



# **Bude and Stratton Business Park Extension, Cornwall. Addendum.**

## **Archaeological Watching Brief**





Report No

2011R111

Report Name

Bude/Stratton Business Park extension,  
Archaeological Watching Brief: Addendum

Report Author

C. M. Thorpe

Event Type

Watching Brief

Client Organisation

Client Contact

Mr Mark Dennis

Monuments (MonUID)

Fieldwork dates (From) (To)

13/10/11

13/10/11

(Created By)

CMT

(Create Date)

Oct 2011

Location (postal address; or general location and parish)

Bude/Stratton Business Park, Bude/Stratton CP

(Town - for urban sites)

Bude

(Postcode)

EX23 8LY

(Easting) X co-ord

SS 22020

(Northing) Y co-ord

05490

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Historic Environment, Cornwall Council is a Registered Organisation with the Institute for Archaeologists

## **Project background**

HE Projects was commissioned by Mr Mark Dennis to undertake a programme of archaeological recording ahead of the construction of an access road forming part of the Bude/Stratton Business Park extension development. This operation was to keep open the planning permission given for this site. The original watching brief (for a length of road approximately 55m long) is covered in the report 2011R096 (Thorpe 2011).

Subsequently in October 2011 HE Projects was informed by Mr Dennis that a further stretch of road *circa* 160m in length had been topsoil stripped. The road averaged 10m in width. Four (2m x 2m) test pits had also been excavated that reached a maximum depth of 0.85m.

As this length of road lay within the area of development that was the subject of a planning condition, which required that archaeological recording took place ahead of construction (2006/00600) it was decided that a visit was required to record any features that had been uncovered. The area examined was approximately 0.18Ha (Figs 1-3).

## **Location and setting**

The development area is located within land that falls into an historic character zone which has been classified as "Anciently Enclosed Land" (Cornwall County Council 1996). "Anciently Enclosed Land" is land which has been settled since at least the medieval period and which often contains archaeological remains dating to prehistoric and medieval times. There was thus the potential for the preservation of buried archaeological material to survive in the project area.

### *Identified archaeological sites*

A number of sites in the vicinity of the study area were identified from the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record. They included:

- A cropmark enclosure of probable prehistoric date (MCO38817) lies 418m to the northeast of the site.
- Romano-British coins were recorded as being discovered at Binhamy, to the north of the development site (MCO200).
- The moated medieval settlement site at Binhamy (MCO21883) lies 283m to the north.

### *Potential sites*

There was potential for prehistoric and medieval sites to survive within the project area, and there was scope for the survival of previously unrecorded archaeological sites, organic remains, and artefacts of all periods.

The field covered by the watching brief is on gently sloping ground that falls towards the northwest from a height of 45m OD to 40m OD. It lies to the southeast of the settlement of Bude, within the ecclesiastical parish of Stratton (Figs 1 and 2). The field is currently utilised for cultivation of wheat, oats and barley. The underlying geology is carboniferous Sandstones (with thin limestone beds) of the Bude Formation.

## **Aims and objectives**

The aims of the project were:

- To establish the absence/presence of buried archaeological remains.
- To record archaeological features, layers and finds affected by the works.
- To establish the extent, condition, significance and character of the archaeological resource.

- To identify any artefacts relating to the occupation of the site.
- To gain further information about the archaeological potential of the area, through the recording of buried archaeological remains.
- The dissemination and publication of the results.
- The long-term conservation of the project archive in appropriate conditions.

## Working methods

The area of the soil strip and the test pits was inspected by an archaeologist who recorded the nature of the soil profile, and significant features revealed onto an annotated Ordnance Survey map at a scale of 1:1000. The ground and spoil heap were also examined for any artefacts.

## Results

Nine sections were recorded along the roadway and within each of the test pits, full descriptions of which can be found in the site archive. Two are presented here to illustrate the nature of the ground encountered both within the road corridor, and the test pits (Fig 3).

### Test Pit 4

Depth	Thickness	Description	Interpretation	Context
0m – 0.05m	0.05m	Grass, roots and topsoil	Topsoil	(1)
0.05m – 0.20m	0.15m	Grey, red-brown clay loam	Plough soil	(2)
0.20m – 0.30m	0.10m	Red, grey-brown clay	Subsoil	(3)
0.30m – 0.60m	0.30m	Orange, yellow-red brown clay	Decayed natural bedrock	(4)
0.60m – 0.85m	0.25m	Solid bedrock.	Bedrock	(5)

This was located at the northern, down slope part of the field.

### Section 14

Depth	Thickness	Description	Interpretation	Context
0m - 0.05m	0.05m	Grass, roots and topsoil.	Topsoil	(1)
0.05m – 0.15m	0.10m	Grey, red-brown clay loam.	Plough soil	(2)
0.15m – 25m	0.10m	Red, grey-brown clay.	Subsoil	(3)
0.25m -	-	Yellow, orange - red brown clay	Decayed natural bedrock	(4)

This was the profile seen across the whole length of the roadway. The only changes observed were variations in the soil depth with some 0.20m being observed at the western end, and some 0.35m at the eastern.

A strip of unweathered bedrock forming a band 2m wide was seen running from west to east across the road corridor at its eastern end. This probably marked the line of a removed field boundary, the line of solid bedrock having been protected from ploughing by being sealed beneath the boundary bank. This boundary appears faintly on the geophysical survey done in 2007 by Exeter Archaeology. No dating evidence was recovered for this boundary. It does not appear on the 1840 Tithe map so its removal must have predated this.

Very ephemeral plough marks were seen running in a northwest to southeast direction running parallel with the existing hedge boundary.

No other features of archaeological interest were recorded over the area of the site and this part of the development had very little or no impact on any significant buried remains.

## References

Cornwall County Council, 1996. *Cornwall: A Landscape Assessment 1994* report produced by Landscape Design Associates in association with Cornwall Archaeological Unit

Johnson, AE, 2007. *Land at Bude Stratton business park, Bude, Cornwall. Magnetometer (Gradiometer) Survey*. Exeter Archaeology.

Thorpe, C, 2011. *Bude/Stratton Business Park extension, Archaeological Watching Brief*. HE/CC Archive Report 2011R096

## Project archive

The HE project number is **2011074**

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

1. Projects file containing site records and notes, project correspondence and administration (2011074).
2. Field plans and copies of historic maps stored in an A2-size plastic envelope (GRE753/1-2).
3. Digital photographs stored in the directory R:\Historic Environment (Images)\SITES.A-D\Bude Stratton Business Park WB Oct 2011074
4. English Heritage/ADS OASIS online reference: cornwall2- 109641
5. This report text is held in digital form as: G:\Historic Environment (Documents)\HE Projects\Sites\Sites B\Bude Stratton Business Park extension WB 2011074\ Archive Addendum Report.doc
6. No artefacts were recovered.



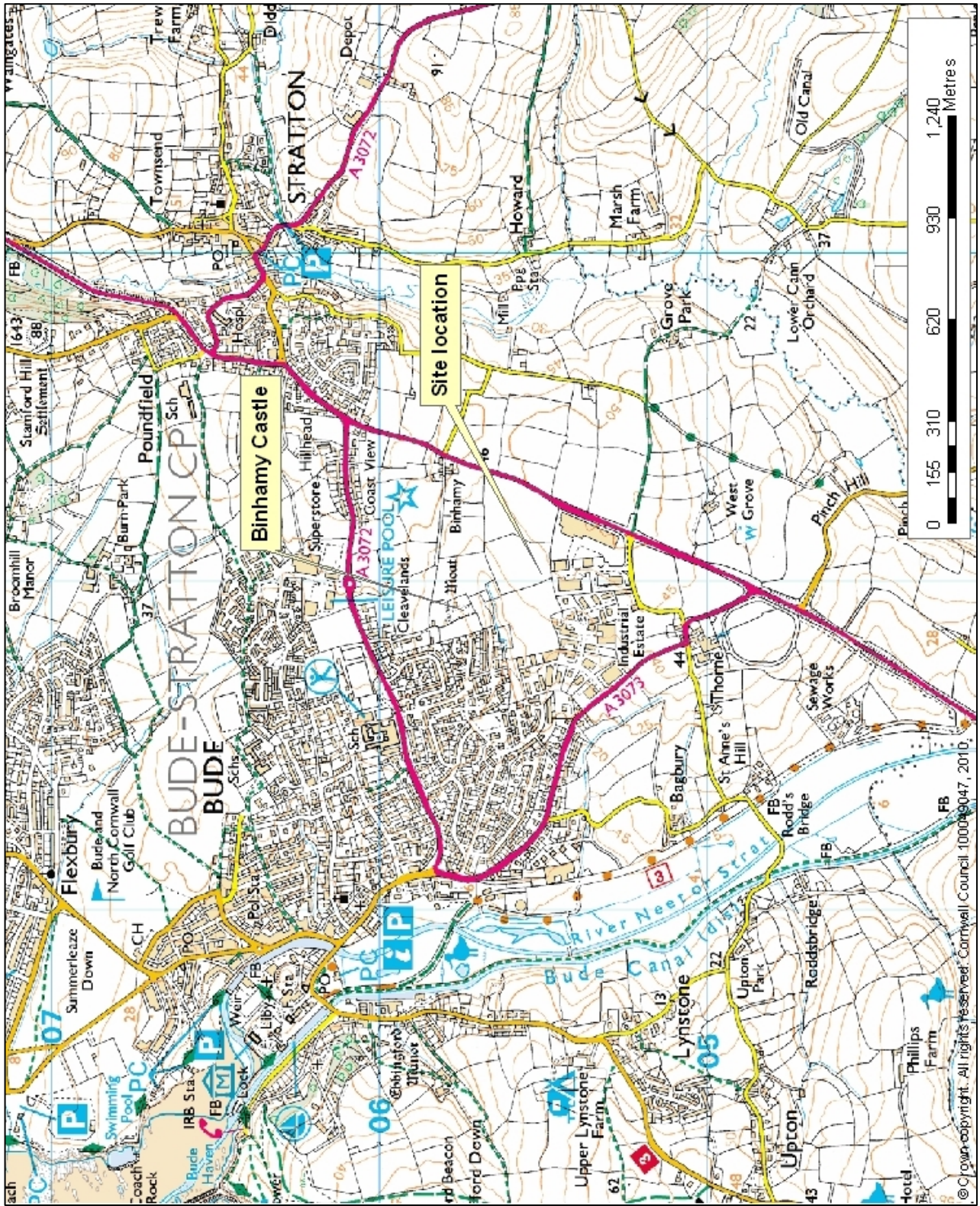


Figure 1. Site location.



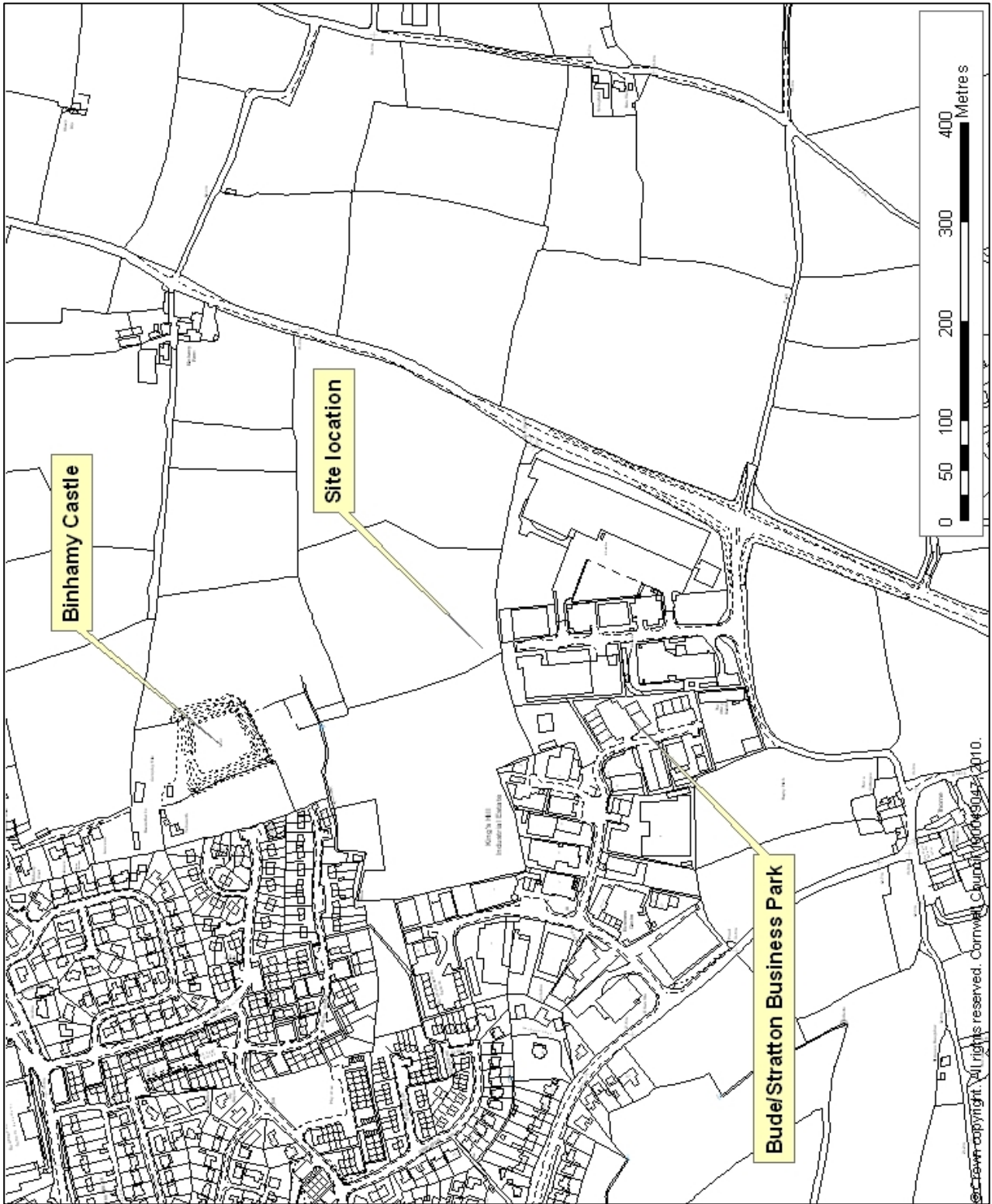
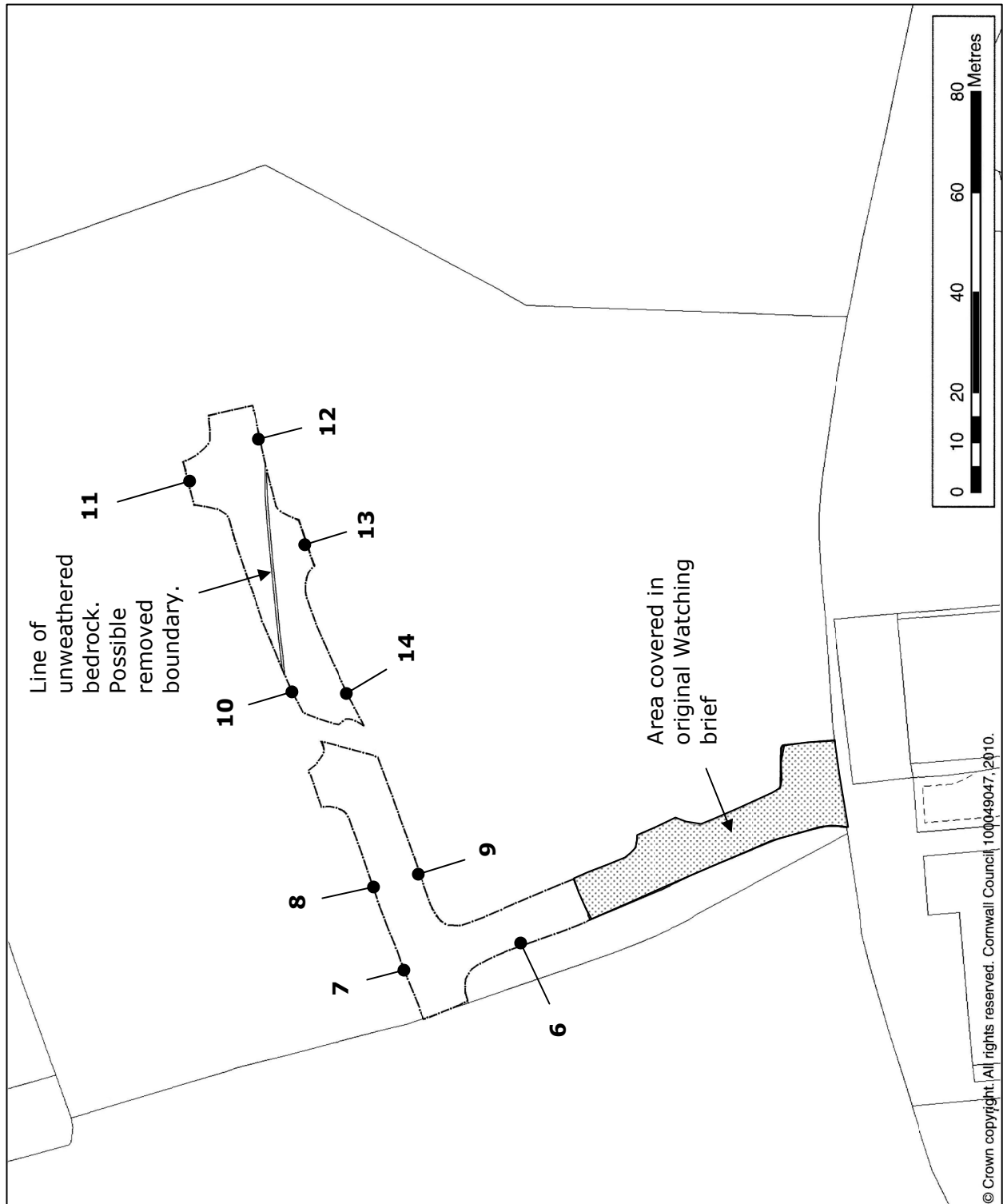


Figure 2. Detailed Site location.





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Figure 3. Site plan showing location of recorded sections.