



# **Ainon Baptist Church, Market Street, Tongwynlais Written Scheme of Historic Environment Mitigation for Archaeological Watching Brief**

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Client: Ainon Baptist Church  
Project Code: RR0054  
Planning Number: 19/01218/MNR



**Red River  
Archaeology**

**Ainon Baptist Church,  
Market Street, Tongwynlais  
Written Scheme of Historic Environment Mitigation  
for Archaeological Watching Brief**

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Project Code	RR0054
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Figure 1            Site location and development area

## 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1.1 This document is presented as a written scheme of historic environment mitigation (WSHEM) for archaeological watching brief in relation to the single storey side extension, front porch and detached prayer room at Ainon Baptist Church, Market St. Tongwynlais. This WSHEM was prepared by Red River Archaeology Ltd. (hereafter Red River Archaeology) for Ainon Baptist Church.
- 1.1.2 This WSHEM outlines the archaeological watching brief proposed during the groundworks required for the development. This will inform future decisions about what further work (if any) may be required in order to mitigate the impact to archaeological remains from the development.

## 2. INTRODUCTION

### 2.1 Project Background

2.1.1 This document is presented as a written scheme of historic environment mitigation (WSHEM) for an archaeological watching in relation to the single storey side extension, front porch and detached prayer room at Ainon Baptist Church, Market St. Tongwynlais (NGR 313227 182206, centred) (Fig. 1).

2.1.2 Planning permission was granted by Cardiff County Council for the construction of single storey side extensions, front porch and detached prayer room at Ainon Baptist Church, Market St. Tongwynlais (Ref. 19/01218/MNR). Condition 3 states that:

*“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 in writing 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 in accordance with Policy KP17 and EN9 of the Cardiff Local Development Plan 2006-2026.”*

2.1.3 Work will be monitored by the Planning Archaeologist at Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust (GGAT).

### 2.2 Site Location and description

2.2.1 The proposed development area comprises an area of lawn and pathway to the southwest side of the Ainon Baptist Church. The development area is bounded to the northwest by a previous extension, to the northeast by the Ainon Baptist chapel and to the southwest by a low stone wall. The southeast side of the development area is open to the lawn area at the front of the Church.

2.2.2 The local geology is Tongwynlais Formation, an interbedded limestone and mudstone sedimentary bedrock formed during the Carboniferous Period (347 to 359 million years ago) in a local environment previously dominated by shallow carbonate seas. Superficial deposits are recorded as alluvium of clay, silt, sand and gravel formed up to 2 million years ago in the Quaternary Period in a local environment previously dominated by rivers (British Geological Survey 2020).

## **2.3 Archaeological Background and Previous Works**

- 2.3.1 The Aion Baptist Chapel was built in 1832 and rebuilt in 1851, with the current chapel dating from 1879 and built in the simple round-headed gable-entry style (RCAHMMW). Historic mapping depicts the Chapel on the 1841 Tithe Map and the First Edition Ordnance Survey map dated 1876 also shows a graveyard associated with the Chapel.
- 2.3.2 The Glamorgan Family History Society entrance for Aion Baptist Chapel (1984) lists 27 individual inscriptions on 12 monuments dating between 1870 and 1928 at the Aion Baptist Chapel. These monuments have been placed against the eastern boundary wall of the levelled graveyard in front of the Chapel and the original locations of the graves are not known. Further headstones were reportedly used in the foundations of the new extension. Most of the headstones recorded two burials within the grave, with three headstones recording three burials and one headstone recording four. It is therefore likely that any graves encountered would contain multiple inhumations.

### 3. AIMS

3.1.1 The investigation proposes a watching brief of the Site during groundworks required for the development.

3.1.2 The aims of the watching brief and sampling proposed in this WSHM are to:

- Determine the extent, condition, nature, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered.
- Establish the nature of the activity on the site.
- Determine the nature and significance of any paleoenvironmental evidence
- Identify any artefacts relating to the occupation or use of the site.
- Provide further information on the archaeology of the site from any archaeological remains encountered.
- Determine the geological and soil formation at the site and establish the depths of topsoil.
- To make available to interested parties the results of the investigation subject to any confidentiality restrictions.

3.1.3 The results of the watching brief will be used to further assess the archaeological potential of the site and the predicted impact of the proposed development. This will in turn facilitate decisions on any need for further archaeological mitigation works.

## 4. SCOPE AND METHODOLOGY OF WORKS

### 4.1 Background

- 4.1.1 The proposed archaeological works will comprise a watching brief on the groundworks associated with the development on site.
- 4.1.2 These works will be undertaken by Red River Archaeology who will ensure: that Health & Safety requirements are adhered to; the location of buried services data provided by the client; and compliance of any on-site constraints.

### 4.2 Methodology

- 4.2.1 All fieldwork will be undertaken in accordance with current best practice and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and guidance for archaeological watching brief* (CIfA 2020a). The watching brief will comprise the observation by a competent archaeologist of all intrusive groundwork. Non-archaeologically significant deposits will be removed by the contractors under archaeological supervision.
- 4.2.2 All invasive groundworks will be monitored by a suitably experienced and qualified archaeologist. If archaeological deposits are found which are of sufficient significance to merit an alternative approach such as contingency excavation or physical preservation, the client and archaeological advisor to the local planning authority will be contacted immediately. Destructive work in that area will cease until agreement has been reached on an appropriate archaeological response.
- 4.2.3 All archaeological deposits encountered will be recorded. The work will include, as a minimum, the recording of individual contexts on appropriate pro-formas; section drawings of appropriate deposits (at 1:20 and 1:10 scales, as deemed commensurate with the subject); photographs and other appropriate drawn and written records.
- 4.2.4 All archaeological remains shall be located on appropriate scale site plans, with TBMs and OSBMs indicated. All levels shall be reduced to ordnance datum.
- 4.2.5 The photographic record shall consist of digital photographs taken at high resolution (12 megapixels and above). The photographic record shall include photographs of archaeological features, appropriate groups of features and structures. Photographs shall include an appropriate scale.

### 4.3 Environmental Sampling

- 4.3.1 Where appropriate, contexts will be sampled in accordance with the guidelines provided by English Heritage (2011). Samples will be collected for technological, pedological and



chronological analysis as appropriate. Specialist technical advice will be sought if significant deposits are encountered.

4.3.2 Should archaeological remains be identified, soil samples will be taken as appropriate to contribute to the evaluation of the nature, date and extent of those remains. The exact sampling methodology can only be determined once the nature of archaeological remains becomes apparent. However, given the condition of the soil on site it is most likely that flotation samples of up to 40 litres will be taken from individual contexts with the aim of recovering charred plant remains. These charred plant remains would contribute to the assessment of features or the historic landscape if there was material suitable for dating, or could contribute to the interpretation of the function of features. Wherever possible samples will be taken in response to specific research questions.

4.3.3 Any bone recovered from stratified deposits will also be subject to assessment. Analysis will be limited to material that can provide metrical, ageing or sex information.

#### **4.4 Finds**

4.4.1 The artefact collection policy will be concerned with the provision of adequate samples for meeting the objectives of the work. If archaeological objects are recovered an appropriate retention/discard strategy will be agreed with the relevant repository. Discarded artefactual materials will be described and quantified through assignment to broad categories in the field.

4.4.2 All retained finds and archaeo-environmental samples are to be treated and conserved in accordance with the English Heritage guidance document *A Strategy for the Care and Investigation of Finds* (English Heritage, 1995) and the UKIC's document *Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long Term Storage* (UKIC, 1990). Assessment and analysis of finds and archaeo-environmental samples will be undertaken, as necessary. Finds and sample storage will be at Red River Archaeology's Cardiff office unless an alternative is required.

4.4.3 Any human remains discovered will be recorded in plan and full excavated (see section 5.2). An official Dispensation Order from the Secretary of State for Justice under the Disused Burial Grounds (Amendment) Act 1981 will be obtained by the client prior to works commencing, in accordance with advice from the Coroner. Any exhumation and post-excavation treatment will be carried out in accordance with published guidelines (McKinley & Roberts 1993; Mitchell & Brickley 2017).

4.4.4 Any artefacts, materials and each category of data recovered during the watching brief will be treated in accordance with the requirements and standards set by the following:

- Excavation Standards Manual- EHS – HMU

- National Standards and Guidance to Best Practice for Collecting and Depositing Archaeological Archives in Wales - Welsh Museum Federation (2019)
- Management of Archaeological Projects (2nd Ed.) (MAP 2) - English Heritage (1991)
- Standards and Guidance Archaeological Watching brief - CIFA (2020a)

4.4.5 In general finds will be treated in the following way:

- All finds, where appropriate, will be retained from each archaeological context excavated.
- All finds, where appropriate, will be washed.
- All pottery and other finds, where appropriate, will be marked with the site code and context number.
- Finds work will be undertaken in line with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard and Guidelines for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials* (Cifa 2020b).

## 4.5 Reporting & Archiving

4.5.1 Within 12 weeks of completion of the onsite works a fieldwork report will be produced covering this element of works. One digital copy in PDF format will be supplied to the client for distribution to relevant parties.

4.5.2 The preparation of the report will follow the guidelines published by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (Cifa 2020c). Details of style and format will be determined by Red River Archaeology, but will include:

- A non-technical summary.
- The site location.
- Aims and purpose of the archaeological work.
- The methodology of works.
- A description of the project results.
- An objective interpretation of the results, placing them in an appropriate local and regional context.
- Site layout plans on an OS base, with the location of the watching brief areas.
- Plans of each area in which archaeological features were recorded.
- Sections and feature sections (with OD heights).

- Site matrices where appropriate.
- A consideration of evidence within its wider context.
- Site photographs, including key features, and an index to the full photographic archive.
- A summary table and descriptive text showing the features, classes and numbers of artefacts located, and soil profiles, with interpretation.
- An archive statement, which will summarise the contents, location, and projected deposition date of the archive, if required.
- Supporting illustrations & plans, suitably captioned, at appropriate scales. These will include a location map and site plan; copies of historic map & historic photographs where relevant.

- 4.5.3 The results of the archaeological work will form the basis of a full archive to professional standards, in accordance with current Historic England guidelines (English Heritage, 2008; Historic England, 2015), and comply with RCAHMW guidelines of Wales (RCAHMW, 2015) and the ADS digital records ([archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/advice](http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/advice)).
- 4.5.4 The Archaeological Archives Forum standards (Brown, 2007) will also be adhered to in relation to the compilation and treatment of the archive.
- 4.5.5 The deposition of a properly ordered and indexed project archive in an appropriate repository is considered an essential and integral element of all archaeological projects by the CIfA in that organisation's code of conduct (CIfA, 2019) and this will be adhered to in relation to the current project.
- 4.5.6 Digital archives will be submitted to RCAHMW while the physical site archive will ultimately be deposited with the National Museum Wales, which will also include a copy of the report.
- 4.5.7 A copy of the final report will be submitted to the regional HER in accordance with the guidelines set out in the *Guidance for the Submission of Data to the Welsh Historic Environment Records (HERs)* (2018).

## **5. UNFORESEEN ARCHAEOLOGICAL REMAINS FOUND DURING WORKS**

### **5.1 Unforeseen Archaeological Remains of Significance**

5.1.1 In the event of archaeological remains of unexpected or exceptional (i.e. of regional or national) importance that requires further investigation being encountered, during either archaeological or non-archaeological works on site, the following will be undertaken:

- The stripping of soil, ground reduction or ground disturbance will cease in that area.
- The archaeologist will examine the remains as soon as is practically possible, and certainly within 24 hours of the find.
- The Project Archaeologist will inform the Planning Archaeologist of the finds and arrange a site meeting at the earliest possible convenience to all parties.
- The Project Archaeologist will, if necessary, erect temporary fencing around the area of possible archaeological remains until such a meeting.
- The impact on archaeological remains will be mitigated in a manner appropriate to their importance.

### **5.2 Human Remains**

5.2.1 Any human remains discovered will be exhumed in line with the Dispensation Order from the Ministry of Justice. The remains will be assessed before being returned to the Church for reburial.

5.2.2 The cataloguing and analysis of all human remains will be undertaken, as necessary, by Carmelita Troy, osteoarchaeologist. All treatment of remains will follow industry-standard procedures (McKinley and Roberts, 1993).

### **5.3 Treasure**

5.3.1 The 1996 Treasure Act defines “Treasure” as:

- Any object at least 300 years old when found which is: not a coin, but has metallic content of which at least 10% is precious metal, or one of at least two coins with at least 10% precious metal content.
- One of at least 10 coins.
- Any object at least 200 years old designated as treasure by the Secretary of State.

- Any object which would have been 'Treasure Trove' before the 1996 Act but which is not covered above.
  - Any object found with any of the above.
- 5.3.2 The Treasure (Designation) Order 2002 extends the definition of treasure to include:
- Finds of at least two base metal objects (other than coins) of prehistoric date; and
  - Any object (other than a coin) of prehistoric date with any precious metal content.
- 5.3.3 Any finds made that are identified under this Act shall immediately be reported to the local coroner as appropriate.
- 5.3.4 To protect the finds from theft, Red River Archaeology will record the finds and remove them to a safe place. Where recording and removal is not feasible or appropriate on the day of discovery we shall ensure, on liaison with the Project Archaeologist, the Client and GGAT, that adequate site security is provided.
- 5.3.5 Subject to the Provisions of the Treasure Act 1996, all material that is defined as Treasure is vested in the franchisee or, if none, the Crown.
- 5.3.6 With respect to Treasure finds, a reward may be payable to the finder, the landowner and/or the occupier. The Crown usually offers finds to a museum.

## **6. PROGRAMME & MONITORING**

### **6.1 Provisional Programme**

- 6.1.1 It is intended that the work shall commence, subject to approval of this WSHM, in February 2020.
- 6.1.2 The GGAT Archaeological Officer will be notified at least one week prior to commencement of the on-site archaeological works so that a site visit can be arranged.
- 6.1.3 The post-excavation assessment report on the results will be completed within 3 months of the completion of fieldwork.

### **6.2 Monitoring Responsibilities**

- 6.2.1 Red River Archaeology will keep the Planning Archaeologist informed on the progress of works, including post-excavation works, as necessary.
- 6.2.2 Reasonable access to the site will be arranged at all times for the Planning Archaeologist, should they request to make a site inspection to ensure that the archaeological watching brief works is progressing satisfactorily.
- 6.2.3 Any variations to the WSHM will be agreed with the Planning Archaeologist, in writing, prior to them being carried out.

## 7. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### 7.1 Health & Safety

7.1.1 A risk assessment for the intensive archaeological watching brief and sampling will be produced and submitted to the client for review prior to the progression of such works.

7.1.2 The following statutory provisions and codes of practice will be adhered to where relevant:

- All statutory provisions and by-laws relating to the work in question, especially the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974
- The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Code of Conduct* (CIfA 2020d)
- The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology* (CIfA 2014)

### 7.2 Personnel

7.2.1 The field team deployed by Red River Archaeology will include only full time professional archaeological staff. All staff in supervisory positions will be members, at an appropriate level, of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA).

7.2.2 The overall management of the various stages of the project will be done by Rachel Morgan as Project Archaeologist, who will oversee all phases of the archaeological programme of works, through to its completion.

7.2.3 The analysis of the finds and environmental data will be undertaken by appropriate specialists and Red River Archaeology under the overall direction of the Project Archaeologist.

7.2.4 The following key staff are proposed in relation to watching brief site works:

- |                         |   |                    |
|-------------------------|---|--------------------|
| • Rachel Morgan ACIfA   | - | Project Manager    |
| • Mike Jones            | - | On Site Supervisor |
| • Jonathan Millar MCIfA | - | Graphics Manager   |

7.2.5 These would be supported by the following specialists as required:

- |                    |   |                    |
|--------------------|---|--------------------|
| • Carmelita Troy   | - | Osteoarchaeologist |
| • Rose Calis       | - | Zooarchaeologist   |
| • Wendy Carruthers | - | Archaeobotanist    |
| • Mark Lodwick     | - | Small Finds        |

Further specialists may be required depending on the artefacts/ materials identified.

7.2.6 All the above are published specialists in their field, and members of the CIfA or equivalent professional bodies.

### **7.3 Insurance**

7.3.1 Red River Archaeology holds Employers Liability Insurance up to €13m and Public Liability Insurance up to €6.5m with Aviva plc, and Professional Indemnity Insurance through Towergate Insurance to a limit of £5m.

### **7.4 Variations**

7.4.1 Any variations to this Written Scheme of Historic Environment Mitigation that may be needed as a result of the emerging results of works will be approved in advance with the Planning Archaeologist at GGAT.

7.4.2 Any dispute or difference arising out of a contract in relation to the work shall 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 agreement.



## 8. REFERENCES

- Brown, D.H. 2007 *Archaeological Archives: a best practice in creation, compilation, transfer and curation*. Archaeological Archives Forum.
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2014 *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*.
- Chartered Institute for Archaeologists 2019 *Code of Conduct*.
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<http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html> (accessed 07/12/2020)

