

# the context of sustainable communities

a wsa siteworks studio

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This studio embraces an opportunity to work with a live project and real clients, through a proposal to redevelop the **LLanfyllin Workhouse** in Powys, Wales. Abandoned in 1984, the Workhouse has fallen into disrepair and was purchased in 2004 by the Llanfyllin Doydd Building Preservation Trust. The Trust aim to develop the Workhouse as an economically sustainable venue for entertainment, education, arts and social enterprise which could benefit the local and wider community. Originally constructed to house hundreds of paupers, the Workhouse grounds today host the **Workhouse Festival**, an annual eclectic three day music festival.

This historically and politically sensitive building continues to raise significant restoration efforts and debates regarding its appropriate re-use. Embracing the triple bottom line of sustainability as **economic, social and environmental**, the **wsa siteworks studio** will develop proposals for the sustainable re-use of the Workhouse. Proposals will be expected to challenge contemporary interpretations of community and context, and to interrogate relationships between innovation, appropriateness and viability.

We will spend one week working on site in Llanfyllin, undertaking detailed measured surveys of the building and establishing links with the Trust, the Festival, and local community resources. Through workshops and seminars on site and in studio, the studio will produce group and individual presentations including;

- **detailed measured drawings of selected areas of the Workhouse;**
- **surveys and research into local community needs, resources, skills, materials, ideas and opportunities;**
- **competition boards proposing innovative, sustainable and viable alternates for the redevelopment of the Workhouse.**

The **wsa siteworks studio** will culminate by organising a **celebration event** to present final studio proposals for discussion with the clients and community.

