



# Field Boundaries on the Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Study to Inform Management for Conservation



Funded by the Isles of Scilly Local Action Group and  
the Isles of Scilly Area of Outstanding  
Natural Beauty (AONB) Partnership

## Historic Environment Projects



The European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development: Europe Investing in Rural Areas





## **Field Boundaries on the Isles of Scilly**

### **Historic Environment Study to Inform Management for Conservation**

' . . . a good natured soil, and plenty of stones  
on every side to make fences'

(William Borlase 1756, 117)

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The Project Manager was Charles Johns; the recording project was carried out by Graeme Kirkham and Francis Shepherd.

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

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## **Cover illustration**

Boundary 20 in the Tresco 2 (Borough Farm) survey area. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)

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# **Contents**

<b>1</b>	<b>Summary</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1	Background	3
2.1.1	The Isles of Scilly	3
2.1.2	Project background	3
2.1.3	Designations	4
2.2	Aims	5
2.3	Methods	5
2.3.1	Desk-based study	5
2.3.2	Fieldwork	6
2.3.3	Post-fieldwork	7
<b>3</b>	<b>Results</b>	<b>8</b>
3.1	St Agnes 1	8
3.2	St Agnes 2	8
3.3	Bryher 1	10
3.4	Bryher 2	10
3.4.1	Bryher 2a	10
3.4.2	Bryher 2b	11
3.4.3	Bryher 2c	12
3.5	Bryher 3	13
3.6	St Martin's 1	14
3.7	St Martin's 2a	15
3.8	St Martin's 2b	16
3.9	St Mary's 1a (Salakee Farm)	16
3.10	St Mary's 1b	16
3.11	St Mary's 2 (Lunnon Farm)	17
3.12	St Mary's 3 (Mount Todden Farm)	18
3.13	Tresco 1	19
3.13.1	Tresco 1a	19
3.13.2	Tresco 1b	20
3.14	Tresco 2 (Borough Farm)	21
3.15	Tresco 3 (Dolphin Town)	22
<b>4</b>	<b>Conclusions/discussion</b>	<b>24</b>
4.1	Boundaries in Anciently Enclosed Land: time depth	24
4.2	The identification of AEL on Scilly	25
4.3	Distinctiveness of boundary forms	25
4.4	Gateposts	26
4.5	Stiles / cattle grids	26
4.6	Survey methods	26
<b>5</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>References</b>	<b>27</b>

6.1	Maps	27
6.2	Publications	27
6.3	Websites	28
<b>7</b>	<b>Project archive</b>	<b>29</b>
	<b>Appendix 1: IOS field boundaries questionnaire</b>	<b>30</b>

## List of figures

- Fig 1 Areas surveyed during the field boundaries recording project, 2011.
- Fig 2 St Agnes 2 survey area
- Fig 3 Bryher 2 survey area
- Fig 4 Bryher 3 survey area
- Fig 5 The St Martin's 2a survey area
- Fig 6 The St Mary's 2 (Lunnon Farm) survey area
- Fig 7 The St Mary's 3 (Mount Todden Farm) survey area
- Fig 8 The Tresco 1 survey area
- Fig 9 The Tresco 2 (Borough Farm) survey area
- Fig 10 The Tresco 3 (Dolphin Town) survey area
- Fig 11 Part of St Agnes, including the St Agnes 2 survey area, shown by Spence (1792).
- Fig 12 Part of Bryher, including the Bryher 2 and 3 survey areas, depicted on Spence's map of 1792.
- Fig 13 Part of St Martin's, including the St Martin's 2 survey area (Spence 1792).
- Fig 14 Part of St Mary's, including the St Mary's 1a, 2 and 3 survey areas (Spence 1792).
- Fig 15 Part of Tresco, including the Tresco 1, 2 and 3 survey areas, shown on Spence's map of 1792.
- Fig 16 Dry stone wall 36 facing a low lynchet in the Bryher 3 survey area.
- Fig 17 The Hillside Farm area, part of the Bryher 1 survey block, depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of c 1891.
- Fig 18 Complex subdivision creating small, sheltered plots for bulb / flower cultivation within the AEL of the Bryher 1 survey area, shown on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of c 1909 (*cf* Fig 17).
- Fig 19 Part of the St Agnes 2 survey area, with some boundaries probably deriving from prehistoric enclosures.
- Fig 20 Boundaries of enclosed land bordering on St Warna's Cove, St Agnes, in an undated Gibson photograph (probably late nineteenth century).
- Fig 21 St Agnes 2 boundary 75 is the stone-faced stone wall immediately behind the girls in the historic photograph reproduced as Fig 20.
- Fig 22 St Agnes 2 boundary 76 is visible in the middle distance on the left hand side of Fig 15.
- Fig 23 Stone-faced stone wall (St Agnes 2, boundary 81).
- Fig 24 A Francis Frith photograph of St Agnes in 1892.
- Fig 25 Dry-stone wall 55 in St Martin's 2a survey area, an example of a distinctive boundary type known to have been constructed by Sidney Bond in the 1920s.
- Fig 26 St Martin's 2a boundary 202 was created after c 1909 to enclose an area of rough ground adjoining existing fields.
- Fig 27 St Martin's 2a, boundary 41: a dry-stone wall imposed on an unusual stone-faced earth wall of semi-coursed horizontally laid stonework.

- Fig 28 Boundary 66 in St Martin's 2a: a stone-faced earth wall of regular coursed and graded stonework; many of the stones are rounded and appear to be beach cobbles.
- Fig 29 Overgrown terraced track on Lunnon Farm (St Mary's 2).
- Fig 30 St Mary's 2 boundary 39, a stone-faced earth wall bordering the public road.
- Fig 31 St Mary's 3 boundary 53: the dry-stone wall dividing the enclosed land from adjacent rough ground incorporates some ground-set orthostats.
- Fig 32 Mount Todden Farm (St Mary's 3), boundary 8. This is one of the stone-faced earth walls attributed to the work of Charlie Guy in the inter-war period.
- Fig 33 Mount Todden farm, St Mary's.
- Fig 34 A view south west over AEL, St Mary's.
- Fig 35 Borough Farm, Tresco, on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of 1891.
- Fig 36 Tresco study area 2, Borough Farm. Anciently Enclosed Land survives with relatively minor modification in the area below the farm complex.
- Fig 37 The substantial boulder wall of Tresco 2 boundary 5, accompanied by grown-out elm hedging.
- Fig 38 Tresco study area 3, Dolphin Town.
- Fig 39 A Francis Frith photograph of St Nicholas' church, Dolphin Town, Tresco, c 1891, showing the distinctive coursed stone-faced earth walls.
- Fig 40 Tresco 3 boundary 13 has clearly slumped a little and undergone some minor repair or patching since it was built in the mid nineteenth century.
- Fig 41 Granite orthostats used as gateposts on Borough Farm, Tresco.
- Fig 42 A granite orthostat used as a gatepost and the terminal for a stone-faced earth wall at Borough Farm, Tresco.
- Fig 43 Two phases of stone gate supports in a boundary adjoining Barnaby Lane, St Agnes.
- Fig 45 Large, undressed granite orthostats used as gateposts in the St Martin's 2a survey area.
- Fig 46 Granite orthostats flanking a gateway on Mount Todden Farm, St Mary's (survey area St Mary's 3).
- Fig 47 Tresco survey area 3: the restored cattle grid in boundary 31 with modern boundary 32 behind.
- Fig 48 A stile of cattle grid form at Old Town church, St Mary's.



## **List of tables**

Table 1	St Agnes 2 survey area
Table 2	Bryher 2a survey area
Table 3	Bryher 2b survey area
Table 4	Bryher 2c survey area
Table 5	Bryher 3 survey area
Table 6	St Martin's 2a survey area
Table 7	St Mary's 2 (Lunnon Farm) survey area
Table 8	St Mary's 3 (Mount Todden Farm) survey area
Table 9	Tresco 1a survey area
Table 10	Tresco 1b survey area
Table 11	Tresco 2 (Borough) survey area
Table 12	Tresco 3 (Dolphin Town) survey area

## **Abbreviations**

AEL	Anciently Enclosed Land
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
DSW	Dry-stone wall ('single stone wall')
EFL	Earth-faced lynchet
EH	English Heritage
ERCCIS	Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly
HE	Historic Environment, Cornwall Council
HER	Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record
HLC	Historic Landscape Character
MPP	Monument Protection Programme
NGR	National Grid Reference
OS	Ordnance Survey
PRN	Primary Record Number in Cornwall HER
SFEW	Stone-faced stone wall (Cornish hedge)
SFL	Stone-faced lynchet
SFSW	Stone-faced stone wall
UKHO	United Kingdom Hydrographic Office



## 1 Summary

This report describes the results of a pilot project to map and assess the field boundaries on the Isles of Scilly in order to inform future management for conservation, carried out by Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council, for the Isles of Scilly Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Partnership in 2011.

Field boundaries are a characteristic feature of Scilly's farmed landscape. As well as having landscape value the boundaries are of historic importance, both for showing how the landscape has changed and developed and for their archaeological potential; some have prehistoric origins. The islands' walling techniques are distinct from those of the mainland and in some respects differ from island to island, although there are broad similarities in the suite of boundary types. Some field systems are in disrepair. With the progressive loss of traditional dry-stone walling skills, some field boundaries are losing their traditional character.

Well-managed field boundaries not only significantly contribute to landscape character and improve agricultural viability, but also prevent soil erosion and provide a habitat for wildlife, contributing to biodiversity and potentially to the Islands' economy by attracting bird-watchers.

Blocks of field boundaries were selected for study on the inhabited islands of St Agnes, Bryher, St Martin's, St Mary's and Tresco. All these boundaries were in areas characterised as 'Anciently Enclosed Land'. On Scilly this is defined as land enclosed prior to the nineteenth century, which includes field systems which are as early as the Bronze Age in origin or, theoretically, as late as the eighteenth century.

Fieldwork for the project was carried out by a walkover survey of the survey blocks and recording the following information on a *pro forma* questionnaire: type of boundary, construction, facing style, vegetation, other attributes such as ditches, gateposts and stiles, current condition, requirements for repair, and the presence of tumbled stone or stone dumps that might be used for future repair to boundaries. A photographic record of each boundary was also made.

The main products of the project are this report, which contains a detailed description of the work undertaken and recommendations arising from it, and a GIS database linked to boundary descriptions and photographs. The database allows users to target conservation works, identify areas for further research or help identify particularly good examples of boundary type, construction and preservation. It will also provide more detailed information pertaining to boundary morphology, field patterns and enclosure processes that will contribute to the better interpretation and understanding of the Isles of Scilly Historic Landscape Character Types.



## 2 Introduction

### 2.1 Background

#### 2.1.1 The Isles of Scilly

The Scillonian archipelago of approximately 200 islands, islets and rocks situated 45km (28 miles) south-west of Lands End presents a unique environment of exceptional quality, with the relationship between the land and sea providing a very strong and distinctive cultural identity.

The Islands are situated at the merging of the Western Approaches and the English and Bristol Channels, part of the wide continental shelf to the south and west of England. The islands are a geologically defined archipelago, a partly submerged cupola forming the western tail of the ridge of exposed granite cupolas, or bosses, running along the spine of the south-western peninsula: Dartmoor, Bodmin Moor, St Austell, Carmenellis and Land's End – the visible part of the single, large Cornubian batholith which intruded into Devonian and Carboniferous stratas some 225 million years ago as a result of the Variscan orogeny (Evans 1990, 20-8).

Overlying the granite is weathered periglacial head, known locally as *ram*, covering the lower hill slopes and valley floors and supporting soils suitable for cultivation and pasture (Geological Survey of Great Britain, 1975, Isles of Scilly, Sheets 357 and 358).

#### 2.1.2 Project background

Crops in Scilly are protected from strong Atlantic winds by stone walls, locally called hedges, and green vegetative hedges, known locally as fences (although in the mid-eighteenth century Borlase (1756, 117) referred to stone walls in Scilly as fences). These boundaries are a particularly characteristic feature of Scilly's farmed landscape, and most vegetative hedges are protected under the Hedgerow Regulations. As boundaries account for a high proportion per acre of Scilly's fields, cropping is generally carried out as close to the boundaries as equipment allows. As well as having landscape value the boundaries are of historic importance, both for showing how the landscape has changed and developed and for their archaeological potential; some have prehistoric origins. The islands' walling techniques are distinct from those of the mainland and in some respects differ from island to island, although there are broad similarities in the suite of boundary types. Some field systems are in disrepair. With the progressive loss of traditional dry-stone walling skills, some field boundaries are losing their traditional character (Isles of Scilly AONB 2010a, 82).

As well as significantly contributing to landscape character and improving agricultural viability, effectively managed boundaries also prevent soil erosion and provide a habitat for wildlife, contributing to biodiversity and potentially to the Islands' economy by attracting bird-watchers (*ibid*, 82).

The importance of boundaries as habitat has been identified in the *Isles of Scilly Biodiversity Audit 2008* (Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust 2008) and a wildlife survey of the boundaries is being undertaken separately and the data, including that from the Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly (ERCCIS), made available through GIS.

Action 16 of the Isles of Scilly *AONB Delivery Plan* for 2010-14 (Isles of Scilly AONB, 2010b) is to 'map and assess the state of Scilly's historic field boundaries'. It is one of the actions to fulfil Objective 6 of the delivery plan: 'The historic fabric of Scilly's built environment reflecting all phases of human settlement is maintained and enhanced'. The Plan recommends that mapping and assessment of the field boundaries should be done in two stages:

Phase 1: pilot project on historic boundary condition

Phase 2: implementation of mapping and assessment project

In March 2011, Trevor Kirk, Isles of Scilly Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Officer, commissioned Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council (HE Projects) to carry out a historic environment study to inform management for conservation of field boundaries on the Isles of Scilly (equivalent to the Phase 1 pilot). This developed from a desk-based study undertaken by HE Projects in 2010 (Johns 2010a) and subsequent project design (Johns 2010b).

The commissioned historic environment study is part of the Isles of Scilly Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Partnership's *Pushing the Boundaries* project. Funded by the Isles of Scilly Local Action Group (LAG) and the Isles of Scilly AONB Partnership, *Pushing the Boundaries* assesses the economic, cultural and education value of Scilly's traditional stone-built field boundaries. The primary aims of *Pushing the Boundaries* are to:

- Facilitate the recovery of derelict farmland and the better management of active farmland, especially through maintenance of stock-proof enclosures;
- Realise the capacity of traditional stone walls to support the re-introduction of grazing stock, as supported by a 'special Scilly option' for Environmental Stewardship introduced by Natural England in 2009;
- Conserve and enhance the historic and biodiversity value of the traditional stone walls that are iconic features of the Scillonian farmed landscape;
- Minimise the need for modern stock-proof boundaries (such as post-and-wire fencing and electric fences) that do not enhance the character and appearance of the Isles of Scilly Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Conservation Area;
- Enhance residents' and visitors' appreciation of the historic, environmental and economic importance of Scilly's traditional stone walls;
- Support tourism by generating new insights into the historic and habitat value of stone walls; insights that will be presented to the public through new interpretative materials (e.g., on-line resources, exhibitions, printed materials);
- Lead to the development of training in traditional dry-stone walling techniques.

### **2.1.3 Designations**

Eight different designations apply to Scilly:

- *Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (whole of the Isles of Scilly)*
- *Conservation Area (whole of the Isles of Scilly)*
- *Heritage Coast (whole of the Isles of Scilly)*
- *Candidate Special Area of Conservation EU Habitats Directive (SAC) – covers an area of 1.84 km<sup>2</sup> (26,851 ha, of which 181.32 ha is terrestrial)*
- *Special Protection Area EU Habitats Directive (SPA) – covers an area of 4.09km<sup>2</sup> (401.64 ha)*
- *Non Statutory Marine Park – to 50m contour*
- *Ramsar Convention-designated wetlands – covers an area of 4.09km<sup>2</sup> (401.64 ha)*
- *Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) – 26 sites, 5 of which are geological – covers an area of 5.63 km<sup>2</sup> (554.98 ha) (Council of the Isles of Scilly 2004, 4).*

Many field boundaries in Scilly also lie within or form part of Scheduled Monuments. These are sites designated by statute as of national importance and protected by The Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act of 1979, as amended by the National Heritage Act of 1983. By law, any proposed work affecting such sites requires

Scheduled Monument Consent from the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. Following re-survey in the 1990s under English Heritage's Monuments Protection Programme (MPP), 239 historic monuments are scheduled in Scilly, a remarkable concentration in a landmass amounting to only 16 sq km. A large proportion are Scheduled areas each containing a number of individual sites and comprising a total of over 900 separate 'archaeological items'.

## **2.2 Aims**

As set out in the Project Brief (Kirk 2010), the project was intended to deliver a number of aims. These were:

- an assessment of the history and significance of a selection of field boundaries in Scilly within and on the boundary of the enclosed land (the project did not focus on areas of prehistoric field system on heathland);
- a description of boundary types and current state of preservation;
- a descriptive and illustrated record of these boundaries to inform their future management; and
- the identification of sources of building stone associated with field boundaries.

The specific aims of the project were to:

1. survey selected traditional boundaries of the Isles of Scilly;
2. contextualise Scilly's boundaries historically with the assistance of the Historic Landscape Assessment;
3. identify the building techniques used in their construction (to inform a skills training programme);
4. quantify the extent of rebuild required for the boundaries (to inform a skills training programme and a programme of works);
5. quantify the tumbled stone associated with boundaries (to help to formulate a skills training programme and to inform a programme of works);
6. present the data in digital format for use within a GIS and as a hard copy report (for heritage resource management within this project and to ensure that the results of this project can inform future management decision making);
7. establishment of criteria to identify boundaries where repair is not desirable for archaeological, ecological or other reasons.

## **2.3 Methods**

### **2.3.1 Desk-based study**

A desk-based assessment was undertaken by HE Projects in 2010 (Johns 2010a). This assessment, commissioned by the Isles of Scilly AONB Partnership, drew on information held in the Historic Environment Record (HER), Cornwall Record Office, Isles of Scilly Museum and Royal Institution of Cornwall. The assessment included cartographic and photographic sources in addition to published archaeological sources and grey literature.

Additional desk-based study was undertaken for the current project. The main sources consulted were:

- Cornwall and Scilly HER
- Historic maps and photographs (Sections 6.1, 6.2)
- Published topographical descriptions and histories (Section 6.2)

Material from these studies has been incorporated into the introductory paragraphs to each of the survey areas (below) and has informed the wider study which this report presents.

## **2.3.2 Fieldwork**

### **2.3.2.1 Preparation**

Based on the 2010 desk-based assessment and on local knowledge, a number of farm holdings were identified which were known to offer a variety of boundary types in various conditions with a view to maximising the output from the project. The specific survey areas selected all lay within Anciently Enclosed Land (AEL) defined in the *Isles of Scilly Historic Landscape Assessment and Management Strategy* (Land Use Consultants *et al* 1996) and were agreed in advance with the Isles of Scilly AONB Officer.

The survey followed methods developed for landscape assessments and surveys by HE Projects (for example, Johns and Herring 1996). Base maps were prepared at an appropriate scale (usually 1:2500) for each of the selected study areas (Fig 1). All apparent boundaries shown on the current Ordnance Survey mapping were numbered, in each case with a continuous series beginning at 1 (Figs 2-10). (Additional numbers were assigned in the field where additional boundaries were identified during fieldwork.) The maps were encapsulated to provide some protection from weather during fieldwork and to allow boundaries dealt with to be 'crossed off' using a permanent marker.

A *pro forma* field boundaries recording sheet was produced specifically for the project, derived from the typology used in the *Isles of Scilly Historic Landscape Assessment and Management Strategy* (Land Use Consultants *et al* 1996) and a questionnaire developed by the Cornwall Archaeological Unit (now HE) in the 1990s. The final form of the questionnaire was agreed with the Isles of Scilly AONB Officer (Appendix 1). Quantities of these recording sheets printed double-sided on A4 paper were prepared and packed in appropriate numbers for each survey area.

Some time before fieldwork was due to be carried out a letter jointly signed by the Duchy of Cornwall Land Steward for Scilly and the Isles of Scilly AONB Officer was sent to Duchy tenants on holdings falling within the potential study areas for the boundary project, informing them of the survey and that their holding might be visited by the fieldworkers.

### **2.3.2.2 In the field**

Fieldwork for the project was carried out by a walkover survey on selected survey blocks on each inhabited island: Bryher, St Agnes, St Martin's, St Mary's and Tresco. In each survey block the fieldworkers attempted to proceed through the area viewing and recording as many boundaries as possible, within the constraints of access limitations, vegetation and the time available in the field. In the event, 389 stone boundaries were recorded during the five-day fieldwork period; a significant number of others lay in the areas visited but were not accessible for detailed recording.

The most efficient recording system was found to be for one fieldworker to identify specific boundaries from the map of the survey area, knock down vegetation as far as possible, determine the form of the boundary and ascertain dimensions and condition, also taking one or more photographs and reporting the direction in which the camera was facing. The second fieldworker completed the *pro forma* recording sheet, prompting with questions as required. Both workers observed the wider area to look for other boundary features of interest, stone dumps, etc. Photograph numbers were recorded for both the digital camera and, where relevant, the single lens reflex camera used for black and white film photography.



The questionnaire (Appendix 1) for each of the numbered boundaries recorded the following characteristics:

1. Type of boundary, character and dimensions.
2. Construction.
3. Facing style (if appropriate).
4. Vegetation.
5. Other attributes (for example, ditches, gateposts, fencing, stiles).
6. Current condition.
7. Requirements for repair
8. The presence of tumbled stone or stone dumps which might be used for future repair to boundaries

In some survey areas evidence of removed boundaries in the form of lynchets, banks, stone spreads, etc, was observed. The recording timetable and equipment employed did not permit these to be surveyed comprehensively and they have not formed part of the present project.

All the tenants encountered during fieldwork were helpful once the purpose of the survey had been explained by the fieldworkers. In one case the farmer preferred to accompany the fieldworkers around his holding during the recording process. This was, in the event, very useful, in that information was elicited which would not otherwise have been obtained. On St Martin's Mr Keith Low also showed the fieldworkers a variety of boundaries and provided much valuable information. Messrs Rogers were informative and hospitable during the fieldwork visit to Lunnon Farm, St Mary's.

### **2.3.3 Post-fieldwork**

#### **2.3.3.1 GIS database**

This stage involved the compilation of the project GIS database, linked to boundary descriptions and photographs. This was based on the GIS module developed by HE for the West Penwith Survey but adapted to meet the specific requirements of the Isles of Scilly survey. Each boundary record captures the attributes and values identified on the fieldwork *pro forma* (boundary type, dimensions, type, material, condition etc) and this will allow the user to use the GIS to analyse and display the surveyed boundaries according to any one (or more) of these variables. The results of the spatial and data analysis will in turn allow users to target conservation works, identify areas for further research or help identify particularly good examples of boundary type, construction and preservation. It will also provide more detailed information pertaining to boundary morphology, field patterns and enclosure processes that will contribute to the better interpretation and understanding of the Isles of Scilly Historic Landscape Character (HLC) Types. Consultation with the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record (HER) was carried out to ensure compatibility of the project GIS database with the HER.

#### **2.3.3.2 Archiving**

During this phase the results of the fieldwork were collated and archived. This involved the following tasks:

The cataloguing of site drawings and photographs; a digital catalogue of the photographic record was created with a record for each image, specifying:

- Image number (Unique Photo ID)
- Boundary number (Unique Boundary ID)

- Date of photo (DD/MM/YY)
- Type of boundary
- Survey area

### **2.3.3.3 Renaming of images**

Images were renamed using the following path:

*Project Title / Area ID / Direction Facing / Boundary Number/ File extension*

This Path was then written using CamelCase and underscores rather than leaving spaces within file names as these can be an issue for some software packages.

In this example the path records a photograph of boundary number 38 within Bryher area 2 taken facing south east:

*IOSBoundaries\_BryherArea2\_SE\_38.jpg*

Once recorded the images were placed into folders that reflected their survey areas. The file above for example is housed in a folder entitled '*Bryher\_Area2\_Images*' with all other files from the Bryher 2 survey area.

The author information and metadata for each photograph was also checked and amended when necessary.

### **2.3.3.4 Compilation of the project GIS database**

This stage involved the compilation of the project GIS database. Using Ordnance Survey Mastermap as a base, boundary lines were extracted for the study areas. These were then added to or amended as necessary. A table was used to link attributes and values identified on the fieldwork *pro forma* (survey number, boundary type, dimensions, type, material, condition etc) to individual boundaries. The images catalogued above were then linked to the attribute table and given relative paths that will allow hyperlinks to be easily reconnected on external systems.

## **3 Results**

### **3.1 St Agnes 1**

This survey block was not visited during fieldwork. The area is notable as an instance of Anciently Enclosed Land incorporating a prehistoric field system (Scheduled Monuments 15450, 15456; HER PRNs 7033, 7034), demonstrating the time depth of enclosure and occupation in this HLC type.

### **3.2 St Agnes 2**

This survey area was located on the Anciently Enclosed Land on the northern side of St Warna's Cove and Wingletang Down, extending east to Cove Vean (Fig 2). Much of the eastern portion of the area coincides with or immediately adjoins traces of prehistoric field systems (Scheduled Monuments 15340, 15344, 15455; HER PRN 7754) and it is highly probable that these earlier systems have influenced the location and morphology of the current fields and their boundaries.

The Parliamentary Survey of 1650 (Pounds 1984, II, 132) noted enclosures lying 'against St Awanie Sound and a pasture close adjacent to Wingletang Bay', and Spence's map of 1792 shows much if not all of the study area as enclosed (Fig 11). Comparison of the present boundaries with the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of c 1890 indicates that some rationalisation took place during the twentieth century.

There has also been some insertion of straight subdivisions to serve bulb / flower cultivation and associated planting of shelter belts.

No of boundaries identified pre fieldwork	113
Additional boundaries identified during fieldwork	1
No of boundaries recorded	98
Stone-faced earth wall (SFEW)	18
Stone-faced stone wall (SFSW)	38
Dry-stone wall (DSW)	26
Stone-faced lynchet (SFL)	9
Relict boundary / lynchet	1
Unidentified (stone-faced)	4
Vegetated boundary (e.g., shelter hedge)	2
Concealed by vegetation	9
No boundary found	4
No access	3

Stone-faced stone walls and dry stone ('single-stone') walls dominate in this study area, with stone-faced earth walls ('Cornish' hedges) occurring frequently only in the boundaries to Barnaby Lane and adjacent fields. Many of the 'outward' boundaries, those facing the shoreline and coastal rough ground, are dry stone walls, often constructed of large stones; some of these are lynchetted. These may represent late enclosure of a fringe of additional plots outside the extent of an earlier field system. Some dry stone walls appear to be built on low earth banks, however, suggesting that they may represent refurbishment of an earlier phase of enclosure. For the most part the ground enclosed by them is improved but there is a substantial area of coastal rough ground bounded by dry stone walls on the eastern extent of the study area, effectively enclosed pasture or croft ground.

Some stone boundaries are clearly associated with provision for bulb / flower cultivation. Among these, some are relatively 'lightweight' and were probably intended only to give temporary shelter to growing shelter plants while they became established. Others, however, are more substantial. Boundary 81, for example, is a distinctive and well constructed stone-faced stone wall forming the west side of an enclosed area of bulbfields which almost reaches the coast. It has 3-4 visible courses of coursed vertically set stones in the base section, topped by random walling, bringing it to a height of 1.4-1.5m (Fig 23). On its eastern side is a thick vegetated shelter belt. On the south side of this area is a substantial and well maintained stone-faced lynchet (77), again backed by a planted shelter belt, contrasting with the dilapidated nature of the same boundary (80) immediately to the east. On the sheltered eastern side the block is enclosed by stone-faced stone wall (73), with semi coursed stonework only 0.8m high.

A number of granite gateposts were noted, mostly natural orthostats but in a few cases squared and dressed. Adjacent to Barnaby Lane a substantial granite boulder is perched on the end of a stone boundary to accommodate a gate hanging (Fig 43).

## **Condition**

Half of the stone-faced stone walls were recorded as in 'good' condition with others mostly requiring only localised repair. A higher proportion of dry stone walls require greater or lesser degrees of repair and most stone-faced earth walls are in need of some attention. Disrepair could in some instances be seen to be due to trees and bushes growing on or beside boundaries but it is also clear that a number of boundaries, mostly on the inner fringes of the survey area, have been superseded by shelter hedges planted alongside them and have not been maintained for some considerable time. These boundaries tend to be concealed from view and no longer contribute to the visual character of the landscape. Most boundaries had some visible tumble below them and more is likely to be concealed by vegetation.

One possible stone dump was identified (at SV 88112 07800), although it is not clear whether this is simply a pile of stone from removed boundaries or stone cleared to a feature within the field. It is suggested that the feature should be assessed in advance of any stone removal and / or stone removed from it only under archaeological supervision.

### **3.3 Bryher 1**

This survey block was not visited during fieldwork. Survey and excavation following the discovery of an Iron Age sword and mirror burial at Hillside Farm identified late prehistoric – Romano-British occupation and an associated lynched field system within the study area (Johns 2002-3), again indicating the long history of agricultural use of many areas of AEL on Scilly. Part of this study area underwent significant re-organisation for bulb / flower cultivation in the decades just before and after 1900 (Figs 17, 18).

### **3.4 Bryher 2**

The survey area (Fig 3) was divided into three blocks.

#### **3.4.1 Bryher 2a**

This is a small, discrete and isolated group of enclosures on the eastern flank of Gweal Hill. They are not depicted on Spence's map of 1792 (Fig 12) but may be plausibly identified with the '5 closes of arable and pasture lying together on the east side of a hill called Gwithiall Hill', recorded by the Parliamentary Survey of 1650 as part of a tenement named as 'Banton' (Pounds 1984, II, 134). Five adjoining enclosures are shown on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch maps of c 1890 and 1909 but there has been some subsequent subdivision in one of these. This field was accordingly not characterised as Anciently Enclosed Land and thus omitted from the study area. The western enclosure in this group falls within the area of a prehistoric field system (Scheduled Monument 15458; HER PRN 7385) which extends around the southern and western sides of Gweal Hill. This is defined by turf-covered rubble banks up to 2m wide and 0.25m high, with a single row of closely spaced slabs, mostly edge-set and 0.5m-1m apart and 0.4m-0.5m high, projecting along the midline of the banks. The Scheduling description notes that

'in the south and south east of the monument, the walls of two relatively recent but abandoned field plots overlie the prehistoric field walling, whose distinctively spaced large slabs remain visible along the base of the later walls which otherwise employ mostly smaller slabs.'

It is not clear that the visibility of the upright slabs in the relict boundaries underlying these later plot boundaries has survived the rebuilding undertaken c 1999 (below).

Boundaries in this area are almost all stone-faced stone walls, with the exception of two – boundaries 4 and 11 – recorded as dry-stone walls; boundary 4 has an apparent

'boulder wall' base. It is probable that these have been rebuilt as part of twentieth-century alterations to the enclosures.

Some boundaries in the group (for example, 12 and 14/15) were rebuilt c 1999 by a waller from the mainland (anonymous local informant; Charles Johns, pers comm) in what is perceived locally to be a style different from that of other boundaries on the island. These are of random stonework with predominantly horizontally laid stones; the boundaries have vertical faces and flat tops. Much of the stone appears fresh and 'slab' shapes appear to have been preferred.

No of boundaries identified pre fieldwork	15
Additional boundaries identified during fieldwork	0
No of boundaries recorded	14
SFEW	
SFSW	12
DSW	2
No boundary found	1

The historic stone boundaries are generally of random stonework with a tendency for stones to be used vertically. Several have large stones in the basal course. Boundary 8 is of a distinctive form: random stonework, with most stones set vertically and a general preference for the outward face of the stone to project further at the base than at the top; the vertical faces rise to a 'shoulder' above which there is a rounded top formed of two rows of stones set between the faces and a further course above these.

Much of the stone in the historic boundaries is weathered and rounded and some at least is likely to have derived from the adjacent beaches.

### **Condition**

The stone-faced stone walls are mostly in need of more or less localised repair. Some tumble is apparent below most of the boundaries. The high visibility of these boundaries demands that future repairs are fully in character with the form of historic boundaries in the near vicinity.

### **3.4.2 Bryher 2b**

This block of boundaries (16-43) lies immediately south and east of the Hell Bay Hotel. Spence's map of 1792 suggests that only the field at the far eastern end of the area (boundaries 28-30) may have been enclosed at that date, the remainder being unenclosed rough ground (Fig 12). The broad outlines of the enclosures appear much as at present on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of c 1890. They appear to be secondary to the 'New Road' named on the map but the apparently similar alignments of boundaries 34 and 21 and perhaps 16 and 37 raise the possibility that the road in fact cut through an earlier enclosure here.

Several boundaries within the AEL survey area are those of domestic properties and their gardens (boundaries 39-42). These for the most part have been substantially altered or rebuilt and no longer represent traditional stone field boundaries. Similar alterations have taken place in the area adjacent to the Hell Bay Hotel and around a poultry enterprise to the east. A number of other boundaries were inaccessible and / or concealed by vegetation.

<b>Table 3 Bryher 2b</b>	
No of boundaries identified pre fieldwork	25
Additional boundaries identified during fieldwork	0
No of boundaries recorded	7
Boulder wall	1
SFEW	2
SFSW	1
SFL	2
Garden / domestic property boundaries	5
Modern boundaries (concrete, modern rebuilds)	2
Boundaries concealed by vegetation – not characterised	5
No access	4
No boundary found	3

The six historic boundaries recorded in this block were varied in character: a boulder wall, two stone-faced lynchets, two stone-faced earth walls and a stone-faced stone wall. The boulder wall (boundary 21) is of particular interest in that it appears to continue the same curvilinear alignment of boundary 34 to the south; as suggested above, these boundaries could represent one side of an initial enclosure in this area, with the boulder wall perhaps indicating clearance of rough ground. Unfortunately boundary 34 was concealed by vegetation and its form was not evident. The two stone-faced lynchets (19 and 30) both bounded the northern (downslope) side of New Road. Boundaries on the south side of the road included both stone-faced earth walls and a stone-faced stone wall. These were heavily clothed with vegetation but could be seen to incorporate some large stones.

### **Condition**

Condition was particularly difficult to assess in this survey area because of vegetation and difficulties of access. Two boundaries (35 and 38) could be seen to require localised repair. It was not possible to ascertain the presence of tumble below most of the boundaries recorded because of vegetation cover.

### **3.4.3 Bryher 2c**

This survey block (boundaries 44-81) lies on the southern side of The Town. Spence's map of 1792 (Fig 12) shows a group of houses and enclosures in the area and archaeological work on the Isles of Scilly electrification project in the 1980s recorded a spread of medieval pottery, probably indicating a settlement site, immediately outside the survey area to the east (Ratcliffe 1991, 147; HER PRN 7789). A well-preserved limpet midden has been located in a field towards the south-east part of the survey block and is also likely to indicate post-prehistoric settlement in this area (HER PRN 7601).

Time constraints during fieldwork meant that only part of this survey block was visited. Many boundaries were found to be engulfed in vegetation and others were not accessible for recording because earthmoving was in progress and difficult to

characterise even in broad terms from a distance because they too were masked by dense bracken and bramble cover.

No of boundaries identified pre fieldwork	37
Additional boundaries identified during fieldwork	1
Boundaries attempted during fieldwork	17
No of boundaries recorded	9
SFEW	3
SFSW	1
DSW	2
SFL	2
Garden / domestic property boundaries	2
Boundaries concealed by vegetation - not characterised	8

The three stone-faced earth walls identified (51, 52, 53) formed the boundaries to two straight-sided enclosures on the west side of the road dividing the survey area and are likely to represent fairly late sub-division of this area. The sole stone-faced stone wall bounded the eastern end of New Road and the two stone-faced lynchets recorded formed the western (downslope) side of the above-mentioned road.

Boundaries 60 and 101 edged gardens and domestic properties and although of traditional / historic form (both incorporated fairly substantial boulders) may in fact represent relatively recent constructions or reconstructions.

### **Condition**

Three boundaries were noted as requiring localised repair.

## **3.5 Bryher 3**

This survey block (Fig 4) can be identified with the 'closes of arable and pasture' extending across the waist of Bryher between Kitchen Porth / Hangman's Island and Great Pool which were identified in the Parliamentary Survey of 1650. They were divided between tenements variously named as Banton, Bartom and Bantom, with houses located on the eastern shore adjacent to New Grimsby Sound (Pounds 1984, II, 134). These appear to have been for the most part discrete enclosures but one of the holdings shared a plot named as Backside Close with one of the other tenements and also held a 'piece of arable in Sheephouse Close', suggesting that there may have been some relict elements of medieval open field cultivation. The area is shown as enclosed on Spence's map of 1792 (Fig 12).

Stonework styles are predominantly random within the block: there are few examples of coursing and boundaries vary between vertically- and horizontally-set stones. Stone-faced stone walls are generally vertical sided; some are flat-topped but others have a rounded profile to the upper couple of courses. Dry-stone walls predominate numerically and several stone-faced lynchets are faced with walling of this type (Fig 16). Some of these are low - less than 0.5m on the upper side in many instances - and a number are followed by vegetated hedges, many of which are now grown out.

Roughly-dressed granite orthostats are used as gateposts (for example, at the end of boundary 65) but a number of access ways between fields have no gateposts. It is unclear whether these are historic gateways or have been created relatively recently for convenience of access.

<b>Table 5 Bryher 3</b>	
No of boundaries identified pre fieldwork	68
Additional boundaries identified during fieldwork	0
No of boundaries recorded	46
SFEW	3
SFSW	6
DSW	14
SFL	7
DSW/SFL	4
SFSW/SFL	5
Boundaries concealed by vegetation – confirmed as stone faced but no details apparent	7
Concealed by vegetation	14
No access	2
No boundary found	4

### **Condition**

Boundaries in this area were generally in good condition or required only localised repair; relatively few require extensive repair. Tumble below boundary faces is evident relatively frequently, but more is likely to be apparent if vegetation along boundaries were cleared.

### **3.6 St Martin's 1**

This survey block was not visited during fieldwork. A Scheduled cairn group and relict prehistoric field system borders the northern side of the area and the Scheduling description suggests that the field system probably originally extended across the enclosed land of the survey area (Scheduled Monument 15517), again suggesting the time depth of settlement and enclosure to be found in AEL.

Part of the block at least can probably be identified with the two tenements recorded as tenanted in 1650 after the Civil War (Pounds 1984, II, 138). One of these was located 'near Teane Sound at the west end of the island, consisting of dwelling house and 4 little parcels of arable near the house, 1 ac'; the other, situated nearby, amounted to a 'dwelling house, barn and 2 parcels of arable near the house, 1 ac'.

Most of the area is shown as enclosed on Spence's chart of 1792 (Fig 13), with the exception of a small area adjacent to Tean Sound at Goat's Hole. This is known to have been broken in and enclosed in about the 1870s by Stephen Bond, Keith Low's great-grandfather (Keith Low, pers comm); it is shown as three fields on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of c 1890.



Woodley (1822, 277) described the area between Lower and Middle Town as a

'broad valley, formed by a high but level bank thrown up by nature . . . extending along by the sea to the South; and having a high hill, which retires with a gentle sweep, on the North. The appearance of this highly-cultivated valley when the author first saw it – (in the Autumn of 1820) – in the rich and diversified hues of its abundant crops, left a feeling of gratification in his breast which is not yet wholly obliterated.'

### 3.7 St Martin's 2a

Much of the northern and eastern part of this survey block (Fig 5) falls within an area identified as part of a prehistoric field system (Scheduled Monument 15525). It is also, for the most part, shown enclosed on Spence's map of 1792 (Fig 13). There has evidently been significant recent change within this area, however. The straightness of long boundary 37 / 41 / 47 / 53 and several others in the eastern part of the survey area contrasts with the more sinuous character of many others and suggests that they may be comparatively late, probably postdating Spence's map; a dog-leg in boundary 34 / 36 may indicate the position of an earlier boundary – perhaps linking to 43 - which 37 replaced. There has also been some significant removal and addition of boundaries in the twentieth century. On the northern edge of the survey area the creation of boundary 202 enclosed an area of rough ground; removal of the boundary now represented by the relict 201 incorporated this new intake into an existing field to the west; presumably 202 was at least partly constructed using stone from 201.

To the west, boundary 10 has been straightened since the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of 1909 and a sinuous, probably prehistoric or medieval boundary previously immediately to the east of it replaced. The context for these changes is not entirely clear: there is no immediate evidence that this northern portion of the survey area has been used for bulb or flower cultivation. Elsewhere, however, a distinctive form of substantial dry stone wall, up to 2m high and incorporating low ground-set orthostats at approximately 2.4m (8ft) intervals, was created in the 1920s by Keith Low's great uncle, Sidney Bond, to create sheltered plots for the flower trade (Keith Low, pers comm). Boundary 55 is of this type and probably also 44 / 57, these latter likely to be a rebuild of an earlier boundary. Boundary 11 also incorporates orthostats but is sinuous and much lower, perhaps also a rebuild of this period.

<b>Table 6 St Martin's 2a</b>	
No of boundaries identified pre fieldwork	71
Additional boundaries identified during fieldwork	2
No of boundaries recorded	48
SFEW	6
SFSW	9
DSW	19
SFSW/SFL	2
DSW on SFEW	2
No access	13
<b>NB.</b> Individual totals do not sum to survey total because some boundaries are of more than one build.	

Boundaries in this area are extremely diverse with a variety of styles apparent within each broad boundary type (Figs 25-28). Some of the dry stone walls, for example, numerically predominant overall, are of essentially vertically set stones, clearly selected for their long, narrow form; others, however, utilise a wider range of forms and are broadly horizontal in 'grain'. There are two examples of dry stone walling superposed on earlier stone-faced earth walls (boundaries 18 and 41; Fig 27), indicating some refurbishment of an earlier system, and a number of boundaries which clearly incorporate field clearance stone: stone-faced stone wall 8, for example, is much wider than others in the vicinity, presumably to utilise cleared stone; stone-faced earth wall 19 utilises much smaller stones than other boundaries, again probably to make use of stone cleared from cultivation surfaces.

Boundary 33, dividing the enclosed land from the rough ground of the downs to the north, is an earth bank with stone-facing in places. It is unclear whether this represents an historic type which has been replaced elsewhere or whether it is also an instance of the pragmatic diversity which characterises the area.

A notable group of natural granite orthostats used as gateposts lies on a public footpath at the junction of boundaries 41 and 40.

### **Condition**

Much of the northern portion of the survey block is now only in low-intensity agricultural use and many of the boundaries there are no longer maintained as stockproof barriers; where cattle are grazed electric fencing is used. A number of boundaries in this area need more or less extensive repair. Tumble is often apparent along the length of these walls.

### **3.8 St Martin's 2b**

This survey block was not visited during fieldwork. A substantial part of it is incorporated within a large Scheduled area covering much of the north-eastern quadrant of St Martin's (Scheduled Monument 15525). The Scheduling description refers to prehistoric field systems extending over the southern slopes of the island and probably associated settlement evidence in the May's Hill area; these elements are likely to fall within the AEL defined by the survey area.

Little if any of the area appears to have been shown as enclosed by Spence in 1792 (Fig 13). It was mapped as fields on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of c 1890, which shows the area on the east and north-east sides of May's Hill as unimproved and under rough ground vegetation, perhaps indicating that it had been enclosed as crofts.

### **3.9 St Mary's 1a (Salakee Farm)**

This survey block was not visited during fieldwork. The tenement of 'Sallakeys' was recorded by the Parliamentary Survey in 1650 with gardens and 16 'closes of meddow, pasture, arable and morye grounds adjoining' (Pound 1984, II, 142). These can be identified with the area of fields with sinuous boundaries north of High Cross Lane. The name of the lane is reputed to refer to two granite crosses found there in the nineteenth century; Thomas has suggested that these may formerly have marked the bounds of glebe land of the Norman church at Old Town (Thomas 1985, 213-4). Spence (1792) depicted much of the south-eastern extent of the survey area as large croft enclosures on coastal rough ground (Fig 14). The 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of c 1890 shows that these had been subdivided and expanded with notably straight boundaries during the nineteenth century.

### **3.10 St Mary's 1b**

This survey block was not visited during fieldwork. The area was shown as enclosed by Spence in 1792 (Fig 14) and the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of c 1890 and

some of the sinuous boundaries depicted survive within the present landscape. The 2nd edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of 1909 and current mapping shows many of the enclosures extensively subdivided and remodelled for bulb / flower cultivation; the area was characterised as Anciently Enclosed Land (Land Use Consultants *et al*, 1996), which it undoubtedly was until the late nineteenth century, but would be more accurately interpreted as of the bulb strips historic landscape type.

### 3.11 St Mary's 2 (Lunnon Farm)

The area of Lunnon (? London) Farm (Fig 6) is shown as enclosed but not identified by name on Spence's map of 1792 (Fig 14). The adjacent farm of 'Carnifriars' was depicted and named by Spence and – as 'Kernie Friars' – was recorded by the Parliamentary Survey of 1650 (Pounds 1984, II, 143). This noted its '2 closes of arable and pasture' called the Home Ground on the north of the dwelling house and '6 closes adjoining the Home Ground' (*ibid*). Part of these lands, at least, is likely to now fall within Lunnon. It is clear from the Spence map and the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of c 1890 that a routeway formerly ran south west – north east through the farm and boundaries to some extent continue to respect this. The 1st edition Ordnance Survey map also shows the initial stages of creating 'fences' for bulb / flower growing, with the field to the north east of the farm complex already subdivided by c 1890. The 2nd edition Ordnance Survey map of 1909 showed the process extended into other adjacent fields. Boundaries in the area to the west of the house are now mostly vegetated fences, including one elm hedge which may preserve one of these initial subdivisions.

No of boundaries identified pre fieldwork	48
Additional boundaries identified during fieldwork	4
No of boundaries recorded	43
SFEW	15
DSW	8
SFL	3
EFL	1
Boulder wall	2
Modern wall	1
Vegetated boundary	4
Rubble wall	1
Relict boundary	1
Boundaries concealed by vegetation – confirmed as stone faced but no details apparent	7
Boundaries concealed by vegetation – not characterised	1
No access	5

Stone-faced earth walls are the dominant boundary form in this survey block and a large proportion of the boundaries which are clearly part of the older pattern of fields here are of this type. Where stonework is visible – many are heavily cloaked with vegetation – it tends to be coursed with stones set vertically, although this is not universal. Dry stone walls appear to be generally secondary, subdividing older enclosures.

An interesting feature within the field system is a narrow terraced track probably representing an original access lane to the farm settlement. It is defined by boundary 21 on the north side, a 1m high stone-faced lynchet, and boulder walls 36/37 forming the south side, followed by a line of mature trees.

Many boundaries on the farm are now faced by vegetated hedges, mostly *Pittosporum*, and these are now effectively invisible, no longer forming an element of the visual character of the AEL except along public roads. Other boundaries have been removed and replaced by vegetated hedges, with similar effect.

### **Condition**

Where condition could be ascertained – many boundaries were difficult of access – it was generally good.

## **3.12 St Mary's 3 (Mount Todden Farm)**

A Scheduled prehistoric field system (Scheduled Monument 15473) characterised by substantial lynchets and stony banks extends into the field defined by boundaries 41, 42, 45 and 46 in the north-eastern corner of the holding (Fig 7). Here, therefore, as elsewhere on Scilly, the time depth in AEL is readily apparent. Much of the area was shown as enclosed on Spence's map of 1792 (Fig 14), although the northern fringes were then open, unenclosed coastal rough ground. These areas had been enclosed by the time of the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of c 1890.

Mr Arthur Swift, the tenant of Mount Todden, accompanied the fieldworkers during their visit. He pointed out that a number of boundaries on the farm were rebuilt and straightened by his predecessor, Charlie Guy, during the 1920-30s (Fig 32). He is himself rebuilding the stone-faced earth wall which borders the coast path at Gilbert's Porth because coastal erosion is threatening the historic boundary adjacent to the coastal cliff.

Most boundaries in the block are stone-faced earth walls, some of which face substantial contour-following lynchets. Stonework on these is a mix between a regular coursed and graded style – those attributed to Charlie Guy are of this type – and more random forms.

Some of the dry stone walls recorded evidently replace earlier boundaries: 26/56/34, for example, above the coastal cliff at Carn Vean, and 47/51/53/54 probably replacing an earlier boundary slightly further east between the rough ground of Mount Todden Down and the enclosed land. The dry stone walls making up this eastern boundary are substantial and appear to incorporate some earth-set orthostats (Fig 31)

### **Condition**

Most boundaries for which condition was apparent were in good condition or required only localised repair. The exception was boundary 15 fronting the lane down the western side of the holding, which requires more extensive rebuilding.

<b>Table 8 St Mary's 3</b>	
No of boundaries identified pre fieldwork	56
Additional boundaries identified during fieldwork	0
No of boundaries recorded	56
SFEW	26
SFSW	3
DSW	21
SFL	7
Boundaries concealed by vegetation – confirmed as stone faced but no details apparent	1 (lynchet)
No access – character information recorded from tenant	14
<b>NB.</b> Individual totals do not sum to survey total because some boundaries are of more than one build.	

### 3.13 Tresco 1

This study area is divided into two blocks (Fig 8).

#### 3.13.1 Tresco 1a

This is a linear group of three fields defined by boundaries 1-13, lying roughly north-south between Appletree Road and the western shore of Tresco, south of New Grimsby, between Plumb Hill and Appletree Point. These fields appear much as at present on the 1st edition 6-inch map of Scilly of c 1890 but are shown as a number of small enclosures on Spence's map of 1792 (Fig 15). These may represent the subdivision of 'Appletree Close', already recorded as divided between at least two tenants by the Parliamentary Survey of 1650 (Pounds 1984, II, 135-6). It is likely that the boundaries were re-organised as part of Augustus Smith's rationalisation of landholding on Scilly in the mid nineteenth century (Smith 1848; Matthews 1960).

<b>Table 9 Tresco 1a</b>	
No of boundaries identified pre fieldwork	13
No of boundaries recorded	10
SFEW	6
SFSW	1
Earth bank	3
No boundary found	3

Boundaries along the eastern, upslope side of the site (2-4, 6) are stone-faced lynchets topped by stone-faced earth walls of coursed medium-sized granite blocks, giving an overall downslope height of about 1.3m. The walls forming the northern and southern limits of the fields (1, 7) are stone-faced earth walls up to 1.4m high, again of coursed

blocks; boundary 1 has been substantially re-built in places as a stone-faced stone wall. Both boundary types are topped with transverse-set capping stones, although many of these have been lost; these are mostly laid horizontally but boundary 7 has vertically set stones. The subdividing boundary (5) is a stone-faced stone wall, again with large transversely-set capping stones.

Gateposts within these boundaries are of granite.

On the seaward side the remains of earth banks (11-13) are visible in places on the edge of the low cliff, now fenced with posts and barbed wire.

No boundaries were located around the southern and eastern sides of the southern field shown on current Ordnance Survey mapping (boundaries 8-10).

### Condition

The stone-faced boundaries were generally in good condition with only localised repairs required. Small quantities of tumbled stone are visible along the base of some.

### 3.13.2 Tresco 1b

The second portion of the study area is located on the north side of the Abbey complex and delineated by boundaries 14-22. This area is shown on Spence's map of 1792 as a block of four or five fields divided by boundaries aligned roughly north east – south west (Fig 15); at about the same time Troutbeck (nd, 134) noted cultivated land on both sides of the Great Pool, which lies immediately to the north. The 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map shows this as a single undivided enclosure with a building marked as 'Kennels' adjoining the road on its south-west side, but the 2nd edition map of 1909 shows the field divided into narrow strips, typical of subdivisions of this period for the cultivation of bulbs or flowers. The north-eastern margin of the area is now occupied by a belt of woodland, with the historic boundaries on this side outside the study area.

No of boundaries identified pre fieldwork	9
No of boundaries recorded	7
SFSW	2
SFL	2
Vegetated boundaries, fences, etc	3
No boundary found	2

Stone-faced stone walls form the historic boundaries on the north-west and south-east sides of the area. That to the north west (14) is 1m high, of random and semi-coursed stonework; with transversely-set capping stones. To the south east boundary 19 is again about 1m high and has randomly laid larger stones in the base courses with vertically set coursed stonework in the upper part. On the south-west side, towards the road, the area is bounded by stone-faced lynchets (20, 22) of coursed stonework up to 1.2m high.

All other boundaries are either vegetated (including one (boundary 17) of *Cordaline Australis*, Cornish palm, cabbage tree) or post and rail.

### Condition

The stone boundaries all need localised repair. Little tumble is apparent but more may be present below vegetation, which masks the wall faces in places.

### 3.14 Tresco 2 (Borough Farm)

Thomas (1985, 220, 248) proposed that Borough Farm (Fig 9) could be identified with the medieval holding of *Cheyncruk*, recorded in 1314, and the morphology of field boundaries depicted on later historic mapping suggests the possible enclosure of medieval strips running downslope from the present Borough Farm site towards the shore (Fig 35). The present Borough Road – shown on Spence’s map of 1792 (Fig 15) – cuts through this pattern and suggests that there has been a significant reorganisation of land boundaries in this area. A substantial lynchet runs roughly north west – south east along the 50ft (15m) contour on the south side of the road within the possible area of medieval fields but it is unclear whether this represents a subdivision within the historic field system or an earlier feature.

No of boundaries identified pre fieldwork	30
Additional boundaries located during fieldwork	3
No of extant boundaries located	29
Boulder wall	1
SFEW	9
SFSW	2
SFL	5
DSW	1
Garden / domestic property boundaries	4
Boundaries concealed by vegetation – not characterised	7
No boundary found	4

Most boundaries in this study area are stone-faced earth walls, with a variety of coursed, semi-coursed and random stonework. Some of these are turf-capped, others have transverse capping stones. Several of these boundaries incorporate substantial stones in their base courses; for example, boundaries 18-19 and 103, on Boundary Road and the access lane to Borough Farm.

Some relatively slight lynchets between fields have stone revetments, most spectacularly boundary 5, where a boulder wall of large grounders is the base for a loosely piled dry stone wall, but also boundaries 2 and 10. Small elm trees, probably the remains of grown-out hedging, and sycamores appear on some of these.

Stone-faced stone walls (boundaries 6 and 14) are in a minority in this study area. Boundary 6, where visible, appeared to be a rebuild, and boundary 14 was paralleled by a vegetated shelter belt and may be a late feature, associated with adaptation of the field system to bulb and flower cultivation. The sole dry stone wall identified (boundary 9) appears to be a subdivision to an earlier enclosure.

Several boundaries around Borough Farm itself clearly relate to gardens and farm or domestic property and were not characterised. Seven boundaries within this study area were completely inaccessible because of vegetation.

Substantial natural granite orthostats used as gateposts are a feature of several boundaries in the survey area (Figs 41, 42).

## Condition

Stone-faced earth walls within the area are generally in good condition or require only localised repair. The exception is boundary 4, where loose stone appears to have been piled on the remains of the hedge. Other boundaries in the area used for horticulture (and thus with no requirement to be stockproof) are also tending to disrepair. The growth of trees or outgrown hedging material on these boundaries tends to compound the problem through root disturbance. Dry stone wall 9 requires significant rebuilding.

### 3.15 Tresco 3 (Dolphin Town)

Dolphin Town and Old Grimsby have been suggested as forming the main focus for secular settlement on Tresco during the medieval period (Ratcliffe 1991, 146). Excavations in advance of the construction of a new sports ground close to the church at Dolphin Town revealed midden deposits incorporating pottery dating from the twelfth to sixteenth centuries, suggesting the presence in the near vicinity of a contemporary settlement (Taylor and Johns, 2009-10). Troutbeck referred to 'Dolphin' in 1796 as the 'capital village' on Tresco (Troutbeck nd, 120) and four decades earlier William Borlase reported that the 'principal Tenement of this Island is called the Dolphin; it's soil is so very fruitful, that one field of seven acres has been in tillage every year since the remembrance of man, and carries exceeding plentiful crops' (Borlase 1756, 48). Spence's map of 1792 (Fig 15) shows a block of fields with broadly rectilinear boundaries extending up the north-east facing slope between the shore and the rough ground of Vane Hill and Middle Down. Woodley (1822, 295) commented on the 'well cultivated fields' to the north east of the Missionary House (parsonage). Post-medieval pottery recovered from the sports ground site is likely to derive from incorporation in domestic refuse used in manuring the fields (Taylor and Johns, 2009-10).

Many of the boundaries shown on the Spence map had been removed by the late nineteenth century, perhaps as part of the rationalisation and re-organisation of farm holdings undertaken by Augustus Smith in the mid nineteenth century (Smith 1848; Matthews 1960). The basal courses of a stone-faced earth wall (incorporating prehistoric querns) located during the sports ground investigations are likely to derive from one of these removed boundaries (Taylor and Johns, 2009-10).

No of boundaries identified pre fieldwork	38
Extant stone field boundaries located	22
SFEW	15
SFL	2
Ha-ha	3
Boundaries concealed by vegetation – confirmed as stone faced but no details apparent	2
Garden / domestic property boundaries	2
Boundaries concealed by vegetation / inaccessible – not characterised	4
Post and wire / rail boundaries	7
No boundary found	1



Surviving historic boundaries in this study area (Fig 10) are mostly well-constructed stone-faced earth walls. Most are of vertically set coursed or semi-coursed stones, diminishing in size towards the upper part of the boundary. The distinctive regularity of some of these boundaries has been diminished by less regular patching and rebuilding. Many have substantial grounders and large stones in the basal courses but it is unclear whether this represents opportunistic use of larger material or the re-building of these hedges on the remains of earlier boundaries. A minority of hedges are flat-topped, capped with turf, but many are capped with transverse vertically-set stones; these are sometimes closely spaced (Fig 39) but in other instances the upright stones alternate with others laid flat, giving a semi-crenellated appearance to the boundaries (Thomas 1988, fig 34). The more substantial of these boundaries are up to 1.5m high. This style is almost certainly to be attributed to the improving regime of Augustus Smith but may have been continued by his successor, T A Dorrien-Smith.

Boundary 4 is a stone-faced lynchet bounding the upslope (east) side of the road from New Grimsby to Dolphin Town, below Towns Hill. Details of the stonework are obscured by vegetation but the lower courses are formed of substantial grounders. Boundary 30 is a low (0.4m high) stone-faced lynchet dividing the road north of St Nicholas church from the adjacent field.

Boundary 31 divides the enclosed agricultural land east of the church from the area of coastal rough ground to the north now titled School Green. This feature was completely concealed by vegetation when fieldwork for this project was carried out but a photograph of c 1869-70 (Thomas 1988, fig 34) shows it as a stone-faced boundary with vertically-set coping stones, closely comparable with others in the vicinity. A photograph taken in 1999 shows some stone facing on the south side of the boundary and it was described in 2000 as a 'stone-faced stone wall [*sic*] (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' (Ratcliffe 2000). Photographs of the east end taken in 2003-4 in fact show it as a rounded, vegetated earth bank approximately 0.75m high and 2-3m wide (HER photographic archive). A short length of the boundary at its east end, contiguous to a cattle grid (see below) has been rebuilt. Boundary 33, the continuation of boundary 31 to the east shown on historic maps, was removed at the time that the sports ground was created (Taylor 2004).

Boundary 32 is a modern construction (not shown on air photographs of 1988) of horizontal semi-coursed stonework, capped by turf.

Three boundaries (27-9) around the churchyard are effectively ha-has – near vertical stone faces on the inner side of a ditch separating the churchyard from the adjacent fields. Troutbeck (nd, 122) noted in the late eighteenth century that there was no burying ground associated with the church and these boundaries are visible as fresh, apparently recent features in a late nineteenth century photograph (Fig 39). It is likely that they were built in the late 1870s at about the time the new church was constructed (HER PRN 7783).

A distinctive cattle grid (Fig 46) forms the eastern end of boundary 31. It is shown on the route of footpaths on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey 25-inch maps of c 1890 and 1909 (Ratcliffe 2000, figs 8, 9). This may have provided access to a well, possibly late medieval or early post medieval in date, sited in the field to the north, which is reputed to have been used as a source of water for vessels in Old Grimsby harbour (HER PRN 7369). The cattle grid was described in 2000 as

'a ramp extending either side of the field wall 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. At some point in its history, the line of the field wall has been extended over the top of the cattle grid, blocking entry over it. The feature is currently partially obscured by scrub vegetation and blown sand' (Ratcliffe 2000)

Subsequent work removed the ramps and the blocking hedge. The ramp at the northern end has been replaced with steps formed of substantial granite slabs. Two

stone-faced earth walls which now flank the cattle grid, covering the ends of the granite bars, are of semi-coursed stonework (Fig 46). Flanking walls were described as part of the structure in 2000 but photographs show much lower, apparently less substantial features (Ratcliffe 2000, figs 12, 13).

A natural granite orthostat gatepost was built into one of the flanking walls of the cattle grid structure in boundary 31 and has been retained in the rebuilt structure. A granite post was also noted in boundary 1. A granite orthostat 1.5m high is built into boundary 7 above the base course but its function is unclear.

### **Condition**

Condition of the stone-faced boundaries is generally good, with the exception of 14, 30 and 37 which were identified as requiring localised or more extensive repair. A number of boundaries were inaccessible or concealed by vegetation, however, particularly in the western part of the study area, and there may be further requirements for repair on these.

## **4 Conclusions/discussion**

### **4.1 Boundaries in Anciently Enclosed Land: time depth**

The project focused on boundaries in Anciently Enclosed Land (AEL) and provided an opportunity to reflect on current understandings of this historic landscape type. AEL is defined (Land Use Consultants *et al*, 1996, 30) as

'land enclosed prior to the 19th century, which includes field systems which are as early as the Bronze Age in origin, or theoretically, as late as the 18th century. In reality, given the limited amount of land that would have been available for farming, most of the AEL is probably at least medieval in origin . . . Lines of boundaries are often sinuous and the fields they enclose irregular in shape. In a few cases AEL can be identified as the altered remains of a medieval strip field system or a prehistoric rectilinear system with lynchets surviving along existing boundaries and banks and lynchets within the present fields.'

This definition emphasises the historic origins of AEL and implies some antiquity for boundaries within it. It is also clear that AEL (together with the bulb strips historic landscape type, which has typically been converted from AEL) has formed the core of agricultural land in Scilly from the remote past up to the present day. It has therefore been the most intensively worked and managed area of agricultural land and the most subject to changes in economic context and new forms of exploitation, such as potato cultivation (particularly in the early and mid nineteenth century) and bulb / flower growing (from the 1870s). In consequence, it has been the area most subject to small-scale changes to historic boundaries, such as straightening or removing them, and widening gateways, often to facilitate agricultural activity. It has also been the area in which it would have been most worthwhile, necessary and convenient for farmers to undertake significant maintenance – patching and repair – or to carry out major rebuilds of boundaries.

Significantly, AEL must also have been the primary focus of both the rapid subdivision of holdings reported during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries in the context of a period of rapid population growth, and the programme of 'improvement' carried out by Augustus Smith in the mid nineteenth century (Matthews 1960, 133, 141, 157). Smith (1848, v) himself noted that one of his first tasks on assuming proprietorship of the islands was '. . . *gradually* to correct the evils arising from an over numerous cottier population, and a minute and most vexatious subdivision of the soil among them as tenants'. Older tenants, he claimed, were left much as he found them, 'except so far as to making his farm or bargain of land compact' (*ibid*). His first practical measures, he reported, were

'the taking one Island each year, and re-adjusting the several holdings of the tenants; so that each man's farm, or rather "bargain of land" as it is locally termed, might be altogether [sic] and compact, instead of being scattered in very minute fractions over the Island, and frequently very distantly from each other.' (*ibid*, 25).

It is unlikely that such re-adjustment of holdings could have been achieved without some significant alterations to boundaries.

The consequence of these points is that many boundaries within AEL, while following historic land divisions, have undoubtedly seen very substantial alteration and, in their present form, represent the culmination of a long history of repair, alteration and adaptation.

## **4.2 The identification of AEL on Scilly**

The historic landscape characterisation process used to map AEL on Scilly was based primarily on field patterns (Land Use Consultants *et al*, 1996, 30). While this method achieved a good broad-brush division of historic landscape types it has in some cases erroneously identified particular areas as AEL. For example, the whole of the field system running along the ridge of Peninnis Head, St Mary's, is mapped as AEL. Spence's map of 1792 (Fig 14), however, shows the edge of the enclosed land lying well to the north of the windmill, some 300m north of the current division against the coastal rough ground, and Robert Maybee, recalling his childhood in the early decades of the nineteenth century, described the area as a 'large open downs, with no hedge on the west side of it till you got half-way to Buzza's Hill, and was covered with long heath and wild flowers of various kinds' (Maybee 1973, 2). The field system north of High Cross Lane, near Salakee Farm, is likely to be of medieval origin but that to the south, also mapped as AEL, is distinguished by notably straight boundaries and probably represents nineteenth-century subdivision of earlier enclosure of coastal rough ground (section 3.9, above). An irregular enclosure in the St Martin's 1 survey area, defined by boundaries 1-9, is mapped as AEL but was broken in and enclosed by Keith Low's great-grandfather, Stephen Bond, in about the 1870s (Keith Low, St Martin's, pers comm). Survey block 2b on St Martin's is mapped as AEL but little if any was shown as enclosed by Spence in 1792 (Fig 13) and this area appears to have been enclosed as fields only during the nineteenth century (section 3.8, above).

## **4.3 Distinctiveness of boundary forms**

It remains unclear to what extent there are real differences between the suites of historic stone boundary types used on the different islands: stone-faced earth walls, stone faced stone walls and dry 'single stone' walls of broadly similar type appear to be represented on all the islands. Movements of farmers and workers between islands in the past would have tended to work against the development or maintenance of individually distinctive styles on the various islands. A group of enclosures at the south end of Bryher is said to have been built by men from St Mary's in the late nineteenth century (anonymous local informant, Bryher) and the Scillonian poet Robert Maybee (born 1810), who lived for more than 40 years on a holding on Peninnis, St Mary's, was later employed on a farm on St Agnes (Maybee 1973); North (1850, 66) noted of the population of St Martin's that some 'for want of arable land at home, rent lands in St Mary's, or some other Island, and live part of the year there, the more fully to employ themselves'. Even the 'Augustus Smith'-type of regularly coursed stone-faced earth walls with transversely set upright slabs on top, sometimes represented as a feature typical of Smith's demesne on Tresco, can also be found on St Mary's and St Agnes.

A possible exception to this apparent similarity of boundary types across the various islands may be the unusually high (2m) dry stone walls incorporating vertical orthostats at 8ft (2.4m) intervals projecting into the lower courses which were built as shelter belts for bulb / flower cultivation on St Martin's in the 1920-30s (Keith Low, pers

comm). These are distinctive and do appear to be restricted to St Martin's, at least as observed within areas of AEL.

#### **4.4 Gateposts**

Scott and Rivington noted in 1870 of Scilly that the 'gateways are narrow. Blocks of granite answer the purpose of gateposts, one block being occasionally used for the support of the two gates of adjoining fields' (Scott and Rivington 1870, 378). Many gateways remain narrow and granite orthostats remain fairly common as gate supports (Figs 41-45), although there are also instances of dressed stone gateposts. Some continuity in the tradition of using natural orthostats is evident in the use of a natural stone as a straining post for a wire boundary on the edge of Wingletang Downs, St Agnes.

#### **4.5 Stiles / cattle grids**

Very few stone-built stiles were noted during the survey. It is unclear whether this is because these features are relatively sparse or whether the combination of dense vegetation against many boundaries and the constraints of limited time for inspecting each boundary resulted in few being encountered.

The cattle grid in boundary 31 in Tresco study area 3 has been heavily restored. It dates from at least the later nineteenth century (shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 25-inch: 1 mile map: Ratcliffe 2000) but its form, with the bars of the grid raised above ground level in order to achieve a void beneath them, differs from a later nineteenth-century description of such features on Scilly:

'A curious substitute for the ordinary stile is often adopted. Where the stile is usually placed a large hole is dug, across which are laid blocks of granite to form stepping stones for pedestrians. Cattle and sheep do not attempt the passage. For greater security an additional block is frequently set upon the middle one, thus making a stile in miniature' (Scott and Rivington 1870, 378).

An apparently similar cattle grid with bars of granite exists on the path from Porthcressa to Peninnis, St Mary's (Charlie Johns, pers comm), and another of similar type is at Old Town church (Fig 47). It is conceivable that these features were associated with boundary works ordered by Augustus Smith in the decades around the mid nineteenth century.

#### **4.6 Survey methods**

Rapid survey, particularly where boundaries are fronted by more-or-less dense vegetation, does not facilitate the identification of variations along the length of boundaries, or of condition; condition may, in fact, be poorest where vegetation is most dense.

### **5 Recommendations**

The following recommendations for future management of the field boundaries on Scilly have emerged from the recording project:

- Diversity of styles should be maintained – the best guide to style for repair of any particular boundary is itself and others of the same kind in the immediate area.
- The study should be continued across other areas which have not been surveyed in this exercise.
- Further work to refine AEL mapping in the Isles of Scilly HLC would be beneficial.
- Further investigation and recording of features such as stiles and gateposts is desirable.

- Additional research on the extent and form of boundaries and associated features resulting from the proprietorship of Augustus Smith would be worth undertaking.
- There is considerable potential for an oral recording project to interview islanders and record local knowledge about the history of field boundaries and traditional construction techniques.

The following criteria / methods are suggested to identify boundaries where repair may not be desirable for archaeological, ecological or other reasons and/or should only be carried out following due consultation:

- Where boundaries retain clear evidence of prehistoric or medieval construction;
- Where boundaries lie within Scheduled Areas or their near environs (Scheduled Monument Consent would be required for any work carried out within Scheduled areas);
- Correlation with environmental records to identify boundaries which may have ecological value such as supporting Red Book species.

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### **6.3 Websites**

- The Isles of Scilly AONB      <http://www.ios-aonb.info/>
- The Gibson Collection      <http://www.gibsonsofscilly.co.uk/historical.htm>
- The Frith Archive              <http://www.francisfrith.com/>

## **7 Project archive**

The HE project number is **2011028**

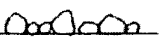













The project's documentary, photographic and drawn archive is housed at the offices of Historic Environment, Cornwall Council, Kennall Building, Old County Hall, Station Road, Truro TR1 3AY. The contents of this archive are as listed below:

1. A project file containing site records and notes, project correspondence and administration and an information file containing copies of documentary/cartographic source material (file no 2011028).
2. GIS database stored in the directory: L:\Historic Environment (Data)\HE\_Projects\SCILLY\Field boundary recording\Boundaries\Export Folder IOS Boundaries
3. Black and white photographs archived under the following index numbers: GBP 2227
4. Digital photographs stored in the directory: R:\Historic Environment (Images)\Scilly\IOS Field Boundaries Recording Project 2011028\BoundaryRecordShots\_150711
5. English Heritage/ADS OASIS online reference: cornwall2-112596







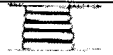
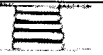

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## Appendix 1: IOS field boundaries questionnaire

### IOS Field Boundaries Questionnaire

Survey area: Boundary No.	No boundary found		
	No access Relic bdy	Concealed by vegetation Stone	Earth
<b>Types of Boundary</b>	<b>Facing styles</b>		
Boulder wall  (long profile)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Herringbone 	<input type="checkbox"/>
Dry-stone wall  (cross section)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vertical 	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone-face stone wall  (cross section)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Horizontal 	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone-faced earth wall  (cross section)	<input type="checkbox"/>	With strengthening pillars 	<input type="checkbox"/>
Stone-faced wall with vertical stones on top  (cross section) and  long profile)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Large grounders 	<input type="checkbox"/>
Earth bank/Stone-faced bank   (cross section)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Vertical stones on top 	<input type="checkbox"/>
		<b>Stonework</b> Coursed <input type="checkbox"/>	Random <input type="checkbox"/>
Lyncheted?    Y    /    N	Lynchet height?		
Stone-faced?                      Earth-faced?	Lower side to (direction)?		



Height		Width	
Vegetation on boundary (predominant)		Management	
None		Laid	
Grassy		Coppiced	
Heathy		Some timber trees left	
Scrubby		Trimmed mechanically	
Trees – few small		Un-maintained	
Trees – many large		Stonework maintained	
Lichen		Turfing	
Other		Ditch	
		Other	
Other boundary characteristics	Fencing	Gates	Stiles
Inclined faces 	Wire fence on top Wire fence at base No fence	1	 plan
Vertical faces 		2	
Gate posts (other than wood)	Fence posts (other than wood)	3	
Stone - granite	-granite	4	
Other stone	-stone		
Iron - cast iron - steel	-concrete -cast iron		 section
Concrete	- wrought iron - other		 plan
<b>Notes / recommendations</b>		<b>Tumbled stone for repair?</b> Y / N <b>Stone dump in field</b> Y / N NGR:	
<b>Condition:</b> Good Needs localised repair Needs extensive localised repair Needs substantial rebuilding Needs extensive / complete rebuilding		<b>Photo nos:</b> Digital BW  <b>Direction(s) facing:</b>	

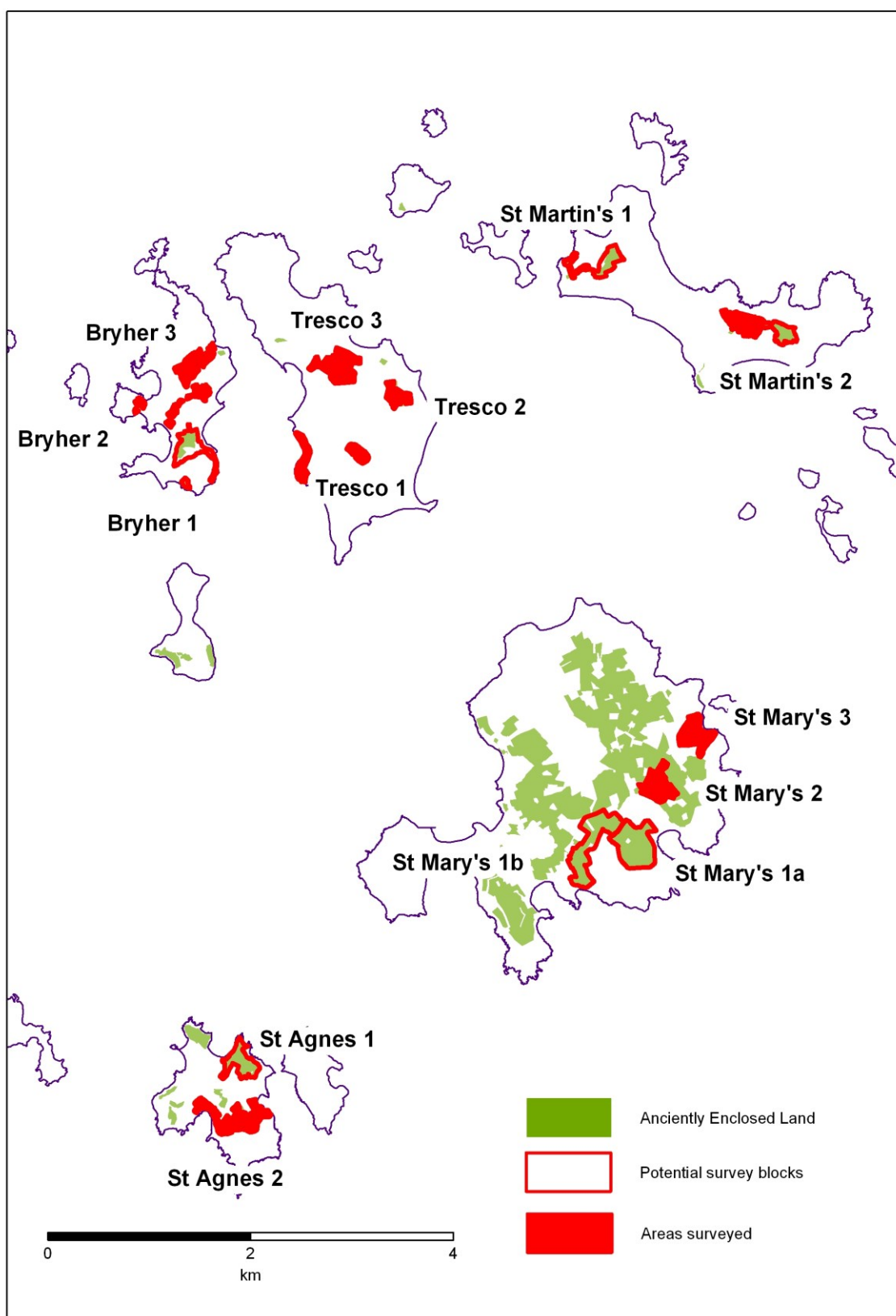


Fig 1 Areas surveyed during the field boundaries recording project, 2011.

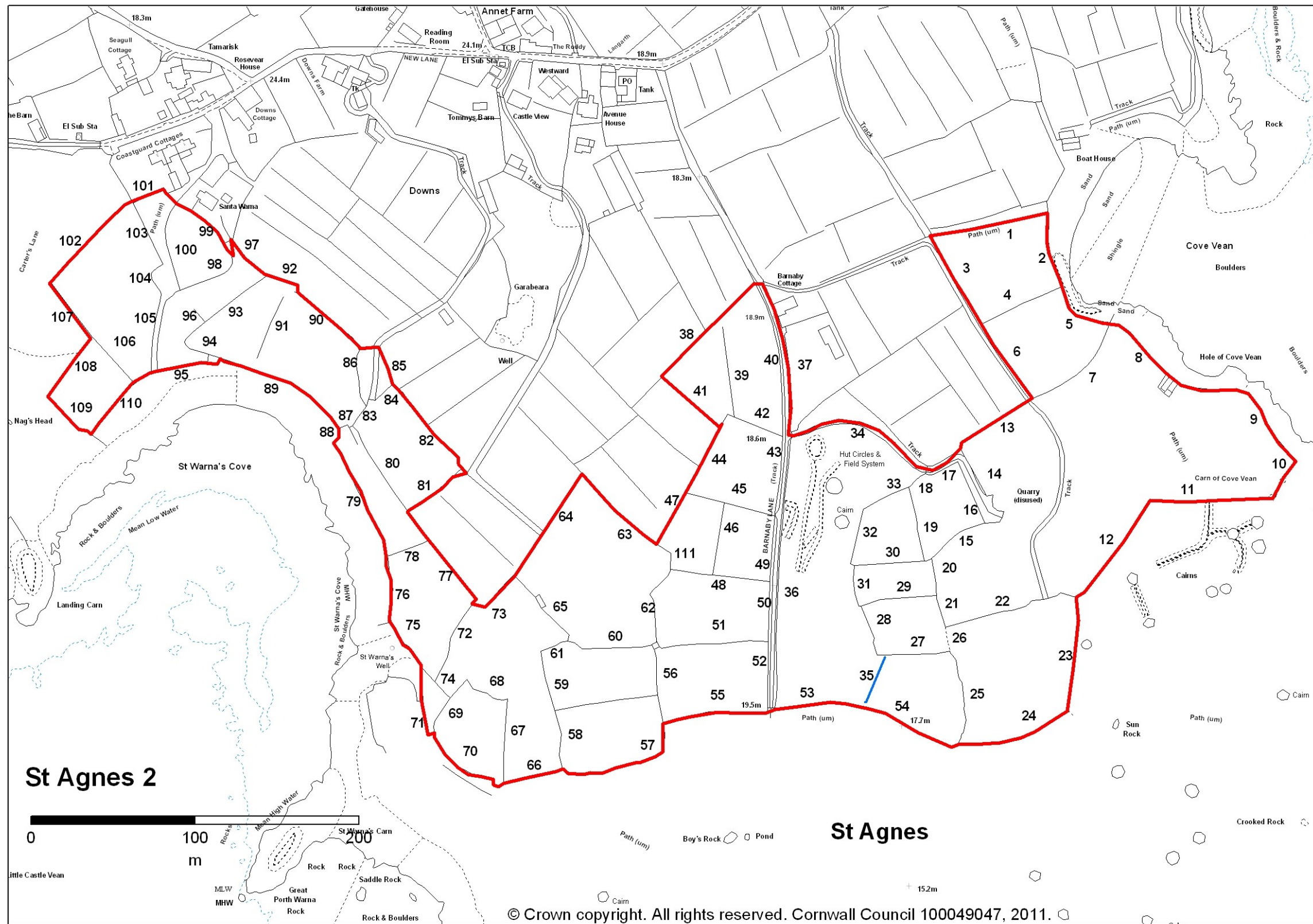


Fig 2 The St Agnes 2 survey area

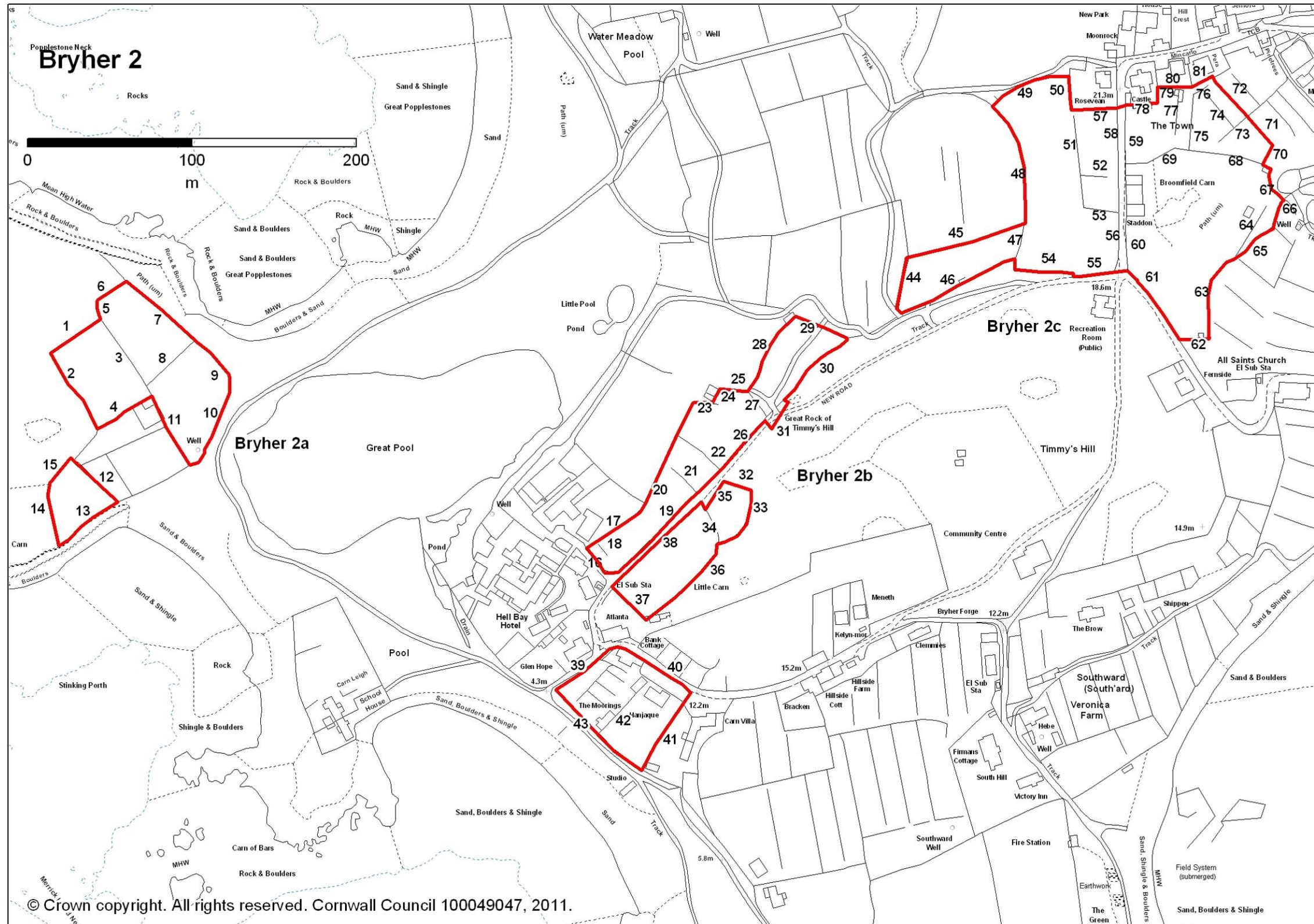


Fig 3 The Bryher 2 survey areas

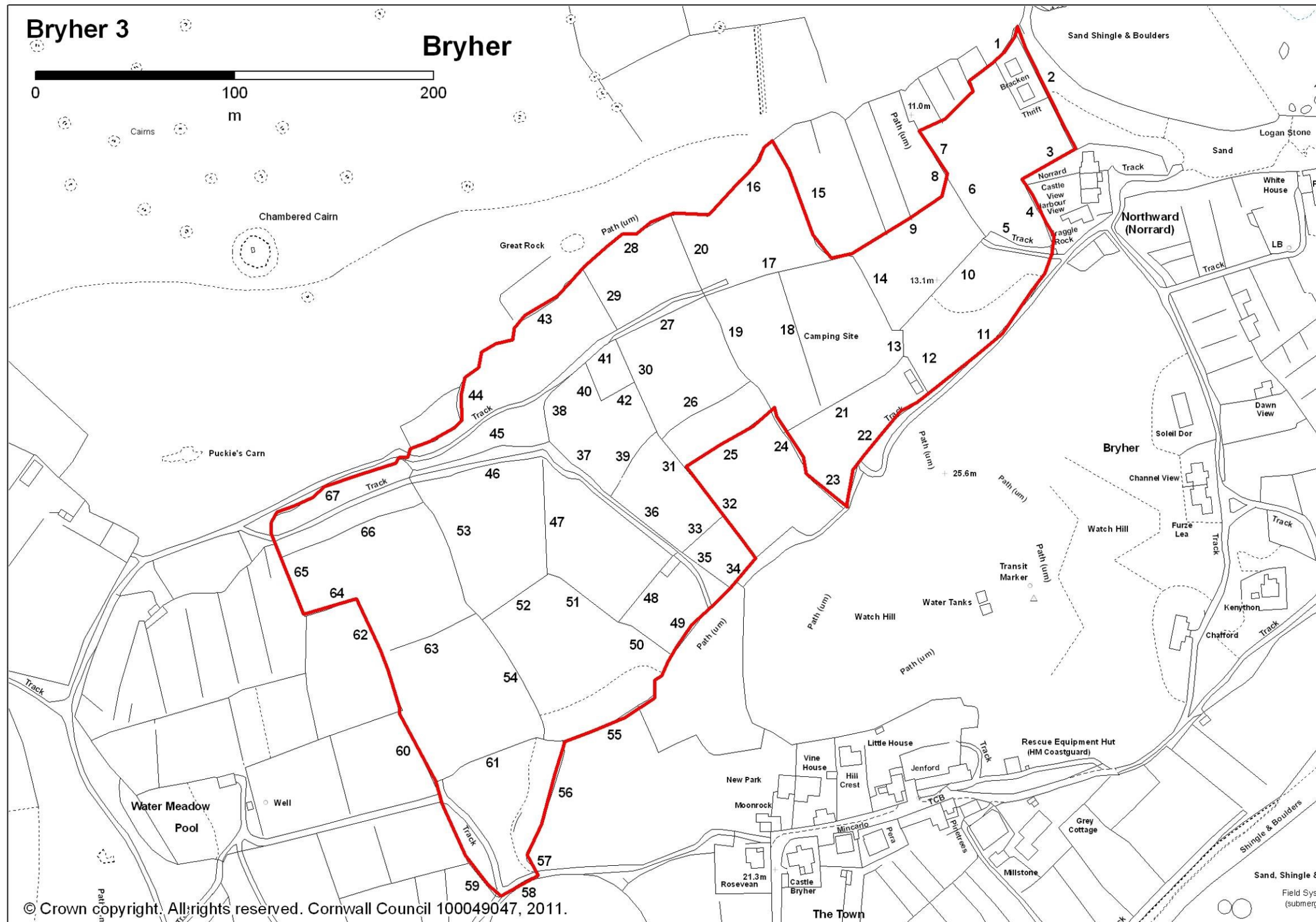


Fig 4 The Bryher 3 survey area

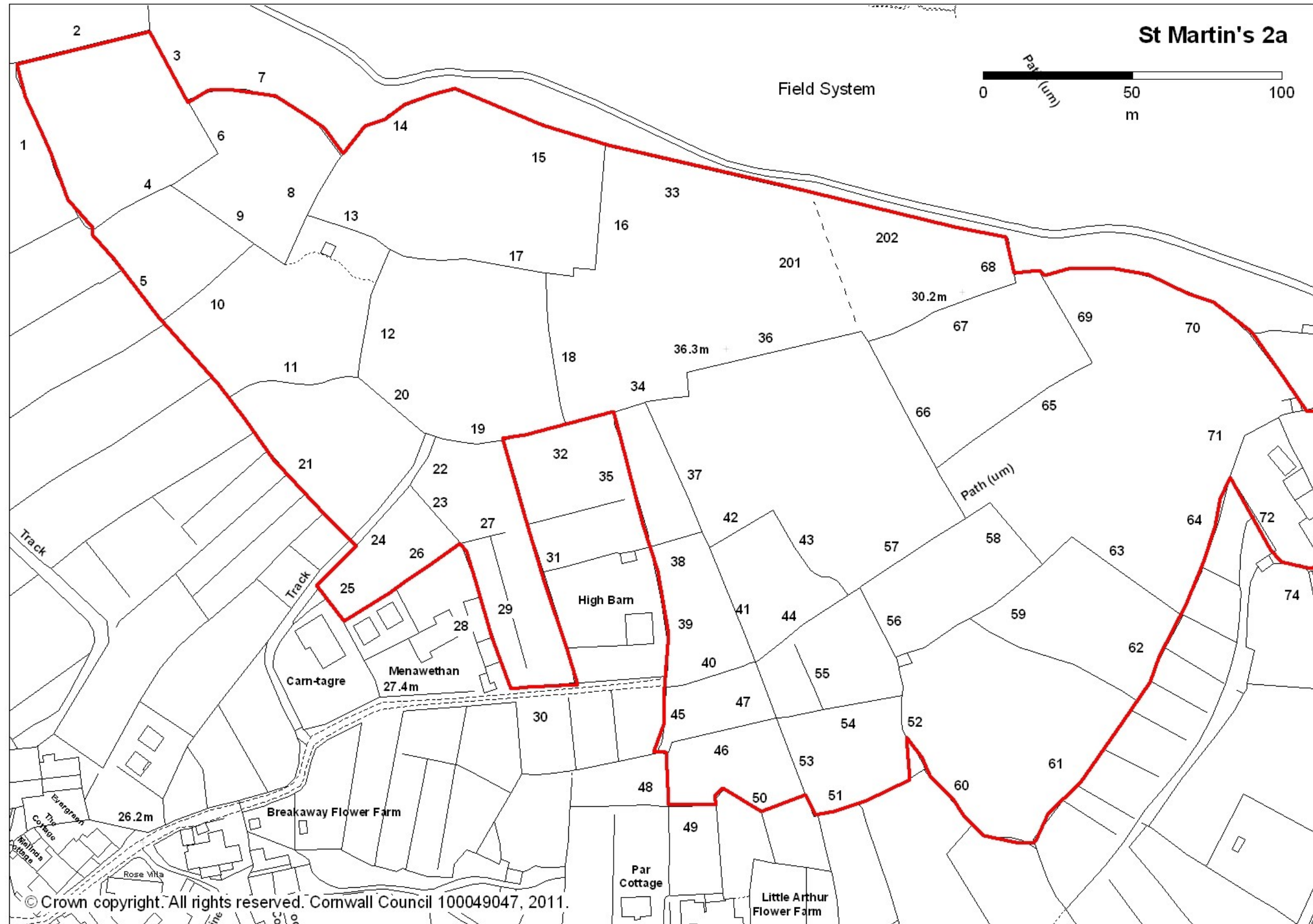


Fig 5 The St Martin's 2a survey area



Fig 6 The St Mary's 2 (Lunnon Farm) survey area



Fig 7 The St Mary's 3 (Mount Todden Farm) survey area



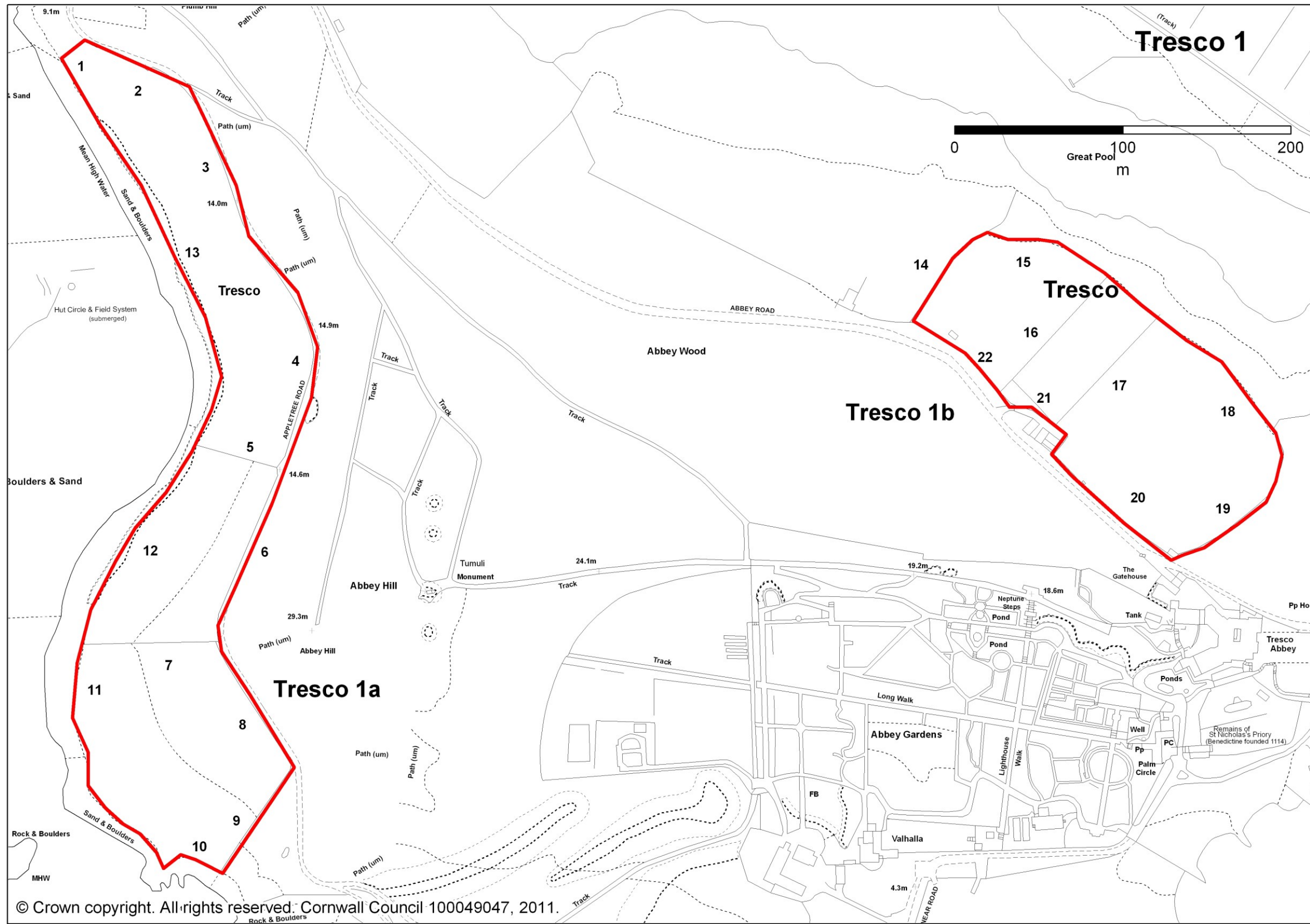


Fig 8 The Tresco 1 survey area

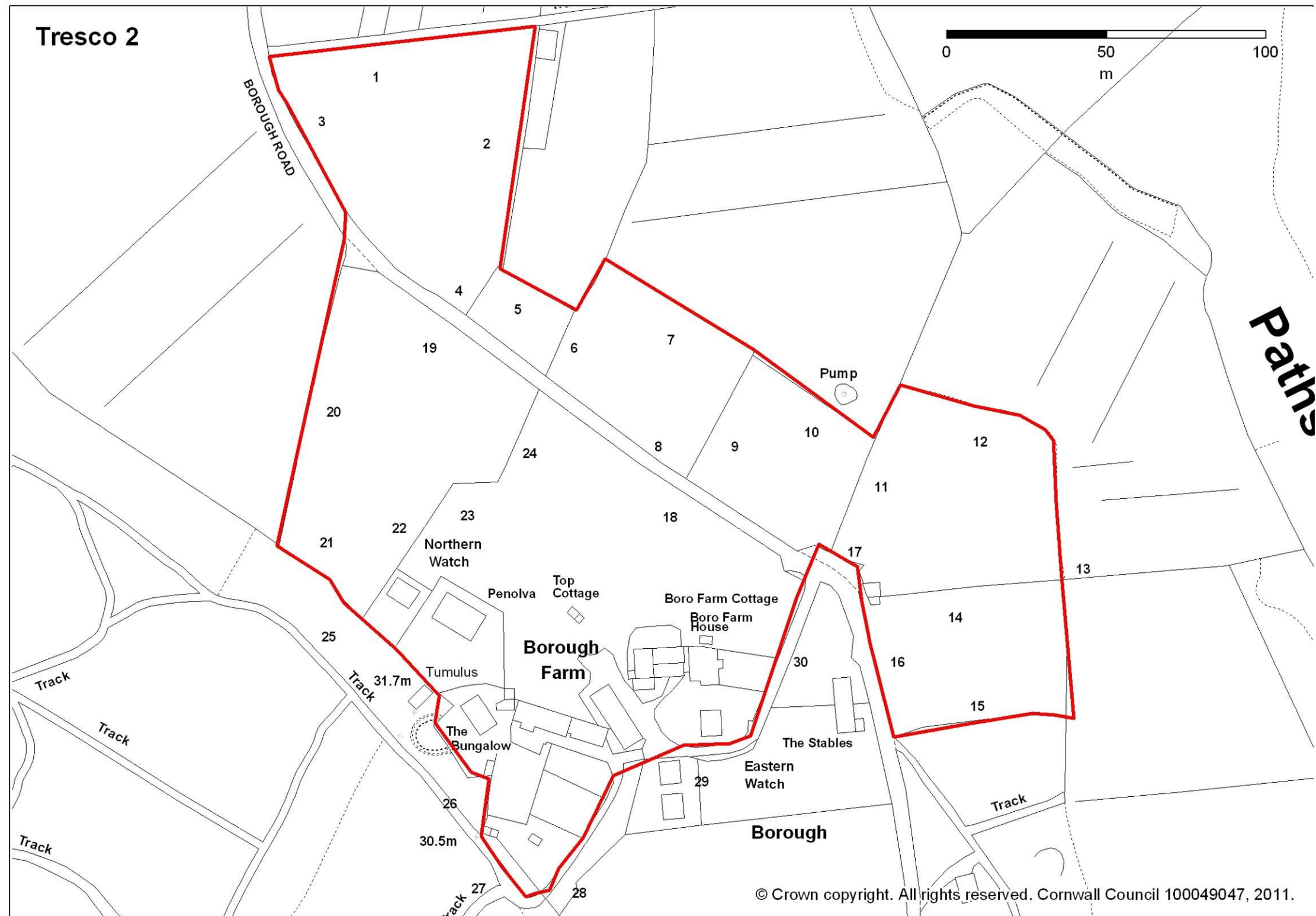


Fig 9 The Tresco 2 (Borough Farm) survey area

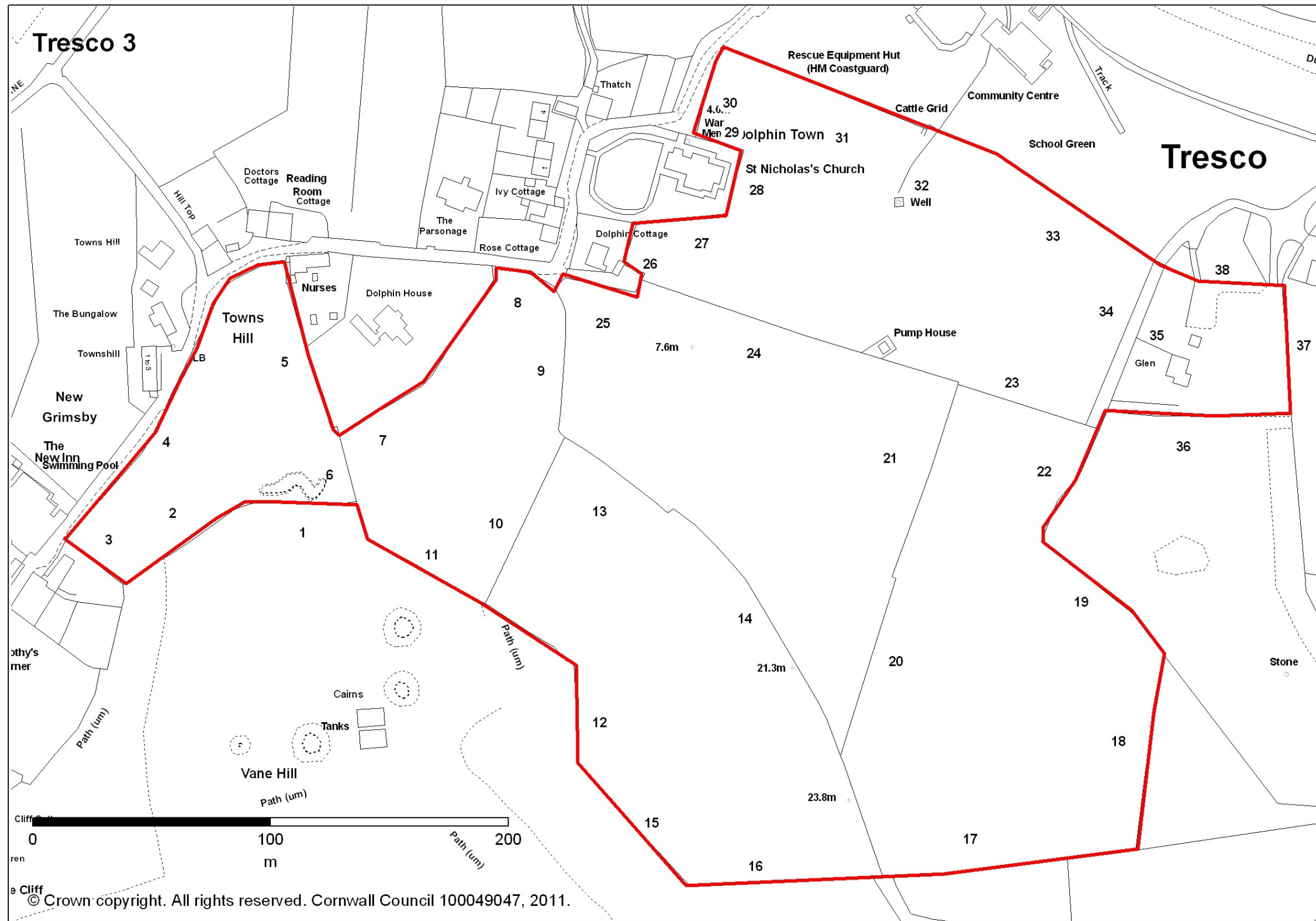


Fig 10 The Tresco 3 (Dolphin Town) survey area





Fig 11 Part of St Agnes, including the St Agnes 2 survey area, shown by Spence (1792).



Fig 12 Part of Bryher, including the Bryher 2 and 3 survey areas, depicted on Spence's map of 1792.

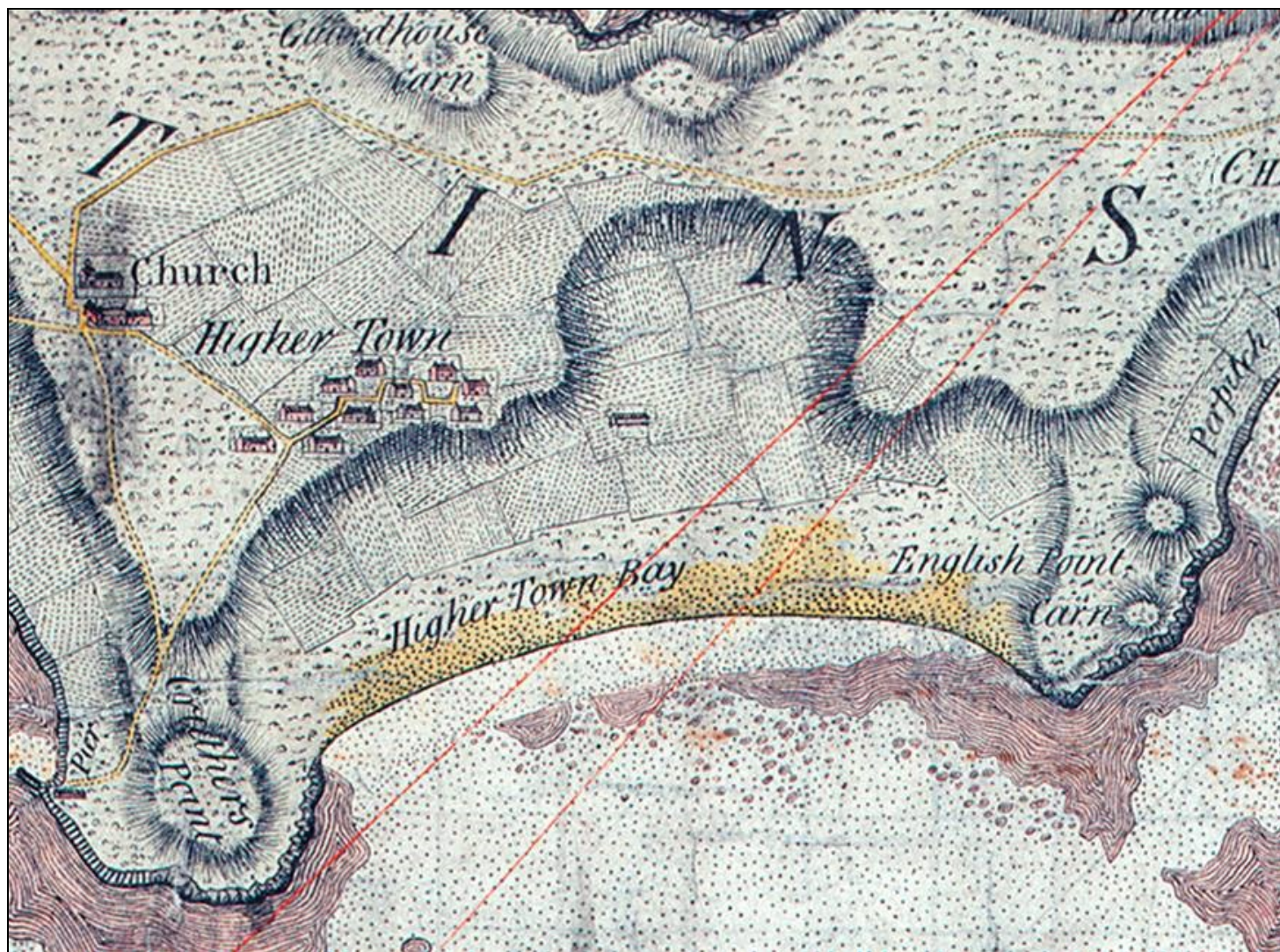


Fig 13 Part of St Martin's, including the St Martin's 2 survey area (Spence 1792).

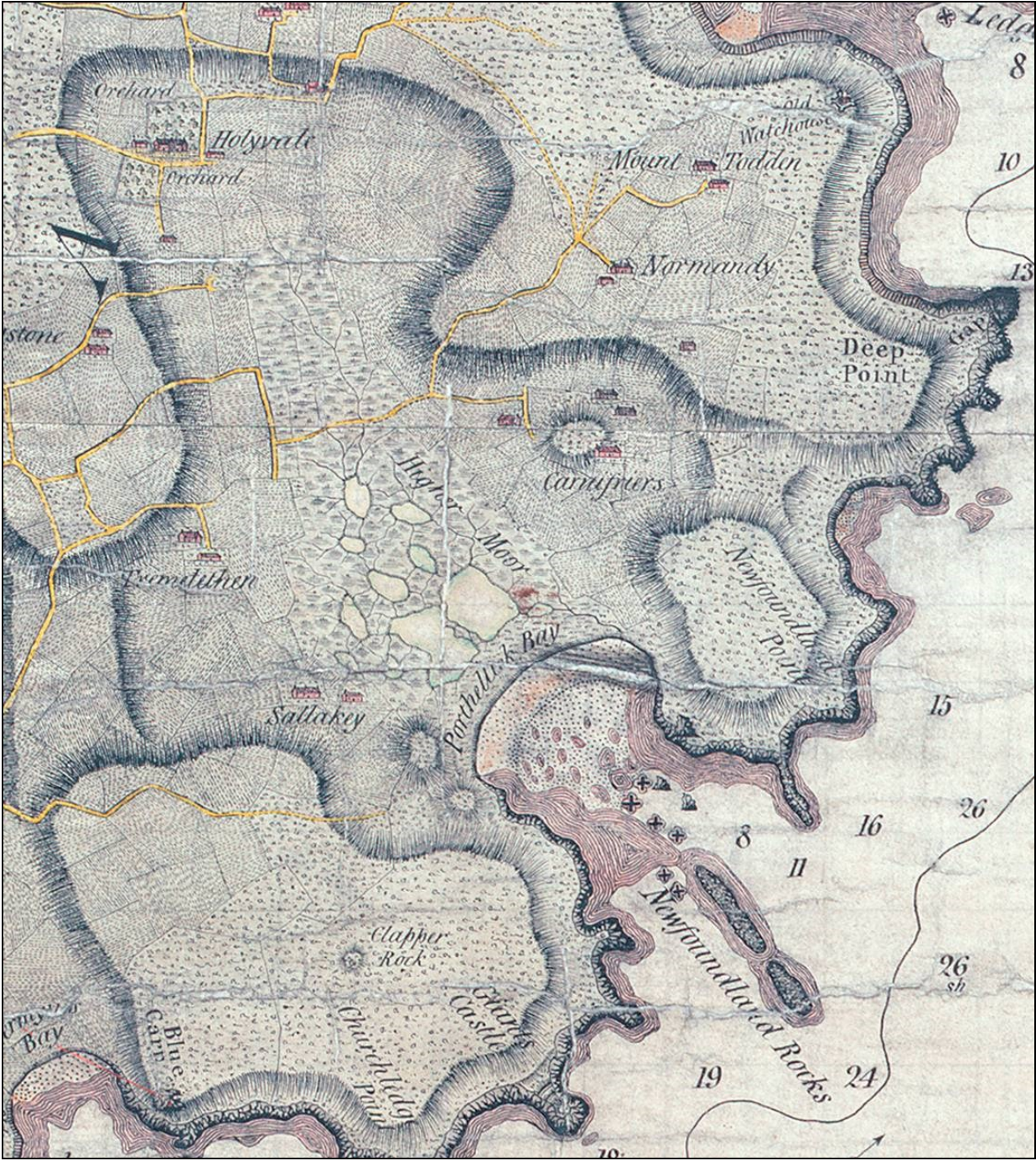


Fig 14 Part of St Mary's, including the St Mary's 1a, 2 and 3 survey areas (Spence 1792).





Fig 15 Part of Treviso, including the Treviso 1, 2 and 3 survey areas, shown on Spence's map of 1792.



*Fig 16 Dry stone wall 36 facing a low lynchet in the Bryher 3 survey area. Grown-out hedging material along the boundary is partly responsible for the instability of this and a number of other nearby boundaries. Tumble is readily apparent and repair of boundaries of this type would be relatively easily achieved. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*



Fig 17 The Hillside Farm area, part of the Bryher 1 survey block, depicted on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of c 1890. The apparently ring-fenced block of fields centre and left incorporates remains of late prehistoric and Roman-period settlement, midden deposits and a lyncheted field system (Johns 2002-3).

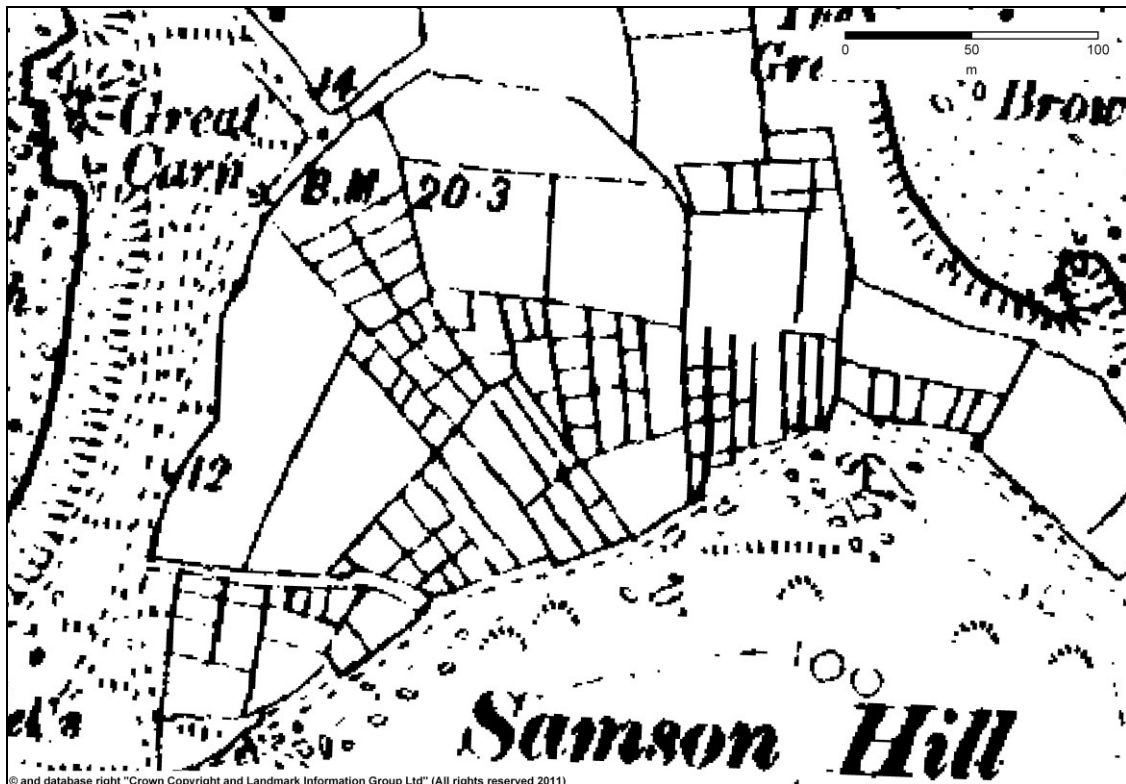


Fig 18 Complex subdivision creating small, sheltered plots for bulb / flower cultivation within the AEL of the Bryher 1 survey area, shown on the 2nd edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of 1909 (cf Fig 17).



*Fig 19 Part of the St Agnes 2 survey area, with some boundaries probably deriving from prehistoric enclosures. Others have 'taken in' portions of coastal rough ground, and some have been adapted or rebuilt as part of shelter belts for bulb and flower cultivation. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council, 2009; F92-463.)*



*Fig 20 Boundaries of enclosed land bordering on St Warna's Cove, St Agnes, in an undated Gibson photograph (probably late nineteenth century). (Reproduced from Arlott 1972, 92.)*



*Fig 21 St Agnes 2 boundary 75 is the stone-faced stone wall immediately behind the girls in the historic photograph reproduced as Fig 20. The difference in vegetation cover resulting from the cessation of rough ground grazing and reduced intensity of exploitation of the enclosed area is readily apparent. The boundary remains in good condition over at least part of its length. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*



*Fig 22 St Agnes 2 boundary 76 is visible in the middle distance on the left hand side of Fig 20. It has survived less well than boundary 75 and now needs extensive repair. Its location alongside the coast path means that it is a highly visible element in this distinctive landscape. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*



*Fig 23 Stone-faced stone wall (St Agnes 2, boundary 81), probably on the line of an older boundary and re-built to shelter the vegetated 'fence' behind it when first planted, with the upper courses added subsequently in a different style. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*



*Fig 24 A Francis Frith photograph of St Agnes in 1892. The random stonework of the 'traditional' stone-faced stone wall in the foreground contrasts with the boundary of gradated, coursed stones and transversely-set capstones visible in the middle distance. The latter is probably to be attributed to the Augustus Smith period on Scilly. (Photograph: © Francis Frith Collection. Reproduced from Cowan 2001, 62-3.)*



*Fig 25 Dry-stone wall 55 in St Martin's 2a survey area, an example of a distinctive boundary type known to have been constructed by Sidney Bond in the 1920s (Keith Low, pers comm). These walls are based on low earth-set orthostats at approximate 2.4m intervals; one is visible just to the right of the ranging pole. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*



*Fig 26 St Martin's 2a boundary 202 was created after c 1909 to enclose an area of rough ground adjoining existing fields. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*



*Fig 27 St Martin's 2a, boundary 41: a dry-stone wall imposed on an unusual stone-faced earth wall of semi-coursed horizontally-laid stonework. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*





*Fig 28 Boundary 66 in St Martin's 2a: a stone-faced earth wall of regular coursed and graded stonework; many of the stones are rounded and appear to be beach cobbles. The style is unusual within the survey area and emphasises the diversity of boundary types found in this block. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*



*Fig 29 Overgrown terraced track on Lunnon Farm (St Mary's 2) between a stone-faced lynchet on the left and boulder wall with outgrown hedging trees on the right. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*



Fig 30 St Mary's 2 boundary 39, a stone-faced earth wall bordering the public road, is of fairly regular coursed stonework based on substantial horizontally-laid grounders. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)



Fig 31 St Mary's 3 boundary 53: the dry-stone wall dividing the enclosed land from adjacent rough ground incorporates some earth-set orthostats. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)



Fig 32 Mount Todden Farm (St Mary's 3), boundary 8. This is one of the stone-faced earth walls attributed to the work of Charlie Guy in the inter-war period (Arthur Swift, pers comm). (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)



Fig 33 Mount Todden Farm, St Mary's. Contour-following lynchets are a key element of the historic enclosure pattern here, with a significant proportion of boundaries in the form of stone-faced lynchet revetments. Some boundaries on the farm are known to have been straightened in the period between the two World Wars and the historic boundary to the shore of Gilbert's Porth is threatened by coastal erosion and is in the process of being rebuilt on the landward side of the coast path (A Swift, pers comm). A Scheduled field system defined by cross-slope lynchets and stony banks lies within the overgrown field to the right of the end of the shelter belt in the left foreground. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council, 2009; F92-417.)



*Fig 34 A view south west over St Mary's, looking across Pelistry and Holy Vale towards Hugh Town. Settled and enclosed since at least the medieval period, this area of predominantly Anciently Enclosed Land has been an intensively used and consequently dynamic historic landscape. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council, 2009; F92-491.)*

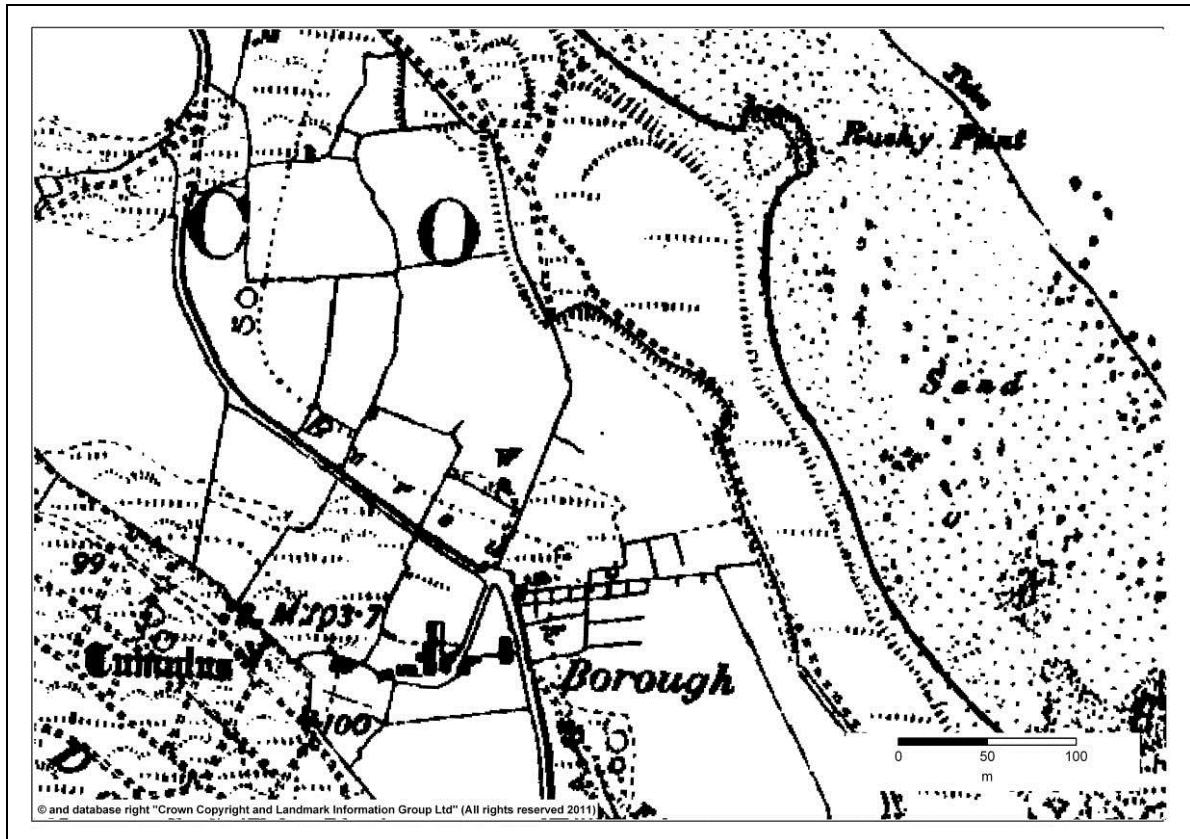


Fig 35 Borough Farm, Tresco, on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey 6-inch map of c 1890. Boundaries lying roughly north-north-east – south-south-west, possibly fossilising blocks of medieval plough strips, appear to be cut by a later road (Borough Road). In the field a significant lynchet is visible approximately following the 50ft contour shown on the map.



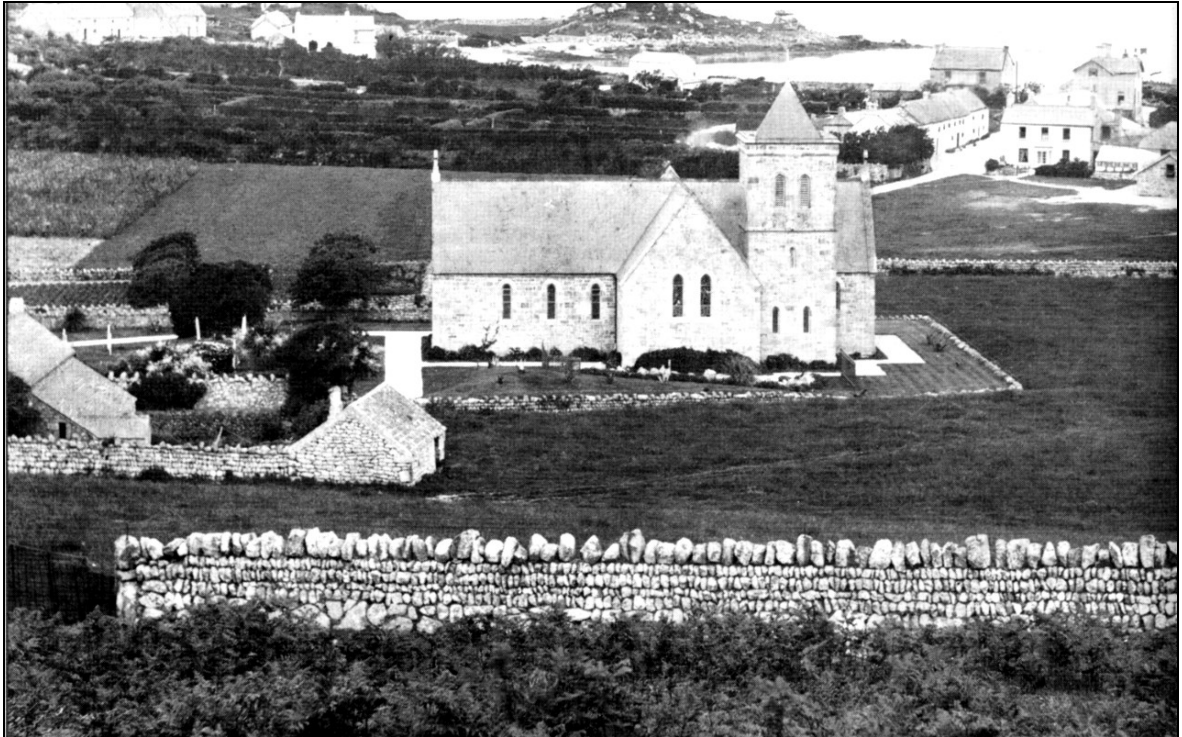
Fig 36 Tresco study area 2, Borough Farm. Anciently Enclosed Land survives with relatively minor modification in the area below the farm complex. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council, 2009; F92-150.)



*Fig 37 The substantial boulder wall of Tresco 2 boundary 5, accompanied by grown-out elm hedging. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*



*Fig 38 Tresco study area 3, Dolphin Town, is to the right-hand side of the photograph. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council, 2009; F92-147.)*



*Fig 39 A Francis Frith photograph of St Nicholas' church, Dolphin Town, Tresco, c 1891, showing the distinctive coursed stone-faced earth walls created by Augustus Smith or his successor, T A Dorrien-Smith. Tresco 3, boundary 13, is in the foreground. (Photograph: © Francis Frith Collection. Reproduced from Cowan 2001, 104-5.)*



*Fig 40 Tresco 3 boundary 13 has clearly slumped a little and undergone some minor repair or patching since it was built in the mid nineteenth century (cf Fig 39), making the original regular coursed form of its facing stonework less obvious. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*



*Fig 41 Granite orthostats used as gateposts on Borough Farm, Tresco. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*



*Fig 42 A granite orthostat used as a gatepost and the terminal for a stone-faced earth wall at Borough Farm, Tresco. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*





*Fig 43 Two phases of stone gate supports in a boundary adjoining Barnaby Lane, St Agnes. To the left a squared and roughly dressed gatepost, with an earlier provision for gate-hanging in the form of a large boulder with an iron gate support set in it perched on the end of a stone boundary. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*



*Fig 44 Large, undressed granite orthostats used as gateposts in the St Martin's 2a survey area. In this instance a standard-width wooden gate has been hung, somewhat incongruously, to close the narrow historic gateway. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*



*Fig 45 Granite orthostats flanking a gateway on Mount Todden Farm, St Mary's (survey area St Mary's 3). (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*



*Fig 46 Tresco survey area 3: the restored cattle grid in boundary 31 with modern boundary 32 behind; photographed after reconstruction in 2003. (Photograph: Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.)*



*Fig 47 A stile of cattle grid form at Old Town church, St Mary's. The church was restored by Augustus Smith in the 1830s and the cattle grid may date from this period. (Image © copyright Bob Embleton. This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 2.0 Generic Licence.)*