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Planning Services
Wrexham CBC

By Email

Eich cyfeirnod Your reference	P/2026/0070
Ein cyfeirnod Our reference	
Dyddiad Date	8 May 2026
Llinell uniongyrchol Direct line	0300 0257894
Ebost Email:	Cadwplanning@gov.wales

Dear Sir/Madam

Planning Application - Erection of garage, 2 Bersham bank, Bersham, Wrexham LL14 4LL

Thank you for your letter inviting our comments on the information submitted for the above planning application.

Advice

This response is based on the advice provided by Cadw's Historic Environment Planning Officer.

Having carefully considered the information provided, we have no objection to the proposed development in regards to the scheduled monuments or registered historic parks and gardens listed in our assessment of the application below.

The national policy and Cadw's role in planning are set out an Annex A.

Assessment

Scheduled Monuments

DE189 Bersham Ironworks

The above designated historic assets are located inside 500m of the proposed development.

The application area of the proposed development is adjacent to the boundary of scheduled monument DE189 Bersham Ironworks. The monument comprises the remains of an early Ironworks founded by Charles Lloyd in about 1718 and, which in 1721, soon became the first Welsh works to improve production by using coke rather than charcoal as fuel. Bersham came to specialise in the manufacture of cast iron goods. However, it was in the 18th century - when the Ironworks were owned and extended by first Isaac and then John Wilkinson - that Bersham acquired an international reputation. It was at Bersham from 1775 that John Wilkinson used his revolutionary process to accurately bore cannon and cylinders (for James Watt's steam engines) from solid cast metal. The ironworks ceased to operate in 1812 and

the site was later used as a farm. It is now owned and managed by Wrexham County Borough as part of the Bersham Heritage Centre. The site comprises several buildings (including the exceptional octagonal cannon foundry and associated probable fettling shop), an open excavated area (containing casting floors and the remains of air furnaces for reheating iron prior to casting) and a steep bank (containing the partial remains of a blast furnace; coal hoppers; coking ovens; and a leat bringing water to power the bellows). A consolidated limekiln (the subject of the original designation) is situated further to the east; and the area above the works contains archaeological deposits pertaining to horse-drawn wagon ways and leat systems.

The proposed development will be largely screened from views from the monument and effect on the way that the monument is experienced, understood and appreciated from the adjacent Heritage Centre within the scheduled area will be minimal. As any groundworks associated with the proposed development could potentially reveal archaeological evidence contributing to the significance of the adjacent monument it is recommended that Heneb: The Trust for Welsh archaeology, the archaeological advisors to the Wrexham County Borough Council are consulted regarding potential impacts of the proposed application on undesignated archaeological remains.

Yours sincerely

Nick Segust
Case Officer
Historic Environment Inspectorate

Cadw

Annex A

Our role

Our statutory role in the planning process is to provide the local planning authority with an assessment concerned with the likely impact that the proposal will have on scheduled monuments, registered historic parks and gardens, registered historic landscapes where an Environmental Impact Assessment is required and development likely to have an impact on the outstanding universal value of a World Heritage Site. We do not provide an assessment of the likely impact of the development on listed buildings or conservation areas, as these are matters for the local authority.

It is for the local planning authority to weigh our assessment against all the other material considerations in determining whether to approve planning permission.

National Policy

Applications for planning permission are considered in light of the Welsh Government's land use planning policy and guidance contained in Planning Policy Wales (PPW), Technical Advice Notes and related guidance.

PPWgov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2024-07/planning-policy-wales-edition-12.pdfexplains that it is important that the planning system looks to protect, conserve and enhance the significance of historic assets. This will include consideration of the setting of an historic asset which might extend beyond its curtilage. Any change that impacts on an historic asset or its setting should be managed in a sensitive and sustainable way.

The conservation of archaeological remains and their settings is a material consideration in determining a planning application, whether those remains are a scheduled monument or not. Where nationally important archaeological remains are likely to be affected by proposed development, there should be a presumption in favour of their physical protection in situ. It will only be in exceptional circumstances that planning permission will be granted if development would result in a direct adverse impact on a scheduled monument (or an archaeological site shown to be of national importance)

Technical advice note (TAN) 24: the historic environment | GOV.WALES elaborates by explaining that when considering development proposals that affect scheduled monuments or other nationally important archaeological remains, there should be a presumption in favour of their physical preservation in situ, i.e. a presumption against proposals which would involve significant alteration or cause damage, or would have a significant adverse impact causing harm within the setting of the remains.

Historic Parks and Gardens

PPW also explains that local authorities should value, protect, conserve and enhance the special interests of parks and gardens and their settings included on the register of historic parks and gardens in Wales and that the effect of a proposed development on a registered park or garden or its setting should be a material consideration in the determination of a planning application.