

Case Study

National Trust, Tredegar House

Newport

Craftsmen in the
Conservation of
Historic Buildings

Major Conservation Roofing Programme.



Repair and redevelopment of the slate roofs, chimneys and windows of this 17th Century stately home managed by the National Trust. Tredegar house is one of the finest examples of a Charles II home in the UK and has origins in the 1500s with the main building being constructed between 1664 to 1672.

The building was encased in scaffolding and a temporary roof system installed to make the building watertight during the works. The timber roof structure was repaired, insulated and slated with some 10,000 new Penrhyn Heather Blue Welsh slates. Twelve dormer windows were repaired, new sash windows were manufactured in the Ellis and Co workshop and reglazed with restoration glass. Lead details on the roof included the segmental dormer arches and access hatches.





The chimneys were partially rebuilt down to the roof line and refitted with flues. During structural repairs to the walls it was discovered that a supposed brick wall was an original timber framed construction. The wall design was adjusted to be timber-lined rather than lime rendered in keeping with the original construction.



In addition to roofing, slating, leadwork and masonry repairs the timber repairs included removing paint from the corbels to reveal the decorative carvings underneath and replacing damage elements with newly carved inserts.



This project included a strong element of public engagement with fundraising, scaffold tours, and a safe viewing gallery for the general public to see the craftsmen and women in action. The project is costed at £1.05m under the design and instruction of Davies Sutton Architects in conjunction with National Trust conservators and project managers. It was shortlisted for the RICS 2018 Wales award for Heritage and the National Federation of Roofing Contractors 2018 national award for heritage and conservation projects.