



Archaeoleg Morgannwg-Gwent

Heneb

Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeology

Our ref: NEW1706/HB

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PLANNING

Head of Planning and Economic Regeneration
Newport City Council
Civic Centre
NEWPORT
NP20 4UR

8th April 2026

FAO: Lydia Burrows

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Removal of front wall and creation of off-street parking area (Resubmission)
Sirona, Belmont Hill, Caerleon, Newport, NP18 1JX
Pl.App.No.: 26/0148

Thank you for consulting us about this application; consequently we have reviewed the detailed information contained on your website and can confirm that **the proposal will require archaeological mitigation.**

Information in the regional Historic Environment Record (HER) shows that the application area is to the immediate south of the Archaeologically Sensitive Area (ASA). To the northwest of the wider area is the Roman Legionary Fortress of Isca. The area is on the outskirts of a known area of civilian settlement where Roman finds of pottery and coins and human burials (inhumations and cremations) have been located. Furthermore, an archaeological watching brief was undertaken during development works less than 100m to the northwest of the area, during 2015 and 2016, in which Roman features and finds including a Roman funerary inscription were encountered, confirming the existence of a nearby Roman cemetery. A review of the historic Ordnance Survey maps shows the area as previously an open field on the First to Third Editions (1883 to 1920), with the footprint of the property depicted on the Fourth Edition (dated 1936). Given the site's location and recent discoveries of remains within the immediate vicinity, it is considered that it is possible that archaeological remains and deposits may be encountered during any ground works in the area.

You may recall our response to an earlier application at the site in which archaeological mitigation was recommended (Pl.App.No.: 25/0811, dated 26th November 2025). It is noted that works have already commenced on site, which includes the removal of the boundary wall, along with ground reductions. We do not condone works undertaken prior to planning consent, and as the works were undertaken without archaeological supervision, it is unknown as to whether archaeological remains and deposits have been removed and destroyed in the process. However, it is noted that the profile of the ground reduction appears to be intact, along with partial spoil heaps, which will provide detail as to whether there has been any impact, from the works undertaken, upon the archaeological resource. There is also still

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Cadeirydd / Chair: Dr Carol Bell

PSG / CEO: Richard Nicholls

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potential for archaeological remains and deposits to be encountered during further proposed ground works and consequently, our previous advice remains the same.

Therefore, in order to mitigate the impact of the development on the archaeological resource it is our recommendation that a condition requiring the applicant to submit a detailed written scheme of investigation for a programme of archaeological work to protect the archaeological resource should be attached to any consent granted by your Members.

We envisage that this programme of work will take the form of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording (watching brief), to include the recording of the exposed section and disturbed spoil heaps from recent works, and during any further groundworks required for the development, with detailed contingency arrangements including the provision of sufficient time and resources to ensure that any archaeological features or finds that are located are properly investigated and recorded; it should include provision for any sampling that may prove necessary, post-excavation recording and assessment and reporting and possible publication of the results.

To ensure adherence to the recommendations we recommend that the condition should be worded in a manner similar to model condition 24 given in Welsh Government Circular 016/2014:

No development shall take place until the applicant, or their agents or successors in title, has secured agreement for a written scheme of historic environment mitigation which has been submitted by the applicant and approved by the local planning authority. Thereafter, the programme of work will be fully carried out in accordance with the requirements and standards of the written scheme.

Reason: *To identify and record any features of archaeological interest discovered during the works, in order to mitigate the impact of the works on the archaeological resource.*

We also recommend that a note should be attached to the planning consent explaining that:

The archaeological work must be undertaken to the appropriate Standard and Guidance set by Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), [CIfA regulations, standards and guidance](#) | [CIfA](#) and it is recommended that it is carried out either by a [CIfA Registered Organisation](#) or a [MCIfA level accredited Member](#) | [CIfA](#)

If you have any questions or require further advice on this matter please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,

H. Bowden

Hannah Bowden BA (Hons) MSc MCIfA

Cadeirydd / Chair: Dr Carol Bell

PSG / CEO: Richard Nicholls

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