Report No: 2011R130



# Barn at Trehan, St Stephen, Saltash Cornwall

# **Historic building record**



**Historic Environment Projects** 

Barn at Trehan, St Stephen, Saltash, Cornwall, Historic building record

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Historic building record

Client	Richard Kingsnorth
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Report author(s)	Jo Sturgess
Checked by	Nigel Thomas
Approved by	Jacky Nowakowski

Historic Environment, Cornwall Council

Kennall Building, Old County Hall, Station Road, Truro, Cornwall, TR1 3AY tel (01872) 323603 fax (01872) 323811 E-mail hes@cornwall.gov.uk www.cornwall.gov.uk

#### Acknowledgements

This study was commissioned by Richard Kingsnorth and carried out by the author for Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council.

The Project Manager was Nigel Thomas.

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

South elevation of the barn (taken on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2011)

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# Abbreviations

- CRO Cornwall County Record Office
- EH English Heritage
- GIS Geographical information system (electronic mapping)
- HER Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record
- HE Historic Environment, Cornwall Council
- NGR National Grid Reference
- OS Ordnance Survey

# **1** Summary

HE Projects were commissioned by Richard Kingsnorth to carry out an historic building record of the barn at Trehan, near Saltash located at NGR SX 40460 58030. The record was carried out as one of the conditions for planning consent in advance of the conversion of the building to become a dwelling.

The barn is a two-storey, early  $19^{th}$  century threshing barn with a shippon (cow house) at ground floor level. Evidence from the Tithe Apportionment *c*1840 indicates that all the land in Trehan was part of the Buller estate at this date and occupied by John Williams. Between *c*1880 and *c*1907 the barn was converted to a bank barn by building up the external ground level on the north side to allow first floor access from outside. At the same time as the insertion of the bank, an engine house was added to the western end of the north wall to provide power to drive machinery (such as a threshing machine) inside the barn. Not long after (between *c*1907 and 1914) a single storey root house was added as a lean-to structure at the eastern end of the building for storage of root crops for animal fodder. Up until recent years the building has been in use as a farm building essentially still functioning as a cow house.

The arched door openings in the south elevation of the barn are of a vernacular style seen in the Tamar Valley area, but not noted as a typical building style widely used in other areas of Cornwall.

Barn at Trehan, St Stephen, Saltash, Cornwall, Historic building record

# 2 Introduction

# 2.1 Project background

Planning Permission has been granted by Cornwall Council for the conversion of a barn at Trehan to residential use (ref. 08/02194/FUL). Planning Condition 12 states:

No development shall take place within the site until the applicant has secured and implemented a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation to be submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the County Archaeologist.

A brief (dated 2/12/2011, see Appendix 1) outlining requirements for archaeological recording was produced by Philip Copleston, Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer. This brief sets out the minimum requirements for the production of a 'Level 2 descriptive record' as defined by English Heritage in *Understanding Historic Building: A guide to good recording practice* (2006). Historic Environment Projects was subsequently contacted by Richard Kingsnorth and an estimate of costs was prepared and agreed. This was followed by the production of a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) setting out the intended methodology (see Appendix 2). After approval of the WSI by the planning authority the work commenced.

## 2.2 Aims

The principal aim of the study is to gain a better understanding of the historic development and function of the barn. The objectives are to obtain an archaeological record of the site prior to alterations.

## 2.3 Methods

The fieldwork undertaken conformed to an English Heritage Level 2 survey (see English Heritage 2006). It comprised a walk-over, photographic survey and the production of a brief building description (see WSI Appendix 2).

### 2.3.1 Desk-based assessment

During the desk-based assessment historical databases and archives were consulted in order to obtain information about the history of the site and the structures and features that were likely to survive. The main sources consulted were as follows:

- Cornwall HER
- Early maps and photographs (see Section 7.1)
- Published histories (see Section 7.2)

### 2.3.2 Fieldwork

Analysis of the building fabric was undertaken on site (recorded as notes). Measured information and detail, as appropriate, was added to copies of existing measured drawings.

The photographic record comprised:

- general views
- internal and external elevations
- examples of structural and architectural detail

The principal photographic record comprised black and white photographs taken using a 35mm camera on fine grain archive quality film. A metric scale was included in all archive shots where possible.

Supporting colour photographs were taken with a digital camera for illustrative use.

## 2.3.3 Post-fieldwork

All project materials were prepared for long term storage. This report was prepared to summarise the results of the study.

# 3 Location and setting

The village of Trehan is likely to be early medieval in origin. It is made up of a small group of houses and farmsteads and lies approximately 0.7km to the south-west of Saltash and 0.5km to the west of Trematon Castle (at NGR SX 40460 58030). The barn is located on the eastern side of the village and is set on the southern side of a small farmyard which was once surrounded by orchards. The building is shown on the Tithe map c1840 (Fig 4) along with another farm building in the yard to the north which also still survives. The farmhouse or labourers' cottages shown on the Tithe map to the north-west of the barn had been demolished by c1880 and replaced between 1907 and 1914 by the existing stone farm building.

The building is now a bank barn designed to be accessed at both ground and first floor levels from outside, although this was not the case originally and the bank against the north elevation is a later addition. The barn is built on land gently sloping down to the south-west at a height of 80m OD. The 'bank' on the northern side of the building has been built up to create an area of land level with the first floor of the barn. Bedrock in the area comprises Upper Devonian Slate and Trevose Slate Formation, part of the Saltash Formation slate and siltstones (Cornwall Council GIS data).

# 4 Designations

The barn at Trehan lies within the Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). There are no other designations in the study area.

# **5** Site history

The settlement of Trehan is first recorded in 1328. The name is Cornish and contains the element 'Tre' meaning 'estate, farmstead' (which implies a settlement of early medieval origin) and the surname 'Hanna' which is found in various parish registers (Gover, 1948). Trehan existed as part of the Manor of Shillingham and Trehan. The following extract written in 1814 is taken from *Magna Britannia*, volume 3, Cornwall, by Lysons, and gives a history of the ownership of the Manor:

'Martin de Ferrers held the manors of Shillingham and Hornaeot, and was succeeded by his great-grandson, John Bonville, descended from his daughter Joan. Lord Bonville sold the manor of Shillingham to Jasper Horsey, clerk, who settled it, with Combe, parcel thereof, on a chantry founded by himself. The manors of Shillingham and Trehan, and Combe farm, have been more than two centuries in the Buller family, the elder branch of which became extinct by the death of James Buller, Esq. of Shillingham, (who had been one of the representatives of the county in two parliaments,) in 1710; when the Shillingham estate passed to the Bullers of Morval, and is now the property of James Buller, Esq., M.P., of Downes, near Crediton in Devonshire. There are scarcely any remains of the old mansion at Shillingham, which was some time the chief seat of the Bullers, except the ruins of the chapel.'

The Bullers held the Manor of Shillingham and Trehan from at least the late 16<sup>th</sup> century as indicated on John Norden's map of 1596.

Records of leases held at the Cornwall Record Office indicate that the Bullers (whose family seat was at Shillingham just 0.7km to the south-east) were leasing all the

properties and land in Trehan to a variety of occupiers from at least the late 17<sup>th</sup> century onwards.

The settlement of Trehan is shown on Martyn's map of 1748 and again on the c1809 OS Surveyors' Drawing (Fig 3), although neither show any great detail.

The first available map to show a detailed plan of the village is the Tithe map of *c*1840 (Fig 4). This shows the barn as a simple rectangular building with no extensions towards the southern side of an enclosed yard containing four buildings. On the northern side of the yard another farm building is shown (still *in situ*) and another smaller building to the south-west of the barn (no longer extant except the south-west corner fossilised in the remains of the yard wall). A farmhouse or row of cottages (no longer extant) is depicted to the north-west of the barn fronting the road. To the east, south and west of the yard orchards are shown along with a small enclosure to the south listed as a herb garden on the Tithe Apportionment. The owner at this date is listed on the Apportionment as James Buller and the occupier (of the whole village) as John Williams. The yard containing the four buildings is described as 'houses, curtalage and mowhay'.

By c1880 when the First Edition OS map was published (not available for reproduction) the farmhouse or row of cottages and south-western farm building had been demolished but the barn and farm building to the north remained unaltered.

The Second Edition OS map of *c*1907 (Fig 5) shows that by this date a rectangular extension (an engine house) had been added to the western half of the north elevation of the barn probably at the same time as the external ground level was built up to first floor level. Between c1907 (Fig 5) and 1914 (revision of the Second Edition OS map, Fig 6) a root store was added to the eastern end of the building utilising the inserted bank to the north where a chute opening in the structure has been created for tipping root crops into the storage room.

At some point after 1914 the engine house adjoining the north elevation was demolished, leaving only the western retaining wall. A large proportion of the yard wall to the south and east was also demolished during the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

# 6 Building description

The barn is a two storey early 19<sup>th</sup> century building with a cow house and loose box on the ground floor and threshing floor on the first floor. It was converted to a bank or 'chall' barn in the late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century by raising the ground level outside the north elevation of the building up to first floor level. At this time an engine house (probably for a small oil engine or similar power source) was added as a lean-to on the west side of the north elevation to provide power for machinery such as a threshing machine, chaff cutter, root chopper and grain mill. Between 1907 and 1914 a root house was added as a lean-to on the east end of the building.

The original barn is a gable ended building, rectangular in plan and aligned east-west. It is constructed from roughly coursed, slate and siltstone rubble bonded with lime mortar. Later additions have included slate hanging on the south elevation and cement render covering the west elevation, presumably to improve the weatherproofing on the more vulnerable sides. The quoins and jambs are also constructed from slate rubble. The door openings on the ground floor south elevation and also a blocked window opening on the ground floor of the north elevation have round arches constructed from slate and siltstone (the arches are a vernacular feature frequently found in the Tamar Valley, and may also reflect estate ownerships in this area). There are two slit ventilators in either gable end; at ground and first floor levels. The two opposing threshing door openings at first floor level, in the north and south walls have slate thresholds and timber lintels (two of the lintel timbers are reused from an earlier (probably 18<sup>th</sup> century structure) and have plain chamfers with run-out stops). These doorways also had slate covered shelters supported on timberwork. The roof structure

is original and has tie beam trusses which are lap-jointed and pegged. Roof trusses have higher collars as well as the tie-beams. The roof covering is sized slate and likely to be a replacement of the original.

The engine house was added in the late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century as a lean-to structure at the western end of the north elevation. Although the structure has mostly been demolished, part of its west wall remains *in situ* as a retaining wall. The structure was originally roughly square in plan and open-sided to the north (see Fig 5). The remaining west retaining wall is constructed from roughly coursed slate and siltstone rubble bonded with lime mortar and has a drainage opening visible in its west elevation. Immediately north of the barn wall inside the area of the engine house there is a rectangular machine base with bolts in all four corners which remains *in situ* but is now mostly covered with turf. This indicates that an oil engine is likely to have been housed in this building, powering the machinery inside the barn by means of pulleys and belts.

The lean-to root house was added to the east gable end of the barn during the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. It is constructed from roughly coursed slate and siltstone rubble bonded with lime mortar and is terraced into the slope to the north. It has a modern corrugated iron sheet roof. It would have been used to store root crops to be used as cattle fodder.

## **6.1 Exterior south elevation**

(Figs 7 and 8)

This elevation of the barn has three arched door openings of equal size on the ground floor and one threshing door opening on the first floor, all of which are original. The central ground floor door opening retains its original timber planked door and slate threshold whilst the other two ground floor doors have been replaced with corrugated iron sheeting. The first floor threshing doors are original planked, split doors and above them is a timber hood structure with a slate covering, and below, a slate threshold. At a later date slate hanging was applied to this elevation from a level at the springing of the door arches on the ground floor right up to eaves level. Most of the slate is now missing but small areas remain *in situ*.

The south elevation of the lean-to root house adjoining the east end of the barn is set back from the main barn elevation. It has no openings and is terraced into the natural northern slope.

## 6.2 Exterior east elevation

(Fig 9)

The east end of the barn was originally a plain wall with two slit ventilator openings (still *in situ*), one at ground floor level and the other close to the apex. However, in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century when the root house was added, a door opening was inserted at ground floor level at the north end of the wall giving access from the root house providing a feeding passage at the rear of the cow house. Three sockets inserted in the original wall face indicate the position of the roof timbers for either an earlier pitched roof lean-to structure or, perhaps the roofline intended for planned extensions to the barn. The root house, a single storey building (with roof sloping from north down to south) obscures part of the original exterior elevation and is terraced into the natural slope on the north side to a depth of approximately 1.5m below ground level. There is a small window opening towards the north end of its east elevation with a timber lintel (now obscured externally by corrugated iron sheeting).

## **6.3 Exterior north elevation**

(Figs 10 and 11)

This elevation includes the first floor level of the barn itself, the lean-to engine house to the west and the lean-to root house at the east end. This rear elevation of the barn was originally exposed to ground floor level. There is a centrally set threshing door opening

at first floor level of the same dimensions and design as the opposing door on the front (south) elevation. The opening has a slate threshold, reused (probably 18<sup>th</sup> century) timber lintel and 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century timber hood structure with a slate covering. The split threshing doors are original with original hinges. To the west of the threshing door opening is the location of the former engine house; a lean-to structure added in the late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century when the ground level here was raised. The surviving west wall of the structure adjoins the barn at its western quoin and two of the sockets for its roof structure are visible inserted in the barn wall (a probable third to the west is obscured by ivy). Immediately to the west of the threshing door hood covering there is an inserted opening for a drive shaft to transmit power into the barn and on the ground directly in front of the barn wall the machine base for the engine remains *in situ*.

At the eastern end of the barn wall is the root house. The elevation of the root house has a single wide chute opening used for tipping root crops for cow fodder directly into the store.

## 6.4 Exterior west elevation

(Fig 12)

This is the west gable end of the barn and includes the remains of the west wall of the engine house. The elevation of the barn has been covered entirely with modern cement render and there are two added modern downpipes at each quoin. There are two original slit ventilator openings, one set centrally at ground floor level and the other set centrally just below the apex of the roof. The west wall of the former engine house abuts the northern quoin of the barn and is set at a slight angle to it. This performs as a retaining wall for the built-up ground behind it to the east. The wall does not survive to its full height. At approximately 0.8m from ground level just off centre to the north is a small square drainage opening.

## 6.5 Interior ground floor

(for plan see Fig 26)

The interior of the barn is divided into two room spaces by a timber planked partition wall towards the western end of the building creating a smaller room at the west end. This smaller room (Figs 14 and 15) may have functioned as loose box, animal house or store originally. There is now a concrete feeding trough in the north-west corner of the room and the earlier cobbled floor has been removed and replaced with concrete. The room is accessed from the exterior via an arched door opening at the western end of the south wall and also from the cow house through a door opening at the south end of the partition wall. In the west wall there is a splayed slit ventilator opening and in the north wall there is an area of walling which appears to have been rebuilt. It is possible that there was originally a window here which was removed when the ground level to the north of the building was built up to first floor level. Two modern timber pillars have been inserted to give extra support to the first floor structure.

To the east of this small room is the former cow house (Figs 16-18) which occupies the rest of the ground floor area of the barn. It is accessed externally via two arched door openings in the south wall. Four timber stall divisions remain *in situ* along with a stone built, but cement rendered feeding trough with seven divisions. The original cobbled floor remains intact with an open drainage gully running the length of the room within the southern half. The former feeding passage is located along the length of the northern wall and at the eastern end there is an inserted door opening through to the root house. The rubble-built walls all show traces of lime-wash. In the north wall and set centrally within the room space there is an original window opening with a stone arch, now blocked (Fig 18). This is constructed in the same style as the ground floor door openings in the south wall. The opening was blocked when the ground level to the north of the building was built up to first floor level in the late 19<sup>th</sup> or early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The original slit ventilator in the east wall is splayed internally and lies to the south of

door opening to the root house inserted in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The first floor support structure throughout the barn and the threshing floor above are original features. The support structure comprises large, square-section joists running the width of the building at approximately 2m between their centres and which divide the floor into 5 bays. Some of the joists have visible carpenters marks (Fig 19).

Adjoining the cow house at the eastern end of building is the lean-to root house added in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century (Figs 9-10, 20-21). Internally it is a small square building and has a rock-cut floor. The original slate roof has been replaced with corrugated metal sheeting. There is a wide chute opening in the north wall, an inserted door opening with timber lintel in the west wall leading through to the feeding passage in the cow house, and a small window opening with timber lintel in the east wall.

## **6.6 Interior first floor**

(Figs 22-25)

This is the former threshing floor of the barn with its original timber floor still intact although with many holes inserted later. The original boards measure approximately 0.2m (8 inches) wide and the floor is slightly raised with a double thickness of boards in the centre of the building between the two doors where the actual threshing and winnowing took place. The walls have a lime plaster covering which is lime-washed. This plaster is thickened at the base where it meets the floor boards to create a skirting.

The opposing threshing door openings in the front (south) and rear (north) walls have timber lintels and slate thresholds. The doors themselves are the original threshing doors. On the east side of the north door opening there is a small, square slate-lined recess in the wall designed as a keeping place. Immediately to the west of threshing door in the north wall just above lintel level is the inserted opening for a drive shaft for transmission of power from the engine house outside. At the base of the opening is a worn timber support and opposite it in the southern wall is an identical opening. It can be assumed that an axle with belt drive pulleys was once supported here to power internal machinery. There is a slit ventilator in the apexes of both gable ends, both of which have splayed openings.

# 7 Conclusions/discussion

The results of this study have brought together a brief historic background for this property and established the major phases of construction for the building. Three major construction phases have been identified. The first major phase of building was undertaken in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century (pre-1840) when the two-storey barn was constructed for use as a cow house on the ground floor and threshing barn on the first floor. The second phase of construction took place between c1880 and c1907 when the barn was converted to a bank barn by building up the external ground level on the north side to allow first floor access from outside (previously access to the first floor was via a ladder through a hatch probably in the north-west corner of the building). At the same time as the insertion of the bank, an engine house was added to the western end of the north wall of the barn to provide power driven machinery inside the barn. It seems likely that at this date that power was provided by an oil engine (indicated by a surviving machine base) although it is possible that this arrangement succeeded horsepowered gearing. The third major construction phase was undertaken between c1907and 1914 which comprised the addition of a lean-to root house at the eastern end of the barn. Other alterations to the barn have included the addition of slate hanging to the south elevation and a cement render to the west elevation.

In terms of function the building has not seen an obvious change of use since it was first built. The ground floor appears to have remained in use as a cow house up until recent years and the threshing floor has probably been used for storage more recently.

The historic background of the building is fairly scant but we do know that when it was originally built as part of a small farmstead on the eastern side of Trehan, it was part of the (Shillingham) Buller estate and owned by James Buller. At this time the land was occupied by John Williams who may have sub let to another farmer.

# 8 References

### 8.1 Primary sources

Gover, JEB, 1948. Place-names of Cornwall (ms at RIC, Truro)

Ordnance Survey Surveyors' Drawing *c*1809 (licensed digital copy at HE)

Ordnance Survey, c1880. 25 Inch Map First Edition

Ordnance Survey, c1907. 25 Inch Map Second Edition (licensed digital copy at HE)

Ordnance Survey Revision 1914. 25 Inch Map (licensed digital copy at HE)

Ordnance Survey, 2007. Mastermap Digital Mapping

Tithe Map and Apportionment, c1840. Parish of St Stephen-by-Saltash

Martyn, Thomas, 1748. Map of Cornwall at One Inch Scale (copy at HE)

Ravenhill, WLD, 1972. John Norden's Manuscript Maps of Cornwall and its Nine Hundreds Facsimile reproduced by University of Exeter

## 8.2 Publications

English Heritage, 2006. Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice. Swindon

Lysons, D and S, 1814. Magna Britannia Vol 3 London

## 8.3 Websites

http://www.british-history.ac.uk/report.aspx?compid=50651 Online copy of Magna Britannia Vol 3

# 9 Project archive

The HE project number is **2011104** 

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.
- 2. Electronic drawings stored in the directory ...\CAD ARCHIVE\Sites T\Trehan barn Saltash HBR 2011104
- 3. Black and white photographs archived under the following index numbers: GBP 2230
- 4. Digital photographs stored in the directory ...\Images\SITES.Q-T\Trehan barn HBR 2011104
- 5. English Heritage/ADS OASIS online reference: cornwall2-116039

This report text is held in digital form as: G:\CAU\HE Projects\Sites T\Trehan barn Saltash HBR 2011104\ Trehan barn report 2011R130

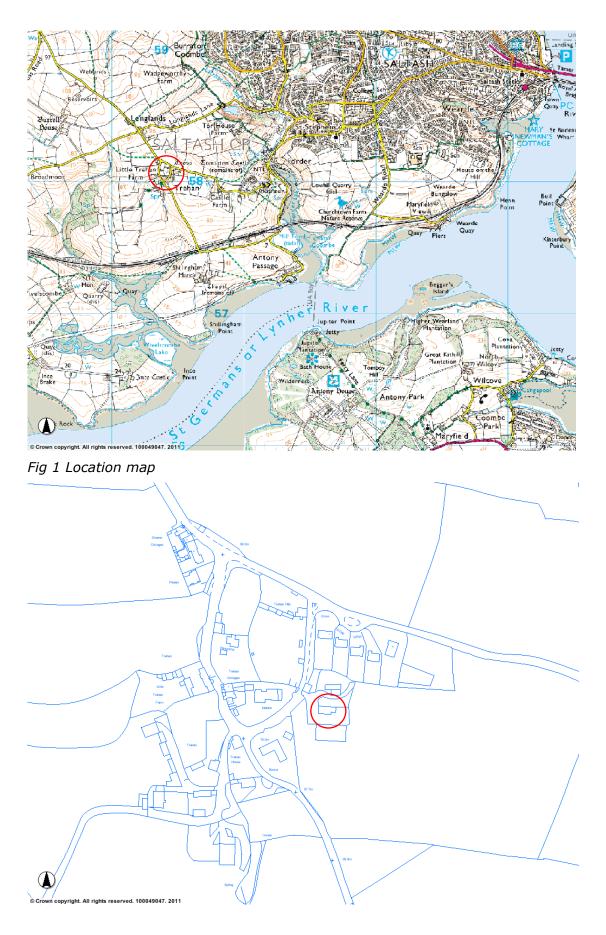


Fig 2 Ordnance Survey digital mapping showing the site and its environs (2009)

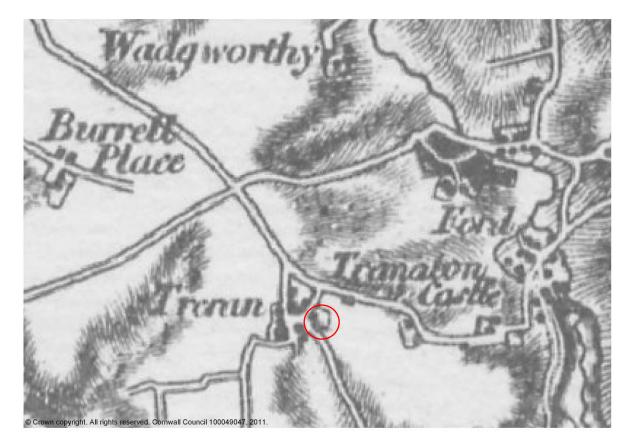


Fig 3 OS Surveyors' Drawing, c1809



Fig 4 Parish Tithe Map for St Stephen-by-Saltash, c1840

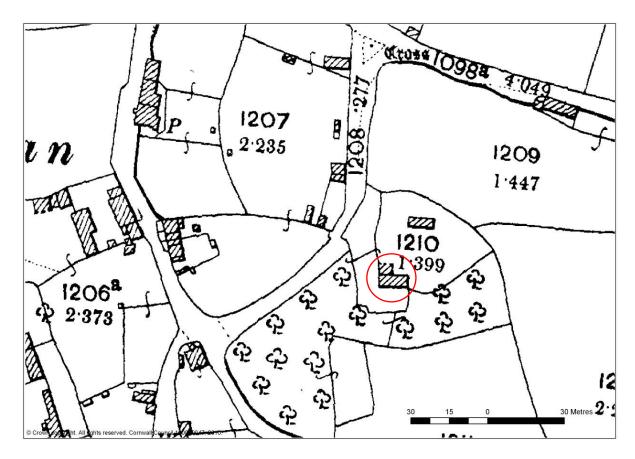


Fig 5 Second Edition of the Ordnance Survey 25 Inch Map, c1907

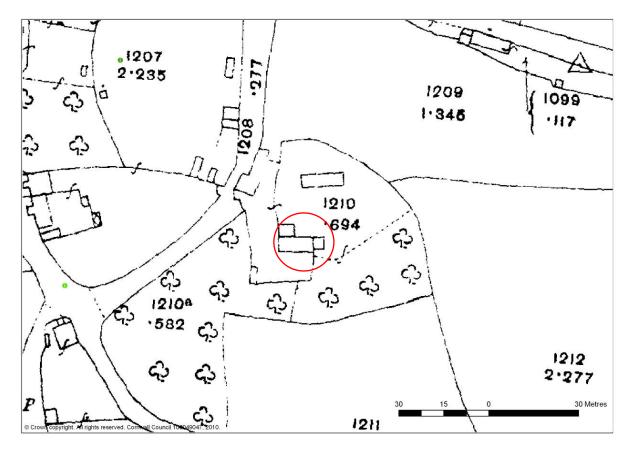


Fig 6 Revision of the Second Edition Ordnance Survey 25 Inch Map, 1914



Fig 7 Exterior south (front) elevation



*Fig 8 Exterior south elevation of central openings (ground floor cow house and first floor threshing door)* 



Fig 9 Exterior east elevation



Fig 10 Exterior north (rear) elevation



*Fig 11 Exterior north (rear) elevation, central threshing door* 



Fig 12 Exterior west elevation



Fig 13 Exterior west elevation of engine house retaining wall



*Fig 14* Interior of west ground floor room showing area of probable rebuild in north wall

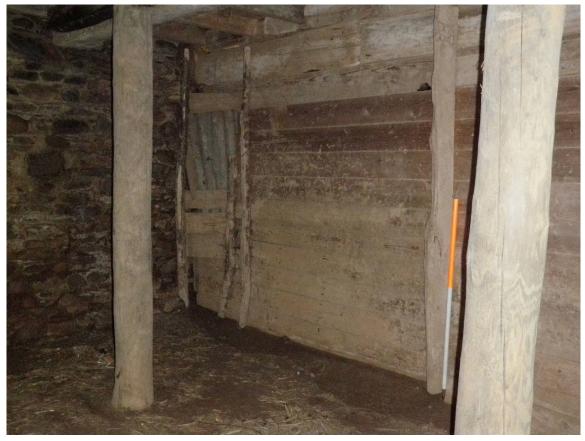
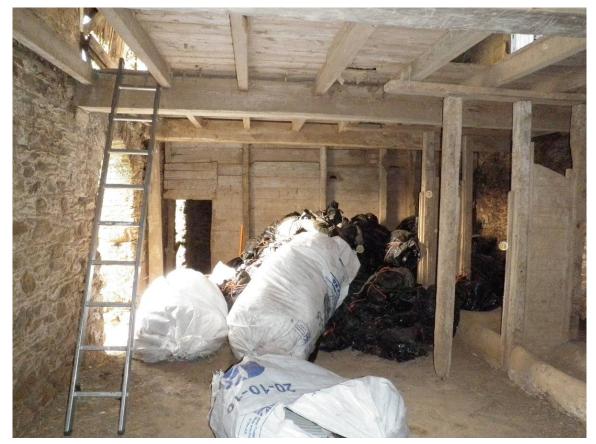


Fig 15 Interior of west ground floor room showing timber planked partition wall



*Fig 16* Interior of east ground floor room (cow house) looking west



*Fig 17* Interior of east ground floor room (cow house) looking north-west

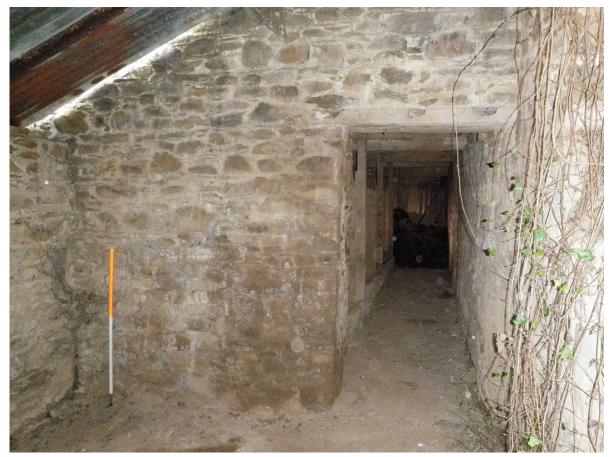


Fig 18 Blocked window in north wall of cow house

Barn at Trehan, St Stephen, Saltash, Cornwall, Historic building record



*Fig 19 Carpenter's marks on joist in cow house* 



*Fig 20* Interior of lean-to root house looking west through to feeding passage in cow house



*Fig 21* Interior of lean-to root house looking north-east showing chute and window openings



Fig 22 Interior of first floor threshing barn looking east



Fig 23 Threshing door in north wall of first floor



*Fig 24* Interior south wall of threshing barn looking south-west

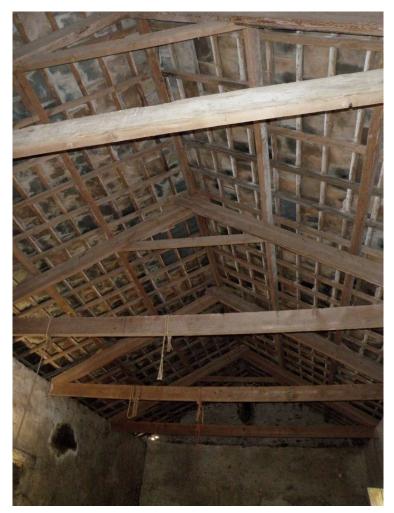


Fig 25 Barn roof structure looking west

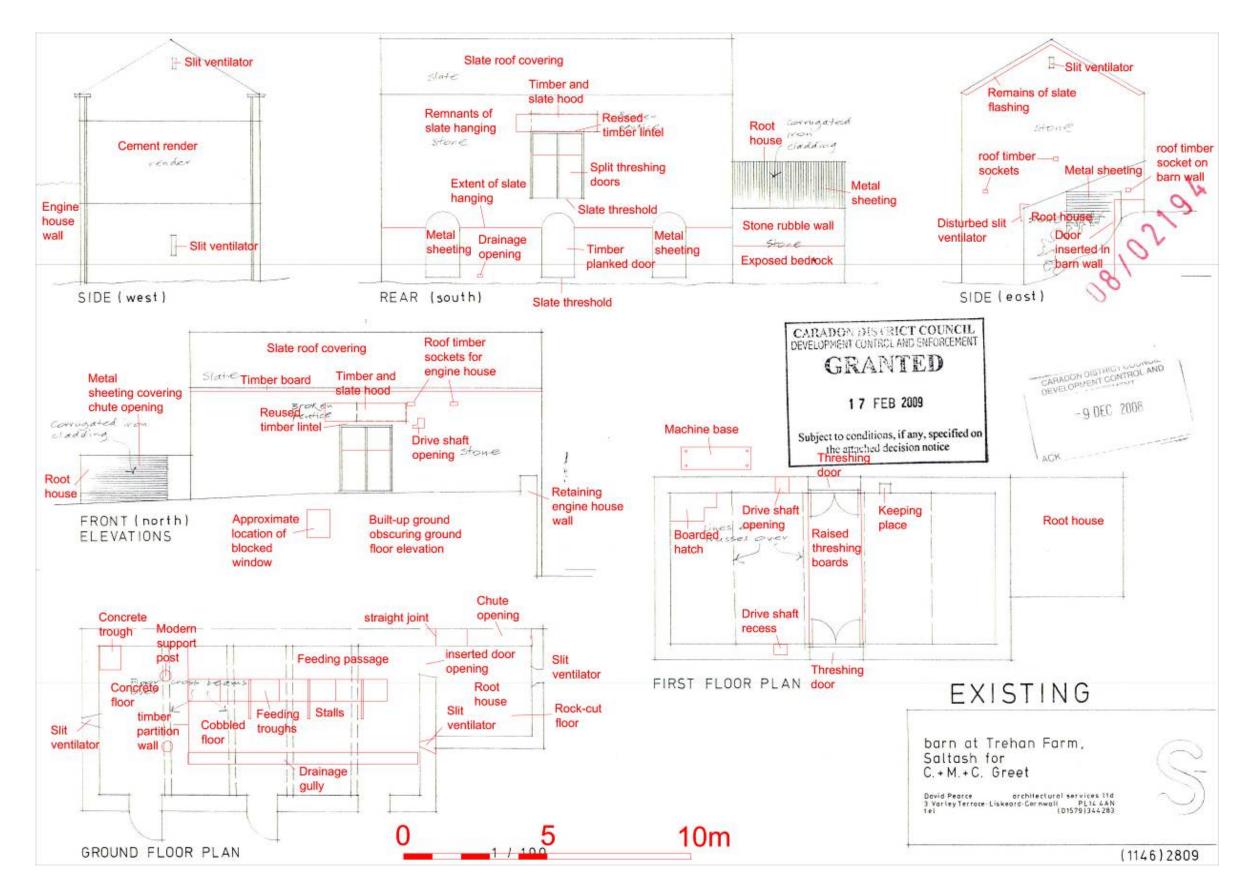


Fig 26 Annotated elevations and floor plans

# **10 Appendix 1: Planning Brief** BRIEF FOR HISTORIC BUILDING PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORDING

- Date: 02 December 2011
- Address: Trehan Barn, Trehan, St Stephens, Saltash, Cornwall, PL12 4NQ
- Applicant: C & M & C Greet
- Agent: Mr D Pearce, 3 Varley Terrace, Liskeard, Cornwall, PL14 4AN (This brief is supplied to Mr John Burgoine.)

**Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer:** Phil Copleston, Historic Environment Service, Cornwall Council, Room 82, Luxstowe House, Liskeard, Cornwall, PL14 3DZ Tel. 01579 341406, Email: pcopleston@cornwall.gov.uk

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

Contractors Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)

No ground works are to be undertaken until the HEPAO and the Local Planning Authority (LPA) have approved the archaeological contractor's WSI.

#### 1 Introduction

This brief has been written by the HEPAO and sets out the minimum requirements for archaeological recording at Trehan Barn to discharge a condition of planning application 08/02194/FUL. The structures are recorded on the Ordnance Survey Map of 1907. Vernacular and agricultural architectural remains are becoming increasingly rare and are worthy of recording prior to development.

#### 2 Site Location and Description

The site is located on the SE of the village of Trehan, on a minor road, centred on Ordnance Survey grid reference SX 40460 58030.

#### 3 Planning Background

Planning application 08/02194/FUL was submitted on the 9 December 2008 and was for the conversion of a redundant agricultural building into a dwelling. This application has been approved subject to Condition 12, which states:

No development shall take place within the site until the applicant has secured and implemented a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation to be submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the County Archaeologist.

#### 4 Requirement for Work

The present proposals will culminate in the potential destruction of material remains of Trehan Barn. It is therefore important that Trehan Barn is recorded to an appropriate level and that the results are made available to interested parties. In this particular instance an archive standard photographic record will be made together with a brief report. This recording needs to be conducted by a building archaeologist or architectural historian that will be able to 'read' the structure and record the important details. The recorder needs to consider:

- Site layout and organisation
- Function
- Materials, method of construction
- Fenestration
- Internal arrangements
- Original fixtures and fittings
- Subsequent fixtures and fittings
- Evidence of use and status
- Date/period of initial build and subsequent alterations

#### 5 General Methodology

- 5.1 All stages of the investigation shall be supported by a written scheme of investigation (WSI).
- 5.2 The archaeological contractor is expected to follow the code of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA).
- 5.3 Details including the name, qualifications and experience of the site director and all other personnel (including specialist staff) shall be included within the WSI.
- 5.4 All of the latest Health and Safety guidelines shall be followed on site.
- 5.5 The IfA's Standards and Guidance should be used for additional guidance in the production of the WSI, the content of the report and the general execution of the project.
- 5.6 Terminology will be consistent with the English Heritage Thesaurus.

#### 6 Site Recording Methodology

- 6.1 Prior to the commencement of on site works the Historic building contractor should familiarise themselves with the site by examining the information held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment record (HER), the Cornwall Records Office at Truro and the Cornwall Centre at Redruth, where appropriate.
- 6.2 Details of how all buildings and structures are surveyed and recorded shall be provided. The site plan will be tied to the national grid.
- 6.3 The photographic record shall be a comprehensive record to archive standard of the existing buildings and structures, both externally and internally. The photographs will be taken with black and white 35mm or medium format film producing archive quality prints and negatives. Colour photography may be utilised for general shots and where it is appropriate for detail shots (negatives and where appropriate CD shall be included in the archive). For both general and specific photographs, a photographic scale shall be included. The photographic record shall be accompanied by a photographic register detailing as a minimum, feature number, location and direction of shot.

#### 7 Results

- 7.1 The full report shall be submitted within a length of time (but not exceeding six months) to be agreed between the applicant and the historic building contractor, Cornwall Council Historic Environment Service and the Cornwall Records Office. A further digital copy shall be supplied on CD-ROM preferably in 'Adobe Acrobat' PDF format.
- 7.2 The archaeological contractor will undertake the English Heritage/ads online access to the index of archaeological investigations (OASIS).
- 7.3 This report will be held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record (HER) and made available for public consultation.
- 7.4 The report must contain:
  - A brief history of the site.
  - A concise non-technical summary of the project results.
  - The aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation.
  - A location map, copies of any plans/drawings and photographs with appropriate annotation.
  - A copy of the brief and approved written scheme of investigation (WSI) will be included as an appendix.

#### 8 Archive Deposition

8.1 An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with: Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) English *Heritage 2006* upon completion of the project. The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with the appropriate organisation.

- 8.2 The archive including a copy of the written report shall be deposited with the appropriate organisation within two months of the completion of the full report and confirmed in writing with the HEPAO.
- 8.3 Where there is only a documentary archive this will be deposited with the Cornwall Record Office as well as the Courtney Library of the Royal Institution of Cornwall.
- 8.4 A copy of the report will be supplied to the National Monuments Record (NMR) in Swindon.
- 8.5 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to the HEPAO.
- 8.6 Only on completion of 8.1 to 8.4 (inclusive) will there be a recommendation for the discharge of any archaeological recording condition.

#### 9 Monitoring

- 9.1 The HEPAO will monitor the work and should be kept regularly informed of progress.
- 9.2 Notification of the start of work shall be given preferably in writing to the HEPAO at least one week in advance of its commencement.
- 9.3 Any variations to the WSI shall be agreed with the HEPAO, preferably in writing, prior to them being carried out.
- 9.4 If significant detail is discovered, all works must cease and a meeting convened with the client and the HEPAO to discuss the most appropriate way forward.

# **11** Appendix 2: Written Scheme of Investigation

Barn at Trehan, St Stephens, Saltash: Written Scheme of Investigation for historic building recording

Client:	Richard Kingsnorth
Client tel:	01622 892254
Client email:	richard@zwailing.co.uk

#### Site history

The barn at Trehan is located on the eastern side of the settlement within a small farmstead. The village of Trehan is made up of a small group of houses and farmsteads and lies approximately 0.7km to the south-west of Saltash (at NGR SX 40460 58030). Planning permission with conditions has been granted for the conversion of the barn to form a dwelling (planning application 08/02194/FUL). One of the conditions required production of a WSI to set out the methodology for archaeological work undertaken prior to the development.

The settlement of Trehan is first recorded in 1328 (Cornwall HER) and at some point after this date became part of the Buller family estate. The subject barn is shown on the Tithe map of *c*1840 along with a farmhouse located to the north-west. During the second half of the  $19^{th}$  century the farmhouse was demolished but the barn and another farm building to the north of it were retained. It is possible that the barn may have origins that pre-date the  $19^{th}$  century.

#### Project background

Planning Permission has been granted by Cornwall Council for the conversion of a barn at Trehan to residential use (ref. 08/02194/FUL). Planning Condition 12 states:

No development shall take place within the site until the applicant has secured and implemented a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation to be submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the County Archaeologist.

A brief (dated 2/12/2011) outlining requirements for archaeological recording was produced by Philip Copleston, Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer. This document requested the equivalent of an English Heritage Level 2 building survey (photographic recording and description). Historic Environment Projects was subsequently contacted by Richard Kingsnorth and an estimate of costs was prepared and agreed. This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) sets out the intended works, the methodology to be employed and arrangements for project monitoring.

#### Project extent

The project includes a single farm building at Trehan. The immediate surroundings of the buildings will also be briefly examined, to place the building within its historic and functional context.

#### Aims and objectives

The principal aim of the study is to gain a better understanding of the historic development and function of the barn. The objectives are to obtain an archaeological record of the site prior to alterations.

#### Working methods

All recording work will be undertaken according to the Institute for Archaeologists *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording.* Staff will follow the IfA *Code of Conduct* and *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Archaeology.* The Institute for Archaeologists is the professional body for archaeologists working in the UK.

Fieldwork will be undertaken to be equivalent to a English Heritage Level 2 survey (see English Heritage 2006). It will comprise a walk-over, photographic survey and the production of brief building descriptions.

#### Fieldwork: photographic recording

The principal recording medium will be a photographic survey. This will include:

- 1. Black and white photographs using a 35mm camera on fine grain archive quality film.
- 2. Supporting colour photographs taken with a digital camera (5MP or higher), to be used to illustrate the report.

The photo record will comprise:

- general views
- principal exterior and interior elevations (where accessible)
- examples of structural and architectural detail.

Methodology for the archive standard photography is set out as follows:

- Photographs of details will be taken with lenses of appropriate focal length.
- A tripod will be used to take advantage of natural light and slower exposures.
- Difficulties of back-lighting will be dealt with where necessary by balancing the lighting by the use of flash.
- A metric scale will be included in all views, except where health and safety considerations make this impractical.

#### Fieldwork: description

Brief analysis of the building fabric will be undertaken on site (recorded as notes and annotations to existing architect's measured drawings).

#### Creation of site archive

Will include:

- Archiving of black and white photographs to HER standards. All monochrome photographs will be archived using the HE photo database
- Digital colour photographs (stored according to HER guidelines and copies of images made available to the client)
- Vernacular building records
- Completion of the English Heritage/ADS OASIS online archive index

#### Archive report

A brief report will include:

- Project background
- Aims and objectives
- Methodology

- Site history
- Brief building description
- Conclusions
- References
- Project archive index
- Supporting illustrations: location map, selected photographs

A paper copy and a digital (PDF) copy of the report, illustrations and any other files will be held in the Cornwall HER. Paper copies of the report will be distributed to the client, to local archives and national archaeological record centres.

#### Archive deposition

An index to the site archive will be created and the archive contents prepared for long term storage, in accordance with HE standards.

The archiving will comprise the following:

- 1. All correspondence relating to the project, the WSI, a single paper copy of the report together with an electronic copy on CD, stored in an archive standard (acid-free) documentation box
- 2. Archive standard negative holders and archive print holders, to be stored in the HE system until transferred to the Royal Cornwall Museum.
- 3. The project archive will be deposited initially at ReStore PLC, Liskeard and in due course (when space permits) at Cornwall Record Office.

#### Timetable

The study is anticipated to be commenced during December 2011.

The archive report will be completed before the end of January 2012. The deposition of the archive will be completed within 2 months of the completion of the archive report.

#### Monitoring and Signing Off Condition

Monitoring of the project will be carried out by Phil Copleston, Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer. Where the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer is satisfied with the archive report and the deposition of the archive written discharge of the planning condition will be expected from the local planning authority (LPA).

Monitoring points during the study will include:

- Approval of the WSI
- Completion of fieldwork
- Completion of archive report and summary note
- Deposition of the archive

#### **Historic Environment Projects**

Historic Environment Projects is the contracting arm of Historic Environment, Cornwall Council (HE). HE employs some 20 project staff with a broad range of expertise, undertaking around 100 projects each year.

HE is committed to conserving and enhancing the distinctiveness of the historic environment and heritage of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly by providing clients with a number of services including:

- Conservation works to sites and monuments
- Conservation surveys and management plans
- Historic landscape characterisation
- Town surveys for conservation and regeneration
- Historic building surveys and analysis
- Maritime and coastal zone assessments
- Air photo mapping
- Excavations and watching briefs
- Assessments and evaluations
- Post-excavation analysis and publication
- Outreach: exhibitions, publication, presentations

#### Standards

HE follows the Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Code of Conduct and is a Registered Organisation.

As part of Cornwall Council, HE has certification in BS9001 (Quality Management), BS14001 (Environmental Management), OHSAS18001 (Health, Safety and Welfare), Investors in People and Charter Mark.

#### Terms and conditions

#### Contract

HE Projects is part of Historic Environment, Cornwall Council. If accepted, the contract for this work will be between the client and Cornwall Council.

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

#### Project staff

The project will be managed by a nominated Senior Archaeologist who will:

- Discuss and agree the detailed objectives and programme of each stage of the project with the client and the field officers, including arrangements for health and safety.
- Monitor progress and results for each stage.
- Edit the project report.
- Liaise with the client regarding the budget and related issues.

The project team is expected to include the following:

#### Nigel Thomas BA MIfA

Senior Archaeologist responsible for management of projects relating to historic building recording and surveys of historic landscapes. Past work has included recording and structural analysis at Launceston and Restormel Castles, medieval chapels at Rame, Bodmin and Hall (Bodinnick), as well as landscape surveys at Lanhydrock park

and Godolphin gardens. Project manager for historic building analyses at Tintagel Old Post Office, Cotehele House, St Michael's Mount summit complex and Trerice for the National Trust. Project team leader for the Lostwithiel Town Characterisation Study. Member of the IfA Buildings Group and Survey and Illustration Group.

#### Joanna Sturgess BA

Archaeologist with HE, with a wide range of experience in recording historic buildings, landscapes, excavation and post-excavation. Past historic building works have included Cutmadoc Farmhouse, Lanhydrock; City Wharf, Truro; Harvey's Foundry, Hayle; Boswednack Serpentine works, Porthmeor farm and various mining sites. Other projects include Gwithian's past excavations, Lemon Quay excavation, Goonhilly Earth Station survey, Lower Boscaswell and Trevessa in West Penwith landscape surveys. Expertise includes archaeological use of CAD software and survey.

#### **Report distribution**

Paper copies of the report will be distributed to the client (three copies), to local archives and national archaeological record centres.

A digital copy of the report, illustrations and any other files will be held in the Cornwall HER and also supplied to the client on CD or other suitable media.

#### Copyright

Copyright of all material gathered as a result of the project will be reserved to Historic Environment, Cornwall Council. Existing copyrights of external sources will be acknowledged where required.

Use of the material will be granted to the client.

#### Freedom of Information Act

As Cornwall Council is a public authority it is subject to the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which came into effect from 1st January 2005.

HE will ensure that all information arising from the project shall be held in strict confidence to the extent permitted under the Act. However, the Act permits information to be released under a public right of access (a "Request"). If such a Request is received HE may need to disclose any information it holds, unless it is excluded from disclosure under the Act.

#### Health and safety statement

Historic Environment is within the Environment, Planning and Economy Directorate of Cornwall Council. The HE projects team follows Cornwall Council's *Statement of Safety Policy*.

Prior to carrying out the fieldwork HE Projects will carry out a risk assessment.

#### Insurance

As part of Cornwall Council, HE is covered by Public and Employers Liability Insurance.

#### References

English Heritage, 2006. Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice. English Heritage, Swindon

Jo Sturgess

Archaeologist

7<sup>th</sup> December 2011

Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council