

# Dolphin Town Playing Field, Tresco, Isles of Scilly

## Archaeological Watching Brief



**Historic Environment Service (Projects)**

Cornwall County Council



A Report for Tresco Estate

**Dolphin Town Playing Field, Tresco,  
Isles of Scilly**

**Archaeological Watching Brief**

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Within the Historic Environment Service, the author and Katharine Sawyer carried out the fieldwork, Konstanze Rahn cleaned and sorted the finds, Carl Thorpe compiled the finds report; the Project Manager was Charles Johns.

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The views and recommendations expressed in this report are those of the Historic Environment Service projects team and are presented in good faith on the basis of professional judgement and on information currently available.

## **Cover illustration**

Saddle quern stones within the exterior wall of Structure [12] (photo: HES GDI/Tresco Playing Field 2003038/Structure 12))

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## Abbreviations

CAU	Cornwall Archaeological Unit, now HES
CCC	Cornwall County Council
GDI	Ground Digital Image
HER	Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record
HES	Historic Environment Service, Cornwall County Council, formerly CAU
ICS	Institute of Cornish Studies
OD	Ordnance Datum
OS	Ordnance Survey
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
NGR	National Grid Reference
SCRZA	Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment for the Isles of Scilly

# 1 Summary

This report describes the results of a watching brief carried out in October 2003 by the Historic Environment Service, Cornwall County Council for Tresco Estate during construction of a new playing field at Dolphin Town (NGR SV 8396 1537).

The site lies to the east of Dolphin Town and to the south-east of Old Grimsby. The playing field was laid out over two fields of pasture that lay behind the dunes above Green Porth. The requirement for a level surface for the playing field necessitated the movement of soil from the base of the hill to the south to the lower northern end of the site. As a result all of the sites investigated lay at the southern edge of the works area.

Previous archaeological assessment and evaluation in 1999 had identified a medieval midden lying above a buried Bronze Age land surface. Geophysical survey had been unable to penetrate below the midden so that any lower features could not be identified by this method.

The original plans for the playing field, confined to the field immediately to the east of the church, were modified to encompass the field to the east of this. Without further evaluation and geophysical survey it was necessary to undertake a watching brief as works commenced. A field boundary, cattle grid and well were also recorded in accordance with planning conditions.

In the course of the watching brief it became apparent that a prehistoric settlement comprising four to five houses lay beneath the southern end of the site, and that this may have extended to the north and west, where the level of the soil strip was high enough not to reveal buried features, and to the south and east, which lay beyond the extent of the playing field area. In addition three structures were revealed that were identified as cairns of various types. All were associated with Bronze Age artefacts. Bearing in mind the potential damage to these important prehistoric features, and the resources required to undertake a full excavation, a decision was made by Mr Robert Dorrien-Smith to change the alignment and position of the pitch to allow the features to remain undamaged.

The site was cleaned back to a level that did not disturb the prehistoric occupation layers further, photographed, and planned, before being reburied.

In view of the importance of this site and the artefactual and environmental material collected during the fieldwork, it is recommended that in accordance with the Project Design for archaeological recording further specialist assessment of potential for analysis of the data is required. The results of the assessment will be brought together in a report which will include an Updated Project Design for the Analysis, Report Preparation and Dissemination phases of the project, with a view to the publication of a short article in *Cornish Archaeology*, the annual journal of the Cornwall Archaeological Society.



Fig 1: Location Map

## **2 Introduction**

### **2.1 Project background**

Tresco Estate was awarded a grant by Sport England to create a new playing field on the island. Planning permission was granted by the Council of the Isles of Scilly in December 2000 subject to the following conditions to safeguard the archaeological interest:

#### Condition 3

Before development commences a methodology statement, indicating how the pitch is to be constructed and measures to protect the archaeological interest shall be submitted to and approved by the Planning Authority.

#### Condition 4

Before the development commences a detailed programme of works for the removal of the existing Cornish hedge indicated on Plan 2770/1, including a programme of archaeological recording, shall be submitted to and approved by the Planning Authority.

#### Condition 5

No development shall take place until details of proposed measures to consolidate and enhance the cattle grid and well, including making a detailed archaeological record, have submitted to and agreed with the Planning Authority.

#### Condition 7

The developer shall give a minimum of two weeks notice to the Planning Authority before operations commence on site and shall afford access at all reasonable times to any persons nominated by the Council and allow them to observe the excavations and record items of interest and finds.

#### Condition 8

The results of any archaeological recording work undertaken in association with the development shall be presented in a short report, copies of which shall be deposited with the applicant, the Isles of Scilly Sites & Monument Record and the Planning Authority.

#### Condition 9

The applicant will provide for specialist identification of the artefacts retrieved during the evaluation trenching and any other finds retrieved during the works, which will be archived and deposited in an appropriate museum (with a view to selected artefacts being available for display on Tresco).

The Historic Environment Service (HES) was asked by Tresco Estate to provide an estimate for the necessary archaeological work. Consequently HES prepared a project design for the programme of archaeological recording (Johns 2003) based on the Permission for Development and advice given by Simon Thorpe, Senior Archaeologist, Planning Advice, CCC.

### **2.2 Previous work**

#### **2.2.1 1985 Electrification Project**

The project to link the off-islands of Scilly with the main electricity generator on St Mary's led to the undertaking of an archaeological watching brief during trenching operations over a large area of the islands. The project identified concentrations of pottery around the Dolphin Town area of Tresco. These suggested that it was a centre of settlement in the Romano-British period and also around the 12<sup>th</sup> century AD, the latter identified with the

establishment of a secular settlement related to the establishment of the harbour at Old Grimsby (Ratcliffe 1991). The project also identified a concentration of flint artefacts in the vicinity of Dolphin Town.

### **2.2.2 Geophysical Survey**

A geophysical survey of the field in the western part of the project area was undertaken in May 1999 (Gater 1999). The survey identified an area of enhanced magnetic response that was later identified by the evaluation as an extensive shell midden deposit (see below). It was considered that archaeological features beneath this deposit would not have been identified by the survey due to the depth and nature of the overlying material.

### **2.2.3 Assessment and Evaluation**

During May 1999 an assessment and field evaluation (Ratcliffe 2000) was carried out to assess the impact on historic landscape features and buried archaeological remains of a proposal to create a new playing field on the east side of St Nicholas' Church, Dolphin Town (centred on NGR SV 8928 1540). This project focussed on the field immediately to the east of the church, the adjoining field not yet forming part of the proposed playing field. The evaluation entailed the excavation of three trenches designed to investigate anomalies discovered by the geophysical survey. Two of these trenches (Trenches 1 and 2) revealed little buried archaeology although finds recovered during the work indicated a human presence from the prehistoric period onwards with a particular surge of activity from the medieval to the present. The third trench investigated the area of increased magnetic response detected by the geophysical survey. This identified as the source of the anomaly an extensive deposit of midden material that contained an assemblage of medieval pottery. This was found to overlie a dark grey silty deposit. In one area of the trench this deposit filled a shallow depression 1.5m wide and from here a large number of Bronze Age potsherds were recovered. One of the edges of the depression coincided with a void in the trench section that may have represented a wall.

## **2.3 Objectives**

The aims of project were as set out in the project design (Johns 2003):

- To ensure *in situ* preservation of as much of the buried archaeology as is possible.
- To identify and preserve by record any archaeological features, structures or deposits disturbed during the construction phase.
- To recover any artefacts and sample any paleoenvironmental deposits which were uncovered.
- To record the well, cattle grid and field boundary in accordance with the planning conditions.
- To archive and disseminate the results of the fieldwork.

## **2.4 Methods**

### **2.4.1 Watching brief**

The construction method involved the disturbance of the stratified sequence of buried archaeological remains on the site. The section drawings of the evaluation trench (Ratcliffe 2000) indicated that medieval layers would be uncovered from a depth of 0.3m and Bronze Age deposits at a depth of approximately 1.0m. As the maximum depth of cutting required for construction was 0.78m it was thought possible to preserve *in situ* the Bronze Age

remains and the lower part of the medieval layers, assuming that they occurred at similar levels across the site.

HES agreed with Paul Whiston that the best approach was for archaeological investigation and recording on the site to be undertaken before construction commenced. The work was carried out according to the project design (Johns 2003).

- Prior to the arrival on site of the HES, Symons Construction set out the area of works on the ground and established controls for the proposed levels.
- At the commencement of archaeological work a site meeting was held between Charlie Johns of HES, Paul Whiston of Symons Construction, and Tresco Estate to discuss and agree access to the site, working methods and programme, site accommodation, and Health and Safety arrangements.
- The first phase archaeological work was undertaken as a controlled soil strip of the whole site supervised by HES and using a Tresco Estate machine fitted with a toothless bucket. The topsoil was stripped cleanly to the level at which archaeological features or layers were revealed. Machines did not run over the stripped area until recorded by the archaeologist.
- On completion of the controlled stripping there was a rapid review with HES, Symons Construction, and Tresco Estate of the features exposed by the soil stripping and the requirements for further archaeological recording. This assessed the range and complexity of the remains to be recorded and agreed upon the remaining programme of fieldwork.
- Excavation was generally carried out by hand digging, but the mechanical excavation of some deposits was undertaken under archaeological supervision.
- The archaeological layers and features were recorded using the following methodology:

Each feature or layer was assigned a context number from a continuous block of context numbers and recorded on the standard *pro forma* HES context sheet, where possible noting the location, extent, nature, character and stratigraphic relationships of the archaeological evidence revealed.

Archaeological features and layers were plotted onto a 1:50 plan by offsets with 30m tapes from the contractor's grid. Selected features were planned and drawn in section at 1:10 scale. All drawings were made using 4H pencils on gridded drafting film.

Scaled archive photographs were taken (on 35mm monochrome and colour slide film). Digital photographs were taken as an additional record.

- All artefacts from the site were retained for processing and conservation as necessary.

#### **2.4.2 Cattle grid**

Following the removal of vegetation and sand from around the cattle grid (SV 8931 1543) by Tresco Estate a detailed archaeological record was made comprising archive-quality photographs and a plan and profile at 1:20 scale.

#### **2.4.3 Field boundary**

Archive quality photographs were taken of the field boundary (NGR centred at SV 8935 1539).

#### 2.4.4 Well

Following consolidation of the well (NGR SV 8931 1540) by the contractors, a detailed archaeological record was made comprising archive-quality photographs and plan and elevations at 1:20 scale. For health and safety reasons the well was recorded after it had been consolidated and capped with a close-gauge metal grille.

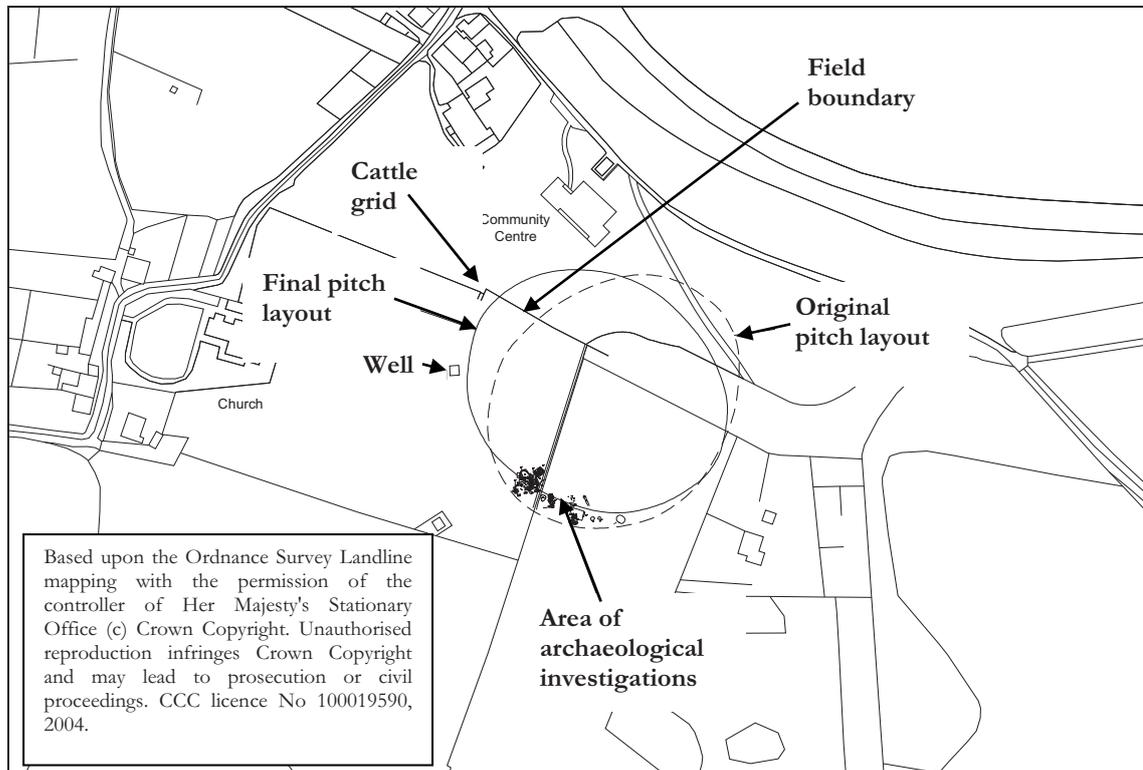


Fig 2: Plan of the extent of the original and final pitch positions

#### 2.5 Location and Setting

The Isles of Scilly are an archipelago of over 200 islands and islets situated 45km (28 miles) southwest of Land's End, Cornwall. The islands are composed of granite and form part of the igneous component of the Cornubian Massif, a geological region stretching westwards from a line between Minehead and Torquay. The granite batholith was intruded in the late Carboniferous period into the native sedimentary mudstones and the erosion of these softer rocks has left the granitic elements as higher moorland and hills throughout the region, notably on Dartmoor, Bodmin Moor, Hensbarrow, Carnmenellis, and Penwith (Bristow 1999). Much of the granite bedrock in Scilly is covered in head deposits of periglacial origin known locally as 'ram' (similar material on the mainland is called 'rab'). This material consists of fine grains of parent rock encased in fine clays. The soils overlying the ram at this location are deep and sandy ploughsoils. The site of the playing field lies near the east coast of Tresco at Dolphin Town, between 3m and 5m OD just inland of extensive dune formations.

The main islands once formed a single large body of land, named Ennor by Charles Thomas. Sea level rise throughout the Holocene led to the division of this proto-island into its present constituents. The rate of this submergence was modelled by Thomas (1985), who used archaeological and place name evidence to postulate a final division of

the northern group of islands by the end of the medieval period. More recent assessment of intertidal peat deposits suggests a less dramatic rise than that proposed by Thomas, resulting in a much earlier separation of the main islands (Ratcliffe and Straker 1997). The results from this assessment have been modelled using GIS in the Isles of Scilly Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment (Johns *et al*, 2004) resulting in maps displaying the division of the main islands at high water by c1000 BC. However these maps also show that Tresco, Bryher, and Sampson were not finally separated at low water until the Tudor period.

## 3 Results

### 3.1 The watching brief

Work commenced on Tuesday 15 October 2003. The project involved the excavation of material from the southern edge of the playing field where the ground rose, and building up the northern side of the field in order to create a level surface. This meant that all of the sites exposed were in the southern part of the works area (Fig 7). Each of the features encountered during the watching brief were assigned individual context numbers. Structures, features, and cuts are given in square brackets, e.g. [12]; layers, fills, and deposits are displayed in rounded brackets, e.g. (15).

The excavations at first uncovered a stony mound, later identified as a possible cist cairn [21]. To the west of this feature a group of three adjoining house structures ([11], [12], and [13]) was located, and later an additional house structure [19] was identified to the north of these. A midden deposit containing abundant limpet shells (20) was concentrated around and within the house structures. Further exposures of midden material (29) were encountered at the extreme eastern end of the site but these were not excavated. Another structure [22] to the east of the cairn was tentatively identified as a house. To the south and east of this feature a kerbed structure [26] was interpreted as a platform cairn. This had been cut by a later field wall [25]. Downslope, two large boulders, one of them resting on a Bronze Age land surface [24], the other unexcavated [23], may have originated from the platform cairn.

#### 3.1.1 Structure [11] (Fig 8)

The first of the three adjoining/conjoining structures to be found, Structure [11] consists of a foundation wall of single stone thickness, built of granite rubble. On the ground the feature appears to be sub-circular in plan, although if a concentration of what appeared to be rubble along the south-western side of the structure did in fact turn out to be part of an exterior wall, the building would take on a more rectangular form. The feature is between 3.8m and 4.3m across, although the exact dimensions were unclear due to the interrupted nature of the exterior wall. The wall is at its most continuous to the northwest where a 3.0m-long section is unbroken. As it turns to the southeast, at each end, it becomes more interrupted and harder to define. An interruption along the north-eastern wall may represent an entrance to the space, or 'courtyard', between the three conjoining structures. The south-eastern wall itself contains a large gap, up to 1.7m wide, which is likely to define an entrance.

The relationship between this and Structures [12] and [13] was difficult to establish without excavation. A long thin stone laid on edge between the three structures may demarcate a passageway(s) or 'courtyard' between them.



*Fig 3: Internal feature, Structure [12] looking west (photo: HES GDI /Tresco Playing Field/2003038/Structure 12)*

### **3.1.2 Structure [12] (Figs 3 and 8)**

This feature lies to the northeast of Structure [11] and to the southeast of Structure [13]. It is sub-oval in plan and has internal dimensions of 5.0m by 2.5m. It was unclear whether a gap in the south-eastern part of the exterior wall is an entrance or the result of not excavating far enough in this direction. This building displays evidence of a double face in the north-eastern section; here the wall is up to 0.7m thick with a central earth core faced externally by larger granite blocks, and internally by small granite rubble. A possible narrow entrance 0.6m wide leading to the small ‘courtyard’ to the southwest is flanked by a pair of saddle querns built into the wall. From the northernmost of these protrudes a small length of interior return wall 1.3m long and 1.3m wide. It was unclear whether this wall continues to the north forming a series of compartments similar to those found in Building 5 on Nornour (Butcher 1978); there was a large quantity of rubble within this area and the interior was not excavated to a depth sufficient to define the internal features further.

### **3.1.3 Structure [13] (Figs 4 and 8)**

This sub-oval structure is attached to the north-western wall of Structure [12]. The best-defined of all the buildings examined, it has internal dimensions of 5.2m by 3.0m. The exterior wall is of single-stone thickness and, by means of a sondage dug against the outside of the building, was found to survive to a height of four courses, the lower two of which are filling a trench cut into the ram. The entrance is located to the southeast, is 1.8m wide, and opens into the ‘courtyard’ area between the three structures. An interior return wall runs into the building from the western door jamb for 1.2m, and further rubble to the west of this may represent internal features. A small rectangular compartment 0.8m by 0.6m is situated in the north-eastern corner of the building.



*Fig 4: Structure [13] looking southeast (photo HES GDI/Tresco Playing Field 2003038/Structure 13.2)*



*Fig 5: Feature [19] looking northwest (photo: HES GDI/Tresco Playing Field 2003038/Feature 19)*

#### **3.1.4 Structure [19] (Figs 5 and 8)**

This feature was located 2.0m northeast of Structure [13] and consisted of a vaguely sub-circular ring of large stones 3.2m in diameter. Since it lay in a position where the depth of the soil stripping was not going to disturb it, it was initially felt that further investigations were unnecessary. However it became apparent that one of the perimeter stones would have to be removed due to the height that it was protruding above the surface. This led to a decision to excavate a sondage through the affected area. This revealed an outer wall of

larger orthostats set into a cut in the ram, [32]. The interior of the structure, below the midden material (20), was filled with a rubble deposit, (30), which was not excavated to any depth, and no internal features were observed.

### 3.1.5 Structure [21] (Figs 6 and 8)

Two conjoining sub-circular stony mounds, both containing large flat-laid granite slabs. The features are between 2.2m and 2.5m in diameter and both had an arrangement of stones around a central stone-free area. In the case of the northernmost group this was observed to be due to the removal during machining of a squat upright orthostat, the location of which can be seen in Fig 9 as a ring of packing stones surrounding a central depression. Overall the mounds covered an area of approximately 5.0m by 2.5m, orientated north to south.



*Fig 6: Feature [21] looking north (photo: HES GDI/Tresco Playing Field 2003038/Feature 21.1)*

In the initial stages of the watching brief time was available to investigate the mounds further. Since the features were felt to be a potentially important ritual site, a decision was taken to excavate a small sondage at the edge of what at that time appeared to be a single stony mound, rather than disturb the central area of the feature. Subsequent excavation revealed that the sondage had missed the two distinct mounds. However the sondage did reveal a rubble wall with an accompanying ditch to the west. Whether this ‘wall’ was a field boundary or the southern extent of a cairn overlying the central features could not be determined from the form of the feature. Likewise the ditch may have been a field ditch or part of a ring ditch surrounding a cairn. However pottery recovered from the wall, (2), and from the ditch fill, (3), was all medieval, predominately of thirteenth to fourteenth century date, with a few sherds of eleventh or twelfth century grass-marked pottery recovered from within the wall. This would seem to suggest that the feature excavated was a component of a field system and probably unrelated to the stony mounds. It must be borne in mind, however, that the amount of rabbit disturbance in this area does not preclude the contamination of earlier deposits by later material.

### 3.1.6 Features [23] and [24]

In the eastern part of the excavation area two large granite boulders were encountered, the tops of which lay just below the turf line. Boulder [23] is 1.6m by 0.9m by 0.6m and was not excavated but observed to have an accumulation of small granite rubble upslope of it. From within this rubble an assemblage of pottery spanning the 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries AD was recovered as was a small collection of prehistoric flints. Whether this was the result of colluviation or medieval and post medieval field clearance was unclear. Since the boulder was unexcavated it was not possible to ascertain upon which surface it lay but comparison of the size and position of the boulder with [24] suggested that it lay upon the Bronze Age land surface, (31).

Boulder [24] lies to the southeast of [23] and, unlike [23], is quite clearly laid on its edge. The boulder measures 1.7m by 0.9m by 0.4m. A sondage was excavated to the west of this boulder for the purpose of establishing whether the boulder lies within the ploughsoil or is set upon a buried land surface. The sondage revealed that the stone does indeed rest upon a dark grey deposit, (31), homogenous over a wide area, that was found to contain prehistoric potsherds and flints.

The two boulders lay between 3.0m and 5.0m downslope of wall [25] and cairn [26]. The size of the boulders and their position within an area identified as being used as agricultural land from the Bronze Age suggests that they are not *in situ* natural clutter but are more likely to have originated from a structure upslope. The only candidate for this identified during the soil stripping is the cairn, [26]. It is possible that these boulders were capstones or large kerb stones that have been either deliberately displaced or, perhaps less likely, have fallen under the influence of gravity. Another explanation is that they are fallen standing stones or livestock scratching posts.

### 3.1.7 Structure [25] (Figs 7 and 8)

During the excavation of the sondage to investigate boulder [24] a length of stone wall was revealed. Aligned northwest to southeast, the wall was constructed of granite rubble facing an earth core. The length of wall revealed was approximately 3.3m long and 1.0m wide. At least two courses were revealed but the base of the wall was not excavated. During the course of the excavation of the sondage by machine a granite bowl mortar was removed from the wall, where it had presumably formed an integral part. Other finds recovered from the material over the wall, (28), were predominately of Bronze Age potsherds and prehistoric flints, although one piece of post-medieval stoneware had found its way into the layer. The wall was observed to cut a kerbed stone feature, [26], and thus post-dated it.

### 3.1.8 Structure [26] (Figs 7 and 8)

Upslope of wall [25], and cut by it, is a sub-circular kerbed feature, the interior of which contained several large flat granite slabs. The feature is approximately 3.5m to 4.0m in diameter and lies some 20m southeast of the house structures identified during the watching brief. The kerbing is nearly continuous to the east, south, and west and is built of moderately sized granite blocks. The southern end of the structure fell outside of the area excavated whilst the northern side had been cut by wall [25]. The central area was covered by two large flat slabs and five smaller stones. A large gap in the central area, up to 0.4m deep, may have housed another large stone in the past, but no sign of this was observed during machining. The layer over what has been interpreted as a platform cairn, (27), was found to contain Bronze Age potsherds, prehistoric flints, and a fragment of burnt clay.



*Fig 7: Features [25] and [26] looking east (photo: HES GDI/Tresco Playing Field.2003038/Features 25 and 26.1)*

### **3.1.9 Middens (20) and (29)**

The interiors and the immediate exteriors of structures [11], [12], and [13] were covered in an extensive deposit of dark grey material containing abundant amounts of limpet shells. This material was up to 0.2m thick, although typically between 0.1m and 0.15m. The relationship with the layers within the structures, (14), (15), (16), and (30), was unclear: the midden appeared to lie at the same level as these layers but there was a large amount of mixing throughout these deposits as evidenced from the wide temporal range of the artefacts within them. The only difference between the midden and the other layers is that no artefacts later than the 16<sup>th</sup> century AD were found in the midden whilst pottery up to the 18<sup>th</sup> century AD was found in all of the layers. The midden contained a post-Roman assemblage that was predominately late medieval in date (14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries AD), although the bulk of the material was Bronze Age. The mixing of deposits due to the extensive rabbit burrowing in and around the site may have rendered any objective analysis of the finds impossible.

Paul Ashbee (1974) has grouped the middens of Scilly into three phases by their pottery associations. These can be related to the Bronze Age, the Romano-British period, or the immediate post-Roman period to the end of the medieval (Ashbee 1974). The middens at Dolphin Town show evidence of forming part of the latter group.

## **3.2 Stratigraphical summary**

### **3.2.1 Phase 1**

The earliest features identified at the site appear to be ritual features, Structures [21] and [26]. However, only Structure [26] had a clear stratigraphical relationship with another feature, being cut by wall [25].

### **3.2.2 Phase 2**

Since wall [25] could be demonstrated to have cut structure [26] yet contained Bronze Age artefacts within it, it seems likely that this is the remains of an early field system. Ditch [17]

shared an alignment with this wall and also contained prehistoric pottery and may be assumed to be contemporary. The house structures [11], [12], [13], and [19] could be identified as Bronze Age from their form and from the large amount of prehistoric pottery recovered from within them, however mixed the deposits were. These could be contemporary with the field system although the presence of a bowl mortar within wall [25] suggests a settlement in the area prior to the construction (or repair) of this wall.

### **3.2.3 Phase 3**

The final phase within the area is represented by the limpet middens (20) and (29). Although large amounts of prehistoric pottery were found within midden (20), the tight chronology of the identified medieval pottery (14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries AD) suggests that these are more representative of this deposit. The other deposits overlying the house structures displayed equally mixed results, layer (15) for instance containing equal amounts of prehistoric and medieval material. Three explanations present themselves for this apparent discrepancy. Firstly there was evidence of extensive rabbit burrowing within and around the structures and within field wall (33) and a warren would produce a great deal of bioturbation, especially if concentrated within sheltered structures. This might explain why the apparent mixing occurred within disparate areas (i.e. in layers (14) and (15) but not in layer (16), which contained predominately prehistoric material). A second explanation might be that increasingly intensive agricultural exploitation of the hillslope above the settlement led to large amounts of colluvial material infilling the structures at the same time that the midden was forming, leading to the mixing of deposits. The third explanation is that the infill layers, particularly layer (15) above Structure [12], were poorly excavated, and different layers were not recognised.

## **3.3 Recording of well, cattle grid and field boundary**

Located just to the west of the pitch is a stone-lined well with a ruined well house (PRN 7369) which is mentioned in a late 18<sup>th</sup> century description of Scilly (Spence 1793). Historically associated with the well is a granite cattle grid built into the field boundary to the north. Part of the field boundary, to the east of the cattle grid, was removed during the playing field construction.

### **3.3.1 The cattle grid (Figs 2, 9, 10, 11)**

This attractive landscape feature consists of a ramp extending either side of the field boundary to a total length of about 6m, with a maximum height of 500mm at its centre. Six granite lintels/steps are set within flanking walls. The steps would have enabled access and egress by humans but would have deterred cattle. At some point in its history, the line of the field boundary was extended over the top of the cattle grid, blocking entry over it.

Scrub vegetation and blown sand was cleared to reveal the feature. Fenceposts and wire were removed from the structure and removal of the section of hedge blocking the cattle grid means it can now be used as a stile. A photographic and drawn record was then made.

### **3.3.2 Field boundary (Figs 2 and 12)**

The northern and western side of Field 2839 are bounded by stone field boundaries, all of which are depicted on the 1888 OS map, including the ditch in front of the graveyard wall. The northern boundary consists of a stone-faced stone wall (0.8-1.5m wide by 0.7-1.5m high) now reduced and largely obscured by vegetation and blown sand, which has become banked against its northern face. On an early (1869/70) photograph this wall is shown as a substantial wall with vertically set coping stones on top (Thomas 1988, fig 34). The eastern part of the wall was removed during construction of the playing field and a photographic record was made

The eastern boundary (also removed) was modern barbed wire fences of no archaeological significance (Ratcliffe 2000, 6).

### **3.3.3 The well (Figs 2, 13, 14, 15, 16)**

The well consists of a roughly square shaft (2.1m x 1.8m), lined with large blocks of granite. The shaft is situated within a ruined well house, measuring 3.9m x 3.0m externally, with walling surviving around the top of the shaft, particularly on its west and south side. This coursed granite walling (with a core of ram) averages 600mm high and stands to a maximum height of 1.4m on the west. Later modification of the well structure was represented by the remains of a concrete platform/capping covering the north-east corner of the shaft, and a 200mm concrete lip around its top. The well is not a scheduled monument, but does have considerable local significance in terms of the post-medieval history of Scilly and the historic landscape character of this area of Tresco.

Scrub vegetation and remains of the old wire fencing and iron sheeting obscuring the well were removed. The masonry was consolidated using existing displaced stones for repair of the stonework. The shaft was capped with a close-gauge metal grille. In accordance with planning conditions a photographic record and drawn record was made of the well.

## **4 Finds summary report**

By Carl Thorpe BSc

### **4.1 The 1999 evaluation**

A total of 374 artefacts were recovered during the 1999 evaluation (Ratcliffe 2000). Three trenches were excavated, the artefacts being collected from soil layers and features identified within each trench. Pottery comprises the largest group, 194 sherds in total, some 51.87% of the collection. There is also flint, stone, bone, metalwork, glass, clay pipe, and daub/burnt clay within the assemblage. All the artefacts have been washed, marked and bagged by layer.

The earliest identifiable artefacts recovered during this project were pottery dating from the Bronze Age: 93 sherds were recovered from Trench 2, modern plough soil; Trench 3, layer 5, feature 3; and Trench 3, layer 8, the limpet midden. The material has been provisionally identified as Bronze Age, being in a granitic fabric. The collection includes rimsherds from probably 2 vessels, both large jars. No decorated sherds were observed.

Five sherds from Trench 1, modern plough soil, and Trench 2, modern plough soil have been identified as provisionally Romano-British. This identification is purely on fabric and mode of manufacture so is tentative. They are better made (with some evidence of burnishing on the exterior) with thinner walls than the material described above. It is possible that these too may actually be Bronze Age in date.

Early medieval activity on the site was indicated by the presence of "Grass Marked" sherds coming from Trench 1, modern plough soil, Trench 2, modern plough soil, Trench 3, layer 3, limpet midden, Trench 3, layer 4, and Trench 3, layer 8, limpet midden. Most appear to be of "Sandy Lane Ware" Styles 1 and 2 dating from the 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> centuries AD.

Though coming from mixed contexts there is a large concentration of medieval material within this collection, suggesting the close proximity to the excavation of a settlement dating from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries. The vast bulk is of Cornish manufacture though there is some imported material, all coming from France. This is of Saintonge Ware,

(though there is no polychrome ware). All is of domestic coarse wares suggesting an agrarian economy.

There is evidence of continuing occupation throughout the post-medieval and early Modern periods with pottery from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries occurring within a lot of the contexts. Again most are of Cornish manufacture (there is very little from North Devon) with only a little in the way of imported wares. Only material from Bristol (Ham Green ware), Somerset (Donyatt ware), and Staffordshire (Bristol/Staffordshire ware), is represented. Perhaps this is a reflection of the comparatively lowly social level of the islands.

## **4.2 The watching brief**

A total of 794 artefacts were recovered during the 2003 watching brief. The initial finds processing stages of cleaning, and sorting the artefacts were carried out by Konstanze Rahn. This greatly simplified the task of identification.

Pottery comprises the largest group, 550 sherds in total, some 69.2% of the collection. There is also flint, stone, bone, metalwork, glass, clay pipe, and daub/burnt clay within the assemblage.

Some large stone artefacts were recorded on site and photographed but were left on Treco in the possession of Mr Dorrien Smith.

Some 171 artefacts (21.5% of the total) came from unstratified contexts, being collected from the spoil heaps derived from topsoil stripping of the excavation area, or cleaning of the surfaces of the excavation.

The rest of the artefacts were collected from recognisable features, all being collected by context. None were three dimensionally recorded.

The earliest identifiable artefacts recovered during this project were pottery dating from the Bronze Age: 219 sherds were recovered from contexts (4), (14), (15), (16), (18), (20), (27), (28), (30), (31), and (33).

The material has been provisionally identified as Bronze Age, being in a granitic fabric. The collection includes rimsherds from at least nineteen vessels, though only one decorated sherd was recovered coming from context (28), this being comb stamped in a chevron pattern. Several large stone artefacts (saddle querns and a bowl mortar) noted during the excavation are also probably of Bronze Age date.

No recognisable Iron Age or Romano-British pottery was recovered.

Early Medieval activity on the site was indicated by the presence of “Grass Marked” sherds coming from contexts (3), (15), (16), (20), and (33). Most appear to be of “Sandy Lane Ware” Styles 1 and 2 dating from the 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> centuries AD; none of the sherds were sufficiently diagnostic to further refine the date. Some “Sandy Lane Ware Style 3, dating from the 12<sup>th</sup> century, was recovered from context (15).

Of interest was the recovery of two sherds of Imported Post-Roman E-ware from contexts (14) and (15) indicating an early contact with France. This material dates from the 7<sup>th</sup> century and is an important addition to the small collection of this material coming from Treco, the nearest site previously identified being Dial Rocks (Ratcliffe 1991).

Though coming from mixed contexts there is a large concentration of medieval material within this collection, suggesting the close proximity to the excavation of a settlement dating from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries. The vast bulk is of Cornish manufacture though there is some imported material, all of it coming from France. The largest group is

Saintonge Ware, (though there is no polychrome ware) but there is also some material from Normandy. All is of domestic coarse wares suggesting an agrarian economy.

As in the results of the 1999 evaluation indicate, there is evidence of continuing occupation throughout the post-medieval and early Modern periods with pottery from the 16<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries occurring within a lot of the contexts. Again most are of Cornish manufacture (there is very little from North Devon) with only a little in the way of foreign import. Only material from Normandy, Beauvais (both in France), and a single sherd of Frechen stoneware (from Germany) is represented. Perhaps this is a reflection of the comparatively lowly social level of the islands.

## **5 Discussion**

### **5.1 Introduction**

The features revealed during the watching brief appeared to be of prehistoric origin but, having been abandoned by the end of the Bronze Age, had been the focus of a resurgence of activity during the medieval period. The evidence fits with that obtained from previous work carried out in the area. Dolphin Town and Old Grimsby have long been recognised as centres of settlement in the Neolithic and Bronze Age: flints of this age have been recovered from previous watching briefs (Ratcliffe 1991) and evaluations (Johns 2000; Ratcliffe 2000) in the area, and a large quantity of Bronze Age pottery was recovered from a nearby evaluation trench (Ratcliffe 2000). Apart from a few Romano-British potsherds discovered during the electrification programme in the 1980s (Ratcliffe 1991), there is then a gap in the archaeological record until the post-Roman through to the late medieval periods when large quantities of pottery attest to the establishment of new settlement in the area.

### **5.2 Early Bronze Age**

The earliest features encountered during the watching brief are likely to be the ritual features; the cist cairns, [21], and the possible chambered cairn, [26]. The dating evidence for these features is sparse and circumstantial, and relies on two factors: comparison between the unexcavated forms and similar features on Scilly and further afield; and the cutting of cairn [26] by a wall, [25], that is considered part of the settlement pattern that includes the later Bronze Age house structures.

Cairn [26], with its kerb and flat central capstones, most closely resembles examples of chambered cairns found all over Scilly. However with a conjectured diameter of 3.5m it would be one of the smallest of the Scillonian tombs, and is perhaps more likely to be a kerbed cist cairn. The twin cairns of structure [21] most closely resemble small cists. Their proximity to the settlement site suggests that they too predate the settlement, although no dating evidence was found to back this up.

Interestingly the site is on the edge of the limit of ancient woodland following the initial Neolithic clearances by the early inhabitants of Scilly as proposed by Charles Thomas (1985, fig 55). Whilst this is a tentative limit the positioning of many tombs seems to be confined to marginal, mostly coastal, areas. Were these marginal areas to be extended to wooded zones the positioning of cairns within otherwise sheltered and level areas might be more easily explained.

### **5.3 Middle-Late Bronze Age**

The early field system discovered during the watching brief, comprised of ditch [17] and wall [25], can be seen to postdate cairn [26]. An abundance of Bronze Age pottery that is likely to date from the Middle Bronze Age was found within and over wall [25]. However the presence of a rotary quern within the structure of the wall suggests that an earlier settlement predated the construction, or repair, of the wall.

However the settlement, comprising four to five houses, is unlikely to predate the field system by a significant period. The pottery recovered from both the wall and the houses is remarkably homogenous and suggests a broadly contemporary date for both features. On the other hand the incorporation of two saddle querns within the walls of house structure [12] suggests that the settlement may have grown over a period of time, additional houses being built to accommodate a growing population.

The sheltered aspect of the site should be emphasized: the site is sheltered from the prevailing south-westerly airstream; only northerly or north-easterly winds affect the locale. The settlement occupies a similar position with regard to the topography to that at Porth Gimble, to the north, the site of a 'founder settlement' (Thomas 1985). In addition the siting of the nearby well is evidence of a source of freshwater that is likely to have been there throughout prehistory.

Until the pottery is examined more closely or the site is excavated thoroughly, the date and reasons for the abandonment of the settlement remain unknown. No Iron Age or Romano-British pottery was recovered and this leaves a cut-off date of around the fifth to 4th centuries BC for the latest date for the abandonment of the settlement.

### **5.4 Post-Roman/ Early Medieval**

The appearance of imported E-Ware and early grass-marked gabbroic pottery in the archaeological record may attest to the re-emergence of human activity on the site. The concentration of these finds to the layers within the house structures begs the question of whether the houses were being re-used in this period. A sherd of early grass-marked pottery was also found within the midden, (20), covering the houses.

It is tempting to see this activity as related to the encroachment of the sea during an episode of submergence, thus encouraging the exploitation of land that had reverted to wildwood or marsh, but in fact the pottery record does need to be investigated further. The evaluation recovered several sherds of material posited as Romano-British and the small amount of post-Roman and early medieval material need not imply that there was any real hiatus in the preceding phase or significant reoccupation in this period.

### **5.5 Medieval**

The evaluation (Ratcliffe 2000) recognised three distinct medieval phases but the finds analysis (Section 3.4.1, this volume) has failed to distinguish between them in terms of the artefacts recovered eg layer (4) contained predominately grass-marked pottery of eleventh or twelfth century date whilst layer (8) below it contained an assemblage weighted heavily towards material from the thirteenth to fifteenth centuries. This may be due to the mixing of deposits (bioturbation and ploughing) or it may be due to the long life of the earliest pottery. Or perhaps more likely is that the deposits are broadly contemporary and the sample area was not large enough to adequately reflect the total assemblage. This example illustrates the problems facing the interpretation of the medieval deposits. All of the contexts covering the prehistoric structures were rich in medieval pottery (as well as Bronze Age and post-medieval material). However patterns in the finds assemblage can be discerned: the midden material, (20), was particularly rich in pottery dating to the

fourteenth to sixteenth centuries, as were layers (14), (15), and (16). If the Bronze Age material is ignored (assuming it to be so abundant in the layers below that bioturbation has mixed it with the layers above) then a date can be put to the intensification of activity around the settlement.

The midden would seem to have been deposited in the late medieval period, between the 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> centuries. This would seem to enable a number of cautious statements to be made.

1. The coastline had assumed the form it takes today, i.e. sea level rise had engulfed the land between Old Grimsby, Norwethel, Tean, and the western end of St Martin's, ensuring that a source of limpets was available close by.
2. The increase in activity might suggest that the settlement of Old Grimsby had been established by this time and that the harbour had been built.
3. The concentration of the midden within and against the Bronze Age houses suggests that they were extant and perhaps the walls were used to sit on during the processing of the limpets.

## 5.6 Post-medieval

The post-medieval finds recovered do not suggest an intensification of land use, but rather a continuity of activity from the medieval period. The apparent slight decrease in post medieval artefacts might even suggest that a nearby medieval settlement fell out of use and the land it occupied returned to agriculture. Perhaps this coincided with the rise of Dolphin Town as a focus of settlement as the more sheltered aspect of this area became appreciated.

## 5.7 Recommendations

On completion of the fieldwork an assessment stage should be carried out in accordance with English Heritage's guidelines in 'Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)'. This will involve assessment of structural and stratigraphic data and artefactual material etc. The outline of the assessment report, and the work required to produce it will also be determined. During this stage any artefacts and environmental material that has been retrieved will be despatched to specialists in order that the level of conservation and analysis can be assessed. An assessment will also be made of the level of research/analysis required to interpret the structural and stratigraphic data. The results of the assessment will be brought together in a report which will include an Updated Project Design for the Analysis, Report Preparation and Dissemination phases of the project, with a view to the publication of a short article in *Cornish Archaeology*, the annual journal of the Cornwall Archaeological Society.

# 6 References

## 6.1 Primary sources

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## 7 Project archive

The HES project number is **2003038**

The project's documentary, photographic and drawn archive is housed at the offices of Cornwall Archaeological Unit, Cornwall County Council, Kennall Building, Old County Hall, Station Road, Truro, TR1 3AY. The contents of this archive are as listed below:

1. A project file containing site records and notes, project correspondence and administration (file no 2003038).
2. Field drawings, including drawings of the well and cattle grid, and copies of historic maps stored in an A2-size plastic envelope (GRE 493).

3. Electronic drawings stored in the directory G:\CAU\Drawings\CAD Archive\Scilly\Tresco Playing Field 2003038
4. Black and white photographs archived under the following index numbers: GBP 1091 (1999 Evaluation); GBP1598; GBP 1599
5. Colour slides archived under the following index numbers: GCS 34375-34398
6. Digital photographs (GDI) stored in the directory G:\CAU\Images\Scilly\Tresco Playing Field 2003038
7. This report held in digital form as: G:\CAU\DOCUMENT\THE PROJECTS\SITES\SCILLY\SITES.Q-T\TRESKO PLAYING FIELD WATCHING BRIEF 2003038\DOLPHIN TOWN PLAYING FIELD REPORT.DOC

Artefacts and environmental material retrieved during the project are to be stored at the Isles of Scilly Museum, Church Street, St Mary's. The site code for the 1999 evaluation is DT99 and for the 2003 watching brief, DT043

## 8 Appendices

### 8.1 Appendix 1: List of Contexts

Context Number	Context Description
(1)	Wall. Base of wall recorded in section in Sondage 1. Constructed of granite rubble packed with black silty clay. Lies directly over ram but partially covers a shallow cut, [5], interpreted as an animal burrow.
(2)	Deposit. A dark grey sandy clay packing between the stones of wall (1), and extending to the west of the wall. Contained sherds of C 12 <sup>th</sup> to C 14 <sup>th</sup> pottery.
(3)	Deposit. A dark grey sandy clay – fill of ditch [34]. Flints and quartz were found at the base of the layer but the pottery was from the C 11 <sup>th</sup> to C 14 <sup>th</sup> .
(4)	Deposit. A dark brownish grey sandy clay only visible in south-facing section of Sondage 1. Probably an animal burrow. Contained Bronze Age and C 13 <sup>th</sup> – C 14 <sup>th</sup> potsherds.
[5]	Cut. Narrow gully crossing the trench north to south beneath wall (1). Probably an animal burrow.
(6)	Deposit. A dark greyish brown sandy clay. Fill of [5].
[7]	Cut. A shallow circular cut 0.25m in diameter in the base of Sondage 1. Interpreted as an animal burrow but may have been a posthole.
(8)	Deposit. Dark greyish brown sandy clay. Fill of [7]
(9)	Deposit. Dark grey sandy loam. Layer lying over wall (1). Contained C 13 <sup>th</sup> – C 14 <sup>th</sup> potsherds.
(10)	Natural substrate. Orange granite-derived clay, known locally as ‘ram’.
[11]	Structure. Roundhouse consisting of a sub-circular wall base with an internal diameter of approximately 4.3m. A gap in the exterior wall to the southeast is likely to have been an entrance. Not excavated.
[12]	Structure. Roundhouse consisting of a sub-oval wall base with internal dimensions of approximately 5.0m by 2.5m. A possible entrance in the western wall was flanked by two saddle querns. The northern side of the entrance had an internal return wall, beyond which were a number of stone-built internal divisions/compartments. Not excavated.
[13]	Structure. Roundhouse consisting of a sub-oval wall base with internal dimensions of approximately 5.2m by 3.0m. The entrance, to the south, had an internal return wall on its western side. The eastern corner of the house contained a stone-lined alcove. Not excavated.
(14)	Deposit. An orange brown silty clay. This material covered Structure [11] and contained potsherds from the Bronze Age, C 7 <sup>th</sup> – C 8 <sup>th</sup> , C 13 <sup>th</sup> – C 14 <sup>th</sup> , and C 17 <sup>th</sup> - C 18 <sup>th</sup> .
(15)	Deposit. An orange brown silty clay. This material covered Structure [12] and contained potsherds from the Bronze Age and C 7 <sup>th</sup> - C 18 <sup>th</sup> . Iron finds included a C 13 <sup>th</sup> arrowhead.

Context Number	Context Description
(16)	Deposit. An orange brown silty clay. This material covered Structure [13] and contained potsherds from the Bronze Age, C 9 <sup>th</sup> – C 12 <sup>th</sup> , and C 14 <sup>th</sup> – C 18 <sup>th</sup> .
[17]	Cut. Base of ditch cut into ram, 0.75m wide and 0.07m deep; very truncated. Aligned northwest-southeast but appears to curve slightly to the south. Does not align with extant field pattern.
(18)	Deposit. Dark greyish black silty clay; fill of [17]. Contained Bronze Age potsherds and a flint flake.
[19]	Structure. Possible roundhouse exposed in Sondage 2 to the north of [11], [12], and [13]. A short section of curving wall base set into a cut, [32], in the ram. Internally packed with rubble. Partially excavated.
(20)	Deposit. Dark greyish black silty clay. Midden material containing abundant limpet shells. Lies over and against Structures [11], [12], [13], and [19]. Contained Bronze Age, C 9 <sup>th</sup> – C 12 <sup>th</sup> , and C 14 <sup>th</sup> - C 16 <sup>th</sup> potsherds.
[21]	Structure. Barrow/Cists? Two sub-circular arrangements of flat laid stones around a central area, one of which contained a short upright stone removed during soil stripping. Both were approximately 2.0m in diameter and lay within a generally stony area. Not excavated.
[22]	Structure. Roundhouse? A sub-circular arrangement of granite slabs. Not excavated.
[23]	Structure. Cairn? A large granite boulder measuring 1.6m by 0.9m by 0.6m, possibly resting on the Bronze Age soil horizon, (31). It lay 4.5m downslope of wall [25] and cairn [26]. A small amount of granite rubble had accumulated upslope of the boulder and this contained within it C 14 <sup>th</sup> – C 18 <sup>th</sup> potsherds and prehistoric flints. Possibly clearance material stacked around the boulder or natural colluvial accumulation. Not excavated.
[24]	Structure. Orthostat? A large boulder lying on the Bronze Age soil horizon, (31). The stone measured 1.7m by 0.9m by 0.4m and lay 3.5m downslope of wall [25] and cairn [26]. Partially excavated.
[25]	Structure. Wall. A length of stone-faced earth wall of granite rubble construction. Aligned northwest to southeast. Appears to cut feature [26], a possible cist cairn. A granite bowl mortar of prehistoric date was accidentally removed from this feature during machine soil stripping. It had been built into the wall. Not excavated.
[26]	Structure. A sub-circular kerb of granite, partially cut to the northeast by wall [25], surrounds a central platform composed of large granite slabs. The feature was approximately 4.0m in diameter. Not excavated.
(27)	Deposit. An orange brown silty clay overlying feature [26]. Contained Bronze Age potsherds and flints and daub.
(28)	Deposit. A mid-brown silty clay overlying wall [25]. Contained mostly Bronze Age potsherds and flints, but also one post medieval potsherd of C 17 <sup>th</sup> – C 18 <sup>th</sup> date.
(29)	Deposit. A layer of midden material consisting primarily of limpet shells

Context Number	Context Description
	exposed in two small patches at the eastern end of the site. Not excavated.
(30)	Deposit. An orange brown silty clay packed with rubble. This material covered Structure [19] and contained primarily Bronze Age potsherds and flints, but also a small amount of medieval (c 13 <sup>th</sup> – C 15 <sup>th</sup> ) and post medieval (C 17 <sup>th</sup> – C 18 <sup>th</sup> ) potsherds.
(31)	Deposit. A buried soil horizon located in a sondage dug to the west of boulder [24], upon which this stone was found to lie. The dark grey silty clay contained Bronze Age potsherds and a prehistoric flint.
[32]	Cut. A steep-sided cut into the ram within which the kerbstones of structure [19] were set. Not excavated.
(33)	Structure. A wall running through the field from northeast to southwest. Only the base was extant and this survived to a height of 0.4m in places, usually as a single orthostat. The wall was 1.3m wide and contained within it potsherds of Bronze Age and medieval (C 11 <sup>th</sup> – C 12 <sup>th</sup> ) date.
[34]	Cut. A truncated ditch aligned northwest to southeast running parallel to the west of wall (1). Filled by (3).

## 8.2 Appendix 2: List of soil samples

Sample number	Sampled context	Quantity (litres)	Description
<1>	-	-	Not used.
<2>	(18)	14	Fill of ditch that contained prehistoric potsherds and flints.
<3>	(31)	7	Buried soil layer that contained prehistoric potsherds and flints, and frequent charcoal.

## 8.3 Appendix 3: Artefact Index (Evaluation)

The total number of finds from each context are summarised in the tables below.

**Context: Trench 1. Modern plough soil.**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Romano-British	13g	3		
Early Medieval	10g	2		
Medieval	64g	9		
Post-Medieval	129g	6		
Modern	5g	2		
Metalwork				
Iron	30g	1		
Industrial debris	3g	2		
Stonework				
Flint	46g	8		
Slate	84g	5		

Pebble	26g	2		
Other Coal	18g	4		
Bone				
Animal	6g	7		
Clay				
Other Clay pipe	4g	2		
<p>3 sherds Prehistoric pottery, granitic fabric, possibly Romano-British.</p> <p>2 rim sherds Sandy Lane Style 2 Ware. "Grass marked" Gabbroic fabric. 12<sup>th</sup> century.</p> <p>3 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware (Bunnings Park/Stuffle Ware). 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>5 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 sherd Ham Green Ware. 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>6 sherds North Devon Post-medieval Gravel-Tempered Glazed Red Earthenware (Barnstaple Ware) with sgraffito decoration. 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>2 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>8 flints, Prehistoric.</p> <p>1 flint thumbnail scraper., possibly Bronze Age.</p> <p>1 flint awl.</p> <p>1 flint waste flake.</p> <p>1 chert waste flake.</p> <p>4 water-rounded flint flakes.</p> <p>2 flint pebbles.</p> <p>5 slate fragments.</p> <p>4 fragments of coal.</p> <p>2 cinder fragments.</p> <p>1 hand forged iron nail.</p> <p>7 animal bone fragments.</p> <p>2 clay pipe stem fragments.</p> <p>a) Ø= 2mm. 18<sup>th</sup> century.</p> <p>b) Ø= 3.5mm. Pre 1650.</p>				

**Context: Trench 2. Modern plough soil.**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
<b>Pottery</b>				
Bronze Age	19g	2		
Romano-British	13g	2		
Early Medieval	13g	3		
Medieval	215g	22		
Post-Medieval	122g	13		
Modern	35g	11		
<b>Metalwork</b>				
Iron	16g	2		

Industrial debris	11g	5
<b>Stonework</b>		
Flint	56g	12
Slate	74g	6
Other Coal	10g	4
<b>Bone</b>		
Animal	14g	1
<b>Clay</b>		
Tile Roof.	119g	3
Other Clay pipe.	14g	6
10 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup> centuries.		
1 sherd Modern Yellow Glazed Stoneware. 19 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup> centuries.		
1 rimsherd of Prehistoric pottery, granitic fabric, possibly Bronze Age.		
1 sherd Prehistoric pottery, granitic fabric, possibly Bronze Age.		
2 sherds Prehistoric pottery, granitic fabric, possibly Romano-British.		
3 sherds “grass marked” Early–Medieval pottery. 11 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> centuries.		
19 (including one rim/handle sherd) Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> centuries.		
1 sherd Ham Green Ware. 12 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> centuries.		
2 sherds French Late Medieval Coarsewares (Saintonge Ware). 15 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup> centuries.		
12 sherds Post-medieval Gravel-Tempered Glazed Red Earthenware. 16 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> centuries.		
1 rimsherd Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware Decorated Slipwares (Donyatt Ware). 17 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> centuries.		
3 fragments of Bridgewater terracotta roofing tile. 18 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup> centuries.		
12 flints. Prehistoric.		
1 flint pebble.		
11 waste flakes.		
6 slate fragments.		
4 coal fragments.		
5 cinder fragments.		
2 iron objects.		
5 shards Modern glass. 19 <sup>th</sup> to 20 <sup>th</sup> centuries.		
1 cow tooth.		
6 clay pipe fragments.		
a) 1 fragment of decorated bowl and stem. SW style. Ø= 2mm. 18 <sup>th</sup> century.		
b) 3 fragments. Ø= 2mm. 18 <sup>th</sup> century.		
c) 1 fragment. Ø= 2.5mm. 1650 – 1700.		
d) 1 fragment. Ø= 3.5mm. Pre 1650.		

**Context: Trench 3. Unstratified.**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Medieval	2g	1		
Modern	3g	1		
Clay				
Tile roofing.	43g	1		
<p>1 sherd Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 sherd French Late Medieval Coarsewares (Saintonge Ware). 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 fragment of Bridgewater terracotta roofing tile. 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p>				

**Context: Trench 3. Layer 1. topsoil.**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Post-Medieval	8g	1		
Modern	6g	1		
Clay				
Other Clay pipe.	4g	1		
Glass				
<p>1 sherd Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 sherd Post-medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 clay pipe stem fragment. Ø= 2.5mm. 1650 – 1700.</p>				

**Context: Trench 3. Layer 3. Limpet midden.**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Early Medieval	38g	3		
Medieval	2g	1		
Post-Medieval	26g	2		
Stonework				
Slate	2g	1		
Bone				
Animal	65g	39		
Clay				
Daub	50g	7		
<p>1 rim sherd Sandy Lane Style 2 Ware. “Grass marked” Gabbroic fabric. 12<sup>th</sup> century.</p> <p>1 basal sherd Sandy Lane Style 2 Ware. “Grass marked” Gabbroic fabric. 12<sup>th</sup> century.</p> <p>1 sherd “grass marked” Early –Medieval pottery. 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 sherd French Late Medieval Coarsewares (Saintonge Ware). 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 sherd Post-Medieval Yellow-Glazed Red Earthenware (Bristol/Staffordshire Ware). 18<sup>th</sup> century.</p> <p>1 basal sherd North Devon Post-medieval Gravel-Tempered Glazed Red Earthenware (Barnstaple Ware). 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p>				

7 burnt clay/daub fragments.  
 4 flints, Prehistoric.  
 4 waste flakes (1 water rounded).  
 1 slate fragment.  
 39 animal bones.

**Context: Trench 3. Layer 4.**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Early Medieval	27g	3		
Medieval	62g	3		
Bone				
Animal	32g	20		
3 sherds “grass marked” Early –Medieval pottery. 11 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> centuries. 1 sherd Sandy Lane Style 3 Ware. Wheel finished Gabbroic fabric. 12 <sup>th</sup> to 13 <sup>th</sup> centuries. 1 sherd Cornish Medieval Coarseware (Bunnings Park/Stuffle Ware). 13 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> centuries. 1 sherd French Late Medieval Coarsewares (Saintonge Ware). 15 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup> centuries. 20 animal bones.				

**Context: Trench 3. Layer 5. Feature 3.**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	4,163g	89		
Bone				
Animal	2g	2		
Clay				
Daub	20g	3		
4 rimsherds (2 vessels), Granitic fabric, Prehistoric pottery. Bronze Age. 1 shoulder sherd with horizontal lug, Granitic fabric, Prehistoric pottery. Bronze Age. 3 basal angle sherds, Granitic fabric, Prehistoric pottery. Bronze Age. 81 sherds, Granitic fabric, Prehistoric pottery. Bronze Age. 2 animal bones. 3 fragments of burnt clay/daub.				

**Context: Trench 3. Layer 5. Feature 5.**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Medieval	2g	1		
1 sherd Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 13 <sup>th</sup> century.				

**Context: Trench 3. Layer 8. Limpet midden.**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
<b>Pottery</b>				
Bronze Age	8g	2		
Early Medieval	15g	2		
Medieval	58g	10		
<b>Bone</b>				
Animal	26g	30		
<b>Clay</b>				
Daub	32g	3		
Other Briquetage?	40g	4		
2 sherds Prehistoric pottery, granitic fabric, possibly Bronze Age.				
2 sherds “grass marked” Early–Medieval pottery. 11 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> centuries.				
10 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> centuries.				
3 fragments of bunt clay or daub.				
4 fragments of burnt clay. Briquetage? Mould?				
1 flint. Prehistoric.				
1 waste flint flake.				
30 animal bones.				

**8.4 Appendix 4: Artefact Index (Watching Brief)**

The total number of finds from each context are summarised in the tables below.

**Context: Unstratified.**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
<b>Pottery</b>				
Medieval	424g	28		2
Post-Medieval	145g	9		2
Modern	5g	1		2
<b>Metalwork</b>				
Iron	175g	1		3
<b>Stonework</b>				
Flint	171g	8		2
Granite	Not weighed	3		Left on Tresco
Pebble	23g	1		2
Quartz	21g	1		2
Other Quartzite.	338g	1		2
<b>Bone</b>				
Animal	128g	8		3
<b>Clay</b>				
Tile Roofing	201g	3		
Other Clay pipe	3g	1		2
26 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> centuries.				
2 basal angle sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 13 <sup>th</sup> century.				
2 rimsherds North Devon Post-medieval Gravel-Tempered Glazed Red Earthenware (Barnstaple Ware). 17 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> centuries.				

5 sherds North Devon Post-medieval Gravel-Tempered Glazed Red Earthenware (Barnstaple Ware), 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.

1 rimsherd North Devon Post-medieval Gravel-Tempered Glazed Red Earthenware (Barnstaple Ware) with sgraffito decoration, 16<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> centuries.

1 rimsherd Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware, 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.

1 sherd Modern White Glazed Stoneware, 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

3 fragments of Bridgeport terracotta roofing tile, 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.

1 broken quartz pebble fragment.

1 water rounded pebble.

1 quartzite cobble possibly utilised as a whetstone.

1 clay pipe stem fragment. Ø = 2mm, 18<sup>th</sup> century

8 flints, Prehistoric.

2 cores.

5 flint flakes.

1 shaft scraper.

1 iron object, sheet metal.

8 animal bones (including a pig's jaw).

2 complete large granite saddle querns (left on Tresco). Prehistoric but most likely Bronze Age.

1 granite saddle quern fragment (left on Tresco). Prehistoric but most likely Bronze Age.

**Context: Unstratified surface finds.**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Medieval	31g	3		2
Stonework				
Flint	47g	5		2
Other Sandstone	133g	1		2
3 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware, 13 <sup>th</sup> to 14 <sup>th</sup> centuries.				
1 sandstone rubbing stone or whetstone. Prehistoric?				
5 flints. Prehistoric.				
1 broken side scraper.				
4 flakes.				

**Context: Unstratified, Eastern Area.**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Early Medieval	25g	3		2
Medieval	221g	21		2
Post-Medieval	64g	3		2
Metalwork				

Iron	467g	6	3
<b>Stonework</b>			
Flint	117g	4	2
<b>Bone</b>			
Animal	22g	1	3
<b>Clay</b>			
Tile. Roofing	232g	3	2
Daub	6g	1	2
Other Clay pipe	3g	1	2
2 rimsherds (2 vessels), Granitic fabric, Prehistoric pottery. Bronze Age?			
1 sherds, Granitic fabric, Prehistoric pottery. Bronze Age?			
1rimsherd Cornish Late-Medieval Coarseware. 15 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup> centuries.			
1 handlesherd with pie crust decoration. Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 14 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> centuries.			
19 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 13 <sup>th</sup> to 16 <sup>th</sup> centuries.			
3 sherds (2 basal angle), Early–Medieval pottery “Grass marked” Gabbroic fabric. 9 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> centuries.			
3 sherds Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17 <sup>th</sup> to 18 <sup>th</sup> centuries.			
3 fragments of Bridgewater terracotta roofing tile. 18 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup> centuries.			
1 fragment of burnt clay with chopped grass and bracken leaf impressions. Prehistoric?			
1 clay pipe stem fragment. Ø = 3.5mm, pre 1650.			
4 flints. Prehistoric.			
3 cores.			
1 flake.			
4 iron nails.			
2 horse shoe fragments (1 possibly a sickle blade?).			
1 animal tooth.			

**Context No: Unstratified, Western Area.**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Early Medieval	14g	1		2
Medieval	215g	20		2
Post-Medieval	344g	12		2
Modern	247g	12		2
<b>Metalwork</b>				
Iron	114g	3		3
<b>Stonework</b>				
Flint	25g	2		2
<b>Bone</b>				
Animal	7g	2		3
<b>Clay</b>				
Tile Roofing	91g	1		2
Other Clay pipe	2g	1		2
<b>Glass</b>				

Post-Medieval	18g	3		2
<p>1 rim sherd Sandy Lane Style 2 Ware. "Grass marked" Gabbroic fabric. 12<sup>th</sup> century.</p> <p>2 rimsherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>4 basal sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>12 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>2 sherds French Late Medieval Coarsewares (Saintonge Ware). 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>12 sherds Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>12 sherds Modern White Glazed Stoneware. 19<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 fragment of Bridgewater terracotta roofing tile. 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 clay pipe stem fragment. Ø = 2mm, 18<sup>th</sup> century.</p> <p>3 fragments of Post-Medieval green bottle glass. 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>2 flints, Prehistoric.</p> <p>1 side scraper.</p> <p>1 burin.</p> <p>1 iron nail.</p> <p>2 iron objects.</p> <p>2 animal bones.</p>				

**Context: Context (2)**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Medieval	161g	17		1
Metalwork				
Iron	19g	3		3
<p>3 sherds hand made Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 sherd Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>2 rimsherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware (Bunnings Park/Stuffle Ware). 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>7 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware (Bunnings Park/Stuffle Ware). 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 basal sherd Cornish Medieval Coarseware (Bunnings Park/Stuffle Ware). 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>2 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware, St Germans Ware. 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 sherd Medieval Stoneware, type unknown (Normandy Stoneware?). 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries?</p> <p>3 iron objects.</p>				

**Context: Context (3).**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Early Medieval	14g	3		1
Medieval	392g	25		1
Metalwork				
Iron	12g	2		3
Stonework				
Flint	391g	6		2
Pebble	226	3		2
Quartz	79g	2		2
Other Sandstone.	152g	1		2
<p>3 sherds “grass marked” Early –Medieval pottery. 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>4 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 sherd Cornish Medieval Coarseware, St Germans Ware. 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 rimsherd Cornish Medieval Coarseware (Bunnings Park/Stuffle Ware). 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>2 basal angle sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware (Bunnings Park/Stuffle Ware). 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>17 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware (Bunnings Park/Stuffle Ware). 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>3 water rounded pebbles.</p> <p>2 white quartz fragments.</p> <p>1 sandstone cobble utilised as a hammer stone and hand anvil. Prehistoric.</p> <p>6 flints. Prehistoric.</p> <p>4 cores.</p> <p>2 flakes.</p> <p>2 iron objects.</p>				

**Context No: Context (4).**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	33g	3		1
Medieval	7g	1		1
Stonework				
Flint	14g	2		2
<p>3 sherds prehistoric pottery, granitic fabric, possibly Bronze Age.</p> <p>1 sherd Cornish Medieval Coarseware (Bunnings Park/Stuffle Ware). 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>2 flints, Prehistoric.</p> <p>2 cores.</p>				

**Context No: Context (9), over (1).**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Medieval	41g	3		1
Modern	62g	1		1
Stonework				
Slate	172g	1		2
Bone				
Animal	186g	11		3
<p>1 fragment of Modern terracotta ridge tile or land drain.</p> <p>3 sherds (2 basal) Cornish Medieval Coarseware (Bunnings Park/Stuffle Ware). 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 roofing slate fragment.</p> <p>11 animal bones and teeth.</p>				

**Context: Context [12].**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Stonework				
Granite	Not recorded	2		Left on Tresco
<p>2 large granite saddle querns built into wall. Left <i>in situ</i>. Prehistoric, most likely Bronze Age.</p>				

**Context: Context (14).**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	138g	4		1
Early Medieval	11g	1		1
Medieval	74g	7		1
Post-Medieval	112g	5		1
Stonework				
Flint	138g	10		2
<p>2 co-joining rimsherds, granitic fabric, Prehistoric pottery, possibly Bronze Age.</p> <p>1 rim sherd imported Early-Medieval Coarseware (E-Ware)? - 7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 rimsherd Cornish Medieval Coarseware (Bunnings Park/Stuffle Ware). 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>6 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware (1 with applied pie crust decoration). 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>2 sherds Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 sherd Post-Medieval Saltglazed Stoneware (Normandy Stoneware). 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 sherd Post-Medieval Saltglazed Stoneware (Frechen Ware). 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 sherd Post-Medieval Stoneware with mottled green glazed exterior. Type unknown, possibly from North France. 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries?</p> <p>10 flints, Prehistoric.</p> <p>1 pebble.</p>				

2 cores.  
6 flakes.  
1 retouched flake.

**Context : Context (15).**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	1600g	58		1
Early Medieval	311g	12		1
Medieval	1543g	100		1
Post-Medieval	54g	5		1
Metalwork				
Iron	459g	12		3
Stonework				
Flint	158g	11		2
Granite	23g	1		2
Slate	161g	4		2
Bone				
Animal	146g	28		3

7 rimsherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
3 handle sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
76 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
6 basal angle sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
7 sherds French Late Medieval Coarsewares (Saintonge Ware). 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
1 rimsherd (lid) French Late Medieval Coarseware (Beauvais Ware). 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
3 sherds Post-Medieval Stoneware (Normandy Stoneware). 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
2 sherds Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
1 everted rimsherd Sandy Lane Style 3 Ware. Wheel finished Gabbroic fabric. 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
2 sherds Sandy Lane Style 3 Ware. Wheel finished Gabbroic fabric. 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
2 everted rimsherds (different vessels) Sandy Lane Style 2 Ware. “Grass marked” Gabbroic fabric. 12<sup>th</sup> century.  
3 co-joining basal/basal angle sherds Sandy Lane Style 2 Ware. “Grass marked” Gabbroic fabric. 12<sup>th</sup> century.  
2 basal sherds Early–Medieval pottery “Grass marked” Gabbroic fabric. 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
1 sherd Early–Medieval pottery “Grass marked” Gabbroic fabric. 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
1 basal angle sherd Imported Early-Medieval Coarseware (E-Ware). 7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
6 rimsherds (5 vessels) Prehistoric pottery, granitic fabric, possibly Bronze Age.  
4 co-joining sherds forming a rimsherd, granitic fabric, Prehistoric pottery, possibly Bronze Age.  
46 sherds Prehistoric pottery, Granitic fabric, possibly Bronze Age.

2 basal angle sherds Prehistoric pottery, granitic fabric, possibly Bronze Age.  
 4 slate fragments.  
 1 granite fragment. Natural?  
 11 flints, Prehistoric.  
 1 core.  
 6 flint flakes.  
 2 side scrapers.  
 2 retouched flint flakes.  
 1 large iron spike, 2 clench nails, 5 nails, 1 iron ferrule, 1 iron pin or needle, 1 knife blade.  
 1 large iron spike. 2 clench nails. 5 nails. 1 iron ferrule. 1 iron pin or needle. 1 knife blade.  
 28 animal bones.

**Context: Context (16).**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	1178g	41		1
Early Medieval	7g	1		1
Medieval	62g	6		1
Post-Medieval	5g	1		1
Stonework				
Flint	83g	6		2
Granite	1402g	2		2

1 sherd Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
 1 sherd French Late Medieval Coarseware (Saintonge Ware). 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
 2 sherds Cornish Late Medieval Coarseware (Lostwithiel Ware). 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
 3 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
 1 sherd Early–Medieval pottery “Grass marked” Gabbroic fabric. 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> centuries.  
 4 rimsherds (4 vessels), Granitic fabric, Prehistoric pottery. Bronze Age?  
 30 sherds, Granitic fabric, Prehistoric pottery. Bronze Age?  
 5 sherds, Granitic fabric, Prehistoric pottery. With internal residue. Bronze Age?  
 2 basal angle sherds, Granitic fabric, Prehistoric pottery. Bronze Age?  
 2 broken granite cobbles utilised as hammer stones? Prehistoric?  
 6 flints. Prehistoric.  
 2 cores.  
 3 flakes.  
 1 side scraper.

**Context: Context (18).**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	7g	1		1
Stonework				
Flint	10g	1		2
<p>1 rimsherd, granitic fabric, Prehistoric pottery, possibly Bronze Age.</p> <p>1 flint, Prehistoric.</p> <p>1 flint flake.</p>				

**Context: Context (20).**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	407g	31		1
Early Medieval	6g	1		1
Medieval	152g	16		1
Stonework				
Flint	121g	10		2
Granite	75g	1		2
Pebble	91g	4		2
Quartz	240g	6		2
Other	159g	1		2
Clay				
Daub	70g	7		2
<p>2 rimsherds (chafing dish?) French Late Medieval Coarseware (Beauvais Ware). 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 sherd French Late Medieval Coarsewares (Saintonge Ware). 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 handle/rim sherd Cornish Late Medieval Coarseware (Lostwithiel Ware). 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>12 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 sherd Early–Medieval pottery “Grass marked” Gabbroic fabric. 9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>31 sherds, Granitic fabric, Prehistoric pottery. Bronze Age?</p> <p>2 white vein quartz fragments.</p> <p>4 water rounded pebbles.</p> <p>1 water rounded quartz cobble utilised as a hammer stone, possibly Prehistoric.</p> <p>1 granite fragment.</p> <p>7 burnt clay fragments.</p> <p>10 flints, Prehistoric.</p> <p>1 pebble.</p> <p>8 flakes.</p> <p>1 retouched flake.</p>				

Context: Context, over [23].

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Medieval	78g	2		1
Post-Medieval	37g	2		1
Metalwork				
Iron	12g	1		3
Stonework				
Flint	103g	3		2
<p>1 handle/rim sherd (jug) Cornish Late Medieval Coarseware (Lostwithiel Ware). 14<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 rim sherd Cornish Late Medieval Coarseware (Lostwithiel Ware). 15<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>2 sherds Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>3 flints, Prehistoric.</p> <p>1 core.</p> <p>2 retouched flakes.</p> <p>1 iron nail.</p>				

Context: Context [25], [26].

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Stonework				
Granite	Not weighed	1		Left on Tresco
<p>1 large granite bowl mortar. Prehistoric. most likely Bronze Age.</p>				

Context No: Context (27).

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	691g	7		1
Stonework				
Flint	210g	3		2
Granite	84g	1		2
Clay				
Daub	28g	1		2
<p>2 co-joining rimsherds, granitic fabric, Bronze Age.</p> <p>5 sherds, prehistoric pottery, granitic fabric, possibly Bronze Age.</p> <p>1 granite fragment. Natural.</p> <p>1 fragment of burnt clay.</p> <p>3 flints. Prehistoric.</p> <p>3 cores.</p>				

**Context: Context (28).**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	1117g	40		1
Post-Medieval	19g	1		1
Stonework				
Flint	156g	7		2
Granite	779g	1		2
<p>1 sherd flanged bowl rim Post-Medieval Stoneware (Normandy Stoneware). 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>1 sherd, with comb stamped decoration in a chevron pattern, granitic fabric, Bronze Age.</p> <p>2 rimsherds (2 vessels), granitic fabric, Bronze Age.</p> <p>37 sherds prehistoric pottery, granitic fabric, possibly Bronze Age.</p> <p>1 utilised granite cobble, Prehistoric.</p> <p>7 flints, Prehistoric.</p> <p>3 cores.</p> <p>4 flakes.</p>				

**Context: Context (30).**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	290g	15		1
Medieval	23g	5		1
Post-Medieval	20g	1		1
Metalwork				
Iron	42g	1		3
Stonework				
Flint	42g	10		2
Bone				
Animal	39g	18		3
Clay				
Daub	29g	2		2
<p>1 sherd Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware. 17<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>5 sherds Cornish Medieval Coarseware. 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries.</p> <p>4 rimsherds (3 vessels), granitic fabric, Bronze Age.</p> <p>11 sherds, Prehistoric pottery, granitic fabric, possibly Bronze Age.</p> <p>2 fragments of burnt clay.</p> <p>10 flints, Prehistoric.</p> <p>2 cores.</p> <p>7 flakes.</p> <p>1 retouched flake.</p> <p>18 animal bones (including fish).</p>				

**Context: Context (31).**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	46g	3		1
Stonework				
Flint	40g	1		2
3 sherds, Prehistoric pottery, granitic fabric, possibly Bronze Age.				
1 water rounded flint, Prehistoric.				

**Context No: Context (33).**

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	508g	16		1
Early Medieval	14g	2		1
Stonework				
Flint	40g	2		2
Granite	Not weighed	1		Left on Tresco
2 rimsherds “grass marked?” Early–Medieval pottery. Gabbroic fabric. 11 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> centuries. Possibly an RB flanged bowl?				
1 rimsherd Prehistoric pottery. With finger impressed dimples just below rim, granitic fabric. possibly Bronze Age.				
15 sherds Prehistoric pottery, granitic fabric, possibly Bronze Age.				
2 flints, Prehistoric.				
1 scraper.				
1 flint flake.				
1 large granite saddle quern. Prehistoric, most likely Bronze Age.				

## 8.5 Appendix 5: Ceramic descriptions

### 8.5.1 The Bronze Age Pottery

#### *Granitic Fabric (Isles of Scilly)*

This is a hand made fabric with very variable firing. Colour varies from buff coloured to dark grey. The fabric is often coarse with inclusions up to 5mm in size. Petrological analysis (Williams 1978) revealed the presence of large quantities of mica, feldspar, quartz, tourmaline and fragments of granite. This suggests a local source for the clay used to produce this material.

Forms of vessel often crude in appearance are mostly jars varying from storage vessels via medium sized cooking pots to small vessels suitable for serving food and drink. Flat bottomed in shape they can be biconical, straight sided bucket, or more rarely carinated. Decoration is common consisting of plaited cord, incised line, stamped or comb. Occasionally finger nail impressions are used. In addition there may be applied cordons, lugs (either solid or pierced), vestigial lugs or dimples and applied handles.

A type series for this pottery from a domestic assemblage was identified at Nornour

(Butcher 1978), radiocarbon dating for which suggested a continuous occupation from 1950 to 1130 BC. A Middle Bronze Age date is suggested for this ware.

### **8.5.2 Post-Roman/Early Medieval ceramics (c400-1066)**

#### ***Early Medieval 'grass-marked' ware***

Hand made (often ring or coil built), fabric generally gabbroic but softer, thicker and generally less well finished than that of the Gwithian Style. Three sherds were examined by Dr Taylor (PS53, 55, 56) and described as gabbroic coarse ware with 10-15% inclusions (2004) often large amounts of feldspar. The firing is variable (often plain body sherds are indistinguishable from Prehistoric pottery), but generally well fired with distinctive "grass marking" - the impressions of chopped grass on the base, sometimes continuing over the exterior and even at times reaching the rim.

Two forms of vessel dominate. The platters relate to those of the Gwithian Style but have less decoration and generally higher walls. The jars are straight-sided with large flat bases and simple rims which may have incised or finger nail decoration: they have no precursors in Cornwall.

#### *Cooking vessel*

A squat, flat based, vertically (or slightly incurving) sided cooking pot. Walls are often thin in comparison to the size of vessel. Rims are either flat topped (levelled by knife or spatula) or slightly beaded, sometimes with a slight eversion. Though invariably heavily sooted on the exterior, where visible, finger marking, and smoothing using a knife or spatula is common.

Decoration where present consists of "nicking" of the rim with the back of a knife, fingernail marking also around the rim, or moulding the rim with the fingertips to form a "pie crust" ornament (Thomas 1963, 1991).

#### *Platter*

These are flat-based (the bases being relatively thick in relation to vessel size), have very low walls, and many appear to be of large diameter. Rims are either rounded off or flat-topped.

Decoration is rare, (especially in comparison to the Gwithian Style platters)but where present consists of "nicking" of the rim with the back of a knife, fingernail marking also around the rim, or moulding the rim with the fingertips to form a "pie crust" ornament (Thomas 1963, 1991).

Dating is again debateable. It has been considered a late 6<sup>th</sup> century introduction, continuing to overlap with bar-lug ware in the 9<sup>th</sup> century.

Early grass-marked wares have been found on many sites in West Cornwall and Scilly and the introduction of grass-marking has high potential as a chronological indicator for post-Roman settlement in the area. Any reconsideration of the date of the Gwithian Style may affect that of the introduction of early grass-marked ware; on the assumption the two did not have any substantial overlap. There is a clear need to establish whether early grass-marked ware was a ceramic style chronologically separate from grass-marked bar-lug ware, as previous considerations of the Gwithian stratigraphy have indicated. Both platters and the general form of jars are similar in both styles and bar-lugs *might* be a contemporary functional variant only in use on, or surviving on, some sites.

### **8.5.3 Post-Roman/Early Medieval Imported ceramics (c400-1066)**

#### ***E- Ware***

Wheel thrown, a hard fired (almost stoneware) fabric. Thin walled with prominent quartz sand inclusions (often seen on the surface of the pot). Varies in colour from dirty white through yellow to dark red or grey, a pinkish tinge is common. There are often distinct wheel marks on the interior, while a common feature to be seen on the underside of the base is a whorl caused by the use of a string or wire to detach the vessel from the wheel.

Forms are limited being described as 'kitchen' wares. These include necked jars, small carinated jars or beakers, carinated bowls, strap handled jugs with tubular spouts, and conical lids. There is often concave internal rim bevel on the jars.

No decoration is known.

Its date range has been considered from late 6<sup>th</sup> to early 8<sup>th</sup> centuries (at Whithorn; Hill 1998). No kilns for this ware are known, but evidence points towards a source in western France, probably somewhere accessible from the Loire or Gironde.

### **8.5.4 Medieval ceramics (1066-c1400)**

The study of Cornish medieval pottery is still at an early stage. Most published sites are rural and lack stratified sequences, their dating being in relation to broad regional traditions. Close dating from a few rimsherds alone is not possible as Coarseware forms can have a long duration; for example some rim forms from Exeter continued unchanged from the late 10<sup>th</sup> century to the early 14<sup>th</sup> century (Allan 1984).

Lostwithiel and St Germans are well-documented production centres but only one pottery kiln has been excavated in Cornwall (St Germans; see below). Fabric analysis has identified a third type of pottery which is distinct from these, named 'Bunnings Park / Stuffle Ware' after the site where it was first recognised, though it is thought that it too may have been manufactured in the Lostwithiel area.

There is also some evidence for a continued ceramic production from the Early Medieval period within west Cornwall. Thomas has recognised a developing sequence of wares continuing the "grass marked" tradition utilising gabbroic fabrics, the type site being Sandy Lane in Gwithian.

#### ***Late grass-marked pottery - Sandy Lane Style 1 (SL1)***

It is uncertain if Sandy Lane Style 1 includes grass-marked platters. The production of cooking pots continue but they become smaller, and have no bar-lugs.

Hand made (often ring or coil built), fabric is gabbroic. The firing is variable (often plain body sherds are indistinguishable from Prehistoric pottery), but generally well fired with distinctive "grass marking" - the impressions of chopped grass on the base, sometimes continuing over the exterior and even at times reaching the rim. Within the interior are often vertical or near vertical finger pulling marks caused by the potter shaping the pot.

A distinctive feature of this ware is that the walls of the vessels are very thin in relationship to the size of the vessel.

Forms are small to medium sized cooking pots. Vertical (though sometimes with a slight inward curve) sided, and flat bottomed (though the bottom often has an upward 'kick'). Rims are simple rounded in shape but may have rolled internal expansions or be everted.

Decoration is rare (only one vessel from Sandy Lane with finger tip decoration on the rim).

Dating is still debatable (Preston-Jones and Rose 1986), though Thomas assigns an 11<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> century date for this ware (Thomas 1991). In general it can be considered that SL1

may be broadly 11<sup>th</sup> century.

### ***Late grass-marked pottery - Sandy Lane Style 2 (SL2)***

Hand made (often ring or coil built), fabric is gabbroic. The firing is variable, but generally well fired. With distinctive "grass marking" - the impressions of chopped grass on the base. Within the interior are often vertical or near vertical finger pulling marks caused by the potter shaping the pot. A distinctive feature of this ware is that the walls of the vessels are very thin in relationship to the size of the vessel. The exterior of these vessels (also reflected in the shape of the pot) show evidence of being finished on a slow wheel.

Forms are small to medium sized cooking pots. These vessels are shouldered jars with flaring sides, and are flat bottomed (though the bottom often has an upward 'kick'). The most distinctive feature is that that rims become everted (the eversion sometimes of exaggerated proportion) with the ends often slightly beaded.

Decoration is rare (only one vessel from Sandy Lane with finger tip decoration on the rim).

Dating is still debatable (Preston-Jones and Rose 1986), though Thomas assigns a 12th century date for this ware (Thomas 1964, 1968, and 1991).

### ***Sandy Lane Style 3 (SL 3)***

These vessels are either hand made or wheel thrown. Fabric is gabbroic. They are generally well fired. Within the interior there is often vertical or near vertical finger pulling marks caused by the potter shaping the pot (those that are hand made). The exterior of these vessels show evidence of being finished on a wheel. There is no "grass marking".

Forms are small to medium sized cooking pots. These vessels are shouldered jars with flaring sides, and distinctively they have sagging bases. Rims may be everted, often beaded, or upright in which case most are ribbed.

Decoration is rare, represented by finger tip decoration on the rim in a "pie crust" pattern..

Dating is still debatable (Preston-Jones, A Rose, P 1986), though Thomas assigns a late 12th century and 13<sup>th</sup> century date for this ware (Thomas 1964, 1968, and 1991).

### ***Cornish Medieval Coarsewares***

Hand-made, thin-walled vessels, with a micaceous fabric, often with rounded quartz inclusions, sometimes with other crushed rock filler (eg slate), sometimes wheel-finished, and hard-fired.

Vessels represented are mostly cooking pots (undecorated) or occasionally jugs. The centre of production is not known, but most probably based on an area where granitic clays were easily obtainable. They are long-lived forms, unchanging practical designs, from the late 12<sup>th</sup> century, to the end of the 14<sup>th</sup> century (Allan 1984; O'Mahoney 1989a; b; 1994).

### ***Cornish Medieval Coarseware, Bunnings Park / Stuffle Ware***

This pottery is hand made, often wheel-finished, thin-walled, micaceous fabric with common inclusions of rounded quartz grains, hard-fired with a pink-buff exterior and a grey core. This ware was probably fabricated in the Lostwithiel area, though actual kiln sites are not known. (It is possible that it was clamp-fired without purpose-built kilns.)

Dating from the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries, forms include cooking pots and jugs. Bowls and rarely cisterns came into use at the end of the 14<sup>th</sup>, or start of the 15<sup>th</sup> centuries; all with sagging bases. Decoration of feint incised lines, applied thumbed strips, and stabbed handles is infrequent (O'Mahoney 1989 a and b, and 1994).

### **Ham Green Wares**

Hand-made (though some possibly moulded), thin-walled vessels, light coloured fabrics, often with high proportions of limestone and clay pellets. Hard-fired the fabric is usually reduced. Vessels represented are mostly jugs though tripod pitchers, cooking pots, bowls, lamps dripping trays and spindle whorls are also known.

The centre of production is Ham Green, Bristol. They date from the late 12th century, to the end of the 13th century. The jugs are frequently decorated with a variety of motifs, including anthropomorphic, incised lines, applied thumb strips, stabbed handles. Speckled green glazing occurs on most vessels (McCarthy and Brooks 1988).

### **8.5.5 Late Medieval ceramics (c1400-c1550)**

Again, knowledge of Late Medieval Cornish pottery is limited. Apart from the previously-mentioned kiln at St Germans (which continued production until c1500) no kilns have been excavated, though documentation indicates the presence of potters at Lostwithiel (Douch 1969), and small-scale excavations uncovered a large number of pottery wasters there (Miles 1976; 1979).

#### **Cornish Late Medieval Coarsewares**

Wheel-thrown vessels with a micaceous fabric, often with rounded quartz inclusions, sometimes with other crushed rock filler such as slate; hard-fired. Centres of production are not known, but could be various, anywhere where granitic derived clays are easily obtainable.

Long-lived forms, such as cooking pots, are represented along with bowls, jugs, and occasional cisterns, all with sagging bases, sometimes thumbed though markedly less than earlier forms. Decoration is rare, but may include occasional stabbed rod handles or painted white slip bands (O'Mahoney 1994).

#### **Cornish Late Medieval Coarseware, Lostwithiel Ware**

Wheel-thrown, thick-walled pottery, similar to *Bunnings Park / Stuffle Ware* fabric but significant differences make it distinct. Generally has large flakes of white mica, more angular white (feldspar) inclusions visible in the fractures, and lacks the small black platy inclusions and soft glistening reddish-brown patches found in *Stuffle* type ware. Pink to grey-brown exterior with a grey core; hard-fired. The similarities in fabric suggest that *Lostwithiel Ware* replaces *Bunnings Park / Stuffle Ware* in the 15<sup>th</sup> century (O'Mahoney 1989a; b; 1994). Though called *Lostwithiel Ware* (O'Mahoney 1989a; b), no kilns have been found. Small-scale excavations within the town, however, uncovered a large number of pottery wasters in this fabric (Miles 1976; 1979). Firm documentary evidence for potting in *Lostwithiel* only exists for the 15<sup>th</sup> century onwards, continuing into the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Douch 1969).

Forms include cooking pots, cisterns, lid-seated jugs, with rod handles, two-handled jars, and bowls/pancheons with complicated rims and shoulder carinations. Bases have more rounded, gently sloping angles (O'Mahoney 1989a and b). Decoration includes stabbed rod handles, horizontal painted bands of white slip, and lines of white slip forming simple geometric patterns. Incised lines, and applied thumb-pressed strips are also present, but rarer.

#### **French Late Medieval Coarseware (Beauvais Earthenware)**

Beauvais ware was produced in northern France around the town of Beauvais in the Pas-de-Bray though no actual kiln sites have yet been located. The area developed in the late 15<sup>th</sup> century and by the 16<sup>th</sup> century were producing fine white wares that have been found in Britain and as far as Bruges. The peak period of importation into Britain appears to be

around the end of the 15<sup>th</sup> and the first half of the 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, though earlier and later examples are known.

It is wheel thrown, well fired. It has a smooth fine white fabric with some quartz grains. Forms include mugs and bowls, jugs and chafing dishes. All vessels have a rich lustrous lead glaze usually a vibrant green in colour though yellow is also common. Jugs may have applied heraldic medallions. Bowls often have a broad rim that may be decorated with incised wavy lines. Sgraffito decoration was introduced at the start of the 16<sup>th</sup> century. (Platt, Coleman-Smith, 1975; Hurst, Neal, Van Beunigen, 1986; Brown, 2002).

#### ***French Late Medieval Coarseware (Saintonge Plain Ware)***

Saintonge ware was produced in south west France in the limestone plateau that dominates the River Charente to the north east of Saintes (around the towns of Rochefort, La Chapelle-des-pots, Bussax, Montendre and Montguyon). Over 50 kilns have been identified in the region. The area developed rapidly and by the 13<sup>th</sup> century was producing pottery that has been found in Britain and throughout northern Europe, being shipped from the ports of Bordeaux, Rochefort and La Rochelle. The presence of this pottery has been linked to the trade in Gascon wine. The peak period of importation into Britain appears to be around the second half of the 15<sup>th</sup> and the first half of the 16<sup>th</sup> centuries, though earlier and later examples are known.

It is wheel-thrown, well fired with thin walls in relation to the size of vessel. Fine off-white or buff fabric often with quantities of mica and occasional red haematite inclusions.

Forms include large cooking pots with lids, small jugs and large globular jugs (called pégau) with parrot-beak or tubular spouts and strap and bucket handles. Rims can be simple or moulded. Flat bottomed (often splayed). They are mainly unglazed, but may have a speckled, or spotted green glaze. Decoration is rare, but includes slashed strap handles, vertical thumb applied strips, horizontal or wavy combed lines or occasional rouletted pattern (Platt, Coleman-Smith, 1975; Hurst, Neal, Van Beunigen, 1986; Brown, 2002).

### **8.5.6 Post-Medieval ceramics (mid-16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> centuries)**

#### ***Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware (GRE)***

This is by far the largest group in the whole assemblage, and it (along with specific GRE groups that follow) dominates the post-medieval pottery. Glazed Red Earthenwares (GRE) are found in such quantities and with so much variety that although no kiln sites have been found, it is certain that there was more than one source, most likely in Devon, Somerset, and perhaps Bristol (Jennings 1981; Allan 1984).

It seems that GRE was produced from sometime in the first half of the 16<sup>th</sup> century and continuing throughout the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries with little evident change in fabrics (Allan 1984).

The lead glaze is clear, taking most colour from the fabric; however, green (copper) or red (iron) glazes also occur. Flatwares, such as plates dishes and bowls, are always completely glazed on the interior; exteriors can vary from completely glazed to wholly unglazed, and is usually patchy. Closed wares, such as jugs, jars and cisterns, vary from careful, overall glazing to exterior glazing with random patches on the interior. Decoration is rare.

Many of the forms have a long survival with little or no change, and much of this pottery is only dateable in association with other artefacts, eg clay pipes. Forms include flatwares such as plates, dishes, and bowls, with and without handles, and pancheons while hollow wares comprise mainly storage jars, pipkins and jugs. Chafing dishes, mugs, drinking cups, standing costrels and cisterns are also found (Jennings 1981; Allan 1984).

### ***North Devon Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware (Barnstaple Ware)***

Wheel-thrown, often thick-walled pottery. Fine matrix with almost no sand; usually fired orange with a grey core. The earliest known examples of this material are late 15<sup>th</sup> century, with the market in Exeter growing steadily until a rapid expansion in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century or early 18<sup>th</sup> century saw this ware comprising nearly 23% of the total in Exeter, declining in the later 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries due to competition from the Bristol and Staffordshire potteries (Allan 1984).

The main centres of pottery production were at Barnstaple and perhaps Bideford, though there were no doubt other kiln sites. Forms are numerous and varied, similar to those listed for *Post-Medieval GRE*; a common feature of all forms is that they are flat bottomed. Decoration is reduced green or brown glaze, slip coated, often with Sgraffito patterns (Grant 1983; Allan 1984).

### ***North Devon Post-medieval Gravel-Tempered Glazed Red Earthenware (Barnstaple Ware)***

Wheel-thrown ware; similar to fabrics found in *North Devon Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware*. It has, however, abundant angular quartz and quartzite filler, often with large black or white mica flakes. Dates from the 17<sup>th</sup> century, with large numbers being produced in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. Forms include bowls, tripod skillets, chafing dishes, large crocks, and handled cooking pots; all heavy duty kitchenware. Decoration is restricted to overall green or brown glaze. The main centre of production was around North Devon and Barnstaple (Fairclough 1979; Grant 1983; Allan 1984).

### ***Cornish Post-Medieval Coarseware (Lostwithiel Ware)***

Wheel-thrown fabrics identical to those in *Cornish Late Medieval Coarseware, Lostwithiel Ware*. The only difference is that forms change to those found in *Post-Medieval GRE*. Bowls are common, though there are some closed forms. Decoration includes total glazing (thick dark green) on the interior, patchy on the exterior, with painted white slip decoration sometimes occurring on rims, and exteriors (Fairclough 1979; O'Mahoney 1989b; 1994).

### ***Post-Medieval Glazed Red Earthenware Decorated Slipwares (Donyatt Ware)***

These wheel-thrown wares, have a fine hard matrix with a smooth sandy texture with frequent iron oxide (red-brown in colour) and isolated fossil limestone inclusions.

The earliest known production centred around Donyatt in south-west Somerset, at the edge of the Forest of Neroche in the Blackdown Hills, in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Main expansion periods were in the 13<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> centuries, distribution in the latter period, being widespread, ranging from the South-West peninsula, to London and the north-east, being found in Newcastle-upon-Tyne (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1988).

Forms are numerous, and include dishes, jugs, porringers, mugs, tankards, bowls, dishes, cups, jars, lids, cisterns, chamber pots, and pancheons. Decoration is white slip trailed and coated with Sgraffito and white slip trailed motifs. External and internal surfaces are covered with clear glaze stained with copper flecks, or manganese and iron. Within the 18<sup>th</sup> century complex designs of red, brown, and white trailed and feathered slip were developed (Coleman-Smith and Pearson 1988; Barker 1993).

### ***Post-Medieval Yellow-Glazed Red Earthenware (Bristol/Staffordshire Ware)***

Fine buff to cream fabric, with no obvious inclusions, produced in Staffordshire around Burslam and Hanley (Stoke-on-Trent), starting in the mid-17<sup>th</sup> century and reaching a height in the mid-18<sup>th</sup> century. Pottery of similar almost indistinguishable fabric was manufactured in Bristol, but appears to be entirely of closed forms, and was most probably made by potters originating from Staffordshire working in the city (Allan 1984). The vast bulk of traded wares were flatwares, especially press moulded plates coming from

Staffordshire (Jennings 1981; Allan 1984; Barker 1993).

Forms include plates, often press-moulded to give a 'pie-crust' rim, and small numbers of possets, mugs, cups, and chamberpots. Decoration is usually white trail slip over a dark brown slip background, often marbled or combed and feathered into intricate patterns. Yellow-glazed, though on flatwares restricted to the interior surfaces only (Allan 1984; Barker 1993; and Jennings 1981)

#### ***Post-Medieval Saltglazed Stoneware (Frechen Ware)***

Frechen is an area west of Cologne, Germany. A reduced grey stoneware, the exterior covered with a saltglaze, usually brown speckled 'Tiger' Ware. The typical form is that of a Bellarmine jug often decorated with 'masks' or heraldic medallions. Height of production and importation into Britain was during the 17<sup>th</sup> century, being replaced by other stonewares in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century (Jennings 1981; Allan 1984).

#### ***Post-Medieval Saltglazed Stoneware (Normandy Stoneware)***

Main centre of production was at Ger in Manche, east of Mortain, close to Bayeux. First found from the 14<sup>th</sup> century at Caen Castle, but did not reach England until the end of the 16<sup>th</sup> century, becoming common in the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> centuries. Sherds occur in contexts dating from 1700 in Exeter, and have been found in similar contexts at both Southampton and Plymouth (Allan 1984).

It is a purple-brown stoneware fabric, but not often fully fused so that inclusions are visible. Usually dark brown glazed, though sometimes unglazed. Forms include curved and straight-sided bowls with flanged rims, tall wide-necked jars with flanged rims, narrow-necked jars, and squat jugs. Usually undecorated (Hurst *et al* 1986).

### **8.5.7 Modern ceramics (19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries)**

#### ***Modern White Glazed Stoneware***

White-glazed stonewares, saltglazed, were first made in large quantities in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century and by the 19<sup>th</sup> century came to dominate the market. Fabric is white and fine, with an overall, even, white saltglaze. Mostly domestic uses with plates, mugs, bowls, and chamber pots predominating. Being utilitarian, forms changed little so are difficult to date precisely unless a maker's mark is present. Decoration is plain or with press-moulded rims on plates during the 18<sup>th</sup> century. By the 19<sup>th</sup> century hand painted, or blue and white transfer printed decoration was common. The centre of production was around Staffordshire, especially Stoke on Trent (Jennings 1981; Allan 1984; Copeland 1992).

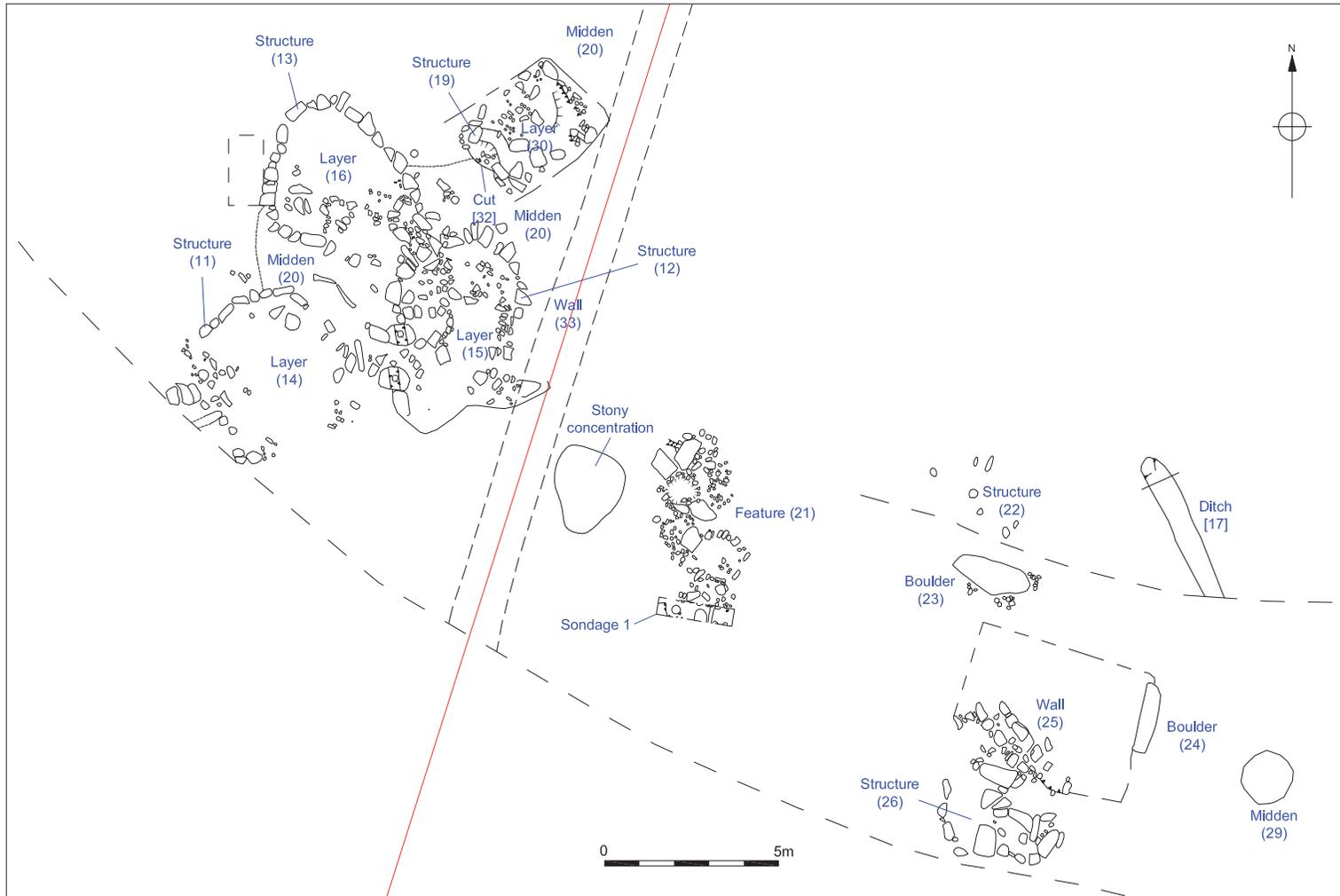


Fig 8 Plan of structures and features on Tresco Playing Field



*Fig 9 The cattle grid in 1999 (photo: HES GBP 1091)*



*Fig 10 The restored cattle grid (photo: HES GDI Tresco Playing Field 2003038/Cattle Grid 1)*



*Fig 11 The cattle grid showing granite steps (photo: HES GDI Tresco Playing Field 200303/Cattle Grid 6)*



*Fig 12 The field boundary (photo: HES GDI/Tresco Playing Field 2003038/Hedge S)*



*Fig 13 The ruined well house in 1999 (photo: HES GBP 1091)*



*Fig 14 East elevation of well (photo: HES GDI Tresco Playing Field 2003038/Well.2)*



*Fig 15 North elevation of well (photo: HES GDI/Tresco Playing Field 2003038/Well.3)*



*Fig 16 Interior of consolidated well showing narrow gauge grille over shaft (photo: HES GDI Tresco Playing Field Well.5)*