



Beeswing Barrow, Cury Crossroads, Cornwall

Watching Brief and Archaeological Recording



Cornwall Archaeological Unit

Beeswing Barrow, Cury Crossroads, Cornwall

Watching Brief and Archaeological Recording

Client	Sarah Ashton and Andy Pope
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This study was commissioned by Mr N. Glover (subsequently Sarah Ashton and Andy Pope – the new owners) and carried out by Cornwall Archaeological Unit, Cornwall Council.

The Project Manager was Andy Jones.

The CAD drawings were done by Ryan Smith and Sean Taylor.

Database research at the Royal Cornwall Museum was undertaken by Jane Marley.

Voluntary help was given by Freya Lawson-Jones.

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

Showing the completed barrow (centre, taken by the owner); and from top left clockwise – looking north across the flooded watching brief area; looking west-southwest along the open trench towards the dilapidated former timber buildings; looking south east across the watching brief area towards the barrow; and looking east towards the road along the open trench showing the barrow with dumps in the foreground.

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Abbreviations

CAU	Cornwall Archaeological Unit
EH	English Heritage
HER	Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record
MCO	Monument number in Cornwall HER
OD	Ordnance Datum – height above mean sea level at Newlyn
OS	Ordnance Survey

1 Summary

This project was carried out by Cornwall Archaeological Unit (formerly Historic Environment Projects), Cornwall Council for the current land owners: Sarah Ashton and Andy Pope. It relates to work carried out at the Scheduled Beeswing barrow (SM CO324) near Cury Crossroads following trench recording and timber structure removal on the periphery of the barrow and a watching brief for a proposed new house in the vicinity.

A brief was prepared by Phil Markham (Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer) and Ann Preston-Jones (English Heritage Field Advisor) 28/09/2009. This set out the requirements for the archaeological recording, covering both the requirements for Scheduled Monument Consent and to discharge the archaeological condition for a planning application PA09/00981/F.

A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by Andy Jones (CAU) with Ann Preston-Jones (16/03/2012). The WSI provided a methodology for the programme of archaeological recording required by the Scheduled Monument Consent and the planning condition for the proposed construction of a new dwelling close by.

The purpose of the project was to create an archaeological record of the barrow as it was prior to works; to record the removal of the structures and to clean up the trench and to produce a drawn record; to record two surface profiles running across the barrow and to produce a measured survey plan with interpretive detail for the site. The result would be a record of past damage to the monument, a record of currently identifiable original features and the production of a plan that could be used for future reinstatement works.

The project successfully identified an additional section of the barrow's stone kerb. This has allowed for a prediction of the original kerb circuit suggesting that more of the kerb may be preserved beneath the eastern flanking boundary and modern re-facing of the southern edge. In addition some of the upper barrow platform profile was identified. At least one internal pit with an intact fill was recorded in the trench section. Later disturbance and alterations have been recorded, which should guide any future remedial works on the site.

In addition the watching brief has confirmed that no archaeological damage has been incurred by the construction of a large new house located to the north of the barrow.

At the completion of the project the barrow looks significantly improved. Invasive bamboo has been removed and is undergoing a continuing programme of eradication; the impinging timber structures have been removed by hand with no further damage to the barrow; the open trench has been recorded and partially refilled (waiting further infilling in the future). The barrow has been returned to something of its original appearance.

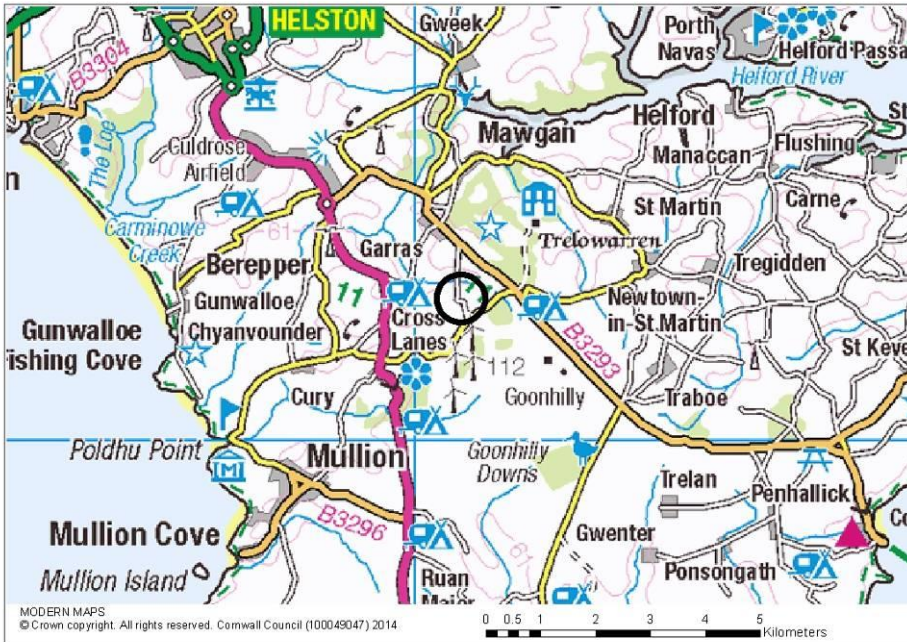
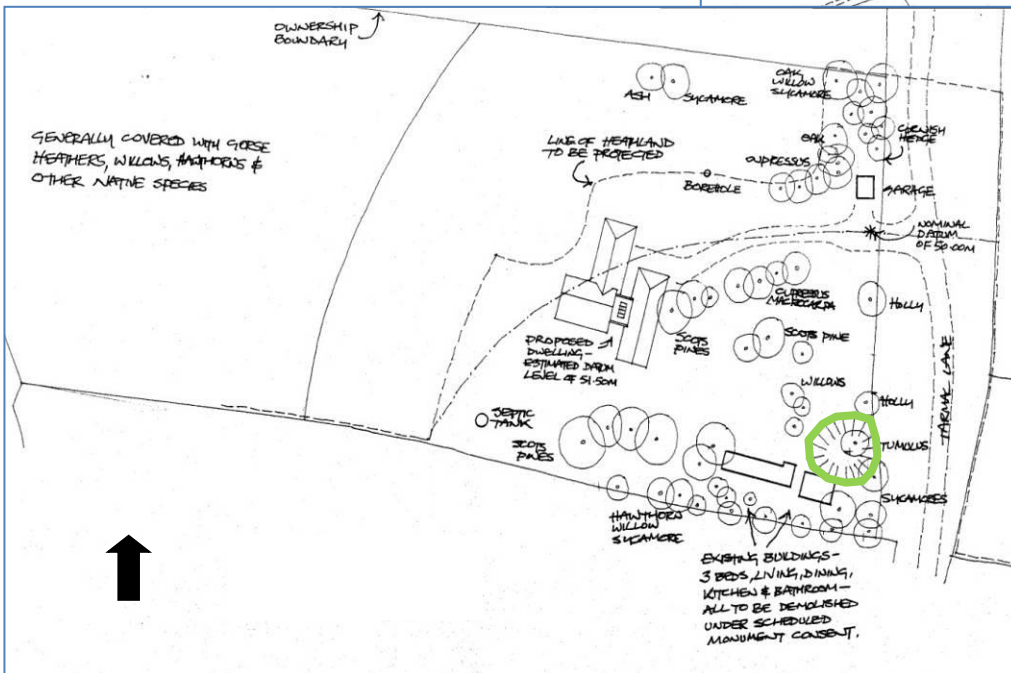
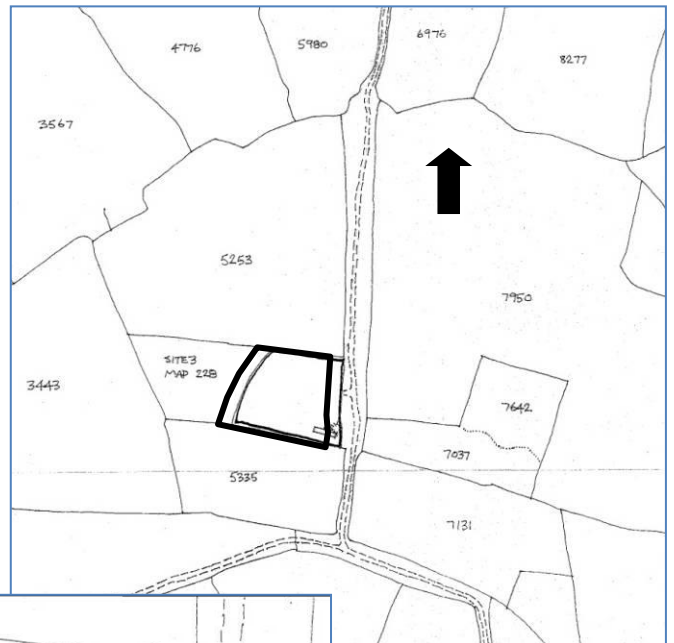


Fig 1 Location map showing area of site in relation to Helston and Mullion.

Fig 2 Original client supplied plans showing the site extent (right) and architects plan/sketch showing proposed new build and proposed removal of existent buildings (below, barrow shown in green).

NOTE: the septic tank location was subsequently changed from the southwest corner to the north-eastern corner.



2 Introduction

2.1 Project background

Cornwall Archaeological Unit (formerly Historic Environment Projects team) were requested by Mr Nicholas Glover to provide a project design and estimate for a programme of archaeological recording required as part of planning condition (PA09/00981/F) for the proposed construction of a new dwelling at Beeswing, Cury Crossroads (SW 70603 22401) (Figs 1 and 2). The property was subsequently sold to Sarah Ashton and Andy Pope who continued with the project and became the clients.

The application for planning consent was granted, with the following condition: *No development shall take place within the site until the applicant has secured and implemented a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation to be submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the County Archaeologist.*

At the start of the project, the c1.45 hectare area was overgrown with two small abandoned timber-built structures located in the south-eastern corner, which impinged on the southern edge of Beeswing barrow.

The site is located to the north of a number of Bronze Age barrow sites, several being Scheduled Monuments (SM), one of which lies within the boundary of the development area. This site, Cornwall Historic Buildings Sites and Monuments Record (HBSMR) reference number MC024171 (Scheduled Monument number DCO1274), has not been directly affected by the construction of the new dwelling; however, there was the potential for the barrow to be impacted upon by the removal of the timber buildings.

In light of the proximity of the Scheduled Monument and the potential for buried archaeology, the applicant obtained Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) from English Heritage for the removal of the wooden structures, as well as Planning Consent for the construction of the new building (located to the northwest of the barrow).

Phil Markham (Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer, Cornwall Council) produced a brief (see appendices section of this report), in conjunction with Ann-Preston Jones (English Heritage Field Monument Warden) for archaeological recording (28/9/09). A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) was prepared by CAU (16/03/2012) which met the requirements of the brief.

This archive report presents the results of both the watching brief and the recording of the barrow.

2.2 Aims

The project aims are as laid out in the WSI (located at the back of this report).

Key project objectives:

- To investigate and recover evidence in the form of artefacts, structures or deposits associated with past activity in the area of the new build.
- To investigate and recover evidence in the form of artefacts, structures or deposits associated with prehistoric activity at the barrow.
- To produce a record of the barrow in 2014 via photographs, plan, profiles, section drawing, context list and descriptions.
- To produce recommendations for the future care of the monument.

2.3 Methods

2.3.1 New build

Archaeological recording during construction works for the new dwelling

Topsoil stripping for the area of the new build began on 26/11/2012.

- The ground-work for the new dwelling was carried out under constant archaeological supervision using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket.
- The top and sub soil overburden was excavated cleanly down to a level at which archaeological features or layers might be expected (i.e. the top of natural clay).
- Notes and photographs were taken throughout to record the works in progress.
- Finds from significant stratified contexts predating 1800 AD were searched for.
- Post medieval or modern finds were noted but not retained.

2.3.2 Scheduled barrow

Finds and archives

It was hoped at the outset of the project that pottery recovered during the trenching of the barrow during the 1960s by the previous owners could be located. A search was made of the Royal Cornwall Museum database, but no reference to the pottery could be found.

- The reading of pertinent data held in Truro at the CAU offices.
- Looking at information from the Field Monument Warden/Historic Environment Field Advisor (FMW/HEFA) files.

Removal of timber structures

The controlled demolition of two timber structures was required as a part of Scheduled Monument consent. The structures were to be removed following discussion on site with the client, CAU and the Heritage At Risk Project Officer Ann Preston-Jones.

- It was agreed that careful dismantling by hand (by the owners) was the best way forward – negating the need for any wheeled or tracked vehicles in the vicinity of the barrow.
- It was also agreed that this could take place without an archaeological presence on site, although a follow-up visit to monitor these works would take place. This took place in December 2014.
- The location and proximity to the barrow of the timber structures was recorded by photograph and measured survey. A series of before, during and after photographs record the removal of the structures.
- The eastern structure was the first to be removed. This was done in a piecemeal fashion - preventing any further damage to the barrow and its immediate surroundings, and reducing further contamination of barrow related soil, for example the windows were removed in an unbroken state.

Total Station Survey (figure 27)

NOTE: the site was cleared of invasive bamboo in advance of the survey and fieldwork.

- An accurate plan showing the previously un-mapped barrow, and the location of the trench which had been cut through it was produced.
- The plan showed associated spoil heaps, past damage, the position of large (potentially damaging) trees, etc.
- Parts of the now demolished adjacent timber building were also included on the survey.

Profiles (figure 26)

- Two transects across the barrow were recorded separately as profiles A and B. The positions of these transects have been recorded on the survey plan.

Trench section recording (figure 28)

Trench preparation

Figures 14 and 15 show trench clearance in progress and the fully cleared trench prior to recording in February 2014.

- Preparatory clearance involved the removal of overhanging vegetation, leaf and root matter; the removal of all subsidence material which included slumped material from the flanking spoil heap, weathered material from the exposed section edges, organic material falling in from above, plants self-seeding in the sides and base of the trench, plus the broken remnants of the original exposed piping which ran across the base of the trench plus occasional litter.
- All excavated material was removed by bucket and/or barrow (on planks) to a large tarpaulin laid out c.10m to the north of the barrow. All soil was meticulously checked for any artefacts - given the reference to pottery having been found in the barrow during past disturbance. The soil was retained for use during the reinstatement of the trench.
- The weathered trench sides were cut back to a point at which layers became visible. At no point did the removal of the sides exceed 5cm. Much of the trench face did not require the removal of more than a 1-2cm thick weathered surface. Sections were made as vertical as possible - given the constraints (ie. the removal/dislodging of as little as possible of original monument contexts). All stones were left *in-situ* and where considered vulnerable to collapse not cleaned - this has particular relevance to the stones in pit [9] which were very unstable and had partially collapsed.
- Root removal. Root density was variable, with denser roots being found around stones. Stones included those that were deliberately placed, naturally occurring bedrock, and those that were present as smaller residual stones within the soil. All roots were clipped back using secateurs. The roots were visibly disturbing the junction between layers - particularly those at the junction between the main body of the mound, the underlying old land surface and the natural clay.

Trench section recording

Following preparation of the trench sides the section was photographed and then drawn and measured in detail. The north facing section was recorded as it showed more contexts more clearly, showed pit [9] and was marginally closer to the centre of the barrow and so had a greater height.

Photography - Photographing the trench section was difficult due to the narrow width and the curve of the trench, the variable depth of the trench, and the constantly altering light levels caused by the weather and tree cover. Black and white and digital colour photography was used. The black and white photographs form part of the monument archive, while the digital colour images were primarily for illustrative purposes. 1m and 0.4m long scales were used throughout.

Drawing - The north facing section was drawn and recorded at a scale of 1:10 on permatrace. The location of the recorded section was marked on the EDM survey. All cut features, soil contexts, bedrock and *in-situ* 'placed' stones were measured, drawn, numbered and/or annotated with descriptive detail. All of the larger roots were drawn. These clearly concentrated around the central pit area and the main western side of the body of the mound.

Contexts – Contexts were recorded using a combination of site notes, annotation on the drawn section, sketch plan and measured profiles. Full context details have been recorded in the Site Inventory (found towards the back of this report).

Restoration of the barrow

Based on the survey, profiles and the section drawings, a ground plan for the restoration of the barrow was discussed and decided upon. The decision was taken (between English Heritage, the owners and the on-site archaeologist) that only the drainage trench required immediate restoration work.

- A thin layer of clean, pale builders' grit was laid along the excavated length of the trench.
- The stockpiled soil removed from the trench was picked clean of aggressively invasive bamboo roots/runners and used as the initial, main backfill for the trench.
- Other stockpiled soil resulting from works associated with the adjacent new build was then to be used to complete the backfilling – bringing the top of the trench up to the ground level on either side of the trench.

NOTE: It was decided and agreed between CAU, EH and the owners that the large tree (positioned to the immediate north of the stone seat, on the eastern side of the barrow) was to be left undisturbed but regularly monitored for movement. The cut away stone-faced southern side of the barrow was to be left as it was since the remnant *in-situ* mound would be rendered unstable by the removal of the facing (plus the facing may well partially incorporate kerb material); and that the later dumps should be left alone as they had stabilised, sealing undisturbed elements of the barrow beneath them.

2.3.3 Post-fieldwork

Monitoring following the works

Ongoing monitoring and the potential for further remedial works were discussed on site between the owners and English Heritage.

At the completion of works, a return visit was made by the Heritage At Risk Projects Officer to ensure that all barrow restoration works were satisfactory and to confirm the removal of the former structures had taken place without any further damage to or contamination of the barrow.

Archiving

- Indexing and cross-referencing all photographs, drawings and context numbers.
- The production of [this](#) archive report (according to CAU guidelines).
- The site archive will initially be stored in Truro. The documentary archive will in due course be deposited with the Cornwall Record Office, but in the medium term will be stored at Re-Store. All digital records will be filed on the Cornwall Council network.
- An English Heritage/ADS OASIS online record has been made.

3 Location, geology and setting

The site location

The site is located to the south east of Helston, at 90m above sea level on the top of a hill with wide ranging views out towards the north and west. The barrow is located in the extreme south-eastern corner of the main site, close to the road.

The site has been neglected in recent years, and at the time the initial watching brief was undertaken was covered with long grass, brambles, a large tree and patchy gorse. The barrow was largely covered by invasive bamboo growth.

The site geology

Geologically the underlying site bedrock consists of an un-named Devonian igneous intrusion, overlain by aeolian silty drift, topped by 'slowly permeable, seasonally waterlogged silty and fine loamy soil' (GIS Physical Geography layer).

When the bulk of the watching brief fieldwork was undertaken the rooty topsoil was found to be totally waterlogged. The underlying dense orange clay quaked as machines drove across site. Peeking up through the clay were small patches of hard serpentine bedrock.

The site setting

The site is set within a landscape classified as Upland Rough Ground (Fig 8). To its north and east lies Anciently Enclosed Land in the form of a Medieval Farming landscape. To the west and south lies Modern Enclosed Land, while to the southeast lies a small pocket of Post-Medieval Enclosed Land. In more recent times the site has been used as a plant nursery, and as a result some soil improvements and surface disturbance will have taken place.

The site has a number of surrounding sites and monuments – the majority of which are barrows (Scheduled and Un-Scheduled – see Figs 9 and 10). Other, later site types include rounds and enclosures, settlements, field systems and various extractive sites including quarries etc.

Today the site overlooks Cudrose Airport, the periphery of Helston and the intervening predominantly pastoral land. Adjacent land to the immediate north and northeast of the site is both overgrown and underused. This is clearly visible on recent aerial photographs, including that dated to 2005 (Fig 11).

4 Site history

Beeswing barrow is just one of a number of barrows to be found within the local area. As with many of the other barrows Beeswing barrow is perched on top of the downs, overlooking (and visible from) a wide swathe of land (in this instance, land to the north and west).

Martyn's map of the mid 18th century (Fig 3) shows that the main roads and place-names of the surrounding area are largely unchanged. The 1809 OS map (Fig 4) shows that today's road network is close to that of 200 years ago, while the lane immediately adjacent to the site appears unchanged. The 1809 map also gives a rapid visual impression of the site surroundings and clearly shows the site to be located on the upper eastern edge of a northwest to southeast aligned ridge of former downland.

The 1841 Tithe map (Fig 5) shows that field boundaries remain almost unchanged today. The Tithe Apportionment names the field in which the site is set as 'Beacon Close', implying the presence of a regular fire setting, potentially associated with medieval and later midsummer festivities or perhaps the use of fire as an early post-medieval defensive or navigational aid. Hilltops, and sometimes the tops of barrows were quite often the focus for such activities. The field itself was under pasture when

the apportionment listings were drawn up. Figure 5 and the associated list of 1841 field names and uses gives a good indication of how the area of the site and surrounding landscape was used and looked over 180 years ago.

The 1880 and 1907 OS maps (Figs 6 and 7) show the site to be enclosed rough pasture, while modern mapping (Figs 8 to 10) reveal that much the same pattern has continued in to the modern day.

The site as a whole is enclosed by a modern post and wire fence which is not shown on any of the mapping (although it is shown on the client supplied mapping (Fig 2). By the mid 20th century the two timber dwellings had been constructed. Garden and drainage works associated with the setting up of a short lived nursery soon followed. No evidence for significant ground works or notable disturbance was identified within the area of the new-build, although landscaping work does affect the barrow (see below).

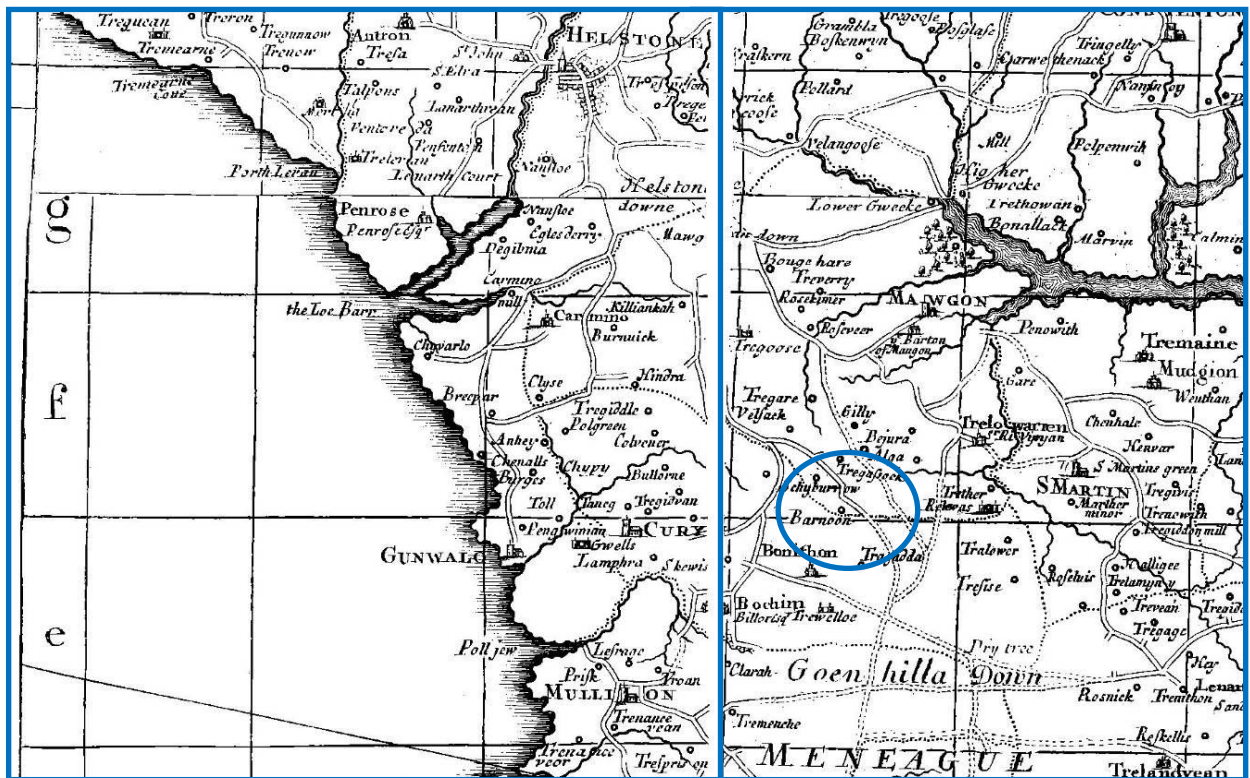


Fig 3 Extract from Martyn's Map of 1748 showing the wider study area.



Fig 4 First Edition of the Ordnance Survey 1 Inch Map to 1 mile, c1809.

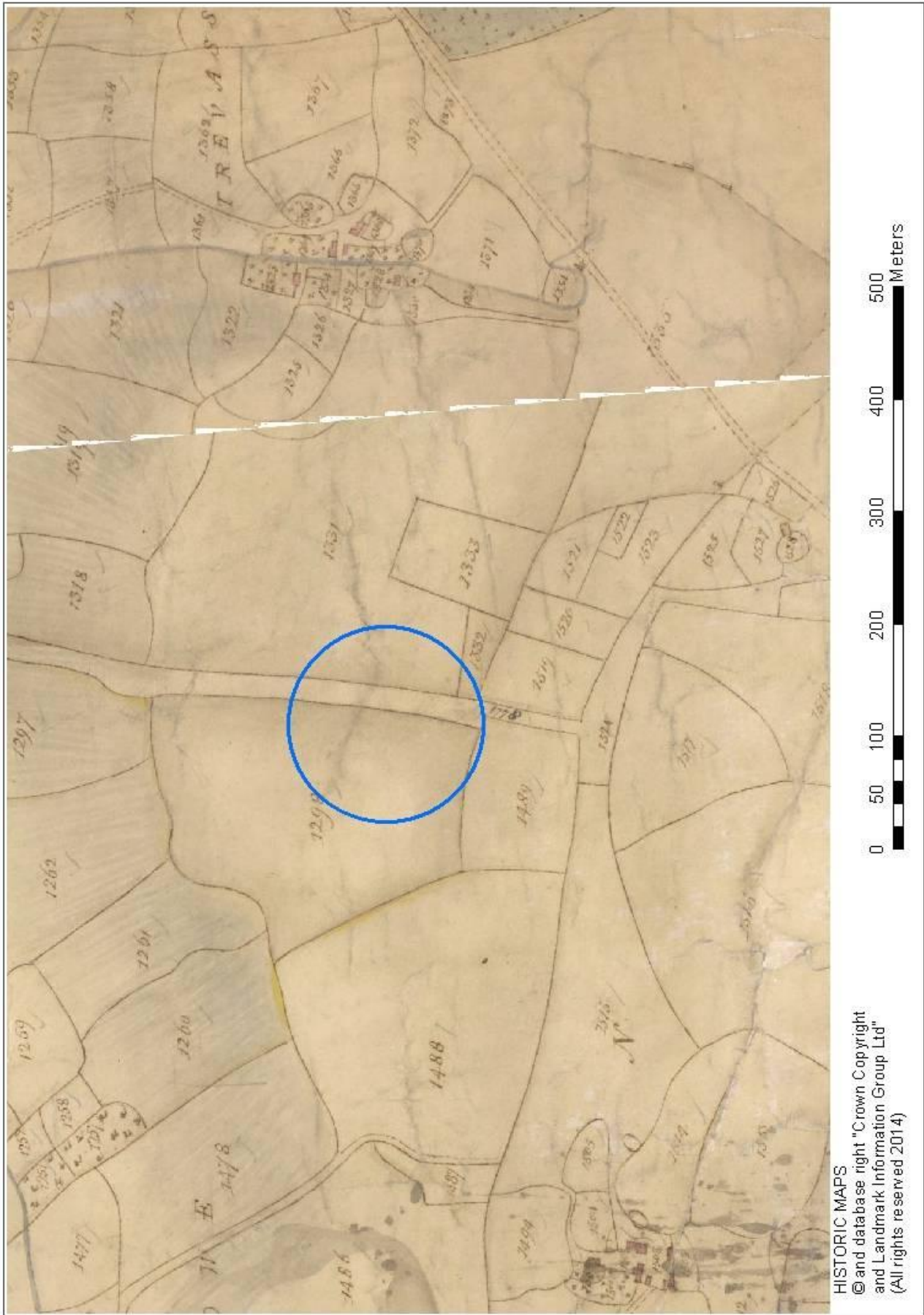


Fig 5 Extract from 1841 Tithe Map for Mawgan in Meneage parish. The site is located in field 1298 (part of Bojorrow) and is named 'Beacon Croft' in the Tithe apportions.

NOTE: Following table to be looked at in conjunction with the preceding Tithe Map extract (Fig 5). Beeswing barrow lies in field number 1298.

The table details have come from the Tithe Apportionment listings.

Field number	Field name	Ground use	Settlement
841	<i>Orchard</i>	<i>Orchard</i>	<i>?Nanceloan</i>
1260	<i>Great Croft</i>	<i>Pasture</i>	<i>Tregudjack</i>
1261	<i>?Trebban</i>	<i>Waste</i>	<i>Tregudjack</i>
1262	<i>Beacon Field</i>	<i>Arable</i>	<i>Tregudjack</i>
1297	<i>Great an Dica</i>	<i>Arable</i>	<i>Bojorrow</i>
1298	<i>Beacon Croft</i>	<i>Pasture</i>	<i>Bojorrow</i>
1318	<i>Little Field</i>	<i>Arable</i>	<i>Bojorrow</i>
1319	<i>Over Ground</i>	<i>Arable</i>	<i>Bojorrow</i>
1331	<i>Great Croft</i>	<i>Pasture</i>	<i>Bojorrow</i>
1332	<i>Enclosure from Great Croft</i>	<i>Arable</i>	<i>Bojorrow</i>
1333	<i>Enclosure from Great Croft</i>	<i>Arable</i>	<i>Bojorrow</i>
1478	<i>Great Gwealmear</i>	<i>Orchard</i>	<i>Skyburriowe</i>
1488	<i>Croft</i>	<i>Pasture</i>	<i>Skyburriowe</i>
1489	<i>Enclosure from Croft</i>	<i>Arable</i>	<i>Skyburriowe</i>
1515	<i>Praze</i>	<i>Arable</i>	<i>Burnoon</i>
1517	<i>Middle Croft</i>	<i>Pasture</i>	<i>Burnoon</i>
1519	<i>Enclosure from Goonhilly</i>	<i>Arable</i>	<i>Burnoon</i>
1520	<i>Enclosure from Goonhilly</i>	<i>Arable</i>	<i>Burnoon</i>
1524	<i>Common near Goonhilly</i>	<i>Pasture</i>	<i>Commons</i>

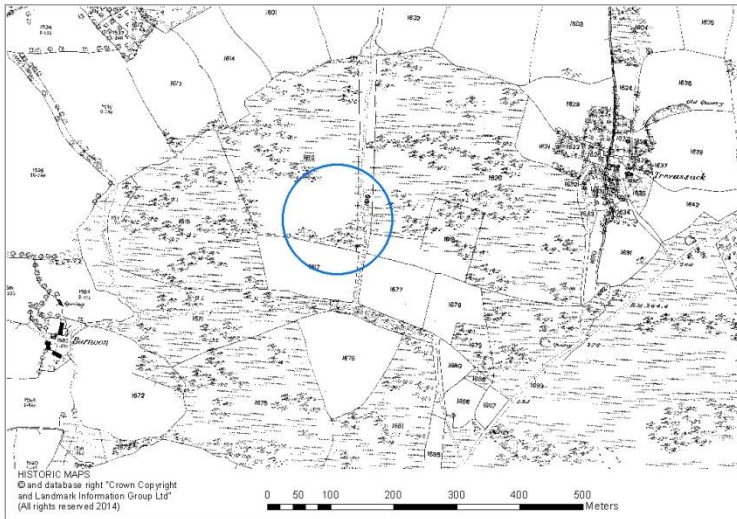


Fig 6 First Edition of the Ordnance Survey 25 Inch Map, c1880.

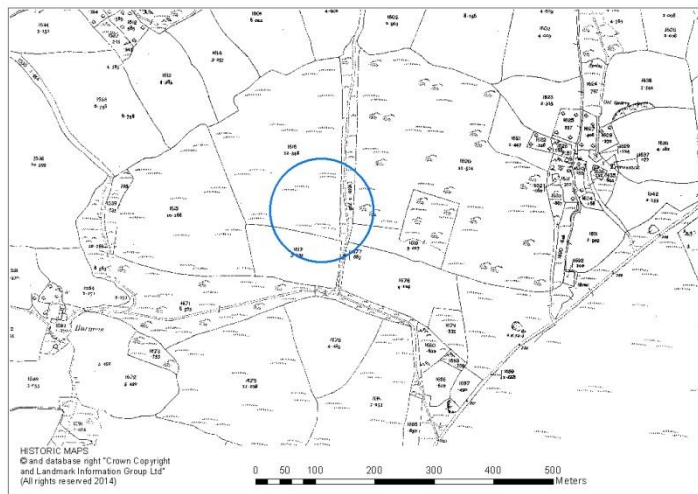


Fig 7 Second Edition of the Ordnance Survey 25 Inch Map, c1907.

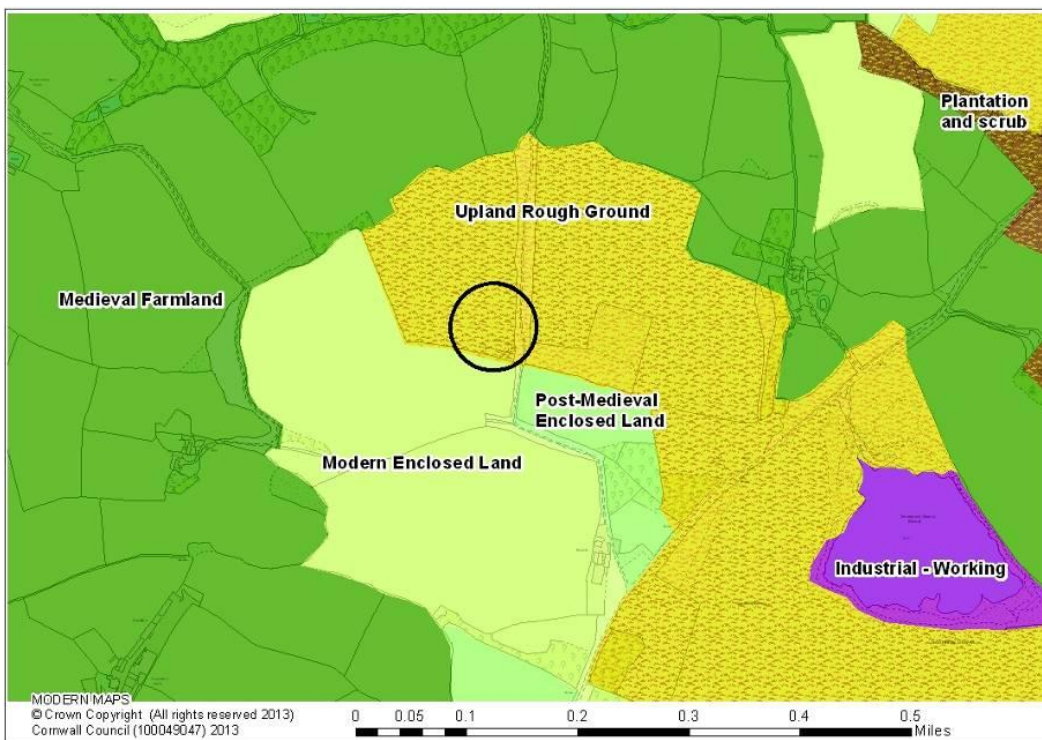


Fig 8 Ordnance Survey digital map showing the Historic Landscape Characterisation and contours for the site and its environs (2009).

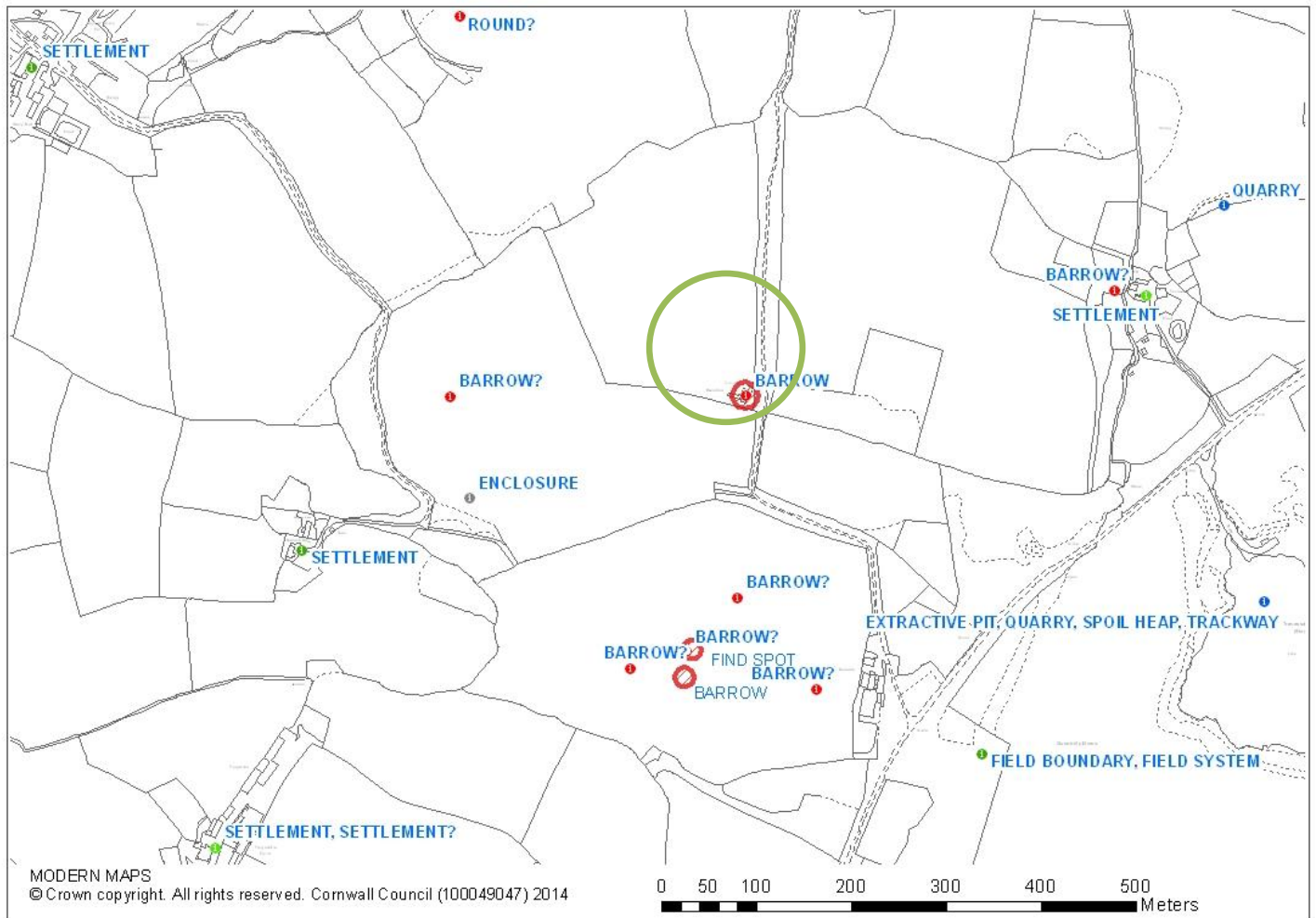


Fig 9 Ordnance Survey digital map showing the range of HER monument types immediately surrounding the site area. Three Scheduled barrows are circled in red (including Beeswing barrow). The site is contained within the green circled area.

Note: Red dots are prehistoric, light green dots are early medieval, dark green dots are medieval, blue dots are post-medieval and the grey dot is undated.

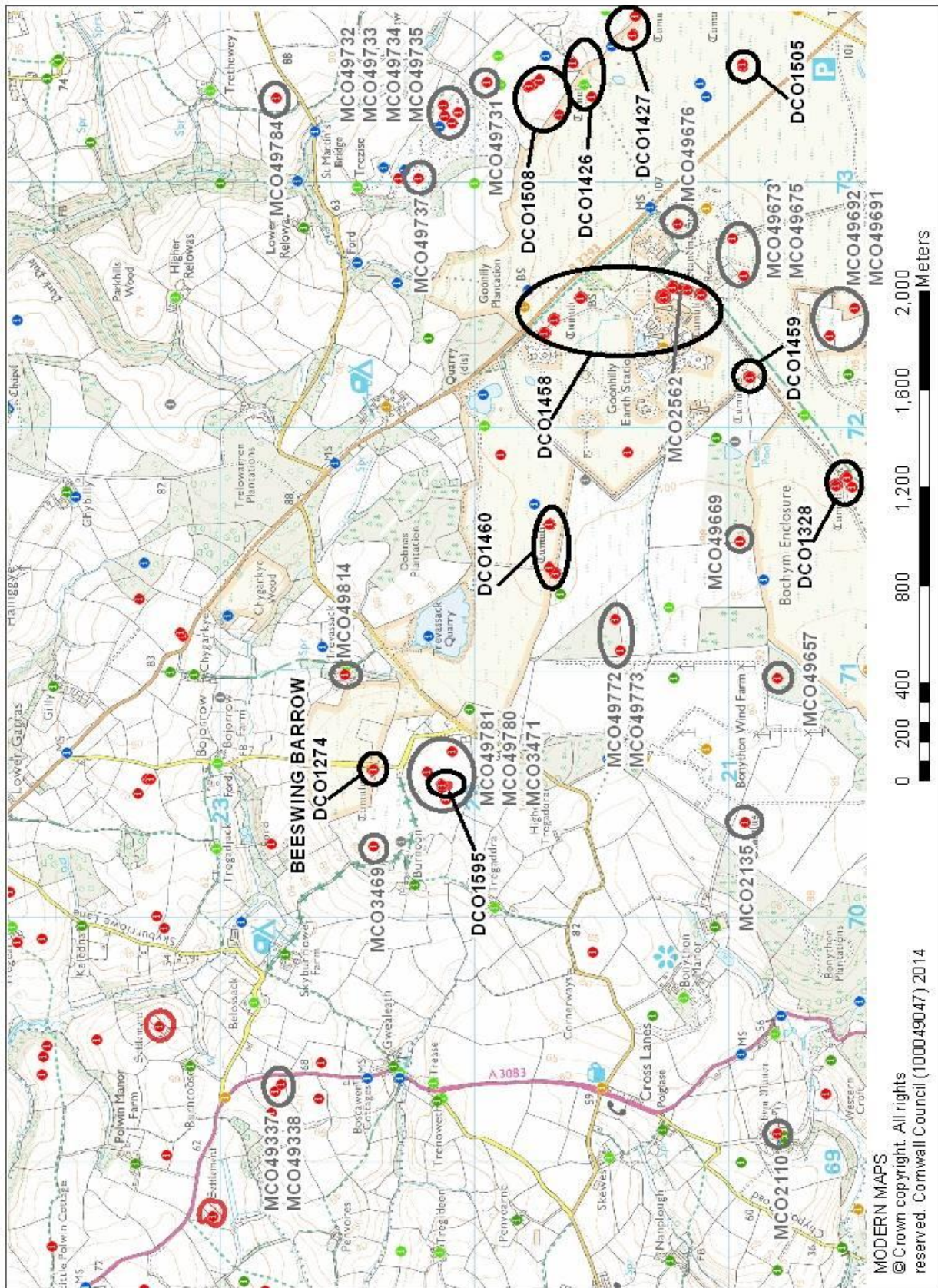


Fig 10 Ordnance Survey digital map showing all Scheduled barrows (surrounded by black ovals) and HER non-Scheduled barrows (grey ovals). Two large Scheduled rounds are circled in red in the northwest corner.

The remaining coloured spots relate to other HER listed sites – colour coded according to date: Red – prehistoric, dark red – Romano-British, green – Early Medieval, dark green – Medieval, blue – Post Medieval, orange – Modern, and grey – Undated.

4.1 The Scheduled barrow

This monument is Scheduled under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, and is viewed by the Secretary of State as a monument of National Importance. It was first Scheduled on 9th November 1950.

The Beeswing bowl barrow (MCO24671 / DCO1274 / CO324) is situated 200m to the north of the Skyburriowe barrows and may be an outlier of the Trevassack and Skyburriowe barrow group/s.

The following text has been taken from:

http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results_Single.aspx?uid=1004499&resourceID=5

Bowl barrows, the most numerous form of round barrow, are funerary monuments dating from the Late Neolithic period to the Late Bronze Age, with most examples belonging to the period 2400-1500 BC. They were constructed as earthen or rubble mounds, sometimes ditched, which covered single or multiple burials. They occur either in isolation or grouped as cemeteries and often acted as a focus for burials in later periods. Often superficially similar, although differing widely in size, they exhibit regional variations in form and a diversity of burial practices. There are over 10,000 surviving bowl barrows recorded nationally (many more have already been destroyed), occurring across most of lowland Britain. Often occupying prominent locations, they are a major historic element in the modern landscape and their considerable variation of form and longevity as a monument type provide important information on the diversity of beliefs and social organisations amongst early prehistoric communities. They are particularly representative of their period and a substantial proportion of surviving examples are considered worthy of protection. Despite its re-use as an ornamental garden feature, the bowl barrow at Beeswing survives comparatively well and will contain archaeological and environmental evidence relating to its construction, territorial significance, social organisation, ritual and funerary practices and overall landscape context.

Note: Former landowner – Mr Nicholas Glover remembers pottery being recovered from the site in the 1960s when the trench was excavated through the barrow. The pottery was reportedly taken to the Royal Cornwall Museum (RCM), but does not appear to have been formally deposited there (Andy Jones pers comm.).

4.1.1.1 Pre 20th century change to the barrow

Historic mapping shows the eastern side of the barrow to be partially overlain by the north to south-running western boundary of the road. The kerb would have been the most susceptible part of the barrow and may have been removed for the construction of the flanking earth and stone boundary.

4.1.1.2 20th century changes to the barrow

- As figure 27 shows a long drainage trench was cut through the northern side of the barrow. This was then left open. Over time the trench edges began to collapse, while exposure and occasional flooding inevitably made internal layers and stone settings increasingly vulnerable.
- A short trench was cut, linking the south-western corner of the main trench with the disturbed south-western edge of the mound.

- The south-western edge of the barrow mound was possibly cut away to accommodate the eastern one of two timber structures. The subsequent edge was then built-up and re-faced with stone. It was used as a garden/landscape feature and may broadly follow the approximate edge of the original barrow/kerb. The level of disturbance is unknown.
- The dumping of soil from the trench over the mound. These dumps are still visible as a series of amorphous grassed over mounds. The dumps are particularly clear on the western side of the barrow, but also flank parts of the northern edge of the trench (near the surviving portion of visible kerb).
- The probable movement of parts of the kerb to create a 'stone seat' located on top of the eastern side of the barrow.
- The planting of coniferous trees (some of which are very substantial including one planted on the barrow itself).
- The planting of highly invasive bamboo which spread across the majority of the barrow and beyond.

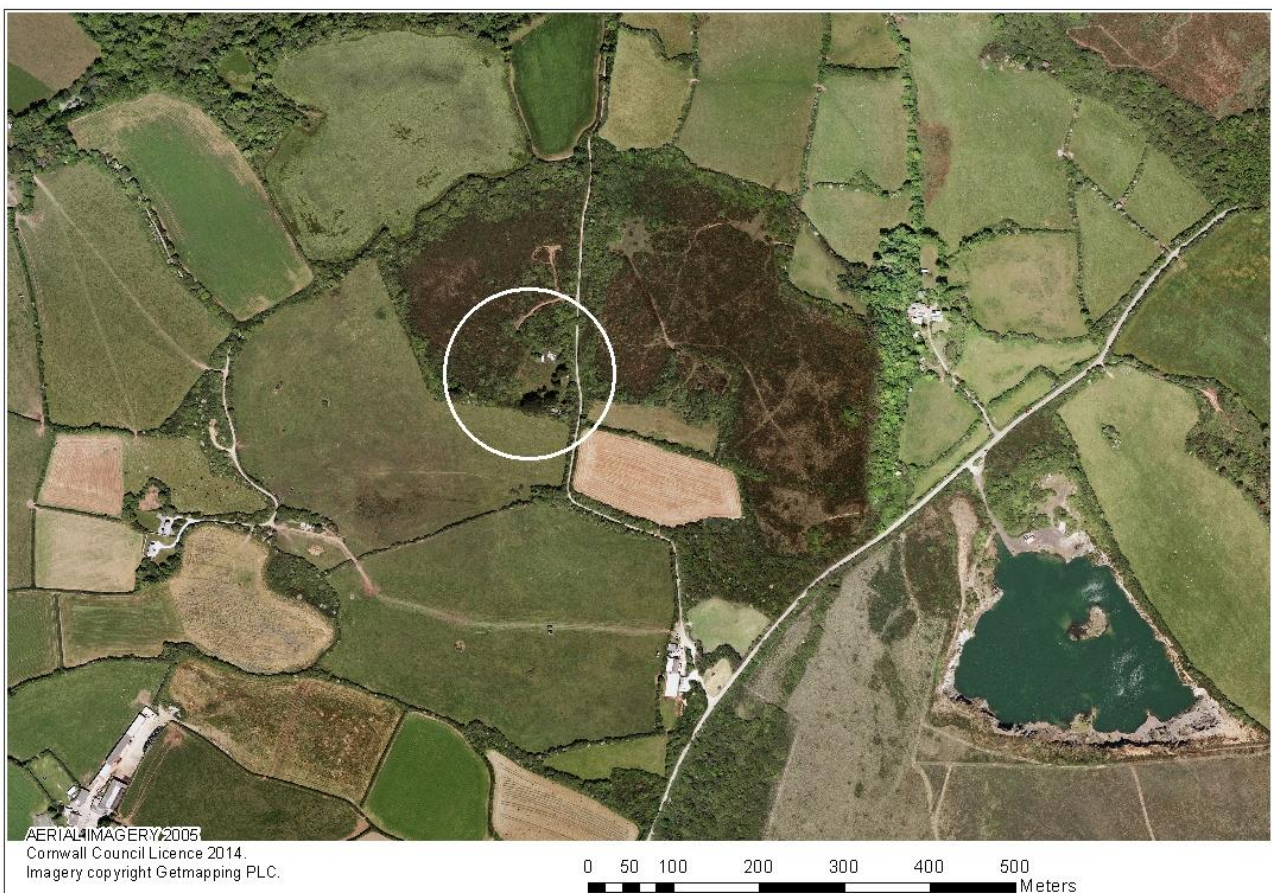


Fig 11 An aerial photograph showing the site and its environs (in 2005).

Note the survival of curvilinear tree and bush defined field boundaries (denoting medieval and/or earlier origins), plus the surrounding largely un-improved, non-pasture fields to the immediate north, west and east of the site.

5 Archaeological results

5.1 The barrow survey – figure 27

The barrow survey was designed to record all visible surface components of the barrow, any obvious later alterations or additions, the abutting timber structure and the proximity of the road boundary. In addition it marks the location of both drawn profiles and the line of the recorded drainage trench. The EDM was set up to the northwest of the barrow, beyond two intervening outcrops of bedrock (which have been marked on the survey).

The survey identified the following features:-

- Adjacent bedrock - (outcrops may underlie/form parts of the barrow)
- Probable original barrow outline
- Original stone kerb - (visible on the northern side of the barrow only)
- Probable berm - (lying between the kerb and the barrow – possibly altered)
- Road boundary - (runs across the eastern side of the kerb/barrow)
- Main drainage trench - (cutting across the northern part of the barrow)
- Spoil dumps - (overlie the western and north-western part of the barrow)
- Cut away southern side of the barrow - (stone faced)
- Stone seat/setting - (made of un-shaped stones and set on top of the barrow)
- Tree - (large, leaning, planted on the eastern top of the barrow)

The survey shows the top of the barrow mound as near level and rather platform-like. Where undisturbed, this profile may well be close to the original, although probably slightly lower through 4000 years' worth of settling. The surviving sides drop down at a 30° to 40° angle for various distances before becoming lost beneath later dumps (16) (particularly on the western side of the barrow). On the southern side the original barrow mound has been cut away, re-faced and possibly built-up, while to the north it has been disturbed by drainage trench [14]. Running across the top of the eastern periphery of the barrow and kerb is the road boundary. This will have either preserved or destroyed underlying features.

Surrounding much of the northern side of the barrow is the remains of an encircling local serpentine stone kerb 12. The kerb may originally have been composed of stones standing on their long edge (as suggested by the recorded trench section), although the circuit could also have included larger reclining stones and/or natural stone outcrops. The four north-eastern stones (cut across by the trench) were immediately obvious and largely visible – extending well above today's topsoil level. The other more western stones were less obvious and partially level with the top of today's turf line. These extended beneath the ground and were traced further by probing in their immediate vicinity.

The survey shows the eastern side of the kerb, berm and possibly the extreme eastern edge of the barrow were overlain by the road boundary. It is possible that original kerb stones were reused in the construction of the boundary; although given the alignment of the boundary it may simply have incorporated stones as they were, leaving them *in situ*.

Figure 16 shows the area lying between the barrow and the kerb/boundary as low-lying - following the lower edge of the barrow. Although probably visually exaggerated because of the height of the boundary (and the effect of the tree), this eastern side of the barrow may in fact quite closely reflect what would have been the barrow profile prior to disturbance. This relative lack of late disturbance is reflected on the survey plan.

Figure 17 shows the southern, recently stone-faced edge of the barrow mound, where it had been cut away to make room for the timber structures. This allowed for a stone faced walkway between the structure and the mound. The survey and the southern end of Profile A (Figs 26 and 27) show the effect of this damage. It is likely that any kerb stones removed during this process were incorporated into the central part of the stone facing.

The eastern end of the stone facing (shown on the survey) may follow the original line of the kerb, implying that some at least of the kerb in the south-eastern quadrant is still *in situ*. It is probable that the barrow mound in the south-eastern quadrant is also largely undamaged.

The western half of the stone facing (as depicted on the survey) appears to retain both the outer periphery of the barrow and some of the more recently dumped soil (16). The extreme western end of the stone facing (like the eastern third) may follow and incorporate the original kerb.

Positioned on top of the mound, close to the largest tree planted on the barrow, is a roughly constructed stone seat. This may incorporate re-used kerb or boundary stones. It is shown on both the survey and on profile B.

5.2 The profiles – figure 28

Profile A – Profile A is aligned approximately north to south across the barrow. Its northern 4m length records what appears to be the best preserved profile for the original barrow. It extends from the top of the mound, down the 35° to 40° sloping northern side, across drainage trench [14], the berm-like flat area, and stone kerb 12. Although complicated (and probably exaggerated) by the presence of drainage trench [14], the profile does appear to show the berm running between the mound and the kerb. This was also shown in the recorded trench section, which was recorded close to but at a different angle to the profile drawing. The extreme northern 2m length of the profile extends beyond the external edge of the barrow, and shows a slight rise – associated with build-up context (15) against the outer edge of the kerb.

The central part of the profile shows the top of the barrow as approximately 5m long and near flat –giving the impression of a raised 4-5m diameter platform. The approximate outline for this 'top of mound' profile is shown on the survey plan as an un-even rounded area, which is distorted on its south-western edge by disturbance (see below). The top of the barrow does not suggest that it was ever dug into by antiquarian or later excavators, although such disturbance is a feature common associated with barrows of this period.

Significant damage caused by the cutting away of the southern edge of the barrow is clearly shown at the southern end of the profile. This has resulted in the loss of the original kerb alignment and the lower barrow slope. It has also covered (and so disguised) the original upper edge of the barrow or platform. The profile shows that the cut has been faced by a combination of local stone – possibly re-used from the original barrow and kerb, and breeze blocks. It forms the northern side of a c.1m wide walkway between the former timber structure and the barrow. Between the stone facing and the top of the original barrow profile there appears to be an area of recent infilling. The infill material is likely to have come from the cut away barrow edge, and is shown on the survey plan as a distortion to the south-eastern upper edge of the barrow.

Profile B – Profile B is aligned west-northwest to east-southeast across the barrow. From west to east the profile shows recently deposited low-lying spoil dumps (16). These appear to largely correlate with the excavation of the western end of drainage trench [14]. In the space between this main dump and a smaller linear flanking dump (associated with the excavation of the central part of the trench) is a single kerb stone 12 – shown in plan on the survey.

The profile records the cut of the western end of the trench as having a sheer bedrock northern edge. On the southern side of the trench the body of the mound rises as a pronounced convex slope. This would seem unlikely to have survived several thousand years, and so is likely to be the result of scarping created by the original cutting through of drainage trench [14].

The central portion of the profile records a very similar raised platform-like profile to that shown in Profile A. Again this is broadly level and approximately 5m long. Towards its eastern side is the stone seat-like setting (Fig 13). This did not appear to be set on protruding bedrock, but rather to consist of re-deposited/re-arranged stones. These may possibly have been acquired from the robbed kerb (or boundary?) at a late date – presumably associated with the 20th century occupation of the site. The possible upper eastern edge of the mound is shown approximately 1m to its east, although this does in part reflect lifting associated with tree roots (see Fig 16).

East of this point the profile drops down, forming a 2m wide, level area running around the eastern periphery of the mound, on the internal edge of the kerb. The profile does show a stone at the foot of the boundary in the exact position of the 'projected' kerb alignment. It is possible that this is a surviving, visible part of the kerb, forming the base of the boundary. Alternatively it could be more recent and related to the boundary.

5.3 Removal of the timber structures

Figures 12 to 14 and 23a show the gradual demise of the timber structures, as recorded during this project. Their removal has been entirely successful. No archaeological finds or features were un-covered during their removal and no further damage to the barrow took place.

The barrow now stands in a more open setting than it has for the last half century.

5.4 The barrow recording – figure 26

The trench recording

In approximate chronological (oldest to latest) order the recorded contexts were:

- (8) Geological - Natural clay and/or bedrock
- (3) Prehistoric - Old land surface
- (4) Bronze Age - Clay deposit / bank
- [9] Bronze Age - Satellite pit cut
- (7) Bronze Age - Lower paler loam fill of pit [9]
- (6) Bronze Age - Middle dark loam fill of pit [9]
- (5) Bronze Age - Upper stony fill of pit [9]
- [11] ?Bronze Age - Small satellite pit cut
- (10) ?Bronze Age - Fill of pit [11]
- 12 Bronze Age - kerb stones
- (2) Bronze Age - Barrow mound material
- (15) Post Bronze Age - Build-up against kerb stone
- (1) Post Bronze Age/current - Topsoil
- [14] Recent - Drainage trench
- (16) Recent - Dumped soil
- (13) Recent - Trench back fill

(Full descriptions of the contexts are given in section 9.1)

Stratigraphic discussion

The original focus for the location of this barrow is uncertain. It may be that a pit or a rock outcrop was the initial focus for the site (figure 25). The central area of the barrow was not revealed during this project and so is assumed to still be intact and undisturbed. However, trench recording revealed that at least one feature, pit [9] may have been associated with early activity on the site.

Pit [9] was positioned against a steep west-facing block of bedrock, which protruded up through the contemporary old land surface layer (3). It was located centrally along the recorded trench section, contained three fills and was sealed by mound material (2) (Fig 21). From top to bottom the fills were (5), (6) and (7). Fill (5) was stony. Several stones had obviously fallen out from the section, leaving a cavity in (5) and dark loamy context (6). Basal fill (7) appeared largely intact and not too disturbed.

Pit [11] was very shallow with a single fill (10). It was located at the western end of the section (Fig 22). Unfortunately this was close to the modern drainage works and sealed by later dumping, or disturbed material (16) rather than original mound material (2). Interestingly this feature is in line with the projected original line of the outer stone kerb 12, and so is perhaps unlikely to have ever been sealed by the mound. It is just possible that this pit correlates with a former stone setting for the kerb.

Stone kerb 12 is visible as a partially surviving circle of dark grey-green serpentine stones, which may incorporate bedrock plus other placed stones (see Figs 14, 16, 18 to 20). The northern third of this stone circuit is partially visible (see the barrow survey). The stone recorded in the section suggests that it may originally have been upright, allowing for a possible build-up of soil layer (15) against its former eastern edge. However, this is tentative given the proximity of the flanking boundary which may have resulted in historic shifting of parts of the kerb prior to the 1960s.

To the west of the stone is a low-lying area 0.8-1m wide, possibly marking the former position of a berm-like feature between the kerb and the edge of the mound/clay deposit (4). This narrow, encircling space is visible in both sides of the section, and (although in a possibly more recently exaggerated form – caused by either the construction of the boundary or by prior owners) as a surface depression running around the eastern side of the barrow parallel to the boundary (Fig 16).

Pale greyish clay deposit (4) may form the remnants of an early bank encircling the mound (Fig 20), or possibly the base of a clay 'all-over' mound covering. It did not obviously seem to be set within or adjacent to a cut. Unfortunately the western side of the barrow has seen much damage (potential re-profiling and dumping), which have severely complicated recognition of barrow-associated elements, blurred the junction between original and later activity and potentially removed some features.

Context (2), although very dark in colour, appears to represent mound material. It was very similar to redeposited material, (16). It was also similar to layer (15), which lies beyond the area of the mound to the north-east of the barrow. Layer (2) seals pit [9], abuts potential bank (4) and directly overlies old land surface (3). It lies within the partially visible stone kerb and appears to correspond with the original mound profile as identified by survey and profile.

It is likely that the mound had slumped and spread prior to the construction of the road boundary. As a result the original barrow profile is not known. It would seem unlikely to have ever been much more than a raised platform - given the lack of early mapped references to it and the known lack of field clearance and ploughing (both of which would have had a significant impact on its height).

A turfline/topsoil (1) covered the site. This is likely to have remained largely untouched until the construction of the boundary to the south of the barrow prior to the 1840s (Fig 5) and the much later 1960s construction of the timber structures which involved some damage to the southern and western edges of the barrow.

The cutting away of parts of the barrow and re-facing with stone (see Fig 17), and the digging through of drainage trench [14]/(13) (Figs 13, 14 and 15), generated a considerable amount of spoil, which has been dumped around the western and north-western parts of the barrow. Part of this dumped material was recorded in section as (16).

Underlying the barrow (and the whole of the wider watching brief area for the new build) is the natural clay (8) with its occasional pockets of serpentine-like bedrock.

5.5 Reinstatement of the barrow

It was decided that only the main trench would require specific reinstatement during this programme of work. The process for this has already been described in the methodology statement (section 2.3).

After clearance out and recording of the trench by CAU, the owners placed a thin layer of pale, clean builders' stone along the base of the trench. The trench was then backfilled with the soil (after hand sorting) removed and stockpiled during trench clearance. This was then to be topped up to the top of the originally open trench with soil stockpiled during construction works for the new house – reducing the potential for contamination to the site by the introduction of material from off site.

Note: The start of the drainage trench reinstatement has been successful (see Figs 23 and 24 as compared to Fig 13 which was taken prior to the start of works). The open exposed section has now been recorded and the trench base has been sealed preventing any further exposure and/or collapse. In addition, the removal of the bamboo roots from the trench, and the ongoing removal of bamboo from across the top of the mound have significantly reduced the potential for ongoing subsurface damage to the barrow and its underlying features.

NOTE: However, the trench infilling has now settled and left a visible indent along the line of the trench. This could ideally do with more infilling.



Fig 12 Two pre-works photographs (taken in 2012) looking west south west showing the surface of the barrow covered in cut bamboo stems.



Fig 13 (Above left) The barrow trench before work started looking west south west (Nov.2012), showing the vegetation filled unstable trench cut, grassed over flanking spoil heap and the timber buildings prior to the removal of their glazing. (Right) The stone seat prior to site clearance.





Fig 14 Looking west along the trench (during its excavation), showing two kerb stones – 12, spanning the trench in the foreground and the timber buildings after the removal of glazing (prior to their total dismantlement).



Fig 15 Looking east across the barrow towards the lane along the line of the excavated trench. Note the more recent grassed dump of spoil in the right-hand side foreground.



Fig 16 Looking south along the eastern edge of the barrow, showing the abutting boundary. In the foreground are the kerb stones - 12, between which runs the line of the open trench. Note the large leaning tree planted on top of the barrow.

Fig 17 Looking west showing the cut away, stone faced edge of the barrow and the north-eastern corner of the nearest timber structure to the barrow. The photograph also shows the large near centrally positioned tree and a smaller tree in the foreground on the south-eastern periphery of the barrow.



Fig 18 (Above) looking north-east at the north-eastern part of the kerb - 12, showing the four stones plus the cleaned but flooded trench. The trench originally drained in to a soak-away created at the base of the flanking eastern boundary (at the top of the photograph).



(Below) looking east along the less obvious north-north-western part of the kerb (as shown on the survey). This photograph also shows the development of a good grass cover for the mound following the removal of bamboo.



Fig 19 North facing section at the eastern end of the barrow trench showing the eastern arc of serpentine kerb stones 12 on the right, and from top to bottom; ivy-rich turf (1), dark peaty soil (15) and basal natural clay (8).



Fig 20 Plan/section of the eastern end of the trench showing kerb stones 12 to the left and clay (4) at the right (above shaded area).



Fig 21 The central pit area [9] – note the loose stone above the pit (moss covered) and the loss of one stone at the base (marked by a cavity). Also note the sheer bedrock on the left side of the pit.



Fig 22 West end of re-excavated trench showing in-situ concrete breeze blocks, small sump designed to catch seeping water and to the immediate right of the black and white 0.4m scale possible shallow pit [11].



Fig 23a Two views (top - taken by the owners) which look east along the cut-away southern edge of the stone faced barrow, showing the removal of the last timber structure and the topsoil exposed beneath the former structure.



Fig 23b Photograph (left) shows an iron wheel – just some of the metalwork embedded within the disturbed barrow edge.

Fig 24 Three views taken by the owners looking east and south, showing the in filled trench cutting across the barrow mound and the circa 1960s spoil dumps in the foreground.





Fig 25 View looking south-east (taken by the current owners) showing the barrow following the completion of works in early December 2014. Note the bedrock outcropping in the foreground, and the distinctive gentle profile of the barrow behind.

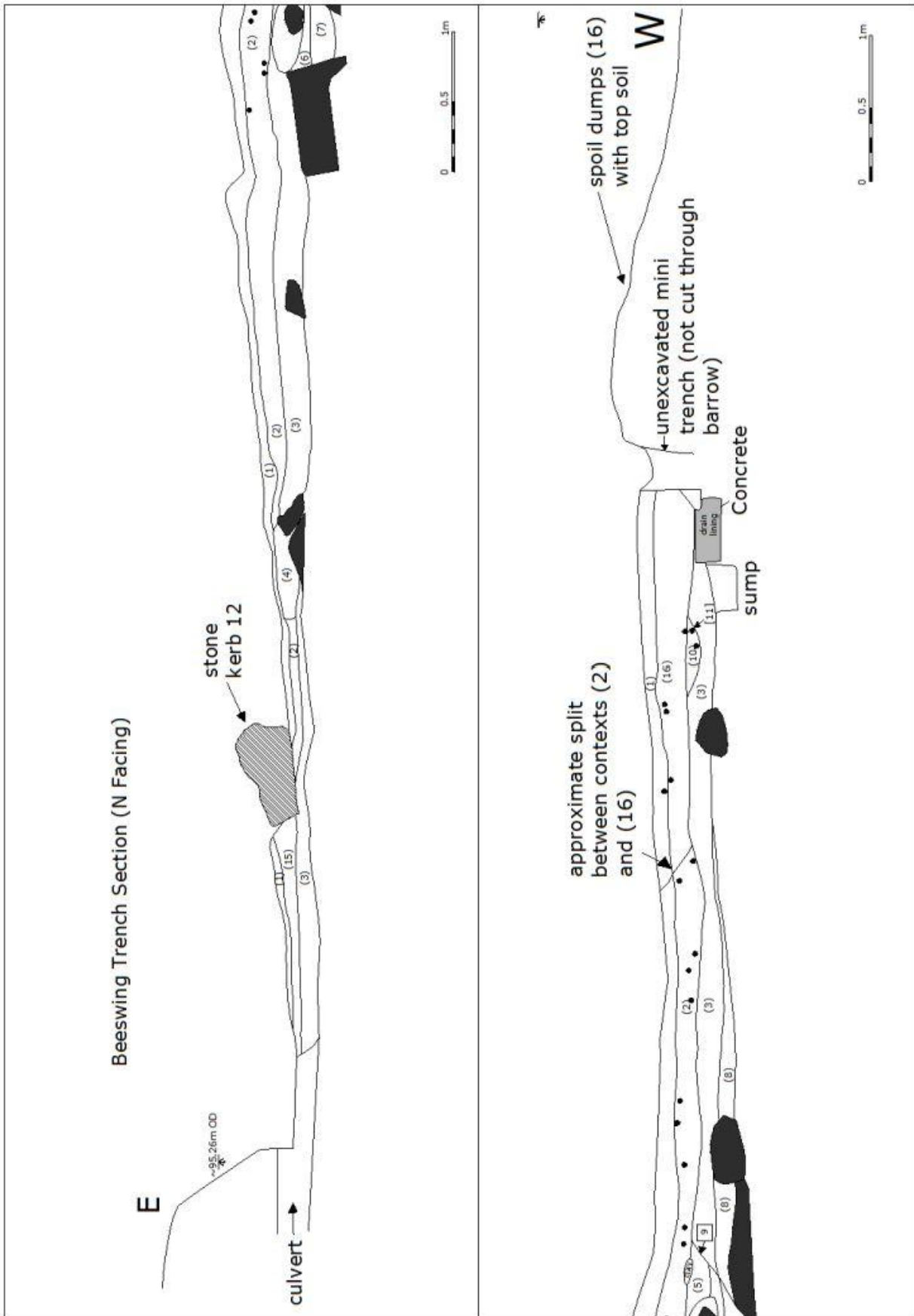


Fig 26 The north facing trench section – see survey plan for location.

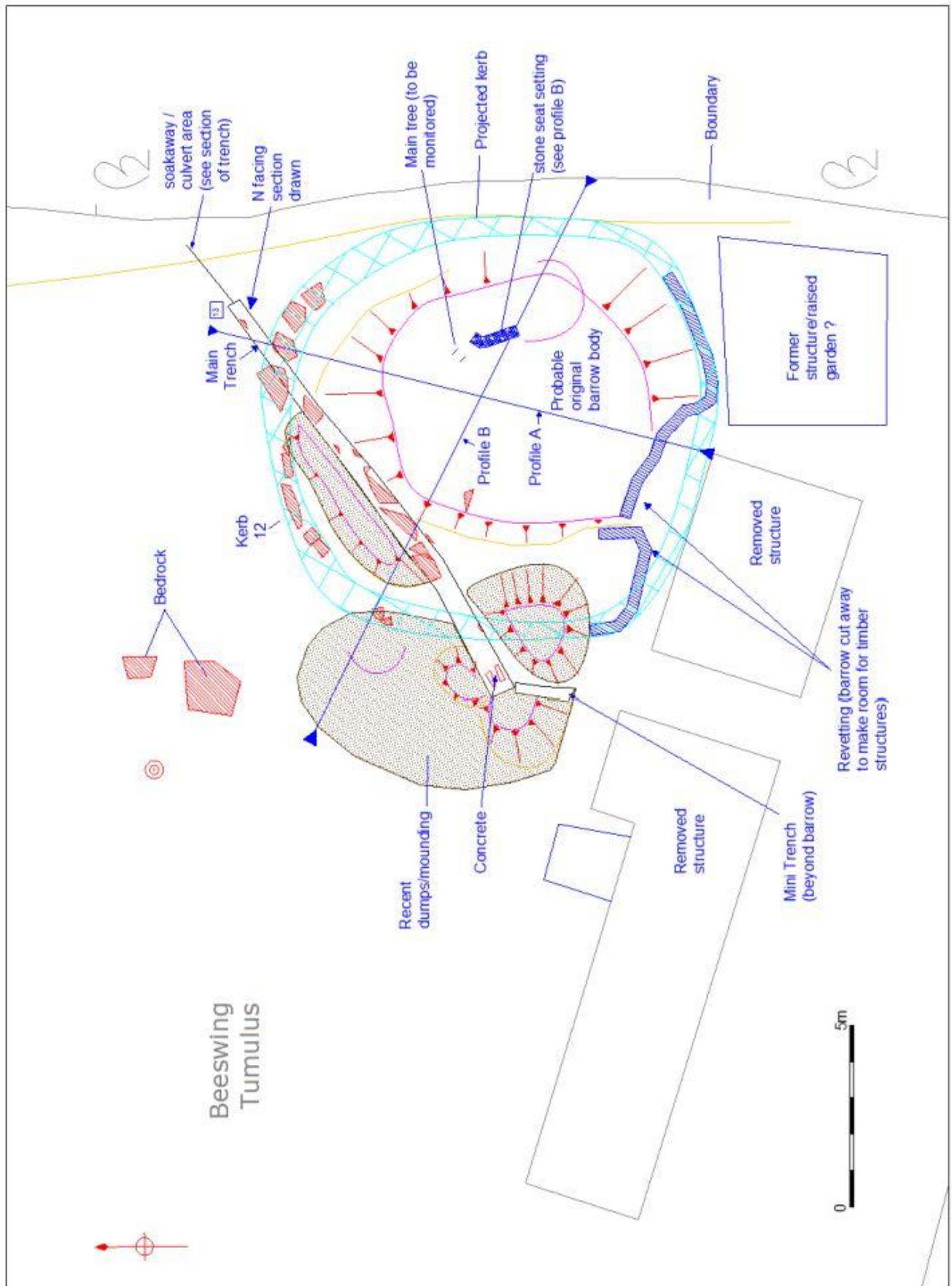


Fig 27 The barrow survey, showing the location of the drawn trench section and the two profiles.

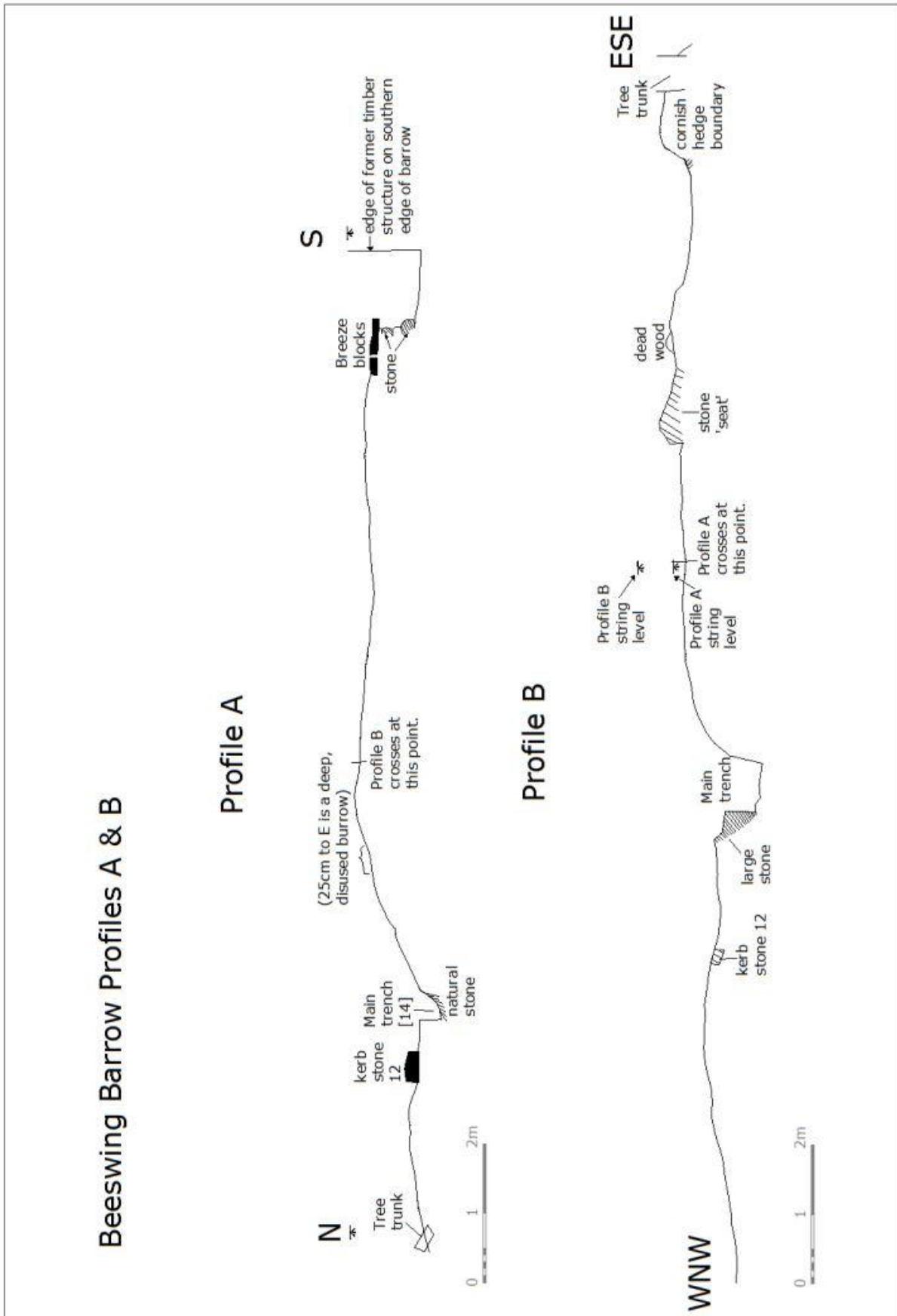


Fig 28 Barrow profiles A and B – see survey plan for location.

6 The new build and associated works

The contractors used two diggers with a dumper truck assigned to each, in order to speed up soil removal and minimise repeated over tracking likely to cause extensive rutting (Fig 31). The underlying topsoil was sodden prior to works and torrential rain during topsoil stripping made working conditions very difficult for both the contractors' vehicles and the monitoring archaeologist.

A larger area than the new build footprint was stripped in order to allow for machine access and deliveries on to the construction site and to accommodate trenching required for services, etc. All stripped areas were monitored and checked for archaeology (Figs 29 and 30).

In total an area of about 42m east to west and 28m north to south was stripped. In addition the entrance to the construction area was stripped. This had an approximate 7m width and 25m length running east from the road. All stripped topsoil was stored in the south western corner of the plot for landscaping re-use elsewhere on site.

From top to bottom the profile in the stripped area was:

- **Topsoil (17)** - The topsoil varied from 0.15m to 0.3m deep. The variable depth of topsoil reflects the former use of the site as a plant nursery, with strips of bedding and presumably soil manuring. None of which was easily identifiable in the field. The soil was a uniformly mixed very dark brown organic clay loam. There were (remarkably given the recent use of the site) no finds of any date. A few naturally occurring stones of 0.1m–0.25m in size were noted. All appeared to be of Lizardite serpentine – a locally occurring, hard often fine-grained greenish brown streaky looking rock type. Plant roots were noted across the site, many of which caused dark streaks of disturbance across the top and occasionally running down in to the underlying geology. No archaeological features were recorded as cutting down through this layer.
- **Subsoil (18)** – The subsoil was 0.1m thick mid/pale dirty grey, very slightly loamy clay. Occasional naturally occurring stones (as above) were recorded. There were no finds. Roots continued to be seen, but in smaller numbers. No archaeological features were recorded cutting through this layer.
- **Natural (19)** – After top/subsoil stripping the underlying natural geology was revealed as dense yellowish orange clay with occasional patches of increasingly dense hard bedrock. No archaeological features were recorded cutting through this layer.

A further visit was made to record topsoil stripping for a septic tank and related drainage trenches in the north east part of the plot behind the former garage building (north of the barrow and adjacent to the road). Here the topsoil was recorded as 0.05m-0.1m thick, overlying a 0.15m-0.3m thick grey clay over yellowish orange natural clay. No archaeological features were encountered.

As the new build got under way the site of the watching brief was gradually transformed, culminating with a new timber clad house set amidst grass lawns (Fig 33).



Fig 29 Looking west across topsoil stripping in the area of the new build. The barrow is to the left of the picture. Note occasional protrusions of grey green stone through natural orange clay (19).

Fig 30 Topsoil stripped area of the new build looking east towards the road showing natural orange clay (19). The barrow is located on the right hand side behind the tree.



Fig 31 The very wet conditions causing deep wheel rutting in the top of the underlying natural.

Fig 32 Exposed section through the topsoil showing the underlying clay natural. Subsoil (18) is just visible as a mixed slightly paler context just above the cut clay face.





Fig 33 Looking across the watching brief area towards the new house, which was still under construction at the time of survey and section recording (left), and at a point when the house and grounds were close to completion (right – compare with Fig 29).



7 Concluding comments

7.1 Past problems and positive outcomes

Past

Beeswing barrow, having apparently remained largely unaltered for several thousand years, has undergone a number of alterations in the last hundred years or so, which have severely altered the appearance and setting of the Scheduled Monument. Prior to the undertaking of the project these alterations included:

- The construction of a boundary along the immediate eastern edge of the mound which has hidden, incorporated or possibly removed the underlying stone kerb. The relative size and solidity of the boundary has the effect of reducing the barrows physical presence within both the immediate and more distant landscape. Its presence renders the site completely invisible from the east.
- The southern side of the mound and kerb has been cut away and roughly stone faced during landscaping associated with the erection of timber structures in the 1950s and 1960s. This has reduced and altered the appearance of the mound and kerb. It has spoilt the circular plan of the site and will have dislodged deposits.
- A drainage trench (plus smaller linking trench – running south and beyond the immediate body of the mound) was dug through the northern third of the barrow – removing and exposing previously sealed features and deposits. This rendered the northern side of the barrow vulnerable to exposure, further disturbance and collapse. It may also have disturbed deposits of pottery

associated with the use and function of the barrow. However, these are lost and there is no record of their date.

- A series of dumps of spoil resulting from all the above have been dumped across the western side of the mound and kerb. These extend along the northern edge of the trench, and form some of the 'infilling' behind the stone faced southern edge. They distort the shape and minimise the visual effect of the mound – particularly when viewed from the north and south. Viewed from the west, they tend to merge in.
- The planting of trees and bamboo on the body of the mound put the internal mound and underlying features at risk from invasive root damage.

Present

Since the beginning of this watching brief and recording project the barrow has undergone some significant improvements. Improvements include:

- The removal of the timber structures has significantly improved the setting of the barrow. Their visually diminishing effect on the scale of the barrow has now been removed and the barrow's plan and profile is as a result more clearly visible. Despite the proximity of a further boundary to the south, the barrow is now more visible when viewed from the south, southwest or west.
- Measured survey with on-site annotation and interpretation has enabled the plotting of a greater length of the original kerb than it was initially realised had survived. It has allowed for a projection of the original kerb to be made, which extends around the perimeter of the mound, underlying an approximate third of the stone faced southern edge of the mound, and the western edge of the road boundary.
- The measured profile drawings, in conjunction with the survey have identified the surviving upper part of the barrow. It is visible as a raised broadly flattened platform-like area, which has been partially distorted by the trench, dumps and cut away southern edge of the mound.
- The clearance out of the formerly open drainage trench has allowed for a drawn, measured and photographed record to be made of the northern side of the barrow. The southern side was also checked for any further deposits or features. The northern section has confirmed the survival of previously undisturbed features and deposits and has allowed for a better understanding of the original focus and appearance of the barrow. Partial infilling of the trench with 'clean' builders gravel, before further infilling has allowed for the damaged area to be more clearly defined and stabilised.
- The removal of dense, tall, invasive bamboo via cutting and selective use of herbicide has, and will continue to have, a beneficial effect on the barrow. The highly aggressive roots were considered a significant threat to the underlying mound and other features.
- The construction and occupation of the new house will allow for regular monitoring of tree shift, bamboo growth and potential burrowing on and around the barrow.

7.2 Thoughts on the barrow

The following text briefly looks at the landscape setting, likely focus for the location, and the initial appearance of Beeswing barrow.

Beeswing barrow represents one of a number of single, paired and grouped Bronze Age barrows scattered along the higher ridges of land located between Goonhilly to the east and Burnoon to the west. It is situated 200m to the north of the Skyburriowe barrows and may be an outlier of this group. Other than the obvious attraction of this landscape setting for the construction of barrows during the Bronze Age period, the underlying focus for the Beeswing barrow in particular may have been the existence of pre-mound features. The recorded trench section suggests that there were off-centre pit features pre-dating the construction of the mound. It is possible that rather than a central pit/deposit, satellite pits may have formed the focus for this monument – perhaps arranged around a low-lying central rock outcrop. Although speculative, other barrows in Cornwall have been found to incorporate rock outcrops as, for example, at Treligga on the North Cornish Coast and Treen Common in Penwith (see Jones 2005) and Figure 25 shows the proximity of distinctive stone outcrops in the vicinity of the barrow. Figure 21 shows pit [9] nestled against bedrock and it is possible that this feature held a votive deposit. Unfortunately, it cannot be assumed that the pottery found in the 1960s at this site (which was not dated, recorded or located) came from this pit.

Following the decision to erect a barrow at Beeswing, an earthen mound (2) with a stone kerb 12, was constructed. The recorded section suggests that the barrow may well always have had a low bowl or platform mound composed of dark clay loam. The material forming the body of the barrow (2) will almost certainly have been locally obtained from the surrounding area. Preservation of the mound was not sufficiently clear to show that turves had been used in its construction.

Surrounding the mound a possibly encircling (or partially encircling) deposit of pale clay (4) was recorded. This was recorded at the eastern end of the trench, close to the surviving kerb. The clay was composed of redeposited natural clay, identical to that uncovered across the watching brief area and described as natural (19). Disturbance at the western end of the trench may have removed evidence for its continuance. Its strikingly pale colouration would have contrasted markedly with the dark main body of the mound. Again the use of striking colours over mounds has been identified elsewhere, including at Watch Hill barrow and Caerloggas (Jones and Quinnell 2012).

Running around the outer edge of the clay deposit was a berm or narrow band 0.8-1m wide. Again this was only recorded at the eastern end of the trench. Around the external side of the berm ran the serpentine stone kerb 12. This was visible as a partially surviving arc of stone running around much of the northern side of the barrow. It appeared to consist of reclining, placed, locally obtained stones. The recorded section suggested that some at least of these may have been standing on their side or end-although, with the possible exception of pit [11], there was no evidence for a clearly cut stonehole. It is also possible that the stone kerb included *in situ* bedrock within it and that further elements of the kerb have been preserved beneath the boundary which runs along the eastern edge of the barrow, or fossilised within parts of the mid 20th century stone facing on the southern side.

Visually, this arrangement (from the outside in) of dark greenish-grey kerb stones, berm or path, pale grey bank/facing and dark brown mound would have been striking. Although tentative, this interpretation would initially have rendered the barrow a clearly visible focal point within the landscape. Even with the grassing over of the mound, the kerb would still have been a clearly visible feature.

Note: Negative evidence for activity in the new build area indicates minimal activity away from the barrow during the Bronze Age period.

8 Recommendations

As stated in sections 2.2 and 2.3 the major aim of this project was to record and then to partially re-instate the barrow.

A final outcome of this project has been the production of some simple recommendations to guide the future management of the barrow, ideally as a grass-covered mound within the garden of the new dwelling.

Basic recommendations:

- The continuance of work to totally eradicate bamboo from the site via cutting, the ongoing use of herbicide – applied to individual shoots, and the regular monitoring of the site for new growth. This will remove the threat of subsurface damage to below-ground deposits.
- To maintain good short grass cover across the whole of the barrow, ensuring the reduction of further collapse caused by the exposure of soils, and in order to keep the site as visible as possible.
- Further landscape planting on the barrow should be avoided.
- Frequent monitoring of the large, leaning tree (elder?) located on the eastern side of the barrow to ensure that it does not lift the top off the barrow if it becomes unstable. Also, to ensure that any other removed trees/bushes do not re-grow with particular reference to one removed from the revetted southern side of the barrow.
- Monitoring of rabbit activity. The barrow will represent one of the better drained parts of the site, and as such may attract the attention of rabbits. One disused burrow was noted on site, and rabbit burrowing beneath the removed structures was recorded. This needs to be monitored and actively discouraged.

Potential for further small-scale work:

- The trench line is still clearly visible as a cut feature, in part due to settling of the infill material. This could beneficially be further filled to the very top of the cut trench.
- The stone faced southern side of the mound would be improved by the removal of obviously modern material – including breeze block/concrete and ironwork. It should be ensured that its removal does not undermine or destabilise barrow deposits.

In the long term:

- The removal of abutting structures has resulted in the scale of damage to the barrow being more visible. It would be good to consider undertaking some landscaping, in an effort to make the mound appear 'more natural' in profile.

The survey plan and profiles generated by this project could act as a good basis from which to proceed. The spoil dumps (which are so obvious) could usefully be removed from the western side of the barrow using a combination of interpretive data from the profiles, section and plan (with particular reference to the projected kerb alignment around the western and southern sides of the barrow). The material from the removed spoil dumps could usefully be used to re-profile the mound – with particular reference to the main trench, where the new fill has and will continue to settle, and the cut away southern edge.

9 Site inventory

9.1 Barrow recording contexts

The following table lists and describes all contexts associated with the recording of the barrow.

Context No.	Context form or type	Context dimensions	Date	Finds and non-geological inclusions	Description and interpretation
(1) – see context (17) below	Layer - turf	0.08 to 0.15m thick.	Post-prehistoric	Roots, plus modern nail and glass shard.	<p>Turf layer covering entire barrow site and visible along the recorded length of trench. Very dark brown organic loam. Fibrous due to the density of roots – predominantly grass and bamboo roots, but also occasional more woody tree and? gorse roots.</p> <p>The uneven surface of this layer reflects modern surface digging and disturbance associated with landscaping and the cultivation of nursery plants – prior to the commencement of this recording project.</p> <p><u>Interpretation</u> - Appears to have developed naturally on the top of (2).</p>
(2)	Deposit – body of mound	0.3m to 01m thick. 8.75m long in the section.	Prehistoric	No finds. Roots.	<p>Surviving body of the mound. Dark brown clay loam. Very rooty – particularly bamboo roots in the central and western portions and less frequent tree roots on the eastern side. The density of roots (plus worm activity) has removed any fine detail showing the construction of the mound – for example any trace of tipping or dumping of soil, the potential presence of turves gathered from the surrounding area.</p> <p>Post depositional disturbance has significantly blurred the junction between the edge of the original barrow (just to the east of [11]) and the more recently dumped deposits (16) visible in plan as surface irregularities (to the west of [11]). The lack of distinction between these two very differently dated phases of activity is problematic. A broken line marks the approximate break between original mound (2) and re-deposited mound (16).</p> <p><u>Interpretation</u> - The probable remnant body of the mound. Likely to have consisted of turves/topsoil collected from the surrounding area, which was then deposited over cut features including pit [9]. Cut features may have been the original focus for the erection of the barrow at this point in the landscape.</p>
(3)	Layer – probable old land surface	0.06m to 0.2m thick.	Prehistoric	No finds. Roots.	<p>Old land surface. Mixed fine and occasionally coarse grained silty clay. Muddy orange to grey and dark grey brown colour. Occasional pockets of mid grey brown more organic silty loamy material that has attracted root activity.</p> <p>The layer appears to be entirely naturally developed, compressed and very leached in appearance.</p> <p><u>Interpretation</u> - Appears to represent the remnant old land surface that existed just prior to the construction of the barrow. It has been cut in to by satellite pit [9], pit/gully [11] and kerb stone associated ditch/gully [12].</p>

(4)	Deposit – possible bank.	0.70m wide, 0.16m thick.	Post-prehistoric	No finds. Occasional roots.	<p>Possible clay bank/facing? Pale grey redeposited clay bank? Pale leached colouration. The section shows (4) as a distinct matrix with a clearly defined convex eastern edge – suggestive of a bank, which sits on the old land surface (3). The western edge of this deposit appears to deliberately butt up against outcropping bedrock.</p> <p>This deposit was visible on both sides of the trench, suggesting that it originally followed the outer circumference of the mound forming a pale encircling ring of clay around the darker raised body of the mound (2). Had the trench extended through to the western side of the mound then this interpretation could have been confirmed.</p> <p>Note – the continuation of mound context (2) on the eastern side of (4) is probably the result of its weathering or slumping over the top of the more weather resistant (4).</p> <p><u>Interpretation</u> – a possible encircling ring of clay around the periphery of the barrow which pre-dates the formation of (1).</p>
(5)	Deposit - Fill of [9]	0.95m to 0.8m wide. 0.15m thick.	Prehistoric	No finds. Roots.	<p>Upper fill of pit [9]. A mixed clay-rich deposit consisting of orange/tan coloured grainy clay with unstable stones – some of which have dislodged since the trench was originally excavated. A small pocket of particularly strikingly hard, orange clay was recorded as a lens on the upper edge of this deposit. Small roots noted.</p> <p>This final/upper pit deposit pre-dates the creation of the main mound since it is securely sealed beneath (2).</p> <p>The voids resulting from the collapse of stones in to the base of the trench had filled with recent loose organic material, roots and worm activity.</p>
(6)	Deposit - Fill of [9]	0.8m to 0.7m wide. 0.1m thick.	Prehistoric	No finds. Roots.	<p>Middle fill of pit [9]. A dark, organic loam with the base of stones from the upper fill pushing in to it. Occasional small roots.</p> <p>The origin of this layer is uncertain. It may have been a deliberately deposited fill. Alternatively it may have been unintentionally formed by the accumulation of loam from layer (2) above, which percolated down through the stones.</p> <p>Part of this layer had collapsed prior to recording due to the dislodging of a large stone.</p>
(7)	Deposit - Fill of [9]	0.7m to 0.45m wide. 0.2m thick.	Prehistoric	No finds. Roots.	<p>Basal fill of pit [9]. A slightly organic sandy grey brown coloured clay. No stones.</p> <p>This formed almost half the fill of the pit (the lowest 0.2m of a 0.45m deep pit). It appeared to have been undisturbed prior to the cutting through of the trench.</p> <p>It is probable that any pottery (allegedly found during the excavation of this trench) would have come from this basal deposit. No pottery could be found during the cleaning back of the side and base of the trench at this point.</p>

(8) - see context (19) below	Natural clay and /or bedrock	-	-	Roots.	<p>Natural geology. Natural clay and interjecting serpentine bedrock recorded across the length of the base of the trench. Very few roots penetrated down in to this context – although the large tree on the central eastern side of the barrow (to the north of the section) will have pushed roots down through the whole of the barrow and the underlying natural.</p> <p>The same context description applies to the whole of the area covered by the watching brief for the new house (see table below).</p>
[9]	Pit cut	0.95m wide at top to 0.45m wide at the base. 0.45m deep.	Prehistoric	-	<p>An off-centre/satellite pit. Probable satellite pit, located on the northern side of the main body of the barrow. Contained three fills, which appeared to have been essentially undisturbed prior to the excavation of the trench. The pit is located within a crevice in the bedrock. The eastern edge is formed by a c80° near sheer face of bedrock, while the western side continues the approximate 45° diagonal alignment of the underlying bedrock. The result is a non-symmetrical pit section with a gently concave base. The pit was not visible in the opposite south facing trench section, meaning that its original northern edge was entirely removed by the trench.</p> <p><u>Interpretation</u> – a satellite pit, predating the construction of the mound (2), which contained three fills and was clearly an early element or pre-requisite in the barrow’s formation.</p> <p>NOTE: pottery was allegedly found during the excavation of this trench by the former owners. It would seem most likely that this pit was the source of any pottery. Unfortunately no records could be found relating to the pottery, its size, appearance, find spot or its current location. If it did exist and was contemporary with the barrow it is likely to have represented the remains of a Middle Bronze Age urn-like vessel or perhaps a smaller votive vessel.</p>
(10)	Deposit – Fill of [11]	0.55m wide, 0.09m deep.	Uncertain	No finds. Root activity.	<p>Fill of shallow pit [11]. Mid grey brown, slightly organic sandy textured clay with dark brown swathes of rooty material. Serious root activity noted. The fill blends with (16) at the top, although the basal edge was clearly defined.</p> <p>The lack of clarity at its upper surface is accounted for by the probable disturbance/re-deposition associated with (16) and the proximity of drain works and trenching.</p>
[11]	Pit cut	0.55m wide at top, 0.09m deep.	Uncertain	-	<p>Cut of shallow pit. A shallow pit not visible in the opposing south facing trench section. It is shown as having a bowl-like profile with rounded sides and base and contained a uniform find-free fil.</p> <p><u>Interpretation</u> - This feature appears to be approximately in line with where the kerb might be expected to have run. It is cut in to the old land surface and sealed by (16). It’s very regular profile suggests that it was a pit, as opposed to a stone hole for the kerb. It appears to lie beyond the original mound area. Its fill suggests a prehistoric rather than a recent date.</p>

<p>12</p>	<p>Stone kerb</p>	<p>Variable.</p>	<p>Prehistoric</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Stone kerb. Peripheral or encircling ring of dark greenish-grey serpentine-like stones arranged to form an external kerb around the main body of the barrow. It was noted that the stone had a distinct sheen in certain lights – making it a striking element of the barrow.</p> <p>The (visible) component stones made use of selected and placed stones (although it would seem likely that suitable bedrock might have been incorporated within the kerb. All visible parts of the kerb were of the same type of stone and all were locally sourced. Interestingly, the eastern end of the drawn trench section shows one of the stones as prone - overlying the old land surface (3), slumped/weathered mound material (2), and current topsoil (1). This strongly suggests that the stone was originally orthostatic and that it had been toppled – probably during ‘landscaping’ works by former owners or perhaps during disturbance associated with the construction of the flanking road boundary.</p> <p>Between the kerb and suggested clay bank/deposit (4) is a 0.8m wide ‘path’ or berm which may have encircled the mound. When the stone was upright the path would have had an approximate 1m width.</p> <p><u>Interpretation</u> – Stone kerb composed of a combination of reclining and standing stones. The kerb was designed to define and contain the mound of the barrow and perhaps satellite component parts. It delineated the area of the barrow, defining the outer edge of an apparent path around the mound and would have stood out clearly against the much paler coloured clay bank (4).</p>
<p>[13]</p>	<p>Trench cut</p>	<p>14.15m long, up to 1m max. wide, 0.85m max. deep.</p>	<p>Modern</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>Drainage trench. A northeast to southwest aligned, 14.5m long trench with sheer sides and an uneven base which appeared on clearance to respect the underlying bedrock, suggesting either an entirely hand-dug trench or a mini-digger excavated trench finished off by hand. The trench was designed to act as a domestic drain for the formerly adjacent homestead structures.</p> <p>The northern end fed into a culvert/soak away undercutting the large stone and earth built field boundary.</p> <p>Note: The northern side of the boundary is lower lying than the ground on which the barrow stands, and is frequently under water. Because of the proximity of the road it is felt more likely that this lower area reflects road construction/maintenance activity rather than the ‘source’ of the original barrow material.</p> <p>The southern end of the trench section shows a small sump (excavated in an effort to keep the trench dry during recording), a concrete breeze block forming the northern side of a pair of breeze blocks through which the waste water pipe fed from a narrower north to south aligned mini-trench. The mini feeder trench linked the main trench to the former timber structures, and is likely to be earlier (originally feeding out to the north or west?). It should be noted that the mini-trench was not re-excavated and recorded since it did not impinge on the body of the barrow. It was, however, planned as a part of the survey.</p>

(14)	Trench fill	14.15m long, up to 1m max. wide, 0.85m max. deep.	Modern	Modern, narrow smashed ceramic water pipe occasional glass.	<p>Recent fill of trench. Recently redeposited material which built-up during the interval between the cutting of the drainage trench and this recording project. The material consisted of slumped dump material which flanked the trench, weathered material from the exposed edges of the trench, plant material including leaves and roots etc., very occasional modern litter/rubbish and remnants of piping.</p> <p>This material was shovelled out and stored on plastic sheeting until required for re-profiling. It was predominantly composed of silty/loamy clay.</p>
(15)	Similar to (2)	0.15m thick	Prehistoric or later	No finds. Occasional roots.	<p>Build-up of soil against the kerb stone. Very similar to (2) but slightly more silty and clayey. The thickening of this deposit against the edge of the kerb – 12, implies strongly that it built up against the edge of the stone. The gap between it and the top of the stone further supports the idea of the kerb being composed of some orthostatic stones.</p> <p><u>Interpretation</u> – Build-up of soil against the kerb stones.</p>
(16)	Re-deposited material		Modern	Glass bottle fragments. Roots.	<p>Recently re-deposited mound material/spoil dumps. Dark brown clay loam. Very similar to (2) but located beyond the edge of the original barrow. Its similarity to mound material (2) is almost certainly a reflection of the re-deposition of (2) and other similar deposits from elsewhere around the mound. It was not initially seen in the trench section, but on a subsequent visit was discernible. Any intervening topsoil was not visible, probably because contemporary disturbance associated with cutting away; revetment and trench digging had scoured away the topsoil cover of the barrow.</p> <p>The survey clearly shows that a substantial part of the southern edge of the barrow has been removed (and then faced with stone) during landscaping works associated with the positioning of the timber structures. The cut away mound material, plus material excavated from the main and mini trenches was then dumped around the western side of the barrow. Context (16) appears most strongly to relate to the dump on the southern side of the main trench.</p> <p><u>Interpretation</u> – Largely composed of former barrow material removed during various landscaping and other alteration works.</p>

9.2 Watching brief contexts

The following table lists and describes all contexts recorded during the course of the new build watching brief.

Context No.	Context form or type	Context dimensions	Date	Finds and non-geological inclusions	Description and interpretation
17 – see context (1) above	Deposit	Up to 0.3m	Prehistoric to modern day	No finds. Roots.	Topsoil – very dark brown clay loam. Organic with a strongly fibrous content caused by knitted grass, gorse and bramble roots. The intervening clay loam was recorded as loose and slimy. Very few stones - indicative of land that has not been ploughed or substantially improved.
18	Deposit	Up to 0.1m	Altered geology	No finds. Roots.	Subsoil – dirty, mottled brownish grey clay. Dense, compact and coarse grained with occasional slightly more stony patches and frequent roots running horizontally along the top of and into the underlying clay natural. This context appears to be an entirely naturally formed layer, consisting primarily of the decayed upper surface of natural which has undergone frequent waterlogging, freezing and drying. The patches of stones were related entirely to the underlying bedrock and were not identified as evidence for clearance cairns or the physical removal / levelling of surface bedrock outcrops.
19 – see context (8) above	Natural	-	Geological	Occasional deeper roots.	Natural – dense, fine grained orange clay with patches of dense orange/pale grey coarse grained/platy clay often with protruding hard grey serpentine-like bedrock. The site was heavily waterlogged and periodically flooded during the course of the watching brief – reflecting both the wet weather but also the very poor drainage properties of this particular geology. Periodic stones including quartzite occurred in patches. Roots were frequent, long and dark, woody in appearance but stretchy – typical of gorse. Roots were particularly prevalent around visible bedrock outcrops. The stripped surface of the natural clay revealed several areas of slight, usually amorphous disturbance associated with former trees/tree boles and their root systems.

10 References

10.1 Primary sources

Ordnance Survey, c.1809, 1 Inch to 1 mile (licensed digital copy at HE)

Ordnance Survey, c.1880. *25 Inch Map* First Edition (licensed digital copy at HE)

Ordnance Survey, c.1907. *25 Inch Map* Second Edition (licensed digital copy at HE)

Ordnance Survey, 2007. *Mastermap Digital Mapping*

Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1841. *Parish of Mawgan in Meneage* (licensed digital copy at HE)

10.2 Publications

Countryside Commission, 1996. *Cornwall Landscape Assessment 1994*, report prepared by CAU and Landscape Designs.

Gascoyne, Joel. 1699. *Map of Cornwall*.

Jones, A M., 2005. *Cornish Bronze Age ceremonial landscapes c. 2500-1500 BC*. British Archaeological Reports, British Series, **394**, Oxford.

Jones, A. and Quinnell, H., 2012. Monuments and images: new views of well-known sites. *Cornish Archaeology* **51**, 201-208

Martyn's 1748 *Map of Cornwall*.

Norden, J., 1724. *Map of Cornwall*, reprinted University of Exeter 1972.

10.3 Websites

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

11 Project archive

The CAU project number is **146140**

1. Project file containing site records and notes, project correspondence and administration.
2. Electronic drawings stored in the directory:
R:\Historic Environment (CAD)\CAD Archive\Sites B\Beeswing Barrow 2014
L:\Historic Environment (Data)\HE_Projects\Sites_B\Beeswing barrow
3. Black and white photographs archived under the following index numbers:
GBP 2345
4. Digital photographs stored in the directory:
R:\Historic Environment (Images)\SITES.A-D\Sites B\Beeswing barrow 146140
5. English Heritage/ADS OASIS online reference:
cornwall2-205016

The report is held in digital form at:

G:\TWE\Waste & Env\Strat Waste & Land\Historic Environment\Projects\Sites\Sites B\Beeswing Barrow WB

12 Appendices

12.1 Brief for Archaeological Recording

Date: 28th September 2009

Address: Beeswing, Cury, Cross Lanes, Helston TR12 6LU

Site: As Above

Planning Application: PA09/00981/F

Applicant: Mr N Glover, 7 St Mary's Terrace, Penzance TR18 4DZ

Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer: Phil Markham, Cornwall Council, Historic Environment Service, Kennall Building, Old County Hall, Truro TR1 3AY. Tel. 01872 322546 E-mail. pmarkham@cornwall.gov.uk

English Heritage Historic Environment Field Advisor: Ann Preston-Jones, c/o Historic Environment, Cornwall Council, Kennall Building, Old County Hall, Truro TR1 3AY. Tel. 01872 277290; 01872 323691; E-mail. Ann.preston-jones@english-heritage.org.uk

Local Planning Authority Officer: Chantal McLennan, Cornwall Council, Planning & Regeneration, Dolcoath Avenue, Camborne TR14 8SX Tel. 01736 331166 E-mail. planning.west2@cornwall.gov.uk

This brief is only valid for six months. After this period the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer (HEPAO) should be contacted. Any written scheme of investigation (WSI) resulting from this brief shall only be considered for the same period. The contractor is strongly advised to visit the site before completing their WSI as there may be implications for accurately costing the project.

Contractors Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)

No ground works are to be undertaken until the HEPAO, Local Planning Authority (LPA) and English Heritage have approved the archaeological contractor's WSI.

1 Introduction

This brief has been written by the HEPAO in conjunction with English Heritage (EH) and sets out the minimum requirements for archaeological recording at the above site to cover the requirements for Scheduled Monument Consent and to discharge the expected archaeological recording condition of planning application PA09/00981/F.

2 Site Location and Description

The site is a semi-abandoned smallholding and dwelling approximately 6km south-east of Helston at NGR SW 70603 22401 on the north side of a relatively flat hilltop in a rural location. The soil is recorded as being Croft Pascoe (seasonally wet silt over hard rock).

3 Planning Background

Planning application PA09/00981/F was submitted on the 14 July 2009 and was for the erection of a replacement dwelling and the installation of a septic tank. This application is currently pending decision but if granted consent is expected to include an archaeological recording condition. This condition is likely to be along the following lines:

No development shall take place within the site until the applicant has secured and implemented a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation to be submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the County Archaeologist.

4 Archaeological Background

The Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record (HER) records a Scheduled Bronze Age Barrow on the site. The HER records the following for this site: *A round barrow, not marked on the OS 6-inch map, with several stones visible at its base and 1.8m from these, an almost complete ring of boulders, most of them about 0.9m by 0.9m, running into the hedgerow on the east. Listed by Dowson in 1966 who records the extant remains of a barrow. Surveyed at 1:2500 by the OS in 1973, who found a mutilated round barrow of earth and stone, flat-topped, with a diameter of 12m and height of 1.2m, adapted as an ornamental garden feature. The boulder ring kerb can be traced from the eastern hedgebank for a distance of 10m beyond which it is concealed by dense shrubbery. Several large stones protrude from the material of the mound. The monument is included in the Schedule.*

The owner recalls the discovery in about 1960 of a 'vase' when a trench for drainage was cut across the barrow. It is possible that this was a Bronze Age urn. The 'vase' is said to have been taken to the County Museum; but no further information is known.

Further barrows are recorded approximately 250m to the south.

5 Requirement for Work

The proposed works involving the demolition of existing timber buildings will have an impact on a Scheduled Bronze Age barrow. Due to its proximity to the Scheduled Monument, ground work associated with the new development has a high potential to disturb buried archaeological remains. Work on or near the barrow will require Scheduled Monument Consent. Any Planning Consent for the new development is likely to include an archaeological recording condition.

It is therefore important that all aspects of the development are linked to a plan for archaeological recording and investigation, and Scheduled Monument Consent is unlikely to be granted if EH is not satisfied with the archaeological project design in relation to the barrow.

English Heritage has indicated that their requirements for the scheduled barrow are as follows

- A review of the documented evidence for the barrow and its disturbance in modern times; this will include information from FMW/HEFA files and be informed by
- An accurate measured survey of the Scheduled Monument and its immediate surroundings, tied to the National Grid at a scale of 1:20.
- Investigation of the 'vase' found in the barrow in c1960
- Recording of sections through the barrow where it has been cut by modern disturbance (ie the drainage trench on the north and if appropriate the cut for the building platform on the SW), to provide a better understanding of the monument. This will in turn inform
- A plan for the reinstatement of the barrow and
- Guidelines for the long-term management of the monument.

It is expected that this reinstatement and future management of the scheduled monument may involve restoration.

In general, the restoration is likely to involve

- Infilling the N trench (we said that it might be OK to use spoil derived from excavation of trenches for the proposed house; this would need to be separated from the underlying barrow with a layer of terram or similar))
- Reprofilling on the SW (although the concrete platform could remain in place, but earthed over, as evidence of this phase in the sites history)

- Reprofilng any other areas where there is evidence of C20 disturbance
 - Any other work suggested by the recording
 - An archaeological watching brief while the work takes place
- Principles for future management of the scheduled barrow

- Maintain under a grass cover
- Control invasive species (ie bamboo) by spraying as necessary (not by digging roots out)
- Monitor the stability of any trees within a 5m distance from the barrow; take down if they are unstable and in danger of falling
- An archaeologist will need to be on site when the old timber buildings are removed, to ensure that there is no damage to the Scheduled Monument

The HEPAO considers it essential that a suitably qualified archaeologist(s) is/are present during ground works associated with the development, in order to identify and record features of interest. The site specific aims are to:

- Establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains
- Determine the extent, condition, nature, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered
- To establish the nature of the activity on the site
- To identify any artefacts relating to the occupation or use of the site
- To provide further information on the archaeology of Beeswing from any archaeological remains encountered

6 General Methodology

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

7 Archaeological Recording Methodology

- 7.1 Prior to the commencement of on site works the archaeological contractor should familiarise themselves with the site by examining the information held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment record (HER), the Cornwall Records Office at Truro and the Cornwall Centre at Redruth, where appropriate.
- 7.2 An archaeologist shall be present during all ground works associated with the development, unless circumstances dictate a different approach. A toothless ditching bucket can be used for the removal of any overburden until the first archaeological horizon is exposed. This will then be hand cleaned as appropriate.
- 7.3 Any surviving remains which will be disturbed or destroyed by the development shall be archaeologically excavated and recorded.
- 7.4 Details of how all archaeological contexts and artefacts will be excavated, surveyed, recovered and recorded shall be provided. The site will be tied into the national grid.
- 7.5 Details of the site planning policy shall be given in the WSI. The normal preferred policy for the scale of archaeological site plans is 1:20 and sections

1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.

- 7.6 The photographic record shall consist of prints in both black and white and colour together with the negatives. Digital photography may be used for report illustration. For both general and specific photographs, a photographic scale shall be included. In the case of detailed photographs it may be appropriate to include a north arrow. The photographic record shall be accompanied by a photographic register detailing as a minimum, feature number, location and direction of shot.
- 7.7 If significant archaeological deposits are exposed, all works must cease and a meeting convened with the client and the HEPAO to discuss the most appropriate way forwards.

8 Finds

- 8.1 All finds, where appropriate, will be retained from each archaeological context excavated.
- 8.2 All finds, where appropriate, shall be washed.
- 8.3 All pottery, and other finds, where appropriate, shall be marked with the site code and context number.
- 8.4 The WSI shall include an agreed list of specialist consultants, who may be required to conserve and/or report on finds, and advise or report on other aspects of the work including environmental sampling.
- 8.5 The requirements for conservation and storage shall be agreed with the Royal Cornwall Museum prior to the start of work, and confirmed in writing to the HEPAO.
- 8.6 Finds work should be to accepted professional standards and adhere to the Institute for Archaeologists *Guidelines for Finds Work*.
- 8.7 Environmental sampling should be guided by *Environmental Archaeology* (English Heritage Centre for Archaeological Guidelines. 2001/02).
- 8.8 Further English Heritage guidance that may be helpful includes *Geoarchaeology* (2004) and *Archaeometallurgy* (2001).
- 8.9 The English Heritage Advisor for Archaeological Science will be able to provide archaeological science advice if required (Vanessa Straker 0117 975 0689).

9 Human Remains

- 9.1 Any human remains which are encountered must initially be left in situ and reported to the HEPAO and the appropriate authorities (the Coroner), where appropriate. If removal is necessary this must comply with the relevant Government regulations. If burials are encountered their legal status must be ascertained and recording and/or removal must comply with the legal guidelines.
- 9.2 If human remains are not to be removed their physical security must be ensured, preferably by back filling as soon as possible after recording.
- 9.3 If human remains are to be removed this must be done with due reverence and in accordance to current best practice and legal requirements. The site must be adequately screened from public view. Once excavated, human remains must not be exposed to public view.

10 Results

- 10.1 The full report including all specialist assessments of artefact assemblages shall be submitted within a length of time (but not exceeding six months) to be

agreed between the applicant and the archaeological contractor, Cornwall County Council Historic Environment Service and the Royal Cornwall Museum. A further digital copy shall be supplied on CD-ROM preferably in 'Adobe Acrobat' PDF format.

- 10.2 The archaeological contractor will undertake the English Heritage/ADS online access to the index of archaeological investigations (OASIS).
- 10.3 This report will be held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record (HER) and made available for public consultation.
- 10.4 The report must contain:
 - A concise non-technical summary of the project results.
 - The aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation.
 - A discussion of the archaeological findings in terms of both the site specific aims and the desk based research.
 - A location map, a drawing showing those areas examined as part of the archaeological recording, and copies of any archaeological plans and sections. All plans shall be tied to the national grid.
 - All specialist reports and assessments.
 - A summary of the archive contents and date of deposition.
 - A context register with brief descriptions shall be included as an appendix.
 - A copy of the brief and the approved WSI will be included as an appendix.
- 10.5 A contingency shall be made within the costs for full publication in an appropriate journal. The HEPAO will notify the contractor of such a need within four weeks of receipt of the report.

11 Archive Deposition

- 11.1 An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with: *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) English Heritage 2006* upon completion of the project. The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with the Royal Cornwall Museum.
- 11.2 If the finds are to remain with the landowner a full copy of the documentary archive shall be housed with the Cornwall County Record Office and with the Courtney Library of the Royal Institution of Cornwall.
- 11.3 The archive including a copy of the written report shall be deposited with the Royal Cornwall Museum within two months of the completion of the full report and confirmed in writing with the HEPAO.
- 11.4 Where there is only a documentary archive this will be deposited with the Cornwall Record Office as well as the Courtney Library of the Royal Institution of Cornwall.
- 11.5 A copy of the report will be supplied to the National Monuments Record (NMR) in Swindon.
- 11.6 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to the HEPAO.
- 11.7 Only on completion of 11.1 to 11.5 (inclusive) will there be a recommendation for the discharge of any archaeological recording condition.

12 Monitoring

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

12.2 Written Scheme of Investigation for archaeological recording

Project Background

The Historic Environment Project team have been requested by Mr Nicholas Glover to provide a project design and estimate for a programme of archaeological recording required as part of a planning condition (PA09/00981/F) for the proposed construction of a dwelling at Beeswing, Cury Crossroads (SW7063 22401). The development area is currently a semi abandoned smallholding, with a timber dwelling on its southern side.

The application is currently pending decision but if granted consent is expected to include an archaeological recording condition. This condition is likely to be along the following lines: *No development shall take place within the site until the applicant has secured and implemented a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation to be submitted by the applicant and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the County Archaeologist.*

The site is located to the north of a number of Bronze Age barrow sites, several being Scheduled Monuments (SM), one of which lies within the boundary of the development area. This site, Cornwall Historic Buildings Sites and Monuments Record (HBSMR) reference number MC024171 (SM CO324), will not be directly affected by the construction of the new dwelling; however, there is the potential for the site to be impacted upon by the removal of the existing timber buildings, which lie in close proximity to the southern side of the barrow.

Given the density of prehistoric sites in the near vicinity, there is potential for important below ground archaeological remains to survive within the proposed development area.

In light of the proximity of the Scheduled Monument and the potential for buried archaeology, the applicant will need to obtain Scheduled Monument Consent (SMC) from English Heritage for the removal of the building, as well as Planning Consent for the construction of the new one.

Phil Markham (Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer, Cornwall Council) has produced a brief in conjunction with English Heritage for archaeological recording (22/9/09). They have been consulted in the preparation of this updated project design and their requirements for archaeological recording have guided this project design and estimate.

This project design therefore covers two elements:

- The recording of the barrow prior to site works and the monitoring of the site during the demolition of the timber dwelling. The restoration of the barrow (probably as site works proceed). This work is required by English Heritage who will not issue Scheduled Monument Consent until they are satisfied with the project design.
- Archaeological recording during the construction of the new dwelling (foundation trenches, septic tank and outflow). This is required as part of the planning condition granted by the Local Authority.

This project design has a revised estimate but the aims and methodology are the same as in the project design which was submitted in 2009.

Historical Background

Landscape

The area of the barrow and the proposed development lies on the junction of land that has been classified as "Recently Enclosed Land" and "Upland Rough Ground" (Countryside Commission 1996). "Upland Rough Ground" is unenclosed land, which often contains upstanding monuments of prehistoric date. "Recently Enclosed Land" is

land which has been enclosed since the eighteenth century and which often contains extant archaeological remains, such as round barrows.

The area of the proposed development is shown on the 1880 OS map as being enclosed within rough pasture. The current timber dwelling on the site dates to the middle of the 20th century. The proposed development area lies to the north of a large group of Bronze Age (c. 2000-1500 cal BC) barrows which are situated on the higher ridges between Goonhilly in the east and Burnoon in the west. The Beeswing barrow is situated 200m to the north of the Skyburriowe barrows and may be an outlier of this group. It has been described as flat topped barrow up to 1.2m high by approximately 12m in diameter, with a stone kerb (OS 1973). The site has been quite damaged. The southern part of the mound has been cut away by garden features and the construction of the dwelling. A section has also been cut through it on the northern side by a service trench (which has remained open) and it is likely that the eastern side has been clipped by the road/hedge-bank. At the time of the site meeting (18/9/09), evidence of the stone kerb was confined to the north-east quadrant. The landowner remembers pottery being recovered from the site in the 1960s when the trench was excavated through it. This material was taken to the Royal Cornwall Museum (RCM) and it may be held in their collections

Known archaeological sites

The project area is situated within an area of high archaeological potential, which contains evidence for prehistoric ritual activity. The sites which have been identified in the vicinity include:

- MCO24671. Barrow of Bronze Age date (Scheduled Monument CO324).
- MCO51660, MCO51661 and MCO51683. Barrows of Bronze Age date at Trevassack.
- MCO24670, MCO24672 and MCO24673. Barrows of Bronze Age date at Skyburriowe.
- MCO24672.10. Pottery of Bronze Age date found at Skyburriowe.

Potential sites

There is potential for the survival of unrecorded buried archaeological remains and artefacts of all periods.

Aims and objectives

The purpose of the archaeological project will be:

Recording of the barrow (Scheduled Monument Consent)

- Record the barrow in its present condition.
- Monitor site works to ensure they do not impinge on the barrow.
- Locate the finds removed from the barrow in the 1960s.

Restoration of the barrow

- Produce a plan for the restoration of the barrow including infilling of cut features, re-profiling of damaged areas
- Monitor the restoration of the barrow
- Make recommendations for future management of the site (management of vegetation/control of invasive species).

Archaeological monitoring during construction works (new dwelling)

- To record archaeological features, layers and finds affected by the works.
- To establish the extent, condition, significance and character of the archaeological

resource.

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains.
- To identify any artefacts relating to the occupation of the site.
- The dissemination and publication of the results.
- The long-term conservation of the project archive in appropriate conditions.

In particular the key objective of all elements of the project will be:

- To investigate and recover evidence in the form of artefacts, structures and deposits associated with prehistoric activity in order to enhance our knowledge of the extent, form and potential of the site as a whole.

Methods

Preparation

In advance of site works a meeting will be held between HE Projects and the client to discuss and agree:

- Working methods and programme.
- Health and Safety arrangements.

Fieldwork

Archaeological recording at the barrow site

The purpose of the archaeological recording at the round barrow site will be to ensure that no further damage is done to the site and to make a record of it which will be used to guide its restoration, future management and interpretation.

Prior to the removal of the timber dwelling a record will be made of the round barrow site. The recording will comprise: inspection of archives relating to the site, a Total Station survey; section recording; monitoring during demolition of the timber structure.

Inspection of archives relating to the barrow

Prior to undertaking the fieldwork the project officer will familiarize themselves with the archaeological potential of the area.

This will involve the reading of pertinent data held at HE offices and will include information from the Field Monument Warden/Historic Environment Field Advisor (FMW/HEFA) files. The RCM will also be visited to see if there is a record of the pottery taken there in the 1960s. The gathering of this information will assist with the management and interpretation of the site and may assist with the dating of the monument.

Total Station Survey

The Brief for archaeological recording requires an accurate plan to be made of the barrow, which can inform future management of the site. This will include:

- A Total Station survey produced at an appropriate scale.
- The survey will be tied to a fixed identifiable feature marked on the large-scale ordnance survey map.
- The plan will be measured in 2D only, as this greatly simplifies the fieldwork, and will consequently reduce drawing up time.
- Two transects across the barrow will be recorded separately in 3D. The positions of these transects will be recorded on the site plan.
- The drawn output of the survey will be in the form of AutoCad files.

- The survey's methodology will be detailed within the archaeological report and an illustrative plan and profiles produced for incorporation within the report.

Section recording

A section will be recorded through the barrow where it has been cut by modern disturbance (that is to say, the drainage trench on the north), to provide a better understanding of the monument. It will also inform the future management of the site (including re-profiling). This will include:

- Cleaning up of the north facing trench section through the barrow.
- The production of section drawing along the drainage trench at a scale of 1:10
- Linking of the section to the Ordnance Datum and with the Total Station plan.
- Photographic record of the drawn section as well as plan views of the barrow.

Monitoring during the demolition of the timber structure

An archaeologist will be present on site when the old timber structures are removed, to ensure that no damage is done to the Scheduled Monument. In the event that archaeological features are encountered appropriate recording will be undertaken (see below).

Restoration of the barrow

The barrow has been damaged within the last 60 years by gardening and trenching works associated with the adjacent dwelling. As a result, it has an irregular profile, the most obvious pieces of damage being a cut on the south-west to create a platform for a timber chalet and a cut across its northern side for a drainage trench which was never backfilled. This project will involve the production of a plan for the restoration of the barrow (guided by the survey and other recording works described above), monitoring the restoration work (which will be carried out by the developer) and producing guidelines for the future management of the site.

Produce a plan for the restoration of the barrow

Based on the survey described in section 3.2.1, a ground plan for the restoration of the barrow will be produced (the work of restoration will be undertaken by the developer). This will involve the infilling of the obvious cuts, and reprofiling where necessary, and will take account of the extent to which the barrow has been damaged by gardening and landscaping. Precise recommendations cannot be made until the barrow has been fully recorded but in general the recommendations are likely to include:

- Any obvious cuts in the barrow will be infilled.
- In principle, subsoil excavated in the course of ground-works associated with the development could be used for infilling, but this will need to be separated from the prehistoric material of the barrow by a layer of geotextile membrane. A layer of topsoil may need to be spread over this.
- Following the controlled demolition of the adjacent timber dwelling, its concrete platform can be left in place as evidence for its former existence, but the barrow will be re-constructed over the platform, to a profile that closely matches the form of the barrow to either side. Again, subsoil excavated as part of the development can be used for the reprofiling.
- Restored areas will be re-turfed.
- One tree growing close to the barrow may be impinging on the monument, and causing root-damage to below-ground deposits. The survey should make clear the relationship of tree to barrow and clarify whether the tree should be felled to reduce future damage.

Monitoring during the restoration of the barrow

An archaeologist will be present on site when the barrow is restored, to ensure that no damage is done to the Scheduled Monument, and that work proceeds according to the agreed plan.

Produce guidelines for the future management of the barrow

- According to English Heritage FMW reports, the barrow has been densely covered in vegetation for the last few decades. This was cleared for the purposes of site visits, but according to the owner, much of this was invasive bamboo, whose root systems will have been causing damage to below-ground remains. A final outcome of the project will be the production of some simple recommendations to guide the future management of the barrow, ideally as a grass-covered mound within the garden of the new dwelling.

Archaeological Recording during construction works (the new dwelling)

The ground-works for the new dwelling will be carried out under archaeological supervision using a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket. The soil/overburden will be excavated cleanly down through the subsoil to a level at which archaeological features or layers can be expected to be revealed (i.e., to the top of archaeology or to the level of the natural). The area will then be inspected by an archaeologist and any archaeological features or layers exposed in the stripped area will be carefully excavated by hand and archaeologically recorded by written description, plan and section and photographic record as appropriate by an HE Projects archaeologist.

During the archaeological recording the archaeologist will:

- Identify and record any archaeological features that are revealed in the stripped area; the level of recording will be appropriate to the character/importance of the archaeological remains.

If complex and or significant archaeological deposits are encountered then the archaeological requirements should be reviewed by the client, the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer and HE Projects. **In the event that remains cannot be preserved *in situ* then full-scale excavation may be required.** A contingency should be allowed to record any significant archaeological remains which are uncovered during the stripping. The significance of the remains should be agreed between the client, the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer and HE Projects.

Where necessary the detailed archaeological recording may include:

- Excavation of archaeological features exposed in the stripped area and plotting them onto a base map.
- Production of plans and section drawings of the excavated features and recording of features using a continuous numbering system.
- Retrieval of artefacts.

Recording - general

- 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 (electronic) 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. Sections will normally be drawn at 1:10 and plans at 1:20.
- 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 digital images used more selectively and for illustrative purposes.

This will include both general and site specific photographs. Photographs should have a scale and detailed ones should include a north arrow.

- Drawings and photographs will be recorded in a register giving details of feature number and location.
- Sealed/undisturbed archaeological contexts in the form of buried soils, layers or deposits within significant archaeological 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).
- If human remains are discovered on the site they will be treated with respect and the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer and the Ministry of Justice will be informed. All recording will conform to best practice and legal requirements.

Treatment of finds

The archaeological fieldwork may produce artefactual material.

- All finds in significant stratified contexts predating 1800 AD (eg, settlement features) should be collected by context 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.

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.

All finds, 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).
- 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.
- In the event that there are no finds or they are retained by the owner documentary archive in due course shall be deposited with the Cornwall Record Office, but in the medium term will be stored at ReStore. All digital records will be filed on the Cornwall Council network.

Archive report

The results from the various elements of the project (SMC and planning related) will be drawn together and presented in a concise report. Copies of the report will be distributed to the Client, English Heritage Inspector of Ancient Monuments (IAM) and FMW/HEFA, the County Archaeologist and the local and main archaeological record libraries. A PDF copy of the report will be produced.

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 report will have the following contents:

- Summary - Concise non-technical summary.
- Introduction - Background, objectives, aims and methods.
- Results - Factual description of the results of the various aspects of the project (Total Station survey, section recording, site monitoring and watching brief) with separate sections as necessary for discussion/interpretation and potential for further analysis.
- Discussion - Discussion of the interpretation of the results, highlighting information gained on a chronological or thematic basis
Recommendations for further analysis and publication.
- Management Recommendations - Recommendations for the future management of the site, for example clearance of vegetation (bamboo, etc), reseeding or turfing.
- Archive - A brief summary and index to the project archive.
- Appendix - A copy of the project brief.
- A copy of the approved WSI
- List of contexts
- Specialist assessments and analyses.
- 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 English Heritage/ADS online access to the index of archaeological investigations (OASIS) record will be made.

Assessment/analysis

The structural and stratigraphic data and artefactual material will be assessed to establish whether further analyses and reporting is appropriate. The outline of final report, and the work required to produce it will be determined.

In the event of significant remains being recovered (eg, prehistoric artefacts) it may be appropriate to:

- Liaise with specialists (eg, artefacts) to arrange for assessment of the potential for further analysis and reporting.
- Consult with the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer over the requirements for assessment, analysis and reporting.

Updated project design and final publication

In the event of significant remains being recorded 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*).

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 and the English Heritage HEFA 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 and the English Heritage HEFA 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.
- A draft copy of the report will be sent to the English Heritage FMW and IAM for comment.
- In the event that significant remains are encountered an updated project design will be agreed with the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer.

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.

Timetable

The archiving and archive report will be completed within 6 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.

Health and safety during the fieldwork

Health and safety statement

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

Prior to carrying out any excavations HE will carry out a risk assessment

Insurance

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

Standards

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

As part of Environment, Planning and Economy 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.

Copyright

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

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

Use of the material will be granted to the client.

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.

Notes

- It is assumed that the client will supply the mechanical excavator. The cost is not included in the attached estimate.
- The client will be responsible for the Health and Safety arrangements onsite (including fencing, etc), and it is assumed that welfare facilities will be made available.
- A draft copy of the archive report will be provided to the English Heritage IAM/HEFA for formal approval within 6 months of completion of fieldwork.
- The post excavation programme (assessment, analysis and reporting) will need to be reviewed in the light of the fieldwork.

Dr Andy Jones 16/3/12

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