



Chapel Archaeology CIC

Archaeological Watching Brief

Groundworks being undertaken at 4 Ashley Court,
Holt, Wrexham, LL13 9JZ

June 2021

Archaeological Watching Brief

Groundworks being undertaken at 4 Ashley Court, Holt, Wrexham, LLI3 9JZ

Client Mr. & Mrs Chadwick

Location NGR SJ 40962, 54014 (340962, 354014)

Site Code HT/AC 21

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Watching Brief: Groundworks being undertaken at 4 Ashley Court, Holt, Wrexham, LL13 9JZ.

Application No: P/2019/0581

CRYNODEB

Yn unol ag amod 6 yr hysbysiad cynllunio uchod, comisiynwyd Archaeoleg y Capel gan Mr a Mrs Chadwick i gynnal briff gwylio yn Ashley Court, Holt.

Y prif amcanion oedd:

Cynnal briff gwylio dros yr holl rannau hynny o'r datblygiad sy'n ymgorffori gwaith daear.

Cofnodi unrhyw nodweddion archeolegol yn y cynllun a'r proffil, ac i adfer unrhyw ddarganfyddiadau, os ydynt yn bresennol.

Cwblhau'r archif a pharatoi adroddiad yn manylu ar unrhyw ganfyddiadau perthnasol.

Cloddiwyd tair ffos i ddyfnder uchaf o 1 m.

Roedd pob ffos yn arddangos proffiliau bron yn union yr un fath o uwchbridd, clai-gyda-cherrig mân, clai a siltiau dwrlawn tywodlyd yn y gwaelod.

Lluniwyd cynllun daear am 1:50. Digwyddodd yr unig nodwedd bosibl a gofnodwyd yn Ffos 3, aliniad afreolaidd o dywodfaen tameidiog (p) sydd wedi pydru'n wael, wedi'i leoli ar waelod y ffos.

Roedd y darganfyddiadau yn ddychrynlyd iawn, wedi'u cyfyngu i lond llaw o eitemau modern, 2 siryf bach o nwyddau lliw brown a hufen o'r 17eg ganrif oedd yr unig ddarganfyddiadau arwyddocaol a adenillwyd.

SUMMARY

In compliance with condition 6 of the above planning notice, Chapel Archaeology was commissioned by Mr & Mrs Chadwick to undertake a watching-brief at Ashley Court, Holt.

The primary objectives were:

To carry out a watching brief over all those parts of the development incorporating groundworks

The recording of any archaeological features in plan and profile, and to recover any finds, if present.

The completion of the archive and preparation of a report detailing any relevant findings.

Three trenches were dug to a maximum depth of 1m.

Each trench displayed near-identical profiles of topsoil, clay-with-pebbles, clay and sandy waterlogged silts at the base.

A ground-plan was drawn at 1:50.

The only potential feature recorded occurred in Trench 3, an irregular alignment of fragmented and badly decayed sandstone (e), located at the very base of the trench.

Finds were extremely scarce, restricted to a handful of modern items; 2 small sherds of 17th century brown and cream coloured ware were the only significant finds retrieved.

METHODOLOGY

Archaeological deposits and any structural remains were to be recorded employing a continuous context recording system.

Any archaeological features present, and their distribution, to be drawn up to a relevant scale

Any significant profiles to be drawn.

Deposits and structural remains to be levelled and related to a known datum point

A photographic record of all significant features to be maintained throughout the course of the groundworks including drone photographs where appropriate.

Any artefacts and eco-facts present to be collected and kept for identification and analysis

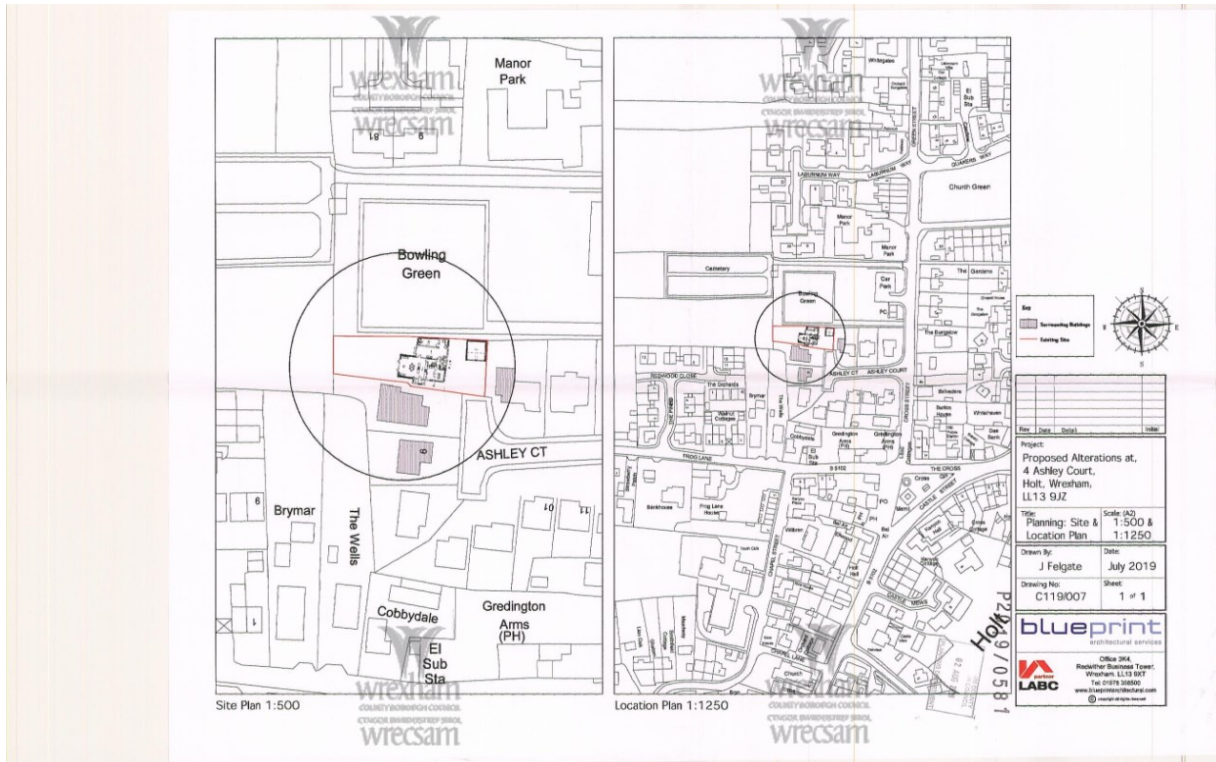
After cleaning, any finds to be sorted, catalogued and stored by period and material, following approved guidelines (IFA)

Pottery and any building materials to be recorded by fabric type and form, where possible.

A sherd count to be made to enable comparisons between groups of materials.

Individual sherds and objects recovered to be discussed, if present, to determine the date or functional context of a deposit.

SITE LOCATION MAP (grid ref: 340962, 354014)



REPORT

The groundworks were undertaken on Wednesday 26-May-2021, between 8.00am-3.00pm and were overseen and supervised by Mike Emery and Alan Wilmshurst of Chapel Archaeology.

The site affected by the groundworks covered an area 32.2m²

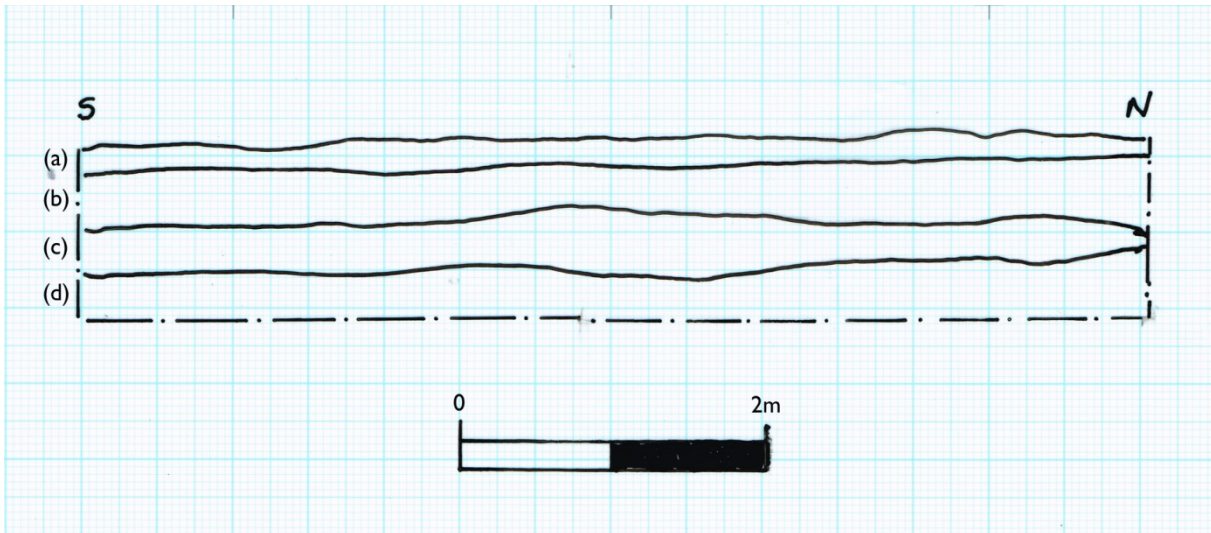


Site prior to excavation. Alan Wilmshurst

Three trenches were machine-excavated; Trenches 1 & 3 measured 4.6m long x 1m x 1m. Trench 2 measured 7m x 1m x 1m. Individual layers were assessed and filtered by hand for the possible presence of finds. This was supplemented by the use of a metal-detector.

All trenches and their profiles were individually photographed and surveyed.

A single profile of Trench 2, aligned N-S, was drawn at 1:50 scale.



Trench 2 Profile:

- a) Topsoil depth did not exceed 0.24m in depth and overlay.
- b) A clay and pebbles layer which averaged 0.50m deep and overlaid.
- c) A light brown clayey silt measuring 0.18m depth overlying.
- d) A waterlogged sands and silts deposit that marked the limit of excavation.



Section of Trench 2 from the east. Alan Wilmshurst

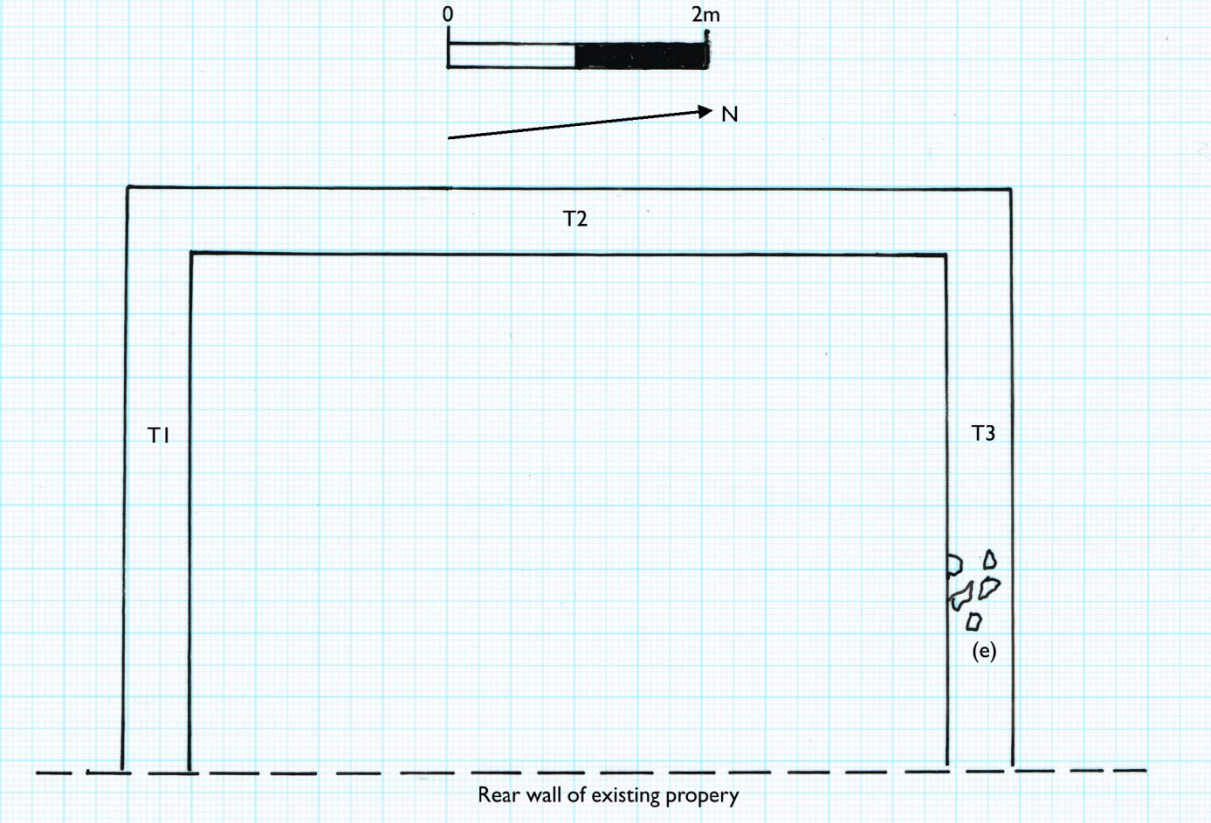


Sandstone fragments in Trench 3 from the north. Alan Wilmhurst

Trench 3 from the west. Alan Wilmhurst



A site plan was drawn at scale 1:50



Aerial shot of the trenches. (North is to the left). Alan Wilmhurst

Archive

Following approval, a high-resolution PDF copy of the report alone will be sent direct to the HER via Gary Duckers (HER Officer) (gary.duckers@cpat.org.uk). The digital archive will be sent to the NMR, RCAHMW, Aberystwyth.