



Ennor Castle, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly

NHLE 1014994

Conservation Management Plan



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'Old-Town ... was formerly the principal place of dwelling in all this Island, but the houses are now poor cots with rope-thatch coverings. Behind them stands an eminence, call'd Old-Town Castle, and part of the walls still remains. Leland calls it a moderately small pile, but 'tis now dismantled'

(William Borlase 1758)

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The views and recommendations expressed in this report are those of Historic Environment Projects and those of the other authors and organisations whose reports are summarised here. They are presented in good faith on the basis of professional judgement and on currently available information.

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Cover illustration

Ennor Castle, the Hottentot Fig and Ivy-covered rock outcrop in March 2014 (photo: HE Projects)

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Abbreviations

AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
EH	English Heritage
ERCCIS	Environmental Records Centre for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly
GPS	Global Positioning System
HER	Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record
HE	Historic Environment, Cornwall Council
HER	Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record
HLC	Historic Landscape Character
HLS	Higher Level Stewardship
NGR	National Grid Reference
NHLE	National Heritage List Entry
NVC	National Vegetation Classification
OS	Ordnance Survey
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest

Summary

Ennor or Old Town Castle at Old Town, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly, first recorded in 1244, was the military and administrative hub of the southern half of Scilly during the medieval period — the northern half of the archipelago being administered by Tavistock Abbey. The castle had declined in importance by the reign of Elizabeth I during the period when Hugh Town was fast becoming the principal settlement on St Mary's. The castle's remaining stonework is likely to have been dismantled by the early 19th century for local building projects, and all that now remains is the castle mount – though the formerly locally-prominent granite outcrop is now completely obscured by tree growth on and around it.

The castle is a Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1014994), though given that the majority of the site has been as an unmanaged annexe to a local garden for many years, it is now in less than suitable condition given its historical importance and national designation. The site has been declared a Monument at Risk by English Heritage as a result. The principal aim of this report is to identify a range of works which could bring the scheduled monument back into a condition appropriate to its significance.

Following the site being entered into a Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) agreement, English Heritage and Natural England were anxious to determine whether a scheme for the management of the monument could be drawn up, based on a Conservation Management Plan for the site.

However, whilst an HLS agreement is in place for the northern and western parts of the site, the eastern and core areas of the scheduled area (those which are in the greatest need of management attention if the monument is to be restored to a suitable condition) are in a separate ownership.

Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council (HE Projects) were awarded the tender to carry out the required surveys of the site and to draw together the Conservation Management Plan (Stage 1). Subject to agreement of the plan objectives and methodology with the site owners, HE Projects will also oversee the initial physical management works required for the site (Stage 2).

The studies presented in the plan confirmed not only the particular historical importance of Ennor Castle in the administration of the southern islands of Scillonian archipelago from the medieval to Tudor periods and its archaeological potential, but also its ecological condition and potential. The study identified the potential for the presently heavily-overgrown site to once again become a significant local landmark, which would help its importance in the history of Scilly to again be recognised by both local people and visitors to Scilly.

Building on discussions with the groups and individuals with interests in the site, the Plan sets out a range of actions through which this vision could be realised including targeted vegetation management and through its interpretation to the wide variety of visitors to Scilly who are currently unaware of its significance and qualities.

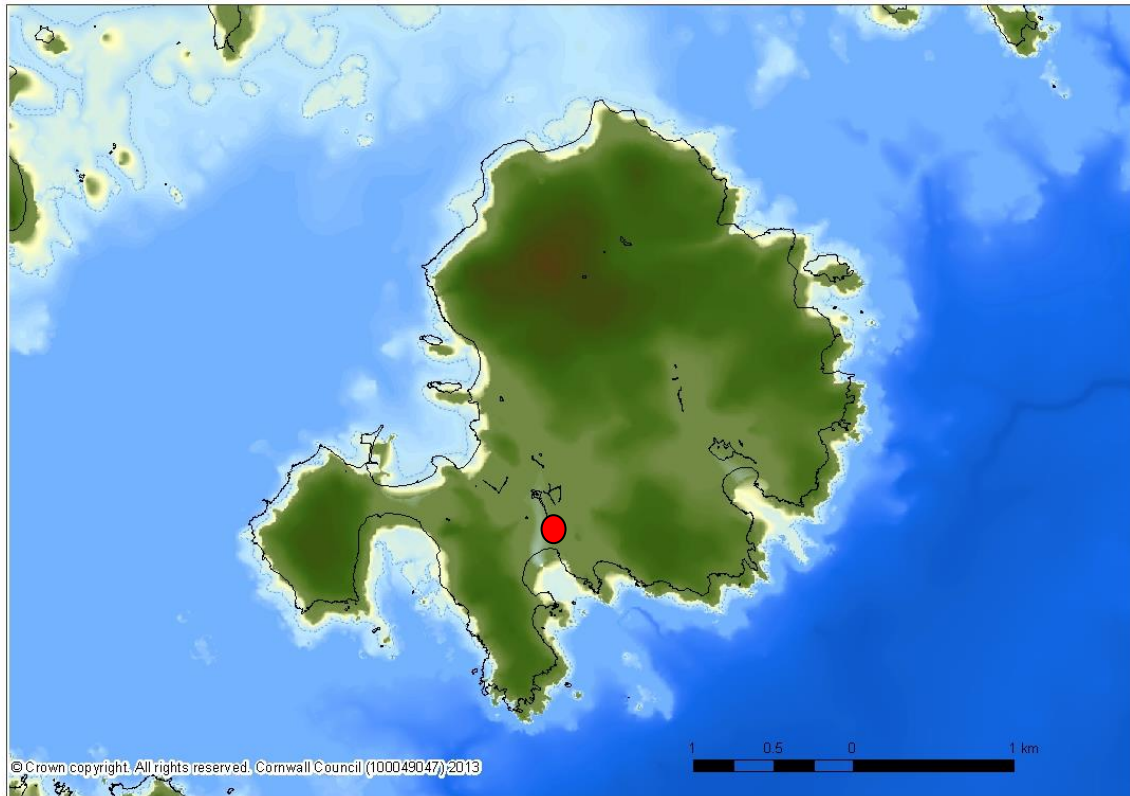


Fig 1 The location of Ennor Castle, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly



Fig 2 Land ownerships and tenancies at Ennor Castle. Red/Blue hatch — Ennor Castle Barn and extent of area covered by the HLS agreement. Green hatch — Duchy tenancy to the south. Unshaded — Castle Farm (freehold) to the east

1 Introduction

This Conservation Management Plan is intended to provide a readily comprehensible introduction to Ennor Castle at Old Town, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly which will allow the non-specialist reader to understand the site and its significances, as well as the natural and historic processes that have created the site as it exists today. The plan also sets out the issues which currently affect it, the philosophy underlying proposals for its future management and the ways in which the management vision for the site might be realised.

1.1 The need for a Conservation Management Plan

Ennor or Old Town Castle is located at Old Town, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly (NGR SV 91414 10347.) The ownership of the land which includes the mound which sited the former shell keep and its probable associated bailey is divided between two ownerships, the smaller section to the north and west (leased from the Duchy of Cornwall) having been entered into the Higher Level Stewardship scheme (HLS agreement No. AG00389319); a further section of the bailey to the south is owned by the Duchy of Cornwall and separately leased. The remainder of the castle and bailey site is in a separate, neighbouring ownership (Castle Farm).

The Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1014994) covers an area of approximately 0.1ha and is the focus of this project, though the castle site extends to the south east of the scheduled area (this being the site of the probable associated bailey). The castle has been classed as being at high risk by English Heritage due to unmanaged vegetation growth, and has been assessed as a priority for positive management works.

As well as general scrub growth and the establishment of large number of *Pittosporum* and Elm trees, the summit of the site and its west-facing formerly exposed granite slopes is blanketed with Hottentot Fig, a non-native invasive, whilst substantial amounts of *Allium triquetum* (the invasive Three-cornered Leek) grows on the lower slopes of the castle mound. Other non-native trees, shrubs and vascular plants grow on the site, some being deliberate garden plantings or garden escapes, others the results of the former commercial cultivation of parts of the site for flowers and potatoes.

The purpose of Stage 1 of the project is to develop a Conservation Management Plan to address the principal issues which have led to Ennor Castle being placed on the Scheduled Monuments at Risk Register; the plan is also required to address issues of management of a Scheduled Monument in multiple ownerships.

All available forms of management have been considered for the site and the most appropriate approaches have been identified. These are outlined below, together with a schedule of works to achieve the plan aims. During the Stage 2 works programme, the archaeological consultant will work with the contractors, ecologist, client, the owner of the remainder of the site, relevant statutory agencies and Natural England to achieve a successful outcome to the practical component of the project.

1.2 Aims

This Conservation Management Plan aims to set a range of means through which the site lessees, English Heritage and Natural England might jointly address the management of Ennor Castle in a sustainable, appropriate and long term fashion, following best conservation practice, resulting in the enhancement of its conservation and other values, encouraging the wider public to learn more about its special qualities but avoiding unwanted and negative effects on significant aspects of the site identified through preliminary surveys.

The objective of Stage 1a of the project was to undertake archaeological and ecological assessments of the site (including protected species surveys) and to identify the exact boundaries of the land ownerships relating to the site. Within Stage 1b, the results of these surveys, together with a statement of significance, a statement of guiding

principles, a description of the management requirements of the site, known potential conflicts of interest and an identification of ownership boundaries were used to set out recommendations for a phased programme of site management.

The objective of Stage 2 of the project (should this go forward) is to oversee the contractors undertaking the on-site management works and to liaise with the site managers, with Natural England and with English Heritage.

2 Characterising the defined area

2.1 Definition of the study area

The project area extends to the boundaries of the Scheduled Monument, taking into account the fact that the designated part of the site is in two ownerships, only part of the site having been entered into an HLS agreement (No. AG00389319), which is to be the primary focus of the management works (Figs 1 and 2).

2.2 Ownership

Ennor Castle is private property: the majority its management being divided between the HLS Agreement holders Mr and Mrs Roberts of Ennor Castle Barn (who lease from the Duchy of Cornwall) and their neighbour, Mrs Hardern, though peripheral areas of the site are managed by two further neighbours (Fig 2).

The probable castle bailey is largely owned by Mrs Hardern whose land to the east is currently overgrown with trees, elm suckers, bushes and scrub. The southern section of the putative bailey is owned by the Duchy of Cornwall, and is leased by a third party.

A search request was made to the Land Registry via its online portal for information concerning land ownership boundaries at Ennor Castle. This differed to some degree to the information supplied by Natural England at the outset of the project, in particular to the line of the boundary where it abuts the surviving castle walling, which appears to form the boundary between the area managed by Mr and Mrs Roberts and that owned by Mrs Hardern. Subsequent enquiries with the Duchy of Cornwall office indicated the extents of the Duchy land ownership and the boundary between their land and that making up Castle Farm, as well as the extents of the two tenanted areas. This has greatly clarified the situation relating to ownership and tenancies in the vicinity of the castle.

2.3 Access

There is no public access to the monument, the whole of which is privately owned under two neighbouring ownerships, those parts within Duchy of Cornwall ownership being within two leaseholds. No public access is proposed as part of this management plan.

2.4 Existing statutory protections

2.4.1 Scheduled Monument

A substantial part of Ennor Castle is a nationally protected **Scheduled Monument**, NHLE 1014994 (SM 15469, originally Cornwall 990, first scheduled on 7 October 1976, and last amended on 29 May 1996 (see Figs 2 and 11). The scheduling currently excludes the area of the probable bailey to the south-east of the castle mound.

2.4.2 Conservation designations

The site is wholly within the Isles of Scilly **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty** (AONB).

The nearby Lower Moors (St Mary's) are designated as a **Site of Special Scientific**

Interest (SSSI).

Ennor Castle is wholly within an area designated as **Heritage Coast**.

The whole of the Isles of Scilly is a **Conservation Area**.

2.5 Physical character of the defined area

2.5.1 Geology and soils

As elsewhere in Scilly, the geology of Ennor Castle is made up of granite, overlain for the most part by thin granitic-derived soils; granite is exposed as a carn formation on the south western side of the outcrop on which the castle was constructed (and to a lesser degree to the north). To the east, where the ground shelves down from the top of the outcrop to the rear of Castle Farm, the soil overburden appears to be of some significant depth and has a substantial organic component.

2.5.2 Location and setting

The core section of Ennor Castle is 0.1ha in extent, and is centred at SV 91414 10347, occupying a formerly-prominent granite knoll just inland from Old Town Bay (Fig 1). The knoll rises to 10m above Ordnance Datum, being up to 4m high.

2.5.3 Current land use

The particular combination of the monument's underlying geology, its exposure, aspect, the nature of its soil cover and its previous land use (particularly within the last two centuries) have given rise to a diverse vegetation cover which consists of not only native but non-native species, these including *Echium pininana*, *Geranium maderense*, *Carpobrotus edulis* (Hottentot Fig or Ice plant, cultivated in Britain since c 1690) and *Montbretia (Crococsmia x crocosmiiflora)*; these are garden or cultivation plot escapes. There is also a dense ground cover of Alexanders (*Smyrniium olosatrum*, a medieval introduction to Britain from the Mediterranean) and Three cornered leek (*Allium triquetum*), a highly invasive coloniser of open ground, again of Mediterranean origin. The archive photographic evidence (Figs 9 and 10) suggests that the colonisation of the castle mound by the non-native species has taken place since the end of the 19th century.

The eastern and central parts of the castle mound form an informal garden area associated with the property owned by Mrs Hardern; the northern and western parts of the edges of the castle mound are informal extensions to agricultural land extending in these directions which are managed by the HLS Agreement holders, Mr and Mrs Roberts. The lower slopes of the castle mound are known to have been used for the growing of early violets and other flowers within living memory.

The castle mound is bounded to the east by gardens associated with modern and earlier properties; to the north and west it is bounded by agricultural land farmed by the HLS Agreement holders; to the south east a small area of densely suckered elm scrub woodland probably represents the area of the former castle bailey. This area lies outside the scheduling boundary and is not managed by the HLS Agreement holders.

2.6 Historic Landscape Character

The Historic Landscape Character (HLC) of Ennor Castle is mapped as **Urban Development** (Fig 12; Land Use Consultants and Cornwall Archaeological Unit 1996) though it is clearly within a mediievally-derived settlement and served as a fortification and administrative centre for the southern half of Scilly.

3 Heritage

3.1 Conventional history

During the medieval period the administration of Scilly was split between Tavistock Abbey which presided over the northern islands from its priory on Tresco and the two southern islands of St Mary's and St Agnes which were in the hands of a lay lord from the 12th century onwards who held his land as tenant of the earldom (and from 1337 the duchy) of Cornwall (Orme 2010, 66).

In 1176 the lay lord was Richard de Wika of Week St Mary in north-east Cornwall who was engaged in dispute with Tavistock Abbey concerning tithes on rabbits captured in Scilly (Finberg 1951, 15). He was succeeded as the proprietor of St Mary's and St Agnes by his son Richard in about 1199 (Thomas 1985, 201).

A castle of Scilly (Sullia) is first mentioned in 1194 although whether it was Ennor, Mount Holles — which Borlase suggested might be the site of small shell keep (1756,10) — or elsewhere is uncertain (Cathcart King 1983). The Latin entry in the *Rotuli Curiae Regis* published by the Record Commission in 1835 has been translated by Oliver Padel:

'Eve of St Nicholas, 6 Richard I [= Mon. 5th December, 1194]

Cornwall

John son of Richard de Lidford' plaintiff and Richard de Wike tenant, concerning the island of Hagenes in Sullia which John claimed against Richard as his right and inheritance, and concerning the island of Puor [read Enor] which the same John claimed as a pledge (= surety); they were agreed thus, that the said Richard acknowledged to John the said island of Hagenesse as his right and inheritance, to be held by him and his heirs from him [Richard] and his heirs by service of producing two armed men to defend his castle of Sullia, from the feast of the Invention of the Cross [3 May] to the Assumption of the Virgin [15 Aug.] every year; and the said Richard granted to John and his heirs the chace of the island of Puor [read Enor], to be held of him [Richard] and his heirs, from Michaelmas 7 Richard [1195] for the two following years, as a pledge (= security) which Richard promised to John's father, paying yearly £10 for all service. And Richard faithfully pledged and promised that he would do nothing on the island before Michaelmas whereby the said chace might be harmed, and for this fine and concord the said John returned to Richard all his charters which he has had concerning wages and debts'.

The earliest unequivocal reference to Ennor Castle is in a deed of AD 1244, by which time Ennor had been the principal settlement on St Mary's for some time. The castle had been constructed close to the church established under the jurisdiction of Tavistock Abbey in about 1130-40 and near the natural harbour of Porthenor or Pereglis. The church is recorded as having been plundered by Vikings around 1151. This event was recorded in the Orkneyinga Saga, which describes how three notable Vikings sailed from Orkney to Syllýngar (Scilly), defeated the local people and took much plunder from Mariuhofn (Mary's Haven) near La Val (the Anglo-Norman name for Old Town, meaning 'Down-there' or 'At-the-bottom') (Thomas 1985, 210-11).

Charles Thomas (1985) analysed place-names on Scilly in considerable detail. *Ennor* occurs in various forms between the 12th and early 14th century. Thomas suggests that these derive from a hypothetical 10th century Old Cornish form *En-noer*, meaning 'The Land' and referring to large pre-submergence island, represented by the islands now making up the archipelago with the exception of St Agnes, Annet and the Western Rocks. The place name is now restricted to the castle itself and to Ennor Close (a post-war housing development in Old Town). Thomas suggests that the place-name 'Scilly', first used by Roman writers, appears to have supplanted the name 'Ennor' for the main island during the later medieval period, 'Ennor' being increasingly applied solely to the

site at Old Town, initially (in Latin) as *castrum de Enoer*.

From 1248 to 1251, Drew (or Dreux) de Barrentine, a Norman knight who also administered the Channel Islands, is recorded as having come to Ennor Castle as Governor of Scilly on the orders of Henry III, receiving lands worth £10 in payment (Bowley 1990, 30). The Governor was expected to maintain a garrison at the castle, this probably consisting of armed men drawn from the tenants of the land he held in order to protect the King's interests when acting as his Tenant-in-Chief.

In 'Scilly and its Legends' (1851, 61-73) the Rev H J Whitfield recounts the story of a beautiful young woman called Maude who was the Earl of Cornwall's ward at Ennor Castle in the time of the Barrentines. She formed an attachment to a young squire named Jocelyn de Martin, but on this being discovered he was sent away and she sent to a nunnery at Holy Vale. Soon after she mysteriously disappeared, but many years later her miraculously unchanged corpse reappeared in the chapel.

The castle is known to have been occupied in 1306, by which responsibility for keeping the King's peace on Scilly had passed to Ranulph (or Randolfe) de Blanchminster (alternatively Blankminster, Blanminster or Blancmuster) of Binhamy near Stratton, the head of a well-known West Country family. The Blanchminsters were granted the title of *Lords of Scilly and Constables of Ennor Castle* by Edward I on condition that they maintained 12 men-at-arms, whose task it was to keep the peace in the area at all times. The Crown also required the Lords of Scilly to pay an annual fee of 300 puffins or 6s. 8d, the rent seems usually to have been paid in the form of money. Puffins were, curiously, considered to be fish rather than birds, their feathers being very valuable; this decision by the Vatican also enabled the birds to be eaten during Lent). These 'puffins' were almost certainly Manx Shearwaters as the term 'puffin' is derived from an Anglo-Norman word for the salted carcasses of nestling shearwaters (Brook 1990, 13). The Atlantic Puffin acquired the name at a much later date, possibly because of its similar nesting habits.

According to Bowley (1990, 31), Ranulph de Blanchminster's reputation was not of the highest, in 1305 William de Poer, the Coroner on St Mary's, accusing him of receiving '*felons, thieves, outlaws and men guilty of manslaughter*' instead of keeping the peace. A Royal Commission was appointed by King Edward to look into these accusations. The accusation evidently backfired on de Poer, who was imprisoned by Blanchminster at *La Val* (i.e. at Ennor Castle) and made to pay a fine of 100 marks, a very substantial sum at the time.

The license to crenellate Ennor Castle was granted to '*Ranulphus de Albo Monasterio (de Blancmuster or de Whitchurch)*' by Edward II at the request of the Bishop of Exeter was in March 1315 (Maxwell Lyte 1898, 262). Ranulph de Blanchminster died in 1348, leaving as his heir his grandson Gandewen, a minor of about nine years of age, and the Duchy of Cornwall held the manor during the early years of the minority, the titles of *Constable of the Castle* and *Keeper of the Isles of Scilly* passing to Walter Hull in 1353. The custody and wardship of the Blanchminster heir was subsequently granted by the Black Prince to William Morier (or Morrers), who took over the Constablership of the castle (cf Bowley 1990, 29).

The Constablership seems eventually to have devolved to Ranulph's son: John de Albo, Monasterio, Knight and Member of Parliament for Cornwall during the reign of Edward III. He, like his father, seems to have neglected his duties on Scilly, as the Priory of St Nicholas complained of the '*want of proper protection*', and that the Priory had been '*wasted and impoverished by the frequent arrival of the seaships of all nations*' – in other words, Blanchminster was failing in his duties to protect the Priory against acts of piracy. It seems, as a result, that the King had to remind the Constable of Ennor of these particular responsibilities: King Edward III, holding the Priory '*in great esteem as a royal foundation ... commanded all dukes, earls, admirals, soldiers, masters of ships, and mariners, and especially the constable of his castle in the isle of Ennor, to extent to the prior, monks and chaplains and their servants, all possible protection, so they might*

be able to bear their proper burdens and offer prayers and devotions continuously for the King, his progenitors, and his heirs, as they had been wont to do.' (Bowley 1990, 32).

Richard III ordered an inquisition into the Isles of Scilly in 1484, this revealing that although the islands were worth 40 shillings a year in times of peace, in times of war they were worth nothing, in recognition of the fact that Scilly would have been very expensive and almost impossible to defend against incursion (Bowley 1990, 32). This suggests that Ennor Castle was recognised as being of little value as a fortification against potential invading enemies and reinforces the comments made subsequently by John Leland (in 1540) that *'Few men be glad to inhabite these islettes, for al the plenty, for robbers by sea that take their catail by force. The robbers be Frenchmen and Spaniards.'*

The Blanchminsters were subsequently succeeded as Lords of Scilly by the Tresillion family, then by the Coleshills during the late 14th century, and subsequently by the Arundells. In 1505 John Crocker, husband of Anne Arundell became *tenant-in-chief* of the castle and manor of Scilly, by which time the castle had gone into decline, and may well have been become effectively indefensible. It is unclear to what degree the keepers of the castle had occupied it on a full-time basis as their residence on Scilly.

In 1536 John Leland recorded in his itinerary: *'S. Mary isle is 5. Miles or more in cumpace; in it is a poore Toun [Old Town] and a meately [moderately] strong Pile [Ennor Castle], but the Roues of the Buildings in it be sore defacid and worn'* (in Chope 1918, 23). As Crispin Gill (1975, 32) points out it is not clear from his description whether the dwellings of the town or the castle were ruinous but implies that it had continued to be a potentially effective defence against incursion or civil unrest, and that the original timber castle had certainly been replaced with a stone-built construction.

A garrison continued to be maintained in Scilly during the later years of the reign of Henry VIII, the soldiers wages between 1544–47 are recorded as totalling £4,184 7s 1d (Miles and Saunders 1971, 1)

Thomas Seymour, Lord Admiral, purchased Scilly from the Crown and visited the islands in 1547. He may well have made Ennor Castle his residence there, but was later accused of having allowed Scilly to become a base for pirates and of having *'gotten into his hands the strong and dangerous isles of Scilly, where he might have a safe refuge if anything for his demerits should be attempted against him.'* As a result of these accusations he was arrested and beheaded, and the islands reverted to the Crown.

During the reign of Edward VI (1547 to 1553) £6,000 was expended on improving the defences of Scilly; it is thought that this included repairs to King Charles' Castle on Tresco Castle and some building work at Harry's Walls, but Ennor Castle might also have been refurbished to some degree. In 1554 the defence works on 'St Mary Islande' and 'The Isle of Treskaw' were listed, together with their armament

'The ordnaunce and artillerie that is on St Mary Islande

At the old castell or pile [Ennor Castle]: Item ii sakers with v^c Shott, item iii fawkones with ii^f shott. Item iii sponges and iiij ladles.

The hugh. Item one hole colverine with ii^c Shott. Item one dimi Culverin with i^c shott.

Apon the wales of the new forte or plott [Harry's walls] to beat the harbour there. Item ii sakers.

At the blocke howse called helvere and Allines howse. Item ii curtalls with iiij^{xx} Shott. Item ii Demi Culverines. Item one porte peace.

Artillarie in the olde castell in St Mary Islande [Ennor Castle]. Item xxx^{ti} bowes. Item xxiiij pikes. Item xx billes. Item L shefes of arrowes olde and new. Item vi

barrels of Serpentine powder. Item v dossen bowe strengs. Item ii cressets. Item xxx halfe hake broken and holle.' (in Miles and Saunders 1971, 3-4).

From this account it can be seen that Ennor Castle was still serviceable being fortified with five light guns to defend Old Town Harbour and quay and used as the armoury for the main body of the garrison which numbered 150 men for the whole of Scilly. The garrison was kept up on St Mary's and it was strengthened in 1557, the yearly expenditure on the soldiers' pay being £182 (*ibid*, 4). A stylised depiction of Ennor Castle is shown on Captain John Davies' c 1584 map of Scilly (Fig 3).

In 1579, when Francis Godolphin took on a Crown Lease of Scilly, the castle was not mentioned by him as being amongst the defences of the islands. Following the rising importance of St Mary's Pool as the principal anchorage on the island during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I and the growth of Hugh Town and its fortifications centred on Star Castle, constructed in 1593, Ennor Castle and Old Town Harbour declined in importance, and the castle's defences were run down.

The 1652 Parliamentary Survey records the tenements and occupiers of 'The Old Town near the Old Castle [Ennor Castle]' (Pounds 1984 140-1).

Robert Heath writing in 1750 does not mention the castle in his description of Old Town and crucially William Borlase (1756, 8) noted that: '*Old-Town* lies in the Eastern corner of a small *Cove* or *Creek*, fronting the South, and was formerly the principal place of dwelling in all this Island, but the houses are now poor cots with rope-thatch coverings. Behind them stands an eminence, call'd *Old-Town* Castle, and part of the walls still remains. Leland calls it a moderately small pile, but 'tis now dismantled'. Troutbeck [nd c 1794, 77-8] reiterates Borlase's description and adds 'it is now said that the best part of its materials were taken away when His Majesty's Star Castle was built'.

Troutbeck is the first to record the local tradition that Ennor Castle was pulled down to provide a cheap source of stone for the building of Star Castle in 1593 (or for the new quay in St Mary's Pool) though given the ready availability of building granite near hose site, this seems open to doubt. It is much more likely, as Thomas (1985, 219) suggests, that if some demolition took place at this time, the castle's stonework would have been used to construct dwellings at Old Town.

The Rev^d Woodley (1822, 197-8) noted that 'at present, however there is scarcely a vestige of this once formidable edifice;—the remainder of the wall, and many of the rock, having been taken away to build the houses now standing at the foot of the hill on its Eastern side. The natural blocks which still remain are yet denominated the Castle Rocks, and have somewhat picturesque appearance as they lean over the verdurous acclivity facing the West. The height of the hill may be about twenty yards away from the moorland at its base: The view from the summit is extensive and interesting; and the site was admirably chosen, as the castle commanded not only Old Town bay, but the two bays of St Mary's Pool,—the intermediate tract of low land, — and the sides of the adjacent hills'.

In 'A Week in the Isles of Scilly, North (1850, 33) observed that: 'Passing through the little village of Old Town, the visitor will see upon his left the rocks on which the Castle formerly stood. There are still some small remains of the Northern wall. The height on which the Castle was built, is scarcely less than one hundred feet above the level of the sea. It is said to have been beaten down by Oliver Cromwell; many of the stones were removed from the ruins about 50 years ago, and used in building the cottages, which lie near it on the road'.

3.2 Cartographic, photographic and pictorial sources

Captain John Davies' 1584 map of Scilly, thought to be the earliest map of the archipelago (Fig 3), depicts the castle in a stylised fashion, however. The castle was mapped on Greenville Collins chart of 1689, Edmund Gosselo's map of 1708, on George Vertue's copy map of 1721 and on a Board of Ordnance map of around the same date

(reproduced as Fig 100 in Thomas 1985). It was mapped on Ginver and Tovey's 1779 chart of Scilly (Fig 4) and on Graeme Spence's 1792 maritime survey of Scilly (Fig 5), this source clearly showing the shell keep on its mound, as well as the settlement of Old Town nearby and the medieval pier at the head of Old Town Bay. Of these sources, the representation of the Old castle is stylised and Spence's map appears likely to be the most accurately surveyed, suggesting that there is a long tradition of settlement on the land adjoining the castle on its eastern and southern sides.

Unfortunately, the St Mary's tithe award map dating to c 1840 (Fig 6) is insufficiently detailed to determine the dates at which the houses and agricultural buildings immediately adjoining the castle mound were initially constructed, but both Castle Farm to the east and a part of Ennor Castle Barn to the north, together with cottages to the south east, were all shown on the c 1880 1st Edition 6" to a mile mapping (Fig 7). Further buildings, probably predominantly agricultural in character, were constructed within the following decades, most particularly to the west of the Castle, as can be seen on the 2nd Edition of the mapping dating to around 1908 (Fig 8). This mapping also appears to show a curving arc of walling on the south eastern part of the summit of the castle mound, possibly representing a now-demolished element of the original shell-keep.

The site was recognised as being of landscape interest and was photographed by one of the Gibson family of Scillonian photographers in around 1890 (Figs 9 and 10). The former prominence of the knoll within the landscape is clear in these images, as is the absence of cloaking vegetation.

A view of Old Town by Francis Frith taken in 1891 shows Ennor Castle in the middle distance although it is difficult to make it out clearly (Cowan 2001 40-1 photo 28457).

The Jesse Mothersole illustration (1910, plate opposite page 128) shows that the south-western slope of the castle mound was being used to cultivate daffodils and the rock outcrop is already becoming obscured by Hottentot Fig.

3.3 The form of the castle

It is uncertain what form the castle took before its crenellation, though it is likely to have taken the form of a single storey shell keep. In English castle morphology, shell keeps are viewed as the successors to motte-and-bailey castles, the wooden fence around the top of a motte (castle mound) having been replaced by a stone wall. Castle engineers during the Norman period did not always trust their mottes to support the enormous weights of stone keeps and a common solution was to replace the palisade with a stone wall and to construct wooden buildings backing onto the inside of the wall (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shell_keep).

Larger examples of this type of late Norman fortification exist at Restormel, Launceston and Trematon in Cornwall; others formerly existed at Cardinham, Kilkhampston and East Leigh Berrys, whilst a further example still stands at Totnes in Devon. Ennor Castle is the only example of the site of a shell keep on Scilly. The original Ennor Castle was most likely constructed of timber and would have consisted of a single storey wooden tower within a defensive palisade, or alternatively a strongly-built palisade backed by buildings and having an open internal courtyard. Attached to the motte (usually an artificial mound siting the castle, but in this case made up of an enhanced natural granite outcrop) would have been a defensible bailey enclosure, probably defined by a wooden palisade (Renn 1969).

The English Heritage site type description for shell keeps reads: *A shell keep castle is a masonry enclosure, extending around the top of an earlier motte or castle ringwork, and replacing the existing timber palisades; there are a few cases where the wall is built lower down the slope or even at the bottom. The enclosure is usually rounded or sub-rounded but other shapes are also known. A shell keep is relatively small, normally between 15 and 25m diameter, with few buildings, and perhaps one tower only,*

within its interior. Shell keeps were built over a period of about 150 years, from not long after the Norman Conquest until the mid-13th century; most were built in the 12th century. They provided strongly fortified residences for the king or leading families and occur in both urban and rural situations. Shell keep castles are widely dispersed throughout England with a marked concentration in the Welsh Marches. The distribution also extends into Wales and to a lesser extent into Scotland. They are rare nationally with only 71 recorded examples. Considerable diversity of form is exhibited with no two examples being exactly alike. Along with other castle types, they are major medieval monument types which, belonging to the highest levels of society, frequently acted as major administrative centres and formed the foci for developing settlement patterns. Castles generally provide an emotive and evocative link to the past and can provide a valuable education resource, both with respect to medieval warfare and defence, and to wider aspects of medieval society. All examples retaining significant remains of medieval date are considered to be nationally important.

Again, the form taken by the later castle is open to speculation based on surviving examples, but it is probable that, given the small area available on the knoll at Ennor site such a building, any keep which existed there would have been relatively simple in design, incorporating rooms for the castle governor together with other necessary offices, including an armoury. The surrounding masonry wall would have been equipped with a defensible walkway around its perimeter, this incorporating embrasures for archers and (subsequently it seems) for small cannon. Given the small size of the available site, servants and other staff would probably have been accommodated within buildings sited within the adjoining bailey. A keep may not have existed here, however, and the outer shell keep walling may have enclosed a series of buildings constructed against the inner face of its wall, these surrounding an open inner courtyard.

3.4 The site today

The castle is likely to have occupied the level ground available on the summit and eastern flanks of a semi-circular west-facing and almost vertical rock outcrop 6m–9m high. The summit has a narrow, flattish top measuring 22m north-east to south-west by up to 17m north-west to south-east in plan, with excellent views out over Old Town Bay and its approaches. The castle mound shelves on the east side for 20m before reaching ground level (Fig 13); this side of the mound is blanketed by a deep accumulation of earth and is heavily overgrown. The only surviving building remains consist of a single obtuse-angled wall of small well-set stones, apparently unmortared but incorporating packing pieces, which has been set into and against the rock of the outcrop. This wall, following the top western edge of the knoll, extends to 7m in length, stands 0.1m high above the section revetting the rock face and is 1m thick (see Fig 9). The wall extends towards the north east for another 10m increasing to 2m high as the outcrop reduces in height, its original course is thereafter increasingly represented by a linear spread of small stone which represents the original wall core, the facings having been removed from this section. No distinctive features or cut stone remain. The cut stone was probably that which was removed for building works nearby, the rest not being worth the costs of its cartage.

What remains in the core area of the site tends to confirm earlier suggestions that something similar to a shell-keep occupied the summit and eastern flanks of the castle mound, almost certainly with an associated polygonal bailey to the east. Whilst the scheduling description does not mention any accompanying bailey, a site visit undertaken in February 2013 suggests that this element of the site is likely to be represented by the level sub-triangular area to the south east of the site of the shell keep (see Fig 13). This area is not currently covered by the scheduling for the monument but probably should be.

The excellent c 1890 Gibson photograph of the north-western face of the outcrop on which the castle was constructed (Fig 9) shows the site prior to it being engulfed in trees and scrub. This clearly shows substantially more of the surviving medieval

masonry of the curtain wall of the shell keep around the upper edge of the granite outcrop than is currently visible.

It is understood that some of the lower slopes of the castle mound were used to cultivate early flowers, a practice which may well have begun during the late 19th century and to have continued until relatively recent times. Clearance of boulders from the flanks of the castle mound and the creation of some stretches of walling are likely to be associated with this activity. These are not shown on the c 1890 Gibson photograph of the western part of the castle mound (Fig 9).

A short stretch of walling on the southern side of the knoll near its summit represents either a stock or property boundary and is of much later date, as is the revetment walling along the lower north side of the castle mound and that revetting a path on its western side. A collection of apparently displaced boulders at the southern end of the lower western slope of the castle mound may well represent the results of the clearance of a patch of ground on the slope below the outcrop to create a cultivation plot. Other short stretches of walling noted beneath understorey vegetation on the summit of the mound may possibly relate to its medieval occupation. These require survey.

Other late features on the castle mound include a 4.5m x 4.0m plan partly rendered blockwork water tank standing to around 2.0m high in the south eastern area of the castle mound (Fig 31). The base of this feature has been excavated into the original ground level at the foot of a small slope which probably represents the boundary between the shell keep and the bailey. Associated with this water tank are steel pipes and a pair of blockwork pillars (one adjacent to the water tank on its north western corner and another on the north western corner of the castle mound) which carry an above ground water supply to Castle Farm. The water storage and header tanks, their pipes and fittings and the pipe-support blocks are excluded from the Scheduling but the ground beneath them is included.

At the foot of the castle mound on its south western corner is a block-built flat-roofed shed measuring 4m by 2.75m in plan. This has been built up against the now roofless remains of a larger, masonry-constructed shed measuring 9.25m by 5.25m in plan which probably represents a late 19th century agricultural building. The c 1908 Ordnance Survey 6" to a mile mapping (Fig 8) indicates that this was one of a group of buildings constructed on the level ground at the foot of the mound to its west, the majority of which have now been cleared away.

During a preliminary site visit by HE Projects in February 2013 a sketch survey of the site was undertaken, utilising the Ordnance Survey MasterMap as a base map (Fig 13). As well as the location of the granite outcrop extent of the granite outcrop and adjacent slopes, features such as the water tanks and pillars, free-standing and revetment walling together with paths and fences were plotted. An overlay to the mapping was used to produce a preliminary plot of the locations of individual larger trees and of vegetation cover types (Fig 14).

3.5 What hasn't been done

- No detailed, metrically accurate topographic survey of the castle mound has been produced to date.
- No archaeological investigation, whether in the form of evaluation trenching, as a result of archaeological watching briefs during building or other works on or adjacent to the castle mound, or in the form of controlled open area excavations has taken place. As a result, a determination of the potential of any buried archaeological deposits relating to the castle, either on or flanking its site, cannot at this time be made.
- Although a complete Tudor green-ware cooking pot originating from an unknown location on or near the castle is on display in the Isles of Scilly Museum, no other artefacts are known to have been recovered from the site or its immediate

surroundings which might throw light on its former occupation or use. It is unlikely that there are no artefacts within the soils on and surrounding the site, as a sherd of medieval pot was picked up from the land surface during a preliminary visit to the site by HE Projects in early 2013. The Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record (HER) also notes a copper alloy pilgrim's medallion with a rampant lion relief with traces of gilt and blue enamel which also derived from a location on the site. In addition, HE Projects were told of the finding of 'musket balls' on the ground surface in the area of the potential bailey some decades ago. Enquiries with the site owners and with local residents may provide information on other finds currently in private collections. If these exist, they should be collated, recorded and assessed.

4 Ecology

Dr Bob Dawson, an ecological consultant resident on Scilly, was commissioned to produce a biological survey and a Phase I habitat survey of the Scheduled area of Ennor Castle, this being carried out from late March 2013 due to delays caused by the unseasonable weather experienced in the early spring months of 2013.

The following sections reproduce the principal findings of the ecological survey and recommendations stemming from it. See also Appendix 2 at the end of this report.

4.1 Desk-based survey of available records for the site

An information request was made to ERCCIS. The area of search for species information was 500m from the centre of the 100m square SV914103.

There were 116 records for SV913103 and 54 records for SV914103, these concerning principally plants, together with a number of bird records. From the location notes, it is evident that none are from Ennor Castle.

For the 1km square SV9110 there are 3,897 records representing a wider range of taxa. These include a historic record of the Lesser White-toothed ('Scilly') Shrew *Crocidura suaveolens* and records of Pipistrelle *Pipistrellus pipistrellus* (location withheld for confidentiality). It is evident that from the location notes that the 1km square records refer to sites other than Ennor Castle.

It is concluded that ERCCIS currently holds no records for the Ennor Castle site. The site is not mentioned in Parslow (2007).

A number of species in the ERCCIS record for the area of search are listed in the Red Data Book for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. These include 37 flowering plants, nine lichens, 12 mosses, four liverworts, 12 invertebrates and four terrestrial vertebrates. In addition, of the six UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) bird species that have been recorded, three - House Sparrow, Song Thrush and Starling - are Red Data Book species for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. Of the mammals, only the European Hedgehog *Erinaceus europaeus* is a UK BAP species, and is introduced in Scilly. However, the Soprano Pipistrelle *P. pygmaeus* (UK BAP species) could possibly be present.

4.2 Phase 1 habitat survey

4.2.1 Methodology

An initial Phase I habitat survey was carried out in late March, early April and early May 2013. A period of cold weather during the survey period conspicuously delayed flowering and consequently also invertebrate and breeding bird activity. Point counts to assess breeding bird activity were made in April and May and a visit was made to search directly for invertebrates.

The survey site is very small, having an area of 0.1ha. To better define its habitat

components, the area was divided into a grid of 10m x 10m squares. Within each square an assessment was made of the predominant habitat, including the estimated canopy cover of tree/shrub species as well as the presence of the main understorey components. Habitats were mapped utilising a 5 x 5m grid to facilitate estimates of percentage cover (Fig 43). Although the survey mapping has been produced with the intention of indicating and classifying the occurrence of semi-natural habitats, it is not to be regarded as a definitive representation of the conservation value or interest of any piece of land. In particular, the absence of any symbol such as a colour code or target symbol should not be taken as denoting a lack of conservation value. In addition, orientation on the site was surprisingly difficult, the errors inherent in the use of handheld GPS positioning having significant impacts on such a small site with such extensive tree cover.

4.2.2 Summary

The majority of the site is A1 Semi-natural woodland (70%) which includes self-sown non-native shrubs. This is the dominant overall habitat category for the site. The remainder is made up of 12% B2 Neutral grassland, 11% C3.1 Tall ruderal, 4% J1.4 Introduced shrub (Hottentot Fig), 2% J3.6 Domestic building and 1% J4 Bare ground.

In the areas classified as Woodland, the dominant canopy cover is Elm, particularly on the eastern slope where the canopy cover is between 80% and 100%, compared to 10% to 90% on the western slope. However, there is a significant element of *Pittosporum crassifolium* within these areas, including many mature trees, the canopy cover typically being between 10% and 30%. There is also some *Coprosma repens* and *Hebe x franciscana*.

The Tall Ruderal community includes the garden area, but is principally focussed on the eastern boundary of the site by the footpath and the western slope below the rock face topped by Hottentot Fig, where semi-natural woodland canopy cover is lowest (c.10%). There is a more diverse community here than in the understorey under areas having a greater canopy cover, such as the eastern slope. This in part reflects the former cultivated nature of the western slope, and is further reflected in the presence of species such as Western Ramping Fumitory (*Fumaria occidentale*), a Red Data Book species for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

Target notes are provided for individual 10m squares (see appendix), but a summary is provided below. Species identification was carried out in the field and by reference to Stace (2010) using specimen material. Rosemary Parslow kindly confirmed the identification of *Fumaria occidentale*.

4.2.3 Vegetation

The site is largely woodland, with small areas of neutral grassland, tall ruderal vegetation and garden. The woodland is principally made up of Elm (*Ulmus* sp(p)), other deciduous elements including Elder (*Sambucus nigra*) and Hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*). A striking feature of the site is the significant presence of non-native evergreens, especially *Pittosporum crassifolium* and to a lesser extent *Coprosma repens*.

The understorey is primarily non-native in terms of species abundance, although a wide range of native species is present. Two species are particularly abundant, Three-cornered Leek (*Allium triquetrum*) flowering earlier, and being superseded on the site by Alexanders (*Smyrniolum olusatrum*). Other non-natives found at high frequency across the site include *Geranium maderense* and Winter Heliotrope (*Petasites fragrans*), with a lower frequency of *Hebe x franciscana*, Spanish Bluebell (*Hyacinthoides hispanica*), *Narcissus* sp(p), Montbretia (*Crocasmia x crocosmifolia*), *Echium pininana*, Bear's Breeches (*Acanthus mollis*) and *Cordyline australis*. A significant feature on the rock outcrop of the site is a mat and trailing carpet of Hottentot Fig (*Carpobrotus* sp) believed to be *C. edulis*. One non-native with a woody stem remained unidentified,

possibly *Solanaceae*.

A conspicuous feature is *Arum* sp(p). Both *Arum maculatum* and *Arum italicum* var. *neglectum* are regarded as native and the latter is a Red Data Book species for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. Flowering had not taken place by the end of the survey, but both species are potentially present.

Plants associated with the garden and adjoining wall include *Agapanthus* sp, *Aeonium* sp, Honeysuckle (*Lonicera* sp.), *Osteospermum* sp and a mallow (*Malva* sp).

Three non-native species found within the survey area are listed under the Wildlife and Countryside Act, Schedule 9 Part 2 owing to their invasive nature: Hottentot Fig (*Carpobrotus edulis*), Three-cornered Leek (*Alium triquetum*) and Montbretia (*Crocsmia x crocsmifolia*). The abundant Alexanders are not listed; Perfoliate Alexanders (*S. perfoliatum*) is listed, but was not found during the survey. The extent of *C. edulis* at Ennor Castle seems relatively unchanged over past decades (though must have been introduced during the 20th century — see Fig 9).

List of herbaceous native plants found in the survey area (vernacular names)

<i>Arum</i> sp(p)	Stinking Iris
Yarrow	Common Nettle
Bramble	Goosegrass
Wall Pennywort	Common Cats-ear
Ribwort Plantain	Curled Dock
Cow Parsley	Hare's-foot Clover
Sheep's Sorrell	Smooth Sow-thistle
Western Ramping Fumitory	Lesser Celandine
Annual Mercury	Cocksfoot
Spear Thistle	Red Fescue
Ivy	Polypody
Yorkshire Fog	Dandelion
Creeping Buttercup	<i>Fumeria occidentalis</i>
Bracken	

This list is unlikely to be exhaustive, but represent the predominant species encountered during the survey. The site is therefore not particularly diverse with regard to native species, and the soil is thought likely to have relatively high nutrient levels.

4.2.4 Invertebrates

Direct searching, beating and sweep-netting were carried out on 2 May 2013. Direct searching revealed a range of ground dwelling invertebrates including slugs (Gastropoda), earthworms (Annelida), centipedes (Myriapoda: Chilopoda), ants (Hymenoptera: Formicidae), beetles (Coleoptera: Carabidae), spiders (Arachnida: Araneae) and Woodlice (Crustacea: Isopoda).

Beating was carried out at Elm, Elder and Pittosporum. Elm and Elder yielded very little (perhaps as leafing out was late, and was poorly advanced for Elm), examples of a plant bug (Hemiptera: Homoptera) and a money-spider (Araneae: Linyphiidae) being found. At *Pittosporum*, there was a higher representation of plant bugs and also true flies: Diptera: Nematocera.

Sweep-netting was carried out through Alexanders, Spanish Bluebell and Three-

cornered Leek. Diptera and Hemiptera (Homoptera) were most frequently encountered, as well as spiders (Linyphiidae, Thomisidae), wasps (Hymenoptera: Parasitica), thrips (Thysanoptera), springtails (Hexapoda: Collembola) and beetles (Coleoptera: Curculionoidea).

A range of nectar feeding species was present at *Echium pininana*, *Geranium maderense* and Alexanders. Most conspicuous were queens and workers of the Buff-tailed Bumblebee *Bombus terrestris* and a nest of this species was discovered under vegetation among rocks on the west-facing slope. Relatively few solitary bees were seen, but these included *Andrena nigroaenea sarnia* and *A. thoracia*. A queen Tree Wasp *Dolichovespula sylvestris* was recorded, as was the hemipteran bug *Dolychoris baccarum* (Heteroptera: Pentatomidae). The principal species of Diptera at nectar sources were hoverflies, including *Syrphus* and *Platycheirus* spp. as well as a number of muscid flies.

Butterflies were infrequent, although Large White, Speckled Wood, Small Tortoiseshell and Peacock were all recorded. Common Nettle (a larval foodplant) was present on the site for the latter two species. In addition, other hoverflies *Eristalis* sp(p), *Epistrophe eligans* and *Rhingia campestris* were noted. A range of nematoceran flies were observed, including tipulids and presumed ceratopognid midges.

4.2.5 Birds

Three UK BAP species were recorded as using the site: House Sparrow, Starling and Song Thrush. Of these, Song Thrush was probably nesting on the site. Both Starling and House Sparrow are frequent cavity nesters in Elm in Scilly and could potentially nest on the site. However, use of the site by these species is mainly referable to birds nesting in nearby buildings. A fourth UK BAP species, Linnet, was occasional in the vicinity of the site, but there are limited nesting opportunities within it, for example in the *Pittosporum* hedging at the northwest of the Scheduled Monument boundary.

Nests were confirmed for two species, although that of Blackbird was among ivy on the water tank, just outside the Scheduled Monument area. Nest-building was observed by Wren, intriguingly under the lower 'curtain' of Hottentot Fig. In Scilly, this species frequently uses cavity nests among tangles of vegetation (e.g. among ivy around tree trunks and in palms) as well as free-standing nests (including within *Pittosporum* and bramble). Several other species visiting the site have the potential to nest on the site, including Robin, Blackcap, Great Tit (a bird was noted holding territory on more than one visit), Blue Tit, Chaffinch, Greenfinch, Goldfinch, Wood Pigeon and Collared Dove.

The site offers good foraging opportunities, e.g. for aerial feeders (Swallow), and when the Elm canopy develops, foliar invertebrates will probably be important for a number of species, including Blue and Great Tits. Species such as Robins can feed at the flower clusters of *Geranium maderense*, presumably feeding on the invertebrates visiting this attractive nectar source, while several insectivorous species including migratory warblers feed among Alexanders. Foraging opportunities are limited on *Pittosporum*. Although warblers such as Chiffchaff do take small prey items, the shrub is more useful in terms of providing structure and cover for nesting (Dunnock, Song Thrush, Wren, Linnet and Goldfinch are found to use this species elsewhere in Scilly, *pers. obs.*).

4.2.6 Mammals

The ordering of two mammal ink tunnels was delayed and in the event they were not set because of other commitments. However, an anecdotal report exists that the area was previously commonly used by Lesser White-toothed ('Scilly') Shrew. Several were observed at Ennor Castle Barn during 2013/14. No hedgehog droppings were seen, which is perhaps surprising as they are frequently present elsewhere on St Mary's. A Pipistrelle sp was observed on the evening of 20 May, likely foraging on the many midges present.

4.3 Ecological management recommendations

Currently the site has limited priority wildlife interest. Whilst the management recommendations proposed for the site have the primary goal of improving the condition of the scheduled monument, there is also the potential to develop the site's wildlife interest, particularly for native flowering plants. The area with the greatest potential for intervention is thought likely to be that formerly cultivated for flowers, as illustrated in Mothersole 1910 (plate opposite page 128).

The following management actions are recommended:

- The removal of the mature and scrub non-native evergreen shrub component which is obscuring the Scheduled Monument.
- The removal of non-native evergreen shrub seedlings.
- The selective removal of native trees and shrubs where there is a risk of structural damage to the monument, either in relation to its standing components such as walling, or where it is considered that archaeological deposits may be being significantly disrupted. The denser stands of elms are thought likely to be self-thinning over the long term, despite the high densities of suckers noted. Further bat survey work should be undertaken prior to the removal of trees, however.
- Dead wood should be retained unless there is a risk from falling branches to site users or to utility supplies, or if there is a clearly discernible disease outbreak.
- The ground clearance of the understorey on the western slope should be considered, in order to allow the native seedbank to germinate. The impact on the Red Data Book *Arum italicum* var. *neglectum* is likely to be minimal and disturbance could well benefit a range of other RDB species.
- The trial removal of the Hottentot Fig from the granite outcrop will help to expose the rock face to highlight the feature and expose potential rock crevice habitats. Any regrowth of the Hottentot Fig should be monitored. This removal work should not be carried out during the bird breeding season (April to July).

Ongoing management and monitoring will also be required, including:

- The removal of non-native evergreen shrub seedlings. These are likely to be primarily found on bare earth and in rock crevices.
- The monitoring of the establishment of biennial species such as *Echium pininana* and especially *Geranium maderense*, although these would provide a dramatic and typical Scillonian foreground to the castle when viewed from the west.
- Undertake ground disturbance on the western slope on a rotational basis to allow native species from the seedbank to re-establish, particularly bulb field flora and other species of high conservation value, and to gradually reduce the area of Alexanders and Three-cornered Leek in this area, creating higher diversity. However, it should be noted that it is likely that there is a significant seedbank of non-native *Allium*, *Smyrniium* and *Geranium* in this location which may require periodic management. In addition, creating bare ground may favour the increase of seedling numbers of non-native evergreens, whilst *Pteridium aquilinum* spores may also germinate more successfully if these conditions are created.
- Monitor the establishment and/or spread of Bracken in the managed area.
- Undertake further survey to provide further information relating to species present on the site. This would be useful to identify species of high conservation status, particularly fungi, lichens, mosses and liverworts.

4.4 Bat survey

A survey by the Isles of Scilly Bat Group to determine the suitability of the site for roosting bats was carried out on the 9 April 2013, whilst a dawn survey was undertaken on the following morning.

The preliminary survey found no indications that any of the trees or bushes on the castle mound would be suitable for bat roosting. The doorway of the shed at the base of the mound to the north was noted as being kept open, potentially allowing bats to enter it and make use of the roofing sheet corrugations as a roosting site. However, the surveyors found no indications that local bats were using the building, and concluded that it was probably unsuitable for such a use.

The dawn survey was undertaken on the 10 April 2013 as bats often return to roost just before dawn after foraging, and perform a ritual circling flight before roosting, increasing potential observation time (as opposed to when they emerge). The weather conditions were noted as thin cloud with a south-easterly wind blowing force three to four, the ambient temperature being 7°C. Although it was not raining, the ground surface was noted as being damp under foot. One observer was stationed on the north east side of the castle mound where there was a view of its northern and eastern sides. The second observer was stationed on the west side of the site just to the north of the shed used as a hen house. No suitable viewing point was identified for the wooded southern side of the mound. Both observers were equipped with hand-held bat detectors set at 45kHz — the frequency of Common Pipistrelle, the species which accounts for over 99% of bat sightings on St Mary's.

Dawn broke at 6:45am and during the observation period (5:58 to 6:45am) only one bat was observed. This appeared at 06.15 and foraged briefly near Ennor Castle Barn before returning roughly to the north east. On the day of the survey, no bats arrived with the evident intention of entering a roost. Prior to the survey date, the weather had been totally unsuitable for observation, being either very windy, cold or wet.

The Bat Group had observed bats elsewhere on the island the previous evening and Phil and Anthea Roberts had reported seeing bats flying in the vicinity of Ennor Castle during the period prior to the survey. It is clear, therefore, that bats are foraging routinely on St Mary's and that the failure to observe bats at Ennor was not due to a general absence of bats on the island due to unfavourable conditions.

It was concluded that the available evidence suggests that Ennor Castle is currently not being used for bat roosts, though roosts utilising trees on the mound might well be identified through further survey. A follow up survey should be undertaken prior to the Stage 2 Phase 1 tree and Hottentot Fig removal.

5 SWOT analysis

Strengths	Weaknesses
<p>Ennor Castle and its associated sites at Old Town Bay are of considerable rarity and historical significance, this being reflected in their scheduled status.</p> <p>Old Town Bay and its hinterland are an attractive and accessible part of the island of St Mary's, set on the Scillonian coast.</p> <p>The site lies within the Isles of Scilly Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.</p> <p>The site has a spectacular setting with wide ranging views across Old Town Bay.</p> <p>Good levels of public foot access to the local area exist via coastal and inland paths and by means of the peaceful local road network. Ennor Castle is clearly visible from a number of accessible local vantage points.</p> <p>An HLS scheme is in place covering the northern and western parts of the castle site.</p> <p>It is thought likely that there is a good possibility of grants being identified to undertake management works to the whole of the castle site, including areas not covered by the current HLS agreement.</p> <p>The problems experienced by the castle are relatively simple in nature, and capable of being tackled by local contractors without recourse to specialist equipment or knowledge.</p>	<p>The multiple ownership of the wider Ennor Castle site inevitably makes achieving an holistic conservation plan for the site potentially problematic.</p> <p>The current HLS agreement covers only the periphery of the castle site and not its core area.</p> <p>Given the nature of the ownership of the site, there is not currently, nor is there likely to be, public access to Ennor Castle.</p> <p>Given the post-abandonment history of the site, very little remains of the stonework of the castle, making it difficult for the lay person to visualise the fortified structure which formerly existed here.</p> <p>Given the tree-covered, unmanaged nature of the castle mound, the monument is no longer a prominent feature of the local landscape, able to be appreciated from local viewpoints.</p> <p>Ennor Castle is a Scheduled Monument at Risk.</p> <p>The scheduling boundary for the monument does not accurately reflect the full extent of the castle site.</p> <p>The dominance of the site by scrub, mature trees and a range of invasive or alien species obscures potential archaeological features and compromises the wildlife potential of the site.</p> <p>There is currently no interpretation for Ennor Castle, with the exception of a very decrepit information panel near Old Town Church.</p> <p>No detailed measured survey is available for the site.</p> <p>Climate change may potentially encourage the further spread of invasive non-native species.</p>

Opportunities	Threats
<p>Targeted scrub and tree clearance and the management of alien and/or potentially invasive species will help to control factors which are currently damaging the surviving stonework of the castle and archaeological deposits.</p> <p>Such work has the potential to considerably enhance the biodiversity of the site.</p> <p>A suitable programme of physical management works would enable the removal of Ennor Castle from the Register of Monuments at Risk.</p> <p>The management of the scrub and woody vegetation on the castle mound, as well as the removal of some blanketing invasive species will restore Ennor Castle as a significant and visible archaeological site within local views.</p> <p>Enhanced interpretation of the site and the Old Town Bay area as a whole could be achieved via the replacement of the existing interpretation panel.</p> <p>There is also some potential for enhanced virtual access to the site via web information or guides to Scilly.</p> <p>Clearance of the Hottentot Fig covering the south west facing granite outcrop has the potential to open up potential roost sites for bats.</p>	<p>There is some potential for the collapse of the surviving unconsolidated medieval masonry around the western and northern upper circuit of the mound, particularly where this is intruded into or undermined by tree roots.</p> <p>Tree root infiltration is likely to continue to disrupt and degrade any surviving archaeological deposits across the site.</p> <p>Further uncontrolled scrub and tree growth, coupled with the spread of alien/invasive species will lead to a continuing decline in site biodiversity.</p> <p>Further uncontrolled tree and scrub growth will soon make Ennor Castle unrecognisable as an important component of the local archaeological landscape.</p> <p>Climate change may favour some alien species which have already taken hold on the castle mound, these potentially crowding out native species and further negatively affecting the overall biodiversity of the site.</p> <p>The castle mound is economically marginal, as well as being covered by legislation which controls activities within the designation boundary. The appropriate management of the site is therefore likely to be wholly dependant on grant assistance for the foreseeable future.</p>

6 Issues and vulnerabilities

In order to realise the potential of the site, a range of issues, including those concerning the currently high levels of scrub and tree growth and the presence of invasive alien species will have to be addressed. This will require not only a programme of short term capital works, but also medium and long term management of the site by its managers. Funding for such follow up work has not been identified at present. Any failure to undertake such works would compromise one of the key aims of this plan, that is, to address the factors which have led to Ennor Castle being placed on the Schedule of Monuments at Risk.

6.1 Issues

- Irreversible damage by tree roots to above ground walling and to buried archaeological deposits relating to the occupation of the castle from the medieval to the Tudor periods.
- The loss of the castle as a distinctive element of the local landscape through its dense tree and scrub cover.

- Significant reduction in the presence of habitat types reflecting those native to Scilly through the presence of non-native plant species (including several invasive species) and through the development of extensive stands of suckering Elms and of abundant bird-spread *Pittosporum* seedlings.

6.2 Vulnerabilities

The enhancement of Ennor Castle, whether in part or in whole through the management of obscuring or invasive vegetation, and the development of the site's potential is likely to require an input of both time and resources into the foreseeable future by both English Heritage and the site managers.

The successful achievement of the Conservation Management Plan aims in the medium to long term will depend not only on the funding of the initial capital-intensive works which are currently proposed, but on the identification of adequate resources to fund the ongoing management of the site.

A second vulnerability is that the national designation applying to the Scheduled Monument appears not to cover the full extent of the original castle site. This may limit access to grants which would enable the management of the site as a whole. An extended Scheduling reflecting what is now understood to be the true extent of the castle site has been suggested in this Plan.

Finally, the identified source of funding available to carry out the physical works required for the management of the site (through the HLS Agreement) cannot, at present, be utilised to pay for management works on those areas of the site outside the HLS Agreement boundary on land owned by a third party. In the case of Ennor Castle, this may significantly compromise the achievement of a management plan appropriate to the whole of the scheduled site (and to those areas such as the bailey which it is considered should be included within an amended scheduled monument boundary, see Fig 57). However, if works cannot be funded within the area of the Scheduled Monument which is under 3rd party ownership it would be preferable to continue with the management confined to the area under HLS rather than not carry out any management works at all

One possible way to integrate the management of the castle site as a whole would be for the owner and tenants of the land outside the agreement to draw up a lease or management agreement with the HLS Agreement holders to allow them to manage the remaining area of the site on their behalf. Alternatively, the owner of the core area of Ennor Castle may wish to sell her interests in the site to the HLS Agreement holders.

6.3 Constraints

All works within the Scheduled area will require Scheduled Monument Consent from the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, for which an application will be drawn up and submitted. Tree work on the site will require planning consent from the local planning authority, given the whole of the Isles of Scilly is a Conservation Area.

6.4 Potential conflicts of interest

Where a designated archaeological site is in multiple ownerships, as at Ennor Castle, it is unlikely to be the case that all those involved in making decisions concerning its future, whether owners or statutory agencies, will have identical visions for its most appropriate management, and some form of compromise is likely to be required. This may not, however, be in the best interests of the site.

In the case of Ennor Castle, the most obvious potential conflicts of interest result from the desire on the part of English Heritage to address the factors which have led to this rare type of Scheduled Monument being placed on the Monuments at Risk Register, namely its degradation resulting from the long-standing lack of an appropriate management regime for a site of this type, the possibility that one of more of the

owners and site managers might wish to continue to manage the castle site as an informal private garden and the habitats which the current site vegetation makes available.

7 Statement of Significance

With the broadly contemporary church and quay at Old Town, Ennor Castle forms one of the three major and surviving elements of the principal secular settlement on Scilly during the medieval period. It is also the earliest element in an almost continuous sequence of fortifications on Scilly, which stretches from the late Norman period to the end of World War II. The castle is the only medieval defensive monument to have been established in Scilly, and is a rare site type nationally. Given the documented history of the site, the castle mound and its flanks are likely to have considerable archaeological potential.

The castle mound was formerly a distinctive landscape feature within the Old Town Bay area, and has the potential to be restored to its former prominence, both in landscape terms, and as an important site in the history of Scilly.

Ennor Castle was (and has the potential to be) an important historical locus on St Mary's, a significant physical element in understanding the story of the development of the island between the Norman and the Elizabethan period, a site whose story is intimately linked to that of the nearby quay (also a Scheduled Monument) and to Old Town Church. This was emphasised in the interpretation panel set up on the shores of Old Town Bay near the church some years ago, which included a reconstruction illustrating the scene at the head of the bay when the castle was at the height of its importance (Figs 39 and 40).

The site has the potential for enhancement for biodiversity through the removal of a significant proportion of the existing tree cover and the removal of blanketing non-native invasive species.

8 Statement of guiding principles

The management of Ennor Castle should, wherever achievable, be consistent with current conservation principles.

The approaches taken to the management of the site should be sustainable and should aim to ensure that all values of the site are recognised, respected, conserved and enhanced.

Wherever possible, conservation work should be undertaken by local contractors employing low carbon footprint approaches to limit negative impacts on the environment.

Particular care should be taken to limit the possible spread of potentially invasive plants during the management programme.

9 Moving forward: vision and aims

Ennor Castle represents a key site in the history of Scilly, having been the administrative and economic heart of the island from the medieval period to the Tudor period. As the site of a medieval shell keep, it is an exceptionally rare site type, both locally and nationally.

If a management regime appropriate to the importance of the site could be set in place, Ennor Castle could once again be a distinctive Scillonian landmark, recognised and

cherished for its important role in the history of the archipelago, its archaeological remains (both above and below ground) protected from harm.

The principal aim of this plan is to seek to identify a sustainable, long-term approach to the appropriate management of the archaeological resource represented by Ennor Castle, resulting in it being permanently removed from the schedule of Monuments at Risk.

This approach needs to be owned by all relevant site owners, managers and those with a statutory responsibility for the site. Achieving this will require imagination, sensitivity and an awareness of the need for balanced management, but most particularly, an understanding of the site's particular and special character and importance.

Key aims for the management of Ennor Castle should include:

- Preserving and enhancing the special qualities of the site.
- Extending the extent of the Scheduled Monument to cover the whole of the original Ennor Castle site.
- Protecting its surviving medieval stonework and archaeological deposits.
- Reducing the level of scrub, tree and invasive species cover across the site to enhance its biodiversity and develop a habitat mosaic more appropriate to its location.
- Agreeing a sustainable management regime which can be applied to the whole of the site.
- Communicating the special nature of the site to a wider public through a range of means, including a new interpretation panel nearby.

10 How can the vision be achieved?

The following recommendations have been discussed with a range of consultees, and are considered to be appropriate and potentially achievable. However, this will depend upon grants for capital works being available for the whole of the castle site, and not only that covered by the HLS agreement, as well as funding for follow up works to prevent the regrowth of scrub, suckering elms and non native plants.

Performance indicators, time-scales to achieve these objectives and any funds which might be required to achieve these aims will require discussion between the stakeholders in the site beyond the timescale for the first phase of the Plan.

For the longer-term maintenance of the site the possibilities of either arranging a Section 17 Scheduled Management Agreement with English Heritage or agreeing funding with Natural England should be explored.

The Isles of Scilly Community Archaeological Group could assist with lighter scrub management on a regular basis.

10.1 Management works

Ennor Castle is currently overgrown and virtually unrecognisable as an important historical monument, and this is, to a substantial degree, why the central role played by the castle and port at Old Town in the settling and control of Scilly following the Norman Conquest and through subsequent centuries is not as well known as it should be.

Archive photographs taken by the Gibson family (Figs 9 and 10) demonstrate very clearly the degree to which uncontrolled vegetation growth on the castle mound has resulted in the loss of this impressive site from the local landscape. This may be a result of the abandonment of small-scale market gardening and gardening activities on the site in the years since World War II. Discussions with those who have owned or

managed the site for several decades suggest that the development of scrub and suckering Elms has been a developing issue during this period.

Tree and shrub species such as Elm, Pittosporum and Coprosma recorded on the castle mound are common elsewhere within the locality. Pittosporum, in particular, sets seed and thrives readily on Scilly, and could easily spread across areas of the site which it has not, to date, colonised. In addition, a number of the other plants found on the mound are both alien and significantly invasive, including the Hottentot Fig on the rock outcrop and the Three Cornered Leek on the lower slopes. If left un-managed, these species will inevitably spread to other areas, to the detriment of the landscape significance, archaeology and ecology of the site.

The principal and initial thrust of the management work required to bring this site back into appropriate condition has, therefore, to be targeted on the clearance of these problematic species and of a proportion of the cloaking Elm cover, together with the management of the site in the long term to prevent their re-establishment.

- A staged programme of scrub and tree removal should be undertaken. Within the area covered by the HLS agreement this should present no particular problems, given that the number of trees and large Pittosporum bushes within this area is relatively limited. Chemical stump treatment will probably be required following the felling of these trees and large bushes to prevent any regrowth. Identifiable Pittosporum seedlings should also be tackled wherever possible, as the removal of the canopy afforded by the trees will probably promote rapid growth in the understorey. Follow-up low level grazing in the cleared area would help to check regrowth, but given the limited extent of the area of the castle mound within the HLS agreement and the steepness of the terrain, this would probably be impracticable, and it is anticipated that control of regrowth would probably have to be achieved manually, or through the use of a strimmer/brush cutter at appropriate intervals, probably bi-annually, at least initially.
- The Hottentot Fig covering the granite outcrop should be removed manually by specialist contractors with rope access certification. To achieve maximum long-term success, all rooted material should be removed. Where the Hottentot Fig has rooted into soils which potentially overlie intact archaeological deposits on the flanks of the knoll to its south west, removal should be undertaken under archaeological supervision. This process will produce a large volume of material requiring disposal. In order to reduce its volume, the Hottentot Fig should be composted on or immediately off site in a controlled fashion to remove the potential for it to spread to other areas of the site or to regenerate.
- Within the core area of the castle outside the HLS Agreement boundary but within the current scheduled monument boundary, the preferred outcome would be the removal of as much of the non-native evergreen cover (including Pittosporum) as possible, together with a substantial number of the existing Elms, in particular those currently blanketing the upper part of the knoll and its upper flanks in order to reveal the outline of the underlying mound and outcrop. All stumps should be treated to prevent regrowth.
- Control of potentially invasive understorey plants will need to be undertaken following tree removal.
- Within the probable area of the bailey, the removal of the combination of Pittosporum saplings, Elm suckers and scrub would open up the site and reveal its form, visually linking it to the castle mound. Chemical after-treatment of tree stumps will be required to prevent regrowth, together with follow-up brush cutting/strimming.
- If possible, a single individual should be responsible for the management of the whole of the castle site, possibly based on management agreements drawn up with

neighbours. This would greatly simplify applications for grants in the future.

10.2 Survey and research

In order to address gaps in knowledge relating to Ennor Castle and give visitors to St Mary's a richer and more rewarding experience of the history of the Scillonian archipelago, the following areas of research are recommended:

- The history of Ennor Castle and its relationship to the evolution of the harbour, priory/church and settlement at Old Town.

Further archaeological investigation and recording of the following are recommended:

- To determine the potential for the preservation of sub-surface archaeological deposits on the castle mound, in the area of the probable bailey, and in the areas flanking the castle mound.
- To determine the existence of a related bailey enclosure to the south east of the castle mound.
- There is a need for a metrically accurate survey of the castle mound and probable bailey to provide the basis for detailed future mapping of potential archaeological finds and to aid future species recording and site condition monitoring.

Whilst the site survey would need to be undertaken by a specialist company, and would be contingent on the removal of a substantial amount of the cloaking vegetation, the historical research could possibly be undertaken by local volunteers. The local bat group have already undertaken a preliminary roost survey across the site and might be interested in following up this work in the future, in particular to determine whether physical management works have the result of enhancing the potential of the site for such species. Further periodic ecological surveys should also be undertaken to monitor the effects of any clearance work undertaken.

10.3 Explaining and informing

The historical resource presented by the small and important number of medieval sites on Scilly is currently relatively under-utilised for education, outreach and engagement. In order to enhance the interpretation of Ennor Castle, the following is recommended:

- A replacement interpretation/orientation panel should ideally be set up by the church in Old Town Bay. The existing interpretation panel has deteriorated to the point where it is no longer functional, and should thus be replaced and updated.
- Web-based information relating to Scilly should include a condensed history of the Castle, as well as an explanation of its former importance.

10.4 Timetable and priorities

- **Tree removal.** Following the end of the birds' nesting season, between early August and late March. High.
- **Stump treatment.** Following tree removal. High.
- **Scrub and understorey management.** In tandem with the tree removal, in particular on the upper slopes of the castle mound. High to medium.
- **Hottentot Fig removal.** Given the potential for this plant to provide nest sites for small birds, the removal of the Hottentot Fig should be undertaken outside the birds' nesting season. Composting the removed material will take at least one year. High.
- **Consideration of consolidation works on the shell keep.** Following removal of Hottentot Fig and Ivy the condition of the masonry should be assessed and

consolidation works undertaken if necessary. High.

- **Follow-up brush cutting/strimming.** At least once a year through the plan period, dependant on the results of the monitoring of the regrowth of understorey plants, possibly bi-annually. High.
- **Photo-monitoring.** Regular photo-monitoring should be undertaken from sites located around the castle mound using high resolution digital photography to monitor the success of the programme. Medium.
- **Plan review.** At an interval of not greater than three years.
- **Historical research.** When resources allow. Low.
- **Measured site survey.** When resources allow, preferably once vegetation management programme has reduced tree and scrub cover. Medium.
- **Archaeological evaluation.** When resources allow. Low.
- **Replace interpretation panel at Old Town church.** During the lifetime of the Agreement and preferably within three years. Medium.

10.5 Monitoring and improving the plan

A conservation plan should be a working document, one which underpins and informs site management and one whose vision provides the target destination for management actions. It should follow the **SMART(ER)** approach, in that objectives should be **S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**ttainable, **R**elevant and **T**ime-bound, but also capable of **E**valuation and of **R**e-evaluation.

- The success, partial success or failure of individual actions involved in achieving the plan objectives should be routinely monitored by the relevant statutory agencies (English Heritage and Natural England), as well as by the site owners. Where approaches are found not to work effectively, alternative methods should be sought.
- No property or conservation management plan can anticipate the effects of unforeseeable future changes, whether in legislation, the availability of grants, the effects of a changing climate on the natural environment, the effects of changes in the national or local economy or other factors. A successful plan is a relevant plan, and to ensure that this is the case, the Plan should be periodically re-evaluated, and if appropriate, revised. In view of these and other factors, it is suggested that re-evaluation of this Plan should be undertaken on a maximum of a three-yearly basis.
- Fixed point photomonitoring should be implemented to monitor the effects of changes in the management regime on a bi-annual basis.
- Follow up ecological and bat surveys should be undertaken on an annual basis during the lifetime of the plan.

11 Outline management recommendations by ownership block

See Figure 2 for extents of land blocks and Figures 57 to 60 for general recommendations and Appendix 1 for detailed specifications.

Block 1 (the area of the castle mound and mound slopes falling within the HLS Agreement and within the scheduled area)

- Undertake preliminary photographic survey.
- Fell all mature Pittosporum and other non-native evergreens. Woody material to be retained by agreement holders. The remainder of material should be chipped or burned on site at a location to be agreed with the agreement holders outside the scheduled area. Tree stumps should be treated to prevent regrowth.
- Brushcut/strim/pull up Pittosporum saplings, with the exception of a small group to be retained as a windbreak on the north west corner of the castle mound, as requested by the agreement holders.
- Fell individual mature and semi-mature Elm trees as identified to reduce stem density in all areas; clear areas of Elm suckers. Woody material to be retained by agreement holders. Remainder of material to be chipped or burned on site at a location to be agreed with the agreement holders outside the scheduled area.
- Remove thorn trees and other bushes growing near/on remaining section of shell keep walling. Removed material to be burned or chipped on site at a location to be agreed with the agreement holders outside the scheduled area.
- Examine walling condition to determine whether any remedial conservation works are required. The extent and nature of any masonry conservation works will require detailed discussion with English Heritage and should, if required, be undertaken as part of a follow-up phase of works.
- Remove Hottentot Fig from western face of outcrop. Transfer removed material to location outside the scheduled area to be agreed with agreement holders for controlled composting/removal.

Block 2 (the remainder of the castle mound within the scheduled area)

- Undertake preliminary photographic survey.
- Fell mature Pittosporum. Method of disposal of woody and other material away from the scheduled area to be agreed with site owner.
- Brushcut/strim/pull up juvenile Pittosporum and scrub vegetation.
- Fell selected mature or diseased Elm trees, particularly on the upper areas of the castle mound. Remove all Elm suckers from eastern end of castle mound, and thin significantly elsewhere, with the aim of producing a mixed age, less dense woodland area on the central and eastern part of the site. Clear suckering Elm completely from the bailey area in the south eastern corner of the site. Method of disposal of woody and other material away from the scheduled area to be agreed with site owner.

Block 3 (the probable bailey, outside the scheduled area)

- Remove Elm suckers from identified areas in the south eastern corner of the site. Method of disposal of woody and other material away from the scheduled area to be agreed with site owner/tenant.
- Clear scrub understorey using a brushcutter/trimmer. Burn cleared material at a selected, non-sensitive location, preferably on steel roofing sheets to reduce heating effects on the ground underneath.

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<http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-1374> EU Habitats Directive

http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results_Single.aspx?uid=1014994&resourceID=5 Heritage Gateway – Scheduling description for Ennor Castle

<http://www.gatehouse-gazetteer.info/LOC/13150312.html> Licence to crenellate Ennor Castle

<http://risk.english-heritage.org.uk/register.aspx?id=3357&rt=3&pn=8&st=a&ctype=all&crit=castle>

English Heritage website listing Scheduled Monuments at risk

13 Project archive

The HE project number is **PR146244**

All project materials, photographs and data were archived according to HE guidelines. The project's documentary, photographic and drawn archive is housed at the offices of Historic Environment, Cornwall Council, Fal Building, County Hall, Treyew Road, Truro, TR1 3AY. The contents of the archive are as listed below:

1. A project file containing site records and notes, project correspondence and administration.
2. Background information held in the directory: G:\Historic Environment (Documents)\HE Projects\Sites\ SCILLY\St Mary's\Ennor castle management plan
3. Digital photographs stored in the directory: R:\Historic Environment (Images)\Scilly\St Marys\Ennor Castle CMP 2013
4. English Heritage/ADS OASIS online reference: cornwall2-156066
5. This report text held in digital form as: G:\Historic Environment (Documents)\HE Projects\Sites\ SCILLY\St Mary's\Ennor castle management plan\Report

Appendix 1: Detailed specifications for Stage 2 management works

General

- All contractors tendering for the works at Ennor Castle will be required to demonstrate an adequate level of competence to undertake the specified works through the production of relevant certificates (chainsaw, brushcutter, ropework, use of herbicides, Tirfor winch, etc.), and will need to demonstrate an adequate level of insurance in respect of public liability and in relation to any vehicles or equipment used during the work.
- The successful contractor will be required to produce a risk assessment for the works to be undertaken, and to produce all evidence for all necessary certification and insurances before the start of works on site.
- All contractors will be required to liaise closely with land managers and neighbours at Ennor Castle in relation to the detailed specifications for work on site, in particular in relation to working times, limitation of noise impacts arising from the use of power tools, access to the site, methodologies, locations for stockpiling materials, temporary compounds, etc.
- All works are to be undertaken in a safe manner in order to limit risks to persons employed in the work, landowners, tenants, neighbours and their property and the designated site.
- All contractors and staff must be aware of the nationally-important nature of the site and the Scheduled Monument designation which applies to it, especially in relation to constraints on activities within the boundary of the site. Ground-disturbing activities will not be permitted.
- No vehicle movements will be permissible within the area designated as a Scheduled Monument (see attached map).
- No fires will be allowed within the area designated as a Scheduled Monument.
- An archaeologist will be on hand from the beginning of the works on site to point out the extents of the Scheduled Monument, and will explain limitations on the nature of the activities which can take place within its boundary.
- All contractors must provide details of the types of herbicides proposed for use on the site, together with the methodology proposed for use, the rate of application and the methods to be used for their safe storage and handling.
- Areas for the temporary stockpiling of brash, Hottentot Fig and other waste materials will be identified and agreed with Mr and Mrs Roberts prior to the undertaking of works on site.
- Areas to be utilised for the chipping of brash are to be agreed with the relevant landowner/tenant.
- All felled and cut timber is to be removed from the area of the Scheduled Monument to a site to be agreed with the relevant landowner/tenant.
- The location and method for the final disposal of Hottentot Fig removed from the site must be identified in advance by the contractor in their tender proposal.
- A timetable for works on site should be set out in the contractor's tender proposal. This should take into account restrictions imposed by the bird's nesting season on Scilly and the need to complete and invoice for all works by the beginning of May 2014.
- A contingency allowance of 10% should be included for your costs for each Phase of the project to cover minor variations to the agreed work schedule, including (but not exclusively) cutting and removal of scrub, Elm suckers, shrub seedlings and similar works.
- Tenders should be submitted in such a way that the prices for each major element of the work is clearly separated.
- Contractors tendering for this work are strongly urged to visit Ennor Castle in advance of submitting their prices in order to familiarise themselves with the site, constraints applying to it, permission for access, and the nature of the work

involved. Please note that the locations of individual trees and the extents of areas of Hottentot Fig, Ivy and Elm suckers shown on the accompanying maps are indicative only. Trees agreed for removal have been individually marked up on site. These will be confirmed by the site managers and the site archaeologist prior to work commencing.

Phase 1 (See Fig 58/Map 1).

These works will be undertaken within the area of Ennor Castle covered by the HLS agreement held by Mr and Mrs Roberts. The whole of this site falls within an area designated as a Scheduled Monument. This has been declared a Monument at Risk by English Heritage on the basis of its general lack of suitable management, in particular the uncontrolled spread of tree and scrub vegetation across the site.

The aims of this phase of works are to remove Pittosporum, Coprosma and other non-native tress and understorey plants to encourage an enhancement of the biodiversity of the site, restore something of the 19th century appearance of the site and open up views of the castle mound, particularly from the south west.

The work within this Phase comprises the following:

- The controlled felling of mature and juvenile Pittosporum (approximately 40 in number).
- The controlled felling of semi-mature and juvenile Elm (approximately 15 in number).
- The crown reduction of one mature Elm.
- The clearance of two areas of Elm suckers.
- The reduction of a number of juvenile Elms along a hedgeline immediately to the west of the castle mound to a height of 2.0m.
- The clearance of two mature Coprosma.
- Chipping and stockpiling of all brash resulting from these operations.
- Logging and stockpiling of all timber capable of being used as firewood at a location in Barn Field to be determined by Mr Roberts.
- Treatment of tree stumps to prevent regrowth, utilising a permitted herbicide where required.
- Manual clearance of Hottentot Fig from the Ennor Castle granite outcrop.
- Clearance of mature Ivy from the crest of the Ennor Castle granite outcrop.
- Removal of cleared Hottentot Fig from site for final disposal.
- Brushcutting/strimming of invasive plants forming understorey vegetation.
- Removal of additional small areas of scrub, elm suckers and juvenile trees as directed on site by Mr and Mrs Roberts and the attendant archaeologist.
- Reduction of Pittosporum along hedgelines adjacent to Old Town Bay to a height of 2.0m (see Map 3 for locations).

Phase 2a (See Fig 59/Map 2)

These works are proposed to be undertaken within the remainder of the area of Ennor Castle, the majority of the land being owned by Mrs C Hardern of Castle Farm. The area to the south east is within a separate tenancy held by Mrs Knight of Moorview. The northern part of this area falls within the area designated as a Scheduled Monument. The southern part has been proposed as a Scheduled Monument.

The aims of this Phase of the project are to build on the work undertaken in Phase 1 across the remainder of the whole of the castle site, reducing the archaeological and visual impacts of invasives and other trees and scrub across the site, restoring its former skyline profile and landscape prominence within the locality as far as this can be achieved, whilst retaining a representative number and age range of native trees.

The works within this Phase are intended to comprise the following:

- The controlled felling of mature and juvenile *Pittosporum* (approximately 16 in number).
- The controlled felling of mature, semi-mature and juvenile Elm (approximately 19 in number).
- The crown reduction of three mature Elms (the extent of this work being subject to Mrs Hardern's requirements).
- The clearance of three areas of Elm suckers (two of these being immediately adjacent to Moorview, the third being on land above this within part of Castle Farm).
- The clearance of three semi-mature *Coprosma*.
- Chipping and stockpiling of all brush resulting from these operations.
- Logging and stockpiling of all timber capable of being used as firewood at a location to be determined by Mrs Hardern.
- Treatment of tree stumps to prevent regrowth, utilising a permitted herbicide where required.
- Manual clearance of Hottentot Fig from granite outcrops at the south-eastern end of the Ennor Castle site (Moorview).
- Clearance of mature Ivy and Gorse from the a granite outcrop to the south-east of Ennor Castle (Moorview).
- Removal of cleared Hottentot Fig from site for final disposal.
- Brushcutting/strimming of invasive plants forming understorey vegetation.
- A contingency allowance of 10% should be allowed for the removal of additional small areas of scrub, elm suckers and juvenile trees as directed on site by Mr and Mrs Roberts, Mrs Hardern and the attendant archaeologist.

Phase 2b (See Fig 60/Map 3)

The aim of this phase of the project is to build on the practical works undertaken on site through the provision of interpretative material which will enable local people and visitors to appreciate the importance of the Ennor Castle site within the history and landscape of the Isles of Scilly.

- The replacement of the information board currently sited adjacent to the footpath running around Old Town Bay adjacent to Old Town Church.

Appendix 2: Target notes by 0.01Ha square

0.01ha square Approx % in site

SV91390 10330

10%

Semi-natural woodland. Scattered mixed broad-leaved and evergreen. Principally *Ulmus* sp(p) with some *Pittosporum crassifolium*. Young stand, as scrub.

SV91390 01340

10%

Semi-natural woodland. Scattered mixed broad-leaved and evergreen. Principally *Ulmus* sp(p) with some *Pittosporum crassifolium*. Young stand, as scrub.

SV91390 10350

10%

Neutral grassland. Including *Holcus lanatus* and *Festuca rubra* agg. Also *Ranunculus repens*. Mown.

SV91400 10320

20%

Semi-natural woodland. Scattered mixed broad-leaved and evergreen. Principally *Ulmus* sp(p) with some *Pittosporum crassifolium*. Area includes part of walled area

housing chickens. Mown.

SV91400 10330 100%

Semi-natural woodland. Mixed broad-leaved and evergreen. 90% canopy cover *Ulmus* sp(p) with 5% *Pittosporum crassifolium*.

SV91400 10340 100%

Semi-natural woodland. Scattered mixed broad-leaved and evergreen. 30% canopy cover *Ulmus* sp(p) with 20% *Pittosporum crassifolium*. Open areas with mixed understorey. Path runs along wall.

SV91400 10350 100%

Semi-natural woodland. Evergreen. 30% canopy cover *Pittosporum crassifolium*. Open areas with mixed understorey. Path runs along wall. Sparse *Pteridium aquilinum*.

SV91400 10360 25%

Neutral grassland. Including *Holcus mollis* and *Festuca rubra* agg. Also *Ranunculus repens*. Mown. There is a sparse hedge of mature *Pittosporum crassifolium*.

SV91410 10320 <5%

Not surveyed. Too small. Canopy cover is *Ulmus* sp(p) with *Pittosporum crassifolium*.

SV91410 10330 95%

Semi-natural woodland. Mixed broad-leaved and evergreen. 90% canopy cover *Ulmus* sp(p) with 25% *Pittosporum crassifolium*.

SV91410 10340 100%

Primarily open. Vegetated rock surfaces and low scrub with 10% *Ulmus* sp(p) canopy cover. Dense mat of *Carpobrotus* sp (probably *C. edulis*), with some presence of *Rubus fruticosus* agg.

SV91410 10350 100%

Vegetated rock surfaces and low scrub (60%). Dense mat of *Carpobrotus* sp (probably *C. edulis*), with some presence of *Hedera helix* and a small area of *Dactylis glomerata* with scattered *Achillea millefolium*. Semi-natural woodland (40%). Mixed broad-leaved and evergreen. 10% canopy cover each of *Ulmus* sp(p) and *Sambucus nigra*, with 30% *Pittosporum crassifolium* and 10% *Coprosma repens*. Isolated *Crataegus monogyna*.

SV91410 10360 60%

Mainly garden area. Adjoining wall has lichen and moss community, together with non-native plant species. There is a small stand of scrub (*Crataegus monogyna*) above the wall.

SV91420 10330 50%

Semi-natural woodland. Scattered mixed broad-leaved and evergreen. 90% canopy cover *Ulmus* sp(p) with 25% *Pittosporum crassifolium*.

SV91420 10340 100%

Semi-natural woodland. Scattered mixed broad-leaved and evergreen. 80% canopy cover *Ulmus* sp(p), many suckers, with 10% *Sambucus nigra*, 10% *Pittosporum crassifolium* and 10% *Coprosma repens*.

SV91420 10350 100%

Semi-natural woodland. Scattered mixed broad-leaved and evergreen. 100% canopy cover *Ulmus* sp(p) and 30% *Pittosporum crassifolium*. Conspicuously shorter *Ulmus* and a higher stem density than lower slope.

SV91420 10360 50%

Mainly garden area. Adjoining wall has lichen and moss community, together with non-native plant species. 40% canopy cover *Ulmus* sp(p).

SV91430 10330 <2%

Not surveyed. *Ulmus* sp(p) canopy and ground flora representative of site.

SV91430 10340 40%

Semi-natural woodland. Scattered mixed broad-leaved and evergreen. 90% canopy cover *Ulmus* sp(p) and 30% *Pittosporum crassifolium*.

SV91430 10350 60%

Semi-natural woodland. Scattered mixed broad-leaved and evergreen. 90% canopy cover *Ulmus* sp(p), mainly a few larger trees, 30% *Coprosma repens* and <5% *Pittosporum crassifolium*.

SV91430 10360 15%

Mainly garden area. Adjoining wall has lichen and moss community, together with non-native plant species. 30% canopy cover *Ulmus* sp(p) with 30% *Pittosporum crassifolium*.

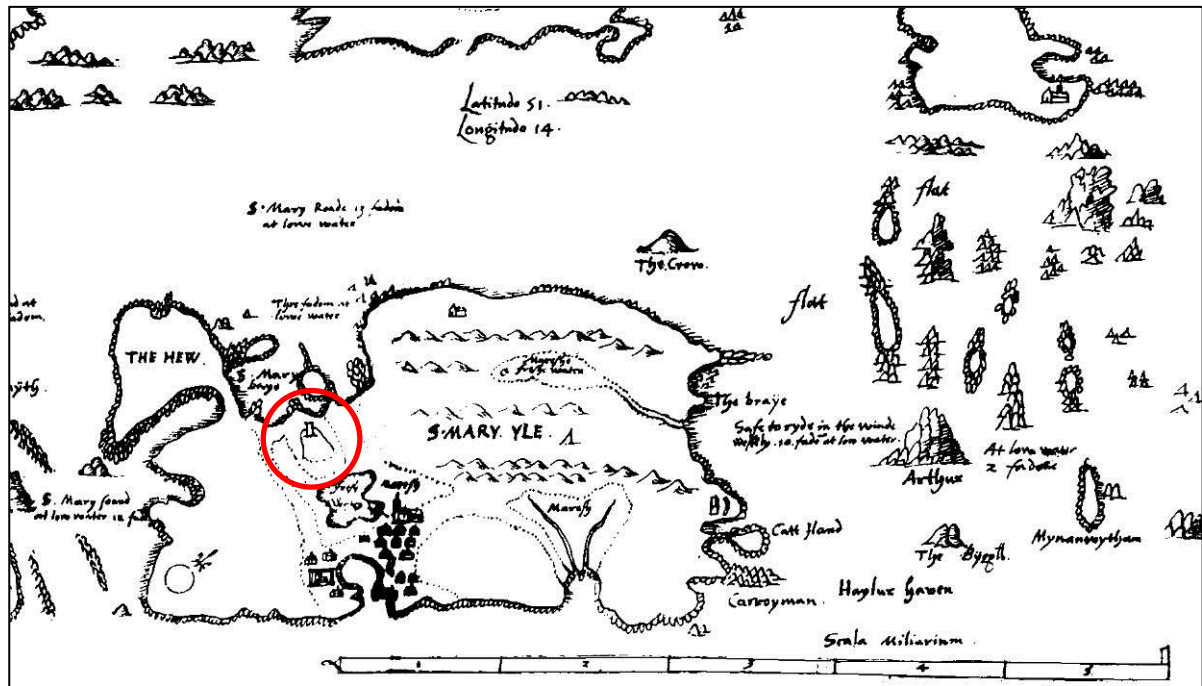


Fig 3 An extract from the earliest known map of Scilly, surveyed by Captain John Davies c 1584. Old Town is shown, together with its castle, church and settlement



Fig 4 A detail from Ginver and Tovey's 1779 survey of the Isles of Scilly, showing the castle, settlement and church at Old Town (albeit in a stylised fashion) (sourced from the UK Hydrographic Office, www.ukho.gov.uk)

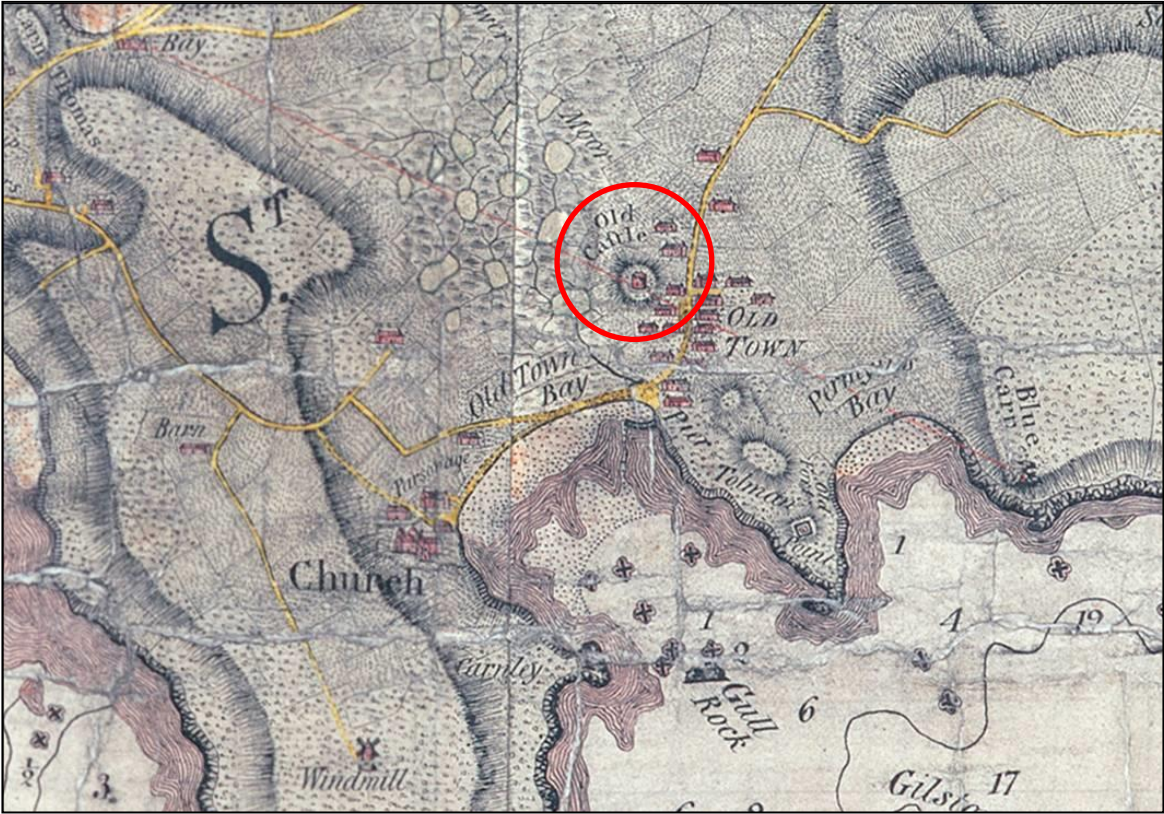


Fig 5 A detail from Graeme Spence's 1792 chart of Scilly, showing the castle, settlement and church at Old Town. The circular form of the shell keep is clearly, and apparently accurately, depicted (sourced from the UK Hydrographic Office, www.ukho.gov.uk)

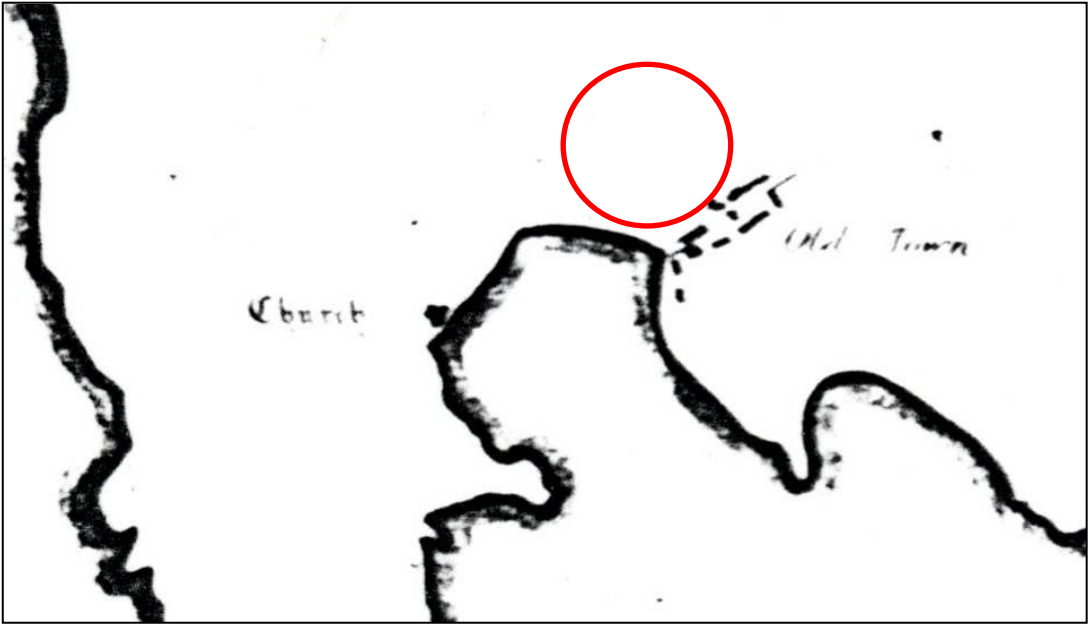


Fig 6. A detail from the 1840 tithe mapping for St Mary's. Although little detail is shown, it is clear that Ennor Castle was omitted from the mapping



Fig 9 A late 19th century Gibson view of the Ennor Castle site from the west clearly showing the remains of the castle walling, and the absence of trees on the site (Image supplied by kind permission of the Isles of Scilly Museum)



Fig 10 A late 19th century view of Ennor Castle seen across Old Town from the south east, showing the former prominence of the site within this locality. (Image supplied by kind permission of the Isles of Scilly Museum)

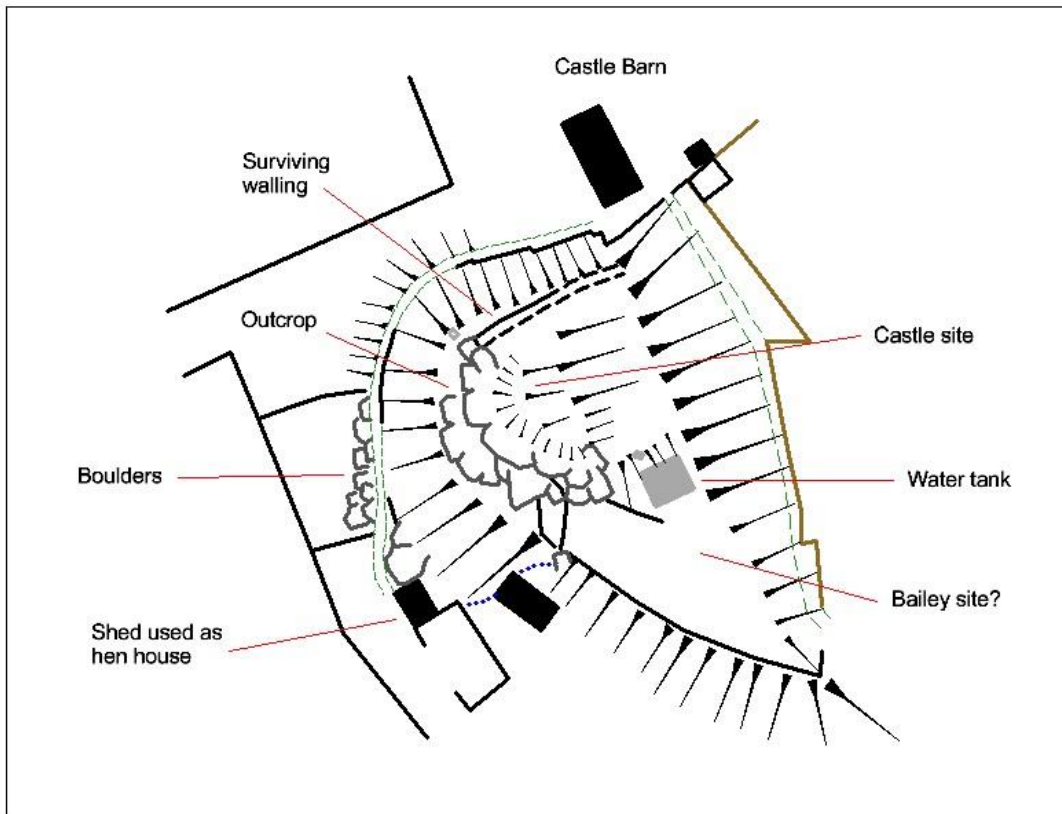


Fig 13 Sketch survey of the Ennor Castle site and its immediate context by HE Projects February 2013. Grey outline – rock outcrops, Black lines – walls, Green dash – paths, Brown – wicket fencing, Blue dots – fence line. Hachures show the slope directions



Fig 14 February 2013 sketch survey of the extents of tree cover on the castle mound



Fig 15 Looking west towards the castle mound from the nearby public highway



Fig 16 The access to Ennor Castle Barn from the south. The overgrown castle mound is to the left in this view. Note the *Echium pininana*, *Pittosporum* and palm tree



Fig 17 Ennor Castle from the nearby public highway, seen framed between the two buildings. Castle Farm is to the left



Fig 18 Ennor Castle Barn, with the northern flanks of Ennor Castle immediately behind to the left



Fig 19 The surviving walling on the northern side of the castle mound



Fig 20 The path leading round the north western side of the castle mound



Fig 21 The north-western elevation of the castle mound



Fig 22 The north-western corner of the castle mound, showing the prominent rock outcrop



Fig 23 The Hottentot Fig blanketed west-facing granite outcrop formerly surmounted by the shell keep



Fig 24 The south-western corner of the castle mound, looking north. Note the Hottentot Fig, Echium pininana, Pittosporum and Three Cornered Leek



Fig 25 Trees and bushes blocking views north west from the lower flanks of the castle mound



Fig 26 The castle mound from the fields immediately to its south west, emphasising the degree to which trees entirely mask the castle site



Fig 27 A view of the castle mound from the south west, again showing the degree of tree cover on the castle site



Fig 28 Old Town Bay, as seen from the top of the castle mound. The medieval quay lies just left of centre and the church is centre right



Fig 29 Looking just north of west from the top of the castle mound



Fig 30 Looking out towards Porth Mellon from the top of the castle mound



Fig 31 The concrete water tank on top of the castle mound



Fig 32 The roots of a Tamarisk which have taken hold in a boulder on site



Fig 33 Hints of revetting masonry were found at this location on the upper southern corner of the granite outcrop



Fig 34 A sherd of medieval pottery found at the surface immediately below the granite outcrop on the south western side of the castle mound



Fig 35 Ennor Castle as seen from the south-western end of Old Town Bay



Fig 36 Ennor Castle as seen from Carn Leh



Fig 37 A telephoto view of Ennor Castle from Carn Leh, with the medieval quay in the foreground



Fig 38 Ennor Castle from the west



Fig 39 The time-expired interpretation board near the church at Old Town



Fig 40 Detail of the interpretation board, showing a reconstruction of the castle, settlement, quay and landing place at Old Town



Fig 41 An HE aerial photograph of Ennor Castle (upper centre) and its surroundings (Flight 14, 9 September 1987)



Fig 42 Old Town Bay as recorded on HE aerial photograph (F92-430) dating to 2009, showing the context for the tree-covered castle mound (upper right), with the nearby quays and the church (upper mid left)

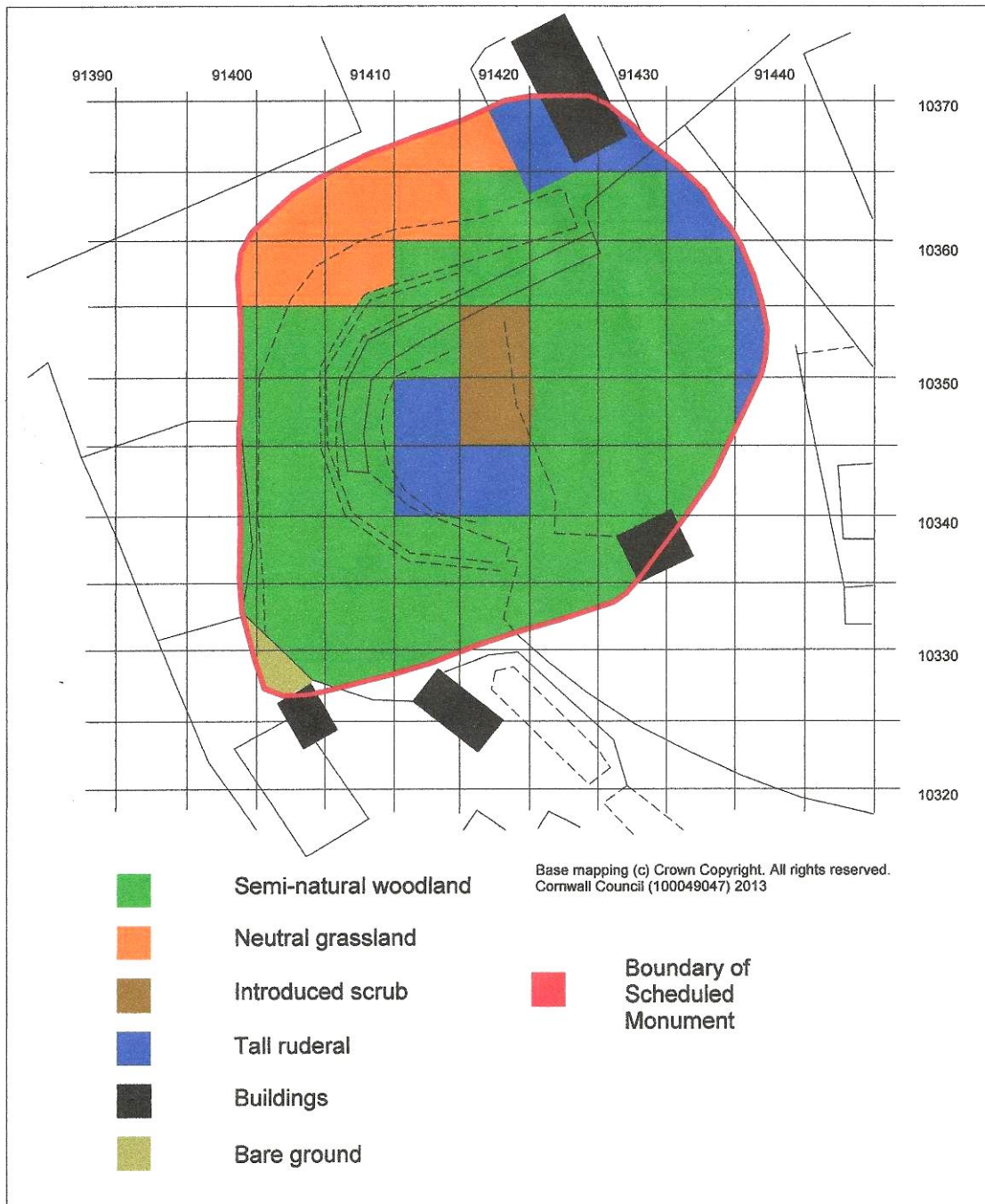


Fig 43 The 2013 Phase 1 Habitat Survey for the Scheduled area of Ennor Castle. Note: The Phase I survey was mapped using standard codes and colours which have been adapted in this report for presentational purposes. Owing to the small size of the survey area this map has not been annotated with species codes. Details are included as target notes



Fig 44 A composite image of the site's west-facing boundary, showing its most visible side, which would benefit considerably from conservation management



Fig 45 A composite view of the site from the north west

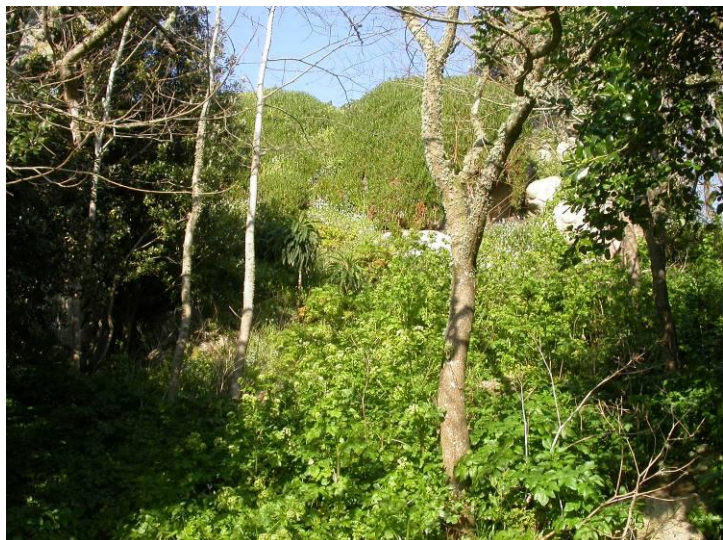


Fig 46 Two views of the west-facing slope showing the tall ruderal community and introduced shrub (Hottentot Fig) on the castle mound summit



Fig 47 Views out to the south and west from the summit of the castle mound



Fig 48 The view from the summit of the castle mound showing Hottentot Fig and the tall ruderal community in the foreground, with fields and Lower Moors in the background



Fig 49 Left; the view looking north off the castle mound summit showing mixed deciduous trees (elm, elder and hawthorn) and non-native evergreens (Coprosma and Pittosporum). Right; the east facing slope showing woodland and understorey including abundant elm suckers and Echim pininana, together with the water tank



Fig 50 Two views of the area to the east of the summit of the castle mound, showing woodland and understorey, including very abundant elm suckers



Fig 51 Left; the site access on its eastern side. Note the proximity of the trees. Right; the boundary wall around Ennor Castle Barn. Note the scattered elm suckers and hawthorns



Fig 52 The area of the castle mound adjacent to Ennor Castle Barn showing elm suckers, hawthorns and Pittosporum on the slopes of the mound



Fig 53 The northern elevation of the castle mound, showing how hawthorn, elm suckers and Pittosporum completely obscure the surviving castle walling



Fig 54 Neutral grassland adjacent to Ennor Castle Barn showing boundary hedge. Habitats here merge with previously cultivated land



Fig 55 Looking north east from the edge of the adjacent field, again showing merging habitats



Fig 56 Looking south along the site boundary, the junction between habitats in the cultivated land to the south and those on the castle mound, showing increasing dominance by Three-cornered Leek

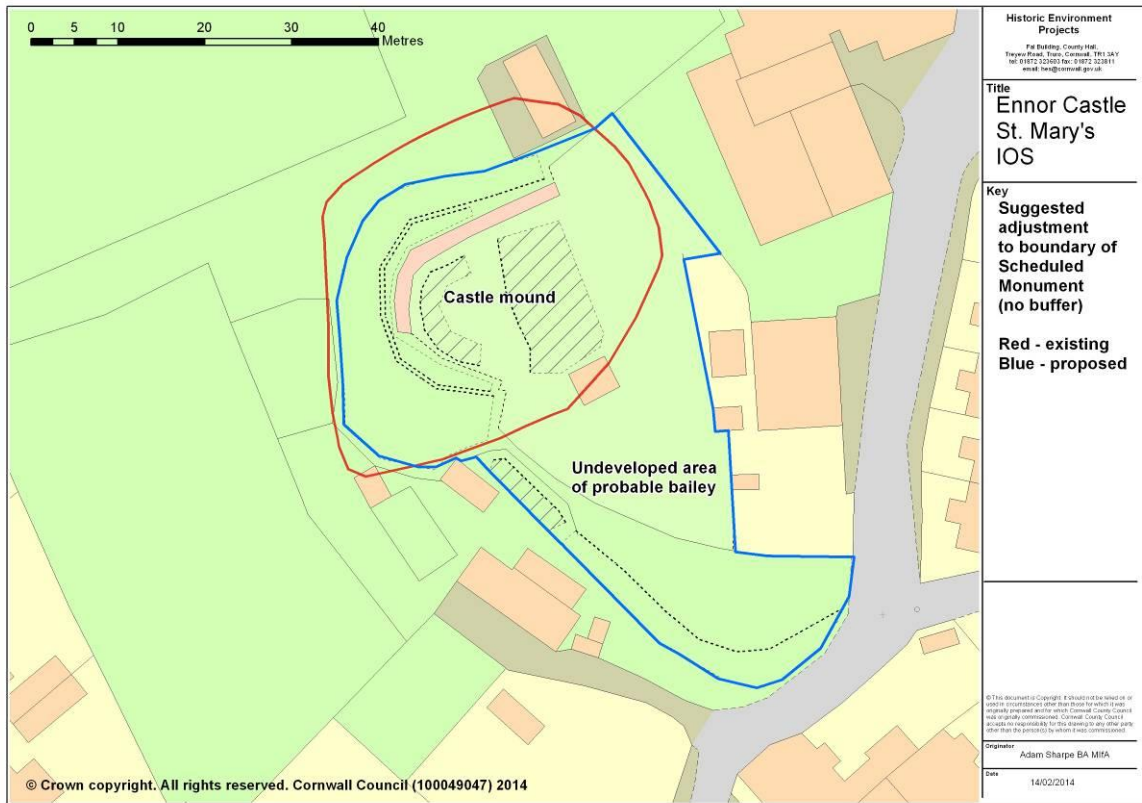


Fig 57 Existing and proposed boundaries for the Scheduled Monument designation applying to Ennor Castle

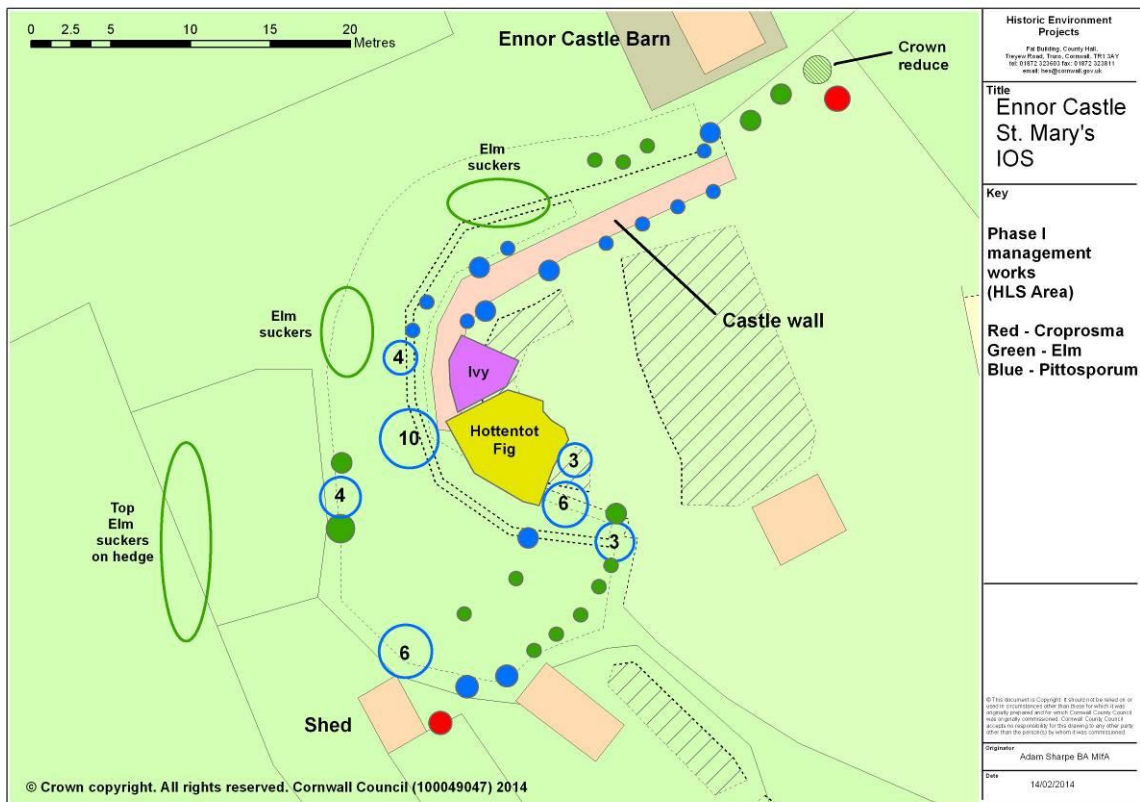


Fig 58 Management recommendations for the Phase 1 HLS agreement area of the castle, identifying trees and other vegetation proposed for removal

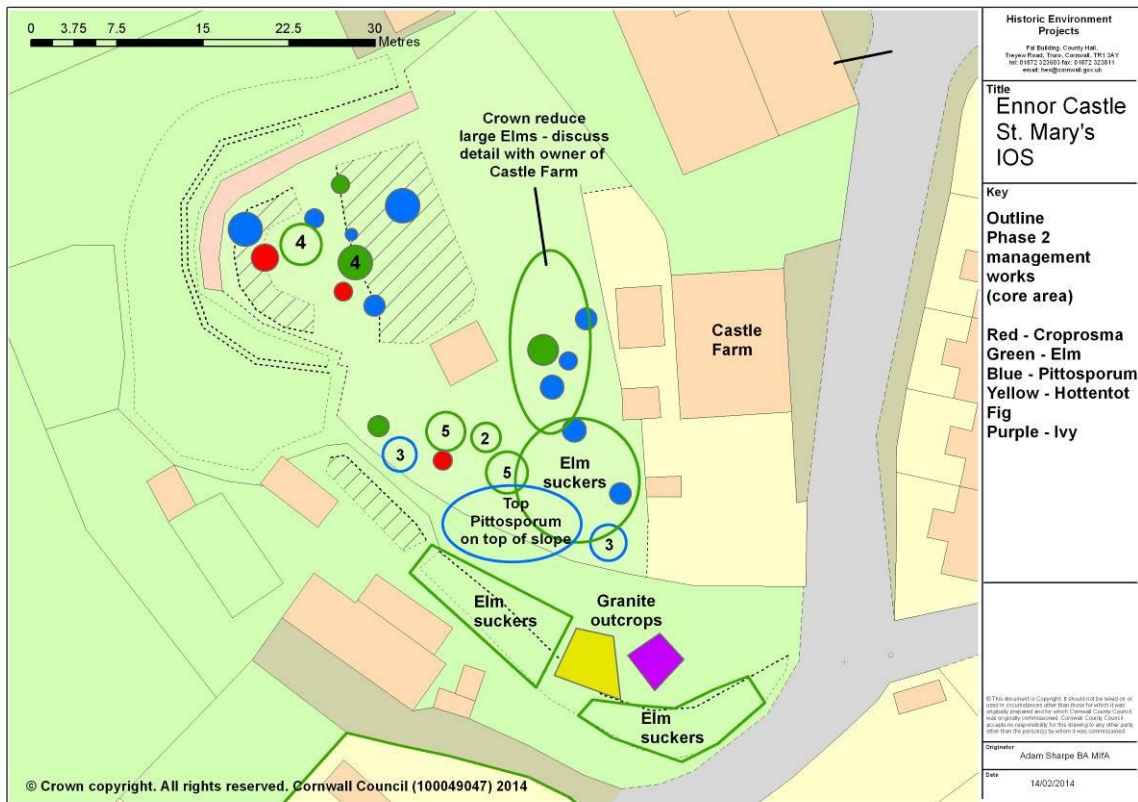


Fig 59 Management recommendations for the Phase 2 area of the castle, identifying trees and other vegetation proposed for removal

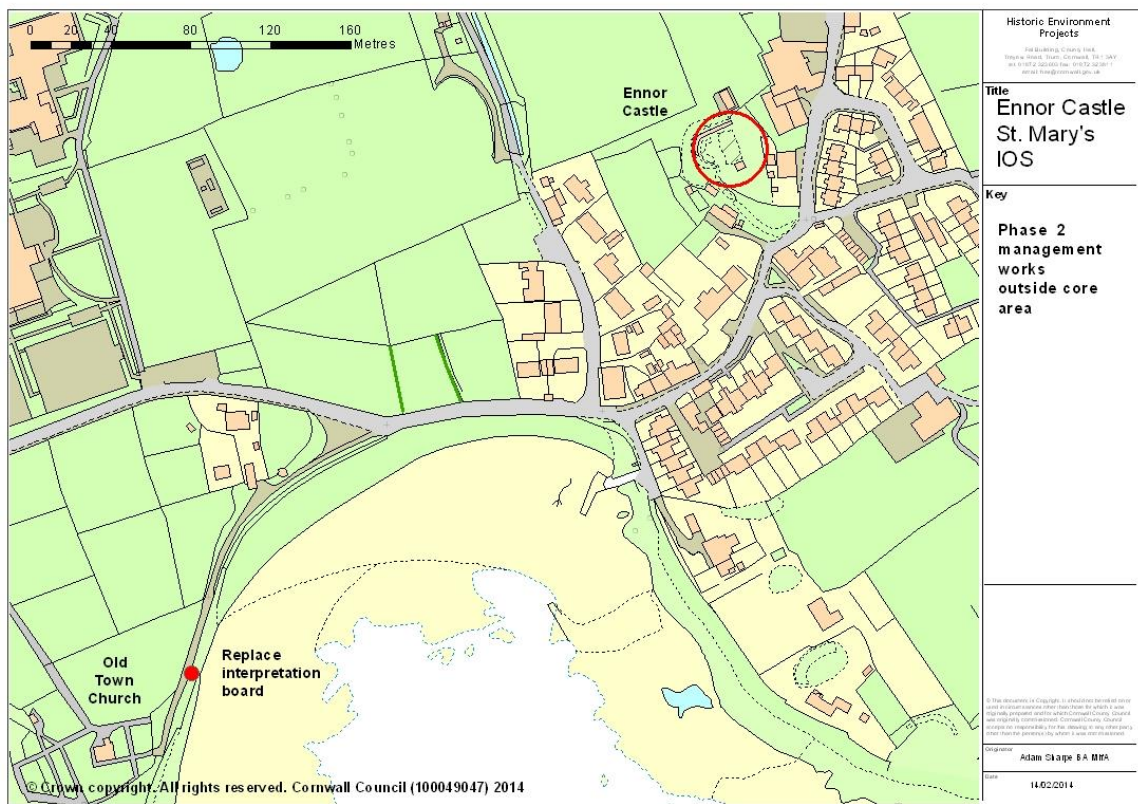


Fig 60 Other works proposed in the landscape around Ennor Castle — Phase 2 replacement of interpretation board

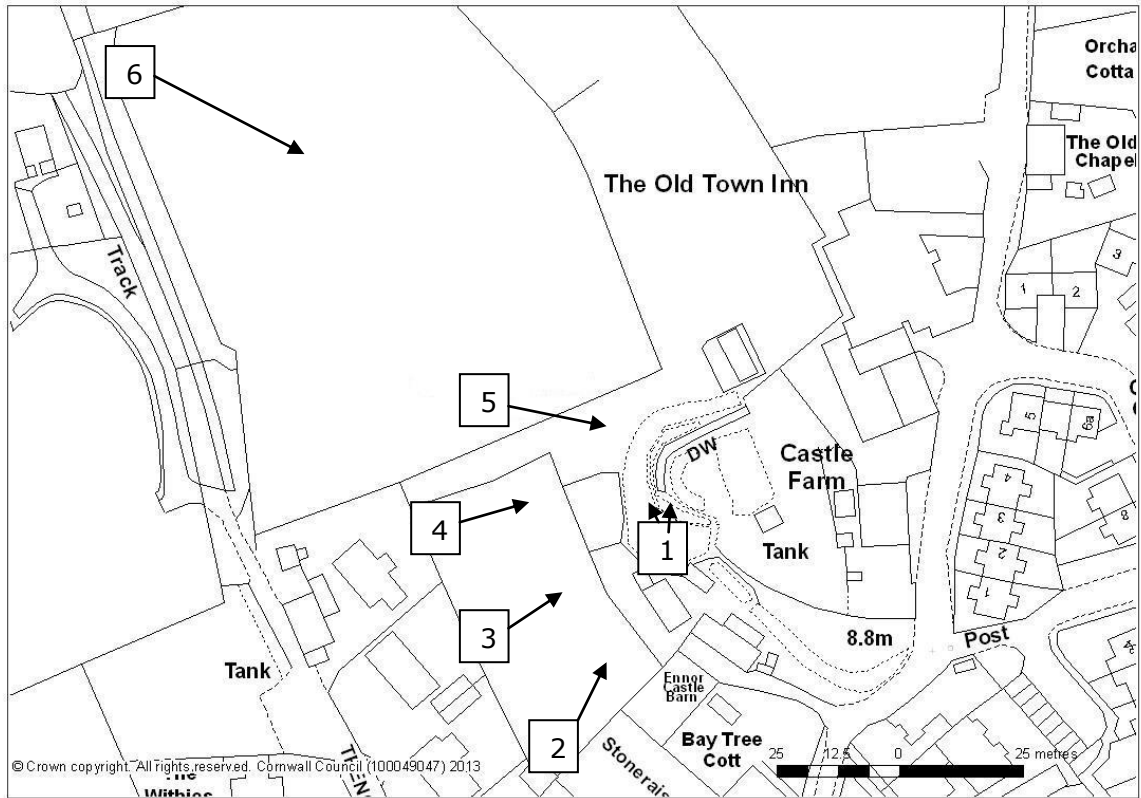


Fig 61 Fixed point photo-monitoring locations 1 – 6 for Stage 2 Phase 1 works

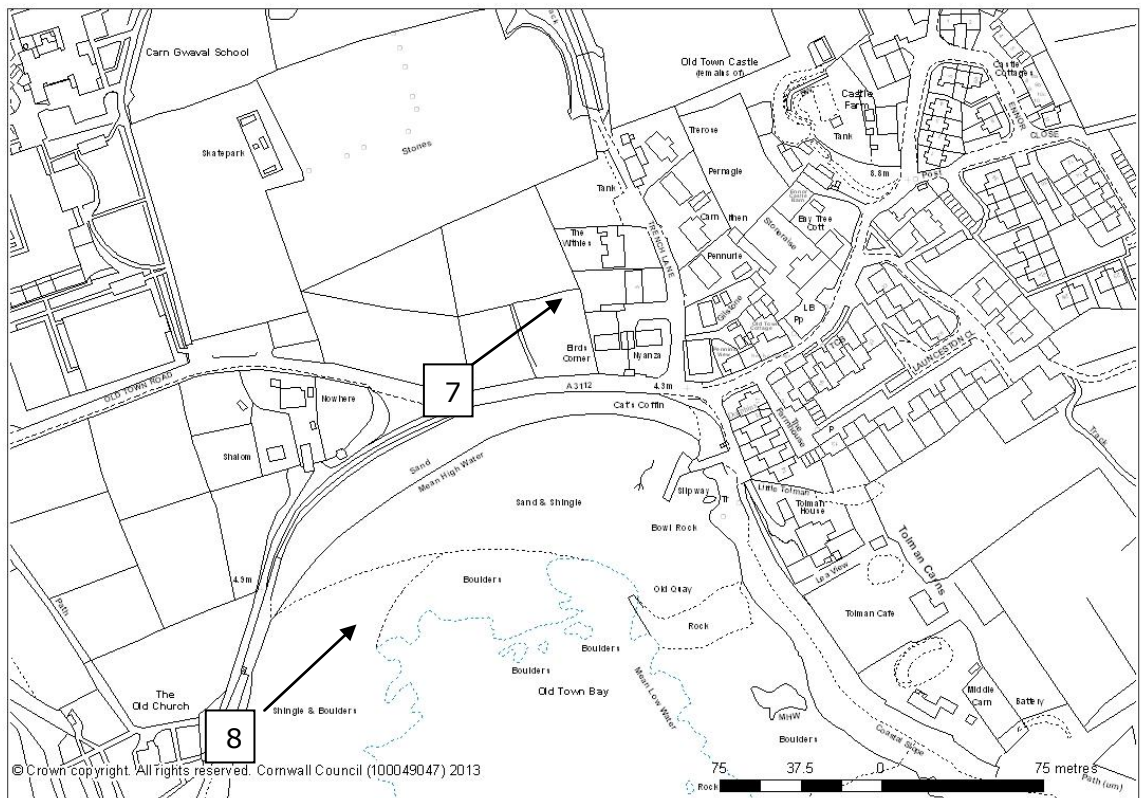


Fig 62 Fixed point photo-monitoring locations 7 and 8 for Stage 2 Phase 1 works