Atlantic Way

St. Agnes, Cornwall.

Archaeological Evaluation

Author: Hayley Goacher BA (Hons) PIfA

Report Date December 2012

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Acknowledgements

This study was commissioned by Derek Coyle of First Step Homes Ltd and carried out by Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Help with the historical research was provided by staff at the Cornwall Records Office. Assistance with the historic mapping and mining surveying was provided by staff at Mining Searches UK.

The Project Manager was Matt Mossop whilst the fieldwork was undertaken by Hayley Goacher with help from Michael Andow. The ceramic examination was kindly undertaken by Dr. Imogen Wood PhD, MA, BA, AIfA, Hon. Res. Fell. University of Exeter, and the illustration by Graham Hill.

The views and recommendations expressed in this report are those of Archaeological Consultancy Ltd and are presented in good faith on the basis of professional judgement and on information currently available.

Cover illustration

Excavating trenches, looking north.

Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

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Author:	**Hayley Goacher BA (Hons) PIfA**
Report Date:	**December 2012**
Project No:	**AC12002E**
Project Officer:	**Hayley Goacher BA (Hons) PIfA**
Project Manager:	**Matt Mossop MA (Hons) MGSDip MIAI MIfA**
Editor:	**Emma Ruddle BA (Hons) MIAI AIfA**
Client:	**First Step Homes Ltd**
Proposal:	**Housing development**
Planning Reference:	**PREAPP12/00485**
Statutory Protection:	**None**
Townland/Tenement:	**N/A**
Civil Parish:	**St. Agnes**
District:	**Central 1**
Postal Address:	**Atlantic Way, Porthtowan, St. Agnes**
Postcode	**TR4 8AA**
National Grid Reference:	**SW 69998 48025**
Fieldwork Dates:	**20th-23rd August 2012**
Accession No:	**TRURI:2012.22**

Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

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Abbreviations

AC	Archaeological Consultancy Ltd
BGS	British Geological Survey
CC	Cornwall Council
CL	Courtney Library
CRO	Cornwall Record Office
EH	English Heritage
GSB	GSB Prospection Ltd
HEPAO	Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer
HER	Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record
HES	Historic Environment Service, Cornwall County Council
IfA	Institute for Archaeologists
LBS	Listed Buildings Number
LPA	Local Planning Authority
NGR	National Grid Reference
NMR	National Monuments Record, Swindon
OASIS	Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations
OD	Ordnance Datum
OS	Ordnance Survey
PPS5	Planning Policy Statement 5
RCM	Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro
SAM	Scheduled Ancient Monument
SF	Small Find
SMR	Sites and Monuments Record
WHS	World Heritage Site
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

1 Summary

Archaeological Consultancy Ltd was commissioned by Derek Coyle of First Step Homes Ltd to undertake an archaeological evaluation in advance of planning application for a proposed housing development on land off Atlantic Way (NGR SW 69998 48025).

This fieldwork was undertaken between 20th and 23rd August 2012. One probable ditch was recorded.

No further archaeological work is recommended for this project.

2 Introduction

2.1 Project Background

In advance of formal pre-application advice, a geophysical survey was undertaken (GSB, 2011), a statement of archaeological implications was drawn up (Jones, 2011) and a structural mining report (Curnow, 2006) was completed for the site. A number of anomalies were identified in the study area including two which are likely to relate to the round (Scheduled Ancient Monument DCO1058). Following discussions between the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer, English Heritage, Archaeological Consultancy Ltd and the client a revised pre-application was drawn up to avoid the features relating to the round, provide a buffer area around it and to protect its setting. The revised pre-application was considered to be an appropriate response to the identified archaeology by the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer (Ratcliffe, D letter to Mutton, D 8/3/2012), who recommended a conditioned approach should the Local Planning Authority be minded to grant consent. The recommended wording for the conditions was:

> A) No development shall take place within the site until a programme of archaeological work including a Written Scheme of Investigation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:
>
> 1. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording
> 2. The programme for post investigation assessment
> 3. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording
> 4. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation
> 5. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation
> 6. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.

> B) No demolition/development shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A).
>
> C) The development shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A) and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured.
>
> (Ratcliffe, D letter to Mutton, D 8/3/2012)

The structural mining report (Curnow, 2006) recommended a preconstruction site investigation to clarify the possible presence or otherwise, of any untoward mining excavations or other man-made or naturally occurring conditions, which may present a risk of potential surface instability. A combined archaeological and mining site investigation was agreed in principal by the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer (Ratcliffe 12-4-2012) to provide additional material to support the planning application.

A brief for the evaluation was provided by Phil Markham, the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer (HEPAO) on 13th August 2012 and AC were commissioned to undertake the evaluation in line with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation (Goacher and Mossop, 2012).

2.2 Site Location

The site is located at the east end of Atlantic Way (SW 69998 48025) which has an existing 1970s piecemeal development of bungalows. It is approximately 1km east of the harbour at Porthtowan (Figure 1, Figure 2).

2.3 Topography

The site is situated on a gentle northwest facing slope at 90m OD and just below the crest of the hill which lies to the south. The land slopes more steeply down to the northeast and southwest forming two narrow valleys leading inland.

2.4 Geology

The underlying rock type is altered slates and sandstones of the Porthtowan Formation. This metamorphic bedrock was formed under deep seas 364-391 million years ago in the Devonian Period. It is underlain at depth by granite (British Geological Survey; Curnow, 2006; 2).

2.5 Archaeological and Historical Background

Trevissick Round (SAM 32929) is only 50m east of the development area (Figure 2). The citation for the round includes the following details:

> The scheduling includes a later prehistoric to Romano-British round, situated on a slight north west slope on a ridge east of Porthtowan. The round is sub-oval in plan, measuring approximately 68.5m north east-south west by 56m north west-south east externally. Spread remains of an original single enclosing bank are visible as a gentle scarp, 12m wide and

0.7m high, from the south west side around the west and north to the east sides; and as a slight break in slope from the east to the SSE sides, and on the south west side where the bank curves through the corner of another field. On the south to south west side, part of the bank is incorporated in a stone faced earth and stone boundary bank, relatively modern in its present form. This averages 2m wide and 1.8m high, but is up to 3m wide and 2.15m high for some 5m at its western end. An external ditch approximately 4.5m wide, and an original entrance on the east side approximately 2.7m wide, are recorded. The ditch is considered to lie under the scarp formed by the spread enclosing bank around all sides except the south to south west, where it has been buried by silting or ploughing. The interior of the round is slightly concave, dipping south west of the centre. An associated field system beyond this scheduling is recorded, and part of a rotary quern was found in the area. The field system has been damaged by cultivation and is not considered to be of national importance. All modern fencing, gates and gate fittings, are excluded from the scheduling, although the ground beneath them is included.

The name of the nearest village, Porthtown, derives from the Cornish 'porth' meaning cove or harbour and 'tewynn' meaning sand-dunes resulting in 'cove of the sand-dunes.' According to Padel (1988; 141-142) it could also be translated as 'cove at Towan.' Although derived from the Cornish language there was little major activity here until the mining industry boomed and Porthtowan was more extensively settled in the 19th Century (Figure 3).

The development site is surrounded on all sides except the east at a distance of 500-800m away by the St. Agnes Mining District World Heritage Site. The site is within the area of the early workings of the Tywarnehayle mining sett with Wheal Towan to the north and a possible shaft in the centre of Trevissick round. The majority of the Tywarnehayle operations lie to the south however and no recorded evidence of metalliferous mining features or lodes was found within the immediate site area (Curnow, 2006; 2, 7).

Within 1km there are a number of Grade II Listed buildings, the majority engine houses or mining related structures. The remaining buildings are 19th century gate posts or dwellings, including the c1800 Mingoose Villa (SMR 63797) which formerly had a dairy and retains many original features.

Both the 1840 Tithe Map and the 1880 Ordnance Survey Map (Figure 4) show approximately the same field pattern. The field in which the study area now lies was larger with the northern and eastern boundaries further out. The eastern boundary was quite significantly curved in a reverse 'S' style though it is not long enough, nor are there enough other similar examples in the vicinity, to speculate further as to whether this is a result of Medieval plough-teams.

2.6 Project Aims and Objectives

The site specific aims were to:

- Identify or confirm the nature of anomalies C, D, E and F on the geophysical results (GSB, 2011; Figure 5).
- Establish the presence/absence of additional archaeological remains.
- Evaluate the extent, condition, nature, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered.
- Evaluate the paleoenvironmental potential of the site.
- Test areas shown as apparently 'blank' by geophysical surveying.
- To establish the nature of the activity on the site.
- To identify any artefacts relating to the occupation or use of the site.
- Begin to develop research strategies for advancing understanding using the evidence encountered on this site and with reference to regional and national research agenda.

2.7 Methodology

2.7.1 Desk Based Assessment

This drew together existing published and unpublished materials pertinent to the site. This principally included material available in the Geophysics report (GSB, 2011), HES report (Jones, 2011) and the Mining Report (Curnow, 2006) augmented where necessary with material available at the Cornwall HER, the Cornwall Record Office, the Courtney Library, the Cornish Studies Library, recent excavation reports and other material held in the AC library.

2.7.2 Fieldwork

A series of test trenches centred on potentially significant geophysical anomalies and the apparently blank areas were excavated with a toothless bucket under archaeological direction (Figure 5). Soil was removed down to the natural subsoil or to the top of any archaeological deposits as appropriate. The trenches had an average depth of 0.4m.

Scaled monochrome photographs documented the study area. Scaled digital colour photography was used to augment this. All negatives and contact prints will be included in the archive accompanied by a photographic register detailing location and direction of shot. Further hand cleaning and archaeological recording was undertaken in Trench 12 (Figure 7).

Soil samples were taken from Trench 12 to assess the potential for organic remains and the need for further analysis and to enable recovery of any additional artefacts. The results are described in Appendix 4.

On completion of the archaeological evaluation trenching, geotechnical testing extended the depth of the trenches to check for subterranean voids or other evidence of mining activity on site. The geotechnical trenches were also excavated under archaeological supervision but no additional features were recorded in the natural soils.

2.7.3 Report

This report describes the results of the archaeological work. Copies of the final archive report will be submitted to: the client; the County Historic Environment Record; Cornwall Records Office; National Monuments Record in Swindon and all significant contributors where (with the exception of the client's and contributors' copies) they will be available for public consultation. The final report will be uploaded to the online OASIS library which will be completed when the final report is submitted.

2.7.4 Site Archive

The site archive will be prepared in line with the brief and deposited with the Royal Cornwall Museum following completion of the final report. This will be confirmed in writing with the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer along with a summary of the archive contents.

3 Results

The topsoil (1) was a damp and loose orange-brown silty-sand with a medium frequency of slate and quartz fragments less than 200mm diameter. It extended to a depth of between 0.35m and 0.4m deep.

The natural subsoil (2) was a compact and damp, predominantly orange-brown, silty-sand with a high frequency of slate and quartz fragments generally less than 200mm diameter. Slight variations in colour were noticed with alternate strips approximately 0.5m wide of more pink hued subsoil contrasting with the orange-brown.

No archaeological deposits were discernible within Trenches 1-11 (Figure 5, Plate 3, Plate 4).

In Trench 12 one linear was discernible orientated northwest-southeast and located along the very southern edge of the trench. As a result, the trench was extended a further 1.8m south so the whole width of the feature could be seen and a better cross-section obtained through excavation (Figure 1, Figure 7). The section exposed a primary cut [7] of undulating, quite steeply sloped sides with a rounded 'U' shaped base (Figure 6, Plate 2). Lining the base and most of the sides was an orange-pink sandy-silt (6). This was similar to the subsoil (2) but had frequent and very small <20mm slate and occasional quartz fragments. Above this was a light grey-brown clayey-silt (5). Clayey-silt (5) was soft and quite wet with few inclusions and occasional charcoal. This deposit extended up 0.38m to a slight shoulder on the southeastern side but nearly all the way to the top of the ditch on the northwestern side. Following a similar pattern was a stained black silt (4) that was spread with flecks of charcoal and very frequent larger fragments, including probable roundwood, up to 50mm diameter. Stained black silt (4) had a smooth 'U' shaped profile that appeared to cut through clayey-silt (5) particularly on the northwestern side and a separate cut, number [8] was assigned to the horizon of (4) and (5). The uppermost deposit was grey-brown sandy-silt (3), which was quite soft and damp and had frequent slate-shale and quartz fragments 20-300mm diameter.

Within grey-brown sandy-silt (3) a single ceramic fragment, (TRURI:2012.22 3.1), 30mm in length, was recovered (Figure 8). On site it appeared to be a fine black fabric with few inclusions and given the curved shape, possibly a rim-sherd.

4 Discussion

The apparent lack of features in the majority of the study area is suggestive of it being under cultivation at least from the 19th Century.

The linear feature in Trench 12 is aligned with the anomaly C highlighted in the geophysics report (GSB, 2011). The anomaly indicated two parallel linear features and was interpreted as representing two ditches associated with a Cornish Hedge boundary (Figure 5). There was no evidence for a second ditch or explicit evidence for an upstanding boundary. However, given the shape and size of the linear feature it is highly probable that it was a field ditch. The pattern of the deposits within, with clayey-silt (5) in particular, extending up the northwestern side suggests silting from a bank (Figure 6, Plate 2). The greater concentration of larger slate fragments was found on this side, which is down-slope of the ditch. It is strongly suggestive therefore of a bank on the northern side of the ditch, as implied by the geophysics results.

A re-cut [8] has been recorded in the ditch suggesting that the ditch had a protracted use period.

The black silt (4) had a high concentration of charcoal flecks and extended across the metre wide slot dug for the section in a distinct layer. It may have been deliberately deposited within the ditch re-cut or have slumped or been cut from a nearby feature.

The high concentration of stone in grey-brown sandy-silt (3) and the coarser nature of the soil could indicate that it is backfill from the bank that is likely to have existed to the north. The ceramic fragment (TRURI:2012.22 3.1) found in this context was dated to the 1st-2nd Century AD (see Appendix 5). The relatively unabraded nature of the fragment suggests that it did not travel far and was not in circulation as a broken artefact long before its inclusion in the uppermost ditch fill. In the absence of more concrete dating evidence it seems likely that this ditch may have been backfilled in the early Romano-Cornish Period, around the 1st or 2nd Century AD.

The alignment of the ditch and probable bank may indicate that the present boundary has moved south slightly over time or that this was a route between two boundaries. However historic maps do not indicate any changes to this boundary and it might be expected that any route-way would curve either to the north to follow the western boundary or to the southwest towards a gateway as exists today. No curve was discernible in the area exposed and given the proximity to both existing boundaries any such change in direction ought to have been visible. It therefore seems most likely that this was a boundary ditch pre-dating the 19th Century historic maps. It is at approximate right angles to a known annexe to the late Prehistoric or Romano-British round and if the ditch did continue in an easterly direction, it would meet the external bank structures of the round and may therefore be related to it. The ceramic fragment has been

dated to the 1st-2nd Century AD (*pers com,* Wood, 30/11/2012). The Greisen inclusions, probably sourced from St Agnes Head which is only approximately three miles to the northeast, suggest local production and sustained Romano-British activity around this site. Although the area was subject to intense mining activity, the long linear nature and 'U' shaped base do not support a mining or geological origin.

5 Conclusion

The study area appears to have been in agricultural use from the later Prehistoric period onwards. The proximity of Trevissick round and the 1st-2nd Century AD ceramic fragment suggest that the recorded ditch maybe part of an associated late Iron Age and Romano-British field system.

No additional significant archaeological deposits are anticipated on site. Additional archaeological features are likely to exist both to the east and south of the current study area relating to the round and its associated field system. Additional finds and potentially more secure environmental evidence may add considerably to our understanding of late Prehistoric and Romano-British activity in the area.

6 The Archive

The AC Ltd project number is AC12002E.

The project's archive will be housed at the offices of Archaeological Consultancy Ltd, Goodagrane, Halvasso, Penryn, Cornwall, TR10 9BX prior to transferral to the RCM.

The archive will consist of primary record sheets, plans and section drawing, photographic negatives and contact sheets, report/s, the ceramic fragment (TRURI:2012.22 3.1) and any further artefacts recovered from sieving.

7 Recommendations

No further archaeological work is recommended for this site.

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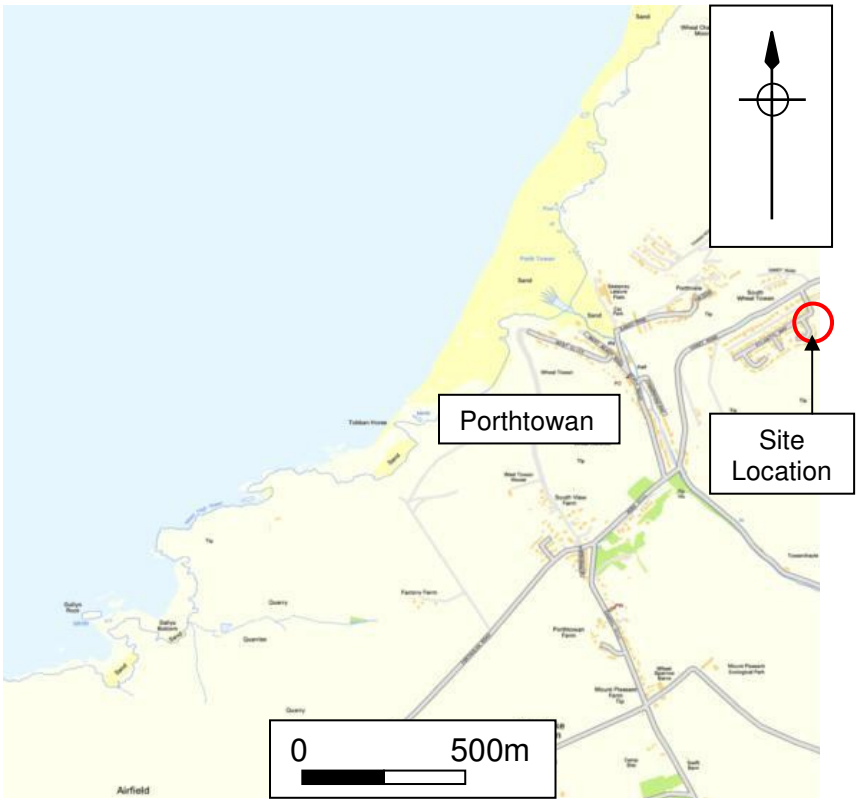

Figure 1 Location map. Contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright and database right 2012.

Figure 2 Location of study area. Courtesy of First Step Homes Ltd.

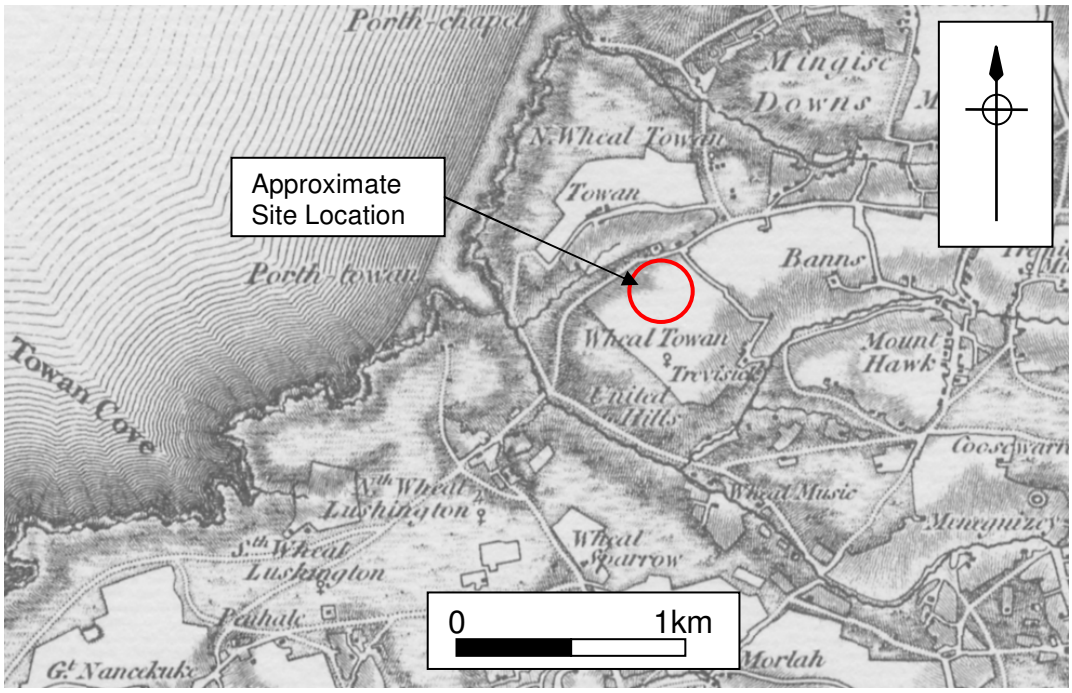

Figure 3 Ordnance Survey 1813 map.

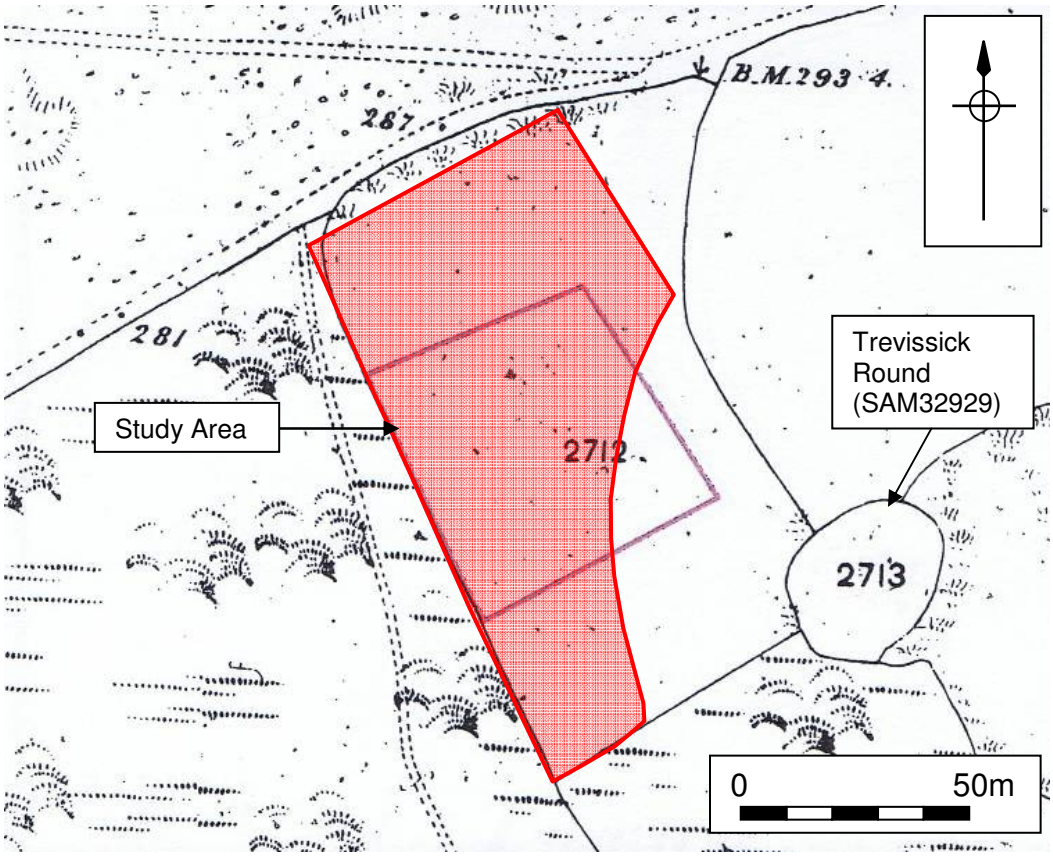

Figure 4 c1880 Ordnance Survey Map.

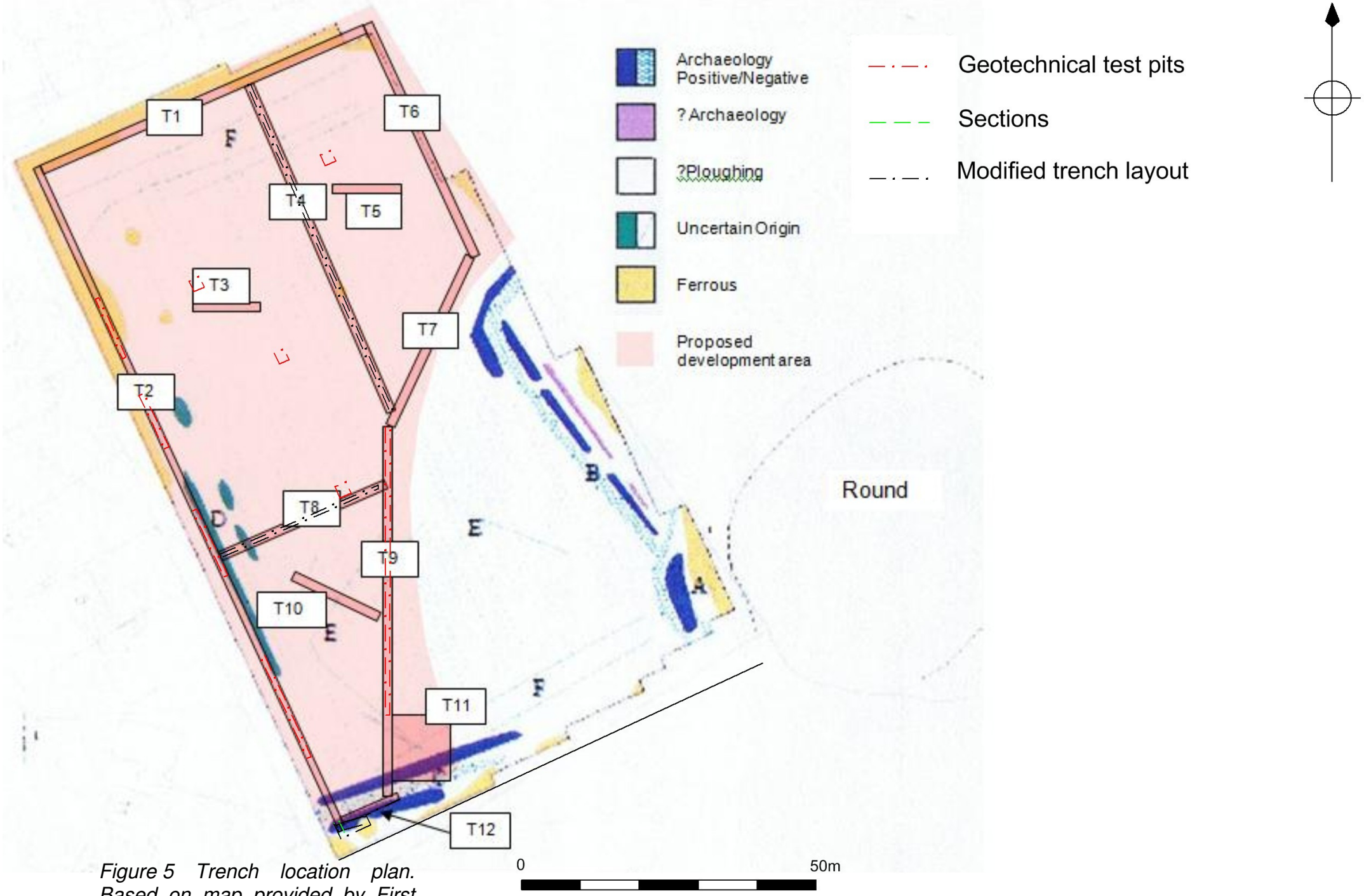

Figure 5 Trench location plan. Based on map provided by First Step Homes Ltd.

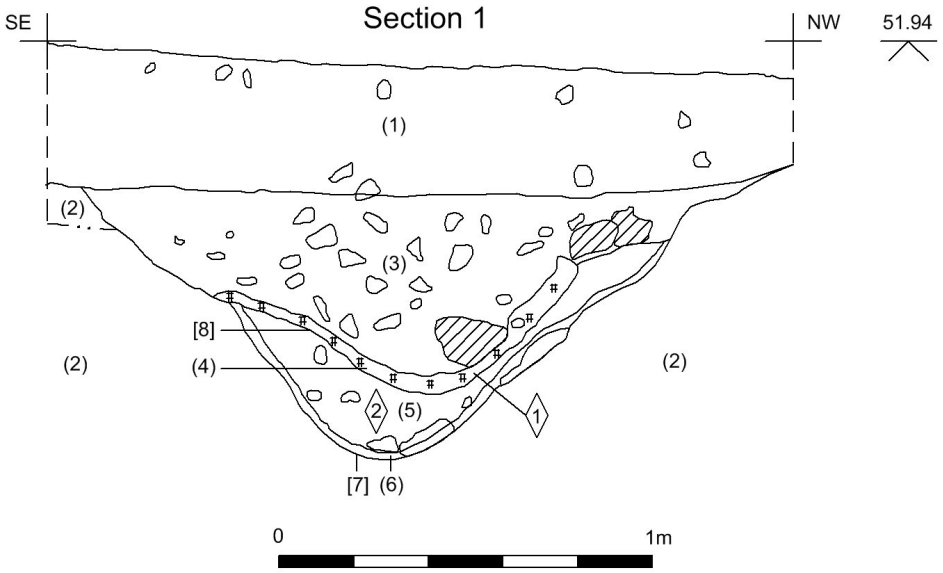

Figure 6 Section 1 through linear ditch in Trench 12.

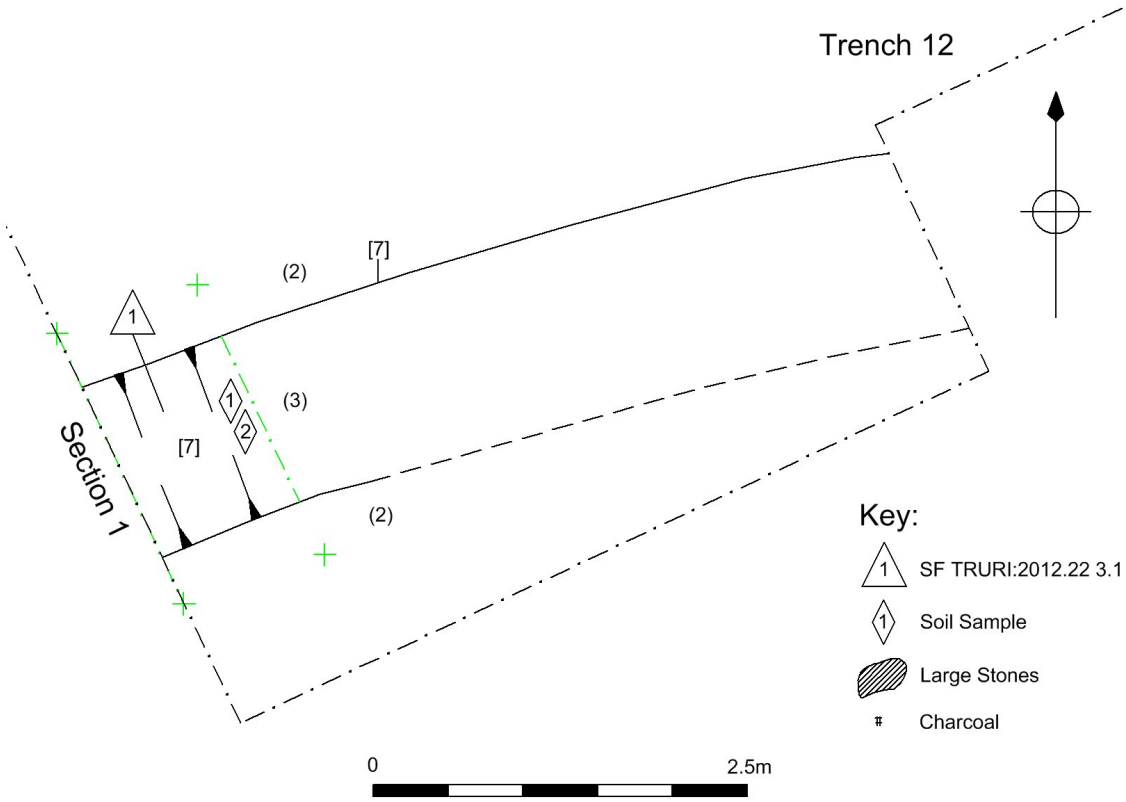

Figure 7 Part of the site plan showing location of Section 1 within Trench 12.

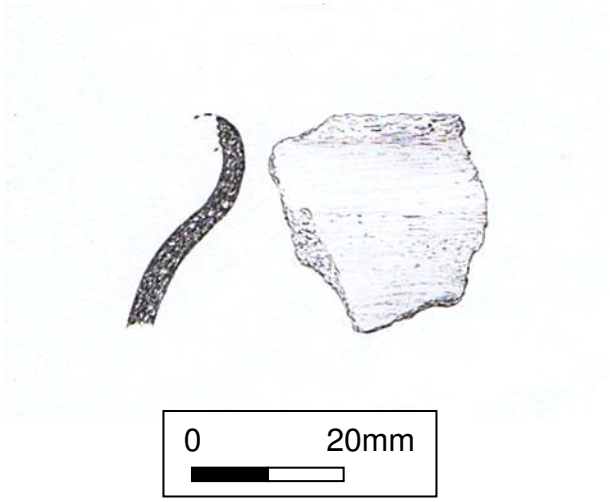

Figure 8 SF TRURI:2012.22 3.1 1st-2nd Century AD Romano-British fine black jar fragment found in the backfill of ditch [7], Trench 12. Illustration by Graham Hill.

Plate 1 Trench 12 showing its extension and ditch [7] prior to excavation. Looking northeast.

Plate 2 Section 1 through ditch [7] in Trench 12. Looking west-southwest.

Plate 3 Trench 3 which tested the blank area on the geophysics results. Looking east.

Plate 4 Trench 11 with Trench 9 in the background, no features were identified. Looking north.

Plate 5 Trench 2 with the geotechnical test trench within. Looking north.

Appendix 1 Brief

BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

Date: Address:

Applicant:

Agent:

Historic Environment Advisor: Cornwall Council, Historic Environment Service Tel: E-mail. @cornwall.gov.uk

Local Planning Authority Officer:

This brief is only valid for six months. After this period the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer (HEAA) should be contacted. Any written scheme of investigation (WSI) resulting from this brief shall only be considered for the same period. The contractor is strongly advised to visit the site before completing their WSI as there may be implications for accurately costing the project.

Contractors Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)

No ground works are to be undertaken until the HEAA has approved the archaeological contractor's WSI.

1 Introduction

This brief has been written by the HEAA and sets out the minimum requirements for archaeological evaluation at the proposed site of ….. A programme of archaeological research is required at this site in order to provide evidence capable of informing design options and any future planning applications regarding the site. A programme of evaluation, principally by trial trenching is now required in order to define their character, extent, quality and preservation, and enable an assessment of their significance. Evaluative techniques should also be deployed in order to test apparently blank areas on the geophysical survey, in the event that further features not conducive to those techniques are present.

2 Site Location and Description

Geology Location NGR Topography etc.

3 Planning Background

HES Advice expects applicants to provide a description of the significance of any heritage assets affected and the contribution of their setting to that significance. In this case we would recommend that the heritage assets identified by the existing assessment work require field evaluation to adequately identify their significance. PPS5 states that the results of such evaluations should be provided as part of the supporting documentation of a planning application required for its validation, with the extent to which the results have informed the design concept set out within the 'Design and Access Statement'. Further advice is available from the HEAA if required.

4 Archaeological Background

5 Requirement for Work

Ground works associated with the development may disturb buried archaeological remains. Whilst the site has been assessed to be of archaeological potential there is currently insufficient evidence on the nature of this potential. The principal objective of this programme shall be to evaluate the survival of below-ground archaeological deposits across the proposed development site. The results will inform as to the nature, extent, condition, date and significance of any surviving archaeological deposits within the application area. This information will inform as to the requirement for any further investigations to be undertaken as mitigation for the impact of the proposed development upon the archaeological resource and, as such, represents the first stage of a programme of archaeological mitigation.

The site specific aims are to:

- Establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains
- Evaluate the extent, condition, nature, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered
- Evaluate the paleoenvironmental potential of the site
- Test areas shown as apparently 'blank' by geophysical surveying
- To establish the nature of the activity on the site
- To identify any artefacts relating to the occupation or use of the site
- Begin to develop research strategies for advancing understanding from the evidence encountered on this site with reference to regional and national research agenda.

6 General Methodology

6.1 A series of trenches will be excavated across the proposed development area. The location of these excavations will be determined by the contractor in consultation with the HEAA. The archaeological contractor will suggest an appropriate size and location of the trenches, which will be at least 3-5% of the area affected by the proposed development.

6.2 All stages of the investigation shall be supported by a written scheme of investigation (WSI).

6.3 The archaeological contractor is expected to follow the code of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) as set out in the '*IfA Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Field Evaluations* (1994 - revised 2008).

6.4 Details including the name, qualifications and experience of the site director and all other personnel (including specialist staff) shall be included within the WSI.

6.5 All of the latest Health and Safety guidelines shall be followed on site.

6.6 The IfA's Standards and Guidance should be used for additional guidance in the production of the WSI, the content of the report and the general execution of the project.

6.7 Terminology will be consistent with the English Heritage Thesaurus.

7 Archaeological Recording Methodology

7.1 Prior to the commencement of on site works the archaeological contractor should familiarise themselves with the site by examining the information held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment record (HER), the Cornwall Records Office at Truro and the Cornwall Centre at Redruth, where appropriate.

7.2 Trenches should be excavated by a 360 degree tracked or JCB-type machine (fitted with a toothless ditching bucket) or by hand, to the surface of archaeological deposits or in situ natural ground - whichever is highest in the stratigraphic sequence. Exposed archaeological features and deposits will be cleaned and excavated by hand and fully recorded by context as per the Institute of Field Archaeologists 'Standards and Guidance for Field Evaluation (1994 - revised 2001).

7.3 All archaeological features should be investigated and as a minimum:

i) small discrete features will be fully excavated;

ii) larger discrete features will be half-sectioned (50% excavated); and

iii) long linear features will be sample excavated along their length - with investigative excavations distributed along the exposed length of any such feature and to investigate terminals, junctions and relationships with other features.

iv) one long face of each trench will be cleaned by hand to allow the site stratigraphy to be understood and for the identification of archaeological features.

Should the above percentage excavation not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined full excavation of such features/deposits will be required. Additional excavation may also be required for the taking of palaeoenvironmental samples and recovery of artefacts.

Any variation of the above will be undertaken in agreement with the HES(Advice)

7.4 Details of how all archaeological contexts and artefacts will be excavated, surveyed, recovered and recorded shall be provided. The site will be tied into the national grid.

7.5 Should deposits be exposed that contain palaeoenvironmental or datable elements appropriate sampling and post-excavation analysis strategies will be initiated. The project will be organised so that specialist consultants who might be required to conserve or report on finds or advise or report on other aspects of the investigation (e.g. palaeoenvironmental analysis) can be called upon and undertake assessment and analysis of such deposits - if required.

7.6 Details of the site planning policy shall be given in the WSI. The normal preferred policy for the scale of archaeological site plans is 1:20 and sections 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

7.7 The photographic record shall consist of prints in both black and white and colour together with the negatives. Digital photography may be used for report illustration. For both general and specific photographs, a photographic scale shall be included. In the case of detailed photographs it may be appropriate to include a north arrow. The photographic record shall be accompanied by a photographic register detailing as a minimum, feature number, location and direction of shot.

8 Finds

8.1 All finds, where appropriate, will be retained from each archaeological context excavated.

8.2 All finds, where appropriate, shall be washed.

8.3 All pottery, and other finds, where appropriate, shall be marked with the site code and context number.

8.4 The WSI shall include an agreed list of specialist consultants, who may be required to conserve and/or report on finds, and advise or report on other aspects of the work including environmental sampling.

8.5 The requirements for conservation and storage shall be agreed with the Royal Cornwall Museum prior to the start of work, and confirmed in writing to the HEAA.

8.6 Finds work should be to accepted professional standards and adhere to the Institute for Archaeologists *Guidelines for Finds Work*.

8.7 Environmental sampling should be guided by *Environmental Archaeology* (English Heritage Centre for Archaeological Guidelines. 2001/02).

8.8 Further English Heritage guidance that may be helpful includes *Geoarchaeology* (2004) and *Archaeometallurgy* (2001).

8.9 The English Heritage Advisor for Archaeological Science will be able to provide archaeological science advice if required (Vanessa Straker 0117 975 0689).

9 Human Remains

9.1 Any human remains which are encountered must initially be left in situ and reported to the HEAA and the appropriate authorities (the Coroner), where appropriate. If removal is necessary this must comply with the relevant Government regulations. If burials are encountered their legal status must be ascertained and recording and/or removal must comply with the legal guidelines.

9.2 If human remains are not to be removed their physical security must be ensured, preferably by back filling as soon as possible after recording.

9.3 If human remains are to be removed this must be done with due reverence and in accordance to current best practice and legal requirements. The site must be adequately screened from public view. Once excavated, human remains must not be exposed to public view.

10 Results

10.1 The full report including all specialist assessments of artefact assemblages shall be submitted within a length of time (but not exceeding six months) to be agreed between the applicant and the archaeological contractor, Cornwall County Council Historic Environment Service and the Royal Cornwall Museum. A further digital copy shall be supplied on CD-ROM preferably in 'Adobe Acrobat' PDF format.

10.2 The archaeological contractor will undertake the English Heritage/ADS online access to the index of archaeological investigations (OASIS).

10.3 This report will be held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record (HER) and made available for public consultation.

10.4 The report must contain as a minimum:

- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.
- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation.
- A discussion of the archaeological findings in terms of both the site specific aims and the desk based research.
- A location map, a drawing showing those areas examined as part of the archaeological recording, and copies of any archaeological plans and sections. All plans shall be tied to the national grid.
- All specialist reports and assessments.
- A summary of the archive contents and date of deposition.
- A context register with brief descriptions shall be included as an appendix.
- A copy of the brief and the approved WSI will be included as an appendix.

10.5 A contingency shall be made within the costs for full publication in an appropriate journal. The HEAA will notify the contractor of such a need within four weeks of receipt of the report.

11 Archive Deposition

11.1 An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with: *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) English Heritage 2006* upon completion of the project. The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with the Royal Cornwall Museum. Please check the accessioning and deposition information on the Royal Cornwall Museum website and fill in the 'Notification of Fieldwork' form. Once this has been accepted an accession number will be provided by the museum.

http://www.royalcornwallmuseum.org.uk/policies/

11.2 If the finds are to remain with the landowner a full copy of the documentary archive shall be housed with the Cornwall County Record Office and with the Courtney Library of the Royal Institution of Cornwall.

11.3 The archive including a copy of the written report shall be deposited with the Royal Cornwall Museum within two months of the completion of the full report and confirmed in writing with the HEAA.

11.4 Where there is only a documentary archive this will be deposited with the Cornwall Record Office as well as the Courtney Library of the Royal Institution of Cornwall.

11.5 A copy of the report will be supplied to the National Monuments Record (NMR) in Swindon.

11.6 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to the HEAA.

11.7 Only on completion of 11.1 to 11.5 (inclusive) will there be a recommendation for the discharge of any archaeological recording condition.

12 Monitoring

12.1 The HEAA will monitor the work and should be kept regularly informed of progress.

12.2 Notification of the start of work shall be given preferably in writing to the HEAA at least one week in advance of its commencement.

12.3 Any variations to the WSI shall be agreed with the HEAA, preferably in writing, prior to them being carried out.

Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

Appendix 2 WSI

Atlantic Way

St. Agnes, Cornwall.

Archaeological Evaluation:

Written Scheme of Investigation

Author:	**Hayley Goacher BA (Hons) PIfA and Matt Mossop MA MGSDip MIAI MIfA**
Report Date:	**14.8.2012**
Client:	**First Step Homes Ltd**
Proposal:	**Construction of 20 dwellings**
Planning Reference:	**PREAPP12/00485**
Statutory Protection:	**None**
Project No:	**AC12002E**
Townland/Tenement:	**N/A**
Civil Parish:	**St. Agnes**
District:	**C1**
County:	**Cornwall**

National Grid Reference: SW 69998 48025

Proposed Fieldwork Dates: August 2012

Accession No:	**Forthcoming**

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Website www.archaeologicalconsultancy.com
England and Wales Registered Company No. 5784610

Archaeological Consultancy Ltd.

1 Summary

Archaeological Consultancy Limited (AC) have been commissioned by Derek Coyle of First Step Homes Ltd, to provide a Written Scheme of Investigation for an archaeological evaluation. The evaluation aims to test anomalies identified by geophysical survey in advance of a proposed development of 20 dwellings on land at Atlantic Way, St. Agnes (SW 69998 48025).

2 Site location

The site is located at the east end of Atlantic Way (SW 69998 48025) on a gentle northwest facing slope approximately 1km east of the harbour at Porthtowan.

3 Project background

3.1 Development background

In advance of formal pre-application advice, a geophysical survey was undertaken (GSB 2011) and a statement of archaeological implications drawn up (Jones 2011) complementing a structural mining report (Cornwall Mining Services 2006) for the site. A number of anomalies were identified in the study area including two which are likely to relate to the round (Scheduled Ancient Monument DCO1058). Following discussions with the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer, English Heritage, Archaeological Consultancy Ltd and the client a revised pre-application was drawn up to avoid the features relating to the round, provide a buffer area around it and to protect its setting. The revised pre-application was considered to be an appropriate response to the identified archaeology by the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer (Ratcliffe, D letter to Mutton, D 8/3/2012), who recommended a conditioned approach should the Local Planning Authority be minded to grant consent. The recommended wording for the conditions was:

> A) No development shall take place within the site until a programme of archaeological work including a Written Scheme of Investigation has been submitted to and approved by the local planning authority in writing. The scheme shall include an assessment of significance and research questions; and:
>
> 1. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording
>
> 2. The programme for post investigation assessment
>
> 3. Provision to be made for analysis of the site investigation and recording
>
> 4. Provision to be made for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation
>
> 5. Provision to be made for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation
>
> 6. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the Written Scheme of Investigation.

> B) No demolition/development shall take place other than in accordance with the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A).
>
> C) The development shall not be occupied until the site investigation and post investigation assessment has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the Written Scheme of Investigation approved under condition (A) and the provision made for analysis, publication and dissemination of results and archive deposition has been secured.
>
> (Ratcliffe, D letter to Mutton, D 8/3/2012)

The structural mining report (Cornwall Mining Services Ltd 2006) recommended a preconstruction site investigation to clarify the possible presence or otherwise, of any untoward mining excavations or other man-made or naturally occurring conditions, which may present a risk of potential surface instability. A combined archaeological and mining site investigation was agreed in principal by the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer (Ratcliffe 12-4-2012) to provide additional material to support the planning application.

This written scheme outlines the proposed methodology.

3.2 Archaeological and Historical background

The Geological Survey indicates the underlying rock to be altered slates and sandstone of the Devonian Porthtowan Formation, underlain at depth by granite. Mineralised lodes traverse the area from west-southwest to east-northeast with occasional crosscourses or faults at approximate right angles to the trend.

Jones relates:

> The area of the proposed development falls into a historic character zone which has been classified as "Anciently Enclosed Land" (Cornwall County Council 1996). "Anciently Enclosed Land" frequently contains buried archaeological remains dating to medieval and earlier periods. The proposed development is therefore situated within an area which has the potential to contain buried archaeological remains. The potential for buried archaeological remains was increased by the presence of the prehistoric round which is located close to the southeast corner of the development area.
>
> A number of archaeological sites were identified in the vicinity of the proposed development. These sites include a Scheduled prehistoric enclosed settlement or round to the immediate southeast of the development area (MC08816). A possibly associated field system of possible prehistoric date lies to the east of the development area (MCO25 178). Although no archaeological remains were known within the project area, the proximity of archaeological sites and the potential of its setting in relation to the Scheduled round meant that the development area had the potential to contain buried archaeological remains.
>
> (Jones, A. 2011 Atlantic Way, Porthtowan, Geophysical Survey: Statement of Archaeological Implications (2011042). Report No: 2011R078).

The geophysical survey recorded:

> Archaeological anomalies have been detected along the eastern and southern edges of the field and these are likely to relate to the known complex in the adjacent fields. The main body of the survey contains generally strong parallel anomalies of agricultural origin. A few indistinct trends can be discerned within the ploughing responses and, given the wider context, these might be of interest, though the results suggest that, if they do represent archaeological deposits, these have been largely ploughed out.
>
> (GSB. 2011. Geophysical Survey Report 2011/36. Atlantic Way, Porthtowan, Cornwall).

The study area additionally lies within an area of early workings of the Tywarnhayle mining sett with Wheal Towan to the north, a shaft identified in the centre of the round (CMS 2006) and a possible lode on the line of anomaly C on the geophysics. The St Agnes Mining District part of the Cornwall Mining World Heritage Site approximately 500-800m distant, includes most of Porthtowan and the valley bottoms and sides inland, surrounding the study area on all sides except the east.

4 Project aims and objectives

The site specific aims are to:

- Identify or confirm the nature of anomalies C, D, E and F
- Establish the presence/absence of additional archaeological remains
- Evaluate the extent, condition, nature, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered
- Evaluate the paleoenvironmental potential of the site
- Test areas shown as apparently 'blank' by geophysical surveying
- To establish the nature of the activity on the site
- To identify any artefacts relating to the occupation or use of the site
- Begin to develop research strategies for advancing understanding from the evidence encountered on this site with reference to regional and national research agenda.

5 Method statement

AC complies with the guidelines set out in the IfA's Standards and Guidance and follows the IfA code of conduct. Terminology will be consistent with the English Heritage Thesaurus.

Monitoring

The HEPAO will monitor the work and will be kept regularly informed of progress.

Any variations to the WSI shall be agreed with the HEPAO, preferably in writing, prior to them being carried out.

5.1 Desk-based assessment and walk over survey

This will draw together existing published and unpublished materials pertinent to the site including detailed searches and analyses of registers of archaeological sites; a map regression exercise; review of available aerial photographs.

This will principally include material available in the Geophysics report (GSB 2011), HES report (Jones 2011) and the Mining Report (CMS 2006) augmented where necessary with material available at the Cornwall HER, the Cornwall Record Office, the Courtney Library, the Cornish Studies Library, recent excavation reports and other material held in the AC library.

A walk over survey will record any extant visible remains on the site. Existing plans will be checked and annotated with archaeological detail as appropriate. A scaled monochrome photographic survey will document any extant remains in advance of development. Scaled digital colour photography may augment this to provide general and detailed shots and may be used within the report. All negatives contact prints and where appropriate, CDs will be included in the archive accompanied by a photographic register detailing as a minimum, feature number, location and direction of shot.

5.2 Test-trenching and associated archaeological recording

A series of 12 trenches will be excavated under archaeological direction centred on potentially significant geophysical anomalies and apparently blank areas. Additional trenches may be used to test significant features if they extend outside the existing test-trenches as appropriate.

Soil will be removed by JCB or equivalent machine with a grading or toothless ditching bucket, under archaeological supervision down to the natural subsoil or the top of any archaeological deposits as appropriate.

Any significant archaeological remains shall be excavated by hand, with small features excavated in their entirety and larger features half-sectioned. The trenches have been arranged so as to sample potential linear features and intersections of potential features. Faces of the trench will be cleaned where appropriate. Archaeological deposits will be photographed (see above) and recorded at 1:10 (sections) and 1:20 (plans) as standard, though other scales may be used.

Significant finds will be cleaned, stabilised and marked with accession and context number and packed in accordance to RCM's guidelines.

Finds will be described and illustrated as appropriate in advance of any necessary specialist analysis, conservation, or discard. Any discard follows guidance from RCM and will be more specifically advised at post-excavation stage.

The requirements for conservation and storage shall be agreed in outline with the RCM prior to the start of work, though detailed requirements will be re-assessed following completion of fieldwork and confirmed in writing to the HEPAO.

Human remains

Any human remains which are encountered will initially be left *in-situ* and reported to the HEPAO and Coroner, and accorded appropriate respect. Their legal status will be ascertained and recording and/or removal will comply with legal guidelines.

If human remains are not to be removed their physical security will be ensured, preferably by back filling as soon as possible after recording.

If human remains are to be removed this will be done with due reverence and in accordance to current best practice and legal requirements. The site will be adequately screened from public view and excavated human remains will not be exposed to public view.

Treasure

Any finds believed to be defined by the recent Treasure Act will be recorded appropriately using the above methodology. Advice will be sought from the Portable Antiquities Scheme Officer and the find(s) will then be reported to the coroner within 14 days.

Environmental Sampling

Where appropriate, samples will be retrieved to obtain evidence for the date and function of significant features. Animal and burnt bone will be sampled by context as appropriate with 100% samples standard for likely medieval or earlier material. Other samples may include worked wood, structural timbers and other structural materials, 40 litre or smaller soil samples from primary deposits for wet sieving, chemical, lipid and pollen analysis and soil profiling. A number of these samples are likely to be discarded following initial post-excavation analysis if they are found to be of less significant contexts.

If very significant archaeological deposits are exposed, or objects with very significant conservation costs, all work will cease and a meeting will be convened with AC staff, the client, the HEPAO and relevant RCM staff member if appropriate, to discuss the most appropriate way forwards.

5.3 Report and publication

A single archive report will be prepared to describe the results of the evaluation. A digital version will also be supplied on CD-ROM. The report will contain: summary, aims and methods, discussion, specialist reports, archive summary and recommendations. It will also include location map, trench location plan and other relevant plans and sections tied in to the OS grid. The context register, brief and approved WSI will be included as appendices.

Copies of the archive report will be submitted to: the client; the County Historic Environment Record (HER); Cornwall Record Office; National Monuments Record (NMR) in Swindon and all significant contributors where (with the exception of the client's and contributors' copies) they will be available for public consultation.

Contingency has been allowed to prepare a paper for Cornish Archaeology or other appropriate journal if significant archaeological deposits are encountered,

though further fieldwork, specialist assessment or publications may be recommended on completion of the evaluation.

5.4 Archive

The site archive will be prepared in accordance with Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) and *Conditions of Acceptance of Archaeological Archives* (RCM 2006) as appropriate upon completion of the project.

The archive will be deposited in a suitable form with the Royal Cornwall Museum or Cornwall Record Office (if only a documentary archive exists), following the completion of the final report and confirmed in writing with the HEPAO. Appropriate interim storage will be provided.

5.5 Web-based publications

The online OASIS record will be completed when the final report is submitted.

6 Project management and structure

6.1 Staff

The project will be managed by Matt Mossop of Archaeological Consultancy Ltd who will also direct the desk-based assessment and walk-over survey. The test-trenching will principally be undertaken by Hayley Goacher (AC) and additional staff as required. Associated post-excavation is likely to be staffed by the same team or other staff of comparable skills and experience.

Matt Mossop MA MGSDip MIAI Project Manager

Matt has extensive archaeological experience in England, France and Ireland from 1992 onwards, becoming a licensed director in Ireland (2001). He has directed numerous excavations and presented papers for the World Archaeological Congress, Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, universities and local groups in Ireland and the UK.

Hayley Goacher BA (Hons) PIfA Project Officer

Hayley completed her BA in archaeology at The University of Durham in 2009 and has archaeological experience, from 2004 onwards, of both excavation and post-excavation, principally with contractual archaeological firms. She joined AC in July 2010 and has since undertaken a number of site assessments, walkover and photographic surveys, watching briefs evaluations and excavations.

Specialist contractors:

Carl Thorpe	Finds	HES
Imogen Wood	Ceramics	SWA
Laura Ratcliffe	Conservation	RCM
Gordon Cook	C14 dating	SUERC
Dr Ben Gearey	Environmental Analysis, Osteology	Birmingham Archaeo-Environmental

Whilst we endeavour to avoid changes to senior project staff, AC reserves the right to change the nominated personnel if necessary.

6.2 Project facilities and infrastructure

The project will be based at the AC office in Halvasso, Penryn. AC has a computer network running Windows XP Professional and Vista. Report texts are generated in Word 2007.

6.3 Timetable

Test trenching is scheduled to start on 20th August for one week, in advance of all development works.

An archive report will be completed within 6 months of the end of the fieldwork. The deposition of the archive will follow the completion of the report within a timescale to be agreed with the relevant repository. Archiving at the CRO is likely to take place within six months of report submission.

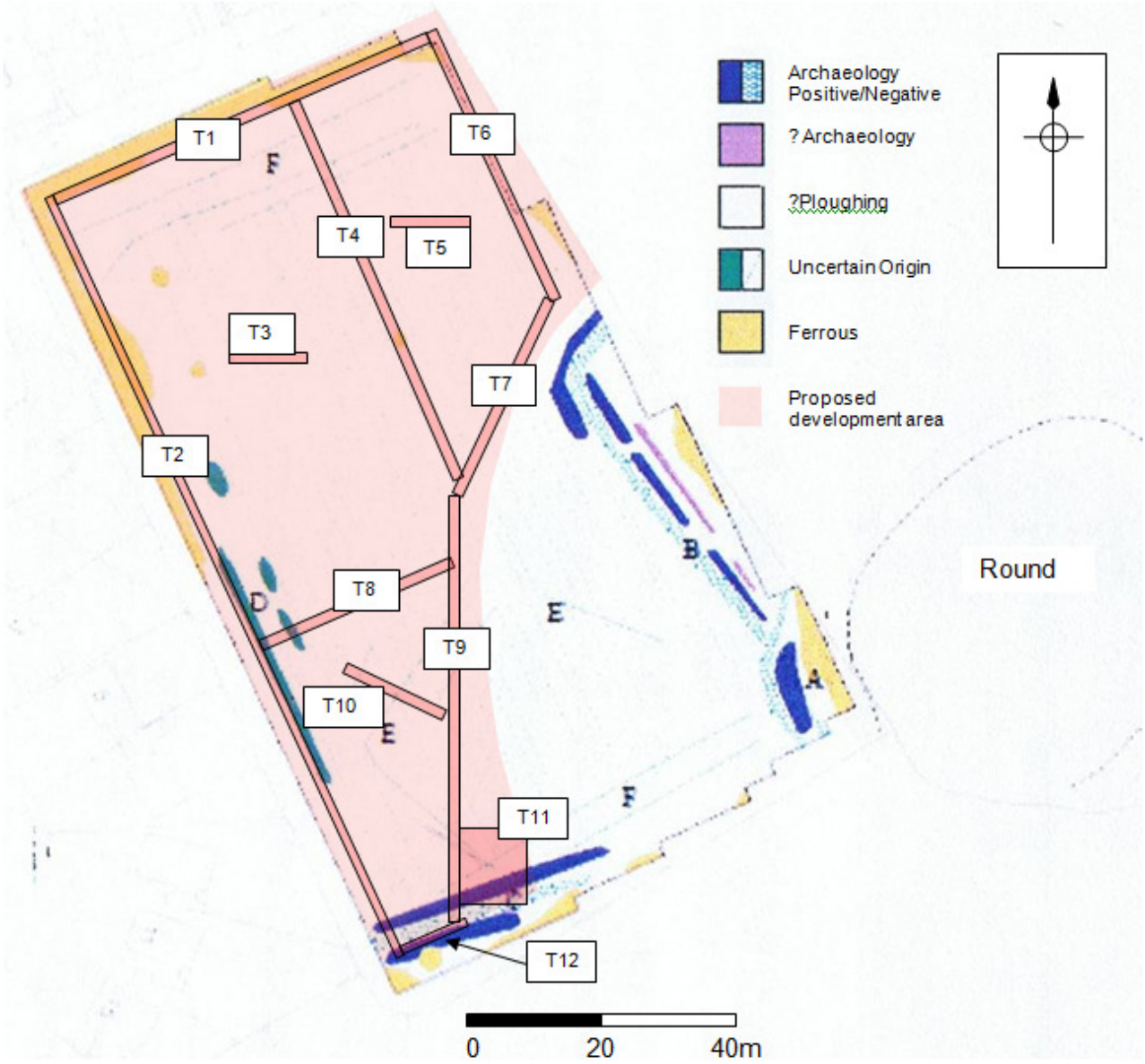
6.4 Health and safety

AC will ensure that all work is carried out to standards defined in the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and The Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992, and in accordance with Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (2006) endorsed by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers.

A risk assessment will be prepared for the site work and all staff will be briefed on the contents of the final version. Personal protective equipment will be issued and used as required.

6.5 Insurance

AC has adequate insurance for employer's liability, public liability and professional indemnity. Further details are available on request.



Location of test trenches

Appendix 3 Context Register

Context	Type C, D,B,S,T	Fill of/by	Area	Group	Description	Dimensions (LxWxD) in m	Interpretation	Finds	Animal Bone	Burnt Bone	Samples	References	Date	Initials
1	D		Site		Damp and loose orange-brown silty-sand with a medium frequency of slate and quartz fragments less than 200mm diameter.	0.35m-0.4m deep	Topsoil						23/8/12	HLG
2	D		Site		Compact and damp light orange-brown silty-sand with strips of a pink hue, Frequent slate and quartz fragments less than 200mm diameter.	Across site below 0.35m-0.4m deep	Natural Subsoil						23/8/12	HLG
3	D	8	T12		Quite soft and damp grey-brown sandy-silt with frequent slate and quartz fragments 20-300mm diameter.	1.8m wide x 0.48m deep		3.1 ceramic				Section	23/8/12	HLG
4	D	8	T12		Soft charcoal stained black-grey silt. Large fragments of charcoal up to 50mm diameter including probable roundwood and smaller fragments spread throughout the deposit.	1m wide x 0.07m deep					1 Bulk sample	Section	23/8/12	HLG
5	D	7	T12		Soft, wet, light grey-brown clayey-silt with few stones or inclusions except for occasional charcoal.	1.16m wide x 0.8m deep	Base silt				2 Bulk sample	Section	23/8/12	HLG

Context	Type C, D,B,S,T	Fill of/by	Area	Group	Description	Dimensions (LxWxD) in m	Interpretation	Finds	Animal Bone	Burnt Bone	Samples	References	Date	Initials
6	D	7	T12		Quite compact orange-pink silty-sand similar to (2) with frequent slate and quartz fragments less than 20mm diameter.	1.17m wide x 0.02m deep	Silting					Section	23/8/12	HLG
7	C	5 + 6	T12		Quite steeply sloping and undulating sides with a gradual break of slope at the top and a rounded 'U' shaped base.	>5m long x 1.17m wide x 0.5m deep	Primary cut of ditch					Section + Plan	23/8/12	HLG
8	C	3 + 4	T12		Gently sloping and undulating sides with a very gradual break of slope at the top and a rounded 'U' shaped base.	1m wide x 0.54m deep	Recut of ditch					Section + Plan	23/8/12	HLG

Appendix 4 Soil Sieving Results Table

Sample No	Context No	Area/Context Description	Volume Sieved	Weight of Flot	Results From Flot	Weight of Residue	Residue Finds
1	4	Charcoal stained black-grey silt including large fragments of charcoal/ round wood.	40l	13g	Frequent fine roots. Frequent fragments of charcoal 2-30mm diameter = 11g.	3174g	Angular granite and quartz fragments up to 50mm diameter. Angular slate gravel 2-50mm diameter. Frequent charcoal fragments, including possible round wood up to 30mm diameter = 58g.
2	5	Light grey-brown clayey-silt. Soft and wet with few stones and occasional charcoal inclusions.	40l	1g	4 x charcoal fragments 7-15mm diameter =1g	1811g	Sub-angular slate and occasional quartz fragments up to 20mm diameter. Fine and angular slate and quartz gravel. Approximately 30 x charcoal fragments 1-10mm diameter = 1g. Fine roots up to 50mm in length.

Appendix 5 Ceramic Identification

By Dr Imogen Wood PhD, MA, BA, AIfA, Hon. Res. Fell. University of Exeter 30/11/2012:

> ...Romano-British 1st-2nd century fine jar [fragment] with pronounced neck and some external traces of burnishing. The fabric has a gabbroic matrix but much coarser inclusions (temper); one rock fragment looks typical of decayed Greisen which can be found locally as part of the St.Agnes Head Formation.