



Archaeoleg Morgannwg-Gwent

Heneb

Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeology

Our ref: A64707/RD

ARCHAEOLOGICAL PLANNING

Head of Planning
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council
Unit 5
Triangle Business Park
Pentrebach
Merthyr Tydfil
CF48 4TQ

19th November 2025

Dear Sir

Re: The proposed works comprise: - Refurbishment of main WCs and secondary, currently disused, WCs. - Upgrades to and expansion of CCTV provision internally. - Upgrades to 2 no. external CCTV cameras - existing fixings to be reused. - Introduction of improved and more energy efficient exhibition lighting. - Installation of Wi-Fi throughout the museum spaces
Cyfarthfa Castle Cyfarthfa Park Merthyr Tydfil CF47 8RE
Pl.App.No.: P/25/0272

Thank you for consulting us about this application; consequently we have reviewed the detailed information contained on your website.

Information in the Historic Environment Record (HER) indicates that the application area is located in an area of archaeological potential. Cyfarthfa Castle is a Grade I Listed Building (Cadw ref. 11396), built in 1824-5 for ironmaster William Crawshay II. It is a large country house in the Picturesque castle style, rectangular in shape with an almost symmetrical entrance and garden fronts meeting at a circular corner tower. The proposal is within the Cyfarthfa Castle Registered Park and Garden (PGW (Gm) 1). The park and gardens are of great historic interest, not only as the landscape setting for the Romantic mansion, but also for their proximity and usefulness to the ironworks (Cadw ref: GM425) which in their day were considered to add great sublimity to its landscape setting. An early drawing of the house (1820s) shows a natural landscape around the house, with none of the formality that was to follow. However, by the time of the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map (1873) the park had assumed its present layout. Early 20th century photographs of the ironworks and park show a well-wooded, mature landscape park in a rural setting, apart from the ironworks. The park is roughly oval in shape, elongated north-south, with the highest ground in the middle. The park contains a range of landscape and ornamental features, both original and post-1910.

We also note the submission of a Heritage Statement by Purcell (dated October 2025) which indicates that the proposed lighting upgrades will not impact modern fabric, the WC upgrades will only affect modern fabric and the CCTV will have highly localised, minor

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Cadeirydd / Chair: Dr Carol Bell

PSG / CEO: Richard Nicholls

Cwmni Cyfyngedig (1198990) ynghyd ag Elusen Gofrestredig (504616) yw'r Ymddiriedolaeth

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impact on historic fabric. Overall, it is unlikely that archaeologically significant material will be encountered during the course of the proposed works.

As a result, there is unlikely to be an archaeological restraint to this proposed development and consequently, as the archaeological advisors to your Members, we have no objections to the positive determination of this application. The record is not definitive, however, and features may be disturbed during the course of the work. In this event, please contact this division of the Trust.

If you have any questions or require further advice on this matter please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully

R. Dunning

Rob Dunning BSc MCIfA
Archaeological Planning Officer

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