# THE CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

# Proposed Redevelopment of the Village Workshops, Caersws, Powys

**ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION** 



# Proposed Redevelopment of the Village Workshops, Caersws, Powys

R Hankinson September 2004

Report for Powys County Council

The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust 7a Church Street, Welshpool, Powys, SY21 7DL tel (01938) 553670, fax (01938) 552179 © CPAT

# **CPAT Report Record**

#### **Report and status**

CPAT Report Title	Proposed Redevelopment of the Village Workshops, Caersws, Powys: Archaeological Evaluation				
CPAT Project Name	Caersws Workshops				
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The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust 7a Church Street Welshpool Powys SY21 7DL tel (01938) 553670, fax 552179 © CPAT

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#### 1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 In June 2004 the Contracts Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) was invited by Powys County Council to provide a quotation for undertaking an archaeological evaluation on the Village Workshops site at Caersws, Powys. The area of the evaluation lies immediately to the south of the Caersws II Roman Fort, but has not been designated as a scheduled ancient monument. The evaluation had been recommended by Mr M Walters of the Curatorial Section of CPAT, acting as the archaeological curator, and is subject to a brief (CPAT EVB 545) prepared by Mr Walters.
- 1.2 The CPAT specification for the work was approved by Mr Walters and the quotation accepted by Powys County Council in July 2004. The position and extent of the evaluation trenches was agreed on site prior to the commencement of the evaluation, which was carried out during August 2004, with this report being compiled immediately thereafter.

#### 2 LOCATION, TOPOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY

- 2.1 The existing Village Workshops are located close to the centre of Caersws (at NGR SO 03039189), immediately to the south-east of the B4569 Caersws-Llanidloes road, between its junction with the main A470 Trunk road and a level crossing where it meets the Central Wales railway line (Fig. 1). The workshops occupy the former village primary school and its grounds, with the evaluation being undertaken in the tarmac surfaced areas to the north and south-east of the main building (Fig. 2).
- 2.2 Caersws lies on the valley floor of the River Severn, at the confluence of the river with its tributary streams of Afon Carno and Afon Cerist/Trannon. The area is relatively level and low-lying, varying in elevation between 120m OD to 125m OD.
- 2.3 The solid geology of the area consists of mudstones and siltstones belonging to the Telychian phase of the Llandovery Series of rocks, the earliest division of the Silurian era (1994 British Geological Survey map), although these rocks are locally overlain by fluvio-glacial silts and gravels of the Pleistocene era. The soils in the immediate area of the evaluation consist of fine loamy soils over gravel belonging to the Rheidol Association (1983 Soil Survey of England and Wales map).

#### 3 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Caersws occupies a focal point in the system of Roman forts, controlling access to and from central Wales. As part of the early Roman campaigns a large auxiliary fort, Caersws I, was founded before AD 70 in a strongly defended position on a spur overlooking the River Severn, to the north-east of the present village. This fort was relatively short-lived and was replaced by a more permanent fort, Caersws II, during the 70s AD, which was situated on the flood plain near the confluence of the Severn and Carno. Caersws II has been the subject of a series of excavations, the results from which have suggested that the main phase of activity lasted until the late 2nd century AD and that by the early 3rd century the military tenure was effectively at an end, although some form of activity continued into the early 4th century (Jones 1993, 87).
- 3.2 A civilian settlement, or vicus, developed in association with Caersws II fort, and evidence from various excavations, geophysical survey and aerial reconnaissance suggests that it may have covered an area of at least 7ha on the south and east side of the fort (Fig. 1). Excavations just outside the south gate of the fort in 1985-6 (Britnell 1989) identified part of a flourishing commercial centre, revealing timber buildings and associated finds suggesting a possible tavern, shops and metal working workshops (Fig. 1, 10). This commercial activity appears to have continued until the 130s AD, its decline possibly being associated with a withdrawal of troops to the northern frontier, as elsewhere in Wales (Jones 1993, 88).
- 3.3 The present excavations are located within 50m of the south gate of the fort, close to the area excavated in 1985-6. Although the area itself had not previously been the subject of

archaeological excavation, its proximity to the fort and the intense occupation revealed in 1985-6 indicated that this was likely to be one of the prime locations within the *vicus*.

#### 4 EVALUATION (Figs 1-5)

- 4.1 On-site discussions with the Curator concerning the number, size and location of the evaluation trenches, resulted in the work comprising a total of four 1.5m-wide trenches (A-D, see Fig. 2). Since much of the site is occupied by the existing workshops, the trenches were positioned within the accessible portions of the ground adjoining these buildings. The evaluation was intended to be essentially non-destructive, with the aim being primarily to identify the depth at which Roman deposits were first encountered, and assess their condition and likely significance in order to inform the management of the archaeological resource within the framework of any future planning application.
- 4.2 The modern and post-medieval overburden in each trench was removed by machine under close archaeological supervision, with all subsequent cleaning onto the top of the Roman deposits being carried out by hand. The interpretation of the archaeological deposits at the base of each trench can only be provisional as these deposits were not investigated in detail (see para 4.1). The numbers in brackets in the following text refer to contexts given to those features and layers which were identified during the excavation. A drawn, written and photographic record was maintained throughout (see Appendix 2).

#### Trench A (17.7m x 1.5m; Fig. 3)

- 4.3 Trench A was positioned to include the projected outer portion of the fort ditches, together with any Roman deposits which adjoined them to the south.
- 4.4 The excavation revealed the uppermost of the post-abandonment fort ditch fills, consisting of a deposit of grey-brown clay silt (7), which contained some eroded Roman material and occupied the northern half of the trench. A layer of slightly yellowish-brown stony clay (10) lay immediately to the south of layer 7, with its upper surface dipping to the north, possibly representing an earlier ditch fill or a layer immediately adjoining the outer ditch.
- 4.5 On the south side of the fort ditch deposits, a series of Roman deposits were identified, seemingly representing successive phases of occupation. A layer of yellow clay with gritty patches (13) lay immediately to the south of layer 10, and was notable for the series of four grooves in its upper surface, which may represent plough damage. To the south of layer 13, and overlying it, was a slightly yellowish-brown clay (14) which contained Roman pottery and had charcoal-rich patches. Above and to the south of layer 14, was a mixed deposit of brownish stony silt, yellow clay and yellow-grey clay (15), which appeared to represent a dump of material and may have included small areas of metalling. Layer 15 was found to have been cut by an oval pit (16), measuring 1.8m north-west/south-east by 0.6m, filled by orange-brown stony clay silt (17) containing a large amount of charcoal. On the south side of layer 15 were two successively later deposits, comprising a mixed orange-grey clay (19) with charcoal and Roman finds, overlain by orangey-brown gritty gravel (20). An area of mixed yellow and brown stony clay (18), on the east side of the trench, overlay layers 15 and 19.
- 4.6 The remaining deposits in the trench consisted of material of more recent origin. The Roman deposits were overlain by a layer of mid grey-brown clay silt (4), 0.3m to 0.45m thick, which contained finds of post-medieval to 19th-century date and seemed to represent a former ploughsoil. Layer 4 was overlain by a banded grey to grey-brown gravel deposit, 0.2m to 0.3m thick which included some 19th-century brick. The uppermost layers in the trench consisted of angular broken stone in a pale grey-brown gritty silt matrix (2), which was 0.1m thick and formed the hardcore base for a layer of tarmac (1), up to 0.15m thick.
- 4.7 Layers 3 and 4 were cut by a total of three linear features, running approximately northeast/south-west, all of which were sealed by layers 1 and 2. The linear feature at the north end of the trench comprised the cut trench (5), 0.5m wide, in which a glazed cermaic drainage pipe had been laid and covered with excavated material. A further linear cut (8), 0.3m wide, crossed the central part of the trench, in which a lead water pipe had been laid prior to backfilling with excavated material. The remaining linear feature lay immediately to the south of the trench

with the lead water pipe and consisted of the cut trench (12), 0.3m wide, for a second glazed ceramic drainage pipe.

4.8 The probable Roman deposits in this trench occurred at a depth of between 0.8m and 1.0m. The deposits in the south half of the trench appeared to have been truncated by subsequent ploughing activity.

Trench B (8.9m x 1.5m; Fig. 4)

- 4.9 The excavation revealed a series of Roman deposits. At the west-south-west end of the trench was a layer of pale yellow clay (64) with some charcoal flecks, which seemed to be the earliest of the Roman layers revealed. To the east of layer 64, and overlying it, was an apparently dumped layer of mixed brown clay (61) containing lumps of slag, daub and Roman finds. Layer 61 extended to the approximate centre of the trench where it was overlain by a layer of mottled pale yellow to greenish-grey clay (60), containing daub, charcoal and Roman finds.
- 4.10 Layer 60 occupied the east-north-east half of the trench, but appeared to have been truncated as patches of the underlying layer of mixed pale greenish-grey clay and brown silty clay (62) showed through its surface. Layer 62 also underlay layer 61, but was found to overlie a layer of brown silty clay (63) with charcoal, although this was only exposed for a small area at the centre of the trench and in a modern post-hole (59, see para 4.12), and there is some doubt regarding the exact nature and sequence of these deposits.
- 4.11 The layers described above represented Roman activity in this trench, while the remaining deposits consisted of material of more recent origin. The layer immediately overlying the Roman deposits was grey-brown clay silt (55), up to 0.3m thick, which probably represents a post-medieval to 19th-century ploughsoil, as was encountered in Trench A. Layer 55 was found to have been cut by a linear gully (57), running approximately north-west/south-east and measuring 0.7m wide by 0.3m deep. The gully was filled with loose dark grey silt (58) and apparently had a basal deposit of pale yellowish-grey clay (67). Layer 55 was overlain by firm brown clay (54), 0.1m thick, which contained coal fragments suggestive of a later 19th-century origin.
- 4.12 Two relatively modern post-holes (59 & 66) of squared shape were revealed within or near the northern section of the trench, having been cut through layer 54 and the layers beneath. Post-hole 59 was excavated where it met the trench section, showing that it was 0.7m wide by 0.6m deep and revealing some evidence regarding the Roman deposits through which it had been cut (see above). The base of the post-hole co-incided with the upper surface of layer 64 at the centre of the trench. Layer 54 and the post-holes that had been cut through it were sealed by a layer of grey-brown gravel (53) with brick fragments which formed the base on which a layer of tarmac (1), 0.1m thick, had been laid.
- 4.13 The probable Roman deposits in this trench occurred at a depth of between 0.7m and 0.8m. All of the deposits in the trench appeared to have been truncated by subsequent ploughing activity.

#### Trench C (12.1m x 1.5m; Fig. 5)

- 4.14 The excavation revealed a series of Roman layers and features. At the north-north-west end of the trench, and seemingly the earliest of the layers encountered, was a compact layer of generally rounded stones (51), overlain by a layer of dark grey-brown clay silt (52) with charcoal fragments. To the south-south-east of layer 52, and overlying it, was a layer of greenish-grey gritty silt (30). A total of four probable post-holes (32, 34, 36 & 49) had been cut into layer 30; although three of these may have had a sub-square plan, it was uncertain whether they were related to each other. The angle of a probable sill-beam slot (38), filled with orangey-yellow clay (37), formed the southern edge of layer 30, potentially representing the position of part of a timber building of Roman date.
- 4.15 Two layers abutted the south-south-east side of the sill-beam slot, namely a greenish-grey gritty silt (39), very similar to layer 30, and a grey-brown clay silt (42) containing Roman finds, charcoal and burnt clay. The relationship between layers 39 and 42 was not investigated, but a small oval post-hole (41) was recorded at the junction between them. To the south of layer 42, a further layer of greenish-grey gritty silt (43) was encountered, which contained Roman finds.

The layer had been cut by a relatively modern drainage pipe trench (26, see also para 4.17) and abutted a further probable sill-beam slot (45), which ran in an east-north-east/west-south-west direction. The slot was 0.4m wide and contained mixed yellowish-brown clay and brown gritty silt (44). A layer of brown stony clay silt (46) abutted the south-south-east side of slot 45, and had been cut by a potentially oval or circular post-hole (48), filled with charcoal-rich dark grey-brown clay silt (47).

- 4.16 The Roman layers described above were overlain by a layer of brown clay silt (25), up to 0.5m thick, which probably represents a post-medieval to 19th-century ploughsoil, as was encountered in trenches A and B. At the north-north-west end of the trench the ploughsoil was overlain by fine grey-brown gravel (22), while at the south-south-east end of the trench it was overlain by a layer of lime mortar (29), less than 0.05m thick, and a succeeding layer of midbrown gravelly clay silt (28), which was up to 0.25m thick and contained 19th-century brick fragments. Layers 28 and 29 probably represent building demolition rubble.
- 4.17 A trench (26), 0.5m wide and containing a glazed ceramic drainage pipe, had been cut through layer 25, into layer 43. Two small-bore iron pipes also ran across the trench, the northern being located in a gully (23) cut into layer 22, while the remaining pipe formed part of layer 28. Layers 22, 25 and 28 were overlain by the uppermost layers in the trench, consisting of angular broken stone in a pale grey-brown gritty silt matrix (2), which was of maximum thickness 0.15m but faded out to the south, and the surface layer of tarmac (1), up to 0.1m thick.
- 4.18 The probable Roman deposits in this trench occurred at a depth of between 0.7m and 0.8m. Some or all of the deposits in the trench appeared to have been truncated by subsequent ploughing activity.

Trench D (12.1m x 2.3m; Fig. 6)

- 4.19 Although the overall width of the trench was 2.3m, only 1.5m of this was excavated by machine down to the percieved Roman occupation levels. This was as a result of the discovery of an active drainage pipe (68, within pipe trench 69) taking rainwater from the existing workshop buildings in the direction of Station Road; the pipe was left in-situ.
- 4.20 The excavations revealed an apparently metalled stone surface (78) in the southern part of the trench. This was overlain by a layer of greyish-brown redeposited clay silt (77), approximately 0.1m thick, part of which was removed to determine the sequence of deposits. A single posthole (80), which was cut into layer 78, had been sealed beneath layer 77. Two pits (82 & 84) had been cut into layer 77, both of which were filled with grey-brown silt (83 & 85, respectively). Roman finds were recovered from the top of fill 85.
- 4.21 The probable Roman layers (77 & 78), described above, were overlain by a layer of grey-brown clay silt (73), up to 0.3m thick, which probably represents a post-medieval ploughsoil. In places layer 77 had been truncated or lost and layer 73 lay directly on layer 78. A pit (74) had been cut through layers 73, 77 and 78, revealing at its base a layer of mixed yellowish-brown clay (79) containing charcoal. Layer 79 lay beneath layer 78 and proved to be at least 0.3m in thickness. Three successive fills (86, 76 & 75) of pit 74 were identified, the lowest of which (86) contained 19th to 20th century pottery.
- 4.22 A layer of river gravel overlay layer 73 at the south-south-east end of the trench, itself beneath a second layer of gravel (71), up to 0.25m thick, but with a smaller particle size. The surface layer consisted of a 0.05m thick layer of tarmac (70).
- 4.23 The probable Roman deposits in this trench were first encountered at a depth of between 0.5m and 0.6m below the existing ground surface and appeared to be at least 0.6m in thickness. The uppermost Roman deposit (77) in the trench appeared to have been truncated by subsequent ploughing activity.

#### 5 ROMAN POTTERY

- 5.1 A small assemblage of 104 sherds of Roman pottery was recovered during the evaluation. The collection was broadly similar to the pottery recovered from the nearby Caersws Old Primary school excavations in 1985-6 (Britnell 1989).
- 5.2 Although much of the new assemblage was composed of small and undiagnostic body sherds, a small number of vessels were identifiable. The assemblage contained a small quantity of samian sherds, representing both plain and decorated forms, handles and other fragments from Dressel 20 South Spanish olive oil amphorae and body and base sherds from Mancetter–Hartshill mortaria (Mancetter-Hartshill was a major producer of mortaria form *c*. 100 A.D. onwards). Very few Black-burnished ware sherds were recovered, but these included a cooking pot (resembling Gillam 1976 no.4, of late 2<sup>nd</sup>-century date), part of a lid with burnished decoration on its underside and small fragments of dishes or bowls. Red coarse ware forms, mostly in sandy fabrics included jars and flagons, notably one flagon similar to Britnell 1989 no. 2 (dated mid 1<sup>st</sup> century), and a small number of these sherds had traces of external cream slip. No Severn Valley ware was noted. Very few grey ware sherds were recovered, and only one vessel, an everted rim jar, decorated with double horizontal grooves (a Flavian-Trajanic form), proved at all closely datable. Even fewer white ware sherds were recovered, probably mostly representing flagons, and included a small fragment likely to be from a ring neck flagon.

#### 6 CONCLUSIONS

- 6.1 The evaluation demonstrated that archaeologically significant deposits associated with the Roman fort and vicus are present within the area of the proposed redevelopment. These deposits were recorded at a minimum depth of 0.5m below the existing ground surface (in Trench D), but more generally between 0.7m and 0.9m in depth, beneath relatively modern overburden and post-medieval ploughsoil.
- 6.2 Although the evaluation was essentially non-destructive with regard to layers and features of Roman origin, it was evident that the exposed deposits represented a succession of layers from the later phases of Roman activity in Caersws. The main evidence of this activity consisted of a series of soil and stone layers, many of which had been cut by post-holes and similar features. Evidence of wall-lines relating to buildings of the Roman period was revealed in Trench C. The edge of the outer of the three fort ditches was identified in Trench A.
- 6.3 There was evidence of some previous disturbance to the Roman layers on the site, probably from agricultural activity as a former ploughsoil deposit was identified. At the point where the ploughsoil met the edge of the outer fort ditch, a series of parallel grooves appeared to demonstrate plough damage. This disturbance is likely to have led to the partial truncation of the uppermost Roman layers, a factor which was evident in all the trenches, but particularly so in Trenches B and D.
- 6.4 The results of the excavation, combined with the larger-scale investigations carried out in a nearby area during 1985-6, which revealed deeply stratified Roman deposits (Britnell 1989), suggests strongly that this area, which lies in close proximity to the south gate of the fort, was intensively occupied during the Roman period.

#### 7 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

7.1 The writer would like to thank his colleagues Jenny Britnell, Ian Grant and Nigel Jones of CPAT for their assistance during the project; and Wendy Owen, also of CPAT, for reporting on the Roman pottery.

#### 8 REFERENCES

#### 8.1 Published sources

- Britnell, J E, 1989. Caersws vicus, Powys: Excavations at the Old Primary School, 1985-86. British Archaeological Reports 205.
- Daniels, C, Jones, G D B, & Putnam, W G, 1970. Excavations at Caersws, 1968, Montgomeryshire Collections 61, 37-42.
- Gillam, J P , 1976. Coarse Fumed Ware in North Britain and beyond, Glasgow Archaeological Journal 4, 57-80
- Jones, N W, 1993. Caersws Roman Fort and Vicus, Montgomeryshire, Powys, 1984-92, Montgomeryshire Collections 81, 15-96.

#### 8.2 Cartographic sources

1983 Soil Survey of England and Wales map (Sheet 2 - Wales) and Legend (1:250,000 scale)

1994 British Geological Survey map of Wales (Solid edition at 1:250,000 scale)

#### APPENDIX 1 VILLAGE WORKSHOP SITE, CAERSWS, POWYS SPECIFICATION FOR AN ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVALUATION BY THE CLWYD-POWYS ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST

#### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 The Contracting Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust has been invited to prepare a specification of works for undertaking an archaeological evaluation on land at the Village Workshops, Caersws, Powys. The Curatorial Section of the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, acting as archaeological advisors to the local planning authority, have determined that an archaeological evaluation should be undertaken to assess the potential impact of the proposals on the archaeological resource.
- 1.2 The site lies in close proximity to areas known to contain buried archaeological deposits relating to the civilian settlement which developed in association with the Roman fort at Caersws. The area to the south-west of the workshops, now occupied by Ceiriog Walk, was the subject of extensive excavations by CPAT in 1985 which revealed significant stratified Roman deposits indicating occupation from the 70s AD until at least the mid 2nd century. It is therefore anticipated that significant buried archaeological deposits will survive within in the area and the following specification has been designed to evaluate the depth and significance of these deposits.

#### 2 Objectives

- 2.1 The objectives of the evaluation are:
- 2.1.1 to reveal by means of a desktop study and field evaluation, 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 record any archaeological sites identified during the field evaluation;
- 2.1.3 to prepare a report outlining the results of the assessment, incorporating sufficient information on the archaeological resource for a reasonable planning decision to be taken regarding the future management of the archaeology.

#### 3 Methods

- 3.1 The history and development of the Roman settlement has already been investigated in some detail and the existing published sources (Jones 1993; Jones 1996) will be reviewed. In this instance a full desktop study is considered unnecessary due to the wealth of existing information about the Roman occupation which has resulted from successive excavations from 1909 to the present day.
- 3.2 The field evaluation will consist of up to six trenches, each measuring 1.5 x 8m, the final number, position and size of the trenches will be determined following discussions with the client and curator. The excavations will be undertaken using a machine excavator to remove the tarmac surface and hardcore, with a toothless bucket used to remove any modern overburden down to the level of the first recognisable archaeological horizon. Thereafter, all excavation will be entirely non-destructive and designed to determine the depth at which archaeologically sensitive deposits survive, together with their nature condition and significance. The area will be fenced with plastic barrier fencing for the duration of the evaluation and trenches will be reinstated with excavated material on completion.
- 3.3 Contexts will be recorded on individual record forms and be drawn and photographed as appropriate. All photography will be in 35mm format black and white print and colour slide. All features will be located as accurately as possible with respect to buildings and boundaries identified on modern Ordnance Survey maps and levels will be related to Ordnance Datum where possible.

- 3.5 Following the on-site work an illustrated and bound report will be prepared in A4 format, containing conventional sections on: Site location, Topography and Geology; Archaeological Background; Evaluation; Conclusions and References, together with appropriate appendices on archives and finds.
- 3.6 The site archive will be prepared to specifications laid out in Appendix 3 in the <u>Management of Archaeological Projects</u> (English Heritage, 1991), to be deposited with the Regional Sites and Monuments Record (SMR). All artefacts will, subject to the permission of the owner, be deposited with the Powysland Museum, Welshpool.

#### 4 Resources and Programming

- 4.1 The evaluation will be undertaken by a small team of skilled archaeologists under the overall supervision of Mr RJ Silvester, a senior member of CPAT's staff who is also a member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA). CPAT is an IFA Registered Organisation.
- 4.2 All report preparation will be completed by or with the assistance of the same field archaeologist who conducted the evaluation.
- 4.3 It is anticipated that the evaluation will be completed within 5 days. The report will be completed within 2 weeks of the completion of on-site works. Copies of the report will provided to the client and the Regional SMR. The Curator will be informed of the timetable in order to arrange for monitoring if required. At present, CPAT would be in a position to undertake the work during April 2004.
- 4.4 As the evaluation is essentially seen as a none-destructive process intended primarily to determine the depth at which significant deposits are encountered no specific contingencies have been allocated. It is considered probable that artefactual evidence will provide an adequate indication of date without the need for radiocarbon dating. Artefacts will be subject to appropriate on-site and post-excavation treatment to ensure their stability and no conservation or specialist reporting is anticipated. Any artefacts will be deposited with the Powysland Museum, Welshpool, subject to the clients approval. A summary report will be presented for publication in *Archaeology in Wales* at no additional charge.
- 4.5 Requirements relating to Health and Safety regulations will be adhered to by CPAT and its staff.
- 4.6 CPAT is covered by appropriate Public and Employer's Liability insurance.

#### 5 References

- Jones, N W, 1993. Caersws Roman Fort and Vicus, Montgomeryshire, Powys, 1984-92. Montgomeryshire Collections 81, 15-96.
- Jones, N W, 1996. Excavations within the Roman vicus at Caersws Roman 1989-93. *Montgomeryshire Collections* 84, 1-36.

N W Jones 14th June 2004

#### **APPENDIX 2**

#### **PROJECT ARCHIVE**

#### Site archive

44 Context record forms1 black and white negative film1 colour slide film1 colour print filmPhotographic catalogue1 A1 site drawing

### **Digital archive**

Penmap location plan: csworks.pts

#### Finds

#### Roman pottery

Context 3

Number	Weight (g)	Diam	Rim %	Vessel type	Fabric group	Comment
1	1				Samian	
2	5			Flagon ?	White ware	
13	12				Red ware	

Context 1	16					
Number	Weight (g)	Diam	Rim %	Vessel type	Fabric group	Comment
1	34	19	8	Flanged bowl	Grey ware	Early 2nd C.
1	12			Jar?	Grey ware	
1	23			Dressel 20	Amphora	
9	44			Dressel 20	Amphora	Dressel 20 (burnt sherds?)
4	9			Flagon ?	Colour coat	cream slip externally
1	4	9	6	Flagon ?	Colour coat	
2	4				Red Ware	
1	1				Red ware	Possibly Severn valley ware

Context 31

Number	Weight (g)	Diam	Rim %	Vessel type	Fabric group	Comment
1	10	13	9	Flanged bowl	White ware	Mortaria-like form
1	10			Flanged dish/bowl	Black burnished	Rim sherd. ?3rd-4th C
1	5			Grooved bowl	Black burnished	Rim sherd. ?Antonine form
1	6			Cooking pot	Black burnished	sherd with lattice decoration
3	12			Flagon ?	Colour coat	cream slip externally
1	2	9	6	Flagon ?	Colour coat	cream slip externally
1	2			Mortarium	Mortaria	White fabric/red brown grits. ?Mancetter-Hartshill
1	5			Jar?	Red Ware	
3	9				Red ware	

#### Context 38

Number	Weight (g)	Diam	Rim %	Vessel type	Fabric group	Comment
4	14			Flagon ?	White ware	base & body sherds
3	710			Dressel 20	Amphora	scar of handle attachment

# Other finds

Iron

Context	Number	Weight (g)	Comment	
4	1	Not recorded	object	
7	1	Not recorded	nail	
16	2	60	including one possible nail fragment	
25	1	29	disc-shaped object ?	
26	6	Not recorded	nails	
31	3	72	including one possible nail	
46	1	Not recorded	nail	
60	7	Not recorded	nails	
61	5	Not recorded	nails	
77	1	Not recorded	nail	

# Slags etc

Context	Number	Weight (g)	Comment
7	1	Not recorded	furnace lining, probably Roman
14	3	Not recorded	furnace lining, Roman
60	6	Not recorded	five slag fragments, one section of furnace lining, Roman
61	2	830	smithing hearth bottoms, Roman
61	16	Not recorded	ten slag fragments, six sections of furnace lining, Roman

#### Daub

Context	Number	Weight (g)	Comment
19	2	Not recorded	
26	1	Not recorded	
46	2	Not recorded	
61	1	Not recorded	

# Copper alloy

Context	Number	Weight (g)	Comment
31	3	4	possibly part of a brooch or clasp

### Brick/tile

Context	Number	Weight (g)	Comment
3	6	178	assortment of brick and tile fragments, some Roman
4	2	Not recorded	
5	2	41	Roman
7	1	Not recorded	
19	1	Not recorded	Roman
25	2	Not recorded	Post-medieval
31	2	120	Post-medieval
61	2	Not recorded	Roman
73	1	Not recorded	Post-medieval ?
85	1	Not recorded	Post-medieval ?

### Glass

Context	Number	Weight (g)	Comment
4	1	Not recorded	Post-medieval part base of a green bottle
16	4	2	small fragments, possibly Roman
25	1	Not recorded	small fragment, probably post-medieval
73	2	Not recorded	Post-medieval ?window glass and part of a bottle neck
77	1	Not recorded	Blue-green rim section - Roman
86	1	Not recorded	Post-medieval ?window glass

# Clay pipe

Context	Number	Weight (g)	Comment	
4	3	Not recorded	one bowl part and two pipe stem fragments	
16	1	1	small fragment of pipe stem	
25	4	Not recorded	pipe stem fragments	
73	1	Not recorded	pipe stem fragment	

# Post-medieval and later pottery

Context	Shorde	Weight (g)	Comment
4		Not recorded	Cool Measures buff wars
4	1	Not recorded	Coal Measures buil ware
4	5	Not recorded	Coal Measures red ware
4	1	Not recorded	Midlands yellow ware (19th-20th Century)
4	3	Not recorded	Developed white ware
4	1	Not recorded	White stoneware
4	2	Not recorded	Decorated stoneware
4	1	Not recorded	Mottled ware (1690-1760)
25	3	Not recorded	Coal Measures buff ware
25	3	Not recorded	Coal Measures red ware
25	1	Not recorded	Decorated slip ware
73	2	Not recorded	Pearlware (1780-early 19th C)
73	12	Not recorded	Coal Measures buff ware
73	1	Not recorded	Coal Measures red ware
73	1	Not recorded	Ironstone ware (18th-20th C)
73	1	Not recorded	Midlands purple ware
73	1	Not recorded	Slip decorated plate
73	1	Not recorded	Part of a large slip decorated bowl
73	1	Not recorded	Possible North Devon gravel tempered ware (17th-mid 18th C)
86	1	Not recorded	White ware
86	1	Not recorded	Pearlware (1780-early 19th C)

#### Miscellaneous finds

Context	Number	Weight (g)	Comment	
4	1	Not recorded	possible medieval pottery jug body sherd	
25	1	Not recorded	possible medieval pottery vessel body sherd	
60	1	Not recorded	piece of folded lead strip	
60	1	Not recorded	flint flake (probably natural)	



Fig. 1 Caersws Roman fort and vicus showing location of excavations (after Jones 1993, Fig.2)



Fig. 2 Trench locations and archaeology, scale 1:500





Fig. 4 Trench B plan and section. Scale 1:50







Plate 1 Trench A from SSE (Photo CPAT 1746.02)



Plate 2 Trench A, edge of ditch deposits showing probable plough damage, from SSE (Photo CPAT 1746.03)



Plate 3 Trench B from ENE (Photo CPAT 1746.12)



Plate 4 Trench B, section of modern post-hole (59) from SSE (Photo CPAT 1746.14)



Plate 5 Trench C from NNW (Photo CPAT 1746.06)



Plate 6 Sill-beam slot (38) in Trench C, from SE (Photo CPAT 1746.08)



Plate 7 Trench D from SSE (Photo CPAT 1746.10)



Plate 8 Metalled surface (78) in Trench D, from WSW (Photo CPAT 1746.15)