



## **Odd Spot, Mawgan Porth, Cornwall Archaeological Assessment**



**Cornwall Archaeological Unit**

# Odd Spot, Mawgan Porth, Cornwall

## Archaeological Assessment

<b>Client</b>	Sue Walters of Situ8 Ltd
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The Project Manager was Adam Sharpe.

The views and recommendations expressed in this report are those of Cornwall Archaeological Unit and are presented in good faith on the basis of professional judgement and on information currently available.

## **Freedom of Information Act**

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Cover illustration: The walls of the Dark Age houses

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## Abbreviations

ADS	Archaeological Data Service
CAU	Cornwall Archaeological Unit
EH	English Heritage
HER	Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record

MCO	Monument number in Cornwall HER
NGR	National Grid Reference
OD	Ordnance Datum – height above mean sea level at Newlyn
OS	Ordnance Survey
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

# 1 Summary

Cornwall Archaeological Unit was asked by Sue Walters of Situ8 Ltd. to undertake an archaeological assessment to inform the development of pre-planning proposals for the replacement of a bungalow called Odd Spot, at Mawgan Porth, Cornwall. Associated landscaping works were also to be considered as part of the assessment. The assessment was needed due to the proximity of Odd Spot to a large Scheduled Monument, the Mawgan Porth early medieval settlement and associated cemetery. English Heritage had raised concerns about the potential impact of proposed designs and suggested that an impact assessment would be least intrusive and harmful to the setting of the adjacent Scheduled Monument.

Although the early medieval settlement and cemetery were first identified in the 1930s, the main period of excavation and discovery was in the 1950s, when a large team was mobilised to uncover significant parts of the site. The excavations revealed elements of a small farming settlement in which the buildings were arranged around a courtyard. The main farmhouse was of long-house type, with people and cattle housed at opposite ends of the same building. Uphill from the settlement was an associated cemetery, with burials in cist graves. Neither settlement nor cemetery were explored to their full extent and so the Scheduled Monument which protects the remains is very much larger than the excavated portions, while geophysical survey beyond the Scheduled area to the east has suggested the possible presence of further features.

The assessment found that the present bungalow at Odd Spot has minimal visual impact on the Scheduled Monument. This is because the building is a low bungalow with a pitched and gabled roof, set behind thick hedges and beyond this by banks of scrub. As a result it blends unobtrusively into the landscape, its recently-added red ridge tiles being the most prominent feature visible above the hedges.

Any proposed redevelopment of the site should aim for a similarly low, or even reduced, impact on the setting of the monument. It is suggested that this can be achieved by maintaining and thickening the current hedges all around the site and designing a building that is no higher or wider than the current one at its apex and one which presents a relatively small profile when seen, especially from the west-south-west. Below-ground impacts on the wider development site can be mitigated with an archaeological watching brief.

Centred at SW 85156 67257, the Mawgan Porth early medieval settlement and cemetery was first scheduled in 1957 and extends over an area of 10,200 square metres. It is National Monument No 1003087 (Old County No 530).

The site is HER number DCO1409, and details can be found on the Heritage Gateway at

[http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results\\_Single.aspx?uid=1003087&resourceID=5](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results_Single.aspx?uid=1003087&resourceID=5) . The site is PastScape Monument 429174.



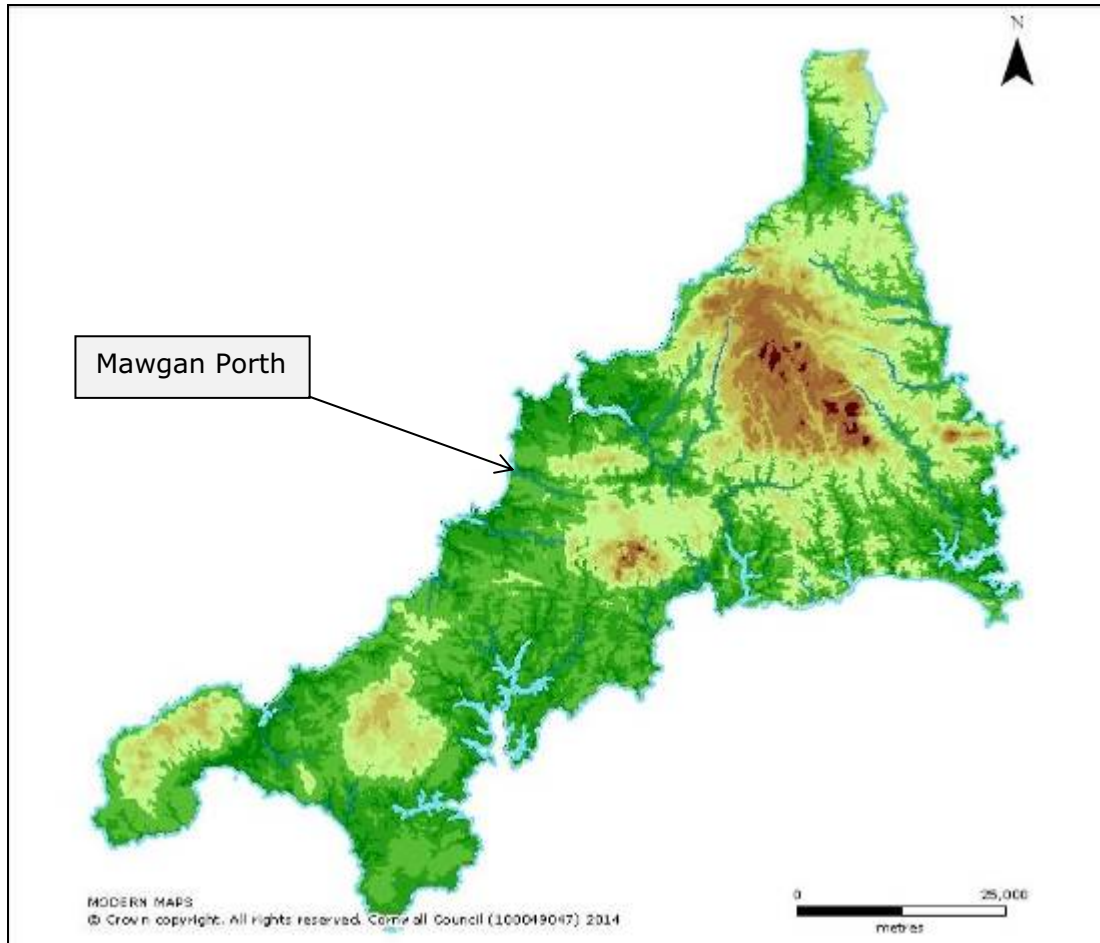


Fig 1 Location map



Fig 2 The setting of the Mawgan Porth Scheduled Monument (red cross hatching, at centre of map)

## 2 Introduction

### 2.1 Project background

The following is paraphrased from the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI: Sharpe 2014) which is included in full as an appendix to this report:

Cornwall Archaeological Unit was requested by Sue Walters of Situ8 Ltd. to carry out an archaeological assessment to guide the development of pre-planning proposals for the replacement of a bungalow called Odd Spot at Mawgan Porth, together with associated landscaping works. This was to be informed by existing and proposed plans of the site, a range of photographs, isometric drawings of the proposals and communications with Nick Russell, Assistant Inspector of Monuments, English Heritage. The email from Situ8 Ltd. indicated that liaison with English Heritage would be necessary to determine the nature of the assessment required in this instance.

This assessment was further informed by discussion with both Phil Copleston, Senior Development Officer (Historic Environment), Cornwall Council and Nick Russell of English Heritage, to determine their requirements of the assessment in relation to potential impacts on the Scheduled Monument.

The bungalow proposed for development is located at SW 85207 67287, immediately adjacent to and to the north east of a Scheduled and partly-excavated monument known as Mawgan Porth early medieval settlement and associated burial ground (National Monument No 1003087, occasionally referred to below by its popular name as 'the Dark Age Village', or simply 'the site'). There was concern that the re-development of Odd Spot could potentially impact on either the below-ground remains associated with the monument, or on its setting.

### 2.2 Aims

The principal aim of the study was to gain a better understanding of the potential direct impacts on sub-surface archaeology within the development site, and on setting impacts on the adjacent Scheduled Monument which might arise should the development proceed on the currently-proposed design. The objective was to provide the client and other relevant parties with a report on the findings of the assessment, to guide development proposals, with the aim of mitigating the impacts of the proposed development. A further objective was the completion of an English Heritage OASIS archaeological database entry for the assessment.

### 2.3 Methods

#### 2.3.1 Desk-based assessment

The following sources were consulted as part of the desk-based assessment:

- Published sources, including reports on the adjacent Early Medieval settlement and cemetery site (notably Taylor 1979)
- Historic maps, including
  - OS 1 inch first edition mapping (c1810)
  - St. Mawgan Tithe Map (c1840),
  - 1st and 2nd Editions of the OS 25 inch maps (c1880 and c1907)
- Modern maps
- GIS layers curated by CAU and Cornwall Council

#### 2.3.2 Fieldwork: survey

An archaeological walkover survey was undertaken of the area proposed for redevelopment to determine whether upstanding archaeological earthworks are likely to be affected by the proposals. Most pertinent in this case was that an assessment was

also made of the potential for the survival of sub-surface archaeology within the development area.

### **2.3.3 Fieldwork: assessment of potential setting impacts**

A visual assessment was made of the potential for setting impacts on the adjacent Scheduled Monument. This has been supported by high resolution digital photography taken from within the development site looking towards the Scheduled site, from the Scheduled site back towards the bungalow on the site of the proposed new house, and showing the relationship between the two when viewed from various key points in the surrounding landscape.

### **2.3.4 Fieldwork: photographic recording**

Photographic recording was based on colour photographs taken with a digital camera. The photographic record comprises:

- a wide selection of general views of the development site
- views to and from the adjacent Scheduled Monument

### **2.3.5 Post-fieldwork**

This included the creation of a site archive and the compilation of this report. The site archive includes:

- Digital colour photographs (stored according to HER guidelines)
- Completion of the English Heritage/ADS OASIS online archive index

The photos have been catalogued and a full list is included as an appendix to this report. Selected photos have been included in the report to illustrate points relating to the monument and its setting. Copies of the images can be made available to the client if required.

## **3 Location and setting**

Mawgan Porth means 'the cove or harbour of St Mawgan' (Padel 1988, 117-8). The second element of the name refers to the name of the parish; the *porth* of course is the wide sandy beach with a bank of Marram grass-covered dunes at its head. Inland from the dunes, and less than 30 metres from mean high tide level, is the early medieval settlement. It lies near the foot of a south-east facing slope, at approximately 10-15 metres OD, overlooking the wide flat floodplain of the river Menalhyl. The settlement's cemetery lies higher up on the same slope, between approximately 15 and 25 metres OD.

Odd Spot, the site proposed for re-development, lies at approximately 25 m OD, the present bungalow being on the slope above and approximately 80 m to the east-north-east of the excavated settlement.

Both are located on dune sand overlying dark shales and siltstones of the Lower Devonian Meadfoot Group, with river plain sediments in the valley below. The dune sand is of variable depth, but various pieces of evidence discussed below suggest that it is deeper on the higher ground and at the level at which Odd Spot is located may be below 1.2 and 2 metres deep.

## **4 Designations**

### **4.1 National**

The designated area of the Mawgan Porth early medieval settlement and associated burial ground, which adjoins the Odd Spot property is a Scheduled Monument (SM), protected under the 1979 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act. Its extent and relationship to Odd Spot is shown on Figs 3-7.

The large, L-shaped scheduled area covers an area of just over 1.3 hectares, extending 126 m along the slope and 100 m SSW-NNE up and down the slope, with the excavated

and visible part of the settlement on its western edge. This shape reflects the possibility that the settlement could extend further east and that the excavated cemetery may have extended further to the north.

## 4.2 Regional/county

The area in which both Odd Spot and the Dark Age Village are located is designated in the County Structure plan as

- An Area of Great Historic Value
- An Area of Great Landscape Value
- An Area of Great Scientific Value

Adjoining the study area, the beach and dunes are a County Wildlife Site.

## 5 Site history

On the 1813 OS 1<sup>st</sup> edition one-inch map, the earliest historic map examined, (Fig 3), the assessment area is shown as an open and unfenced area of rough ground, with the only settlement in the area being at Porth Barn, a few hundred metres inland. On the opposite side of the valley overlooking the beach, a house called New Porth is marked. Neither of these places is known to be of medieval origin. Apart from the Dark Age Village, the earliest settlement recorded in the vicinity is at Gluvian, a kilometre inland, this being first recorded in the thirteenth century (HER 22105). The same scenario is recorded on the Tithe Map of *circa* 1840 (Fig 4), which additionally records that this large open area (field number 29; pasture) was part of Porth Farm and was known as 'Sandy Marver'. First recorded in 1340 (Institute of Cornish Studies Place-Names Index), the name 'Marver' is derived from Cornish *\*moyl* and *\*bre*, 'smooth or round-topped hill' (Padel 1985, 30, 167), presumably in reference to the sandy, bare, short-turfed, hillslope above the Dark Age Village. The 1880 and 1907 OS 25" maps show few changes to the landscape at Mawgan Porth, though depict drainage channels in the wide flat valley bottom indicating agricultural improvement of the Menalhyl river's floodplain (Figs 5 and 6). Indeed, the impression is of a stable landscape, used to a low intensity given the sandy and exposed environment. This appears to have remained unchanged until the 20<sup>th</sup> century when development associated with the holiday industry began. It is to this development that we owe our knowledge of the Dark Age Village and its cemetery.

The site at Mawgan Porth was first discovered in 1934 when trial excavation holes were dug to inspect the subsoil prior to building work. The trial pits uncovered walls and a burial (Hirst and Keith 1936). In 1949, further building proposals prompted a second trial excavation which confirmed the existence of a settlement and produced an Aethelred II coin of 990 - 995. This prompted a major Ministry of Works excavation from 1950 - 54. The excavations uncovered the remains of part of a settlement of at least four farm houses, although only two and part of a third were examined, together with a portion of the associated contemporary burial ground. Two of the rectangular buildings were arranged around a courtyard and at least one of the dwellings was of the long house type, with a byre and living quarters together under one roof. The houses had been constructed on platforms cut into the slope and had drystone walls standing to a maximum of 2.1m high. The settlement dated from about 850 to at least 1050 AD and appeared to have been abandoned because of encroaching sand.

Twenty-three burials were excavated in the cemetery, all aligned east to west, and all but three had been placed in long cists (stone coffins). It was estimated that a further 28 remained unexcavated in the surrounding area. (Account derived from the Scheduled Monument Description, Bruce Mitford 1956 and Taylor 1997).

The site was protected as a Scheduled Monument in 1957 (Fig 7).

Both the settlement and cemetery are known to extend beyond the present Scheduled area, although their full extents are not known. It is expected that a chapel also survives within the wider area. These would be preserved as buried features. Some of

the excavated buildings are still visible, but others were backfilled and can no longer be seen. The excavated graves were also reburied.

In the area of the houses, sand covered the tops of the walls to a depth of approximately 0.3 - 0.5 m (Taylor 1997, Figs 13, 15 and 18) but uphill, the cemetery lay under sand up to 1.2 metres deep (Taylor 1997, Figs 71 and 72). The excavators confirmed that the deepest cover of sand lay on the higher slopes and it was the '*considerable depth of sand encountered in the cemetery area that precluded a more extensive exploration*' (Taylor 1997, 65).

A couple of archaeological evaluations have been conducted to investigate the possibility that further remains may exist in the wider area. A geophysical survey of 900 square metres of land bordering the eastern edge of the Scheduled Monument, centred on SW 852 672, and 40 metres to the south-east of Odd Spot bungalow, found anomalies of archaeological origin indicating below-ground features likely to represent the remains of possible settlement and associated features, like those already excavated and exposed on the miniature golf course (Marsh and Wright 2010). On the other hand, two test pits excavated on the western side of the field immediately north of Odd Spot, at approximately SW 851 673, to inform proposed development, contained only blown sand with a 'darker subsoil' at two metres depth. No features or finds were located (Gould 2001). Neither investigation was followed up with any development.

This information about the depth of sand on the land to the west and north of Odd Spot is of significance in assessing the depth of sand likely to be covering any archaeology at Odd Spot.

## 6 Significance

Extant settlements of the early medieval period are exceptionally rare, especially in Cornwall. Moreover here, the fact that the settlement is associated with a cemetery adds greatly to the site's importance, for this is a combination not found anywhere else in Cornwall and rarely elsewhere. The fact that the settlement was abandoned and then entombed in sand also means that it became fossilised in time, the remains not modified by later development. The house type seen here, in which the principal structures are long-houses with a byre at one end, typical of the medieval period from the 12<sup>th</sup> century on, and yet in a courtyard arrangement with other buildings in a manner which recalls the Romano-British courtyard houses of west Cornwall, suggests that they represent a transitional house form.

The artefacts found on the site included many stone and bone objects, and copious quantities of bar-lug pottery. Bar-lug pottery is a distinctive Cornish early medieval ware, and Mawgan Porth is the type site, the collection being the largest found to date in Cornwall (Taylor 1997, 71-80).

Although a number of cist cemeteries of presumed early medieval date have been identified in Cornwall, particularly along the north coast, the fact that the Mawgan Porth cemetery is dated by association with the adjoining settlement makes it unique. The number and good survival of the burials is also unusual and the alkaline quality of the sand that buried the site meant that preservation of the skeletal remains was exceptionally good. This is something not often found in Cornwall where acid soils dominate and more often than not (as for example at Carnanton in St Mawgan and St Endellion: Preston-Jones 1984, Trudgian 1987) only the stone slabs of the cists survive, not their human contents.

Although partially excavated, the site will still contain a great deal of further archaeological and environmental evidence relating to its construction, development, longevity, abandonment, farming practices, trade, domestic arrangements, religious development, social organisation, the health and welfare of the inhabitants and its overall landscape context. It remains one of the most important sites of its type in Cornwall and England.

## **7 Management and condition of the monument**

The significance of this monument is difficult to appreciate because it is in three (or possibly more) separate areas of ownership and is under varied management, while much of it remains hidden below ground.

Only parts of the excavated site remain visible, the remainder having been backfilled on conclusion of the excavations. These open parts are shown on the Ordnance Survey (Fig 7) and although scrub-covered at times in the past, are currently visible as a result of recent clearance work by local volunteers (Figs 8 and 9). They remain surrounded by a bank of scrub which buffers the houses from the surroundings and extends beyond the golf course to the south and east, partly into ground which is believed to belong to the Odd Spot property. The excavated area of the cemetery is uphill from these visible buildings and is partly under scrub and partly under the mown grass of the golf course. Holiday flats extend over the southern and eastern part of the Scheduled Monument, whilst to the north of these the monument is again under scrub and trees.

The impact of this scrub on the survival of the settlement is difficult to gauge because of the uncertain depth of the sand but over much of the scheduled area it seems likely that the depth of sand is protecting and buffering the buried remains.

## **8 Odd Spot**

The bungalow proposed for re-development sits on the hillslope to the north of the Scheduled area (and to the north-east of the visible parts of the settlement). It is a typical small inter-war bungalow of rendered and painted concrete block with a (new) slate roof which was built, in all probability, at broadly the same time as the settlement and cemetery were first identified. It sits in a small garden with hedges of feathery Tamarisk all around it. Because the property is now of some age, the hedges surrounding the gardens are mature and visually buffer the bungalow from the surrounding landscape (Figs 16 and 17).

The property includes a strip of land immediately to the west of the bungalow which has been cleared and is proposed as the route for a new path from the dwelling to the beach. At the far end of this it is proposed to recreate a rock and dune landscape on ground sloping southwards above the Scheduled settlement. The property also includes land to the south which is so densely overgrown that it could not be surveyed by the owner's architects. Here, it nonetheless appears that the southern boundary hedge is topped again by tall Tamarisk.

There have been a number of revisions to the plans but the building currently proposed for the site is shown in figures 18 and 19. This proposes a two-storey rectangular building with twin roofs sloping very slightly inwards to a central valley. The upper floor has timber cladding, and balconies with glass balustrades. The lower storey is white painted and, on both floors, the plain rectangular windows are horizontally set. Those on the west elevation are especially large, to capture the view to the beach. On the roof, rising slightly above the roof line of the south elevation is a line of four solar panels. The height of the roof's highest point is approximately the same as the apex of the gable of the current bungalow.

## **9 Assessment of setting**

After careful study of maps and available information, and consideration of the significance of the site, a walk-over survey was undertaken to consider the setting of the adjacent Scheduled Monument. This was considered:

- from the settlement looking towards the present bungalow and proposed development site;
- from the present bungalow towards the settlement;

- from various locations in the vicinity from which both are visible in the same view, to assess the likely impact of the new building on the setting of the monument.

Although the primary focus in relation to this setting assessment were the excavated and visible remains of the settlement (see front cover), consideration was also given to the wider Scheduled area and to potential extensions of the site beneath the adjoining dunescape.

## **9.1 Views from the Scheduled Monument to Odd Spot**

### **9.1.1 Views from the Village**

The small houses of the Mawgan Porth Dark Age settlement give the appearance of nestling into the slope, at the foot of a steep fall in the land. This impression is enhanced by two facts: firstly that they have been excavated from overlying sand and secondly that a considerable height of scrub has developed on and around them. After scrub clearance during the summer and autumn of 2014, the bank of scrub around the buildings is up to two metres high in places. This, along with the fact that the buildings are levelled into the slope, provides a very marked buffering effect between the settlement and its surroundings.

Looking north-east from the settlement, the present bungalow at Odd Spot cannot be seen, and nor can its near neighbour, St Roche. The only building which is visible when looking northwards from the site is a glimpse of a house on the opposite side of the road (the B3276) to Odd Spot and St Roche, No 15 Tredragon Close.

The principal views from the settlement are downslope, to the south, south-east and south-west, over the golf course, car parks, shops, and houses straggling up the hill opposite towards Newquay. Views to the west and east are limited, like the views northwards, by the bank of scrub.

### **9.1.2 Views from the wider Scheduled area**

The Scheduled area is large and it is important to also consider the wider area of the monument even though its remains are substantially below-ground.

To the east of the existing settlement, the site has been overbuilt by a series of holiday chalets. These have only slight foundations and no archaeological investigation is known to have been carried out when they were built. From this area, the current bungalow at Odd Spot cannot be seen since its garden is surrounded by thick Tamarisk hedges and scrub.

To the north of the settlement is the cemetery. The site now lies partly under the short turf of the miniature golf course, and partly under the scrub that also envelops the settlement remains. From here, however, even though it is at roughly the same contour as Odd Spot, the present bungalow cannot be seen, it being hidden behind the bungalow of St Roche, a post and rail fence, Tamarisk hedges and dense scrub.

## **9.2 Views from Odd Spot to the Scheduled Monument**

In the same way that views from the Scheduled Monument to Odd Spot are extremely limited by a combination of topography and vegetation, views of the settlement from Odd Spot are similarly restricted. Parts of the Scheduled area lie within Odd Spot's property boundary but these are the more overgrown sections of it and so the impression is simply of a mixture of Tamarisk and Privet. This must provide considerable protection for Odd Spot from the winds and storms to which the north Cornish coast is prone: the initial assessment was undertaken on a day when remnants of Hurricane Gonzalo were whipping the sea to a frenzy and sand on the beach to a swirling mass.

### **9.3 Views which include both Odd Spot and the Scheduled Monument**

The landscape around Mawgan Porth was explored widely in order to determine the current visual relationship between Odd Spot and the Scheduled Monument and to consider the potential visual impact of the proposed re-development of the site. In general terms, it was noted that because of the sloping land on which both sites are located, and the development of hedges and scrub on the hillslope, the main views which include both lie between the west-south-west and south. From directions to the north and east, the lie of the land and the scrubby vegetation on the slope mean that both are scarcely visible, or are not visible within the same view.

#### **9.3.1 A number of key viewpoints are discussed below. Views from the road and car park in the valley bottom south-west of the Scheduled monument**

From this location, the settlement is visible but Odd Spot is not, as it is hidden by a swathe of scrub and trees. It is not until higher elevations are gained that the two sites become jointly visible.

#### **9.3.2 Views from the coastguard cottages to the west-south-west of the Scheduled Monument and Odd Spot**

Above the back of the beach and the bank of dunes, the Scheduled area is entirely visible, with Odd Spot seen just above and to the left of the recently cleared walls of the settlement. From here, only the top of the pitched roof of Odd Spot can be seen, this being made more obvious by its red ridge tiles. It is notable how the southern slope of the roof follows the line of the slope and scrub below it and so blends almost imperceptibly into its surroundings. See Figure 10.

#### **9.3.3 Views from the south-west at SW 84872 67153, just above the bend in the road from Mawgan Porth to Newquay (the B3257)**

From this location, the whole Scheduled area is clearly visible, with the golf course on the left, the chalets on the right and at the centre the settlement, recently cleared of scrub. Above and just to the right of this, it is again only part of the roof of Odd Spot that can be seen, accentuated by its red ridge tiles. The rest of the bungalow and its associated gardens are hidden by high, bright green Tamarisk hedges and scrub. See figure 11.

#### **9.3.4 Views from the south-south-west, north east of Bre-Pen Farm, at SW 84932 67012**

Rising up the hill from Mawgan Porth towards Newquay, the views become wider with the valley of the Menalhyl clearly visible below and the valley slope opposite including Odd Spot and the entire Scheduled Monument area, these being seen from above. More of Odd Spot is visible than in previous views, including the eastern three-quarters of the roof and a part of the light-blue-painted east wall but from this viewpoint the bungalow is visually sandwiched between the chalets on the slope below (which are on the scheduled area), and other modern development set higher up the slope. The impression is still of a house nestling discretely amongst the hedges that surround the garden.

From this higher elevation, the modern setting of the Scheduled Monument in a landscape dominated by the infrastructure of a beach and holiday-related settlement becomes very apparent. See figure 12.

#### **9.3.5 Views from Bre-Pen Farm, SW 84952 66657**

Though the view of the valley bottom and lower part of the Scheduled area are blocked by the sheds of Bre-Pen Farm and intervening scrubby hedges, the majority of both sites can be seen, as can the full sprawl of settlement between Mawgan Porth and Trenance.



From Bre-Pen, the entire roof of Odd Spot is visible, together with the eastern half of the building; however despite the higher viewpoint, the surrounding gardens remain obscured by the high perimeter hedges. See figure 13.

### **9.3.6 Views from the road to Gluvian Farm to the east-south-east, at SW 85664 66914**

Although it is very distant, Odd Spot can be identified amongst a buffer of vegetation on the right (north) slope leading down to Mawgan Porth, the line of its roof blending into the hillside, and part of its light blue east wall catching the eye, but the Scheduled area is hidden by trees and scrub. (See figure 14)

### **9.3.7 Views from the east-north-east on the road into Mawgan Porth from Trenance, just west of Porth Farm, at SW 85192 67298**

Only the roof of Odd Spot can be seen from this location, but the settlement is hidden by vegetation and the lie of the land (it is tucked into the slope below the bungalow, and even without the presence of tall hedges, would probably not be visible).

### **9.3.8 Summary**

What is remarkable about Odd Spot in its present form is the way in which it blends and settles very comfortably and almost imperceptibly into the landscape. This is presumably because the house is a relatively low bungalow, with a pitched slate roof and because the site is mature: the Tamarisk hedges planted on the garden's boundary bank on most sides to provide a windbreak have grown tall and do a good job of camouflaging the site. Despite these being very bright green, they blend in with the scrubby vegetation growing on and around the settlement, with the result that the bungalow is hidden in most views of Mawgan Porth Scheduled Monument, except from those from the south. Moreover, rough, uncultivated and overgrown land surrounds the Odd Spot site on all sides, giving its immediate setting a heathy natural feel which is reminiscent of the setting of the monument in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, despite the overall urban character of modern Mawgan Porth as a whole.

The fact that the present building is single storey and has a pitched roof lends to its unobtrusive character, whilst the vegetation, hedges, and roof follow the line of the hillslope in a harmonious and almost unbroken way.

Although there are breaks in the hedge surrounding the present bungalow, which provide views west to the sea and south-east up the river valley, these are located in such a way that the settlement and Odd Spot are not intervisible, except from the south-east, where the distance involved in the views (see Fig 14, from Gluvian) reduces the impact.

These factors are the most important to consider in planning the re-development of the site.

## **10 Potential impacts on sub-surface archaeology**

Before it was first discovered in the 1930s, the existence of the Dark Age settlement and cemetery were not known of because they were hidden beneath layers of sand, blown in and burying the remains after the site had been abandoned.

As noted above (section 3), the depth of sand covering the site is known to vary, from about 0.3 - 0.5 m over the houses in the lower part of the Scheduled area, to up to 1.2 metres deep at the top of the slope, over the burials in the cemetery. Two trial pits in the plot immediately north of Odd Spot have indicated that the sand may be even deeper there, with up to 2 metres depth above subsoil. This suggests that on the Odd Spot site, old land surfaces and archaeological remains might be expected at a depth of about one metre or more, although it is uncertain how much levelling of the site was carried out when the bungalow was constructed. In all probability it was levelled into

the slope, so that sand levels may be deeper on the downhill (S) side and rather shallower or even absent uphill (N).

That archaeological remains might potentially be expected on the Odd Spot site can be inferred from the fact that the excavators of Mawgan Porth Dark Age village considered that both cemetery and settlement extended beyond the limits of the excavation. The precise location of the cemetery is ill-defined but it certainly lay to the north of and uphill from the settlement, in a topographically more prominent location equivalent to the topographical setting of Odd Spot. The edges of the cemetery were not located when it was dug, and there was speculation that it would have included a chapel, which was not found by the excavators. That the settlement may also extend further to the east has been suggested by geophysical survey in the field to the south-east of Odd Spot (Marsh and Wright 2010). Moreover, even if Odd Spot lies outside the areas of the settlement and cemetery, both lay within a landscape which, it has been suggested, would certainly have included fields contemporary with the settlement, which would have the potential for the survival of important environmental evidence (Bell and Brown 2009, 34).

In summary, there is undoubted potential for impacts on subsurface archaeology at Odd Spot, although the extent may be mitigated by a covering of an uncertain depth of dune sand within the development site.

## **11 Potential impacts on the setting of the Scheduled Monument**

The following is a summary of the major points emerging from sections 8 and 9.

- The design of the existing bungalow, the mature planting around its gardens and the overall setting within a large area of rough ground currently provide a substantial visual buffer between Odd Spot and the Mawgan Porth settlement and cemetery.
- The proposed replacement dwelling is for a house of a modern design which is likely to be more visually prominent within the local landscape for this reason alone.
- The materials and finishes currently proposed for the elevations facing the Scheduled Monument are likely to be more visually prominent because of the boxy shape, glass balustrades and larger windows on the upper floor. These may catch and reflect sunlight, adding to the potential to be seen from the settlement. However the timber cladding on the upper floor will help it to blend in.
- The roofs, which though no higher than that on the present building, are much flatter and more extensive and so present a larger horizontal print on the landscape at that height. South-facing solar panels shown on the north part of the roof sit up higher than the roof line and will be reflective and clearly visible.
- These impacts will be mitigated to some degree by the existing mature planting, providing that the landscaping proposals do not include the reduction in height of these vegetation screens.
- Although it is an inescapable fact that most views which currently include both Odd Spot and the Mawgan Porth settlement also have a visual context which includes other 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> century houses in the surrounding area, it is also the case, as noted above (p 10), that Odd Spot sits alone in a plot surrounded not only by its own mature hedges, but by a more natural landscape of Tamarisk breaks and rough scrub, extending west from and including most of the Scheduled Monument. It is isolated from the massed modern houses just uphill, to the north of the B3276; and almost uniquely in Mawgan Porth, this means that the new house has the potential for greater impact.

- However, providing that these proposals are handled sensitively, it seems likely that these potential visual impacts on the setting of the Scheduled Monument and its surroundings can be mitigated.

## 12 Recommendations

The following suggestions may assist in designing a redevelopment at Odd Spot which blends with the landscape and has minimal impact on the Scheduled Monument.

- The buffering effect of the present hedges should be retained as far as possible, by retaining the Tamarisk at its present height and density and where necessary reinforcing with new planting.
- Two breaks in the hedges to west and south could be retained as except from the south-south-east these do not impact on the intervisibility of Odd Spot with the Scheduled Monument. However this is not the case if the new building has a greater visual presence at roof height, as is the case with the current proposal's boxy design.
- The landscaping with boulders etc. proposed to the west of the property is considered inappropriate as it may open up views directly towards the exposed remains of the Village, increase the visual prominence of the garden area and increase impacts on the setting of the monument.
- The height of the new building should be no greater than that of the apex of the present bungalow's roof. However although this is the case with the present design, the roof height is over-topped by proposed solar panels and its horizontal extent is far greater, resulting in a greater potential visual impact.
- The south-facing slope of the present bungalow's roof blends well into the landscape and for this reason a roof of similar angle, colour and pitch would be preferred, although red ridge tiles are not.
- If it is proposed to go ahead with the present design then it is recommended that the client produces a photomontage to demonstrate how it would look when constructed from the principal viewpoints identified above in section 9, that is from the south, south-south-west and south-south-east, as well as from the exposed buildings of the Dark Age Village.
- Thoughtful use of materials may help to mitigate the visual impact. Already, the design has been modified to include timber cladding on the upper story instead of the original white render and this is likely to blend better into the landscape. However, for example, less use of glass in the design may also help.
- There would be no problem in extending the footprint of the new building beyond that of the present bungalow provided that any foundations are minimal and provision is made for archaeological investigation and recording either prior to or during the groundwork phase of the development. Careful design would also be needed to ensure that a larger footprint does not result in greater visual impact.
- There is some scope for sinking the building into the ground in order to gain height without increasing setting impacts. Although it is uncertain how deep the sand is at this location, it seems most likely that an old land surface with associated archaeological remains could be discovered at between 1 and 2 metres. Test pitting (under archaeological supervision) is recommended to help determine this as it is not known what degree of levelling and landscaping might have been undertaken when Odd Spot was first built.
- However, any work on the site will require an archaeological watching brief because of the strong possibility nonetheless of disturbing archaeological remains.

## 13 References

### 13.1 Primary sources

Ordnance Survey, c1880. 25 Inch Map First Edition (licensed digital copy at CAU)

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

Ordnance Survey, 2007. Mastermap Digital Mapping

Tithe Map and Apportionment, c1840. Parish of Mawgan in Pydar (licensed digital copy at CRO)

### 13.2 Publications

Bruce Mitford, RLS, 1956. 'A Dark Age Settlement at Mawgan Porth, Cornwall', in RLS Bruce Mitford (ED), *Recent Archaeological Excavations in Britain*, 167-96, London

Cole 2002

Gould, J, 2001. *Note of test pitting* in information file at Historic Environment Service, SW86NE36 / ECO796

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Marsh, B and Wright, A, 2010. *Mawgan Porth, Cornwall: Geophysical Survey Report* by Stratascan for Bristol and Regional Archaeological Services

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Preston-Jones, A, 1984. The excavation of a long cist cemetery at Carnanton, St Mawgan, 1943, *Cornish Archaeology* 23, 157-78

Taylor, R, (ed) 1979. *Mawgan Porth: a settlement of the late Saxon period on the north Cornish coast, excavations 1949-52, 1954, and 1974 by the late Rupert Bruce-Mitford*, English Heritage Archaeological Report 13

Trudgian, P, 1987. Excavation of a burial ground at St Endellion, Cornwall, *Cornish Archaeology* 26, 145-52

#### Websites

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

## 14 Project archive

The CAU project number is **146431**

The project's documentary, digital, photographic and drawn archive is maintained by Cornwall Archaeological Unit, Cornwall Council, Fal Building, County Hall, Treyew Road, Truro, TR1 3AY.

English Heritage/ADS OASIS online reference: cornwall2-196160





Fig 3 Extract from the OS First Edition One Inch Map c1809. The Scheduled area is shown in red cross-hatching to aid location of the assessment area (see also Fig 2).

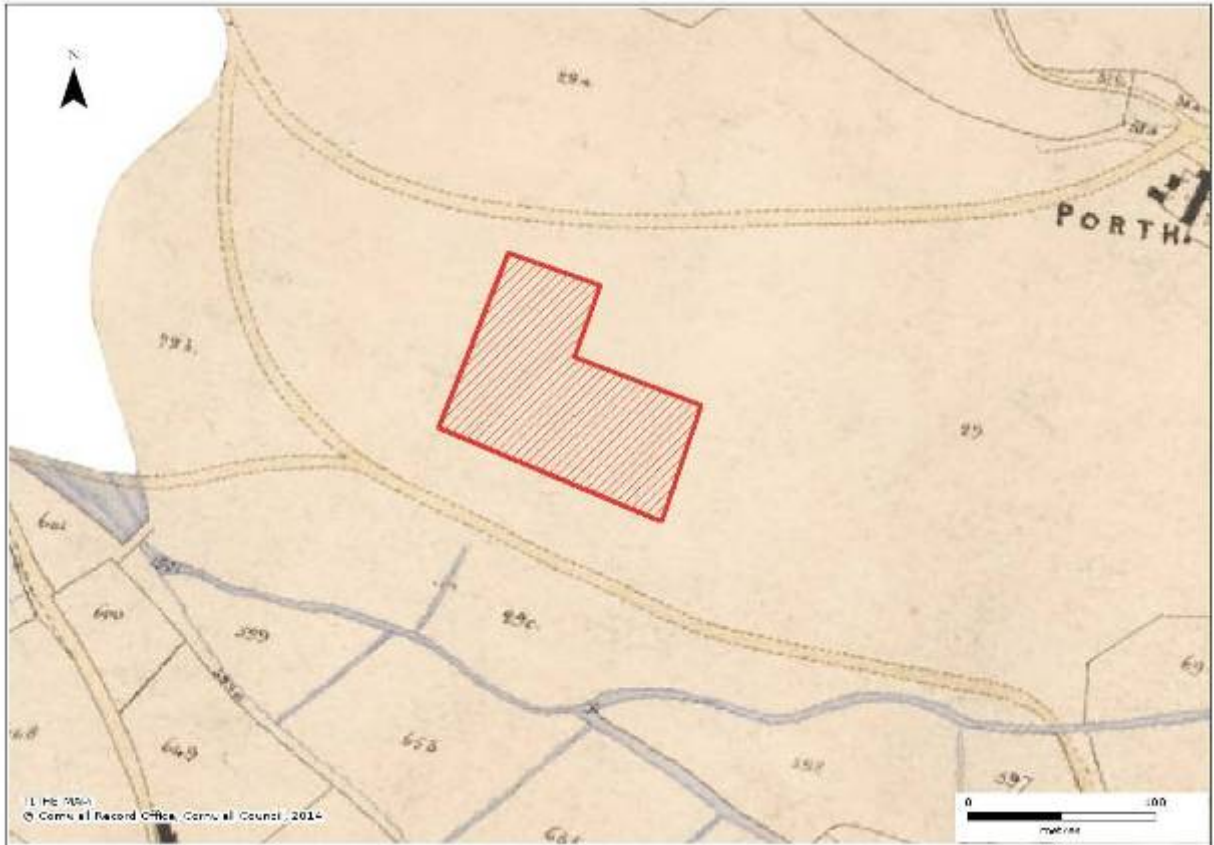


Fig 4 Tithe Map, c1840, with the extent of the Scheduled Monument overlain in red cross-hatching.

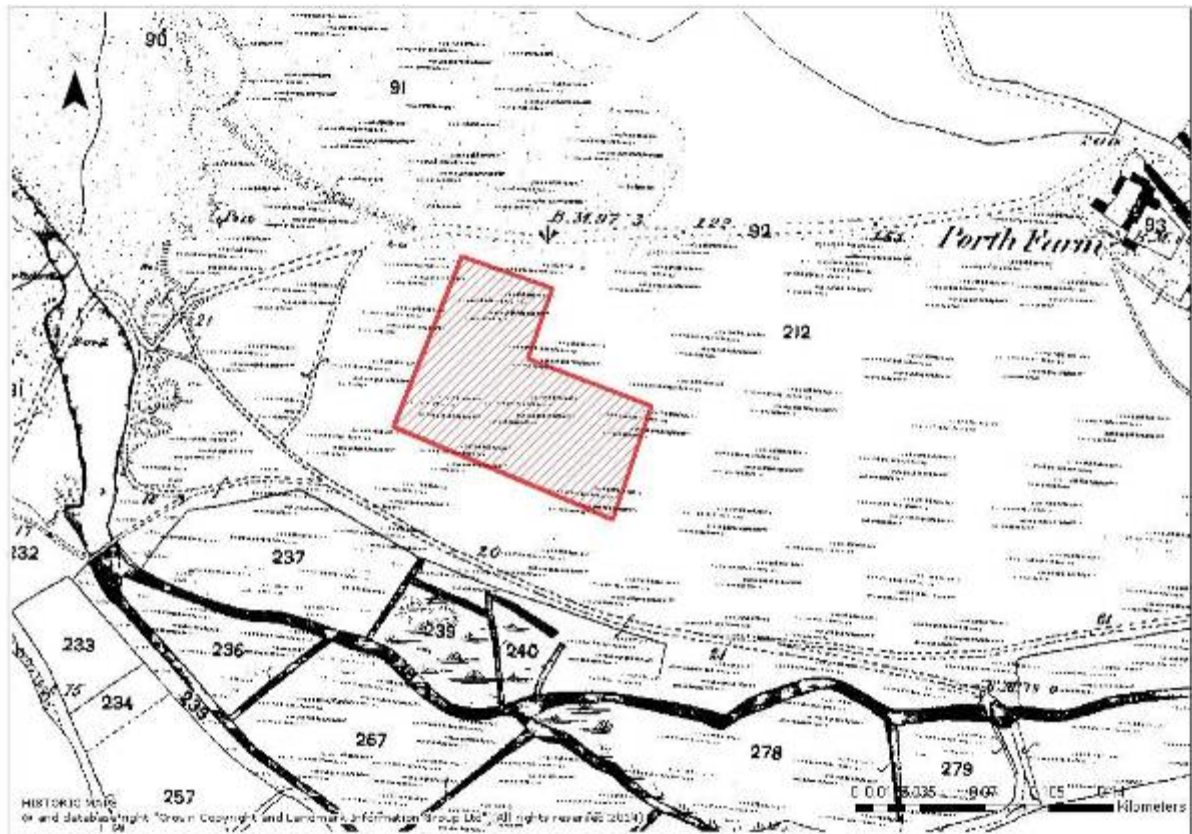


Fig 5 First Edition of the Ordnance Survey 25 Inch Map, c1880, with the extent of the Scheduled Monument overlain in red cross-hatching.

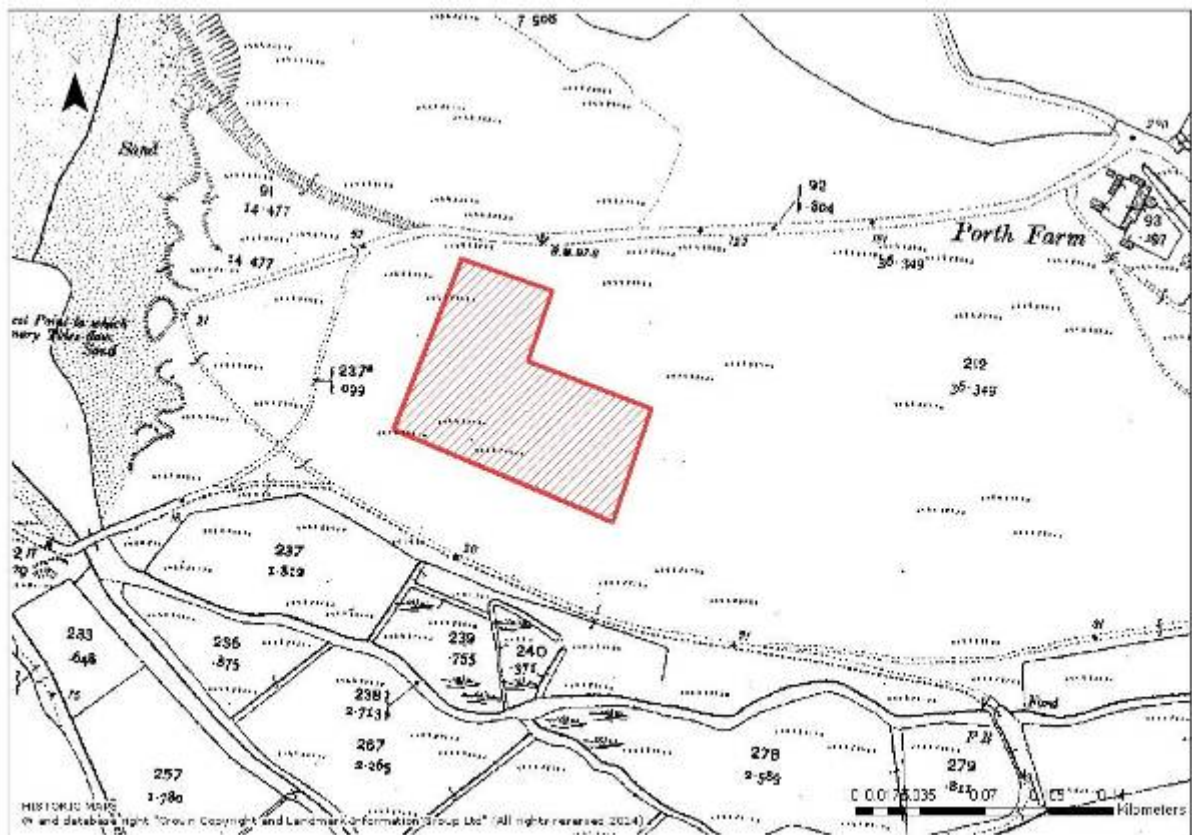


Fig 5 First Edition of the Ordnance Survey 25 Inch Map, c1880, with the extent of the Scheduled Monument overlain in red cross-hatching.

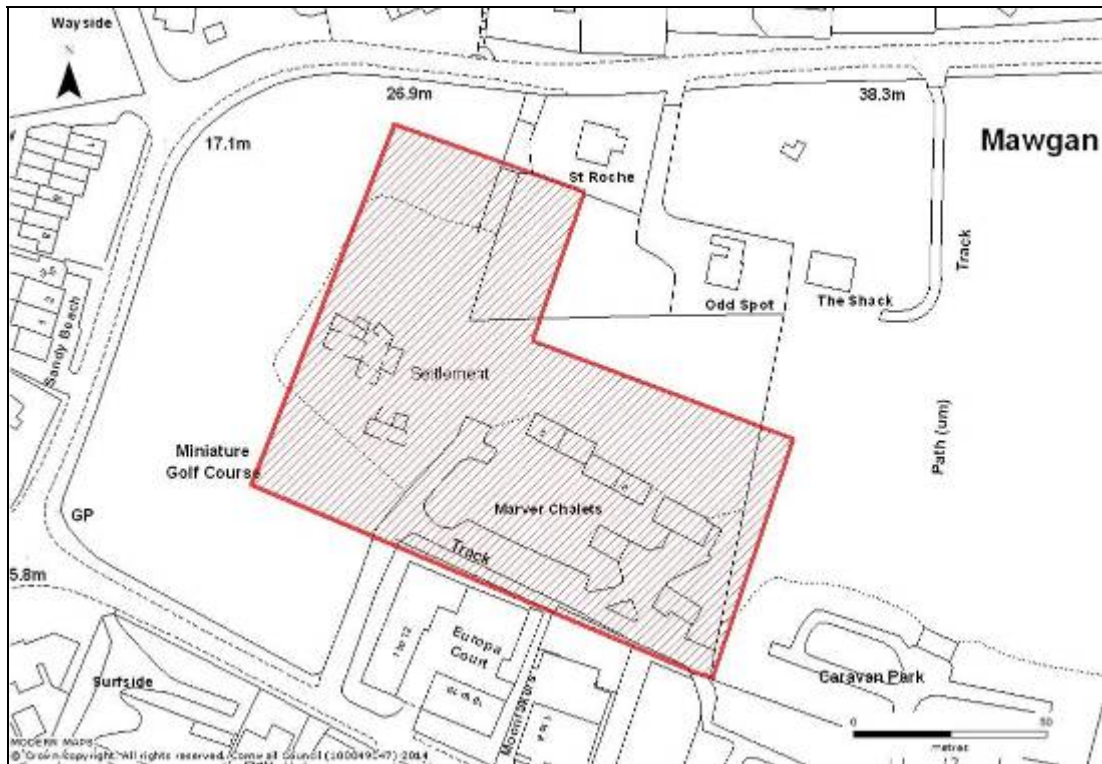
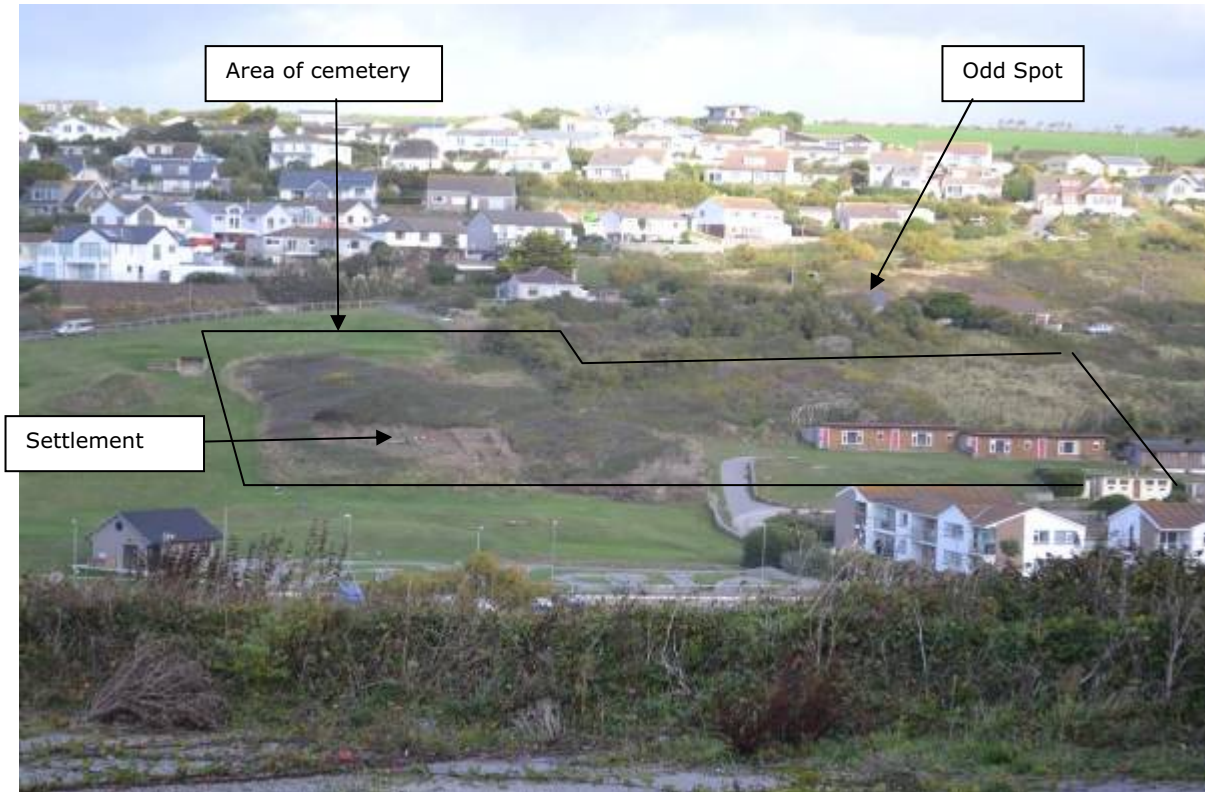


Fig 7 Ordnance Survey MasterMap digital mapping showing the site and its environs (2014).





*Fig 8 The extent of the Scheduled Monument as seen from the former Riviera Inn (this is indicative only)*



*Fig 9 The ruined buildings of the Dark Age village, recently cleared of scrub by volunteers.*



*Fig 10 View of the Scheduled Monument and Odd Spot from the south-south-west at Coastguard Cottages. Odd Spot and the Dark Age Village are circled in yellow to help to identify them.*



*Fig 11 View of the Scheduled Monument and Odd Spot from the south-west on the road rising up the hill towards Newquay. Odd Spot and the Dark Age Village are circled in yellow to help to identify them.*



*Fig 12 View of the Scheduled Monument and Odd Spot from the south-south-west on the road rising up the hill towards Newquay. Odd Spot and the Dark Age Village are circled in yellow to help to identify them.*



*Fig 13 View of Odd Spot and the Scheduled site from the side of the road next to Bre-Pen Farm. Odd Spot and the Dark Age Village are circled in yellow to help to identify them.*



*Fig 14 A view looking towards the Scheduled site from the road to Gluvian. Odd Spot is circled in yellow; the Scheduled area is on the slope below but hidden from view by tall trees.*



*Fig 15 Odd Spot's roof, seen from the roadside to the north, in the centre of the picture. The Scheduled area is invisible below and beyond the house from this viewpoint.*



*Fig 16 The present bungalow at Odd Spot viewed from the west-north-west.*



*Fig 17 The present bungalow at Odd Spot viewed from the east. Note the high tamarisk hedge framing the views.*



Fig 18 The proposed replacement dwelling as it would appear from the west (front).



Fig 19 The proposed replacement dwelling as it would appear from the south.

## Appendix 1: Table of photos

Table of photos taken for Odd Spot Assessment

Photo numbers	Date	Location shot taken from (NGR)	Location shot taken from (description)	Description of view
-	21.10.2014	SW 83843 67381	Beach	Looking towards the assessment area – cliffs obstruct the view
1	21.10.2014	SW 84584 97515	Beach	Looking towards the assessment area – cliffs obstruct the view
2	21.10.2014	SW 84981 67472	From cliff path to the west of the Scheduled Monument	Looking towards the assessment area – buildings and topography obstruct the view
3	21.10.2014	SW 84843 67370	Beach	Beach
4	21.10.2014	SW 84843 67370	Beach	Beach
5, 6, 7, 8	21.10.2014	SW 84777 67348	Beach	Looking back towards assessment area – dunes obstruct the view
9	21.10.2014	SW 84946 67265	Dunes	Looking towards assessment area
10	21.10.2014	SW 84920 67178	Bridge	Beach
11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17	21.10.2014	SW 84818 67223	Cliff path south of beach	Looking towards the assessment area
18, 26	21.10.2014	SW 84872 67153	From road south-west of settlement	Looking towards the assessment area
19, 20	21.10.2014	SW 84932 67012	From road south-south-west of settlement, by Riviera	Looking towards the assessment area
21	21.10.2014	SW 84988 66950	From Tamarisk Lodge	Looking towards the assessment area
22	21.10.2014	SW 84972 66904	Head of road to Tamarisk House	Looking towards the assessment area
23, 24	21.10.2014	SW 84967 66832	Atlantic View, south of settlement	Looking towards the assessment area
25	21.10.2014	SW 84986 66764	Atlantic View (Boskel), south of settlement	Looking towards the assessment area
27	21.10.2014	SW 85032 67120	Car Park	Looking towards the assessment area

28	21.10.2014	SW 85056 67195	Road immediately SSW of settlement	Looking towards the assessment area – part of Scheduled Monument visible but not settlement
29, 30	21.10.2014	SW 85193 67140	Roadside caravan park south-east of settlement	Looking towards the assessment area – part of Scheduled Monument visible but not settlement
31	21.10.2014	SW 85245 67124	Roadside caravan park south-east of settlement	Looking towards the assessment area – part of Scheduled Monument visible but not settlement
32	21.10.2014	SW 85376 67008	Sharp bend on minor road to Gluvian	Looking towards the assessment area – Scheduled Monument visible but not settlement
33, 34	21.10.2014	SW 85664 66914	Gateway on hill spur west of Gluvian	Looking towards the assessment area – Odd Spot visible, Scheduled Monument not visible
35	21.10.2014	SW 86538 67283	Footpath east of settlement	Rough vegetation east of Scheduled Monument - looking towards assessment area
36, 37	21.10.2014	SW 8544 6735	Road south and south-west of Porth Farm	Porth Farm
38	21.10.2014	SW 35332 67338	Roadside east-north-east of Odd Spot	Odd Spot roof visible, Scheduled Monument beyond but hidden by hillslope
39	21.10.2014	SW 85278 67337	Roadside north-east of Odd Spot	Odd Spot roof visible, Scheduled Monument beyond but hidden by hillslope
40	21.10.2014	SW 85263 67334	Roadside at entrance to The Shack	Odd Spot roof visible, Scheduled Monument beyond but hidden by hillslope
41	21.10.2014	SW 81926 67325	St Roche from east-north-east	House east of Odd Spot, which has a below-ground room
42, 55	21.10.2014	SW 85192 67298	Odd Spot from west-north-west	Existing bungalow and garage
43	21.10.2014	SW 85195 67296	Odd Spot drive west of bungalow	View to sea
44, 54	21.10.2014	SW 85187 67296	Low boundary wall west of	New septic tank and area of garden cleared



			bungalow	for shed
45	21.10.2014	SW 85155 67313	At end of cleared strip west of bungalow	Clearance for new drive (path to beach) west of bungalow
46	21.10.2014	SW 85155 67313	At end of cleared strip west of bungalow	Looking west to east along cleared strip west of bungalow and septic tank site
47	21.10.2014	SW 85155 67313	At end of cleared strip west of bungalow	Chippings laid (in Scheduled Monument), adjacent to post and rail fence forming boundary between Odd Spot and mini golf course
48	21.10.2014	SW 85159 67331	On newly cleared drive (path to beach) at end of cleared strip west of bungalow	Chippings, boundary bank, and new drive (path to beach)
49	21.10.2014	SW 85164 67310	Cleared strip of land west of bungalow	Vegetation in Scheduled Monument south of St Roche and west of Odd Spot bungalow (land belonging to Odd Spot)
50	21.10.2014	SW 85174 67300	Cleared area west of Odd Spot	Modern finds in area cleared west of bungalow
51	21.10.2014	SW 85195 67275	Odd Spot garden south- south-west of bungalow	View south-south-west from Odd Spot
52	21.10.2014	SW 85195 67275	Odd Spot garden south- south-west of bungalow	Bungalow, south side
53	21.10.2014	SW 85219 67275	Odd Spot garden south- east of bungalow	View south-south-east
56	21.10.2014	SW 85156 67332	Roadside north- west of Odd Spot	Post and rail fence forming boundary of Odd Spot with mini-golf course: boundary of Scheduled Monument lies at end of area of chippings, on brow of slope
57	21.10.2014	SW 85087 67334	Bend in road west of St Roche	Looking east towards the post and rail fence forming the boundary of Odd Spot with mini-golf

				course: the boundary of the Scheduled Monument lies to the right of the bungalow (St Roche) on the brow of the hill (close to a small flight of steps)
58	21.10.2014	SW 85040 67236	On roadside south-west of settlement	Mini-golf course with scrubby settlement area. Odd Spot hidden in vegetation.
59 - 63	21.10.2014	SW 85023 67223	On roadside south-west of settlement, by finger post	Mini-golf course with scrubby settlement area. Odd Spot hidden in vegetation.
64	21.10.2014	SW 85023 67223	Roadside south-south-west of settlement	Looking towards assessment area – mini golf course in foreground
2.-	23.10.2014	SW 84872 67153	From road south-west of settlement	Looking towards assessment area
2.1	23.10.2014	SW 84988 66950	From Tamarisk Lodge	Looking towards assessment area
2.2	23.10.2014	SW 84972 66904	Head of road to Tamarisk House	Looking towards assessment area
2.3	23.10.2014	SW 84952 66657	Roadside nxt to Bre-Pen Farm	Looking towards assessment area
2.4	23.10.2014	SW 84981 67472	From cliff path west of Scheduled Monument	Looking towards the assessment area
2.5, 2.6	23.10.2014	SW 84946 67265	Dunes	Looking towards assessment area
2.7	23.10.2014	SW 8511 6726	Settlement	Looking east-south-east
2.8	23.10.2014	SW 8511 6726	Settlement	Looking east-south-east
2.9	23.10.2014	SW 8511 6726	Settlement	Looking west-south-west towards beach
2.10	23.10.2014	SW 8511 6726	Settlement	Looking south-south-west to golf course, kiosk and craft shop
2.11	23.10.2014	SW 85097 67271	Western edge of Scheduled Monument area	Looking east – Assessment area with Odd Spot hidden in tamarisk on left, settlement in centre
2.12	23.10.2014	SW 85097 67271	Western edge of Scheduled Monument area	Looking south-east up valley below settlement (hidden in scrub)
2.13	23.10.2014	SW 85091 67281	Outside the western edge of	Looking north-east to Odd Spot – hidden by

			the Scheduled Monument area	Tamarisk, unlike St Roche on the left of the picture. Post and rail eastern boundary fence of Odd Spot visible on top left
2.14	23.10.2014	SW 85144 67302	Northern part of Scheduled Monument	Boundary fence between Odd Spot and mini golf course
2.15	23.10.2014	SW 85114 67306	North-western edge of Scheduled Monument	Windswept Marram and scrub on or close to eastern boundary of Scheduled Monument area
2.16	23.10.2014	SW 85097 67260	To the south-west of the settlement	Across scrub-covered Scheduled Monument to tamarisk on boundary of Odd Spot
2.17	23.10.2014	SW 85127 67266	Settlement	South-south-east to beach and sea beyond
2.18	23.10.2014	SW 85112 67256	Looking uphill from house 1 below	Tamarisk on Odd Spot boundary on right; house with balcony is in Tredragon Close, north of St Roche
2.19	23.10.2014	SW 85110 67251	Looking uphill from house 1 below	As above
2.20	23.10.2014	SW 85124 67256	Settlement	Looking east-north-east across settlement
2.21	23.10.2014			Newquay Old Cornwall Society and van

## Appendix 2: Written Scheme of Investigation

### Cornwall Archaeological Unit Cornwall Council



### Odd Spot, Mawgan Porth: Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological assessment of development proposals

Client: Situ8 Ltd Planning Consultants  
Client contact: Sue Walters  
Client tel: 01726 67591  
Client email: sue@situ8.co.uk

#### 15 Project background

Cornwall Archaeological Unit was contacted by email by Sue Walters of Situ8 Ltd. on 07 October 2014 with a request for the costs of an archaeological assessment of developing pre-planning proposals for the replacement of a bungalow called Odd Spot at Mawgan Porth, together with associated landscaping works. Associated documents included with the email included existing and proposed plans of the site, a range of photographs, isometric drawings of the proposals and communications with Nick Russell, Assistant Inspector of Monuments, English Heritage. The email from Situ8 Ltd. indicated that liaison with English Heritage would be necessary to determine the nature of the assessment required in this instance.

Cornwall Archaeological Unit have discussed the proposal with both Phil Copleston, Senior Development Officer (Historic Environment), Cornwall Council and Nick Russell of English Heritage to determine their requirements in relation to the assessment.

#### 16 Site history

The development site is located at SW 85207 67287, immediately adjacent to and to the north east of the Scheduled partly-excavated Mawgan Porth Early medieval settlement (National Monument No 1003087). The site first came to light in 1934, when a skeleton was discovered. Full-scale excavations were carried out by Rupert Bruce-Mitford in 1950-1952 when this area was threatened with development, and further work was undertaken in 1954 and 1974 by Ernest Greenfield. The excavations uncovered three groups of early medieval houses and a part of a cemetery to the north. The excavations at the southernmost buildings and the cemetery were backfilled after the 1974 excavation season. Vegetation management and further archaeological recording were undertaken on the exposed parts of the settlement in 2002 (Cole 2002). The settlement has been dated to AD 850 to AD 1050 from pottery and a coin recovered from the excavations. It was probably abandoned due to gradual inundation by blown sand from the nearby dunes.

## **17 Project extent**

The project area consists of the area of the property known as Odd Spot, Mawgan Porth, and includes the footprint of the building and those areas of the garden proposed for the construction of a new store building and where there are proposals for landscaping.

## **18 Aims and objectives**

The principal aim of the study is to gain a better understanding of the potential direct impacts on sub-surface archaeology within the development site, and on setting impacts on the adjacent Scheduled Monument which might arise should the development proceed to the currently-proposed design. The objectives are to provide the client and other relevant parties with a report on the findings of the assessment and to complete an entry to the English Heritage OASIS ADS-Online database.

## **19 Working methods**

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

### **19.1 Desk-based assessment**

A desk-based assessment will be carried out to inform the fieldwork stage. Sources to be consulted will include:

- Published sources, including reports on the adjacent Early Medieval settlement and cemetery site
- Historic maps, including
  - OS 1 inch survey (c1810)
  - St. Mawgan Tithe Map (c1840),
  - 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Editions of the OS 25 inch maps (c1880 and c1907)
- Modern maps
- GIS layers curated by CAU and Cornwall Council

### **19.2 Fieldwork: survey**

An archaeological walkover survey will be undertaken of the area proposed for redevelopment to determine whether upstanding earthworks are likely to be affected by the proposals. An assessment will also be made of the potential for the survival of sub-surface archaeology within the development area.

### **19.3 Fieldwork: assessment of potential setting impacts**

A visual assessment will be made of the potential for setting impacts on the adjacent Scheduled Monument. This will be supported by high resolution digital photography taken from within the development site looking towards the Scheduled site and from the Scheduled site back towards the proposed new house.

### **19.4 Fieldwork: photographic recording**

This will be based on colour photographs taken with a digital camera (with a resolution at least 8MP).

The photo record will comprise:

- general views of the development site

- views to and from the adjacent Scheduled Monument.

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

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

## **19.5 Creation of site archive**

To include:

- Digital colour photographs (stored according to HER guidelines and copies of images made available to the client)
- Completion of the English Heritage/ADS OASIS online archive index

## **19.6 Archive report**

A written report will include:

- Summary
- Project background
- Aims and objectives
- Methodology
- Location and setting
- Designations
- Site history
- Assessment findings
- Potential mitigation measures
- Conclusions
- References
- Project archive index
- Supporting illustrations: location map, historic maps, plans, photographs

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

## **19.7 Archive deposition**

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

The archiving will comprise the following:

1. All correspondence relating to the project, the WSI, a single paper copy of the report together with an electronic copy on CD, stored in an archive standard (acid-free) documentation box
2. Digital images archived to the CAU photographic record.
3. The project archive will be deposited initially at ReStore PLC, Liskeard and in due course (when space permits) at Cornwall Record Office.

## 20 Timetable

The study is anticipated to be commenced during Autumn 2014. CAU will normally require two weeks' notice before commencement of work, in order to allocate field staff and arrange other logistics.

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

## 21 Cornwall Archaeological Unit

Cornwall Archaeological Unit is part of Cornwall Council. CAU employs some 20 project staff with a broad range of expertise, undertaking around 120 projects each year.

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

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

## 22 Standards



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

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

## 23 Terms and conditions

### 23.1 Contract

CAU is part of Cornwall Council. If accepted, the contract for this work will be between the client and Cornwall Council.

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

## **23.2 Project staff**

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

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

Work will be carried out by CAU field staff, with assistance from qualified specialists and sub-contractors where appropriate.

## **23.3 Report distribution**

Paper copies of the report will be distributed to the client, to local archives and national archaeological record centres. A digital copy of the report, illustrations and any other files will be held in the Cornwall HER and also supplied to the client on CD or other suitable media.

## **23.4 Copyright**

Copyright of all material gathered as a result of the project will be reserved to Cornwall Archaeological Unit, Cornwall Council. Existing copyrights of external sources will be acknowledged where required. Use of the material will be granted to the client.

## **23.5 Freedom of Information Act**

As Cornwall Council is a public authority it is subject to the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which came into effect from 1st January 2005. CAU will ensure that all information arising from the project shall be held in strict confidence to the extent permitted under the Act. However, the Act permits information to be released under a public right of access (a "Request"). If such a Request is received CAU may need to disclose any information it holds, unless it is excluded from disclosure under the Act.

## **23.6 Health and safety statement**

CAU follows Cornwall Council's *Statement of Safety Policy*. Prior to carrying out on-site work HE will carry out a Risk Assessment.

## **23.7 Insurance**

CAU is covered by Cornwall Council's Public and Employers Liability Insurance, with a policy value of £50m. The Council also has Professional Negligence insurance with a policy value of £10m.

*Adam Sharpe BA MIFA*

*Senior Archaeologist*

*08/10/2014*

### **Cornwall Archaeological Unit**

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