordance with the CPAT Digital Data Management Plan (Version 3), which is outlined in full under section 4 of the WSI.	

In summary, digital data will be subject to regular review and management to ensure the final dataset is of suitable quality and appropriately referenced and structured, resulting in a findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable archive which has been prepared in accordance with the *CIfA Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives guidance* (2020b).

All digital files will be stored on CPAT infrastructure within a standard folder hierarchy and following a strict file naming policy. All digital files selected for archive will be data tagged with the unique project code. An example of the CPAT folder structure and specific files selected for archive will be recorded in the final selection strategy for the project and included within every CPAT report.

Digital project data selected for archive will be accompanied by relevant project metadata and prepared according to the RCAHMW Guidelines for Digital Archives (Version 1). Digital data will be transferred via OneDrive upon the completion of the project as agreed with Helen Rowe (Senior Archivist - RCAHMW).

A copy of the digital report and a set of digital (.jpg) images will be submitted to the Historic Environment Record via HEDDOS in accordance with the *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs) Version 2* (2022).

Project Specific Digital Data

Digital data expected for an archaeological watching brief includes the following;

Photographs (.jpg / .neff) – converted to TIFF for archive using *GIMP*

Photographic Catalogue (.xls) *Microsoft Excel*

Grey Literature Report (.docx / .pdf) *Microsoft Word*

Project metadata file (.xls) *Microsoft Excel*

De-Selected Digital Data

All digital data generated by the project will be recorded in the final selection strategy and selected/de-selected data will be recorded therein.

Unsuitable or surplus data, such as blurred images or duplicate files, will be deleted from the final dataset.

Sensitive digital data is stored within dedicated project folders named Client Data, Correspondence and Finance and these will be automatically de-selected due to the nature of the data within. Project data will be retained on the CPAT servers for a period of 6 years, at which point it will be reviewed and managed as required in accordance with relevant organisational policies.

Physical Project Data (Documentary)

All physical documentary data will follow standard formats and conventions with appropriate labelling and referencing, resulting in findable, accessible, interoperable and reusable data (FAIR) which has been prepared in accordance with the *ClfA Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives guidance* (2020b).

Written and drawn records will utilise CPAT proformas and use standard conventions and terminology. Documents selected for archive will be accompanied with a paper copy of the selection strategy to ensure all elements of the archive are linked and traceable at all times.

Physical documentary data expected for an archaeological watching brief includes the following;

- Context register
- Context sheets
- Drawing register
- Site plans
- Section drawings and plans
- Photographic register
- Finds register

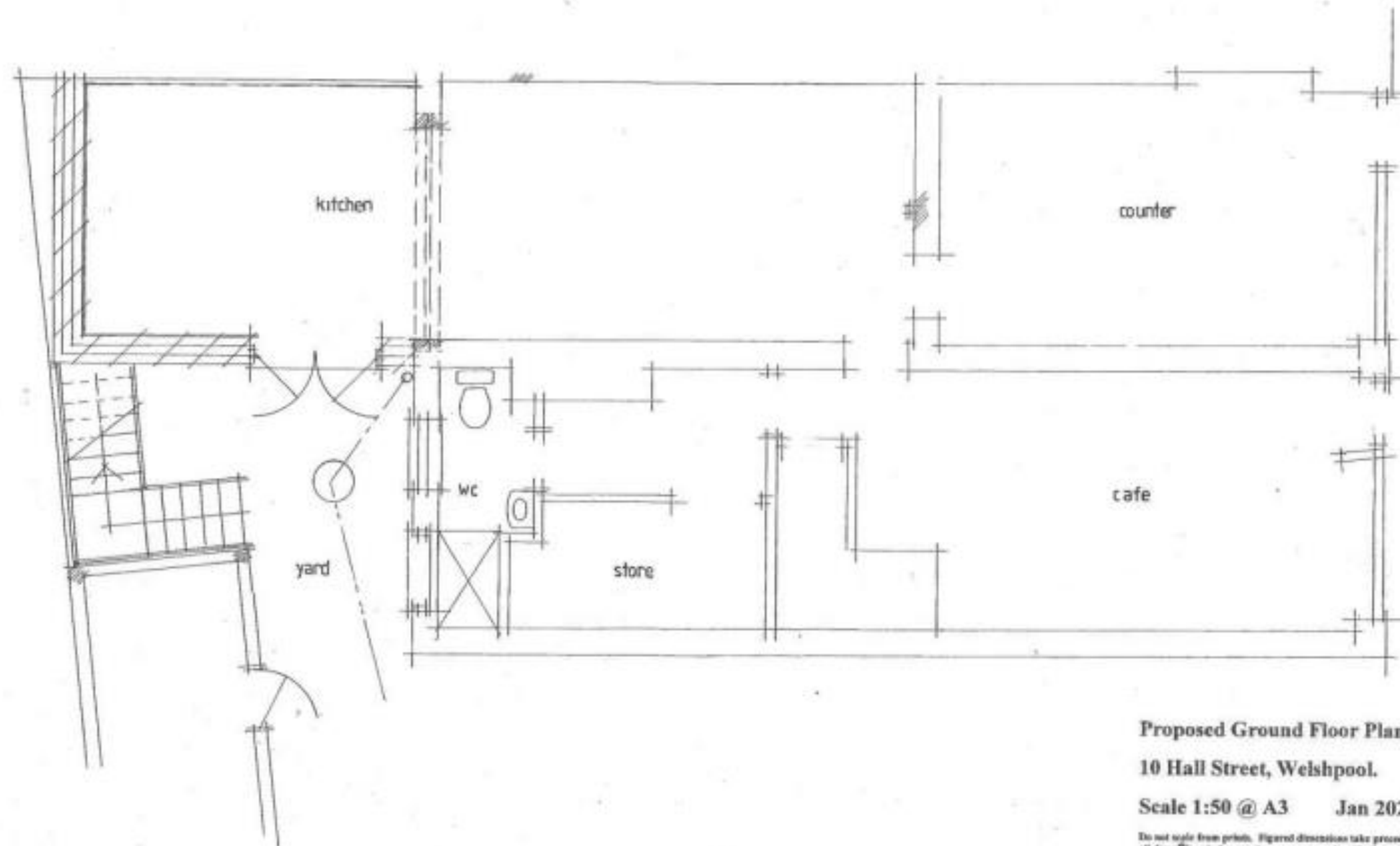
Physical Project Data (Materials)

There is potential for artefactual material to be gathered during the fieldwork stage of the project.

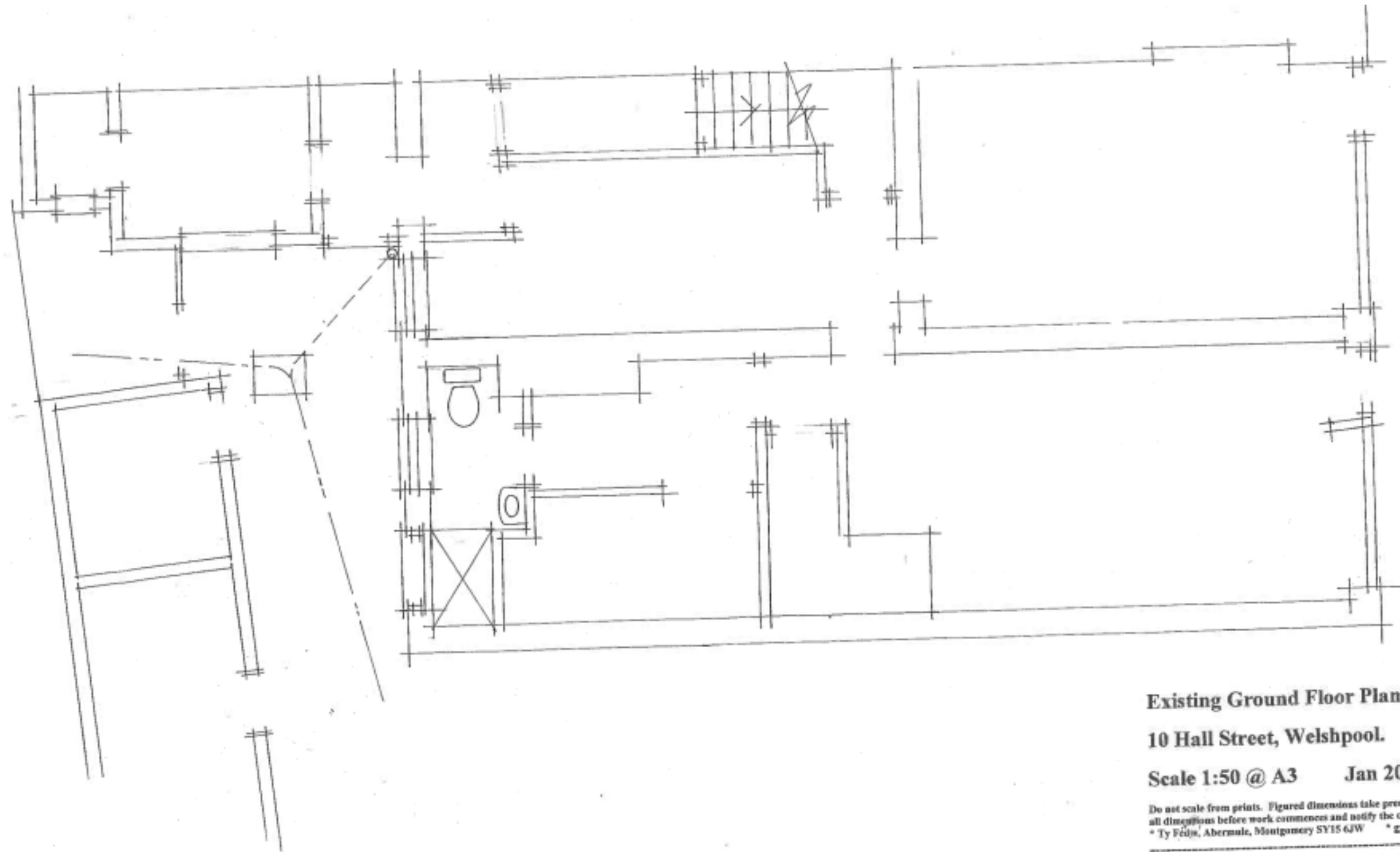
The methodology for the treatment of materials is outlined in section 3.16 of the Written Scheme of Investigation. In summary, artefacts and contextual evidence that can help address specific research questions will be prioritised for retention and where appropriate, external specialist assessment may be employed to help identify the research potential of cohesive assemblages. In addition, local curators may be consulted as to whether specific local knowledge might be enhanced through study and retention of the collected archive, beyond any broader regional research questions.

In the instance that significant artefactual material is identified, a suitable repository will be identified and contacted once the nature, quantity and condition is known. The decision would be made by CPAT field services in conjunction with the relevant stakeholders, informed by the research potential and heritage significance of the archaeological evidence uncovered.

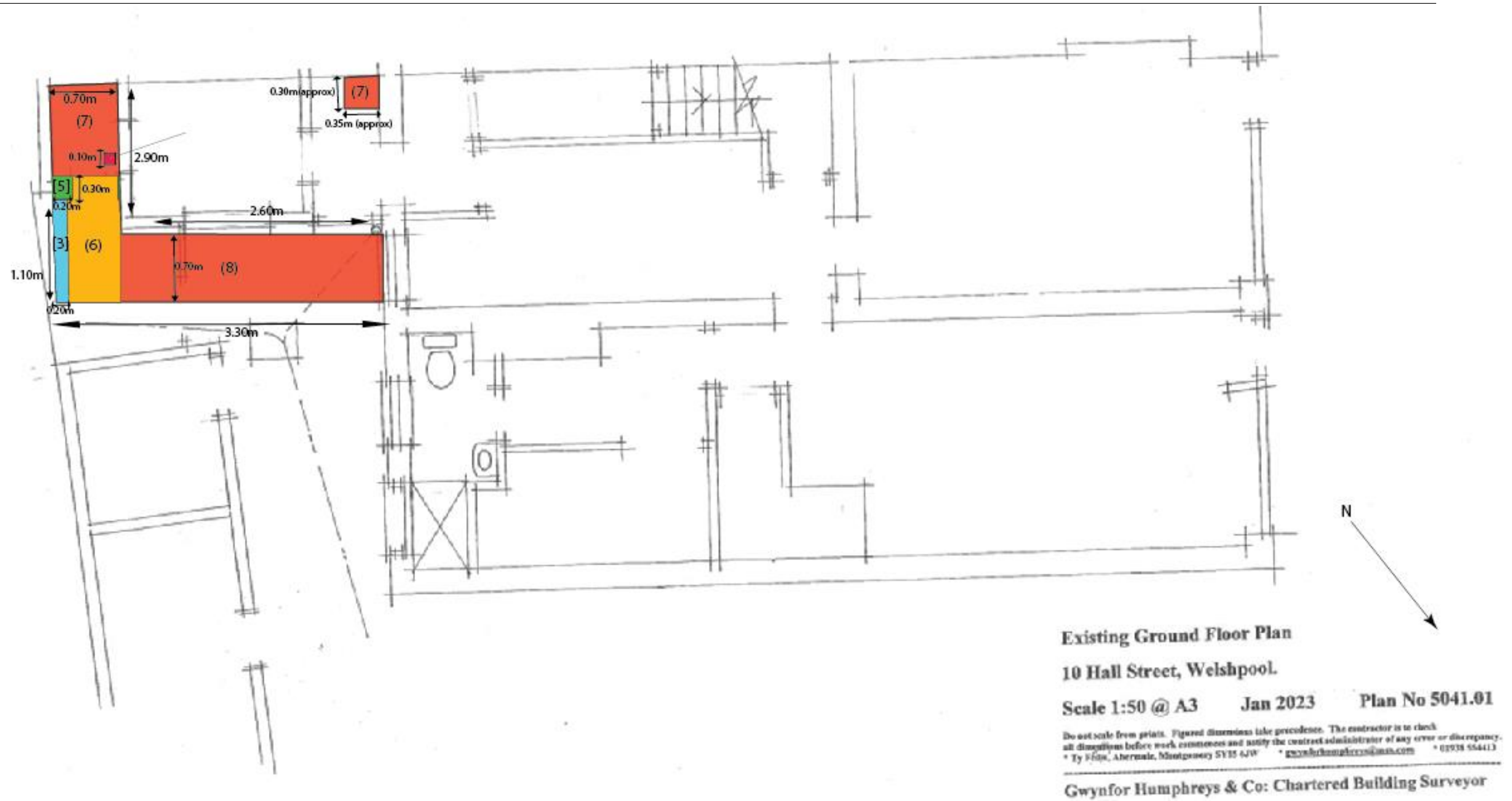
Karl Macrow
Project Archaeologist
22/11/2023



Drawing 1: Proposed plan of site. Image courtesy of the client.



Drawing 2: Plan of existing site. Image courtesy of the client.



Drawing 3: Plan of existing site with contexts. Background image courtesy of the client.