



Unit 5
Triangle Business Park
Pentrebach
Merthyr Tydfil
CF48 4TQ

11th October 2023

FAO: David Cross

Dear Sir

Re: Proposed Redevelopment to Create 30 No. (1 and 2 Bedroom) Self Contained Apartments:
Former Merthyr Tydfil General Hospital, High Street, Merthyr Tydfil.
Pl.App.No: P/23/0196.

Thank you for consulting us regarding this application; consequently we have reviewed the detailed information contained on your website and can confirm that **the proposal requires historic environment mitigation.**

You will recall our response to the submission of P/16/0033 for a similar development in our letter of February 2016. In this we noted that the application relates to the Former Merthyr Tydfil General Hospital which was constructed in 1888. As the Design and Access Statement states the main constructor was Sir W T Lewis (Lord Merthyr) who obtained financial support from the Marquess of Bute and public subscription. His statue was erected in front of the hospital, although it was later moved to St Tydfils Hospital. The HER also indicates that during the construction of the hospital, Rev. D Lewis noted the base of a medieval cross, which was then incorporated into a wall of the hospital.

We also note that the development is located within the Merthyr Tydfil Historic Landscape of Outstanding Historic Interest (Cadw reference HLW (MGI) 2), specifically within the Penydarren Park and Gwaelod-y-Garth Character Area (HLCA003A), as defined within the *Register of Landscapes of Outstanding Historic Interest in Wales*. We have therefore considered the impact of the proposed work on the historic landscape and have concluded that this will not be factor in the determination of this application.

Whilst it is proposed to preserve much of the front exterior facades of the building, elements of the historic fabric, including much of the rear and interior of the structure will be permanently affected by the proposal. In order to preserve the buildings by record, we again strongly recommend that a building survey is made prior to works commencing. We would recommend that this takes the form of a Level 3 survey as set out in "*Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*", Historic England, 2016.

To ensure that work is carried out in a suitable manner, we therefore suggest that a condition worded in a manner similar to model condition 73 given in Welsh

Glamorgan-Gwent
Archaeological Trust
Limited
Ymddiriedolaeth
Archeolegol
Morgannwg-Gwent

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Government Circular 016/2014 is attached to any consent that is granted in response to the current application. This condition is worded:-

No works to which this consent relates shall commence until an appropriate programme of historic building recording and analysis has been secured and implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority

Reason: As the building is of architectural and cultural significance the specified records are required to mitigate impact.

We also recommend that a note should be attached to the planning consent explaining that:

The archaeological work must be undertaken to the appropriate Standard and Guidance set by Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA), [CIfA regulations, standards and guidance | Chartered Institute for Archaeologists](#) and it is recommended that it is carried out either by a CIfA Registered Organisation or a MCIfA level accredited Member [Looking for an archaeologist? | Chartered Institute for Archaeologists](#).

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

Yours faithfully

Judith Doyle

Judith Doyle BA MBA FSA MCIfA
Stewardship Officer