



Heneb

Sarilla, Cold Bath Road, Caerleon, Newport

Written Scheme of Historic Environment Mitigation

for an archaeological watching brief

Newport City Council Planning App. No. 24/0977

May 2025

Heneb – The Trust for Welsh Archaeology

Project No. LD25-005

Report No. 2025/024

NGR ST 33732 907322



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Summary

Planning application 24/0977 Full has been granted with conditions by the Newport City Council for the '*Conversion of existing garage to habitable room with increased eaves height. extension to rear of property to form workshop/store. Internal alterations to property*' at Sarilla, Cold Bath Road, Caerleon, Newport, NP18 1NF.

Condition no. 2 of the planning consent requires a written scheme of historic environment mitigation (WSHEM) to be submitted by the applicant and to be approved by the local planning authority prior to the start of development works.

Heneb: The Trust for Welsh Archaeology, have been commissioned by the client and their agents to prepare the WSHEM.

The Scheme allows for an archaeological watching brief to be carried out during the groundwork phases required for the development, with detailed contingency arrangements, including the provision of sufficient time and resources to ensure that any archaeological features or finds are fully investigated and recorded.

It also includes provision for any sampling that may prove necessary, post-excavation recording and assessment and reporting, and possible publication of the results.

The specified archaeological works will be carried out to the professional standards laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Universal guidance for archaeological monitoring and recording* (December 2023).

The WSHEM has been prepared by Heneb - The Trust for Welsh Archaeology – Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeology.

Authorship and acknowledgements

The project was managed by Martin Tuck MCIfA (GGA Head of Archaeological Services). Martin Tuck undertook the preparation of the report.

Copyright notice

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Abbreviations

APM:	Archaeological Planning Management (Heneb)
HER:	Historic Environment Record (curated by Heneb)
ICON	Institute for Conservation
LPA:	Local Planning Authority
NGR:	National Grid Reference
NMR	National Monuments Record (curated by the RCAHMW)
NPRN:	National Primary Record Number (in NMR)
PRN:	Primary Record Number (in HER)
RCAHMW:	Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales
WSHEM:	Written Scheme of Historic Environment Mitigation
WSI:	Written Scheme of Investigation
TWA (HENEb):	Trust for Welsh Archaeology (Heneb) (company formed by merger of the four Trusts in Wales - April 2024)

1 Introduction

1.1 Development proposal and general background

Planning application 24/0977 has been granted by the Newport City Council for ‘*Conversion of existing garage to habitable room with increased eaves height. extension to rear of property to form workshop/store. Internal alterations to property*’ at Sarilla, Cold Bath Road, Caerleon, Newport, NP18 1NF, with conditions, one of which No 2, relates to the historic environment.

Condition2 of planning consent states-

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.

Heneb – The Trust for Welsh Archaeology has been commissioned by the client or their agents (Mr T. Jenkins) to prepare the written scheme (WSHEM), and which has been prepared by the Archaeological Services department of Heneb (Glamorgan Gwent region).

The specified archaeological works will be carried out to the professional standards laid down by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists’ *Universal guidance for archaeological monitoring and recording (December 2023)* and the terms of the WSHEM.

1.1 Site description

The development site (Figure 1), within Caerleon Conservation area, lies just northwest of the centre of the village of Caerleon at NGR ST 33732 907322 and at approximately 17m OD.

Sarilla, the property itself, is located along a short shared private drive off Cold Bath Road, the road which leads to Caerleon Comprehensive School. To the northeast and southeast are private dwellings and their gardens, whilst to the southwest Sarilla bounds Scheduled Monument MM230 Caerleon Legionary Fortress where in the grassed area, at approximately 70m away from the site boundary, are exposed barrack blocks excavated in 1927/29.

1.2 Geology

Bedrock geology: St Maughans Formation - Argillaceous rocks and sandstone, interbedded. Sedimentary bedrock formed between 419.2 and 393.3 million years ago during the Devonian period. Superficial deposits: River Terrace Deposits - Sand and gravel. Sedimentary superficial deposit formed between 2.588 million years ago and the present during the Quaternary period¹.

¹ https://geologyviewer.bgs.ac.uk/?_ga=2.88842840.252174172.1747058741-1177648530.1747058741. Accessed 12/05/2025

1.3 Archaeological context

The following archaeological background is taken from the Council's archaeological advisors' letter in respect of the planning application².

The information in the Historic Environment Record (HER) curated by this Trust indicates the proposal is within an area of very high archaeological potential. It is adjacent to the Caerleon Legionary Fortress, a Scheduled Monument (Cadw ref. MM230). The monument comprises buried features and earthworks representing a Roman legionary fortress. The fortress at Caerleon, or Isca, is one of only three permanent legionary fortresses in Britain and was founded around AD75. Its construction was probably linked to the campaigns of the Governor of Britannia, Julius Frontinus, against the Silures. Previous archaeological work in the vicinity has encountered highly significant remains, including features relating to the Roman defences such as stone walled defence revetting an internal bank. Roman artefactual material has also been recovered, including stone tesserae.

Whilst we note the relatively limited scale of the groundworks and the at least partially disturbed nature of the area, there is the potential for encountering archaeological material during the course of the application.

In addition, a cursory look at publicly available records indicated that excavation in the mid-1980s at nearby Sandygate the first house on the west side of the private drive revealed buildings suggested to belong to Barracks Blocks IX and X in the Prysg Series (the field with the exposed barracks), and for the first time a phase of earth fast timber construction was identified in the Prysg field. Several post-trenches, post-holes and the construction level demonstrated the presence of the earth fast timber construction. Interpretation of the various layers between the timber structure and the stone building were difficult to interpret due to the small size of the trench. The layers in between were established as layers of clay, interleaved with patches of burning and fire debris. Due to the size of the trench only one stone structure could be identified, however, it was possible that others lay outside the excavated area.

In the later 1990s, further work at Sandygate for a double garage at the east side of the house did not reveal evidence of the (expected) fortress walls, however there were signs of activity, and a possible ditch was found that appeared to run parallel to the projected defences.

The evidence from earlier excavations indicates that there is potential particularly for further Roman remains to be encountered.

1.4 Description of the works

The planned programme of works includes garage conversion, small rear extension and the replacement of a boundary fence with a wall (Figure 2).

² Letter 23 January 2025 ref NEW 1688/RD to Head of Planning and Economic Regeneration, Newport City Council from Heneb Archaeological Planning

2 Specification

2.1 Purpose

The purpose of this WSHM is to set out a quantifiable schedule of works against which performance, fitness for purpose and achievement of quality can be measured. This WSHM has been prepared to ensure that the work is undertaken to the standard required by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Universal guidance for archaeological monitoring and recording* (December 2023).

2.2 Objectives

The objectives of the fieldwork are as follow:

An investigation of the potential archaeological resource through monitoring of any ground intrusive works for the development.

The presentation of these observations to be set out in a written report, taking account of related documentary and historical evidence

The preparation of an archive of data recovered and records made as a result of the project, and the deposition of this archive in a suitable receiving museum or similar institution.

2.3 Scope of archaeological works

The scope will comprise an archaeological watching brief during any ground-breaking activity in association with the development.

2.1 Specification strategy

The strategy proposed is based on the likely extent and form of archaeological interests and the proposed extent and form of construction effect.

The effect of the development on potential archaeological interests will be safeguarded by means of an archaeological watching brief undertaken on the groundwork's specified in 2.3 above to meet the requirement of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Universal guidance for archaeological monitoring and recording* (December 2023).

If archaeologically significant remains are discovered during the watching brief, the archaeologist carrying out the works, in consultation, where appropriate, with the client (or their agent), the LPA and their archaeological advisors, will make a decision as to whether it can be adequately recorded and if necessary, removed.

2.2 Monitoring

Relevant stakeholders as appropriate, will be given reasonable advance notice by the client of the commencement of works. Site access will be afforded to the Client and their agents, the Archaeological Planning authority, and other stakeholders as appropriate, in order to observe any significant archaeological features that are identified by the ground disturbing activity or other elements of the works.

2.3 Timing

The archaeological watching brief will commence following the notification of a start date for the works as provided by the client and mutually agreed with the archaeological contractor.

3 Resourcing

The Trust for Welsh Archaeology (Heneb) Archaeological Services will provide the following input to carry out the specified archaeological works.

3.1 Staff

The project staff involved are experienced archaeologists drawn from the team regularly used. These will include:

- Martin Tuck MCIfA, GGA Head of Archaeological Services, responsible for the management of the project and maintaining quality.
- Project Officer ACIfA, responsible for carrying out the fieldwork and illustration.
- Project Archaeologist(s), responsible for carrying out the fieldwork and for cleaning, cataloguing and analysing finds.

3.2 Specialists

Specialist expertise, if required, will be obtained from suitably qualified internal and external individuals. These specialists will be drawn from the following:

- Ceramic building material: Dr Edith Evans (Heneb); Joyce Compton (freelance);
- Clay pipes: Charlotte James-Martin (freelance); Joyce Compton (freelance);
- Coins: National Museum Wales (NMW);
- Conservation: Phil Parkes, Cardiff Conservation Services (Cardiff University);
- Faunal remains: Hannah Bowden (Trust for Welsh Archaeology (Heneb));
- Flints: Elizabeth Walker (NMW);
- Glass: Joyce Compton (freelance);
- Metalwork: Prof. Bill Manning (freelance);
- Medieval pottery: Joyce Compton (freelance);
- Metalwork and industrial residues: Dr Tim Young (Cardiff University and GeoArch);
- Mortar analysis: Rob Dunning (Heneb);
- Palaeoenvironmental remains: University of Wales Lampeter, Archaeological Services (UWLAS) / Wendy Carruthers (freelance);
- Post-medieval pottery: Joyce Compton (freelance);
- Prehistoric pottery: Jody Deacon (NMW);
- Roman pottery: Joyce Compton (freelance)/ Peter Webster (freelance);
- Roman brick and tile: Dr Edith Evans (Heneb);
- Waterlogged wood: Prof Nigel Nayling / Dr Rod Bale (UWLAS/UWTSD).

Further specialist expertise in other disciplines will be obtained as required from suitably qualified individuals/institutions.

4 Implementation

4.1 Standards

The specified archaeological works will be undertaken to the highest possible standards in line with the requirements of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Universal guidance for archaeological monitoring and recording* (December 2023) and in accord with Welsh Government planning policies (Historic Environment (Wales) Act 2023, Planning Policy Wales, Edition 12, Chapter 6, (2024,) Planning Policy Wales, Technical Advice Note 24: The Historic Environment (2017).

4.2 Recording

All archaeological deposits will be recorded with a single continuous context numbering system. Heneb will, upon request, submit a copy of its recording forms and manual to the client.

Where appropriate, archaeological features will be drawn at a suitable scale in plan (usually 1/20 scale) and in section (usually 1/10 scale). All significant contexts will be digitally photographed, with a resolution of no less than 10 megapixels. Survey information will be related to the Ordnance Survey National Grid (published mapping) and levels related to the Ordnance Survey Datum or a prominent feature (threshold for example) if height information is unavailable.

4.3 Finds recovery and recording

All classes of finds will be cleaned and catalogued. They will be retained until arrangements for final deposition have been agreed, in line with the requirements of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (2014, updated 2020). If substantial quantities of undiagnostic, residual or modern material are recovered, an on-site recording and discard policy for these classes of find will be agreed.

4.4 Human remains

Should human remains be encountered, the Police and Coroner will be immediately informed. The nature and extent of those remains will be established and recorded, but the remains will be left in situ, with suitable measures in place to ensure their protection during backfilling. Special circumstances may dictate the need to remove human remains if they are thought to be vulnerable to further damage or obstructive to the broader aims of the development works. In such cases, and in agreement with the archaeological advisor to the LPA, the human remains will be archaeologically recorded and removed under conditions that comply with all current legislation. This will include reporting to the relevant authorities, the obtaining of proper licences, and the provision for eventual reburial following appropriate analysis.

All human remains will be excavated by hand in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Excavation and Post-Excavation Treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains: Technical Paper Number 13* (1993).

Excavation of human remains will be subject to further negotiation as a variation to the contract.

4.5 Environmental sampling

The management of environmental recording and sampling will follow the principles and tenets laid down in Historic England's (formerly English Heritage) *Environmental Archaeology: A guide to the theory and practice of Methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation* (2011). All deposits

with a high potential for the preservation of palaeoenvironmental material will be sampled, by column, bulk and other method as appropriate, for possible subsequent analysis, in accordance with a sampling strategy overseen by a specialist with appropriate expertise. Sampling and recording will be the responsibility of an identified member of the field team with relevant experience.

4.6 Reporting

Following a review of the potential of the recovered evidence, a programme of analysis and research will be undertaken, resulting in the preparation of a report on the findings. This will present a synthesis of the fieldwork data, together with contextualising evidence drawn from archaeological and historical sources. The report will include plans, drawings and photographs as appropriate, as well as supporting data as appendices if required.

A PDF version of the report will be supplied to the client.

Where appropriate, short archaeological digest reports will be submitted for publication in relevant regional, national and thematic learned journals. As a minimum, a report will be submitted to the annual publication of the regional CBA group or equivalent journal.

Non-technical reports may also be produced to inform the general public of the archaeological investigations, which could include web resources, posters, leaflets or other media forms.

A digital copy of the report and full archive will be deposited with the National Monuments Record (RCAHMW, Aberystwyth), and a digital copy of the report and archive index will be deposited with the regional Historic Environment Record, in accordance with the *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (Welsh Archaeological Trusts, 2018).

4.7 Archive and finds deposition

An archive of archaeological records relating to the fieldwork will be prepared to the specifications in *The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales* (National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales 2017).

The site archive will be deposited with an appropriate institution, or retained by the landowner, as required, in accordance with the ICON and the National Panel for Archaeological Archives in Wales guidelines (*The National Standard and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales* (2017)), and subject to the agreement of the legal landowner. The National Museum of Wales or Newport Museum will be approached as an appropriate institution.

Any finds, including artefacts and ecofacts, excepting those which may be subject to the laws of *Treasure Act* (1996) and/or *Treasure Order* (DCMS 1996; 2002), will be deposited with the same institution, subject to the agreement of the landowner.

An agreement with an appropriate institution to accept this material will be made on completion of fieldwork and assessment of the nature of the finds recovered.

5 General

5.1 Insurance

The Trust for Welsh Archaeology (Heneb) holds full insurance cover for this type of work including Professional Indemnity and Public Liability cover. Full details of these and other relevant policies can be supplied to the client on request.

5.2 Health and Safety

Heneb, will provide to the client if requested a copy of its Health and Safety statement in accordance with *The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974*. The main contractor should prepare any documentation required by the *Construction Design and Management Regulations 2015*.

Prior to commencement of work, Heneb will carry out a formal Health and Safety Risk Assessment in accordance with *The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1999*. A copy of the risk assessment should be kept on any site office and be available for inspection on request.

In addition to statutory requirements, Heneb follow best practice for Health and Safety in archaeology as defined in the FAME (Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers) *Manual of Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (2010 and as updated).

5.3 General limitations

The work outlined in this specification will be carried out to the highest professional standards, and the conclusions drawn will be based on a considered review of the evidence available. However, the archaeological resource is unpredictable, and the encountering of unexpected archaeological deposits on the site cannot be ruled out. Where examination of such deposits is beyond the scope of the present specification, their investigation and analysis must be agreed by separate negotiation.

Should there need to be a variation to the provisions of the specification, this will be agreed in advance with the client and the relevant Planning Authority (and/or their respective agents).

5.4 Quality control and standards

Heneb will carry out all works in accordance with the following Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' documents for conduct, regulations, and standards and guidance:

- Code of Conduct.
- Regulations for professional conduct.
- Standard and guidance for commissioning work or providing consultancy advice on archaeology and the historic environment.

5.5 Copyright

Heneb shall retain full copyright of any commissioned reports, tender documents or other project documents, under the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988 with all rights reserved; excepting that it hereby provides an exclusive licence to the client for the use of such documents by the client in all matters directly relating to the project as described in the attached specification.

5.6 Arbitration

Any dispute or difference arising out of a contract in relation to this work will be referred for a decision in accordance with the Rules of the Chartered Institute of Arbitrators' *Arbitration Scheme for the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists* applying at the date of the agreement.

6 References

Legislation and technical guidelines

Cadw, 2011, *Conservation Principles for the sustainable management of the historic environment in Wales*.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (McKinley, J, and Roberts, C), 1993, *Excavation and Post-Excavation Treatment of Cremated and Inhumed Human Remains*: Technical Paper Number 13.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (Brickley, M, and McKinley, J), 2004, *Guidelines to the Standards for Recording Human Remains*.

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Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014, revised October 2019, *Code of Conduct*.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014, updated October 2020, *Standard and guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*.

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Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2014, updated October 2020, *Standard and guidance for the creation, compilation, transfer and deposition of archaeological archives*.

Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, 2023, *Universal guidance for archaeological monitoring and recording*

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Department for Culture, Media and Sport, 1996, *The Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice* (2nd Revision).

Department for Culture, Media and Sport, 2002, *Treasure (Designation) Order 2002*.

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7 Figures

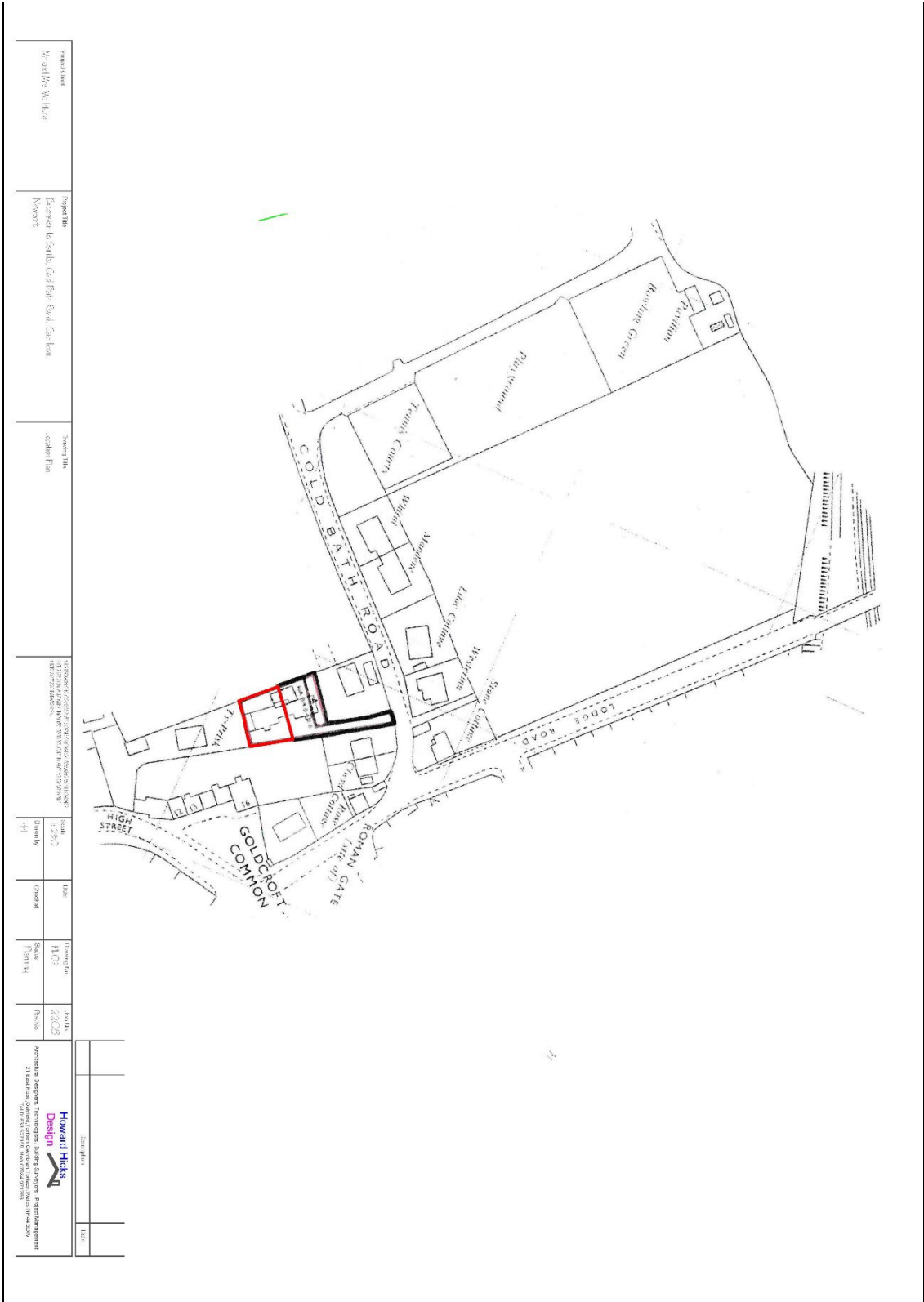
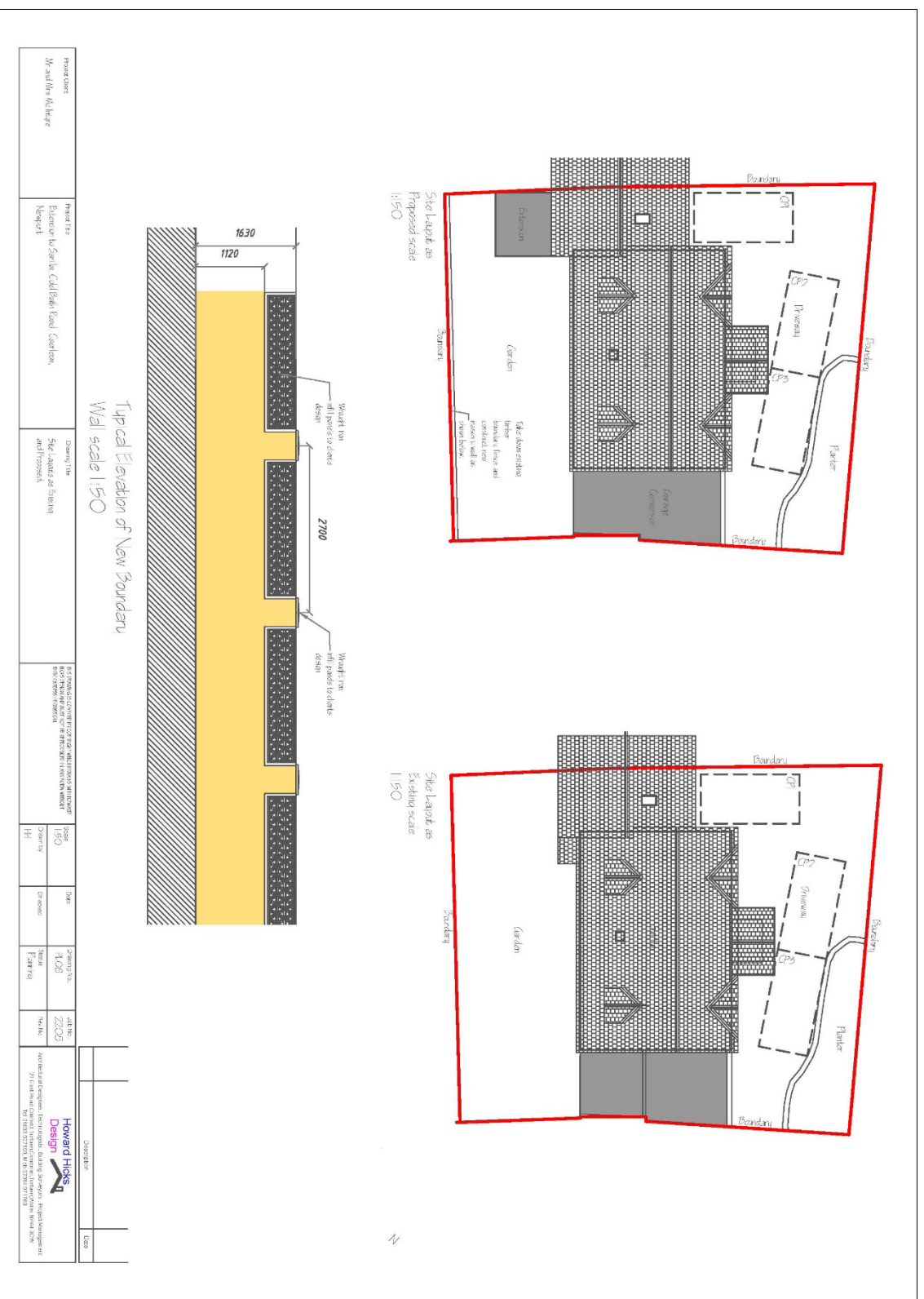


Figure 1. Plan showing location of development (red outline). ©Copyright the client and their agents





Heneb

Heneb: The Trust for Archaeology in Wales Ltd

Registered Office:
Corner House,
6 Carmarthen Street,
Llandeilo,
Carmarthenshire, SA19 6AE

Newport Office:
Beechwood House
Christchurch Road
Newport
NP19 8AJ

www.heneb.org.uk
projects@heneb.org.uk
Newport Office 01633 275440

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