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Comisiwn Brenhinol
Henebion Cymru
Royal Commission on the Ancient
and Historical Monuments of Wales

25 April 2024

FAO Sarah Duckworth

RE: P/2024/0248. Moss Villa, Bronington. *Listed building consent for two storey extension to dwelling and conversion of outbuildings to car port and home of.*

Thank you for consulting us on the plans for Moss Villa, Bronington, application number P/2024/0248. The remit of the Royal Commission permits us to comment only on the historical significance and context of a monument or structure and on the adequacy or otherwise of the record. We currently hold little information on Moss Villa and are therefore grateful for the Heritage Impact Assessment submitted as part of the application.

The building is a mid-nineteenth century cottage, a relatively simple build on the Hanmer estate (John Hanmer, MP for Shrewsbury, Kingston-upon-Hull and Flint Boroughs, 1809–81). As the Heritage Impact Assessment notes, the cottage appears on the Tithe mapping of 1839 in the Parish of Hanmer and County of Flint, as well as later OS maps. Specifically, the building is located on the edge of Fenn's Moss – a peat bog – in the township of Bronington, one of the six townships of the Hanmer Parish which was described in John Lord Hanmer's 1877 publication *A Memorial of the Parish and Family of Hanmer in Flintshire* as 'wild and forestal'. A railway line was built across the north-western edge of Fenn's Moss, and close to Moss Villa, in the 1860s and the area is now part of a National Nature Reserve that straddles the Wales and England border.

The building – Moss Villa – is brick built with a slate roof, central chimney stack and casement windows. Notable features include a small window beneath the eaves on the eastern elevation and a sawtooth band along all elevations, as well as the Hanmer crest. The interior is noted to have historically significant fireplaces, which may be original. The proposal seeks consent for a two-storey extension along with a conversion of the outbuildings to create a car port. To ensure a visual record of the buildings as they were intended survives, we would recommend as a condition of consent a **Level 2 photographic survey** as detailed in section 5 (p.26) of Historic England's *Understanding Historic Buildings* (2016). Digital copies of the resulting survey photographs should then be deposited with the National Monuments Record of Wales in Aberystwyth. Photographs are to be TIFF formatted although we can convert these accordingly if deposition of the photographic survey in JPEG proves more efficient.

Yn gywir / Yours sincerely

Meilyr Powel

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