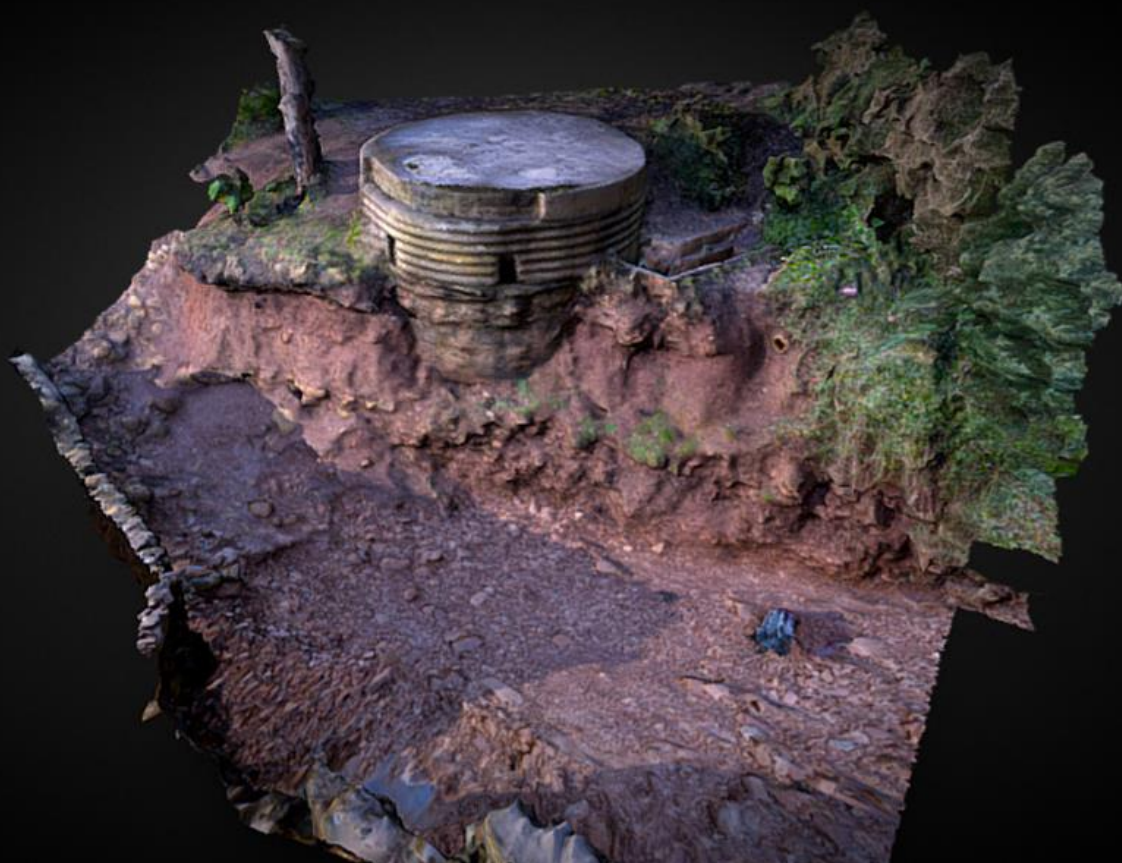# The Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust
Cadw Grant-aided Work
2019-2020
Annual Review

Captured in time: 3-D model of pillbox (GM216) affected by coastal erosion at Swanbridge, Vale of Glamorgan)

Contents

Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are used in this report:

EIA: Environmental Impact Assessment

GGAT: The Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust Ltd

HEDS: Historic Environment Data Standards

HER: Historic Environment Record

HLF: Heritage Lottery Fund

LDP: Local Development Plan

LPA: Local Planning Authority

MoU: Memorandum of Understanding

NMR: National Monuments Record

NRW: Natural Resources Wales

PDF: Portable Document Format

PRN: Primary Record Number

RCAHMW: Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales

SM: Scheduled Monument

SPG: Special Planning Guidance

UA: Unitary Authority

WATs: Welsh Archaeological Trusts

REVIEW OF CADW PROJECTS APRIL 2019 — MARCH 2020

GGAT 1 Regional Heritage Management Services

This project is reported under the four main headings of the agreed task list:

- ❖ Information and advice to national and local government;

- ❖ Information and advice arising out of projects funded by Cadw;

- ❖ Information and advice on other matters concerned with conservation and the environment;

- ❖ Information and advice to members of the public and community groups.

A. Information and advice to national and local government

Consultation responses

Responses were provided to Welsh Government on the Marine Planning and the Historic Environment consultation, the Easy Access to Listed Buildings consultation, and on the Sustainable Farming and our Land consultation. Staff attended workshops and meetings in order to provide meaningful and useful contribution and comments on these consultations.

Reports of damage to Monuments

We continued to respond to damage reports and other concerns brought to our attention by members of the public.

During the year the trust was notified of a number of incidents of possible damage to Scheduled Monuments; the damage caused by coastal erosion, flooding, grass fires, and human activity such as metal detecting, or animal disturbance. Sites affected included Clyne Valley Shaft Mounds (GM455), and Gwernllwynchwyth Engine House (GM430) in Swansea UA)area, Cae Summerhouse (GM102) in Bridgend UA area, Twmbarlwm Hillfort (MM044) in Caerphilly UA, Caerleon Amphitheatre (MM232), Ford Farm Roman Villa (MM298) and Langstone Fishpond (MM058) in Newport UA. Due to the imminent threat from coastal erosion a scheduled pillbox (GM619), in the Vale of Glamorgan UA was recorded by Trust staff using 3D imagery. All reports of damage were forwarded to Cadw for further investigation and action.

Pillbox (GM619) at risk from coastal erosion

Newly discovered Cup-marked stone, Caerphilly

Trust staff visited a number of non-scheduled and new sites following notification of concerns or finds made by members of the public. All sites visited were recorded and photographed and the appropriate authorities notified, at one a more extensive programme of investigation and recording was undertaken.

A visit to Swansea Bay was carried out to examine an area of exposed peat shelf after a human cranium, thought to have eroded from the peat, was brought to the trust for identification. Another

was made to a wreck site exposed at Sker beach reported by an Arfordir volunteer. Following further reports of cliff erosion and human bone exposure at Cwm Nash, Vale of Glamorgan, a programme of investigation and recording delivered by the trust and Cardiff University was delivered with separate grant-aid support from Cadw. Site visits along with expert consultation confirmed the authenticity of three cup-marked stones discovered at two separate locations in Caerphilly and Monmouthshire, one was later scheduled as GM628. A visit to a woodland near Mumbles revealed the remains of a previously unrecorded Second World War military camp..

Peat exposure, Swansea Bay

Previously unrecorded Second World War structure near Mumbles

Specialist advice to local authorities

The trust continued to support various steering and stakeholder groups, some at national scale such as the Built Heritage Forum, others covering a specific geographical area such as the Gower Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Steering Group. Other involvement included input into specific projects and heritage management plans.

Provision of advice and guidance on the protection of the historic environment continued to be given to UA Conservation Officers and other council departments. In the reporting period this included Merthyr Tydfil, Caerphilly, Bridgend, Swansea, Vale of Glamorgan, Cardiff and Newport councils.

- Heritage management advice regarding a number of issues and sites was provided to the Gower AONB Team at Swansea City Council. These included discussions regarding the restoration and recording of a listed pigsty in north Gower, and the repair and conservation of a number of other structures and sites. Wider consideration of the importance and protection of the historic environment was provided through trust staff input into the Gower AONB Management Plan Review and the preparation of the Clyne Valley Country Park Management Plan. Early stage review was held with the Rights of Way Officer at Swansea City Council in regard to the potential effect of proposed changes to Rights of Ways in Gower, and a proposed new cycle route using bridal ways.

- Advice was requested and provided to Newport City Council's Carbon Reduction team regarding the installation of electric vehicle charging posts, part of a larger project which will extend across neighbouring local authorities.

- The Conservation Officer for Bridgend County Borough Council contacted the Trust for advice regarding a number of issues, including the installation of benches by Porthcawl Town Council in an area known to have previously exposed archaeological remains. Officers were also provided with details of appropriate archaeological requirements to inform their response to a member of the public who wished to carry out an excavation on council owned land.

- The Trust recommended that Cardiff City Council carry out an archaeological watching brief as 'best practice' during roadworks as part of permitted development outside Cardiff Castle.

- Information and advice was provided to Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council in respect of the development of 'The Cyfarthfa Plan, a 25-year strategic plan for the Cyfarthfa industrial heritage area. Separately , it was recommended to Merthyr Tydfil and Caerphilly County Borough Councils, and specifically to the latter's Commons Ranger, that prior to proposed work, which aimed to reduce off-road activity and heritage crime on their large areas of common land, that an archaeological assessment should be carried out.

Specialist advice in connection with agri-environment management

The Trust continued to provide information and advice to the Welsh Government agri-environment scheme 'Glastir', which aims to protect historic environment features on farms within the scheme. In the past year this has been mainly on mitigating the effect that creating new woodland has on the historic environment (case work delivery is outside the scope of this project).

There was a further decrease in the number of cases where information and advice was provided to the Welsh Government Environmental Impact Assessment (Agriculture) team regarding sites where permission to plough had been sought or where ploughing had already taken place with only two cases needing a response.

B. Information and advice arising out of projects funded by Cadw

Information from past Cadw projects was used to inform various research projects whether university led or being undertaken by individuals or small community groups. A few examples follow. Information on Late Bronze Age settlement in Monmouthshire was provided to a lecturer to inform Welsh Baccalaureate student research. Information on human remains in the Late Bronze Age/Iron Age was provided to a MA student at Durham University, and information about Holy Wells in southeast Wales was supplied to aid the research of a postgraduate student from Cardiff. A 3D image of Llandaff War Memorial was sent to a Cardiff University student. Information was provided for various forthcoming books, television programs and community projects. The most requested data was that about Historic Landscape Characterisation, Early Ecclesiastical sites and Churches, Industrial Ironworks, Military sites, Prehistoric Defended Enclosures, and reports on coastal archaeological sites.

Trust staff continued to sit on the Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Advisory Committee (DAC) as the Diocesan Archaeological Advisor. This year nineteen faculties have been commented on. A further six faculties regarding Roman Catholic Churches within the trust area were reviewed at the request of the Wales and Herefordshire Historic Church Committee.

C. Information and advice on other matters concerned with conservation and the environment

The Trust continued to provided information and advice on the historic environment to other individuals and bodies concerned with management of the environment. In the marine environment, the Trust continued its involvement with the Severn Estuary Partnership and the Severn Estuary Joint Advisory Committee, and provided input into the Shoreline Management Plan Review, providing updates on relevant Trust work such as the Cadw grant-aid funded update of coastal archaeological assets.

Meetings of the Caerwent Training Area Conservation Group continued to be attended and information and advice provide when necessary.

Information and advice regarding the protection of the historic environment was provided to PONT, a not-for-profit environment conservation organisation working to benefit the farmers, wildlife, landscape and the cultural heritage of Wales. Proposed projects, such as the repair of ancient field boundaries and other stone structures, were discussed with their Regional Development Officer and the need to do this in a manner that was consistent with historic environment protection principles was advised.

Working with Natural Resources Wales (NRW)

Mutual commitment to the Memorandum of Understanding between NRW and the Welsh archaeological trusts continues, with increasing effort to obtain sustainable solutions and outcomes that benefit all parties involved. Initial consultations with NRW come within the scope of this project,

Staffing (project input) 1.32 (FTE)

Headline figures

Heritage management advice provided to organisations individuals and groups 90

HER information provided to non-commercial enquirers 118

Church Faculty Responses 25

Environmental Impact Assessment (Agricultural Screening) 2

Natural Resources Wales

Marine Licence Application Screening and Scoping 23

Felling Licence Applications 62

Various other scheme Screenings 14

Forest Resource Plans 6

Area Statements 2

and in 2019-20 consultations continued to increase in number as Appendix 6 of the MoU: Permitting and Regulation, was further expanded to include additional Permitting and Licencing application screening by the Trust. Activities where potential impact on the historic environment is considered at an early stage include direct works on NRW land, or where NRW are the permitting body for work. These now include applications for Marine Licences, Woodland Felling and re-stocking, Woodland Management Plans, Flood Alleviation Schemes, and the Habitat Creation Programme. Various NRW maintenance and improvement programmes are also screened, such as in-river repairs to improve fish movement or to remove stone, silt or vegetation obstructions. Larger projects may involve landslide avoidance or hillside re-stabilisation through terracing and drainage. Most recently, applications for Waste Deployment on farmland are also being screened by the Trusts. The creation of new or improved recreational projects such as mountain bike trails covering large areas of land have also been screened and recommendations provided. The greatest increase in NRW consultations this year is due to Felling Licence Applications, with 62 processed as opposed to 9 last year. In addition 6 Forest Resource Plans covering large tracts of land were assessed and archaeologically sensitive areas highlighted.

Following the attendance at meetings and general discussion with NRW, the trust contributed information and advice regarding the historic environment for incorporation into the South East and South Central Area Statements.

D. Information and advice to members of the public and community groups
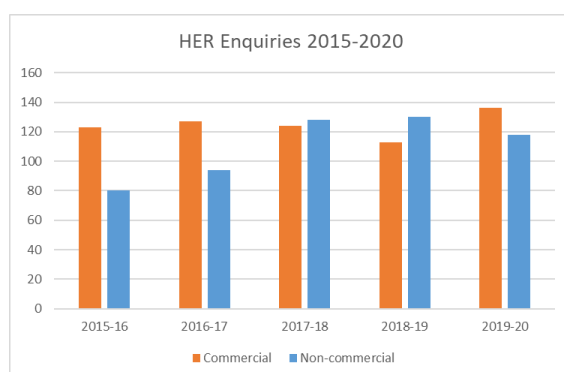
Enquiries through the Historic Environment Record

The Heritage Management and Historic Environment Record Sections of the Trust provided individuals and communities in the region with archaeological information and advice in pursuit of their projects and interests. During 2019-2020 254 HER enquiries
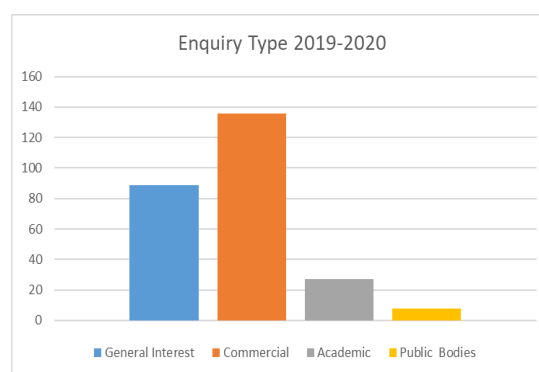
were made, eleven more than the previous year.

Year	*Total consultations addressed to Trust staff	Enquiries Commercial	External Enquiries Other	Total visits to Trust
2015-2016	203	123	80	16
2016-2017	221	127	94	15
2017-2018	252	124	128	22
2018-2019	243	113	130	7
2019-2020	254	136	118	8

Historic Environment Record Enquiries

These exclude consultations for Natural Resources Wales, the Forestry Industry, general Heritage Management advice, and Public Utilities, which are reported elsewhere.

HER Enquiries 2015-2020

2019-2020 Range and type of HER enquiries

The breakdown of the range and type of enquiry are shown in the following table.

General Interest		Academic	
Family History	0	Education Officer	0
Historical Archaeological Society	12	Lecturer/Teacher	4
Member of the Public	68	Other	1
Other	3	Post-graduate	11
		University/College Student	11
Total	**89**	**Total**	**27**
Commercial		**Public Bodies**	
Archaeologist	76	Unitary Authority	2
Consultant	57	Cadw	1
Consultant/Engineer	0	NRW	0
Engineer	0	Other	5
Non-academic researcher	3		
Total	**136**	**Total**	**8**

Visits to Archwilio

Figures for Archwilio, show a c6% increase in visits to the website: statistics for the year 2019-2020 indicate that there were over 18,500 user sessions to the Archwilio home page (www.archwilio.org.uk). The number of users were 10,827 with a 15:85 ratio for returning as opposed to new visitors.

Statistics recorded by Archwilio show that 39,818 searches were run on the website in the year 2019-2020, of these approximately a quarter returned GGAT records in their results. Over 2,160 of the searches were undertaken on *Communities* in the GGAT area, suggesting that users were specifically searching for GGAT records.

Year	Sessions/ Visits to homepage www.archwilio.org.uk	Users/ Unique visitors to homepage www.archwilio.org.uk	Sessions/ visits to GGAT homepage	Users/ Unique visits to GGAT homepage
2015-2016	12,329	7,021	5,055	2,786
2016-2017	10,349	5,914	4,149	2,455
2017-2018	13,766	7,811	Not available	Not available
2018-2019	17,543	11,004	Not available	Not available
2019-2020	18,555	10,827	Not available	Not available

Statistics for the Archwilio HER Public Access Website 2015-2020 (in earlier years some information was not recorded or could not be disaggregated by trust area)

Over 60% of visitors to the Archwilio webpage accessed the site directly, suggesting they have bookmarked the homepage. The remainder of the traffic accessed the site through search engines and referrals, with only just over 2% visiting the website via social media. Further analysis of data from the GGAT website shows that over 40% of visitors to the website both entered and exited via the GGAT HER webpage.

Other enquiries and responses

Non-commercial HER enquiries sometimes generated ancillary requests that required heritage management advice, such as concerns about the condition of non-scheduled sites, reports of new sites, or archaeological projects or sites requiring specific heritage management input. The advice provided is outside the planning process and therefore no obligation on the landowner to commit to funding the provision of recommended 'best practice' advice to protect or mitigate the damage to archaeological sites. This work is recorded (and logged) as Heritage Management Advice, and is separate from and additional to HER non-commercial advice and NRW consultations. This year 90 requests for such advice (many already mentioned in this report) were successfully and professionally processed and actioned through meetings, phone calls, emails, exchange of photographs, social media or site visits.

Other known requirements:

Attend two meetings of the Wales modern military archaeology group

The designated officer was unable to attend the meetings due to other work commitments, the secretarial functions of the group continued to be supported but have now been passed on.

Staff will provide support for the proposed publication of the results of the assessment of World War One sites.

GGAT provided information from assessment works, photographic register, digital photographs and related copyright requirements to the project co-ordinator at Dyfed Archaeological Trust.

GGAT 43 Regional Archaeological Planning Management and GGAT 92 Local Development Plan Support

**Spotlight
GGAT Archaeological
Planning Management in
numbers**

Staffing (project input) 3.07 (FTE)

Application review

Applications mapped against historic environment record information 2,248

Detailed Applications reviewed 1,187

Pre-planning enquiries 134

Additional works requested 50

Conditions requested

Programmes of archaeological work 234

Watching-briefs 8

Building recording 91

Environmental Impact Assessment Screening 8

Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping 8

Utility Consultations 35

Assistance with planning appeals and inquiries 19

Unitary Authorities Supported 12

Planning Statistics 2019—2020 (see Appendix 2)

The archaeological planning services provided on behalf of Cadw require the Trust to initially assess all of the region's planning applications and to notify the planning authorities of archaeological constraints to proposals, giving information and specific recommendations on the best course of action required to protect archaeological interests whilst enabling permitted development. Thereafter, and with the combined resources provided by all twelve LPAs in our regional area, Archaeological Planning Management has provided further detailed services, such as the provision of archaeological briefs for pre-determination assessments, approving detailed specifications submitted by developers and monitoring the work from inception and fieldwork to the production of the final report.

The 2019-2020 detailed statistics of the responses to planning applications made by the Archaeological Planning, which vary from recommending desk-based assessments and intrusive field evaluations in the predetermination period of planning applications through to the attachment of appropriate archaeological conditions on planning consents can be found in Appendix 2, these show information by individual authority, the combined statistics returned to Cadw as part of the project monitoring process are provided below..

In 2019-2020 a total of 14,172 applications were registered by the Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) in southeast Wales, with the LPAs making 688 direct consultations to Archaeological Planning. The number of detailed applications reviewed was 1,187 (8.3%), and resultant the number of planning applications with archaeological implications was 497 (3.5%). In addition we also received and processed 134 formal pre-planning enquiries, 27 of which originated from the LPAs.

For a total of 50 proposals we recommended that additional information on the impact of the development on the

archaeological resource would need to be provided by the applicant prior to the determination of the planning application.

The number of applications where we recommended that conditions requiring archaeological work to be undertaken should be attached to the planning consent was 333. These conditions can be divided into three types, those requiring programmes of archaeological investigation of which there were 234; those requiring an archaeological watching brief to be conducted during the development 8; and those requiring buildings and structures to be recorded 91. The team has also been involved in 19 planning appeals providing information and written advice to the Planning Inspectorate of the Welsh Government.

The statistics below incorporate data and progress up to the 31 March 2020, as provided by 30 April 2020 from all Unitary Authorities, except Rhondda Cynon Taff where planning lists were suspended in late March and the last list we had received dated to the 9 March 2020, any additional adjustments are likely to be negligible. The statistics also include information relating to post-determination works which are funded directly by the LPAs. The trust's archaeological planning management team approved 105 written schemes of investigation, specifications or project designs. They also undertook 27 monitoring visits No. of WSI/Specifications/Project Designs and approved 168 reports so that planning conditions could be discharged and provided 85 reports for addition to the Historic Environment Record which had not been submitted directly. This work was undertaken to standards, practices and protocols set out in advice published on our website (see for example http://www.ggat.org.uk/archplan/monitoring.html).

	April - June	July - September	October - December	January - March	Total for Year
Overarching					
No. of planning applications submitted to LPA	3817	3650	3267	3438	14172
No. of planning applications checked against HER	555	538	503	652	2248
No. of planning applications subject to detailed appraisal	351	309	253	274	1187
No. of planning applications subject to detailed appraisal which had no or minimal impact on heritage resource	229	155	136	170	690
No. of planning applications with archaeological implications	122	154	117	104	497
Pre-Application					
No. of pre-application requests from LPAs (written & meetings)	4	11	6	6	27
No. of pre-application requests from developers (written & meetings)	22	34	28	23	107
No. of EIA Screening Opinions	2	3	1	2	8
No. of EIA Scoping Opinions	0	2	3	3	8
No. of Environmental Statements Received.	2	3	0	2	7
Pre-determination Advice					
No. of applications received requiring desk-top assessment prior to determination	12	2	5	14	33
No. of applications received requiring archaeological evaluation and or geophysics prior to determination	6	2	5	4	17
No. of Desk-top assessments carried out (including EIA Cultural Heritage Sections)	5	1	3	4	13

	April - June	July - September	October - December	January - March	Total for Year
No. of Archaeological evaluation carried out (including number of trenches investigated)	0	5 (57)	3 (23)	0	8 (80)
No. of Geophysical Surveys carried out.	1	2	2	2	7
No. of Monitoring Visits made	1	4	0	1	6
Determination Advice					
No. of conditions recommended to LPA for watching brief	3	4	0	1	8
No. of conditions recommended to LPA for building recording	15	33	21	22	91
No. of conditions recommended to LPA for Written Scheme of Investigation	49	72	58	55	234
No. of recommendations made for Refusal	1	0	0	0	1
Post Determination					
No. of Briefs issued	0	0	0	0	0
No. of WSI/Specifications/Project Designs Approved	34	24	21	25	104
No. of Monitoring Visits made	5	4	17	1	27
No. of Watching Briefs carried out	8	10	8	8	34
No. of building recordings carried out	6	6	3	4	19
No. of archaeological investigations (including strip & record) & area investigated (m^2)	0	1 (7000)	0	4 (13944)	5 (20944)
No. of post-excavation project designs approved	1	0	0	0	1
No. of development associated community projects carried out	0	0	0	0	0
No. of development associated information boards produced	0	0	0	0	0
No. of archaeological reports approved	33	50	42	43	168
No. of archaeological reports added to HER	23	25	19	18	85

Monthly tracking reports continue to be shared with Cadw, but because of the timing of incoming information these tend to be produced a week or so after month end.

Screening and Scoping Environmental Impact Assessments

The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations requires developers to consult LPAs as to the need or not for an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) to be submitted with a planning application for large developments (screening). If it is determined that an EIA is required, they can request that the issues required to be covered by the EIA are outlined by the LPA and a methodology for the study is agreed (scoping).

We commented on 8 screening requests (previous year was 14) and 8 scoping consultations (previous year was 12) during 2019-2020.

Utilities

The Trust has continued to provide advice to the utility companies on the impact of their works on the archaeological resource; we were consulted on 58 proposals in 2019-2020.

Major development impacts

A number of large-scale and complex development projects continue to be initiated in southeast Wales and the service continues to commit considerable time and effort in ensuring that the historic environment is carefully considered during the planning process and that mitigation measures including preservation *in situ* and excavation are included in these developments. These include several large housing developments such as at Glan Llyn Former Steelworks; Milton Hill; Garth Works; St Athan; Rockfield Farm, Undy and Plasdwr, Radyr, as well as the ongoing post-excavation work for the Five Mile Lane road scheme. Near Llanwern, a Roman Villa was excavated by Costwold Archaeological Trust under the consultancy supervision of RPS with the trust's senior archaeological planning management officers providing the advisory inputs on behalf of the local planning authority.

«Part of the Llanwern Roman villa during excavation

Local Development Plans

Work in 2019-2020 is set out in the following table.

UA Plan Date	Adoption Date	Consultations Responded to	Response date
BBNP: 2013-2022	17 December 2013	5 Candidate Sites, HRA Screening, Sustainability Appraisal, Preferred Strategy Town Centre 5 Candidate Sites	08 July 2019 08 July 2019 08 July 2019 08 July 2019 02 March 2020 18 February 2020
BRI: 2006-2021	18 September 2013	172 Candidate sites, Education Facilities Residential Developments Recreation & New Housing Gp1 Potential Move to JLDP	04 October 2019 26 February 2020 26 February 2020 26 February 2020
BLG: 2006-2021	22 November 2012	Preferred Strategy 01 2020; Strategy Options Workshops attended; 10 Candidate Sites 54 Large Candidate Sites Gp2 Potential Move to JLDP	January 2020 31 October 2019 14 May, 16 July 2019 02 September 2019 10 March 2020
CAE: 2010-2031	23 November 2010	No change Gp1 Potential Move to JLDP	No consultations from Caerphilly in 2019-20; DDA Cancelled in March 2020
CAR: 2006-2026	28 January 2016	Draft Delivery Agreement Draft Review Report	16 January 2020 16 January 2020

UA Plan Date	Adoption Date	Consultations Responded to	Response date
MTY: 2016-2031	29 January 2020	MACs 2 Candidate Sites Replacement Development Plan will replace adopted LDP	16 September 2019 07 May 2019
MON: 2011-2021	27 February 2014	Two SPGs Strategic growth & Spatial options. Archaeology SPG Gp2 Potential Move to JLDP	12 April 2019 09 July 2019 20 December 2019
NPT: 2011-2026	27 January 2016	None in Year 2019-20	
NEW: 2011-2026	27 January 2015	CAA SPGs CAA SPG Review Gp2 Potential Move to JLDP	24 June 2019 18 February 2020
RCT: 2006-2021	02 March 2011	Gp1 Potential Move to JLDP	No consultations from RCT in 2019
SWA: 2010-2025	Adopted 28 February 2019	No consultations received	No consultations from Swansea in 2019-20
TOR: 2013-2021	03 December 2013	29 Candidate sites. Replacement Development Plan will replace adopted LDP; Gp2 Potential Move to JLDP	19 August 2019
VOG: 2011-2026	28 June 2017	Four SPGs commented on	19 August 2019

GGAT 100 Regional Public Engagement

Reporting is made under the main headings of our outreach programme. A major component of our work this year was a review of what we had achieved as a result of the previous working with local networks, particularly but not exclusively to assist engagement with disadvantaged communities as had been developed for example under the Fusion project of bringing together heritage, culture and communities. This took place side-by-side with continuing involvement with some networks, including our Arfordir volunteers, who we continue to support as they monitor impacts of climate change on our coastline. During the course of the year, the Trust received from the Dyfed Archaeological Trust the outputs from The Place for Skills Formalised Training in Archaeological Skills work for integration into our systems, and began to develop an initiative that will promote the acquisition of transferable skills and provide funding sources for the development of further training courses in our area.

A series of day schools were linked by the theme of the 'Year of Discovery'. Our electronic engagement continued with social media and improving public access to material produced with grant-aid in previous years. We focused on bringing forward works that connected with an 'Industry' theme, but did not reinvent any wheels.

Arfordir

Continuing support, engagement and monitoring for the Arfordir groups by professional archaeologists was maintained. Although only three groups still retain cohesion, previous volunteers on the project continue to monitor their stretches of coastline and to report back when they see evidence of damage to known archaeological features, or where previously unknown features appear. Where professional validation was needed, appropriate feedback was given to the groups. However, as Arfordir was deliberately set up to empower groups and individuals to monitor the coast by themselves, we know that recorded interactions are only the tip of the iceberg of much self-motivated interaction with the historic environment.

Sker Beach Boat (Photograph Courtesy and © Ceris Evans)

The surviving groups are those based on pre-existing structures such as local history societies or U3A, other groups put together by the Trust for the purposes of the Arfordir project from volunteers who had signed up individually have over time proved to have less cohesion. Two site visits were undertaken by Trust staff in response to the storms at the end of October and reports from Arfordir volunteers. A previously unknown structure on the beach at Llantwit Major was recorded, consisting of a roughly square ring of mortared cobbles associated with an iron bar. It purpose is unknown. A semi-circular scoop that had been dug out of the underlying geology elsewhere on the beach was also observed, but there is no information as to who had done it or what had been dug out of it. A visit to Pink Bay, Kenfig, to see whether any more remains of the 18th century vessel had been exposed revealed a considerable quantity of timber but no recognisable vessel or structure. A further visit to the area was undertaken in March, when the remains of two small boats were exposed by the sand. Various ideas as to their origin and purpose were proposed. One poignant one was that Sker was a favourite illegal landing spot of Irish immigrants during the 19th century, and that these vessel could be the relics from such activity. The prolonged storms of

Spotlight on GGAT Public Engagement

Staffing (project input) 0.84 (FTE)

Facilitated Learning
Total workshops/events 1
Total Participants 72
Schools and groups worked with 1

Work Experience and training
Total participants 14
Total hours 858

Volunteering (excluding Arfordir)
Total volunteers 40
Total volunteer hours 731

Events and talks
Total events and talks 10
Talk participants 134
Other event participants 290

Website & Social Media
Website views 9,298
Tweets 52
New twitter followers 60
Total followers 1,857
Facebook items posted 32
Total likes 1,310
Total followers 1,387

January and February do not seem to have generated as many reported new discoveries as the storms of 2014, this though may be due to the fact that the beginning of 2020 saw repeated storms, following on from each other, and that the public were asked to stay away from coastal regions.

It is interesting to note that how the volunteers report to the trust has developed over time. Most of the volunteers no longer report by e-mail, social media is the primary mechanism through which 90% of the volunteers now use. In addition, they no longer just report things that they themselves have seen. Due to them being part of multiple interest groups on Facebook, they now also report things that other people have found. Tagging the Trust or Arfordir co-ordinator into the post, and even going so far as to arranging membership to closed groups.

The Arfordir volunteer network also helped in the locating and reporting of plastic coils of piping that were lost overboard from a container ship on passage from Ireland to the Netherlands, 200 coils were washed up on beaches from North Wales, and the Bristol Channel.

Day Schools

For the 'Year of Discovery', the Trust planned four day schools, to be held one every quarter in each of Gwent and the three former counties of Glamorgan, although it was subsequently agreed with Cadw that none would be held in the second quarter. They were intended to showcase areas of research where considerable strides had been made in the previous ten years; the topic selected being South Wales ironworks (in Aberdare), coastal archaeology (Swansea), conflict archaeology (Vale of Glamorgan) and Caerleon. Events proved that staff inputs in the proposal had been under-estimated (as the model we had been provided with by one the other Welsh archaeological trusts had not included for the numbers of staff needed for on the day activities as that had assumed the day school presenters would be from the trust but using other grant-aid project resources that was not feasible in our case, given the spread of the grant-aid funding). Unfortunately, it was necessary to drop the conflict archaeology day school.

The first day school 'Ironworks Heritage of South Wales' was arranged in association

with the South Wales Industrial Networks Group with the papers presented by members. The morning was devoted to setting the scene, with papers on the South Wales iron industry in the 18th and 19th centuries, introduction to the major ironworks, excavations at Cyfarthfa and Ynys Fach, ironworks land**s**capes, and the management of the industrial landscape of Blaenavon World Heritage Site. The afternoon consisted of presentations on individual ironworks at Cefn Cribwr ironworks, Neath Abbey Ironworks, and Upper Rhymney. The day concluded with an optional tour of the remains of Gadlys Ironworks which was taken up by most of the audience. There were 35 non-trust attendees. There were 27 in the audience who were not speakers. Nine participants filled in feedback forms, which contained a multiple choice table, followed by optional free-text questions allowing for further comment.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The presentations were clear and understandable	8	1			
The presentation was the right length*	8				
The style of presentation was appropriate to the audience	8		1		
Audience questions were satisfactorily answered	8	1			
The slides/illustrations were well chosen to illustrate the points made	8	1			
I found the day school enjoyable	9				

* One form did not contain a response to this statement

Coastal Theme Day School 2019

We had hoped that the coastal archaeology day school would showcase past and recent projects carried out by Arfordir volunteers. However, although such two presentations were offered (the salvaging of two cannon at Porthcawl and the survey of the medieval wooden structure known as the Black Boys off Llantwit Major), only a few volunteers turned out to be confident in public speaking, and we were unfortunately unable to include two other potential Arfordir speakers who turned out to be tied up with prior engagements. The number of attendees (not counting Trust staff) was 59, of whom nine were speakers. There was again very positive feedback, with 20 paper forms being returned, and one comment posted on Facebook with 17 likes.

	Strongly agree	Agree	Neither agree nor disagree	Disagree	Strongly disagree
The presentations were clear and understandable	9	10	0	1	0
The presentation was the right length	14	6	0	0	0
The style of presentation was appropriate to the audience	13	7	0	0	0
Audience questions were satisfactorily answered	11	8	1	0	0
The slides/illustrations were well chosen to illustrate the points made*	12	5	2	0	1
I found the day school enjoyable	14	6			

The Caerleon day school was arranged in conjunction with the Monmouthshire Antiquarian Association for the 21st March, but a week before this date we decided to postpone it because of the unfolding Covid-19 emergency. Ticket-holders were given the option of receiving a refund or retaining their tickets until we are able to rearrange it. Only three tickets out of the 52 who had registered by 16th March applied for the refund. We are planning to hold this day school after lockdown has ended, hopefully in the autumn of 2020. All the preparation work had been completed.

Community Excavation at Neath Ironworks funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund

Supporting and developing local heritage networks

During the course of the year the Trust continued to work with some existing networks and established some new contacts.

Cardiff

Our partnership with Cardiff University was strengthened through the excavation of the eroding coastal cemetery at Cwm Nash, which benefitted from separate grant-aid funding from Cadw. Discussions between the Trust and the university took place concerning the development of a second year undergraduate module, part of which will involve students developing events and activities. This module will be delivered jointly by staff from the two organisations, and the students will undertake short placements with external partners. Plans were also made for a project on the Vale of Glamorgan coast to deliver excavation training to archaeology students and local volunteers, particularly from among the Gower and Llantwit Major Arfordir groups and Cardiff Archaeology Society.

This network facilitated our contact with the Society for Total Education which has enabled us to progress our skills agenda (see below).

Merthyr Tydfil

The Merthyr Tydfil Heritage Forum has had issues locally, connected with its relationship with other organisations in Merthyr that the Trust is not well placed to participate in. However, this network did help to publicise the Ironworks day school and attracted some of the attendees. Our collaboration with Cyfarthfa Museum established through the Forum led to the involvement of Trust staff helping to deliver activities for the Festival of Archaeology and School Holiday Enrichment Programme.

Neath Port Talbot

New contacts made during the course of the year have seen an increase in our activity in Neath Port Talbot. We already had an ongoing collaboration with the Friends of Neath Abbey Ironworks. The main activity with them was a community excavation there over Easter, led by Trust and supported by HLF funding. In addition, the warden at Craig Gwladys Country Park approached the Trust with a view to using the archaeology of Gelliau colliery, which lies within the park, in order to enthuse local residents and add new members to its Friends organisation. A community excavation was carried out at the end of 2019 on the Gelliau colliery smithy with costs met by the council. This was followed with a session on the finds at the local primary school. Another school session was planned (but deferred because of Covid-19), this time on the site, with another cohort of pupils from the school, and also a guided walk and presentation to the Friends of Craig Gwladys County Park to establish what further archaeological recording work they could carry out on the colliery remains. This work is helping to form links between this Friends organisation and the Friends of Margam Park, with whom the Trust already has links.

Community Excavation of part of Gelliau Colliery in Craig Gwladys County Park, funded by Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

Trust staff also managed for the first time to make contact with the Neath Port Talbot Fusion co-ordinator, and led a workshop on Roman food for the Blossoms Women's Group, to tie into the healthy eating and gardening strands of their programme.

Swansea

Following the pioneer year of the new iThink curriculum (response to Professor Donaldson's 'Successful Futures' report). trust staff and staff from Swansea Museum once again worked with Year 9 pupils from Olchfa Comprehensive School, Swansea. These activities were not as wide ranging and extensive as had taken place during 2019, as most of the groundwork and training for teaching staff had been put into place the previous year.

We are developing plans with partners in the City and County of Swansea to deliver two community led projects on Mumbles Head, one being the further excavation of the Roman site and the other

an earthwork survey of the Second World War remains. Both of these will be delivered with new moneys made available from the Gower AONB.

Although contact was re-established with the Swansea Fusion co-ordinator and discussions were held about how the Trust could contribute material on the Romans at Loughor to her programme on the theme of immigrants to the Swansea area, she did not in the end follow through on any of our suggestions. It appears that Fusion has seen a shift in emphasis away from general collaboration between a range of partners to a single Fusion co-ordinator devising programmes with a few repeat partners, leaving little opportunity for the Trust to have any influence.

South Wales Ironworks Networking Group (SWING)

SWING activities got off to a good start at the beginning of the financial year, with a meeting which attracted new members with interests in additional sites, and saw papers circulated on best practice for work parties by the Friends of Neath Abbey Iron Company, and on producing press releases. This was followed by the ironworks day school (see above). Members with an interest in the Gadlys ironworks, Aberdare are establishing a Friends group for this site, with the support of their Assembly Member. Unfortunately, matters languished during the latter part of the year as a result of the (volunteer) convenor's health issues, but the Trust intends to re-energise the network in the financial year 2020-21.

Review

This year, a significant portion of that strand of the engagement project was devoted to supporting and developing local networks was a review of what we had achieved as a result of the previous working with local networks, particularly but not exclusively to assist engagement with disadvantaged communities as had been developed for example under the Fusion project of bringing together heritage, culture and communities.

The report begins by surveying the characteristics of our local communities, which include the highest concentrations of disadvantaged households in Wales, and went on to look at the various networks with which we have been involved over the period. These ranged from the local-government-sponsored Fusion networks that the Trusts had engaged with in 2015 and other council sponsored heritage and environmental networks in Bridgend, Merthyr Tydfil and Swansea, to the networks that the Trust itself has been instrumental in setting up – Arfordir and SWING. The opportunities, achievements and problems with each of these networks was considered in turn.

The report then went on to consider legacies; the constraints that have influenced outcomes; and what we have learned through working with the various communities, which can be used to inform future initiatives. The report concluded that, whilst gains have been made in the past with local government-sponsored networks, there is a much better prospect for continued engagement with the networks we set up ourselves, provided that there is sufficient financial support to do so; and that will be easier to capture data on long-term effectiveness. We also consider that we need to refocus on supporting existing local archaeological and heritage organisations that have tended to be neglected whilst the poverty agenda was pursued. These are the community bedrock for the support and care of the historic environment in Wales, and have concluded that resuming dialogue with them is likely to reap rewards in terms of public engagement with the historic environment. This has enabled us to make an informed series of recommendations for future work.

Recommendation 1: Where projects are developed to train and upskill local groups in researching and/or managing the historic environment in their neighbourhood, provision needs to be made to allow for continued support and mentoring beyond the end of the project to ensure that gains made are not dissipated.

Recommendation 2: Build new archaeological groups around existing community structures where possible, in order to maximise chances of survival after their original project is completed.

Recommendation 3: Ensure that there is a structure in place to support and mentor local groups.

Recommendation 4: If necessary, encourage groups to develop beyond their original remit into researching/caring for other aspects of the historic environment and be prepared to offer additional mentoring and training as they do so, in order to maintain interest and momentum.

Recommendation 5: Carefully weigh up the costs and benefits involved before entering into partnerships with organisations whose objectives are not closely aligned with those of the historic environment sector, and ensure that returns are likely to be commensurate with the input required.

Recommendation 6: Seed money needs to be available to work with partners in order to unlock additional sources of funding for community engagement.

A series of appendices contain detailed information about our activities in the networks in which we have been most active, including case studies, statistical data and examples of feedback.

Skills

Following the receipt of 'The Place for Skills: Formalised Training in Archaeological Skills' resources from the Dyfed Archaeological Trust, trust staff held a meeting with the Cardiff network the Society for Total Education, which promotes training that includes life skills along with practical and academic skills, to discuss what the Trust can offer in the way of transferable skill taught through participation in archaeological projects.

The worksheets were rolled out during the Cwm Nash excavation with PhD students from Cardiff University. The students were asked to firstly use the current GGAT recording sheets and then the new 'Place for Skills' sheets. The feedback received was extremely positive. With all saying that they found the design to be very intuitive, with a clear explanation of methods and processes that volunteers and others with a limited knowledge of archaeology could easily follow both on the recording forms and the guidance sheets. The colour scheme was also commented on saying that this simple and tasteful. The only issues raised were with the skeleton recording forms. The PhD students raised that after lifting the remains would not usually be measured and recorded until back at the lab.

Social Media

The Trust continues to use social media to publicise ongoing and future activities and events, and to publish interesting information about past projects. It also allows interested parties to get in touch with us with queries about historic environment features, past projects, and requests to allow them to disseminate material from our website.

Popular items on social media included the advertising of web pages on Cardiff Castle material (prepared with other funding) and the transmission of the 'Digging for Britain' episode that featured the Cwm Nash excavation; for this work alone the social media direct contacts were 2,074 People Reached with 332 'engagements' on the GGAT Facebook account. Trust staff were also interviewed by telephone about the site for *The Times*, *CNN, The Mail Online* and *American Archaeologist* and provided these newspapers and other media outlets with images. The Cardiff Castle Web/blog posts directly reached 422 people with 140 'engagements' on the Facebook account alone.

Online and social media statistics 2019-2020

Website 9,298 Views (Percentage taken from 3,194 sessions) once again this was a drop on from the previous year, which may indicate that as well as a refresh and/or further content enrichment is needed. However in 2019-20 there was a larger percentage of returning visitors, although this is still far less than new visitors to the site (86% in the same period).

Twitter (only GGAT Tweets not re-tweets) 52 tweets

Facebook (Main/Web/Arfordir- only user generated posts are counted not re-posts of posts from other sources) 32 posts

Devising and mounting resources and information on our website

A series of pages and photo galleries related to the theme of 'Industry' have been prepared. These provide an introduction to the development of the most significant types of industry for South Wales – extraction and metal-smelting – and digital access to reports from Cadw-funded projects on Early Extraction, Iron Production Forges, The British (Abersychan) Ironworks Survey and Tinplate Works, and also Ironworks landscapes (via their already existing pages on our website). Work has started on refreshing the parts of our website connected to Cadw-funded projects, to improve visibility.

Summary of direct (non-digital) engagement

The figures below include participation, volunteering, and training occurring as a result of a range of interventions many beyond the scope of this particular project (excludes Unloved Heritage work, Arfordir time has not been recorded)

		Participation (specific activity or event)		
Location	Date	Activity Title	Type	Total Visitors
Swansea	03/06/2019	The Clyne Valley - A forgotten corner of Copperopolis	Guided walk	22
Aberdare	15/06/2019	Ironworks Heritage of South Wales	Day school	35
Swansea	21/06/2019	Finds Processing and presentation	Workshop	16
Cwm Nash	07/07/2019-09/07/2019	Visitors to excavation	Excavation visits	50
Wick	11/07/2019	Human remains at Cwm Nash	Workshop	16
Merthyr Tydfil	13/07/2019	Ironworks Landscapes - The Merthyr experience	Talk	40
Merthyr Tydfil	07/08/2019	Roman cookery demonstration	Other event	158
Port Talbot	29/08/2019	A Roman schoolchild goes home for lunch (moretum workshop)	Workshop	8
Cwm Nash	23/09/2019-27/09/2019	Visitors to excavation	Excavation visits	20
Swansea	16/11/2019	Discovering South Wales and the Sea – A Voyage through Time	Day school	59
Cadoxton	30/01/2022	Workshop on Craig Gwladys finds for Years 3 & 4 Catwg Primary School	Facilitated learning	72
Total				**496**

Volunteers			
Group	Start date	End date	Total hours
Planning archiving	01/04/2019	31/03/2020	149
HER Archiving	01/04/2019	31/03/2020	145
HER Volunteer	01/04/2019	31/032020	230
Neath Abbey ironworks excavation volunteers (19)	22/04/2019	26/04/2019	95
Arfordir volunteer (Cwm Nash)	23/09/2019	23/09/2020	4
Craig Gwladus excavation volunteers (17)	27/10/2019	01/12/2019	108
Total			**731**

Work experience/training				
Group	Start date	End date	Project	Total hours
Participant A	01/04/2019	12/04/2019	Cultural Ambition Project	60
Participant B	15/04/2019	26/6/2019	Cultural Ambition Project	318
Placement A	27/05/2019	21/06/2019	Cardiff University placement	140
Students (5no)	08/07/2019	09/07/2019	Cwm Nash excavation	100
Students (6no)	23/09/2019	27/09/2019	Cwm Nash excavation	240
Total				**858**

GGAT 135 Historic Environment Record Management and Enhancement

The task list for this project is arranged under five main headings: User Services and Access; Information Content and Coverage; Information Management; Strategic Management; Reporting.

A. User Services and Access

During 2019-20 feedback was sought from HER user groups, in the form of a HER User Survey, predominantly in the form of a Survey Monkey online survey. In summary, users rated the service as excellent to good overall. As with the previous survey, customer service factors rated highly.

Participation in data exchange has continued through the provision of data to the Historic Environment Data Standards (HEDS) for Wales' partners and supply of information to the 12 Unitary Authorities in the area and Brecon Beacons National Park.

Statistics relating to HER enquiries can be found in the GGAT 1 Heritage Management report above.

A: Record Edits

Record type	No of updates
Location	471
Artefact	23
Condition	837
Core	6,266
Site Type/ Period	336
Event	890
Management record	0
Photograph	0
Bibliographic Source	193
Status	139
Threat	0
Cross Reference	163
Total	**9,318**

B: New Records

Record type	Number of new records
Location	1,769
Artefact	24
Condition	2,063
Core	1,099
Site Type/ Period	1,639
Event	65
Management record	0
Photograph	0
Bibliographic Source	1,076
Status	1,115
Threat	0
Cross Reference	930
Total	**9,780**

New Record Creation and Record Edits made as part of core HER management activities (additional records and edits have been made with the aid of other funding sources)

B. Information Coverage and Content

General enhancement and maintenance of the physical and digital HER was carried out year-round by both staff and volunteers. Regarding the physical documentary archive, volunteers have made some progress on cataloguing the Trust illustration archive, and work on updating the Trust's off-print catalogue has also been progressed.

Incoming information from non-commercial sources for the reporting period was entered onto the record, resulting in c20 site updates. No submissions were received through the Archwilio website in the reporting period.

The table above details the number of record edits, new records and photographs catalogued for 2019-20. There were over 19,000 new records created for the period, over 9,000 can be attributed to this project. There were at least 10,478 record edits for the period.

Staff Resource 0.75 FTE

Total Volunteers 2

Total Learning placements 3

Total Support days 127.5

Total core records

Primary 32,562

Event 5,744

Artefact 5,929

New Records added in 2019-2020

More than 19,042

Existing Records edited in 2019-2020

More than 10,478

New online links to grey literature reports 9

Grey Literature reports received and awaiting accessioning into the HER 228

Total Grey Literature reports awaiting accessioning into the HER 1,165

Total enquiries processed 254

Total enquiry visits 8

Unitary Authorities supported 12

Some specific tasks were undertaken to improve the quality and content of the record. These included adding records and creating cross-references for Locally Listed Buildings in the Vale of Glamorgan; updating Event records with no description; beginning the integration of the Better Woodlands for Wales reports and associated photographs.

C. Information Management

Work on terminology was carried out in conjunction with the HEDS Working Group. It focussed upon the suggestion and approval of new terminology via the Thesaurus of Monument Types for Wales website.

Metadata relating to the key HER datasets was updated as a routine task.

D. Strategic Management

Work this year has begun on reviewing the Guidelines for the Submission of Data to Welsh HERs, which came into effect on the 1st October 2018. An update is expected to be issued in the 2020-21 financial year.

Following its initial set up during the 2018-19 financial year, the Integrated Grey Literature Management Tool (IGLiMT), continued to be updated on a quarterly basis. A further 228 reports were accessioned onto the IGLiMT during the reporting period, bringing the total to 1,165 grey literature reports awaiting full accession on to the HER.

HER staff have also been present at the following meetings and *fora* relating to HER issues: HEDS Working Group meeting; the Records Co-ordination Group meeting; and HEROS Development Group meeting. The HER Forward Plan was reviewed in March and agreed.

E. Reporting

Quarterly progress reports were provided to Cadw and RCAHMW. An Annual Report was approved by the GGAT HER Charitable Trust and copied to Cadw.

GGAT 150: Upgrading Coastal Archaeology

A series of Rapid Coastline Zone Assessments were carried out by the Welsh Archaeological Trusts in the 1990s around the whole of the coast of Wales. They have since been used to inform our input into coastline management plans and other conservation measures, but with the advances made elsewhere in methodology and techniques, they are no longer fit for this purpose in the 21st century. Therefore this project was designed to bring our existing Rapid Coastline Zone Assessment into line with recent assessments in England, where a rolling programme of Rapid Coastline Zone Assessment is still ongoing.

A scoping exercise carried out in 2016-17 to define a coastal zone area in relation to currently mapped risks associated with climate change, determined the work needed to bring the quality and scope of data on the coast of Glamorgan and Gwent up to present standards. It identified as a priority the necessity to integrate the various datasets provided by the previous Rapid Coastline Zone Assessment and the subsequent work on the coastal zone into a single GIS base on the Historic Environment Record, where the data for archaeological sites is linked with mapping of intertidal features such as peat shelves and shoreline management units with status information. It was originally intended to draw up specific management recommendations for individual sites in areas of high risk of coastal erosion, and to identify contingencies in which more detailed fieldwork would be desirable.

The project commenced during 2018-19, covering the western half of the Glamorgan-Gwent area, comprising the local authorities of Swansea, Neath Port Talbot, Bridgend and the Vale of Glamorgan. During 2019–20 the project covered the adjacent area as far east as the Usk River, encompassing parts of the local authorities of Cardiff and Newport.

The coast of Glamorgan and Gwent showing the area selected for study during 2019-2020. Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of HMSO. © Crown copyright and database right (2019). All rights reserved. Welsh Government. Licence number (100017916)
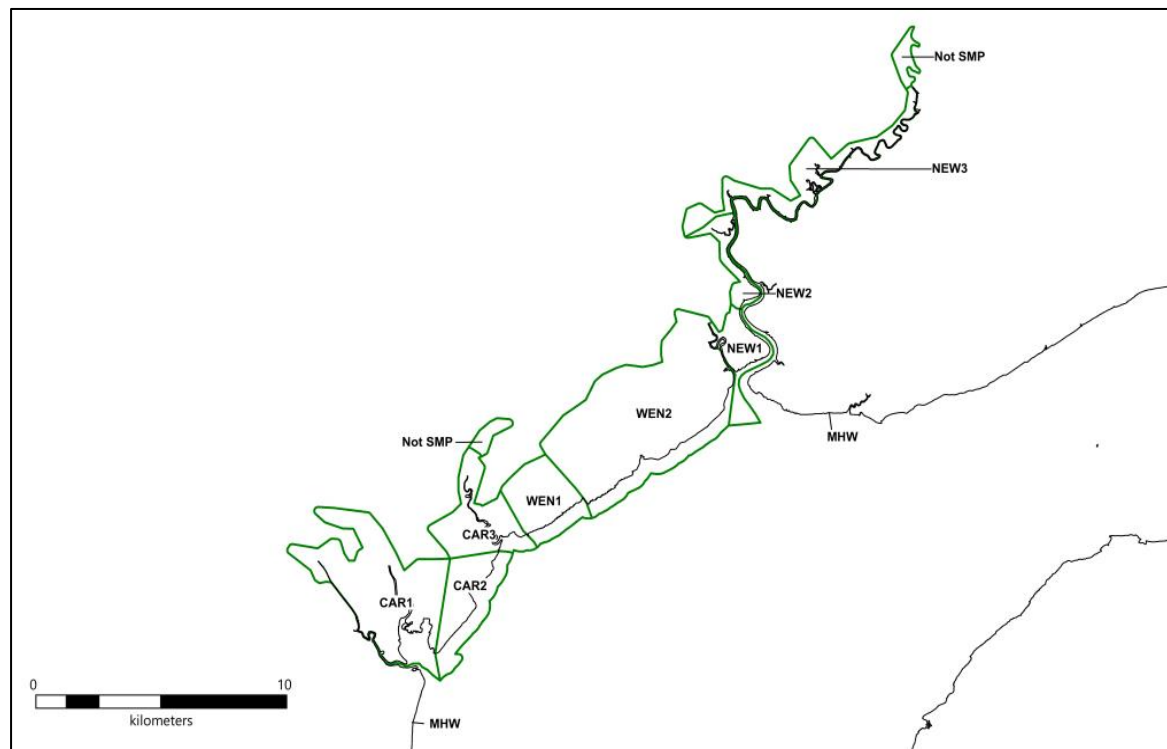
One aim of the project was to help authorities deliver their statutory duties and to contribute to informing requirements to combat the impacts of climate change. The provision of advice in respect of the historic environment to national and local government bodies forms a vital part of the Trust's heritage management portfolio. In order to carry out this function, accurate and up-to-date information on coastal archaeology is essential. The objective was therefore to upgrade information on the HER to make it fit for the present.

During the course of the project 391 HER records, events and polygons were created or upgraded. Some 212 core PRN records/events and 179 polygons were created/upgraded and made ready for upload to the online HER (Archwilio), whilst 15 photographs were added to 10 records on the HER.

Areas which could benefit from further research and investigation from historic mapping, LiDAR, aerial photographic sources allowing additional sites to be identified and uploaded on to the HER as part of future HER upgrade projects were identified and defined during the project as polygons to aid future recommendations. In this way, during the current year, one area in particular was noted as requiring further in-depth study to add additional sites and polygons to the HER from the historic 1st-4th edition OS mapping (ie sites not identified during the previously scoping works); the area centred on East Moors Industrial Estate, Cardiff was noted to contain a number of 19th century industrial works (including Waggon works, chemical works, paint mills, etc.).

In addition an up-to-date GIS was created in which information on historic assets is integrated with existing Natural Resources Wales (NRW) and Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) data on coastal erosion, policy areas and options, and used to provide management recommendations for individual PRNs in areas of particular risk of coastal erosion. The project thus assessed areas of erosion as identified by NRW in relation to the archaeological resource and produced polygons rating areas of archaeological risk as a GIS layer with reference to NRW SMP policies, erosion data and reports. The data was examined for areas of short-term high and medium-high risk; no such areas were identified.

Shoreline Management Plan Policy Areas showing Mean High Water Mark (MHW). [1]Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of HMSO. © Crown copyright and database right (2019). All rights reserved. Welsh Government. Licence number (100017916)

No recommendations for further field work were made in respect of the area examined.

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[1] Note SMP[2] Policy Areas have been amended as polygons based on GGAT150 (Yr2) Study Area.

GGAT 151 Historic Environment Record Enhancement – Ironworks Sites

Project Background

Cadw provided grant-aid for a six-year project entitled Southeast Wales Industrial Ironworks Landscapes (Project no GGAT 80) which investigated the survival of remains relating to the late 19th century Ironworks in the Heads of the Valleys Region to improve the statutory protection and management of these remains. The project identified key surviving sites, structures, infra-structure and associated landscapes; the majority of which were hitherto unrecorded to make recommendations for statutory designation, including both scheduling and listing. With the exception of the first year of the project which looked at the core areas of the Ironworks, both the nature and the scale of the work in subsequent years were such that the volume of new data that might result from the project could not be estimated with any confidence at the outset of the work. As a consequence, the project proposals did not include for Historic Environment Record enhancement, although some task re-allocations in the second year of the project facilitated partial data entry into the record.

Integration of this information was identified as a high priority in the 2015 GGAT HER Audit.

The project occurred over six years as follows:

- Year 1: Core Ironworks Areas (all information from this year was entered into the Historic Environment Record);

- Year 2: Transport Networks (a number of records were entered into the record, however, approximately half remain);

- Year 3: Water Management Features (no information has been entered into the Historic Environment Record);

- Year 4: Extraction Areas (no information has been entered into the Historic Environment Record);

- Year 5: Upper Sirhowy, Ebbw and Ebbw Fach Valleys (no information has been entered into the Historic Environment Record);

- Year 6: The Cynon Valley (no information has been entered into the Historic Environment Record).

In total there are c2,000 records that require incorporation into the Historic Environment Record.

This project has started to address this deficit. The work covered by this report concerned processing part of the data from the third year of the Southeast Wales Industrial Ironworks Landscapes project as an agreed extension to the project. This included:

- creation/enhancement of Core HER records

- creation/enhancement HER Event Records

- cataloguing and incorporation of photographs into the HER

- Incorporation of site polygon data

Project Outcomes

Work on this project in the reporting year was done in two stages:

- Incorporation of data from Year 2 of the project

    - This resulted in the creation of 153 parent Core records and updates to 15 existing Core records, as well as the creation or amendment of over 1,000 child records.

- Commencement of incorporation of data from Year 3

    - This resulted in the creation of 87 parent Core records and updates to 6 existing Core records, as well as the creation or amendment of c.800 child records.

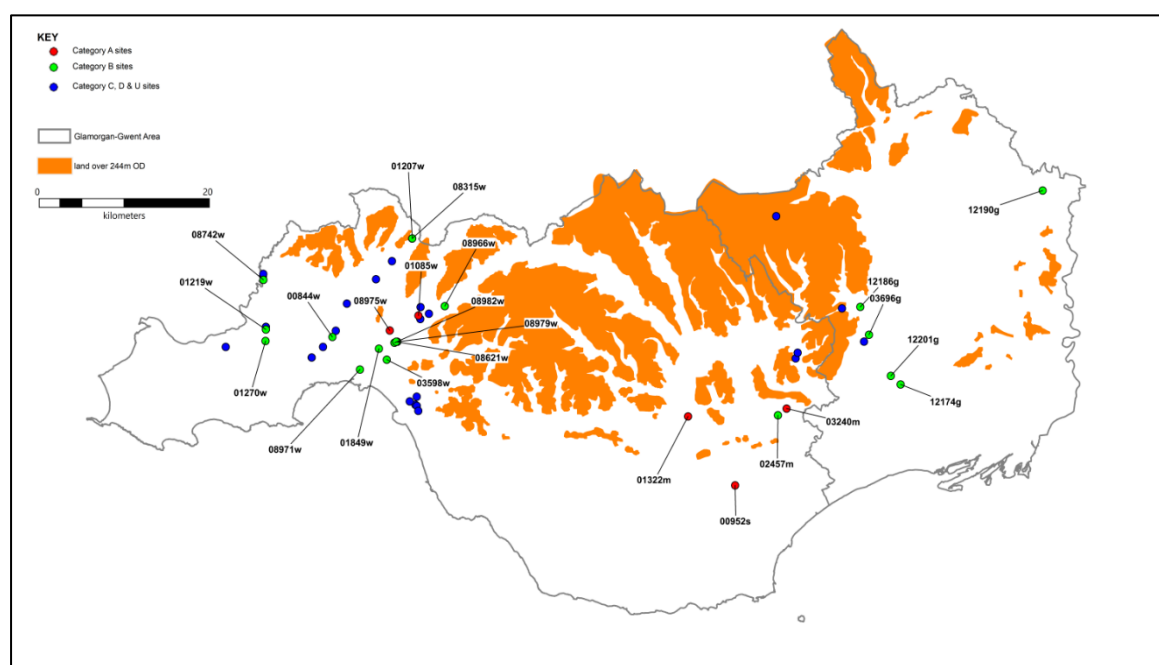# GGAT 152: Industrial Sites in Southeast Wales - The Tinplate Industry

The former Welsh Historic Environment Strategic Statement included in its Headline Action Plan an intention to commission an audit of industrial heritage assets at risk across Wales. This was actioned for southeast Wales and a number of monument classes at risk have been identified. One of the initial priorities that emerged concerned the tinplate industry.

A project with aim of quantifying, and examining through research the surviving remains associated with the tinplate industry in southeast Wales had been identified in a scoping study carried out in 2015; the resultant study assessed the extent, nature, and condition of the resource, and identify potential avenues of further investigation, recording and protection requirements. The objective of the project was to enhance existing records and to produce recommendations for protection and management, as necessary. It had been noted that remains of tinplate works are currently under-represented on the schedule of ancient monuments, and were under increasing threat from development.

The initial scoping project (GGAT139) identified 30 sites recorded on the Historic Environment Record (HER) and c.33 tinplate site potentially on the National Monument Record (NMR). The review also indicated that c.25 HER sites potentially retained some level of above and below ground remains at the time, with active landscaping, reclamation and development threatening the resource.

Given the relatively small numbers of tinplate sites identified during the scoping works and in the light of the rapidly changing situation affecting survival of tinplate sites on the ground, the initial scoping work was revisited. The work also examined readily accessible lists/publications to identify, locate, and describe additional tinplate sites not previously recorded on those registers.

The project used a two-stage approach of appraisal followed by detailed assessment on a final selection of surviving sites. The first stage of the project entailed a desktop appraisal of c.100 tinplate sites, including 52 tinplate sites not previously recorded on the Historic Environment Record (HER). With removal of poorly located or out of area sites, the appraisal identified, mapped (104 polygons), described and assessed survival/condition of the resource.

Distribution of selected Tinplate sites (47 sites) assessed at Stage 2: showing summary of Archaeological Significance. Reproduced by permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of HMSO. © Crown copyright and database right (2019). All rights reserved. Welsh Government. Licence number (100017916)

The work then identified sites considered destroyed or likely destroyed, and made a selection of sites for further assessment and for potential site visits based on these findings. Some 47 potentially surviving sites were selected in this way and further assessed at Stage 2 in detail against set criteria, with 16 of these sites visited.

Of the 47 sites assessed, five were considered to be of National significance, all existing Scheduled Monuments or grade II* listed, whilst 19 sites were considered to be of at least Regional Significance.

Recommendations for further work, including a variety of survey, further investigation, conservation/consolidation works and public presentation, have been made. For extensive/complex sites, the provision of conservation plans is recommended. Recommendations for consideration for protection were provided in a separate report.

Appendix 1 Welsh Archaeological Trust Grant Scheme 2019–2020: Schedule 2: The Targets

Award of Funding 2019-2020: X.J10 GRANTT Schedule 2: The Targets

Conserving and protecting the historic environment of Wales including: *Complete all threat-related archaeological recording, surveys, assessments, excavations; identifying historic assets of national importance meeting the individual project objectives detailed in your Final Grant Application.*	The target was completed through undertaking our Upgrading Coastal Archaeology (GGAT 150) and Industrial Sites in Southeast Wales - The Tinplate Industry (GGAT 152) projects in line with the planned program.
Maintain and manage the regional Historic Environment Record (HER).	This target was completed through undertaking works set out in our Historic Environment Record Management (GGAT 135), and Historic Environment Record Enhancement – Ironworks Sites (GGAT 151) projects.
Support the sustainable management of the historic environment of Wales by providing: *Planning Advisory Service;* *Heritage Management Advisory service*	This target has been completed through undertaking works set out in our Heritage Management GGAT 1), Archaeological Planning Management GGAT 43), Local Development Plan Support GGAT 92) projects.
Promoting public understanding and appreciation of Welsh heritage; support community engagement with the historic environment by providing: *Historic Environment Learning, Engagement and Outreach Projects as detailed in your Grant Application* *Community archaeology projects linked with Year of Discovery as detailed in your Grant Application*	This target was completed through undertaking our Engagement (GGAT 100) project. There were no specific community archaeology projects.

Appendix 2 Planning Statistics 2019–2020

LPA	Applications	Mapped	No of IPE	No Reply	DARi	DAR Disc	DAR Disc+	LB Disc	WB	ASS	EVA	Sec 23	Record	Objection	Other	No Response	Determined	LPA
BLG	366	51	13	0	0	2	3	0	1	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0	BLG
BRI	1054	175	36	0	0	4	8	2	0	1	0	7	4	0	2	0	2	BRI
CAE	748	102	25	0	0	1	8	1	0	0	0	5	2	0	0	0	0	CAE
CAR	2909	244	144	0	0	12	53	19	0	3	4	16	10	0	4	0	4	CAR
MON	1412	414	392	0	7	34	137	23	3	10	4	79	18	0	14	0	17	MON
MTY	290	56	222	0	0	2	4	2	0	0	0	1	3	0	3	0	1	MTY
NEW	992	132	190	0	2	15	77	7	1	3	1	43	8	1	6	0	1	NEW
NPT	914	133	40	0	0	4	6	3	0	2	1	9	2	0	0	0	6	NPT
RCT	929	140	174	0	0	8	9	2	3	4	0	9	12	0	0	0	1	RCT
SWA	1899	390	110	0	0	9	30	9	0	4	0	26	7	0	8	0	4	SWA
TOR	479	64	21	0	1	3	4	0	0	0	0	2	6	0	0	0	0	TOR
VOG	1528	253	164	0	0	17	38	11	0	6	8	36	16	0	4	0	9	VOG
BBNP	652	94	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	BBNP
TOTAL	**14172**	**2248**	**1531**	**0**	**10**	**111**	**377**	**79**	**8**	**33**	**18**	**234**	**91**	**1**	**41**	**0**	**45**	**TOTAL**

BLG = Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council

BRI = Bridgend County Borough Council

CAE = Caerphilly County Borough Council

CAR = Cardiff County Council

MON = Monmouthshire County Council

MTY = Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

NEW = Newport City Council

NPT = Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

RCT = Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council

SWA = City and County of Swansea

TOR = Torfaen County Borough Council

VOG = Vale of Glamorgan Council

BBNP = Brecon Beacons National Park

Applications = Number of planning applications submitted to LPA

Mapped = Number of planning applications checked against HER

No IPE = Number of planning applications requested by GGAT

No Reply = Number of applications requested by GGAT but not received

DARi = Number of applications received which had no archaeological impact

DAR Disc = Number of applications received where it was determined that there was unlikely to be an archaeological impact

DAR Disc + = Number of applications received where it was determined that there was minimal archaeological impact

LB Disc = Number of applications received which affected listed buildings but were perceived not to have an archaeological impact

WB = Number of applications which were received which were determined to require the imposition of a watching brief condition

ASS = Number of applications received which required further information in the form of a desk-top assessment prior to determination

EVA = Number of applications received which required further information in the form of an evaluation prior to determination

Sec 23 = Applications where the archaeological resource can be protected by the imposition of conditions requiring archaeological work

Record = Applications where it was determined that condition requiring the developer to record the standing structure should be imposed

Objection = Applications where the development would cause damage to the archaeological resource and GGAT object

Other = Number of applications received where GGAT's response could not be classified.

No Response = Number of applications received which GGAT failed to respond during consultation period

Determined = Applications determined by LPA before being sent to GGAT