



Buzza Tower, St Mary's Isles of Scilly

Historic Building Survey



Buzza Tower, St Mary's Isles of Scilly

Historic building survey

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Acknowledgements

This study was commissioned by Andrew Combes and carried out by Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council.

Help with the historical research was provided by Amanda Martin, curator of the Isles of Scilly Museum.

The Project Manager was Charles Johns; the historic building survey was carried out by Katharine Sawyer.

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.

Freedom of Information Act

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Cover illustration

Buzza Tower, June 2013

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Abbreviations

CRO	Cornwall County Record Office
EH	English Heritage
HER	Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record
HE	Historic Environment, Cornwall Council
MCO	Monument number in Cornwall HER
NGR	National Grid Reference
OD	Ordnance Datum – height above mean sea level at Newlyn
OS	Ordnance Survey
RIC	Royal Institution of Cornwall

1 Summary

This report describes the results of historic building recording of Buzza Tower, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly (NGR SV 9064 1038). The work was commissioned by Andrew Combes Associates Ltd and carried out by local archaeologist Katharine Sawyer by Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council between December 2012 and July 2013 to satisfy a planning condition.

A distinctive landmark on St Mary's, Buzza Tower is a Grade II Listed Building. A disused windmill sited on the top of Buzza Hill and overlooking Hugh Town and Porthcressa, it was used for grinding corn and was built in 1820-21 possibly on the site of a cairn excavated by the antiquarian William Borlase in 1752. The windmill appears to have become disused at the end of the nineteenth century. According to a plaque it was restored in 1912 to commemorate a visit to the islands by King Edward VII in 1902 and was then renamed 'King Edward's Tower'.

The tower was originally two storeys high, circular in plan and built of ashlar granite. The ground floor verandah with slate roof supported on iron posts and granite pillars is a feature of the c 1912 refurbishment, as is the decorative parapet wall (with false machicolation) and flat concrete roof plinth which replaced the original 'cap' or conical roof.

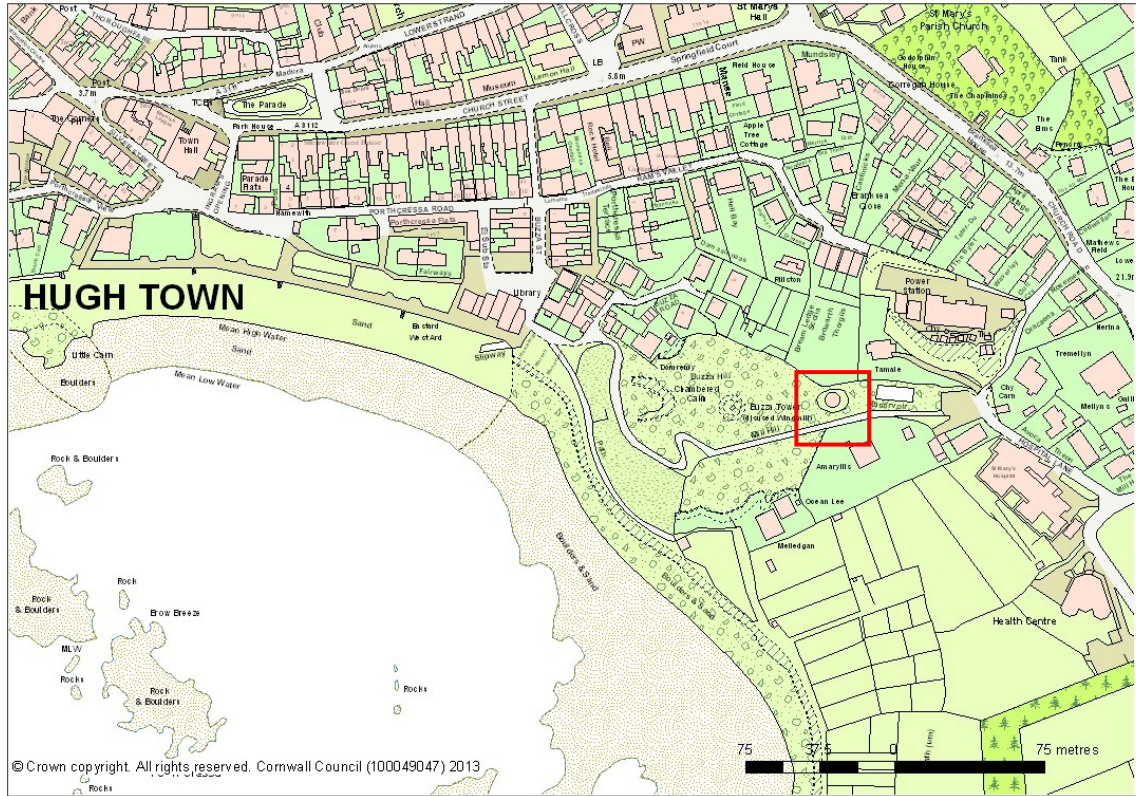


Fig 1 Location map

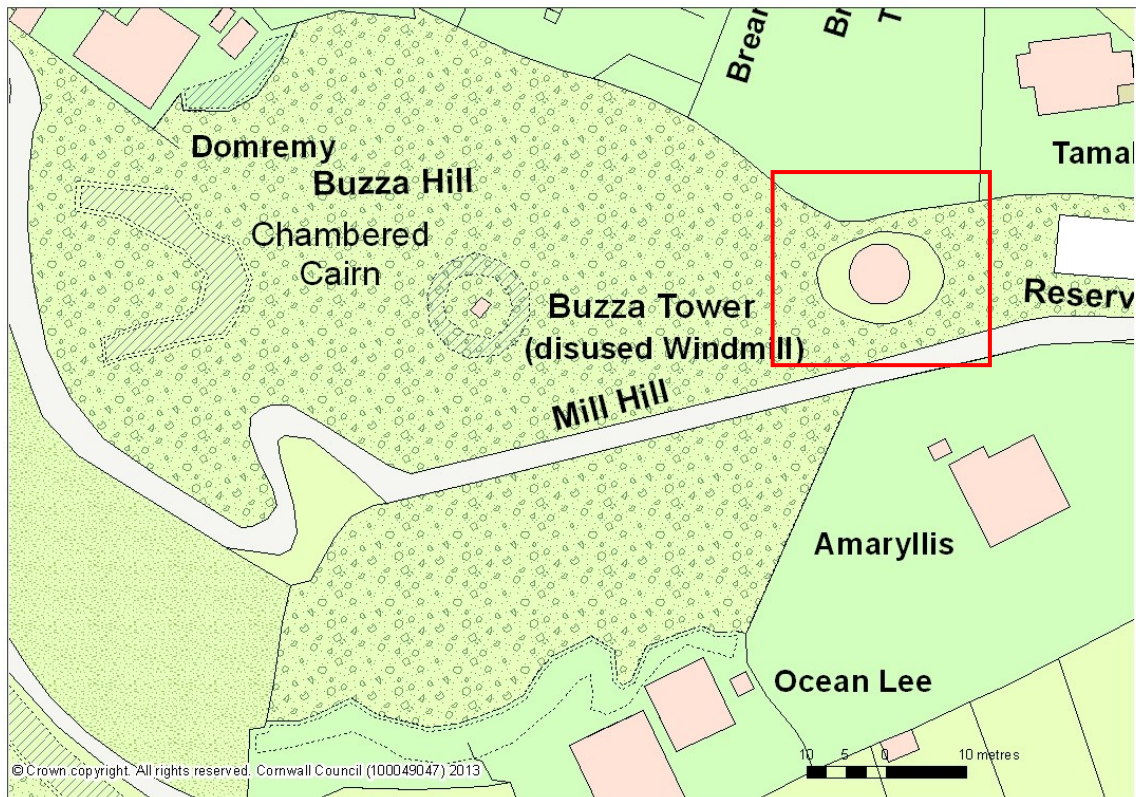


Fig 2 Ordnance Survey digital mapping showing the site and its environs (2013)

2 Introduction

2.1 Project background

Planning applications P-12-054 & P-12-055 were submitted on the 4 April 2012 and were to bring Buzza Tower back into use as a tourist attraction through the development of a camera obscura, and to replace failed floors, roof and stairs. The installation of the camera obscura will be retractable and demountable. These applications were approved through Appeal A (LBC) APP/Z0835/E/12/2180887 and Appeal B (Application) APP/Z0835/A/12/2179961 and are subject to a number of conditions.

Condition 4 of Appeal A states:

'No works shall take place within the appeal site until a programme of archaeological work has been implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which shall have been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the local planning authority.'

The same wording was used in Condition 7 of Appeal B.

The work was carried out between December 2012 and July 2013 according to a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) prepared by HE Projects (Johns 2012, see Appendix 2) based on a Brief outlining the minimum requirements for archaeological recording produced by the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer, Cornwall Council (HEPAO) which set out the minimum requirements for archaeological recording to discharge Condition 4 of Appeal A and Condition 7 of Appeal B (Appendix 2).

2.2 Aims

The aim of the historic building recording was to make an English Heritage Level 2 – 3 photographic and descriptive record of Buzza Tower, taking into account:

- 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
- Ephemeral evidence of occupation and use for instance any evidence of historic graffiti
- Date/period of initial build and subsequent alterations

The work was not intended to produce a comprehensive analysis of the building but to produce evidence capable of later further analytical development.

2.3 Methods

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 and Isles of Scilly HER
- Heritage Gateway online Sites and Monuments database
- Early maps and photographs (see Section 8.1)

- Published histories (see Section 8.2)

2.3.2 Fieldwork

Visits to Buzza Tower were undertaken by Katharine Sawyer between December 2012 and July 2013 to undertake the equivalent of a Level 2 historic building record (a photographic and descriptive record).

Detailed notes were taken of architectural features in the interior of the tower, as well as information on the exterior elevations.

Photography was a primary recording medium. Archive quality (monochrome film-based) photographs were taken with a 35mm SLR camera fitted with appropriate lenses. Digital photographs were taken for illustrative purposes.

2.3.3 Post-fieldwork

The monochrome photos were processed by a photographic laboratory and the results output as a conventional contact sheet as well as scanning to CDR. Digital photos were processed using Adobe Photoshop Elements software. A selection of representative photos has been included in this report.

3 Location and setting

The site is located at NGR SV 9064 1038 and is on the summit of Buzza Hill, overlooking Hugh Town and Porthcressa.

4 Designations

4.1 National

Buzza Tower is listed at Grade II and its description reads:

1358/8/40 BUZZA HILL 14-DEC-1992 HUGH TOWN BUZZA TOWER II A windmill of 1821, restored in 1911. The squared and coursed granite windmill tower has a slate roof. The tower is circular on plan, stands three storeys high and has a ground-floor veranda with pent roof supported on alternate iron posts and granite pillars, creating a series of covered seating areas. There are unmolded openings to the first and second floors with a coped parapet, supported on a blocking course.

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION DECISION Buzza Tower, Buzza Hill, St. Mary's, Isles of Scilly, a former windmill of 1821, is designated at Grade II for the following principal reasons: * Architectural: An interesting example of a pre-1840 windmill, later monumentalised. * Historical: A distinctive, commemorative monument marking the visit of King Edward VII. * Related assets: The tower stands on an unscheduled kerbed cairn, and beside a scheduled cairn with funerary chamber.

4.2 Regional/county

The following conservation designations apply to the site:

- Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- Heritage Coast.
- Conservation Area.

5 Site history

There has, in the past, been some confusion over the history of Buzza Tower. According to Andrew Saunders (1989, 136) it was one of three gun towers built by Major Daniel Lyman during the Napoleonic Wars, all three were intended to accommodate eight to ten men and mount a 32 pounder carronade at the top.

Buzza Hill was indeed one of the sites proposed for the construction of a Martello tower by Lyman in 1803 but it was never built (Goodwin 1993, 136) and the tower we see today was constructed in 1820/1821 as a windmill, being built on the mound of a Bronze Age entrance grave or cairn opened by the antiquarian William Borlase in 1752. Woodley (1822, 182–3) recorded the event, *'On the 22nd day of November, 1820, the larger burrow was once again opened – having been fixed on as the site of a windmill (since completed) - and on that day we also had a storm of thunder and lightning, although these natural phenomena but rarely occur in Scilly'.*

One of the early millers, possibly the first, was Thomas Wetherall who leased the mill for 5 shillings a year. In 1856 George Davis, resident in Church Street, was described as 'farmer and miller' and shortly afterwards William Watts was the tenant (Douch nd, 46-7). It is recorded as 'Buzza Windmill (Corn)' on the 1889-91 OS map (Fig 3) but is not marked on the 1909 OS map (Fig 4) so must have fallen into disuse in the interval between the surveys.

A distinctive landmark, the windmill can be seen in a number of nineteenth century panoramic views of Hugh Town, notably the c 1860 watercolour by Sophia Tower or Fanny le Marchant with the sails in full flight and an apparent ancillary building to the north east (in Llewellyn 2005, 34), the Gibson photograph of Hugh Town in the Great Blizzard of 1891 (in Over 1993 fig 132) and the Frith 1991 views of Hugh Town (Cowan 2001, 24–7).

Due to the unusual design of its sails the windmill was sometimes known as the 'Spanish mill' and was, by tradition, erected by someone and his son who had been living in Spain (Douch nd, 47). Structurally it was not very different to other Cornish mills but it had *'jib sails similar to those found in the coastal areas of the Iberian peninsula and round the Mediterranean. There were eight poles, each sail being wrapped round one pole and the end of the jib corded to the next one. The poles were braced to a bowsprit projecting from the front of the windshaft and the whole construction was light and reasonably cheap'* (Wailes 1954).

It was restored in 1912 to commemorate the visit of King Edward VII to the islands in 1902, and renamed 'King Edward's Tower' (Over 1993, fig 47). More recently, it has been used as the Boy Scouts' meeting place and as a temporary mortuary following the helicopter crash in 1983. Goodwin (1993, 136) comments that *'Bereft of the conical roof and jib sails with which it was once fitted it now bears little resemblance to the mill it used to be'*.

6 Building description

The tower stands off centre on a kerbed sub-circular platform measuring 17m by 12m by 0.4–1m high. The lower course of boulders could represent the perimeter of a cairn, but the remainder is clearly of modern construction. The tower is 7.33m high and circular in plan (the interior diameter of the ground floor is 3.22m) and is constructed of ashlar granite (approximately 0.6m by 0.25m by 0.25m). The ground floor walls are 0.9m thick, the first floor walls are 0.75m thick, the second floor walls 0.6m thick and the parapet walls 0.5m thick. Exterior pointing is now of cement-based mortar but the original bedding mortar is likely to be lime-based. Six buttresses and iron posts support the roof of the covered verandah and divide seating areas; these are evidently part of the c 1912 refurbishment as is the coped parapet with false machicolation and flat roof which replaced the original conical roof or mill cap (Fig 7).

There are now no traces of the mill machinery but, during clearance of the area around the tower, part of a millstone was uncovered on the south east side in the cobbled surround (Fig 9). The doorway on the south east side of the tower is 1.88m high by 0.9m wide and is the only one now open but a blocked doorway is apparent directly opposite on the north west side (Fig 10). Two sets of steps to the surround, one on the north west (Fig 10) and one on the south east, have also been revealed (Fig 9).

The interior of the building now has a concrete floor (presumably originally cobbled); the lower part of the doorway on the north west side has been filled in with granite but the upper part of the infill is of concrete block-work (Fig 11) and is, presumably, more recent. After 1912 the tower had a concrete roof plinth supported by iron joists, but this has now been removed for the installation of the camera obscura, as has the small 'shed' (for stair access to the parapet level) (Fig 12). It is not clear whether the slate roof referred to in the listing entry, which is dated 1992, is the roof of this 'shed'.

The wooden floors and staircases were rotten and were removed (Fig 13). The photo in Figure 14 was taken looking up the stairwell from the ground floor and shows some of the underside of what remained of the floor and the tongue and groove balustrade that went round the top of the stairs to the first floor (these stairs had been removed at some time in the past); the stairs in the image are the stairs to the roof beyond which is the panelling inside the shed on the roof. The floorboards were converted into shutters, the balustrade was re-used as balustrade and panelling on the ground floor, the slates from the shed have been used to pack joists and as window sills.

Safe access to the first and second floors was not possible until the new floors and stairs had been installed. There are window openings on the south east side, above the door, on both the first and second floors, an opening at first floor level on the north west side, above the blocked doorway, and openings at second floor level on the north east and south west sides.

Joist recesses are visible inside the tower at first floor level and on the second floor, just below the concrete roof plinth; a length of timber with iron pegs in it (possibly recovered from a shipwreck) is still *in situ* in the wall (Fig 15). An iron ring survives in the wall adjacent to the south west second floor window opening (Fig 16).

All the derelict remains of the original milling machinery were presumably removed when the tower was restored and converted in 1912. The original form of the machinery is not now possible to determine but the layout was probably typical of nineteenth century windmills, and was most likely based upon either of the two designs of tower mills illustrated by Vince (1985 112, 114). In both designs (of underdriven or overdriven stones) the milling floor was on the first floor, with the principal gearing arranged on a vertical axle in the centre of the mill. It seems possible that the Buzza mill had an underdriven gearing layout (where the millstones are driven by 'stone nuts' or small gearwheels from beneath), as this design is also generally found in Cornish watermills and would have been familiar to local millwrights.

At Buzza, the milling floor was lit by a small window in each quadrant of the wall. The window in the north-west facing quadrant was set lower down and had reveals, most likely originally containing a window seat. As the historic photos show, the original roof cap of the mill could be rotated, so that the sails could be oriented towards the wind (Fig 5). The cobbled perimeter of the mill (as well as the sub-circular plinth visible in Fig 12) is likely to have been originally used for adjusting the direction of the sails.

7 Conclusions/discussion

There are four recorded communal windmills on St Mary's; two on the Garrison (1590s–1726), Peninnis Head (1726–1834) [50] and Buzza Tower, which is important because it is one of only two surviving windmill towers in Scilly.

One of the two windmills on the Garrison was purchased in 1593/94 and both were noted by the 1652 Duchy survey which stated that they were employed by the Garrison and used by all the islanders with '*soake, toll, suite and custome thereunto belonging* (Pounds (ed) 1984, II). Heath noted that in 1750 they were ruinous: '*two circular walls of windmills formerly in use*' and Troutbeck in c 1794 stated that they had been replaced by Penninis windmill after a dispute concerning islanders wanting access at hours the commanding officer deemed unreasonable. Plans to re-use the towers as

blockhouses during the Napoleonic war in 1803 or 1804 were not pursued and in 1822 they were daymarks for shipping.

One windmill was demolished; its position was located by Alan Brodie and Mark Bowden in 2010, the absence of any large plants in this area indicating the presence of a structure impeding growth. Its site is marked on the 1902 Record Plan of Steval and Woolpack Batteries (Bowden and Brodie 2010, fig 61)

The other was allegedly converted into a gun tower, although there is no evidence for this beyond possible 'crenellations' at the top of the older walling. It was used in the mid-nineteenth by the coastguard service and then, in 1869, was acquired by the Shipping Gazette before being taken over in 1871 by Lloyds, who bought it in 1882. It is now a private house.

The windmill on Peninnis was by Francis Godolphin in 1726 when it became difficult for civilians to use those within The Garrison. By Troutbeck's time (c 1794) it was the only grist mill on the island, but was in poor shape and corn had to be sent to Cornwall for milling. By 1798 it was working again with Robert Maybee as the miller, and continued in use until 1834 when superseded by Buzza Tower. The disused mill later served as a signal tower and when Listed in 1954. Demolished in 1960, all that remains is its granite base, housing the lower millstone and bearing a date stone, FG 1726 and another inscribed WT.

There are no recorded windmills on the off-islands, although there was a horse-driven mill at Middle Down, Tresco which was mentioned by Troutbeck (nd c 1794). Its function is uncertain; suggestions range from a cider press to a corn or even a tin mill. More likely because of its isolated position and the lack of associated buildings, it was used to crush gorse for horse feed (Ratcliffe and Johns 2003, 52–3).

Querns continued to be used on Scilly for grinding corn until comparatively recently. William Borlase mentioned querns (1756, 28) stating that *'if the Mill [Peninnis] is out of repair, or chances to be too much crowded by the Islanders; people, who cannot be conveniently served here, must grind their Corn at home; for which purpose every house is furnished with a Hand-mill.'* He then goes on to describe a handmill'.

Many of the rotary quernstones to be seen on the islands are probably post-medieval/modern in date. Several on St. Agnes certainly appear to be (Sue Watts, pers comm). However, the problem with querns and other stone objects is that many reside in private collections where they have been collected over the years from fields and beaches and in many cases it is no longer possible to determine where they were found (cf Ratcliffe 1991, 67).

8 References

8.1 Primary sources

Ordnance Survey, 1889-91. *25 Inch Map* First Edition (licensed digital copy at HE)

Ordnance Survey, 1909. *25 Inch Map* Second Edition (licensed digital copy at HE)

Ordnance Survey, 2013. *Mastermap Digital Mapping*

8.2 Publications

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Cowan, Z, 2001. *Francis Frith's The Isles of Scilly*, Teffont

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- Vince, J, 1985. *Power before Steam*, London
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8.3 Websites

<http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/> English Heritage's online database of Sites and Monuments Records, and Listed Buildings

9 Project archive

The HE project number is **146218**

The project's photographic and drawn archive is housed at the offices of Historic Environment, Cornwall Council, Fal Building, New County Hall, Treyew 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 copies of documentary/cartographic source material (file no 146218).
2. Black and white photographs archived under the following index numbers: GBP 2309
3. Digital photographs stored in the directory ..\Images\Sites\Scilly\St Mary's\Buzza Tower Historic Building Survey 1646218
4. English Heritage/ADS OASIS online reference: cornwall2-155779

This report text is held in digital form as: ..\HE Projects\Sites\Scilly\St Mary's\Buzza Tower Historic Building Survey 146218

The project's documentary archive is stored at the Isles of Scilly Museum, Church Street, St Mary's, TR21 0JT



Fig 3 First edition Ordnance Survey 25 Inch Map, 1889-91



Fig 4 Second Edition Ordnance Survey 25 Inch Map, 1909

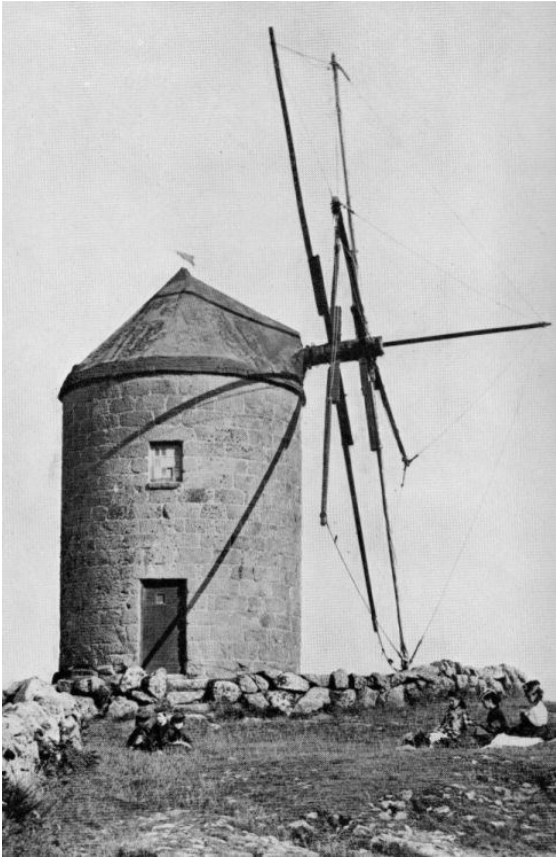


Fig 5 Images of the 'Spanish mill' (Isles of Scilly Museum)



Fig 6 Opening ceremony in 1912 (Isles of Scilly Museum)



Fig 7 Buzza Tower from the north west



Fig 8 Plaque commemorating the renewal of the tower in 1912



Fig 9 Millstone in surround and steps to the south east



Fig 10 Steps to the north west and blocked doorway



Fig 11 Interior view of blocked north west doorway



Fig 12 Shed on roof plinth, now removed



Fig 13 Wooden floor to first storey, now replaced



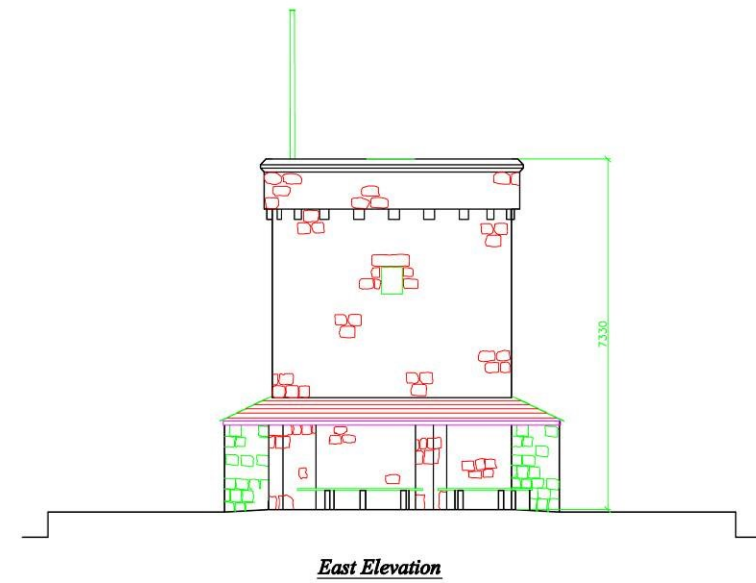
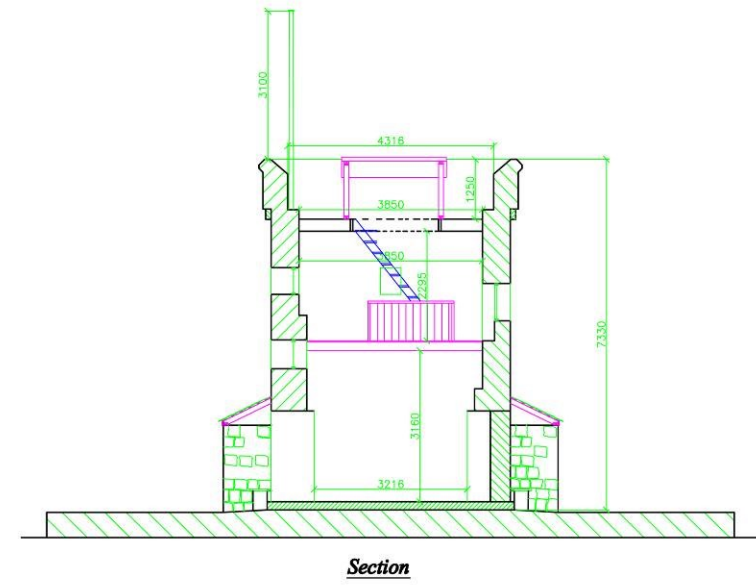
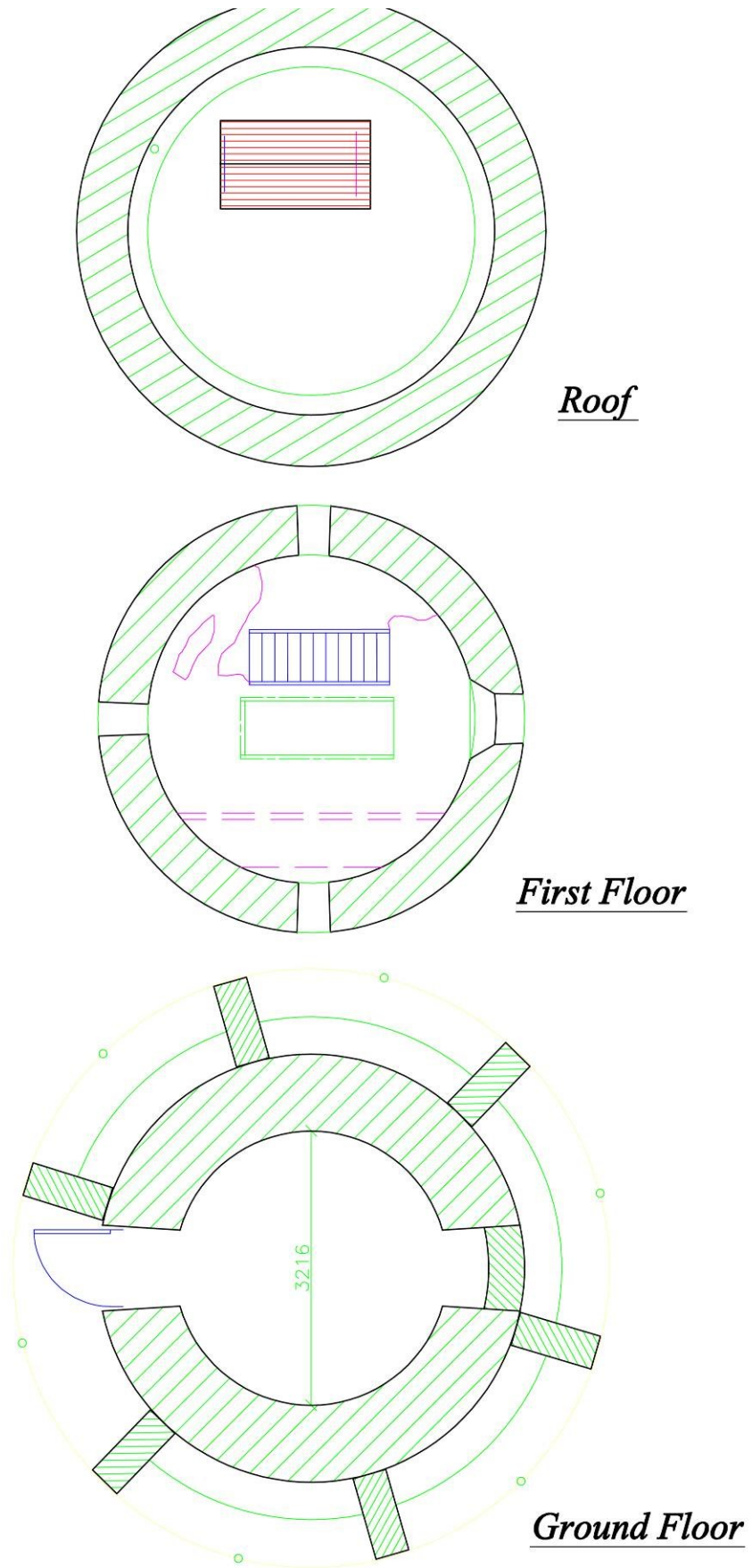
Fig 14 Vertical view of stairwells and concrete roof



Fig 15 Possible shipwreck timber in second floor wall



Fig 16 Iron ring and second floor south west window opening



<p><i>Buzza Tower</i> <i>Buzza</i> <i>St. Mary's</i> <i>Isles of Scilly</i></p> <p><i>Existing Tower</i></p>	<p><i>Date</i> - February 2012 <i>Amended</i> - <i>Scale</i> - 1 : 50</p>
	<p>PAUL OSBORNE CARN THOMAS ST. MARY'S, ISLES of SCILLY. TR21 OPT tel (01720) 423066 Email - paul@sailsilly.com</p>
	<p>BT-AC-ET</p>

Fig 17 Plans, elevation and section of Buzza Tower (not reproduced to scale); the dimensions shown are in millimetres

Appendix 1: Planning brief

BRIEF FOR HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

Date: 14th November 2012

Address: Buzza Tower, Buzza Hill, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly TR21 0NQ

Applicant: Andrew Combes, 22 Sallyport, St Mary's, I. O. S. TR21 0JE

Agent: N/A

Application: P-12-054 & P-12-055

HBSMR: CCO4997

Local Planning Authority Officer: Harriet Bowen, Planning & Development Department, Council of the Isles of Scilly, Old Wesleyan Chapel, Garrison Lane, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly TR21 0JD t. 01720 424351 e. hbowen@scilly.gov.uk

Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer: Phil Markham, Cornwall Council, Historic Environment Service, Dolcoath Avenue, Camborne TR14 8SX t. 07973 813572 e. pmarkham@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 works on site shall take place until the HEPAO and the Local Planning Authority (LPA) have approved the archaeological contractor's WSI.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 This brief has been written by the HEPAO and sets out the minimum requirements for archaeological recording of Buzza Tower to discharge the conditions placed on the development.

2 Site Location

- 2.1 The site is located at OS grid reference SV 9064 1038 and is on a hilltop location overlooking Hugh Town and Porthcressa.

3 Planning Background

- 3.1 Planning applications P-12-054 & P-12-055 were submitted on the 4th April 2012 and were to bring Buzza Tower back into use as a tourist attraction through the development of a camera obscura, to replace failed floor, roof and stairs. The installation of the camera obscura will be retractable and demountable. These applications have been approved through Appeal A (LBC) APP/Z0835/E/12/2180887 and Appeal B (Application) APP/Z0835/A/12/2179961 and are subject to a number of conditions.
- 3.2 Condition 4 of Appeal A states:
- 3.3 No works shall take place within the appeal site until a programme of archaeological work has been implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which shall have been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the local planning authority.
- 3.4 Condition 7 of Appeal B states:

- 3.5 No development shall take place within the appeal site until a programme of archaeological work has been implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which shall have been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the local planning authority.
- 3.6 The applicant, their agents and any subcontractors should note that where there are other conditions requiring satisfaction in advance of the commencement of works on site; it is the responsibility of the applicant to liaise with the planning officer concerned to ensure that the timetabling of these works is managed.

4 Site Background

- 4.1 The Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record (HER) records that Buzza Tower is Listed Grade II and includes the following:
- 4.2 *1358/8/40 BUZZA HILL 14-DEC-1992 HUGH TOWN BUZZA TOWER II A windmill of 1821, restored in 1911. The squared and coursed granite windmill tower has a slate roof. The tower is circular on plan, stands three storeys high and has a ground-floor veranda with pent roof supported on alternate iron posts and granite pillars, creating a series of covered seating areas. There are unmoled openings to the first and second floors with a coped parapet, supported on a blocking course.*
- 4.3 *History: The windmill was constructed in 1821 on the site of a Bronze Age kerbed cairn previously excavated by William Borlase in 1752. It was restored and extended in 1911 in commemoration of a visit by King Edward VII.*
- 4.4 **REASONS FOR DESIGNATION DECISION**
Buzza Tower, Buzza Hill, St. Mary's, Isles of Scilly, a former windmill of 1821, is designated at Grade II for the following principal reasons:
- * Architectural: An interesting example of a pre-1840 windmill, later monumentalised.*
 - * Historical: A distinctive, commemorative monument marking the visit of King Edward VII.*
 - * Related assets: The tower stands on an unscheduled kerbed cairn, and beside a scheduled cairn with funerary chamber.*

5 Requirement for Work

- 5.1 Post medieval agricultural buildings have been identified in the South West Archaeological Research Framework as a significant archaeological resource. They provide information on building techniques, architectural styles and on the changing social and economic nature of agricultural life. The current proposals have the potential to remove or obscure archaeological and architectural evidence. It is therefore important that the building is recorded to an appropriate level before works to change them and that the results are made available to interested parties. In this particular instance an archive standard photographic record will be made together with an appropriate descriptive 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 should aim to achieve a

level of descriptive record somewhere between 'Levels 2 and 3' as described by the EH document 'Understanding Historic Buildings' (2006).

- 5.2 The record will need 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
 - Ephemeral evidence of occupation and use for instance any evidence of historic graffiti
 - Date/period of initial build and subsequent alterations
- 5.3 The work is not intended to produce a comprehensive analysis of the building but should be produce evidence capable of later further analytical development.
- 5.4 Due care should be undertaken over any ground works. No excavation should be undertaken, but if this is proved to be necessary then professional archaeological supervision should be sought. Ground works should not extend to the Scheduled area and any working here should seek the agreement of English Heritage.

6 General Methodology

- 6.1 All stages of the investigation shall be supported by a written scheme of investigation (WSI).
- 6.2 The archaeological contractor is expected to follow the code of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA).
- 6.3 Details including the name, qualifications and experience of the site director and all other personnel (including specialist staff) shall be included within the WSI.
- 6.4 All of the latest Health and Safety guidelines shall be followed on site.
- 6.5 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.
- 6.6 Terminology will be consistent with the English Heritage Thesaurus.

7 Site Recording Methodology

- 7.1 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), where appropriate.

- 7.2 The recording will be subject to health and safety issues and where this brief cannot be complied with this should be included in the WSI. Some photographs have been taken by the applicant which could be included in this work.
- 7.2 Details of how the structure is surveyed and recorded shall be provided. The site plan will be tied to the national grid.
- 7.3 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. For both general and specific photographs, a photographic scale shall be included.
- 7.4 The drawn record will not be comprehensive and act principally to support the photographic and written descriptive record but as a minimum should include measured plans of all floors, a site plan at 1:500, a phased plan if the building's constructional complexity warrants this and a plan annotated to show the location, shot number and direction of all photographs. If the building displays evidence more than two building phases then a phased plan should be produced.

Plans may be based on existing architectural drawings where these exist but these must be checked in the field to ensure acceptable accuracy and should be recast where necessary to standard archaeological conventions.

8 Results

- 8.1 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.
- 8.2 The archaeological contractor will undertake the English Heritage/ads online access to the index of archaeological investigations (OASIS).
- 8.3 This report will be held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record (HER) and made available for public consultation.
- 8.4 The report must contain:
- A table of contents.
 - The building's precise location in National Grid and address form.
 - 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.
 - The date of the record, name of recorder(s) and the location and contents of the deposited archive.

- A location map, copies of any plans/drawings and copies of such photographs as necessary to illustrate the written description with appropriate annotation.
- A written description of the building and its structure, materials and layout.
- A full bibliography where external sources have been used.
- A copy of the brief and approved written scheme of investigation (WSI) will be included as an appendix.
- A digital copy of all photographs (in .TIFF format) making up the archive record to be bound into the rear cover of the HER / HEPAO copy of the report on CDR or DVDR.

9 Archive Deposition

- 9.1 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.
- 9.2 The archive including a copy of the written report, all drawn materials and all archive quality photographic prints and negatives shall be deposited with the Isles of Scilly Museum within two months of the completion of the full report and confirmed in writing with the HEPAO.
- 9.3 A copy of the report will be supplied to the National Monuments Record (NMR) in Swindon.
- 9.4 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to the HEPAO.
- 9.5 Only on completion of 9.1 to 9.4 (Inclusive) will there be a recommendation for the discharge of any archaeological recording condition.

10 Monitoring

- 10.1 The HEPAO will monitor the work and should be kept regularly informed of progress.
- 10.2 Notification of the start of work shall be given preferably in writing to the HEPAO at least one week in advance of its commencement.
- 10.3 Any variations to the WSI shall be agreed with the HEPAO, preferably in writing, prior to them being carried out.

Appendix 2: Written Scheme of Investigation

Buzza Tower, St Mary's, WSI, Rev01, CJ, 28/11/2012

Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council



Buzza Tower, Buzza Hill, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly: Written Scheme of Investigation for historic building recording

Client: Andrew Combes and Associates Ltd
Client contact: Andrew Combes
Client tel: 01720 423930
Client email: andrew@combes1.plus.com

Project background

Planning applications P-12-054 & P-12-055 were submitted on the 4th April 2012 and were to bring Buzza Tower back into use as a tourist attraction through the development of a camera obscura, to replace failed floor, roof and stairs. The installation of the camera obscura will be retractable and demountable. These applications were approved through Appeal A (LBC) APP/Z0835/E/12/2180887 and Appeal B (Application) APP/Z0835/A/12/2179961 and are subject to a number of conditions.

Condition 4 of Appeal A states:

No works shall take place within the appeal site until a programme of archaeological work has been implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which shall have been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the local planning authority.

Condition 7 of Appeal B states:

No development shall take place within the appeal site until a programme of archaeological work has been implemented in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which shall have been submitted to, and approved in writing by, the local planning authority.

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for historic building recording of Buzza Tower has been prepared by Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council (HE Projects) for Andrew Combes. It is based upon a Brief written by the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer, Cornwall Council (HEPAO) which sets out the minimum requirements for archaeological recording to discharge Condition 6 of each planning consent (Markham 2012).

Site location and description

The site is located at OS grid reference SV 9064 1038 and is on a hilltop location overlooking Hugh Town and Porthcressa.

Buzza Tower, St Mary's, WSI, Rev01, CJ, 28/11/2012

Historic building/structure background

The Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record (HER) records that Buzza Tower is Listed Grade II and includes the following:

1358/8/40 BUZZA HILL 14-DEC-1992 HUGH TOWN BUZZA TOWER II A windmill of 1821, restored in 1911. The squared and coursed granite windmill tower has a slate roof. The tower is circular on plan, stands three storeys high and has a ground-floor veranda with pent roof supported on alternate iron posts and granite pillars, creating a series of covered seating areas. There are unmolded openings to the first and second floors with a coped parapet, supported on a blocking course.

History: The windmill was constructed in 1821 on the site of a Bronze Age kerbed cairn previously excavated by William Borlase in 1752. It was restored and extended in 1911 in commemoration of a visit by King Edward VII.

REASONS FOR DESIGNATION DECISION Buzza Tower, Buzza Hill, St. Mary's, Isles of Scilly, a former windmill of 1821, is designated at Grade II for the following principal reasons: * Architectural: An interesting example of a pre-1840 windmill, later monumentalised. * Historical: A distinctive, commemorative monument marking the visit of King Edward VII. * Related assets: The tower stands on an unscheduled kerbed cairn, and beside a scheduled cairn with funerary chamber..

Aims and objectives

Post-medieval agricultural buildings have been identified in the South West Archaeological Research Framework (Webster (ed) 2008) and in the Isles of Scilly Research Framework (Johns (ed) forthcoming) as a significant archaeological resource. They provide information on building techniques, architectural styles and on the changing social and economic nature of agricultural life. The current proposals have the potential to remove or obscure archaeological and architectural evidence. It is therefore important that the building is recorded to an appropriate level before works to change them and that the results are made available to interested parties. In this particular instance an archive standard photographic record will be made together with an appropriate descriptive report. The recorder will aim to achieve a level of descriptive record somewhere between 'Levels 2 and 3' as described by the EH document '*Understanding Historic Buildings*' (2006a).

Aims and objectives

Building recording

The present proposals will culminate in the destruction of the material remains of a number of buildings. It is therefore important that the site is recorded to an appropriate level; and that the results are made available to interested parties. In this particular instance, an English Heritage Level 2 - 3 record will be undertaken as appropriate. For the photographic record, the recorder will consider:

The record will need 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

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- Ephemeral evidence of occupation and use for instance any evidence of historic graffiti
- Date/period of initial build and subsequent alterations

The work is not intended to produce a comprehensive analysis of the building but should be produce evidence capable of later further analytical development.

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.

Desk-based assessment

Prior to the commencement of on site works the project archaeologist will familiarise themselves with the site by examining the information held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment record (HER) and in published sources.

Building recording

The building recording will be undertaken to be equivalent to an English Heritage Level 2-3 survey as appropriate (see English Heritage 2006a). 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 annotations or adaptations to existing architect's measured drawings).

Archiving

During this phase the results of the fieldwork will be collated for archiving. This will involve the following tasks.

- Indexing of site drawings and photographs

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- Annotation and adaptations to the architects drawings will be digitised in AutoCAD
- Vernacular building records

Note: The requirements for Archiving and Reporting will be reviewed in the light of the fieldwork results

Report production

A report will be produced which will describe the results of the desk-based study and the nature of the fieldwork undertaken, the circumstance and conditions under which it occurred and the results that were obtained. Production of the report will involve:

- Producing a descriptive text.
- Producing maps, scaled plans and section drawings.
- Selecting photographs.
- Report design.
- Report editing.
- Dissemination of the finished report.

The report will have the following contents:

- Summary
- Introduction - Background, aims, methods
- Results of building recording - A concise non-technical summary of the results including building recording descriptions
- A written description of the building and its structure, materials and layout.
- Discussion - A discussion of archaeological findings in terms of both the site specific aims and the desk based research
- Specialists' reports - Specialists' reports or assessments as appropriate
- Archive - A summary of archive contents and date of deposition
- Appendices - Copies of the Brief and WSI
- Illustrations - Location map
- Site location plan
- Copies of relevant historical cartography & plans
- Plans and section drawings resulting from the archaeological recording.
- Finds drawings (if appropriate)
- Illustrative photographs
- Note: All plans will be tied to the national grid.

Contingency for analysis and publication

A contingency is made within the accompanying estimate for assessment for specialist analysis and full publication in an appropriate journal. The HEPAO will notify the contractor of such a need within four weeks of receipt of the report.

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Report dissemination

The full report including all specialist assessments of artefact assemblages will be submitted within a length of time (but not exceeding six months) to be agreed between the applicant and HE, with copies supplied to the client (two), Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record, the Isles of Scilly Museum and the Courtenay Library of the Royal Institution of Cornwall, River Street, Truro and national archive centres. A further digital copy shall be supplied on CD-ROM in 'Adobe Acrobat' PDF format. A draft will initially be submitted to the HEPAO for comment.

The report will be held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record and made available for public consultation. Additional copies will be submitted to the National Monuments Record *via* OASIS and to the Planning Department of the Council of the Isles of Scilly.

Archive deposition

- An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with *the Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (English Heritage 2006b) upon completion of the project. The requirements for final deposition of the project archive will be agreed by HEPAO and HE Projects.
- The archive including a copy of the written report will be deposited at the Isles of Scilly Museum within two months of the completion of the full report and confirmed in writing with the HEPAO.
- Completion of the English Heritage/ADS OASIS online archive Index.
- A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to the HEPAO.

Monitoring and Signing Off Condition

Monitoring of the project will be carried out by the HEPAO. Where the HEPAO is satisfied with the archive report and the deposition of the archive written discharge of the planning condition will be expected from the Council of the Isles of Scilly.

Notification of the start of work will be given in writing to the HEPAO as far in advance of its commencement as possible. HEPAO will monitor the work and will be kept regularly informed of the progress.

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

Monitoring points during the study will include:

- Approval of the WSI
- Completion of fieldwork. When this has been approved by the HEPAO, then it should be possible for the client to commence building works
- Completion of archive report
- Deposition of the archive

Timetable

The study is anticipated to be commenced during late November or early December 2012

The archive report will be completed within 3 months of the end of the fieldwork. The deposition of the archive will be completed within 3 months of the completion of the archive report.

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Projects Team

The project will be managed by Senior Archaeologist **Charlie Johns (BA, MIFA)**. As a Senior Archaeologist with HE Projects (1991- present) Charlie has special responsibility for projects in the Isles of Scilly where he has worked on numerous projects: notably directing the excavation of the Bryher Iron Age sword and mirror burial in 1999 (Johns 2002-3); updating the popular archaeological field guide 'Scilly's Archaeological Heritage' (Ratcliffe and Johns 2003); managing the Tresco Playing Field watching brief for the Tresco Estate (Taylor and Johns forthcoming); compiling the Isles of Scilly Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Survey for English Heritage (Johns *et al* 2004) and managing archaeological recording during construction of the off-island quays for the Duchy of Cornwall (Johns and Sawyer 2008) and the St Agnes Affordable Housing site for the Cornwall Rural Housing Association (Taylor and Johns 2010 and 2011).

Current projects include the management of Lyonesse Project, a two-year study of the evolution of the coastal and marine environment of Scilly and the preparation of a Research Framework for the Historic Environment of Scilly (both for English Heritage). Since 2005 he has co-directed the 'Islands in a Common Sea' research project in Scilly with Dr Jacqui Mulville of Cardiff University (Johns and Mulville forthcoming; Johns *et al* 2006), and is currently an Honorary Research Fellow in Cardiff University's School of History and Archaeology and representative for Scilly on the CBA SW Committee.

The building recording fieldwork will be carried out by **Katharine Sawyer (MA)**. Katharine is a freelance archaeologist based in St Mary's. Since 2000 she has undertaken archaeological watching briefs in Scilly and Cornwall, either independently or in association with HES. She has undertaken historic building recording at Normandy farm (Sawyer 2007) and St Martin's Reading Room (Johns and Sawyer forthcoming) Since 2006 she has been studying part-time for a PhD at the University of Exeter on the Setting and Function of the Neolithic and Bronze Age Chambered Cairns and Cists of the Isles of Scilly. For the purpose of this project Katharine will be sub-contracted by HE Projects.

Plans and drawings resulting from the fieldwork will be drawn up by **Nigel Thomas, BA, MIFA**. Nigel is 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. Has recorded numerous industrial structures including Harveys Foundry, Loggans Mill (Hayle), Town Mills at St Columb Major, and china-clay area features including the waterwheel at Virginia CC Works, Greensplat engine house and Carrancarrow chapel. Project team leader for the Lostwithiel Town Characterisation Study. Member of the Ifa Buildings Group and Graphic Archaeology Group. An experienced user of AutoCAD and is responsible for HEP's survey methodology.

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

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- 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 is a Registered Organisation with the Institute for Archaeologists and follows their Standards and Code of Conduct.

As part of Cornwall Council, the HES 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 HE 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 Charlie Johns 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.

Report distribution

Paper copies of the report will be distributed to the client, 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.

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Copyright

Copyright of all material gathered as a result of the project will be reserved to the 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

HE follows the Council's *Statement of Safety Policy*. For more specific policy and guidelines HE uses the manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (2002) endorsed by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers and also the Council for British Archaeology's Handbook No. 6 *Safety in Archaeological Field Work* (1989).

Prior to carrying out on-site work HE will carry out a Risk Assessment.

Insurance

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

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Charles Johns

Senior Archaeologist

28 November

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