THE CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

Proposed Housing Development at Bayfield, Chepstow, Gwent

ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-TOP STUDY

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by R Hankinson June 1995

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SUMMARY

A desk-top study with combined field visit was carried out on the area of a proposed housing development at Bayfield, to the west of Chepstow in Gwent.

No archaeological sites had been previously identified in the area of the development, although one site (PRN 1161G/SAM Gwent 139), situated approximately 50m to the west of the northern part of the development area, has been accorded statutory protection under ancient monuments legislation.

The study revealed a total of 15 new sites in the development area. With the exception of four flint finds (SITES 5-8) which probably belong to the Neolithic/Bronze Age period, and possibly also the unidentified earthwork (SITE 11) visible on a vertical aerial photograph taken by the RAF in 1946, which may potentially be of medieval date, these new sites are likely to belong to the 19th or 20th centuries.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 On 12th June 1995, Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) Contracting was asked by Nicholas Pearson Associates of Bath to tender for an archaeological desk-top study of the site of a proposed residential development on the edge of Chepstow, Gwent (centred at grid reference ST 522 940 see Fig 1). This study had been specified in a brief prepared by the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust, the archaeological advisors to Monmouth Borough Council.
- 1.2 The CPAT tender was accepted by Nicholas Pearson Associates on the 19th June 1995, and CPAT were commissioned to carry out the work.
- 1.3 The desk-top study and site visit elements of the work, as specified within the GGAT brief were carried out between 21st and 26th of June 1995. This report was written immediately afterwards.

2 Geographical Background

- 2.1 The proposed development is 26.2 hectares in extent and covers an irregularly shaped area centred at ST 522 940, which is bounded on the south by the road from Chepstow to Mounton and the St Lawrence Hospital, on the east by the main A466 road, and on the north by the adjacent forensic laboratory and the B4235. The western boundary is perhaps less well defined, but follows the approximate course of a footpath heading east-north-east from Barnetts Farm, to its junction with the B4235 in the vicinity of the forensic laboratory mentioned above.
- 2.2 The area defined in the previous paragraph varies in elevation from approximately 75m up to a maximum of almost 105m; it is rolling in nature, and occupies the crest and sides of a broad spur which is aligned approximately north/south. The spur is part of a hill of similar elevation which is centred on the northern section of the St Lawrence Hospital site.
- 2.3 The underlying geology of the development site is represented by sandstone and limestone belonging to the Carboniferous period; this is generally overlain by mid to dark reddish brown silty clay (Wilson and Associates 1994). Overlying this clay subsoil are well drained fine loamy soils, shallow in places, of the East Keswick 3 Soil Association (Rudeforth et al 1984).

3 Methodology

- 3.1 Readily available documentary, cartographic and aerial photographic sources were consulted. The detailed references to these sources can be found in Section 9, however, a short synopsis is included here to inform of the repositories accessed.
- 3.2 The Regional Sites and Monuments Record (SMR) holds a record of all known archaeological sites. No sites had been previously recorded in the development area, although sites are located in areas immediately adjacent to its boundary. Where appropriate, these known sites are included in the gazetteer of sites (Section

- 5) where they are identified by their Primary Record Number in the Gwent SMR. Sites which have been recognised as a result of this desk-top study or its associated fieldwork are given a site number in Section 5. Further information on archaeological sites in the area is held by the National Monument Record (NMR) of the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments (RCAHMW), Aberystwyth.
- 3.3 A number of documentary and cartographic sources relating to the area are held by the National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth (NLW) and the Gwent Record Office, Cwmbran. Unfortunately, however, a map of 1773 held by the Gwent Record Office was unavailable for scrutiny. Printed works examined are held by the Printed Books Department of the National Library of Wales and the South Glamorgan Central Library (Local Studies section), Cardiff.
- 3.4 Seven collections of aerial photographs were examined. All of these collections, which date from 1946 to 1991, are held by the Central Register of Air Photography for Wales, at the Welsh Office, Cardiff.
- 3.5 A number of other potential sources of archaeological information relating to the development area were consulted. These include: Chepstow Museum, the Monmouth Archaeological Society, and Mr Carl Lee, a local fieldworker in the Chepstow area.
- 3.6 A site visit designed to complement the desk-top study was carried out. This took the form of a visit to sites identified by the study, which were examined for surviving features. In addition, previously unrecorded sites were prospected for; any extant sites discovered were described, measured, photographed and sketched as appropriate. The field visit was carried out using transect walking techniques, modified to suit the local field pattern. Owing to the open nature of the ground a maximum separation between transects of 50m was adopted. One area of arable ground was encountered, and this was fieldwalked using a similar transect pattern, in an attempt to discover artefact scatters.

4 Archaeological Background

- 4.1 The archaeological background to the area is dealt with by period, and is based on information contained in the archaeological records pertaining to the Chepstow area. Reference has also been made to published works.
- 4.2 The development area appears to have been occupied from at least the prehistoric period. This is suggested by the flint finds discovered during the field visit (see Section 5), although extant archaeological features of this period have not yet been identified in the development area. The Gwent SMR record for the scheduled ancient monument of Bishops Barnetts Wood Camp (PRN 1161G/SAM Gwent 139) attributes a prehistoric date, although this appears to be as yet unconfirmed; the Ordnance Survey record card in the NMR of the Royal Commission suggests a Post-Roman date for the site.
- 4.3 Evidence of Roman activity in the vicinity of Chepstow is provided by a Roman road, mentioned in Bradney (1929), who suggested that

the route passed through Crossway Green in a southward direction, joining the main (A466) road adjacent to the development area, and then following it to the south (The approximate route is marked on Fig 2 of this report). The NMR of the Royal Commission also notes that Roman material has been found during excavations at St Kynemarks Priory (Kingsmark), and in a pit or ditch just outside the medieval town wall at ST 5351 9356.

- 4.4 Post-Roman activity in the vicinity may be suggested by the camp (PRN 1161G/SAM Gwent 139) mentioned in paragraph 4.2, but, as the site appears not to have been conclusively dated at the present time, this cannot be confirmed.
- 4.5 Much evidence of medieval occupation can be found in the area, typified by Chepstow castle, originally built 1067-75, and the medieval town with its defensive wall which was built <u>c.</u>1275. The chapel of St Lawrence, reputedly extant in the 14th century, was located on the opposite side of the A466 road in the immediate vicinity of the development area. The documentary research undertaken suggests that at least a part of the development area belonged to the manor of Mathern, and was therefore owned by the Bishop of Llandaff, during the medieval period; a lease of 1545 refers to land in "the lordship or manor of Matharn and St Lawrence". A survey of Mathern manor dated 1564 refers to "a close or grove called the Barnotts....by indenture or grant from Anthony the late Bishop of Llandaff..." and a second "grove of wood called the Bishopps Barnetts....by indenture and grant of Anthony late Bishop of Llandaff...". In addition, the northern part of the development area is described on the Tithe map (1847) and its apportionment, as held by "John Carter, lessee under the Bishop of Llandaff", although this appears to be contradicted by Bradney (1929) who relates that the property of the see was confiscated and sold in 1648-9. A possible explanation for this confusion may be that the confiscation was selective, but further research, beyond the scope of this report, would be required to resolve the point satisfactorily.
- 4.6 Post-medieval use of the development area was probably agricultural, and is unlikely to have significantly altered from that of the medieval period. A lease of 1754 probably refers to the development area when it describes "pasture grounds called the nine acres lying in the homage of St Lawrence and lordship of Mathern, bounded by Bishops Barnetts on the west....". Following the leases mentioned above, some retreat of the woodland mentioned in the previous paragraph may well have taken place as a result of land improvement; when this occurred is difficult to quantify with any certainty, although the 1812 Ordnance Surveyors drawing does appear to show woodland intruding into the development area.
- 4.7 Cartographic sources dating from the later 18th century are available for the development area. These sources, in particular the Tithe map of 1847, suggest that the entire development area at that time was used for agriculture. Throughout the period for which documentary evidence exists, Bayfield appears to be the only house located within the development area, it is first depicted on the first edition Ordnance Survey 1:10,560 map, surveyed in 1880.
- 4.8 Modern land use of the development area appears to have changed very little from that of the medieval and post-medieval periods, and is typified by a mixture of arable and pastoral agriculture.

- 5 Gazetteer of Archaeological Sites (See Fig 2)
- 5.1 The archaeological sites listed below are those which are either in close proximity to, or within, the development area. It should be noted that the site locations given below may not precisely agree with information already held in the archaeological records relating to the area; an attempt has been made to ensure that the site locations are accurate, in so far as this is possible.
- 5.2 Following the location and descriptive data for each site is a highlighted category designation; the categories assigned are described below. It should be noted that those sites which can be found in the archaeological records pertaining to the locality are not situated within the development area, mitigation measures, if required, are considered in Section 6 of this report.
- Category A Sites designated as being of national importance which meet the criteria for scheduling or listing. It is presumed that sites in this category will be preserved and protected in situ.
- Category B Sites of regional or county importance which do not meet the criteria for scheduling or listing, but which are nevertheless of particular importance within the region. Preservation in situ is the preferred option for these sites, but if loss or damage is unavoidable, appropriate detailed recording will be undertaken.
- Category C Sites of district or local importance which are not of sufficient importance to justify preservation if threatened, but which merit adequate recording in advance of loss or damage.
- Category D Sites for which the rapid recording provided by the desktop study and associated walkover survey is considered to have been sufficient.
- Category E Sites whose importance could not be fully determined from the desk-top assessment and associated field search.

PRN 1161G/SAM Gwent 139 Bishops Barnetts Wood Camp (ST 5195 9419)

A scheduled hill-slope enclosure, roughly circular, of $\underline{c.45m}$ diameter. The enclosure is defined by a ditch with an inner bank $\underline{c.10m}$ wide in total, there is possibly also a less-well defined outer bank, but this was not examined in detail. Some doubt as to what period the site belongs is apparent; the Gwent SMR gives a Prehistoric date, while the Ordnance Survey record card suggests that it is Post Roman in origin.

This site, as defined by the scheduled area, is located approximately 50m outside the boundary of development area in an area of dense woodland. Category A

PRN 1162G "Pin Well" (ST 5216 9424)

The former site of a wishing or healing well, now lost due to either, the construction of a reservoir (in <u>c.</u>1971) or the building of the forensic laboratory to the north of the development area. Aerial photographs suggest that a leat or track

led from the well in a northward direction. The apportionment to the Tithe map of 1847 gives the name of two fields here as "Upper Cothern Well" and "Lower Cothern Well", undoubtedly referring to the well itself. The origin of the well is not known, but it may be related to the medieval priory of St Kynemarks (Kingsmark), located some 400m to the east.

The well is included here mainly due to the assertion in both the project brief and subsequent specification that it is located within the development area; this does not appear to be the case. Category $\bf D$

PRN 1165G Site of St Lawrence's Chapel (ST 5241 9400)

The site of this former chapel was not examined as it lies on the eastern side of the main A466 road, which defines the eastern boundary of the development area. It was apparently extant in the 14th century, and certainly in 1656 when it was referred to in a lease, but the date of its foundation is not known. The location is probably reasonably accurate; its site is depicted on the first edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, surveyed in 1880 and described in Coxe (1801), who relates: "St Laurence's Chapel....which stood.....at the west end of a field called the Upper Dean, can only be traced from the foundations". Upper Dean is named in the apportionment to the 1847 Tithe map. The size of the chapel the first edition Ordnance Survey map approximately 12m east-north-east/west-south-west X north-north-west/south-south-east. Category B

Roman Road 6d (ST 5241 9393)

A Roman road from Monmouth to Chepstow is reported in Margary (1973), which reputedly followed the modern A466 southward from the racecourse. A Roman road on this approximate line is also reported by Bradney (1929). There appears to be no conclusive evidence of this alignment at the present time. Category C

SITE 1 Boundary marker (ST 5217 9401)

A rectangular stone slab with a curved top, 0.78m high x 0.45m wide x 0.10m thick. It is now lying against a metal water trough and has evidently been removed from its original location, perhaps this was the stone marked at ST 5203 9428 on the second edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, revised in 1900. An inscription on one side reads: C

W W

The stone is probably of later 19th century date, although this has not been confirmed. Category ${\bf D}$

SITE 2 Field Barn (ST 5202 9380)

A ruinous building situated in the south-eastern corner of the field to the north of Bayfield Cottage. It measures 8.1m north/south x 8.1m east/west x $\underline{\text{c.}}3\text{m}$ high, and has an internal dividing wall aligned east/west. The walls are mostly stone built, but some brick is evident in the construction; the roof appears to have been tiled and aligned east/west.

The building is not depicted on the Tithe map of 1847 and first appears on the second edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, revised in 1900. A linking track suggests that it was associated with Bayfield Cottage. Category ${\bf C}$

SITE 3 Bayfield Cottage (ST 5195 9374)

An inhabited house of two storeys, with a rectangular plan, measuring approximately 14m east/west x 8m north/south x 5m high. The house is pebble-dashed, but appears to be mostly of stone construction, with brick chimneys and a tiled roof. A range of outbuildings extend from the eastern end of the house.

The house is first depicted on the First edition Ordnance Survey 1:10560 map, surveyed in 1880, which suggests a later 19th century date for its construction. Long rectangular structures depicted to the east of the house on the second and third edition Ordnance Survey maps, revised 1900 and 1919-20, could represent greenhouses or similar structures, suggestive of horticultural use. Category C

SITE 4 Building (ST 5203 9377)

A building depicted on the first edition Ordnance Survey 1:10560 map, surveyed in 1880. Its location may be represented by a short stretch of walling in the north-eastern corner of the gardens belonging to Bayfield Cottage, to which it appears to be associated, but this is difficult to determine. It appears to have been demolished by 1900, when the revised survey for the second edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map was carried out. It may have been used as a field barn prior to the construction of SITE 2. Category E

SITE 5 Flint flake (ST 5205 9374)

A well-patinated flint flake found during project fieldwork in an arable field. Category ${\bf D}$

SITE 6 Flint flake (ST 5197 9361)

A flint flake fragment found during project fieldwork in an arable field. Cortex remaining on its convex side, bulb remains, traces of lateral utilisation/retouch. Of Neolithic/Bronze Age date. Category $\bf D$

SITE 7 Flint flake (ST 5213 9373)

A patinated flint flake found during project fieldwork in an arable field. Bulb and striking platform intact, retouch on dorsal extending to distal end and both sides. Scraper of Neolithic/Bronze Age date.

SITE 8 Flint (ST 5222 9378)

A flint chunk found during project fieldwork in an arable field. Category D

SITE 9 Hollow (ST 5230 9386)

This triangular shaped hollow, measuring approximately 40m east/west x 30m north/south x 3m deep (maximum), has been investigated by the geotechnical survey of the development area. The hollow is strongly suggestive of a former marl pit; the excavated material would have been spread on the land to improve its fertility, a common former agricultural practice. Trial pit 9 of the geotechnical survey, which was excavated in the downslope lip of the hollow, discovered material said to bear a passing resemblance to Keuper Marl, this appears to be supportive of the hypothesis discussed above.

The use of marl pits has been documented from the 13th century, and became commonplace during the 18th century; it was generally abandoned as an agricultural practice at the end of the 19th century (Rackham 1986). It seems likely that this hollow was initially excavated following the felling of woodland to make way for agriculture, which may have occurred as late as the early 19th century, but more probably belongs to the post-medieval period. Category D

SITE 10 Building (ST 5238 9397)

A timber framed building, measuring approximately 8m east/west x 6m north/south x 3m high, clad with corrugated iron sheeting. A brick fireplace and chimney are located at the eastern end of the building, which has two windows on its northern side and three separate entrances.

The building is of late construction, and is first depicted on the third edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, revised in 1918 and 1920, giving an early 20th century date for its construction. The function which it served is somewhat enigmatic, although its appearance suggests that it may have been used as a clubhouse for an unidentified sporting pursuit.

Category D

SITE 11 Earthwork (ST 5234 9796)

An earthwork visible on a vertical aerial photograph taken by the RAF on 4/11/1946, measuring approximately 50m east/west x 40m north/south, and of a gridded pattern. There is little evidence of

the feature on a subsequent aerial photograph of 19/5/1947, which suggests that it had been levelled in the intervening period.

Identification of the earthwork by readily accessible documentary sources has proved impossible; hypothetical explanations include tennis courts associated with the putative clubhouse (SITE 10), or earthworks related to St Lawrence's Chapel (PRN 1165G), sited $\underline{c.50m}$ to the east. Category E

SITE 12 Clay pit ? (ST 5237 9402)

A water filled pit depicted on the first edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, surveyed in 1880, measuring \underline{c} .18m north/south x 12m east/west. It appears to have still been extant in 1918-20 when the revisions for the third edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map were carried out. The feature was investigated by a trial pit (No 4) during the geotechnical survey for the site; this revealed fills of clay and rubble to a depth of 3.1m below ground level, at which point natural clay and mudstone were reached.

It seems likely that the pit was excavated to provide a source of clay, perhaps for use in building construction. This may have been as daub for timber structures during the medieval or post-medieval periods, or for use in local brick manufacture. Category $\bf D$

SITE 13 Pond (ST 5232 9413)

A small water-filled hollow first depicted on the second edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, revised in 1900. Its location at the junction of three fields extant at that time suggests either a use for marling or perhaps as a source of water for stock. The hollow was investigated by a trial pit (No 16) during the geotechnical survey of the development area, but the evidence provided by the excavation was inconclusive. The site would appear to be of only minor interest.

Category D

SITE 14 Structure ? (ST 5191 9357)

An unidentified feature which appears on the first two large scale Ordnance Survey map editions, surveyed in 1880, revised 1900. It is rectangular in shape and measures approximately 14m north/south x 3.5m east/west. It cut a field boundary being situated equally within the two adjacent fields. It is no longer extant. Category E

SITE 15 Building (ST 5212 9351)

A rectangular building depicted only on the second edition Ordnance Survey 1:2500 map, surveyed in 1900, which measured approximately 8m north-east/south-west x 6m north-west/south-east. It was perhaps used as a field barn; no trace of its structure was recognised during the field visit. Category $\bf D$

6 Recommended Mitigation

6.1 Recommendations for the further management of the archaeological resource within the development area are considered below (grid references for the sites are given in Section 5). In general these recommendations relate to identified archaeological sites, but it should be noted that the area does have a potential for further archaeological sites, without surface traces, which have not been identified by this study. Provision should be made for the area to be visited on an intermittent basis during the progress of the development to ensure that these potential sites may be recognised and recorded.

PRN 1165G/SAM Gwent 139

The development plan provided by Nicholas Pearson Associates suggests that the nearest development zone to the scheduled area of this site will by 100m distant. This should prove sufficient to ensure that no associated deposits are disturbed.

PRN 1162G

This site was located outside the development area, no mitigation is therefore required.

PRN 1165G

This site was located outside the development area, and no specific mitigation is required. However, SITE 11 may have been associated, the mitigation for which is considered below.

Roman Road 6d

No traces of this site have been recognised in the development area; the site visits during development (recommended in paragraph 6.1, above) should be sufficient to ensure that it is recognised and recorded if it originally crossed the development area.

SITE 1

It would be unfortunate if this boundary stone was lost during the progress of the development, perhaps it could be retained and used as a feature, if a suitable location can be agreed.

SITE 2

A rapid structural survey of the building, prior to its demolition, should be implemented.

SITE 3

Owing to its probable later 19th century date, preservation of the house, although perhaps preferable, is not a likely option. A more acceptable response may be to initiate a structural survey in an attempt to determine whether the house contains any features of architectural importance, prior to its proposed demolition. If any such features are discovered then appropriate further mitigation should be considered.

SITE 4

This former building may well be contemporary with Bayfield Cottage (SITE 3). A trial trench at this location may provide information on its structure and possible dating.

SITES 5-8

These flint finds were discovered using widely spaced fieldwalking transects, resultant from the limited time available; accordingly, a further programme of fielwalking to determine whether the flints discovered form part of a wider artefact scatter should be carried out, at a time appropriate to the agricultural management of the land; contact should be maintained with the farmer to facilitate this. The results of the further fieldwalking may possibly suggest that further work is required, but this cannot be quantified at this stage.

SITE 9

The combination of desk-top study and associated walkover survey appear to have provide sufficient information to elucidate the nature of this site. No further mitigation would seem to be required.

SITE 10

This site is of minor interest only, further work seems unnecessary.

SITE 11

Further archaeological input to determine the nature and possible dating of these former earthworks is required. This should take the form of trial trenching at the given location. The precise methods used will be dependent on the input archaeological advisors; two machine cut trenches at right-angles, each approximately 30m in length, may prove acceptable.

SITE 12

The combination of desk-top study and associated walkover survey appear to have provide sufficient information to elucidate the nature of this site. No further mitigation would seem to be required.

SITE 13

This site is of minor interest only, further work seems unnecessary.

SITE 14

Owing to the uncertainty regarding the nature of this site, it may be preferable for archaeological trial trenching to be carried out. A single machine cut trench, aligned with the hedgerow between the two fields should be sufficient to determine whether any traces of the site remain.

SITE 15

Owing to its relatively recent date no further work on this former building seems necessary.

7 Conclusions

- 7.1 The overall archaeological implications of the proposed development, as presently envisaged, appear to be relatively limited. However, the mitigation measures suggested in Section 6 will need to be carried out before this can be confirmed.
- 7.2 Owing to the amount of ground disturbance likely to result from landscaping work, and the possibility of sites in the development area remaining undiscovered, it would be preferable for archaeological site visits to occur at intervals during the construction phase of the development.

8 Acknowledgements

8.1 The writer would like to thank the following organisations and individuals for their help and assistance during the course of the project:

The Curatorial Section of the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust Ltd, Swansea.

The National Monument Record, Royal Commission on Ancient and Historic Monuments in Wales, Aberystwyth.

The National Library of Wales, Aberystwyth.

The Gwent Record Office, Cwmbran.

The Central Register of Air Photography for Wales, Welsh Office, Cardiff.

South Glamorgan Central Library (Local Studies Dept), Cardiff.

Local landowners, in particular Mr Jones and Mr B. Connell.

Mr Steve Clark of Monmouth Archaeological Society.

Anne Rainsbury of Chepstow Museum.

Mr Carl Lee of Chepstow.

9 Sources

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Waters I., 1975, The Town of Chepstow 8: St Kingsmark Ward, The Chepstow Society.

Wilson E.J., and Associates, 1994, Proposed Residential Development at H2Cl, Bayfield, Chepstow - Report No 2 on Site Investigation for Westbury Homes (Holdings) Ltd, (Geotechnical Report).

9.2 <u>Documentary Sources</u>

1271 Tredegar Park Muniments - XI No 254 (National Library of Wales)

1545 Tredegar Park Muniments - VIII No 112/5 (National Library of Wales)

1564 D.43.5383 (Gwent Record Office)

1634-5 Tredegar Park Muniments - II No 10/1 (National Library of Wales)

1656 D.501.57 (Gwent Record Office)

1673 Warren Jane Deeds - I No 13 (National Library of Wales)

1674 D.501.777 (Gwent Record Office)

1754 D.501.312 (Gwent Record Office)

1774 D.501.68/9 (Gwent Record Office)

9.3 Cartographic Sources

1773 "Rough Map of an Estate in St Lawrence..." - D.396.413 (Gwent Record Office) NOT AVAILABLE FOR SCRUTINY AT TIME OF VISIT

1812 Ordnance Surveyors Drawing (1:31680)

1847 Tithe map and Apportionment, St Arvans Parish.

1880 (surveyed) Ordnance Survey 1st edition Monmouth 26.13 (1:2500)

1880 (surveyed) Ordnance Survey 1st edition Monmouth 31 NW (1:10560)
1900 (revised) Ordnance Survey 2nd edition Monmouth 26.13 (1:2500)
1900 (revised) Ordnance Survey 2nd edition Monmouth 31.1 (1:2500)
1918/20 (revised) Ordnance Survey 3rd edition Monmouth 26.13 (1:2500)
1919/20 (revised) Ordnance Survey 3rd edition Monmouth 31.1 (1:2500)

9.4 Aerial Photographic Sources

RAF/CPE/UK/1828 4007-8, Taken 4/11/1946 at 1:9840
RAF/CPE/UK/2081 3471-3, Taken 19/5/1947 at 1:9800
58/RAF/676 3091-2, Taken 12/5/1951 at 1:10000
39/RAF/3764 0109-10, Taken 7/9/1971 at 1:13000
Ordnance Survey 66-43 062, Taken 30/4/1966 at 1:7500
BKS Surveys 2148 088-9, Taken 1971/72 at 1:12000
Geonex 6091 052-3, Taken 4/8/1991

Appendix 1

Site Archive for Desk-top Study

Black and White photographs - 6

Colour Slide photographs - 5

Site Record forms - 10

Flint finds - 4

All the above material is presently held by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust.

Annex 1

RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT AT BAYFIELD, CHEPSTOW, GWENT

SPECIFICATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESK-TOP ASSESSMENT BY CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

1 Introduction

- 1.1 The proposed development of a block of land at Bayfield, west of Chepstow (ST522940) involves the construction of a residential development covering approx. 26.2 Ha of land.
- 1.2 This area lies adjacent to St Lawrence hospital and is currently agricultural land enclosed by a number of hedges. Pin Well (ST52219427) lies within the development area and the site of St Lawrence's Chapel and the scheduled Ancient Monument of Bishop Barnet's Wood Camp lied in close proximity.
- 1.3 The Curatorial section of the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust in their capacity as archaeological curators for the county have determined that an Archaeological Desk-top assessment is necessary to assess the implications of the proposed development on the archaeological resource. Accordingly a brief has been prepared by GGAT Curatorial Section (copy of which was sent to CPAT Contracts Section by the developers) which describes the scheme of archaeological works required.

2 Objectives

- 2.1 The objectives of the evaluation are:
- 2.1.1 to reveal by desk-based assessment, the nature, condition, significance and, where possible, the chronology of the archaeology within the area of the proposed development in so far as these aims are possible;
- 2.1.2 to prepare a report outlining the results of the assessment, to identify areas where desk-top assessment alone cannot provide sufficient information and make recommendations for furher work or mitigatory measures;
- 2.1.3 to incorporate sufficient information on the archaeological resource for a reasonable planning decision to be taken regarding the archaeological provision for the area affected by the proposed development:
- **2.1.4** to identify and recommendations options for the management of the archaeological resource, including any further provision for that resource where it is considered necessary.

3 Methods

3.1 The assessment will be carried out acording to the guidelines in the *IFA Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Studies* and will involve the examination of all the readily available primary and secondary records relating to this part of the town, including documentary and cartographic sources. Archives and repositories will include the County Sites and Monuments Record, the County Record Office, The National Library of Wales, the National Monuments Record held at the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical

Monuments (Wales) at Aberystwyth. Borehole and test-pit data will be requested from the developers where appropriate.

- 3.2 The assessment will be supported by a field visit to determine the state of the identified archaeology and the presence of other sites not identified from the documentary sources and to make a photographic record of the area.
- 3.3 Following the on-site work an illustrated and bound report will be prepared according to the principles laid out in the Evaluation Brief (section 6). This will be in A4 format and contain conventional sections on: Site location, Topography and Geology; Historic Background; CAtalogue of sites identified with notes on their condition and significance, Conclusions and Recommendations and References, together with appropriate appendices on archives and finds.
- 3.5 The site archive will be prepared to specifications laid out in Appendix 3 in the <u>Management of Archaeological Projects</u> (English Heritage, 1991).

4 Resources and Programming

- **4.1** The assessment will be undertaken by a skilled and experienced archaeologist who will also be responsible for undertaking the desk-based assessment. Overall supervision will be by Dr A Gibson, a senior member of CPAT's staff who is also a member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists.
- **4.2** All report preparation will be completed by the same field archaeologist who conducted the assessment.
- **4.3** It is anticipated that the assessment and evaluation will take no more than ten days in all and that the subsequent report would be prepared immediately thereafter, dependent on the client's instructions and the arrangement of a suitable timetable. The date of commencement, at the time of writing, has yet to be agreed with the client, and will be dependent on the state of the site and negotiated access. The archaeological curator will be informed of the detailed timetable and staffing levels when agreement has been reached with the client.
- **4.4** Requirements relating to Health and Safety regulations will be adhered to by CPAT and its staff.
- 4.5 CPAT is covered by appropriate Public and Employer's Liability insurance.

A.M. Gibson 14th June 1995



