



## Archaeological Watching Brief

Groundworks being undertaken at The Old Croft,  
Green Street, Holt, Wrexham LL13 9JF



*The Old Croft, Green Street, Holt.*

January 2024

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Groundworks being undertaken at The Old Croft,  
Green Street, Holt, Wrexham LL13 9JF

Application Number: HOL P/2023/0076

Client: Mr Peter Catherall (T/A Project Architecture)  
on behalf of Mrs Sue Robson-Catling.

Location: SJ 41017 54184.

Author: M. M. Emery.



*Location of The Old Croft, Green Street, Holt.*

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### CRYNODEB

Yn unol ag amod 11 yr hysbysiad cynllunio uchod, comisiynwyd Archaeoleg y Capel gan Mr Peter Catherall i gynnal gwyliadwriaeth yn Old Croft, Holt.

Y prif amcanion oedd:

- Cynnal briff gwylio dros yr holl rannau hynny o'r datblygiad sy'n ymgorffori gwaith daer.
- Cofnodi unrhyw nodweddion archeolegol, ac i adfer unrhyw ddarganfyddiadau, os ydnt yn bresennol.
- Cwblhau'r archif a pharatoi adroddiad yn manylu ar unrhyw ganfyddiadau perthnasol.

Cloddiwyd 6 ffos l ddyfnder uchaf o 450mm-1m. Roedd pob un yn cynnwys tir colur yn bennaf neu 'aflonyddu' gan wasanaethau cyfleustodau neu ddraeniau maes.

Roedd Darganfod/Arteffactau yn brin iawn, yn anarferol felly ar gyfer adeilad mor hirsefydlog a oedd wedi cael cymaint o newidiadau ers yr 19eg ganrif.

### SUMMARY

In compliance with with condition 11 of the above Planning Notice, Chapel Archaeology was commissioned by Mr Peter Catherall to undertake a watching-brief at the Old Croft, Green Street, 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, and to recover any finds, if present.
- The completion of the archive and preparation of a report detailing any relevant findings.

6 Trenches were dug between 450mm-1m. Each was primarily composed of made ground or 'disturbed' by a utility service below lay undisturbed soils overlying the natural boulder clay.

No features of any note were located.

Finds/Artefacts were extremely scarce, unusually so for such a long-established building that had undergone so many changes since the 19<sup>th</sup> century.



*Site before preparatory work had taken place.*



*Site prepared for trenching work.*

## THE TRENCHES

6 trenches were dug, averaging 450-650mm, none exceeding 800mm below current made ground level. Undisturbed soils overlay a fine waterlogged sandy layer, possibly relating to a spring-line/water-table. This was superimposed on firm, dense and compact boulder-clay.



*Drone shot of the trenches*

## REPORT

The groundworks were undertaken on Thursday/Friday 18-19<sup>th</sup> January 2024, in near-freezing conditions.

Each trench-profile was photographed, but it was deemed unnecessary to draw them to scale. The soil profiles closely resembled those recorded at nearby Holt Hill (Chapel Archaeology 2020),

The photographic record was complemented by the use of an aerial drone survey.

The scarcity of finds/artefacts was significant, further enhanced by the extensive use of a metal-detector.

No features were present.

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