

CPAT WSI 1995

Rhosgoch Mill

ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

Written Scheme of Investigation

submitted by

Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust

On behalf of

Janet Russell



YMDDIRIEDOLAETH ARCHAEOLEGOL CLWYD-POWYS

CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

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The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust is a Registered Organisation
with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust

The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT works to protect, record and interpret all aspects of the historic environment. We advise developers and local authorities on archaeology and planning, undertake archaeological projects for public- and private-sector clients, and have wide-ranging programmes of community archaeology events and activities.

The CPAT Field Services team is the leading archaeological practice in mid- and north-east Wales, and one of the longest-established commercial archaeology contractors in Europe.

CPAT is one of four archaeological trusts established in Wales in the mid-1970s to provide an archaeological service across the whole of the Principality. It is both a registered charity and a limited company, and its activities are managed by a board of Trustees. It is also Registered Organisation (RO) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). Further information regarding the Trust, including summary reports of some of the more significant recent projects can be found on its website at www.cpat.org.uk

Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Clwyd-Powys

Mae Ymddiriedolaeth Archaeolegol Clwyd-Powys (CPAT) yn gweithio i warchod, cofnodi a dehongli pob agwedd ar yr amgylchedd hanesyddol. Rydym yn cynghori datblygwyr ac awdurdodau lleol ar archaeoleg a chynllunio ac yn ymgymryd â phrosiectau archaeolegol ar ran cleientiaid yn y sectorau cyhoeddus a phreifat, ac mae gennym raglenni eang eu hystod o ddiwyddiadau a gweithgareddau archaeolegol cymunedol.

Tîm Gwasanaethau Maes CPAT yw'r prif bractis archaeolegol yng nghanolbarth a gogledd-ddwyrain Cymru, ac mae'n un o'r contractwyr archaeoleg masnachol mwyaf hirsefydlog yn Ewrop.

Mae CPAT yn un o bedair ymddiriedolaeth archaeolegol a sefydlwyd yng Nghymru yng nghanol y 1970au i ddarparu gwasanaeth archaeolegol ledled Cymru. Mae'r Ymddiriedolaeth yn elusen gofrestredig a hefyd yn gwmni cyfyngedig, ac mae ei gweithgareddau'n cael eu rheoli gan fwrdd Ymddiriedolwyr. Mae hefyd yn Registered Organisation (RO) gyda'r Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA). Mae mwy o wybodaeth am yr Ymddiriedolaeth, gan gynnwys adroddiadau cryno ar rai o'r prosiectau diweddar mwyaf arwyddocaol hefyd i'w gweld ar ei gwefan yn www.cpat.org.uk

1 Introduction

- 1.1. The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) have been invited by Janet Russell to prepare a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for undertaking a watching brief during internal groundworks associated with the renovation and conversion of Rhosgoch Mill, near Painscastle, Powys (planning application P/2018/0252; SO 18569 47523). Planning permission was granted on 11 October 2018, with the inclusion of the following condition relating to archaeology:

3 No development shall take place within the application area until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The archaeological programme of work will be undertaken and completed in accordance with the relevant Standards and Guidance laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. A copy of the resulting report shall be submitted to the Local Planning Authority and the Development Control Archaeologist, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (41 Broad Street, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7RR, email: markwalters@cpat.org.uk Tel: 01938 553670). After approval by the Local Planning Authority, a copy of the report and resulting archive should also be sent to the Historic Environment Record Officer, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust for inclusion in the regional Historic Environment Record.

Reason: To secure preservation by record of all archaeological remains which will be impacted by the development in accordance with policy SP7 of the Powys Local Development Plan (2010), Technical Advice Note 24 - The Historic Environment (2017) and Planning Policy Wales (2016).

- 1.2. The mill and mill house is a grade II listed building (LB 8737; PRN 25843) and consent has been granted separately (planning application P/2018/0254).
- 1.3. It is believed that there has been a mill on this since at least 1550, although the present structure dates from the late 18th century. The milling machinery was replaced as part of a refurbishment in 1867 and continued in use until the 1950s. The mill was listed grade II in 1960 as what was even then a rare survival.
- 1.4. The building was subject to a detailed measured survey and small-scale evaluation as part of a heritage impact assessment conducted by CPAT in 2017 (Jones 2017). This revealed an earlier cobbled floor, or possibly external yard surface, beneath the stone slab floor in the mill house.



The stone surface revealed beneath the stone slab floor. Photo CPAT 4343-0108

2 Methodology

- 2.1. The watching brief will be conducted according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' (CIfA) *Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief* (2014). The watching brief will be undertaken to monitor groundworks associated within the building to reduce levels for the installation of underfloor heating.
- 2.2. The stone slab floor within the mill house will be lifted carefully by building contractors without archaeological supervision, but under strict instruction to undertake no further groundworks once the slabs have been removed. The area will then be cleaned rapidly by an archaeologist to enable the investigation and recording of any archaeologically significant levels which survive.
- 2.3. Within the mill the existing concrete floor will be broken and removed by building contractors without archaeological supervision, but under strict instruction to undertake no further groundworks once the concrete has been removed. The area will then be cleaned rapidly by an archaeologist to enable the investigation and recording of any archaeological evidence for earlier floors, machinery, or other evidence for an earlier mill structure on the site.
- 2.4. The excavation of any archaeological features or deposits will be undertaken by hand using the conventional techniques for archaeological excavation:
 - The presence or absence of archaeological features encountered during the ground works will be noted.
 - Where features of archaeological interest are identified during the ground works they will be systematically investigated by hand with sufficient work being undertaken to determine their date, character and function, using the

conventional techniques for archaeological excavation and in accordance with CifA Standard and Guidance.

- All features will be located as accurately as possible on an overall plan of the development at an appropriate scale, showing boundaries depicted on Ordnance Survey mapping.
- Contexts will be recorded on individual record forms, using a continuous numbering system, and be drawn and photographed as appropriate.
- Plans will be drawn on permatrace to a scale of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50, as appropriate.
- The recording of stone floors or structures may be conducted using rectified photography if appropriate.
- 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.
- 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, a MoJ licences will be applied for under the Burial Act 1857.
- 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.

2.5. 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 to assess and study any artefacts, assemblages and environment samples.
- Any artefacts recovered during the watching brief will be deposited with an appropriate museum, subject to the permission of the owner.

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

- Non-technical summary
- Introduction
- Site location
- Historical Background
- Watching brief
- Conclusions
- References
- Appropriate appendices on archives and finds

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- 2.7. 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

- 2.8. The overall archive will conform to guidelines described in *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)*, Historic England 2006, the CIfA (2014) *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) and *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs) V1* (July 2018).
- 2.9. 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. NMR Digital archives will follow the standard required by the RCAHMW (RCAHMW 2015). A copy of the digital archive only will also be lodged with the Historic Environment Record, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust.

3 Resources and programming

- 3.1. The watching brief will be undertaken by a skilled archaeologist under the overall supervision of Nigel Jones, 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 (RAO No 6) 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).
- 3.2. 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. If appropriate, a short report will be published in *Archaeology in Wales*.
- 3.3. Requirements relating to Health and Safety regulations will be adhered to by CPAT and its staff.
- 3.4. CPAT is covered by appropriate Public and Employer's Liability insurance, as well as Professional Indemnity insurance.

4 References

- Jones, N. W., 2017. *Rhosgoch Mill, Rhosgoch, Powys: Heritage Impact Assessment*. CPAT Report No. 1504.

N W Jones

30 October 2018

