



Archaeological Investigation of the Dawnus Construction Area at Quintrell Downs, Newquay, Cornwall

Archaeological Watching Brief



Cornwall Archaeological Unit

Report No

2014R009

Report Name

Archaeological Investigation of the Dawnus
Construction Area at Quintrell Downs,
Newquay

Report Author

Ryan P. Smith

Event Type

Watching Brief

Client Organisation

Dawnus Construction

Client Contact

Mr Stuart Spearman

Monuments (MonUID)

Fieldwork dates (From)

2 Dec 2013

(To)

31 Jan 2014

(Created By)

Ryan P. Smith

(Create Date)

Oct 2014

Location (postal address; or general location and parish)

Field SW of Quintrell Downs, Newquay, Cornwall

(Town - for urban sites)

Newquay

(Postcode)

TR8 4LD

(Easting) X co-ord

SW 84617

(Northing) Y co-ord

60160



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Institute for Archaeologists

Cover illustration

Topsoil stripping in progress on the east side of the Dawnus site showing path of old field boundary.

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Project background

Cornwall Archaeological Unit (formerly Historic Environment Projects), Cornwall Council were commissioned by Mr Giusto Provenzano of Dawnus Construction, to undertake a programme of archaeological recording in advance of redevelopment of land at Quintrell Downs, Newquay. The development was within a single field on the south west side of the village and covered an area of approximately 4 HA (Fig 1).

A geophysical survey (GSB 2012) and archaeological assessment undertaken by HE Projects (Lawson-Jones 2008; 2012) had uncovered a number of potential archaeological sites in the wider area, including a possible later prehistoric enclosure and a ring-ditch type anomaly which was thought to possibly represent a Bronze Age barrow (later found to be a feature of modern origin (Taylor 2013)). A number of linear pit and ditch type anomalies were also identified in the area.

Dan Ratcliffe (Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer, Cornwall Council) was consulted over the requirements for the archaeological recording, he recommended that an archaeological watching brief to be carried out across the area.

A Written Scheme of Investigation, outlining the methodology for archaeological recording was produced (11/11/13) by Dr Andy Jones (Archaeologist Team Leader, Cornwall Archaeological Unit, (Appendix 4).

This report details the results of the watching brief.

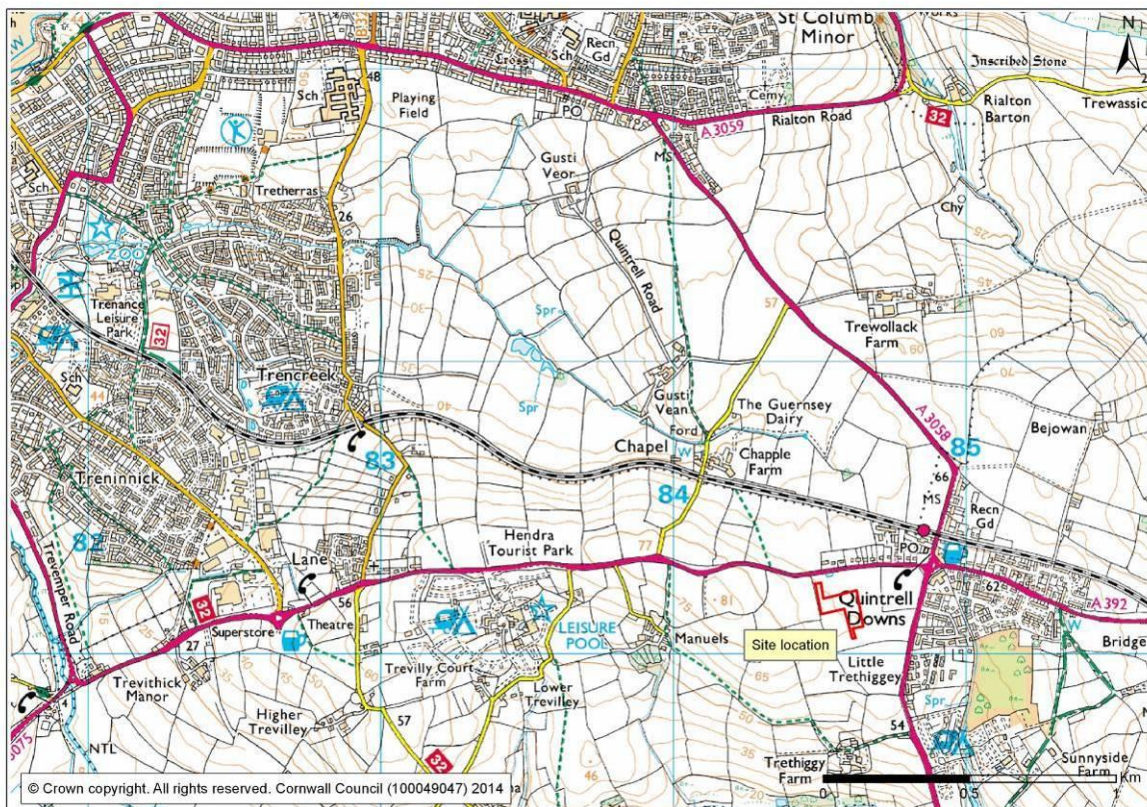


Figure 1: Site location

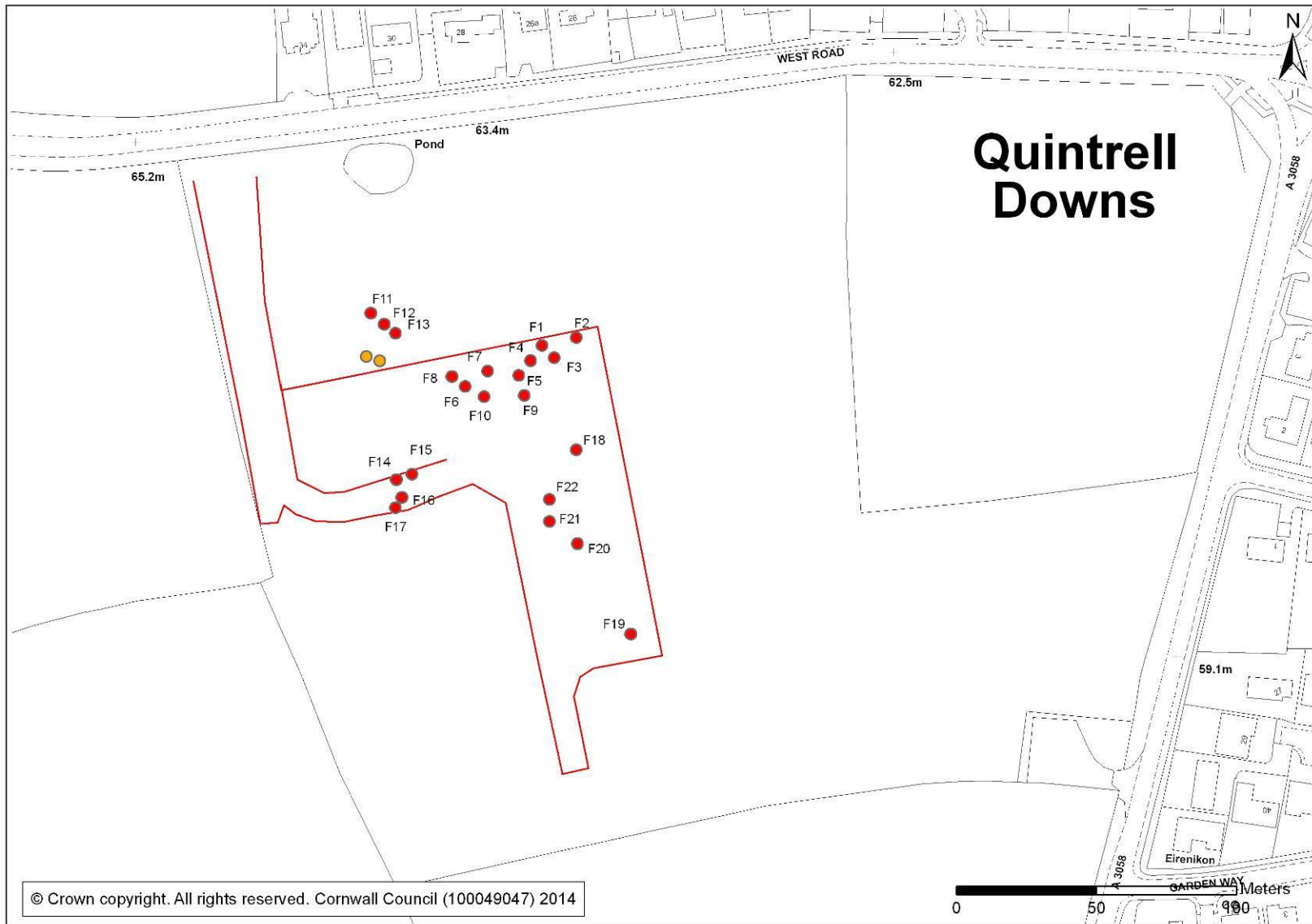


Figure 2: Location of features investigated within the area stripped. (F11-13 denote ditches found in the access road, yellow dots denote opposite sides of ditches)

Location, setting and site history

The field covered by the watching brief is situated on the south west side of the village of Quintrell Downs within the Parish of Colan (Fig 1). The site is centred at SW 84617 60160. The project area is located on a gentle slope, which drops from 65m to 62m OD towards the east and south. According to the local land user (Mr George Eustice, pers comm.) the land was last ploughed in 1949 and had since remained as pasture. In 1951 the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Show had been held within the field.

The underlying geology consists of calcareous slate and thin limestones of the Meadfoot Beds belonging to the Devonian Period (BGS sheet 346).

The area of the proposed development lies within land classed in Cornwall's Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) as Recently Enclosed Land. Recently Enclosed Land is land which has been enclosed since at least the eighteenth century and which is often found to contain upstanding archaeological sites such as Bronze Age round barrows (Cornwall County Council 1996).

The development is situated within an area of high archaeological potential, nearby sites including a Bronze Age barrow, a complex cropmark enclosure site of possible prehistoric/Romano-British date and medieval settlements.

The medieval settlement of Manuels, to the west of the proposed development area, was first recorded in 1289 as 'Maenhulwols'. The name is Cornish and contains the elements *men* meaning 'stone', and *Uhel* meaning 'high'. The settlement is associated with a strip field system. A second medieval settlement at Trethiggey lies to the south of the development area. This was first recorded in 1284. The name is Cornish, and contains the place name element *tre*, 'estate, farmstead', and an uncertain second element. The element *tre* implies a place of early medieval origin (Gover 1948).

Identified archaeological sites

A number of sites in the vicinity of the study area have been identified. They include:

- A Bronze Age barrow site (c 2000-1500 cal BC) may lie within the proposed development area (MCO2277).
- A crop-mark enclosure of probable prehistoric/Romano-British date (MCO8228) has been found to the west of the development area. This site is not directly impacted by the development, but associated activity may extend into the development area.
- An enclosure of possible prehistoric/Romano-British date was identified by the geophysical survey to the east of the development area.
- The medieval settlement of Manuels (MCO55291) and its associated field systems are located to the west of the development area.
- The medieval settlement of Trethiggey (MCO17778) is located to the south of the development area.
- Linear anomalies and pit type responses were identified by the geophysical survey across the development area. These features cannot positively be identified as being of an archaeological nature. However, some may prove to be of medieval or earlier date.

Potential sites

There is potential for buried prehistoric and medieval sites to survive within the project area and there is the scope for the survival of previously unrecorded archaeological sites, organic remains, and artefacts of all periods.

Aims and objectives

The aims of the project were:

- To ensure that the site works are carried out in such a way as to allow adequate recording.
- To record archaeological features and deposits affected by the scheme.
- To recover and record artefacts uncovered by the works.
- To disseminate the results of discoveries appropriately.

The area around the development contains a number of potentially important buried archaeological sites which include an enclosure and a ring-ditch, both of which are of potentially prehistoric date. The archaeological investigation of this area therefore provided an opportunity to better understand the character and potential of this resource by recording sites and features affected by the works.

Working methods

The site soil strip was carried out under archaeological supervision using machines fitted with grading buckets. 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.

Investigated features were plotted onto a site plan (noting the locations of features and recorded profiles) at a scale of 1:500. These were plotted from Temporary Bench Marks (TBM) installed by the contractor on the ground, and the use of a handheld GPS (Appendix 3). Archaeological features identified during the soil strip were planned at a scale of 1:20. Sections through features were recorded at a scale of 1:10.

Lists of samples, artefacts and contexts are provided at the end of the report (Appendix 1, 2 and Appendix 4).

Results

Figure 2 provides a location of each feature excavated; the F number denotes their location on the map.

F1, Pit [204] (Figs) 2, 5 & 17)

Located at SW 84604 60200, the pit lay on the north side of the excavation area. The cut [204] was circular in shape with a diameter of 0.54m and a depth of 0.21m. The pit had a profile with near vertical sides and a curved base. It appeared to have been cut into the natural pale clay which contained an oxidized natural layer which is prevalent throughout the site. The fill consisted of six large smooth quartz pebbles and a dark grey silty layer (203) between the stones. No artefacts or organic material were recovered from this pit, which means that it was not dateable.

F2, Pits [209], [219] & [220] (Figs) 2, 6 & 18)

Located at SW 84617 60200, this group of pits lay on the north eastern side of the excavation area. The pits were intercutting each other, with cut [209] being the central and deepest, cut [219] the easternmost and shallowest, and cut [220] on the western side. The latter feature contained the majority of the stones identified.

Cut [209] measured 1.1m in length and 0.45m in depth. Excavation of the section revealed the sides were cut into the surrounding natural, appearing smooth and steep-sided with several fills. The base was curved and smooth in appearance. The cut contained fills (202), (206), (207) and (208). Fill (207) appeared to contain fragments of bone within the matrix of the layer.

Cut [219] was a shallow depression, 1.3m in diameter at its widest point and 0.15m deep. It was located on the east side of the group, and contained two smooth sided quartz pebbles, no more than 0.15m in size, within fill (202).

Cut [220], a poorly-defined irregular oval shape, with steep concave sides, only revealed itself as it was excavated. It was 0.8m in diameter at its widest point, and 0.5m in depth. This feature contained 13 stones of various sizes and shapes; two possible granite stones, one blue coloured mudstone and the remainder quartz. Three of the larger quartz stones were jagged in profile. The granite stone was located on the periphery of the pit orientated in a north south direction, but may have been disturbed. The larger quartz stones were embedded in the natural clays the pit had been excavated into. The pit's fill was (202). There was no indication of burning, and as to the placement of the stones within the pit, it cannot be determined for certain whether this was a natural process or whether they had been deliberately placed there. Two samples were retained from the central cut [209]/(208) due to the presence of possible burnt bone fragments within them. This feature is of possible early date, and could belong to the prehistoric or Roman-British periods.

F3, Pit [211] (Figs 2 & 7)

Located at SW 84609 60194, this pit lay on the north eastern side of the excavation. The cut was an elongated feature 0.9m in length and 0.3m wide with a depth of 0.2m. It had not very well defined edges, steep sides with an uneven base probably formed by either a natural event (such as plant ingress), farming activity, or disturbance resulting from the 1951 Royal Cornwall Show. The fill was similar in appearance to (207) a dark grey silty deposit, probably organic in nature and present within many of the areas of the site. No artefacts were recorded so this pit could not be dated.

F6, Pit [214] (Figs 2 & 8)

Located at SW 84577 60183, this pit lay on the north western side of the excavation. It was circular in shape with a diameter of 0.8m and a depth of 0.15m. The edges were not well-defined, but it was steep-sided, with an uneven base. The top fill comprised a dark silty layer similar to (207) containing a single piece of flint. The primary fill consisted of the pale grey clay mixed with a dark organic deposit and quartz stone inclusions, probably as a result of contamination from the surrounding geology. The base of the pit was uneven and probably similar in origin to F3. A small undiagnostic piece of flint of broadly prehistoric date was recovered from (212), the upper fill of the pit, which means that it could not be closely dated.

F7, Pit [218] (Figs 2, 9 & 10)

Located at SW 84585 60188, this pit lay on the northern side of the excavation. The cut was circular in shape with a diameter of 1.6m and a depth of 0.15m. The edges were not well-defined and the sides were shallow. The upper fill was a dark grey silty organic deposit similar to (207). There was a very thin (less than 0.01m thick) patchy charcoal-rich lens. The primary fill was similar in appearance to (213), the pale grey clay with an organic mix including quartz stones. The base appeared reasonably flat. This feature had the appearance of a probable tree throw. No artefacts were recorded, so it could not be dated.

F11, Ditch [305] (Fig 2)

This ditch was located on the north western edge of the excavation (SW 84543 60192). It was orientated north-south and it matched the description provided by Mr G Eustice (local farmer) of ditches cut by him in 1951 for the Royal Cornwall Show. It was 0.3m in width at the base and, from the present surface, 0.34m in depth. Overall the exposed length of the ditch was 12.5m. The west side of the cut was very steep sided, whereas the opposing side from the base rose very sharply before petering out. There were several large pieces of quartz adjacent to the edge of the ditch but it could not be determined if their placing here was deliberate. The fill of the ditch was a mid brown friable coarse gravel with a silt layer. Within the matrix of this material were larger quartz stones of various sizes and shapes, unsorted but lower in the fill of the ditch. Ditch [305] was cut directly into the natural pale yellow clay. The size and shape of the ditch would indicate that it had been cut by a machine.

F12, Ditch [307] (Figs 2 & 11)

This ditch was situated on the north western edge of the excavation area (SW 84546 60191). It ran parallel with F11 and F13 on a north-south orientation. The profile of this ditch does not match that of F11 (machine cut): the base was nearly 1m wide and from the surface about 0.4m in depth. The sides of the ditch were shallow with the east side rising gradually, while the opposing side had a better defined incline. The fill of the ditch was different from F11, containing a more coarse loamy material compared to the primary fill (304) of F11. The primary fill was a brown silty loam and appeared to be finer than the upper fill. The ditch had been excavated from the natural reddish/yellow clays prevalent throughout the site. No artefacts were recorded, so the ditch remains undated.

F13, Ditch [310] (Figs 2, 12 & 13)

This ditch was situated on the north western edge of the excavation area (SW 84551 60202). This is the easternmost of the three ditches running parallel to each other on a north-south axis. The base of the ditch was approximately 1.4m wide and the cut reached a depth of 0.1m. The overall depth from the present topsoil (301) to the base of the ditch was c 0.4m. With the exception of more stones being present within its matrix, the primary fill (309) was very similar in appearance to the subsoil (302). This ditch appears to be of similar design to F12 and was also cut into the natural pale yellow clays prevalent within the site. No artefacts were recorded, so this ditch could not be dated.

F14, Ditch [105] (Figs 2, 13 & 19)

This ditch was situated on the south west side of the excavation area (SW 84557 60151). It ran on a north-south course parallel to F15, a shallow ditch located to its east. The cut measured over 2.7m wide, and 0.5m at its deepest. The western side of this ditch was pitched at an angle of about 30 degrees, which continued to the base where it almost immediately returns at a similar angle on the east side to a height of about 0.2m, the eastern side then levelled off and sloped downwards in an easterly direction at an angle of about five degrees for a distance of about 1.1m where it then rises 0.3m sharply to the surface (below the topsoil). The upper fills of the feature were topsoil (101) and (102). The matrix of the (102) was similar to the topsoil but it contained more stone inclusions. The primary fill (104) of the ditch appeared to be a brown silty clay matrix containing sparse small stone inclusions, very similar to the upper fill (103) but with fewer stones. No artefacts were recorded, which means that it could not be dated.

F15, Ditch [108] (Figs 2 & 20)

Located at SW 84553 60150, this ditch was situated on the south west side of the excavation area and runs on a north-south orientation parallel to F14, a shallow ditch located on its western edge. The ditch appears to be about 1.1m in wide at the lip, and about 0.45m in depth from the present surface. The western edge of the ditch face exhibited a 40 degree angle toward the west, while the eastern edge gradually rises at about 15 degrees to the east. The primary fill (107) of the ditch was a mid-grey clay silty deposit, with some small stone inclusions; these were common within the matrix but unsorted. There was no silting within the ditch fill. No artefacts were recorded, and this means that it could not be dated.

F17, Ditch [110] (Figs 2 & 21)

Located at SW 84551 60138, this appears to be a ditch on the south west side of the excavation area, orientated east-west. The top of the feature appears to be about 1.1m wide (lip to lip) and at least 0.4m deep. The sides of the feature have been cut into the natural pale yellow and grey clays prevalent on the site and exhibit smooth steep sides. The top of the ditch was well-defined on the western side by a dark peaty upper fill, which dissipated rapidly as the feature was excavated to the east, the material being replaced by a mixture of a stonier organic matrix combined with material from the local geology. The stone inclusions were predominantly small quartz stones less than one centimetre in size, angular and typical of the site. No artefacts were recorded, so this means that it could not be dated.

F22, Ditch [130] (Figs 2, 14 & 22)

This ditch was situated in the mid southern area of the excavation site (SW 84607 60142) and is the remains of an old field boundary depicted on the St Columb Minor Tithe map of 1839 and later Ordnance Survey maps (Figs 3 and 4). It measured approximately 1.8m wide and 0.18m deep. The feature was shallow but discernible on the surface by the darker fill - a more organic deposit in comparison to the pale natural clay subsoil it was dug into. The line of the ditch appears to be on an east-west orientation and can be seen throughout the excavated section it travels through. No artefacts were recorded; however, the historic mapping indicates that it is of earlier post-medieval date.

Other features (Fig 2)

There were other features within the excavation area. Some appeared to be pits but when examined it was determined that they were either formed through natural processes or as a result of the 1951 Royal Cornwall Show. Direct evidence of the Show was indicated by a series of seven small square postholes (0.3m x 0.3m) visible in the natural clays. Orientated north-south and about 3.2m apart, these postholes followed a path about 15.7m long before entering an undisturbed area of the site. Several similar postholes were uncovered following a parallel course on the east side of this line. As these were found in the centre of the excavation area they almost certainly belong to the stands associated with the Royal Cornwall Show.

A larger pit within the same area appeared to have been excavated by a machine (F21) its sides were steep and straight and consistent with a small bucket being placed into the ground. This pit contained the remains of a metal post in its upper section, a plant pot and a piece of barbed wire at the base.

Geology

As work progressed profiles of the geology were recorded around the site. The topsoil never exceeded 0.3m in depth at any location within the area excavated. It was a mid to dark brown silty clay with some areas of more loamy material (west side adjacent to the hedge), containing some stones, including quartz and mudstone, angular and sub-angular in appearance.

A layer of subsoil was present in some areas. This was a reddish dark brown clay loam, more compact than the topsoil and containing more common stone inclusions. This layer (except where pits/ditches were present) sat directly above the natural clays.

The natural clay was compact and was a yellow or light grey colour. As the excavation progressed across the site, the clays were revealed to be in bands and patches. Both contained occasional large quartz and slate stones, the light grey clays when washed by the incessant rain were revealed to contain common quartz inclusions.

Conclusion/discussion

The archaeological recording at Quintrell Downs did not lead to the recording of any immediately datable features.

The only feature to produce any potential dating evidence was F2 pit [209], from which burnt bone fragments were recovered from its lower fill. A separate watching brief carried out at Quintrell Downs had produced similar pits to F2 (Thorpe 2013), but none of these could be dated. Examples of similar pits and pit groups have been found in Cornwall, including several along the North Cornwall STW Pipeline (Jones and Quinnell 2014), where excavated pits produced radiocarbon dates varying from the Neolithic through to early medieval period. Only further analyses will resolve the date and function of this feature.

Many of the features excavated within the site can be attributed to natural processes through geological or recent activity associated with the Royal Cornwall Agricultural Show in 1951.

The description provided by the local farmer matched the single modern cut ditch (F11) which had been excavated in 1951. The remaining ditches (F12, F13), although

orientated on the same north-south line and running parallel to F11, did not appear to be machine cut. These ditches were more rounded in their edges and F13 was also shallower in profile, but their age cannot be determined due to lack of finds or other dating material.

The single ditch F17 [110] located on the south western edge of the excavation site and orientated east-west, could be the old field boundary shown on the historic mapping, although if it is associated with the same feature (F22) the ditch profile is deeper and narrower on this side of the excavation area. Later mapping shows this boundary to still exist in the mid 20th century.

No other features of archaeological interest were revealed and no other artefacts were collected. It was concluded that the development had very little or no impact on any significant buried remains apart from those reported above.

Recommendations

Although the project did not lead to the recovery of a large number of significant features, it has resulted in the discovery of one pit which was found to contain burnt material, and which may be of prehistoric date.

It is therefore recommended that the samples taken from this pit are processed in a further stage of analysis and study.

This would involve selecting material suitable for radiocarbon dating for the pit fills, especially those containing burnt bone. Specialists should also be commissioned to examine the bone to determine whether it is of human or animal origin, and the surviving wood to identify its species. A summary of the results of the watching brief including the results of the specialist analyses would be published as a short article in a suitable journal such as *Cornish Archaeology*.

Any decision about any further archaeological work appropriate to the material recovered from this site would be made by the Senior Development Officer (Historic Environment), in consultation with the client.

References

Primary Sources

British Geological Survey, c1981. Map sheet 346 Newquay.

Publications

Cornwall County Council, 1996. *Cornwall Landscape Assessment 1994*, Cornwall County Council: Truro

GSB, 2012. *Quintrell Downs, Newquay, Cornwall* (Survey Ref: 2012/16)

Jones, A.M. & Quinnell. H. 2014. *Lines of archaeological investigation along the North Cornish coast*. Oxford: British Archaeological Reports, British Series 594.

Lawson-Jones, A, 2008. *Quintrell Downs, Newquay, Cornwall: archaeological assessment* (Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall County Council)

Lawson-Jones, A, 2012. *Quintrell Downs, Newquay, Geophysical Survey: Statement of Archaeological Implications*. (Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council)

Taylor, S M, 2013. *Area A, Quintrell Downs, Cornwall: archaeological evaluation* (Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council)

Thorpe, C M, 2013. *Quintrell Downs, Kier Area, Newquay, Cornwall: archaeological watching brief* (Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council)

Websites

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

<http://maps.nls.uk/geo/explore> National Library of Scotland Historic Maps

<http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/ordsurvdraw/> British Library Ordnance Survey Drawings Collection

Project archive

The CAU project number is **HEXPR146326**

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

1. A project file containing site records and notes, project correspondence and administration.
2. Field plans and copies of historic maps stored in an A2-size plastic envelope (GRE 802/1-12).
3. Electronic drawings stored in the directory ..\Historic Environment (CAD)\CAD Archive\Sites N-O\Newquay Quintrell Downs Dawnus 146326
4. Digital photographs stored in the directory ..\Historic Environment (Images)\SITES.M-P\Sites N\Newquay Quintrell Downs Dawnus 146326
5. English Heritage/ADS OASIS online reference: cornwall2-171027

This report text is held in digital form as: G:\TWE\Waste & Env\Strat Waste & Land\Historic Environment\Projects\Sites\Sites N\Newquay Quintrell Downs Dawnus area\Report

Artefacts and environmental material retrieved during the project are currently stored at the Cornwall Archaeological Unit Finds Archive Store, Cardrew Industrial Estate, Redruth. The site code is QD-Dawnus.

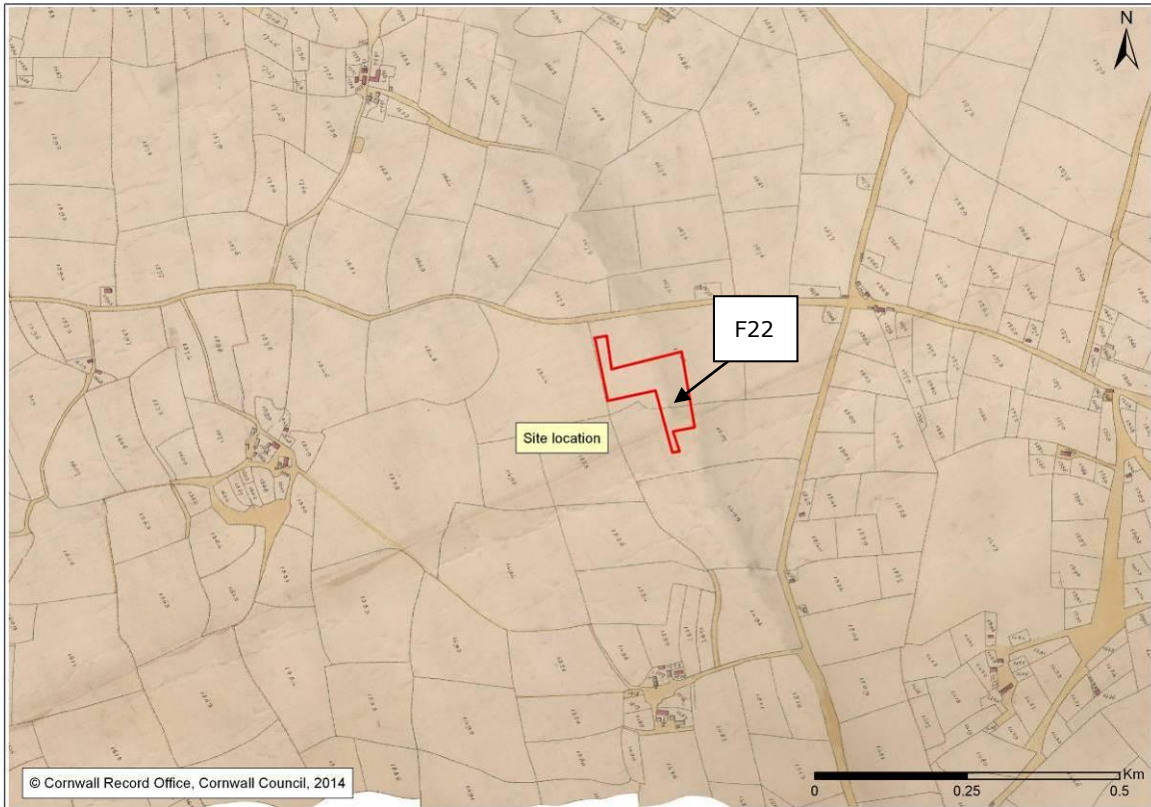


Figure 3: St Columb Minor Tithe Map c1839 showing location of F22.

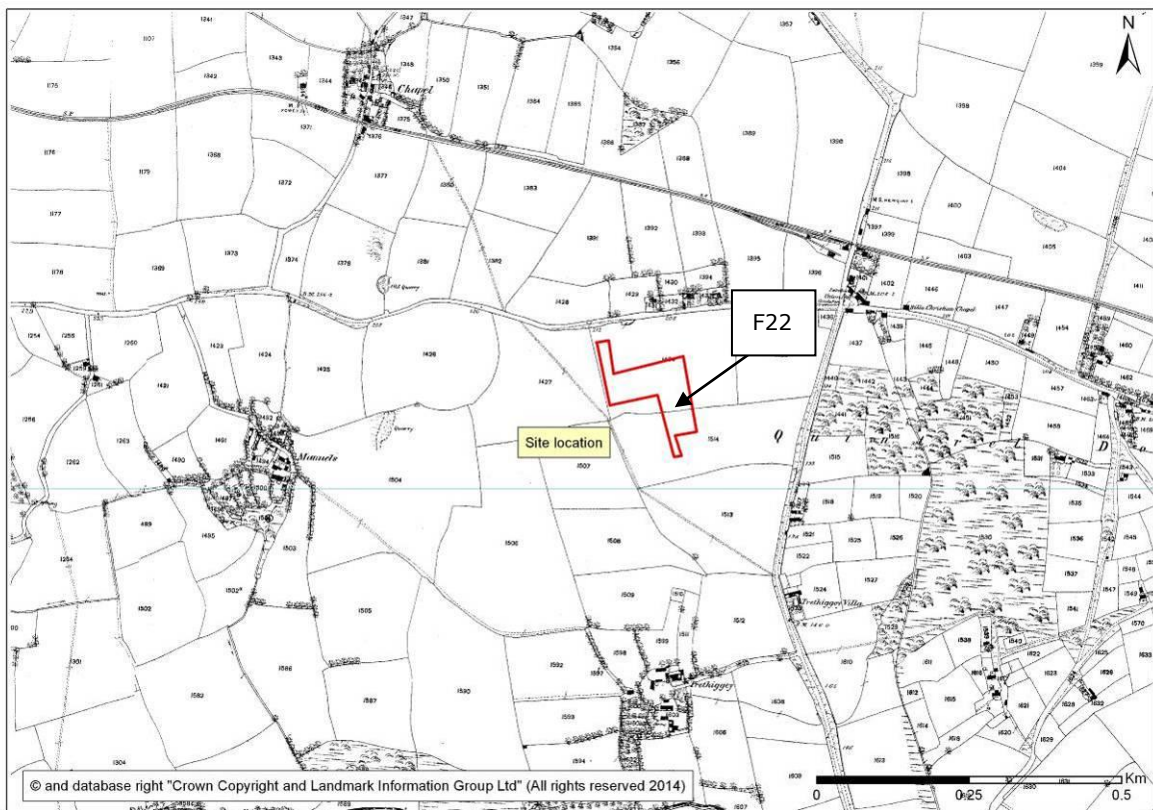


Figure 4: Site location on 1880 Ordnance Survey mapping showing location of F22.

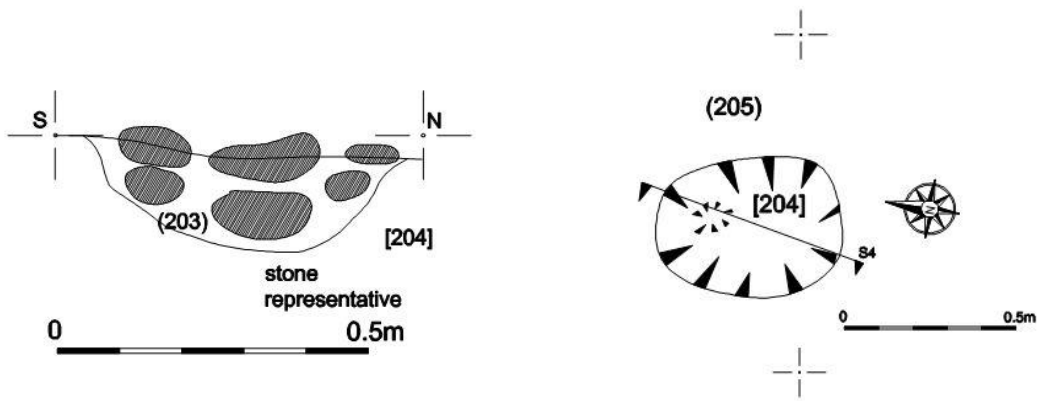


Figure 5: F1 section and plan (pit with large smooth quartz pebbles).

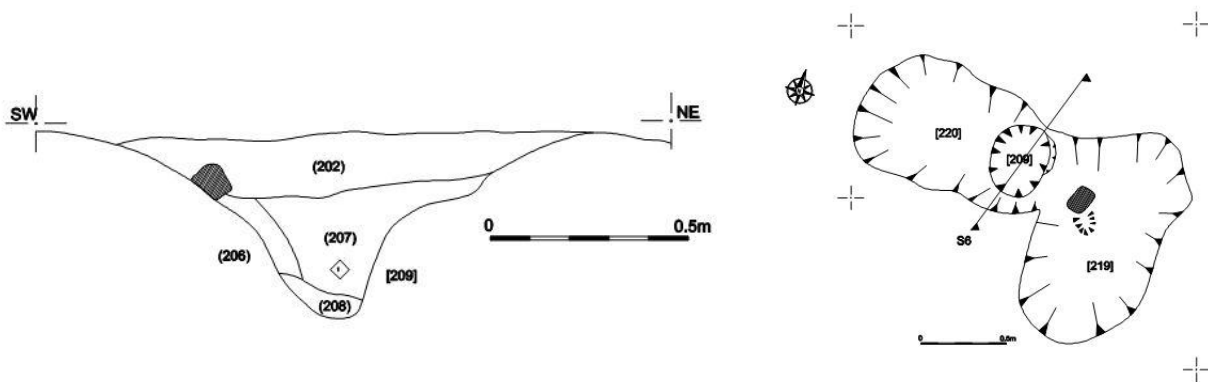


Figure 6: F2 section of [209] and plan of pit group [220], [209] and [219].

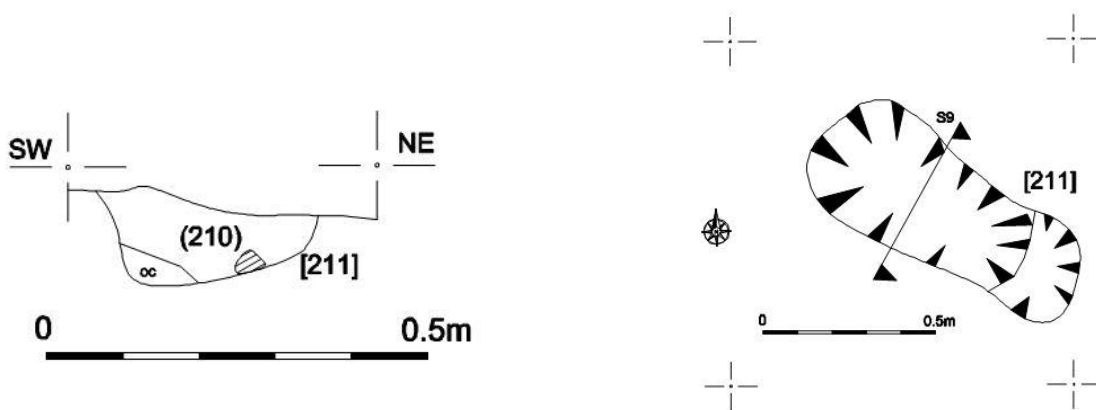


Figure 7: F3 section and plan of pit.

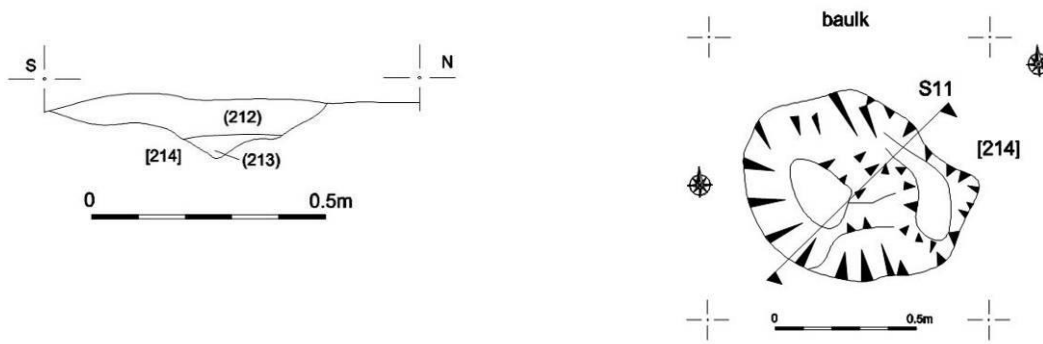


Figure 8: F6 Section and plan of small pit.

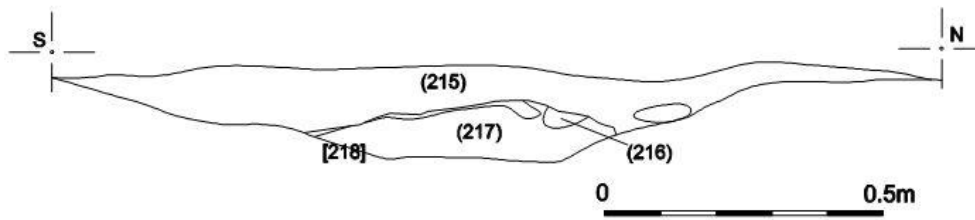


Figure 9: F7 section of large shallow pit.

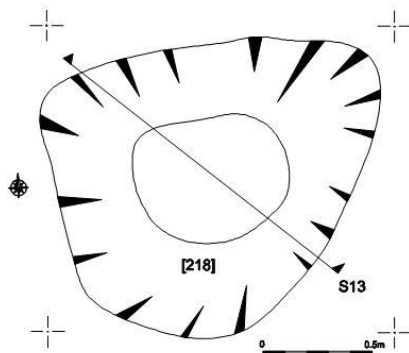


Figure 10: F7 Plan of excavated pit.

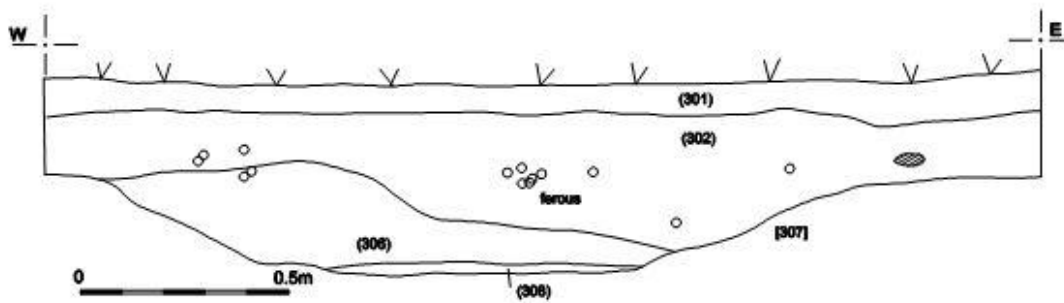


Figure 11: F12 section of ditch (north-south orientation).

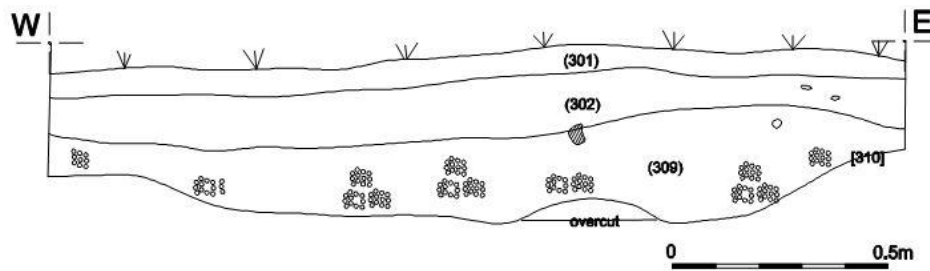


Figure 12: F13 section of ditch (north-south orientation).

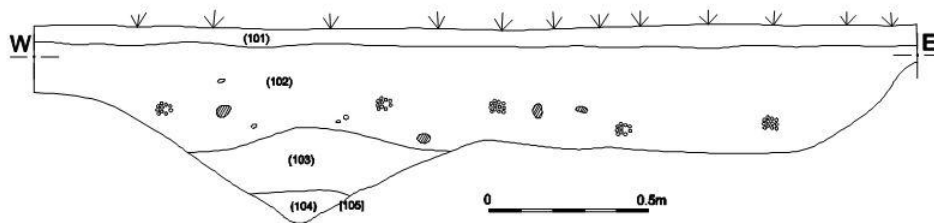


Figure 13: F14 section of ditch (north-south orientation).

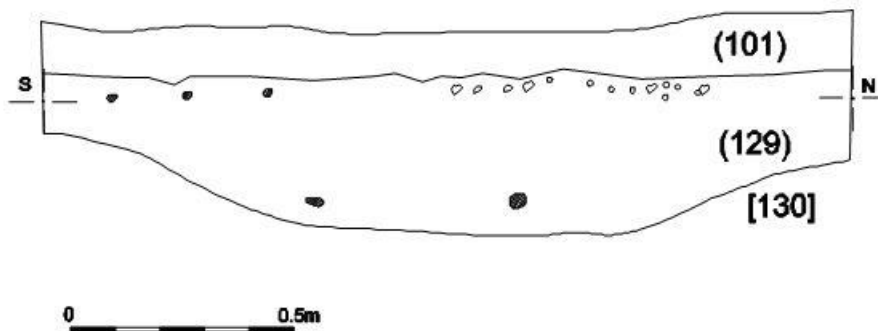


Figure 14: Section of F22 (old boundary ditch as seen on Tithe Map, east-west orientation).



Figure 15: Overall view of excavation site prior to work commencing (looking north).



Figure 16: Overall view of excavation site post excavation (looking north).



Figure 17: Pre-excavation photograph of F1 containing smooth quartz stones (looking west).



Figure 18: Mid excavation photograph of F2 and annex (looking north).



Figure 19: F14 south facing section.



Figure 20: F15 Post-excavation photograph south facing section.



Figure 21: F17 Post-excavation west facing section.



Figure 22: Path of old field boundary (F22) (looking east).

Appendix 1: Sample List

Context	Description	Quantity Sampled
F2, Pit [209] (207),(208)	Pit fill consisted of yellow clay natural mixed with off white grey local clays, possible bone fragments found amongst material.	1 sample bag

Appendix 2: Finds List

Find number	Description	Context and Location
1	<p>Small piece of translucent brown flint. It retains approximately 20% cortex, rough texture off white in colour. No indication of retouch, single primal ridge on the dorsal face, ventral is smooth with some indication of rippling. Probably a waste flake</p> <p>Weight: 1.5g Width: 13.92mm Length: 19.95mm</p>	Fill (212) F of pit [214]
2	<p>Crescent shaped piece of flint, translucent brown in colour, retains 20% cortex along the left edge from proximal to distal, the material is rough in texture. Bulb of percussion is present on the on the ventral face proximal end. Rippling is evident along the ventral face, evidence of being struck. Dorsal face also exhibits rippling from being struck. The right edge of the piece is narrower and sharper in appearance. No definite indication of retouch.</p> <p>Weight: 4.2g Width: 17.81mm Length: 39.7mm</p>	Unstratified surface find Found NW area of site.

Appendix 3: GPS Reference

Feature	Grid	Comment
1	SW 84604 60200	Pit
2	SW 84617 60200	Pit
3	SW 84609 60194	
4	SW 84599 60192	
5	SW 84596 60186	
6	SW 84577 60183	
7	SW 84585 60188	
8	SW 84574 60185	
9	SW 84598 60180	
10	SW 84584 60179	
11	SW 84542 60202	Ditch
12	SW 84548 60204	Ditch
13	SW 84551 60202	Ditch
14	SW 84557 60151	Ditch
15	SW 84553 60150	Ditch
16	SW 84552 60140	
17	SW 84551 60138	Ditch
18	SW 84617 61060	
19	SW 84638 60092	
20	SW 84616 61026	
21	SW 84607 60134	
22	SW 84607 60142	Ditch

Appendix 4: List of Contexts

Context Number	Site sub-division	Type (Cut/Deposit/Build)	Description	Location (Fig 2)
(101)	1	D	Plough soil	
(102)	1	D	Subsoil, similar to plough soil but appears to contain more stone content	F14
(103)	1	D	Dark grey loose silt clay with irregular stone quartz inclusions, <0.01m in size, 0.5m thick, upper fill of [105].	F14
(104)	1	D	Mid brown silty clay with small stone inclusions, loose to trowel, basal fill of ditch	F14
[105]	1	C	Cut of ditch, 2.7m in width, 0.5m depth, steep sided, well defined, cut into yellow natural. Filled by (103) and (104) appears to be a continuation of the ditch found at F11	F14
(106)	1	D	Fill of ditch [108], mid brown loose sandy clay, 0.4m thick, common stone inclusions, some re deposited ferrous material within the fill. Stones are irregular in shape and size, unsorted. Appears to be similar to subsoil (102) contaminated by surrounding geology.	F15
(107)	1	D	Basal fill of ditch [108], a mid grey loose silt clay 0.4m thick, with common stone inclusions, stones are less than 0.01m in size, unsorted, irregular shapes.	F15
[108]	1	C	Cut of ditch, 2m wide, 0.4m deep. Shallow profile, but well defined when excavated. Orientated N-S. Filled by (107).	F15
(109)	1	D	Dark grey clay silt 0.12m thick, fill of ditch [110], very compact material, but easy to trowel, no stone inclusions, ditch appears to be NE-SW orientation.	F16
[110]	1	C	Cut of ditch 1.2m wide and 0.4m deep, cut into the yellow clay natural, this ditch contained various fills along its path, orientated NE-SW, the sides were steep, with a flat and curved base dependant on location, edge definition was good.	F17
(111)	1	D	A natural layer of material, mid brown, loose, clay silt, with common stone inclusions, can be seen highlighting [110] and [113]. A mixture of subsoil and quartz stones.	
(112)	1	D	Appears to be subsoil over the yellow clay natural reasonably well defined in profile, measuring 0.12m thick, 1.4m wide. Possible remains of a modern field boundary [113].	F16
[113]	1	C	Cut of possible ditch or field boundary very shallow, 1.4m in wide and less than 0.12m deep. Appears to be sat on the natural surface and could have been the result of misinterpretation. Orientation was E-W.	F16
(114)	1	D	Similar to (111)	
(115)	1	D	A mixture of natural material from the surrounding geology and subsoil. The deposit appears in plan on the surface of [110] and adjacent to (109). Very loose to excavate by trowel, heavily contaminated with quartz stones.	
(116)	1	D	A dark grey compact grey silt, 0.7m long, 0.8m wide, feature was not excavated, possible the remains of a modern field boundary.	
(117)	1	D	A mid brown compact silt clay top fill of ditch [110], less than 0.05m thick, material was heavily contaminated by local geology. Contained quartz stone inclusions.	F17

(118)	1	D	Fill of ditch [110], a dark grey compact clay silt, found on the east side of the ditch <0.2m in thick, containing common stone inclusions, <0.01m in size, irregular shapes and sizes.	F17
(119)	1	D	A layer of redeposited yellow natural (121), 0.05m thick, underneath (117) and above (118).	F17
(120)	1	D	Basal fill of ditch [110], a grey silt clay 0.15m thick, common stone inclusions, <0.01m in size, irregular shapes and sizes.	F17
(121)	1	D	Natural yellowish coloured clay, prevalent on the site, some of the pits and ditches cut through or into this layer.	
(122)	1	D	Single fill of pit [123], a dark grey compact clay silt, 0.24m thick, possible natural feature	F18
[123]	1	C	Oval shaped pit, 0.8m long, 0.6m wide and 0.24m in depth, with good edge definition on the east side, edge became more blurred on the west side, may be a natural feature or as a result of the 1951 event. Filled by (122).	F18
(124)	1	D	A dark grey compact clay silt, 0.2m thick, single fill of a small pit [125], again possibly associated with the 1951 event.	F19
[125]	1	C	Circular shaped pit 0.8m in length, 0.5m in wide and 0.2m in deep. Filled by (124), circular shape, steep sides, and a flat base, good to poor edge definition.	F19
(126)	1	D	A mid brown compact loam containing sparse stone inclusions, less than 0.52m thick. Fill of a modern trench.	F21
(127)	1	D	Similar to (109)	
[128]	1	C	Rectangular shaped pit, appears to have been cut by a machine 1.3m long, 0.3m wide and deepest area 0.52m, very steep sides, filled by (126).	F21
(129)	1	D	Dark brown compact loam, 0.24m thick, fill of a shallow ditch [130], sparse stone inclusions.	F22
[130]	1	C	Cut of ditch, 1.8m wide, 0.24m in deep. Sloped sides, with a flat base, east west orientation, good edge definition.	F22
(201)	2	D	Plough soil similar to (101).	
(202)	2	D	Subsoil similar to (102).	
(203)	2	D	Single fill of pit [204], 0.21m in thickness, sparse stone inclusions, small stones consisting of quartz and shillet, pit also contained large quartz pebbles, les than 0.15m in size smooth all over.	F1
[204]	2	C	Cut of oval shaped pit, measuring 0.54m in diameter at the widest point, 0.21m in depth, steep sides, with a concave base, moderate edge definition, cut into the clay natural.	F1
(205)	2	D	Similar to (121)	
(206)	2	D	A grayish off white coloured clay, prevalent in some areas of the site, can be found in place of the yellow (205) clay. Appears to rest on a light gravel layer when overcutting has occurred, no stone inclusions within the matrix of the material, very powdery when rolled between fingers.	
(207)	2	D	Middle fill of pit [209], a dark grey brown compact silt clay, <0.13m thick, compact but reasonably easy to trowel, sparse stone inclusions, <0.01m in size, unsorted, possible flecks of bone within the material. Some contamination from the surrounding geology. Below (202), abuts (206), Above (208).	F2

(208)	2	D	Dark grey compact clay silt fill of pit [209], <0.13m thick, basal fill of pit sparse stone inclusions, unsorted irregular shapes, <0.01m in size, mainly quartz.	F2
[209]	2	C	Cut of pit 1.1m wide, 0.45m deep, steep almost vertical sides, containing (206), (207) and (208). Cut into the white natural clays (206).	F2
(210)	2	D	Material similar to (207), fill of a probable natural feature.	F3
[211]	2	C	Cut of a natural feature initially appeared to be a pit, 0.9m long, 0.3m wide and 0.2m deep.	F3
(212)	2	D	Fill of natural pit [214], material very similar to (207).	F6
(213)	2	D	Basal fill of [214], a dark grey gritty clay similar to (207). Probable natural feature or modern disturbance.	F6
[214]	2	C	Irregular oval, shallow pit, 0.8m long, 0.7m wide and 0.15m in deep, moderate definition, uneven base, shallow sides, probably natural.	F6
(215)	2	D	Fill of [218], material similar to (207) less than 0.15m in thickness, upper fill of pit.	F7
(216)	2	D	Lens of charcoal/organic very small amount within pit [218], less than 0.05m thick. Lies below (215) and above (217).	F7
(217)	2	D	Basal fill of [218], material is similar to (207), less than 0.1m in thickness, lies below (216). Similar to (213).	F7
[218]	2	C	Cut of circular shaped pit with shallow sides and uneven base, moderate edge definition 1.6m in diameter at the widest point and 0.15m deep, contains (215), (216) and (217). Cut into the white clay natural, probably a natural pit.	F7
[219]	2	C	Annex to [209], cut of pit initially appeared to be a ditch, on excavation it was revealed to be a pit containing two smooth quartz pebbles, <0.15m in size, Pit measured 1.3m long, 0.7m at the widest point and 0.15m deep. Sides were shallow, base concave, edge definition on excavation was good. Located south east of [209].	F2
[220]	2	C	Annex to [209] north west pit containing 13 stones (2 granite, 1 blue coloured mudstone and the remainder were quartz). The granite piece was placed on the peripheral of the pit orientated north-south position, although appeared to have been disturbed. The larger quartz stones were embedded into the natural white clay from the surrounding geology. Pit fill was (202) and (207).	F2
(301)	3	D	Plough soil upper level (grass, etc) similar to (101).	
(302)	3	D	Sub soil more clay content similar to (301).	
(303)	3	D	Subsoil I with quartz stone inclusions.	
(304)	3	D	Primary fill of ditch [305], a mid brown friable coarse gravels with silt content, basal fill of ditch, <0.2m thick. The north west side of the ditch appeared to have quartz stones on the edge, although this could be attributed to the machining in progress. This ditch was possibly excavated during the 1951 Royal Cornwall Show.	F11
[305]	3	C	Cut of ditch, steep sides, uneven base, orientated NNE, measuring 0.55m wide and 0.27m in deep, probably constructed in 1951. Contains (304).	F11

(306)	3	D	Fill of ditch [307], a mid brown compact coarse grit context with rare stone inclusions. Less than 0.23m in thickness, this context is above (308) and below (302).	F12
[307]	3	C	Cut of ditch, 2.2m wide, 0.5m deep, a shallow sided ditch orientated north – south, with a good edge definition. Contains (306) and (308).	F12
(308)	3	D	Fill of ditch [307], a mid brown plastic silt clay, basal fill of the ditch, very thin layer less than 0.03m thick. Similar in colour to (306).	F12
(309)	3	D	Fill of ditch [310], a mid yellowish brown compact clay loam material, 0.4m thick, single fill of the ditch.	F13
[310]	3	C	Cut of ditch, 1.9m in wide and 0.4m in deep, this ditch continued for a length of 11m before entering the baulk on a north south orientation, described as having been excavated in 1951.	F13

Appendix 5: Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological Investigation of the Dawnus Construction area at Quintrell Downs, Newquay

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

HE Projects have been requested by Mr Giusto Provenzano of Dawnus Construction, to provide a written Scheme of Investigation for a watching brief during the redevelopment of land at Quintrell Downs, Newquay. The overall development area covers approximately 4 HA. A geophysical survey (GSB 2012) and archaeological assessment undertaken by HE Projects (Lawson-Jones 2008; 2012) uncovered a number of potential archaeological sites across the area, including a possible later prehistoric enclosure and a ring-ditch type anomaly which was thought to possibly represent a Bronze Age barrow. A number of linear pit and ditch type anomalies were also identified in the area. However, evaluation of the ring-ditch in 2013 by HE Projects revealed that it was of modern origin (Taylor 2013).

This project design is for a watching brief across the Dawnus Construction Area where reduction in ground level will take place.

This stage is likely to be followed by one or more of the following elements:

- **Collation of archive and production of archive report**
- **Assessment, analysis (and archive deposition)**
- **Final publication (in an academic journal)**

1.2 Historical background

The area of the proposed development falls into land recorded by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record as being 'Recently Enclosed Land'. 'Recently Enclosed Land' is land which has been enclosed since at least the eighteenth century and which is often found to contain upstanding archaeological sites such as Bronze Age round barrows.

The development is situated within an area of archaeological potential, including a Bronze Age barrow, a complex crop-mark enclosure site of possible prehistoric/Romano-British date and medieval settlements.

The medieval settlement of Manuels, to the west of the proposed development area, was first recorded in 1289 as 'Maenhulwols'. The name is Cornish and contains the elements *men* meaning 'stone', and *Uhel* meaning 'high'. The settlement is associated with a strip field system. A second medieval settlement at Trethiggey lies to the south of the development area. This was first recorded in 1284. The name is Cornish, and contains the place name element *tre*, 'estate, farmstead', and an uncertain second element. The element *tre* implies a place of early medieval origin

Identified archaeological sites

A number of sites in the vicinity of the study area have been identified. They include:

- A Bronze Age barrow site (c 2000-1500 cal BC) may lie within the proposed development area (MCO2277).
- A crop-mark enclosure of probable prehistoric/Romano-British date (MCO8228) has been found to the west of the development area. This site is not directly impacted by the development, but associated activity may extend into the development area.
- An enclosure of possible prehistoric/Romano-British date was identified by the geophysical survey to the east of the development area.
- The medieval settlement of Manuels (MCO55291) and its associated field systems are located to the west of the development area.
- The medieval settlement of Trethiggey (MCO17778) is located to the south of the development area.
- Linear anomalies and pit type responses were identified by the geophysical survey across the development area. These features cannot positively be identified as being of an archaeological nature. However, some may prove to be of medieval or earlier date.

Potential sites

There is potential for buried prehistoric and medieval sites to survive within the project area and there is the scope for the survival of previously unrecorded archaeological sites, organic remains, and artefacts of all periods.

2. Aims and objectives

- To ensure that the site works are carried out in such a way as to allow adequate recording.
- To record archaeological features and deposits affected by the scheme.
- To recover and record artefacts uncovered by the works.
- To disseminate the results of discoveries appropriately.

The development area contains a number of potentially important buried archaeological sites, which include an enclosure, and a ring-ditch, both of which are of potentially prehistoric date. The archaeological investigation of this area therefore provides an opportunity to better understand the character and potential of this resource by recording sites and features affected by it.

3. Methodology

The archaeological programme will follow five stages: fieldwork; archiving; assessment; analysis; report.

3.1 Fieldwork

The archaeological fieldwork will involve a watching brief during the soil stripping.

Pre-works meeting

In advance of site works HE, and the resident engineer and the contractor will discuss and agree:

- Working methods across the development area and programme.
- Health and Safety issues and requirements.

Watching Brief

Where ground reduction is to take place, archaeological recording will take the form of a watching brief. Site works will be carried out with an archaeologist in attendance to record any features which become exposed during the stripping process. Where significant remains are encountered the site archaeologist will be given the opportunity to make an appropriate record before work proceeds; where a temporary stop of work is required the site archaeologist will request this via the resident engineer. The site archaeologist will control the stripping level and recording in those parts of the site where geophysical survey anomalies of potential archaeological interest were revealed.

In the event that significant remains are uncovered a contingency has been allowed for archaeological recording. However, in the event that major or extensive remains are uncovered, further time will be agreed on site in consultation with Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer, the Client and Historic Environment Projects.

3.1.1 Fieldwork recording

Following the soil stripping the archaeologist will record any archaeological features which are to be affected by the construction of the building.

Recording - general

- Excavation will involve a representative investigation of the uncovered features. This will include the excavation of slots through linear features and sufficient excavation of smaller features (pits and postholes, etc) to obtain samples for environmental/radiocarbon dating purposes and establish the character of the structures under investigation.
- Site drawings (plans, sections, locations of finds) will be made by pencil (4H) on drafting film; all plans will be linked to the Ordnance Survey landline map; all drawings will include standard information: site details, personnel, date, scale, north-point
- All features and finds will be accurately located at an appropriate scale.
- All archaeological contexts will be described to a standard format linked to a continuous numbering sequence.
- Photography: scaled monochrome photography will be used as the main record medium, with colour slides used more selectively and for illustrative purposes.
- A location plan will be made linking the site with features that have been mapped by the Ordnance Survey.
- The heights of all features will be tied into the Ordnance Datum.
- Phased plans and sections at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20 will be made of all excavated features.
- Sealed/undisturbed archaeological contexts in the form of buried soils, layers or deposits within cut features (ditches and pits, etc) will be sampled for environmental evidence and dating material. Advice may be needed from Vanessa Straker (Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science).
- The spoil from the stripping will be adequately inspected for finds.

3.1.2 Treatment of finds

The fieldwork is likely to produce artefactual/environmental material.

- All finds in significant stratified contexts predating 1800 AD (eg, settlement features) should be plotted on a scaled base plan and described. Post-medieval or modern finds may be disposed of at the cataloguing stage. This process will be reviewed ahead of its implementation.
- All finds will be collected in sealable plastic bags which will be labelled immediately with the context number or other identifier.
- Significant, sealed archaeological contexts (predating c 1500 AD) will be considered for sampling for environmental material and the strategy will be discussed with the project manager. All recovered samples will be evaluated at the assessment stage and some may be disposed of. Only flots will be retained for inclusion within the project archive.

POST FIELDWORK STAGES

(To be reviewed in light of results from the fieldwork)

3.2 Archiving

Following review with the HE Project Manager, the results from the fieldwork will be collated as an archive. This will involve washing and cataloguing of finds, the indexing and cross-referencing of photographs, drawings and context records. Initial processing of palaeoenvironmental samples will be undertaken. This will involve flotation of bulk samples to recover plant macrofossils and other remains.

- All finds and samples, etc will be stored in a proper manner (being clearly labelled and marked and stored according to HE guidelines).
- All records (context sheets, photographs, etc) will be ordered, catalogued and stored in an appropriate manner (according to HE guidelines).
- A summary of the results will be presented to the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer, Cornwall Council.
- The site archive and finds will initially be stored at HE premises and transferred to the Royal Cornwall Museum and the RCM conditions for archives will be followed. The RCM will be notified of the commencement of the project and included in discussions for sampling and disposal as appropriate.

3.3 Report production

The results from the watching brief will be presented in a concise archive report. Copies of the report will be distributed to the Client, the County Archaeologist and the main archaeological and local record libraries.

This will involve:

- producing a descriptive text;
- producing maps and line drawings;
- selecting photographs;
- report design;
- report editing;
- dissemination of the finished report
- deposition of archive and finds in the Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro

The archive report will have the following contents:

- Summary
- Introduction - background, objectives, methods
- Results - factual description of the results of the various aspects of the project, with separate sections as necessary for

- discussion/interpretation
 - Discussion - discussion of the interpretation of the results, highlighting information gained on a chronological or thematic basis
 - Archive - a brief summary and index to the project archive
 - Illustrations - general location plan
 - detailed location plans to link fieldwork results to OS map
 - selected plans and section drawings (as appropriate)
 - finds drawings (if appropriate)
 - photographs (if appropriate)
- An OASIS record will be made for the project.

3.4 Assessment

On completion of the archive report an assessment stage will be carried out. This will involve assessment of structural and stratigraphic data and artefactual material, etc. The outline of the assessment report, and the work required to produce it will also be determined.

- Liaise with specialists (environmental samples, radiocarbon dating and artefacts, etc) to arrange for assessment of the potential for further analysis and reporting.
- Send off artefacts (ceramics, etc) to the appropriate specialist for further study.
- Send off residues from residues from environmental samples to appropriate specialists.
- Sort out and send off suitable material for radiocarbon dating.
- Project design for further analyses and publication.

3.5 Analysis/Final publication

In the event of significant remains being discovered there may be a further stage of analyses leading to formal publication. This will involve the analysis of structural and stratigraphic data, artefacts, and environmental samples to be governed by an updated project design agreed with the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer, Cornwall Council. The scope and final form of the report will be reviewed; for example, in addition to an archive report the results should be published in an academic journal (eg, *Cornish Archaeology*) and would include:

- Discussion of the significance of the results in relation to Local, Regional and National research objectives.

4. Monitoring

- This written scheme of investigation will need to be approved by the planning authority.
- The recording exercise will be monitored. The Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer should be informed 1 week in advance of the intention to start the recording.
- HE Projects will liaise with the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer to advise on the programme and progress of work, and agree site meetings as required.

- A summary of the results will be presented to the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer within 1 month of the completion of the fieldwork.
- In the event that significant remains are encountered an updated project design will be agreed with the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer.

5. Project Staff

An experienced archaeologist employed by HE will carry out the archaeological fieldwork.

The report will be compiled by experienced archaeologist(s) employed by HE.

Relevant experienced and qualified specialists will be employed to undertake appropriate tasks during the assessment and analysis stages of the project.

The project will be managed by a manager who is a Member of the Institute for Archaeologists, who will:

- Take responsibility for the overall direction of the project.
- Discuss and agree the objectives and programme of each stage of the project with project staff, including arrangements for Health and Safety.
- Monitor progress and results for each stage.
- Edit the project report.

6. Timetable

The archiving and archive report will be completed within 12 months of the ending of the excavations. The timetable for further stages of assessment, analyses and publication will be agreed with Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer in the light of the results of the excavations.

7. Health and safety during the fieldwork

7.1 Health and safety statement

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

Prior to carrying out any fieldwork HE will produce a Health and Safety plan.

8. Insurance

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

9. Standards

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

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

10. Copyright

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

This project design is the copyright of Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.

Use of the material will be granted to the client.

11. Freedom of Information

All information gathered during the implementation of the project will be subject to the rules and regulations of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

12. References

Cornwall County Council, 1996. *Cornwall landscape assessment 1994*, Report prepared by CAU and Landscape Design Associates, Cornwall County Council, Truro

GSB, 2012, *Quintrell Downs, Newquay, Cornwall* (Survey Ref: 2012/16)

Lawson-Jones, A, 2008. *Quintrell Downs, Newquay, Cornwall Archaeological Assessment*. HE report 2008R020

Lawson-Jones, A, 2012. *Quintrell Downs, Newquay, Geophysical Survey: Statement of Archaeological Implications*. HE report 2012R024

Taylor, SR, 2013. *Area A, Quintrell Downs, Cornwall, Archaeological Evaluation* (Archive report). HE report 2008R033

Notes

- It is assumed that the client will supply the mechanical excavator.
- The client will be responsible for the Health and Safety arrangements onsite (including fencing, etc), and it is assumed that welfare and storage facilities will be made available.
- The post excavation programme (assessment, analysis and reporting) will need to be reviewed in the light of the fieldwork.
- This Written Scheme of Investigation does not include an estimate.

11/11/13

Dr Andy Jones

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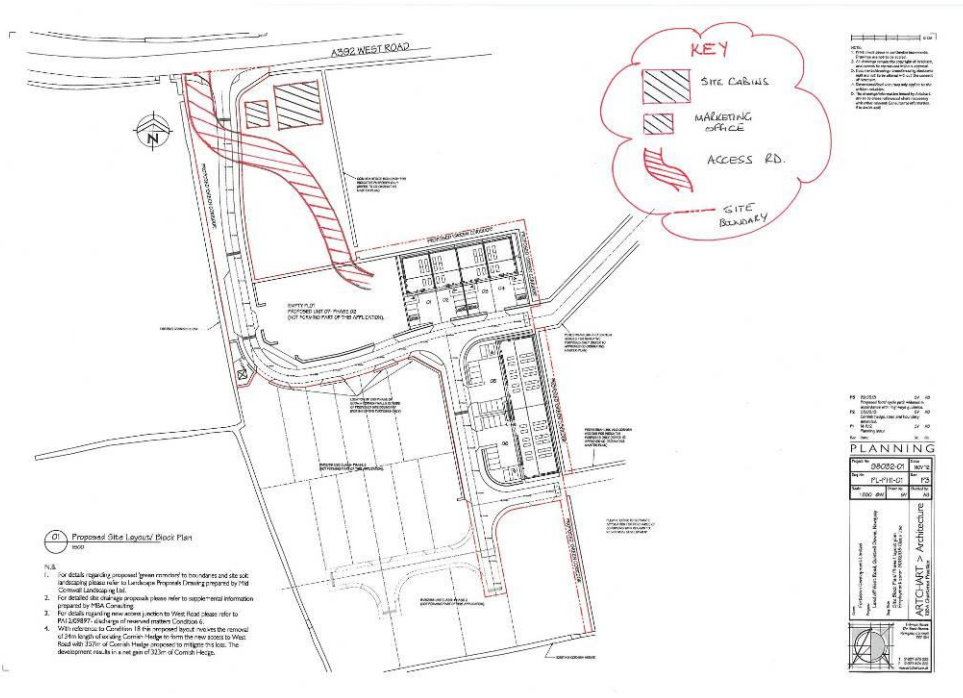


Fig 1 Plan showing location of Dawnus area.