



# **Churchtown Farm, Power cable, Lanteglos, Cornwall**

## **Archaeological Watching Brief**



**Historic Environment Projects**



Report No

2013R058

Report Name

Churchtown Farm, Power cable, Lanteglos,  
Cornwall: Archaeological Watching Brief.

Report Author

C. M. Thorpe

Event Type

Watching Brief

Client Organisation

Western Power

Client Contact

Steve Olds

Monuments (MonUID)

--	--	--	--	--	--

Fieldwork dates (From) (To)

12/08/13

15/08/13

(Created By)

CMT

(Create Date)

20/08/13

Location (postal address; or general location and parish)

Churchtown Farm, Lanteglos by Fowey

(Town – for urban sites)

--

(Postcode)

PL23 1NH
----------

(Easting) X co-ord

SX 14241

(Northing) Y co-ord

51423

--	--



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

© Cornwall Council 2013

No part of this document may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means without the prior permission of the publisher.

## **List of Figures**

Cover. Topsoil stripping in progress within Field 2, looking east towards the tower of Lanteglos by Fowey Church.

Figure 1. Site location.

Figure 2. Site plan showing location of recorded features (in black) and recorded soil profiles (in red).

# **1. Project background**

HE Projects was commissioned by Steve Old, Western Power, to undertake a programme of archaeological recording during the excavation of a power cable trench across two fields to the west of Churchtown Farm, Lanteglos by Fowey.

This piece of work was the conclusion of an outstanding piece of work from a previous project (2011076) the Lansallos to Polruan Electricity Supply Upgrade, Archaeological Watching Brief (Taylor 2012) the fieldwork of which was done in 2011.

This report details the results of the watching brief.

# **2. Location and setting**

The trenching ran through farmland, predominately pasture, much of its route traversing the northern slopes of an east-west ridge that commenced above the coastal shelf to the east of Polruan (SX 13825 51301) and terminated within the field to the west of the car park at Triggabrowne (SX 15150 51357). The route of the cable trench follows for most of its length, the road leading to St Wyllow's Church concluding just west of Churchtown farm at SX 14427 51362 (Figs 1 and 2).

The underlying geology comprises calcareous slates, grits, and limestones of the Lower Devonian Meadfoot Beds. Soils derived from these rocks are brown earths of the Denbigh Series, typical of more fertile areas of lowland Cornwall (BGS sheet 353).

# **3. Aims and objectives**

The aims of the project were:

- To establish the absence/presence of buried archaeological remains.
- To record archaeological features, layers and finds affected by the works.
- To establish the extent, condition, significance and character of the archaeological resource.
- To identify any artefacts relating to the occupation of the site.
- To gain further information about the archaeological potential of the area, through the recording of buried archaeological remains.
- The dissemination and publication of the results.
- The long-term conservation of the project archive in appropriate conditions.

# **4. Working methods**

For the length of the cable trench (approximately 700m long and 0.8m deep) a corridor 1.5m wide was machine-stripped under archaeological supervision using a machine fitted with a toothless bucket. The soil was stripped cleanly to a level at which archaeological features or layers were expected to be revealed, in this case the top of the natural geology. The area was then inspected by the archaeologist. Any features present were recorded. This was prior to the excavation of a narrow trench for the cable.

The line of the cable trench was plotted onto a site plan (noting the locations of features and recorded profiles) at a scale of 1:2500 based on an Ordnance Survey (OS) map of the same scale, being measured in from locatable fixed points on the ground which were also marked on the OS map.

## **5. Results**

### **General**

Forty sections were recorded along the length of the trench, fifteen within Field 1, twenty five within Field 2 (Fig 2). Details of these can be found in the site archive.

### **Field 1.**

The average soil profile recorded within this field consisted of 0.05m of grass, roots and topsoil overlying 0.10m of red, grey-brown clay loam containing a few stones and charcoal flecks, and 0.05m of yellow, orange-brown clay. The decayed natural clay and shillet bedrock lay at the base of the trench.

The soil profile, though consistent in nature throughout the field varied in thickness from 0.10m to 0.45m, the greatest depth being recorded at the base of the slope, with the least being seen upslope, a reflection of soil movement due to plough action in the past. In places solid shillet bedrock was very close to surface.

At SX 13900 51350 a ridge of harder less weathered bedrock was encountered (circa 0.10m high) running across the trench in a north west to south east direction (Fig 2). This seems to be the last remnants of a field boundary depicted on the 1880 OS map, the step of harder rock having been protected from weathering by the bank of the boundary (now removed). No other features were recorded and no artefacts were recovered throughout this field.

### **Field 2.**

The average soil profile recorded within this field consisted of 0.05m of grass, roots and topsoil overlying 0.10m of red, grey-brown clay loam containing a few stones and charcoal flecks, and 0.05m of yellow, orange-brown clay. The decayed natural clay and shillet bedrock lay at the base of the trench.

The soil profile, though consistent in nature throughout the field varied in thickness from 0.20m to 0.50m, the greatest depth being recorded at the base of the slope, with the least being seen upslope, again a reflection of soil movement due to plough action in the past. No archaeological features were recorded within this field and no artefacts were recovered.

## **6. Conclusions/discussion**

Apart from slight evidence for a removed field boundary within Field 1, that was depicted on the Tithe Map for Lanteglos by Fowey in 1839, no other features of archaeological interest were seen over the length of the cable trench, and no artefacts were collected. It was concluded that the cable trench had very little or no impact on any significant buried archaeological remains.

## 7. References

### Primary sources

- Ordnance Survey, c1880. *25 Inch Map* First Edition (licensed digital copy at HE)
- Ordnance Survey, c1907. *25 Inch Map* Second Edition (licensed digital copy at HE)
- Ordnance Survey, 2007. *Mastermap Digital Mapping*
- Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1839. *Parish of Lanteglos by Fowey* (licensed digital copy at HE)
- British Geological Survey, c1981. Map sheet 353 Fowey.

### Publications

- Cornwall County Council, 1996. *Cornwall: A Landscape Assessment 1994* report produced by Landscape Design Associates in association with Cornwall Archaeological Unit
- Taylor, S, 2012. *Lansallos to Polruan Electricity Supply Upgrade, Cornwall: Archaeological Watching Brief*. Archive Report HE Projects 2012R005

### Websites

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

## 8. Project archive

The HE project number is **HEXQPR 2011076**

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

1. Projects file containing site records and notes, project correspondence and administration (HEXQPR 2011076).
2. Field plans and copies of historic maps stored in an A2-size plastic envelope (GRE 764).
3. Digital photographs stored in the directory: R:\Historic Environment (Images)\SITES.I-L\Lansallos to Polruan cable WB 2011076\Lanteglos, Churchtown Farm Aug 2013
4. English Heritage/ADS OASIS online reference: cornwall2- 157320
5. This report text is held in digital form as: G:\TWE\Waste & Env\Strat Waste & Land\Historic Environment\Projects\Sites\Sites L\Lansallos to Polruan cable WB 2011076\Churchtown farm, Lanteglos WB report

No artefacts were recovered in the course of this project.



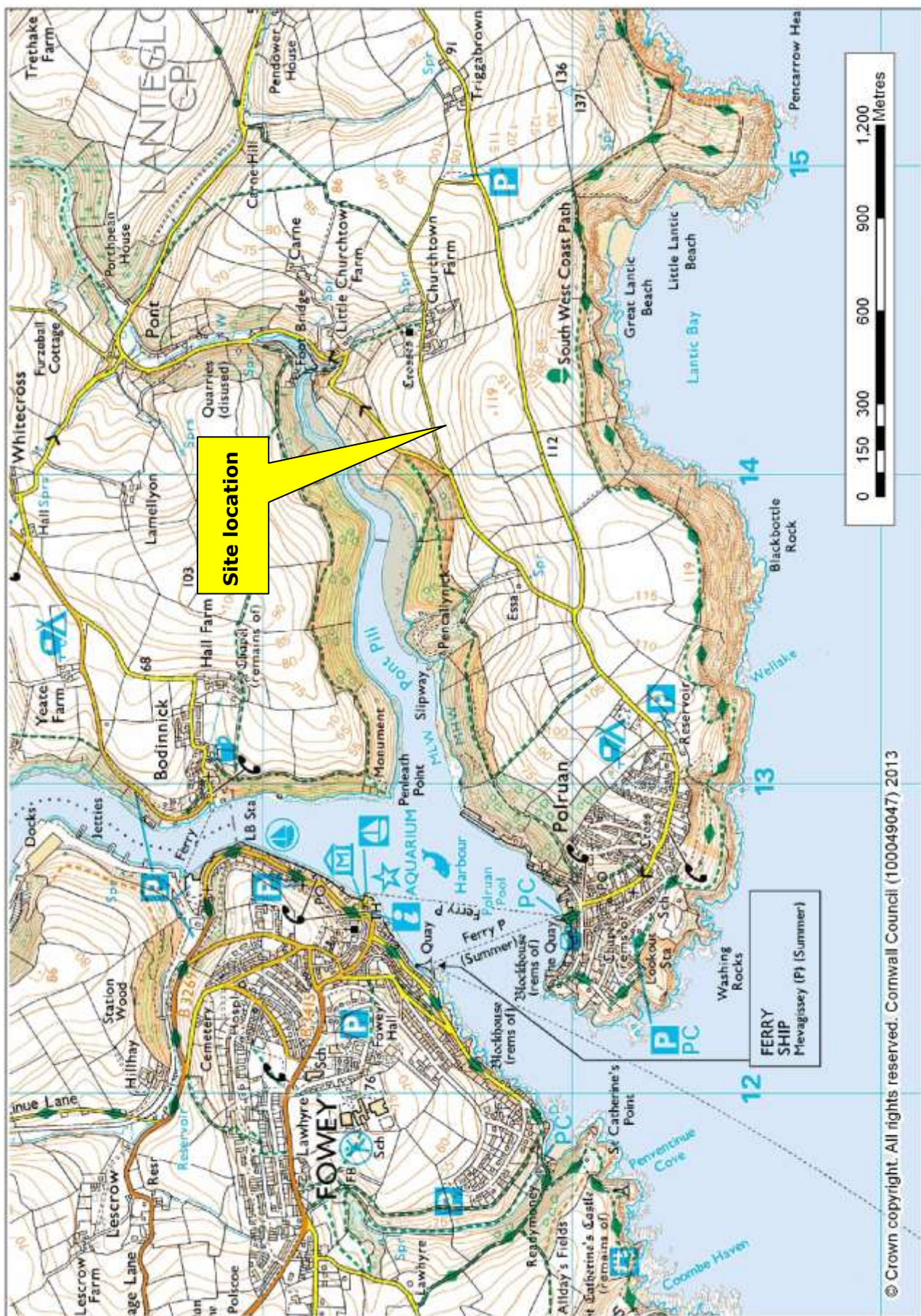


Figure 1. Site location



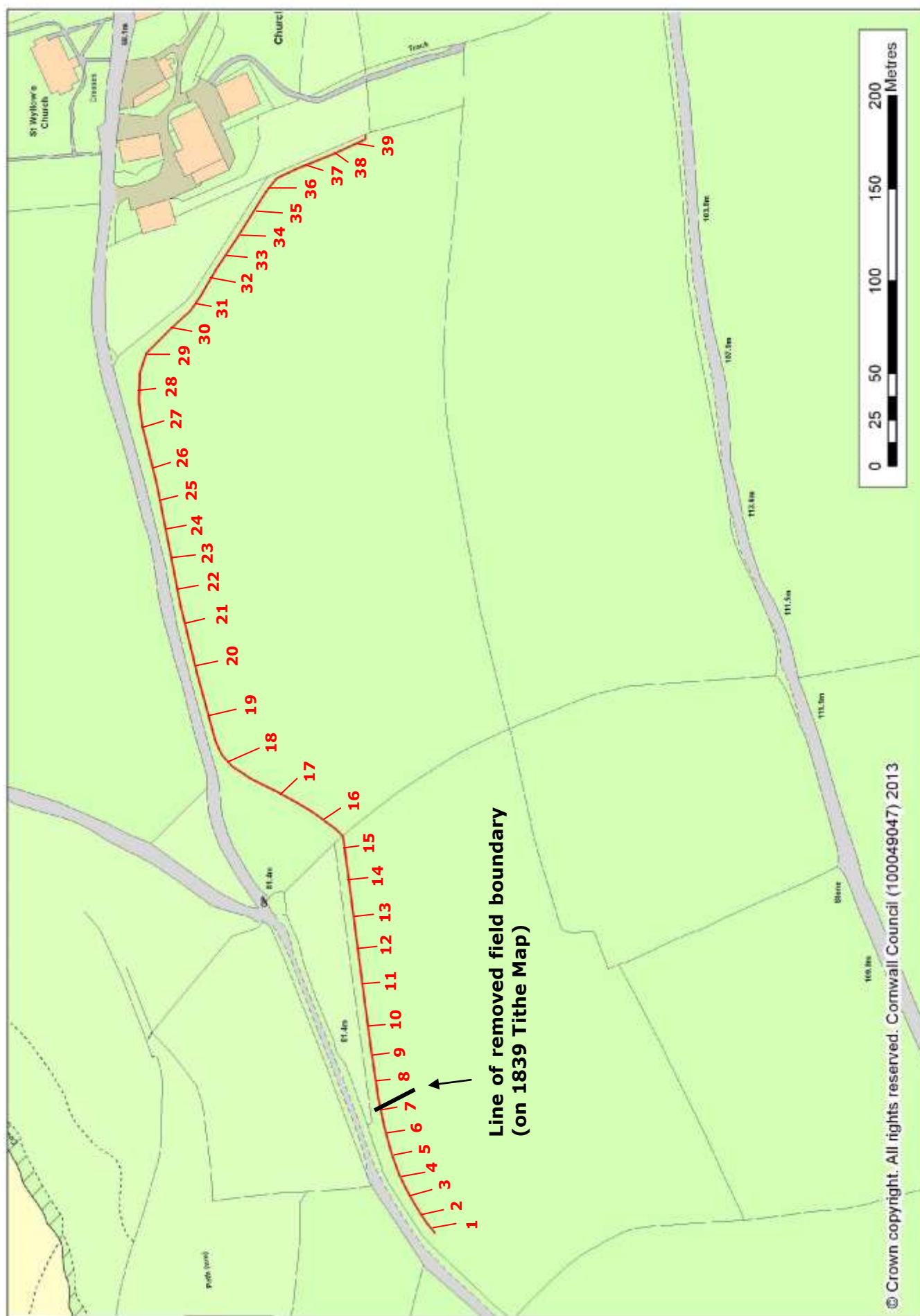


Figure 2. Site plan showing location of recorded features (in black) and recorded soil profiles (in red).