



Castle Minor, Tintagel, Cornwall

Historic building record

Cornwall Archaeological Unit

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Historic building record

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This study was commissioned by Martin Delahunty and carried out by Cornwall Archaeological Unit, Cornwall Council.

Fieldwork was carried out by Jo Sturgess and the report was jointly written by Pete Dudley and Jo Sturgess.

The Project Manager was Jo Sturgess.

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:

Castle Minor looking west.

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Abbreviations

AGHV	Area of Great Historic Value
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
CAU	Cornwall Archaeological Unit
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
EH	English Heritage
HER	Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record
NGR	National Grid Reference
OD	Ordnance Datum – height above mean sea level at Newlyn
OS	Ordnance Survey
RAF	Royal Air Force

1 Summary

Castle Minor is situated on the north-western edge of Tintagel on a north facing coastal slope overlooking the sea at NGR SX 05400 89105. The site lies at a height of 75m OD in the south dropping down to 45m in the north. The house at Castle Minor was designed by Silvanus Trevail in the late 19th century as an engine house to provide power for the hotel above (now Camelot Castle Hotel) and to provide the hotel caretaker's lodgings (Taylor 2011). Having lain derelict for some time and badly damaged by fire, conditional consent has now been given by Cornwall Council for planning application PA12/11748 for the demolition of the existing house and erection a new dwelling.

To fulfil condition 3 of the planning consent CAU were commissioned by Martin Delahunty to carry out a historic building record of the house (equivalent to a Historic England level 2/3 building survey) followed by an archaeological watching brief during groundworks for the new building. The watching brief is awaiting further planning consent for the new building.

This report sets out the results of the historic building record.

2 Introduction

2.1 Project background

Castle Minor is situated on the north-western edge of Tintagel on a north facing coastal slope overlooking the sea at SX 05400 89105. The site covers 0.49ha of coastal rough ground, including Castle Minor house (Fig 1).

The house was designed by Silvanus Trevail in the late 19th century as an engine house to provide power for the hotel above and also provide the hotel caretaker's lodgings (Taylor 2011). Having lain derelict for some time, consent was given by Cornwall Council for the demolition of the existing house and the erection a new dwelling (Cornwall Council planning application PA12/11748). The granting of consent included an archaeological condition.

Condition 7 reads as follows:

No development (including demolition) shall take place within the area to be developed until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological recording based on a written scheme of investigation submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In order to ensure that satisfactory arrangements are made for the investigation, retrieval and recording of any possible archaeological remains on the site in accordance with Policy ENV14 of the North Cornwall Local Plan 1999 and the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework 2012 with specific reference to Para 128.

The requirements of archaeological recording including a historic building record (equivalent to a Historic England level 2-3 building survey) and a watching brief during groundworks associated with the new development were determined by Phil Copleston, Senior Development Officer (Historic Environment, Cornwall Council) and are outlined in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (Appendix 1 to the rear of this report).

2.2 Aims

- To gain a better understanding of the function, design and historic development of the 19th century house prior to demolition.
- To produce the equivalent of a Level 2-3 building survey (as defined by Historic England 2006).
- Obtain a record of any archaeological features uncovered during groundworks.

2.3 Methods

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

- Prior to demolition – an historic building record, to the equivalent of a Level 2-3 building survey (English Heritage 2006).
- During groundworks associated with the new building – an archaeological watching brief to record any archaeological features uncovered.

2.3.1 Previous work

An archaeological assessment of the site which included a desk-top study and a walkover survey was carried out by CAU in 2011 (Taylor 2011).

2.3.2 Fieldwork

For full details of the methods see the WSI to the rear of this report (Appendix 1).

Historic Building Record

Undertaken by Jo Sturgess on 14th December 2015, this included a measured ground floor plan of the building. This was annotated to show phased development and architectural detail. Photographic recording was undertaken using a digital SLR camera (with a resolution of 10 million pixels or higher). Photographs included:

- General views.
- All external elevations.
- All internal room spaces.
- Examples of structural and architectural detail.

2.3.3 Post-fieldwork

During this phase the results of the fieldwork were collated for archiving and the results drawn together in this report.

3 Location and setting

(Adapted from Taylor 2011)

Topographically the site is positioned on a steep north-facing slope, which drops sharply from 75m to 45m OD in height overlooking the sea (Fig 1).

Castle Minor (originally named 'Hotel Cottage') was built on a platform cut into the hillslope. The material excavated from the cut rock face was spread over the slope to the north-east, building up a level terrace in front of the house.

The site is overgrown with scrub, predominately bramble and bracken on the slope below the house and gorse above it, with some naturalised former garden conifers in the sheltered corner to the east. The property has a strong coastal feel and appearance, with views over the valley to the north east to Barras Nose and Smith's Cliff and the sea beyond. The north western corner of the site has views over Tintagel Haven and the northern end of Tintagel Island.

The soils are well drained, fine loamy silty soils of Denbigh type, overlying the slates of the Tredorn Formation.

4 Designations

4.1 National

Castle Minor House lies within the curtilage of the Camelot Castle Hotel (originally named King Arthur's Castle Hotel), a Grade II Listed Building (Designation ID 1327738), as it was designed and built as part of the hotel development by the noted Cornish Architect Silvanus Trevail.

The site lies within the Pentire Point to Widemouth section of the Cornwall Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and the Trebarwith to Boscastle Area of Great Historic Value (AGHV).

5 Site history

The study area is surrounded by a scattering of known (some of which are Scheduled) Bronze Age, Iron Age, Romano-British, early medieval, and medieval remains, principally on Tintagel Island but also including the church of St Materiana, the settlements of Tintagel (Trevena) and Bossiney, and various archaeological sites identified during the North Cornwall STW scheme (Historic Environment Projects 2011; Taylor 2011).

The 1884 Ordnance Survey (OS) 1st edition 25-inch map recorded the site as a rectilinear parcel of rough ground (coarse pasture and gorse) in the northern corner of a field (Fig 2).

The house at Castle Minor was constructed in December 1899 immediately after the opening of the King Arthur's Castle Hotel. It was designed as part of the hotel for The King Arthur's Castle Company Limited, by Cornwall's most renowned Victorian architect Silvanus Trevail. The hotel was designed to be at the forefront of luxury, including electric lights in all rooms (Perry and Harradence 2008). Castle Minor was built to accommodate an engine and generator providing power for the new hotel following complaints that the original engine, housed in the hotel itself, was too noisy and not powerful enough. Castle Minor provided space for both the engine and generator in the north-west half and caretaker's accommodation in the south-east half (*ibid*, 140) and was originally named 'Hotel Cottage'. It is labelled as such on the 2nd Edition OS map of 1907 (Fig 3). This map clearly records the house located within a cut in the slope below the hotel and also shows the edge of the terrace to the north of it.

The house is shown on the 1946 RAF aerial photograph (Fig 4). The aerial photograph shows a similar footprint to that shown in 1907 but with a single chimney on the western side of the building, suggesting that the domestic quarters at this date were still restricted to the south-east half of the building. At this time it may have still provided electricity to the Castle Hotel, however, both the 1907s OS map and 1946 aerial photograph do not record any transmission lines leading from the house to the hotel.

After 1946, most probably between the 1960s and 1990s, Castle Minor was fully converted into a house. It is thought to have passed through several hands including the actress Kate Winslet and her then husband Jim Threapleton. They bought the house in 2001 but after investing in renovating it sold it on. Castle Minor was unoccupied, boarded up and fenced off before it was severely damaged by a fire in August 2012 (Daily Mail website; Trip Advisor website).

6 Historic Building Record

6.1 General description

Analysis suggests that Castle Minor was built and altered in three broad phases:

- Originally named 'The Hotel Cottage', Castle Minor was built as part of the King Arthur's Castle Hotel complex in December 1899 (Perry and Harradence 2008). The 1907 OS map recorded a U-shaped building divided into two L-shaped sections (east and west). The eastern section contained the accommodation for the caretaker (rooms 4 and 5) along with a probable workshop/tool store (room 3) and the western section contained an engine (probably a vertical coal fired steam engine) and generator to supply electricity for lighting transmitted by overhead wires to the hotel (rooms 1 and 2). At this time the building had a single-storey central range with two flanking two-storey wings.
- Prior to 1946 there was a rationalisation of the chimney stacks associated with the caretaker's cottage on the eastern side of the building.
- After 1946 (most probably at some point between the 1960s and 1980s) the whole building was converted for domestic use; the engine and generator were

removed, the central range was increased in height to create a first floor and several alterations made to the building including the addition of the external WC, the changing of room arrangements in the western half, the blocking of windows, the insertion of a fireplace in room 3 and insertion of a new chimney breast in the west wing.

The fire of 2012 had greatly damaged the roof structure and there was no surviving evidence of rainwater goods. The internal woodwork and windows were also greatly damaged.

The building was constructed on a platform cut into the hillslope. To the south of the rear wall was a roughly hewn quarried face approximately 6m high. In front of the house the platform extended for approximately 12m northwards, the terrace having been formed by the waste material from the quarried slope.

For the purposes of this description the frontage is described as facing north.

The building measured 19m long (E-W) in total with a shared continuous rear wall. The central range was 5.5m deep with wings to the east and west projecting northwards. The east wing had a full length of 9.1m (N-S) and was 5.2m wide. The west wing was slightly shorter at 8.95m long (N-S) but broader, being 5.5m wide. The building retained its footprint as recorded in 1907 (including a shorter west wing), except for the addition of an external concrete block-built lean-to WC located midway on the eastern wall of the east wing.

The original building was constructed with slate rubble walls bonded with greyish-brown sandy lime mortar, rendered externally and internally with the same material. Externally, on the front and west elevations, extra jamb and sill detail was incised into the render around the window and door openings. Furthermore, the northern ends of each wing had thickened cement render to each corner, which together with the incised detail was used to give the impression of monumental architecture, similar to that employed by Sylvanus Trevail in the façade of the hotel.

The original, fireplaces, window and door openings were built with brick jambs and arches. Later 20th century walls and window blockings were constructed with concrete block.

Photographs taken by Taylor in 2011 show the house prior to the fire damage of 2012. The roof structure was hipped at the north end of both wings and had a slate covering. The roof over the central range was inserted when a first floor was added in the second half of the 20th century. The entire ridgeline of the roof was crowned with terracotta crenelated ridge tiles. It is possible that this detail was original on the east and west wings with the later section of the central range imitating the earlier detail.

The two original chimney stacks serving the east wing had been removed before 1946 and replaced by a single stack in the centre of the east wall. This was later rebuilt in concrete block and probably at the same time an additional chimney was inserted to serve the west end of the building. The two remaining later rectangular chimney stacks were both approximately 2m in height, concrete block-built and cement rendered and had been inserted into the house as part of its full conversion to a domestic dwelling. The chimney to the east was positioned centrally within the east wall of the building between the two earlier (removed) chimneys. It was crowned by a plinth formed by red terracotta tiles, upon which two-cylindrical terracotta chimney pots were mounted; the southernmost had a modern H-shaped cowl. A chimney in this position is visible on the 1946 aerial photograph but this was an alteration, as it appears that originally there were two separate chimneys on this wall. The chimney recorded in 2016 was probably a third alteration, perhaps heightened to improve the updraft, and built in a similar way to the later chimney inserted in the west wing. This chimney was positioned to the rear of centre on the east wall of the west wing. It was of similar construction to the east chimney but with a single red terracotta cylindrical chimney pot.

6.2 Exterior elevations

(See plans, Figs 37 and 38 for locations).

6.2.1 North elevation

(Figs 5-6)

The north elevation of the central range clearly demonstrated a major phase of alteration to the building when the first floor was added.

The openings on the ground floor were original with ovolo-moulded render around the jambs and lintels and sloping sills to the window openings. Above the ground floor openings was an original dentil moulded stringcourse, above which was the remains of a crenellated wall-top, constructed as part of the original design but altered by the insertion of the later walling and window openings to create a first floor when this part of the building was converted for domestic use. This later, inserted wall at first floor level was set back to the rear edge of the crenellations. Within it a wide window opening was located centrally and another window opening positioned to the west of it between the window and door openings below. The first floor windows themselves appear to have been imitations of the wooden horned sash windows in the original parts of the building. These had irregular sashes with a 6-pane upper sash and a 9-pane lower one.

The north elevation of the east wing, had two rectangular window openings positioned centrally above one another to the ground and first floor. Each opening had similar mouldings to those in the central range at ground floor level, with extended incised design to the sills and lintels, giving extra adornment to the original caretaker's domestic wing.

The north elevation of the west wing, had two, wide, centrally-placed openings, both approximately 2.4m wide, one at ground floor level and the other at first floor level. The ground floor opening was a double door opening and the first floor opening of the same width was filled by a pair of wooden sash windows, the upper sashes surviving with six-panes each. These windows are likely to be a later insertion, perhaps dating to the conversion of the engine room to become part of the house. The frontage of the west wing is less ornamented than the east wing; however, the window opening had a lintel with a central incised moulding. This opening may have been taller to allow machinery to be easily brought into the building.

6.2.2 East elevations

(Figs 7-8)

The east elevation of the east wing had a later WC lean-to added to the southern half. The later chimney was centrally placed and to the south of it was a narrow rectangular original window opening.

The east elevation of the west wing had a single blocked original door opening at ground floor level to the south.

6.2.3 South elevation

(Figs 9-11)

To the rear of the building, the south elevation also showed the build line of the first floor insertion to the central range. The original sections of the building had a cement wash over slate rubble walls whereas the later insertion was a concrete block wall with flat cement render.

The ground floor had four original openings, the two central ones blocked by concrete blockwork and cement render. The window openings to the west and far east were rectangular with shallow-curved brick arches whereas the east of centre opening was located lower in the wall. This opening was square in shape and much smaller. The window opening to the east of it was once positioned centrally within the rear wall of the east wing.

At first floor level there were four rectangular window openings, two in the east wing, a single window to the west, centrally placed in the rear wall of the west wing and also a later, inserted window at the east end of the inserted central wall section. This window opening had a concrete sill and a narrow wooden lintel. This opening had a wooden horned sash window, again an imitation of the original windows. To the east of this and the smaller blocked opening below was a modern black plastic soil pipe and vent.

6.2.4 West elevations

(Figs 12-13)

The west elevation of the west wing had two openings; a centrally placed window opening at ground floor level and a wide, blocked opening in the southern half of the elevation at first floor level. This wide, blocked opening had a modern window inserted in its northern half but is originally likely to have been used for electricity transmission from the generator to external pylons. The ground floor window opening is original and has similar detailing and ornamentation to the windows found on the north elevation of the central range and east wing. The inserted first floor opening was roughly square with a moulded concrete lintel and concrete sill.

6.3 Interior

(See plans, Figs 37 and 38 for room locations).

The rooms inside the east wing (the caretaker's cottage) and the eastern half of the central range retained their original arrangement whereas the western half of the building was sub-divided by its later conversion to a dwelling. The difference in the original use of the west and east sides of the building was neatly illustrated by the different floor construction: that to the west was a concrete floor whereas the living quarters and workshop/tool store to the east had a suspended timber floor. All original window and door reveals throughout the building were straight sided.

6.3.1 Room 1

(Figs 14-15)

This is likely to be the original engine room. An original double door opening in the north wall indicates access for machinery. There was an original window opening in the west wall and in the east wall an original single door opening survived with internal woodwork, including a glass light panel above the timber door frame. This doorway had been blocked on its external side by a single concrete block-built wall. The partition between rooms 1 and 2 was a later, inserted concrete block-built wall and chimney breast and a later, modern staircase leading to the first floor was located against the south wall probably in the location of an earlier staircase.

The walls of the northern half of the room were cement wash over slate rubble walls, whereas the southern half of the room had a gypsum plaster finish. This suggests that the northern end of the wing had been converted to a garage at a later date and the southern part perhaps into a utility room; the division for a partition wall marked by a steel beam at ceiling height. Other later alterations included the insertion of a concrete block-built chimney which divided the original L-shaped into two. To the right of chimney a doorway led into room 2. The floor surface in this room was concrete (probably a more recent insertion).

6.3.2 Room 1a

(Figs 16-18)

At first floor the west wing formed a single large rectangular bedroom with timber floorboards. Located off-centre on the east wall was an inserted, later fireplace, blocked at a later phase with concrete blockwork. To the right (south) of the chimney were later, inserted wooden shelves.

The damage from the fire had revealed original, large square section ceiling joists and simple lap-jointed and nailed roof trusses.

Internally, the structure of the west window revealed that the original window opening was much larger (approximately 2.4m wide) but had been partially infilled on its southern side with concrete blockwork to form a narrower opening approximately 1.65m wide. The original jambs were brick-built. The opening was topped by a square-section concrete lintel.

6.3.3 Room 2

(Figs 19-23)

Room 2 was probably originally part of room 1. It too had a concrete floor surface. The west wall comprised an inserted concrete block-built fireplace with steel work above to support the inserted wall above. In the north wall the original door opening led outside and in the east wall an original door opening led into the east wing. The staircase up to room 1a was accessed from the south-west corner of the room.

6.3.4 Room 3

(Figs 24-28)

Room 3 was likely to have been a caretaker's office/workshop and tool store. The room retained its original window and door openings. In the south/rear wall was a later, inserted, fireplace with a concrete lintel, inserted into a blocked window opening. In the east wall leading into the east wing was the original arched doorway leading to the caretaker's lodgings which occupied the entire east wing. The door frame had an original ornate, corbelled moulding.

6.3.5 Room 4

(Figs 29-31)

This was the original kitchen for the caretaker's accommodation but was presumably converted to a parlour with the change in room 5 (the original parlour) to the later kitchen. Positioned midway on its eastern wall was an original chimney stack and fireplace, blocked prior to 1946. In the rear wall was an original window opening.

6.3.6 Stairwell

(Fig 30)

The stairwell was divided from room 4 by a stud, lathe and plaster wall. Although mostly destroyed by the fire, the shadow of the timber staircase and half landing were visible in the line of plaster preserved on the walls.

6.3.7 Room 5

(Figs 32-35)

Located at the front of the west wing this large square shaped room was originally the parlour for the caretaker's domestic accommodation but later converted into a kitchen. The room was lit by an original window opening to the front. On the east wall was the original brick-built chimney and fireplace, the latter blocked with a large inserted Rayburn.

6.3.8 First floor - east wing and central range

(Figs 19, 20, 29-35)

The details of the first floor rooms of the east wing and central range are difficult to determine from the evidence that survived the fire and for ease are described under one heading.

The first floor of the east wing was divided into two halves by a timber stud wall to form two bedrooms as part of the original domestic accommodation for the caretaker. The larger of the bedrooms was to the front of the building and lit by a window opening in the front wall. Surviving in the eastern wall of both bedrooms were the two original chimney stacks with each rising vertically from the ground floor. Positioned centrally within each stack were two fireplaces, both formed by brick-built jambs and arches. Modern cement render around the fireplace in the smaller (southern) bedroom suggested it had been narrowed or altered at a later date, but presumably prior to

1946 when these two original chimneys had already been truncated at the top of the first floor level.

The small (southern) bedroom had a rectangular window opening to the right of the later chimney stack. This window was assumed to have been original, to add extra light the room. In the rear wall of the small bedroom was a window opening with a further original window opening lighting the stair well half-landing.

A later inserted door opening led from the landing to the first floor of the central range. This section was built after 1946 to expand the domestic accommodation. Within this later range no traces of internal dividing walls were visible but it is probable that a bathroom was located at this level (as evidenced by an external waste pipe). This later insertion of domestic space included three window openings – two in the front wall and one in the rear. A later concrete block wall divided the central space from the west wing.

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[http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/Historic England's online database of Sites and Monuments Records, and Listed Buildings](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/Historic_England's_online_database_of_Sites_and_Monuments_Records_and_Listed_Buildings)

8 Project archive

The CAU project number is **146535**

The project's documentary, digital, photographic and drawn archive is maintained by Cornwall Archaeological Unit

Electronic data is stored in the following locations:

Project admin: G:\TWE\Waste & Env\Strat Waste & Land\Historic Environment\Projects\Sites\Sites T\Tintagel Castle Minor HBR and WB 146535

Digital photographs: R:\Historic Environment (Images)\SITES.Q-T\Sites T\Tintagel Castle Minor HBR and WB 146535

Electronic drawings: R:\Historic Environment (CAD)\CAD Archive\Sites T\Tintagel_Castle_Minor_146535

Historic England/ADS OASIS online reference: cornwall2-246476

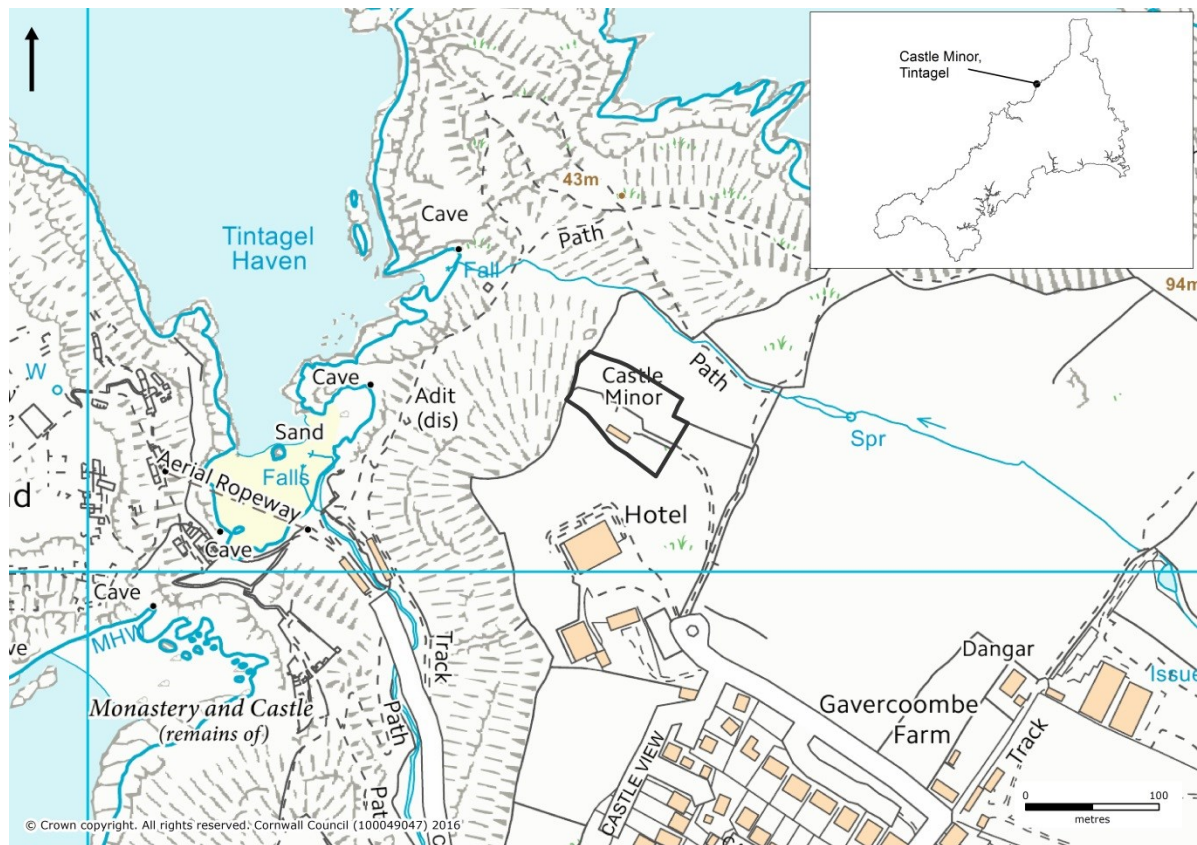


Fig 1 Location map. The extent of the site is shown in bold.

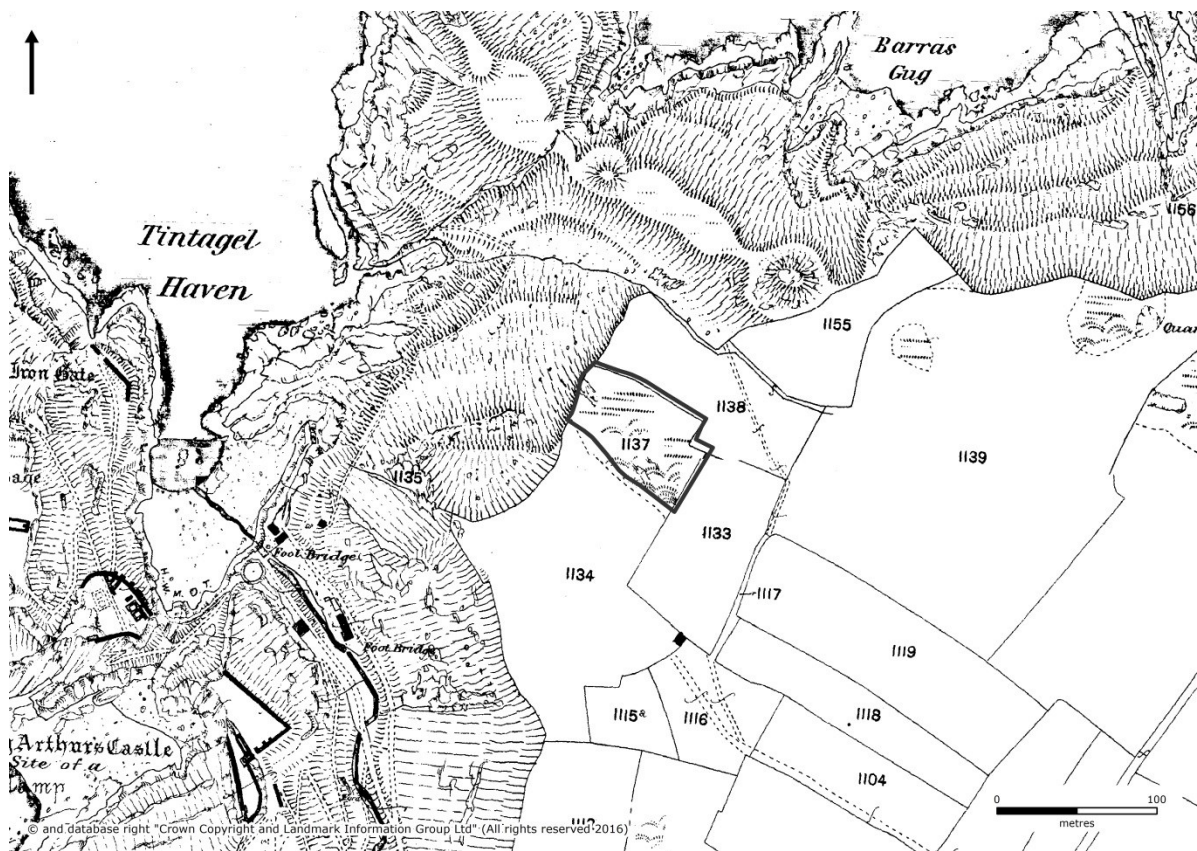


Fig 2 1884 OS map.

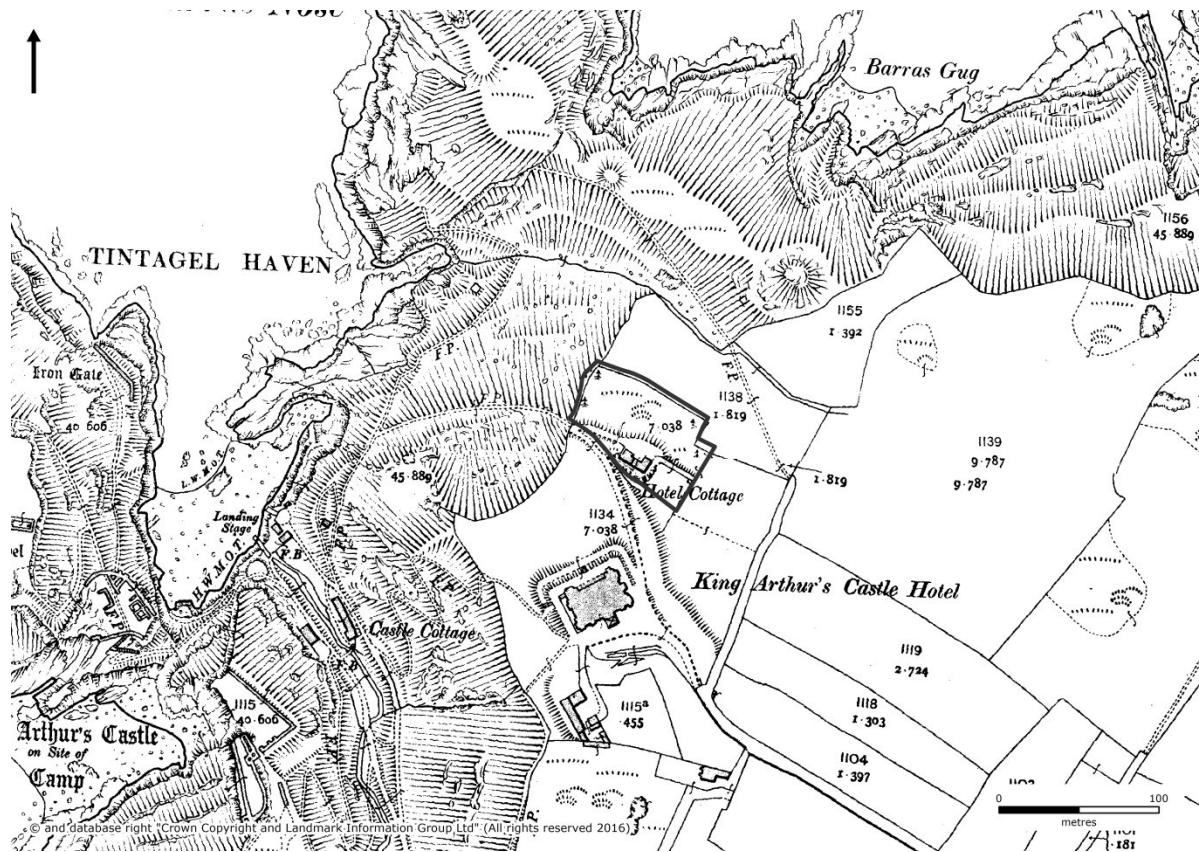


Fig 3 1907 OS map.



Fig 4 1946 aerial photograph (reproduced with permission by Cornwall Council).



Fig 5 North elevation (frontage).



Fig 9 South elevation (rear looking NW).



Fig 6 North elevation (frontage centre).



Fig 10 South elevation (rear looking E).



Fig 7 East elevation (east wing).



Fig 11 South elevation (east wing).



Fig 8 East elevation (west wing).



Fig 12 West elevation (west wing).



Fig 13 West elevation (east wing).



Fig 14 Room 1 looking N.



Fig 15 Room 1 looking S.



Fig 16 Room 1a looking N.



Fig 17 Room 1a blocked opening in W wall.



Fig 18 Room 1a inserted chimney breast in E wall.



Fig 19 Room 2 looking N.



Fig 20 Room 2 looking SE.



Fig 21 Room 2 looking W.



Fig 22 Room 2 window in S wall.



Fig 23 Room 2 concrete block W wall and chimney.



Fig 24 Room 3 looking N.



Fig 25 Room 3 looking SE.



Fig 26 Room 3 looking W.



Fig 27 Room 3 looking E, door to east wing.



Fig 28 Room 3 detail of corbelled arched entrance to east wing (caretaker's cottage).



Fig 29 Room 4 looking S.



Fig 30 Room 4 looking S to location of former staircase.

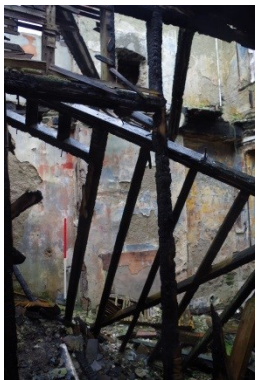


Fig 31 Room 4 looking E to fireplaces on ground and first floor.



Fig 32 Room 5 looking N.



Fig 33 Room 5 looking E.



Fig 34 Room 5 and 4 first floor looking E.



Fig 35 Room 5 looking S.



Fig 36 Room 5 looking N.

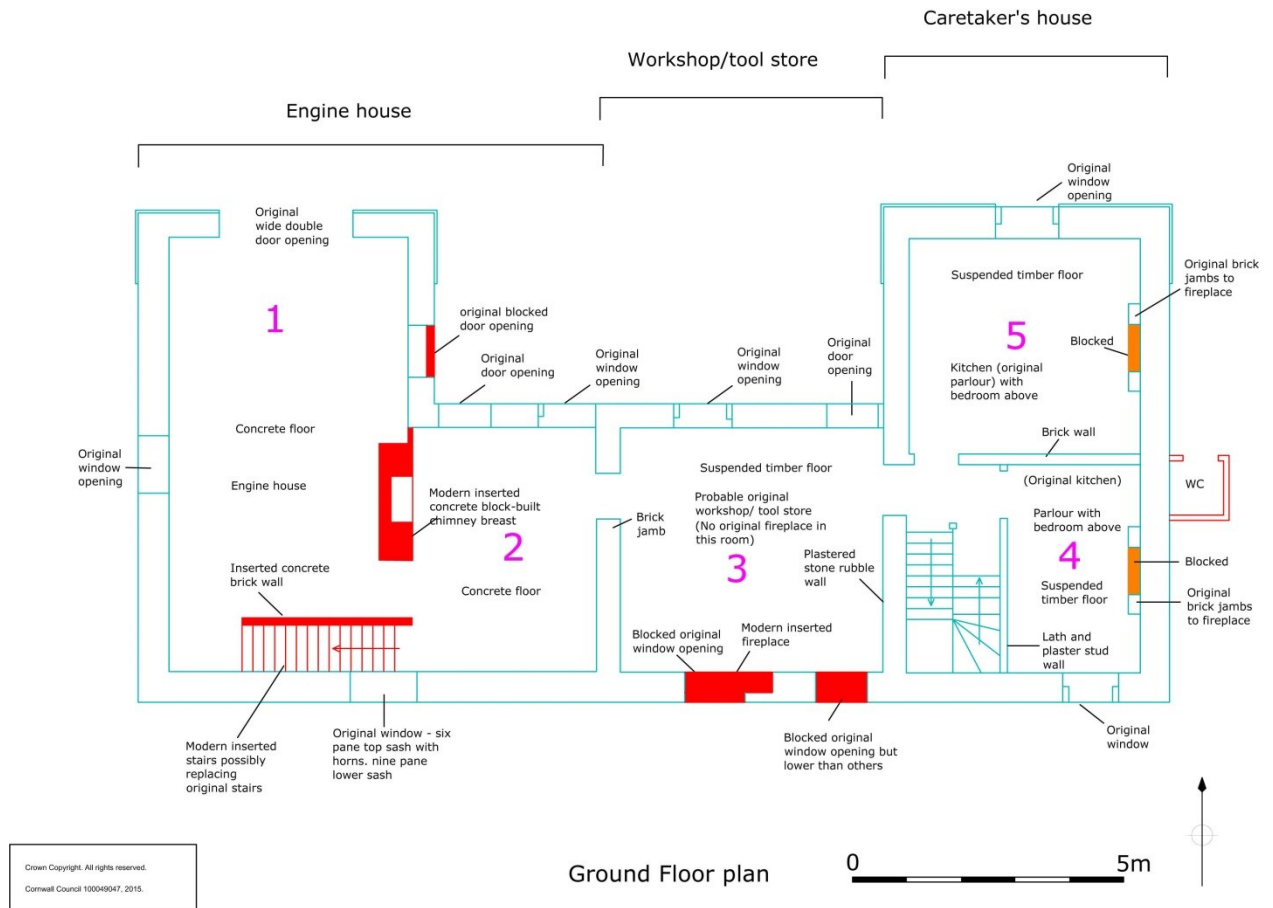


Fig 37 Ground Floor plan.

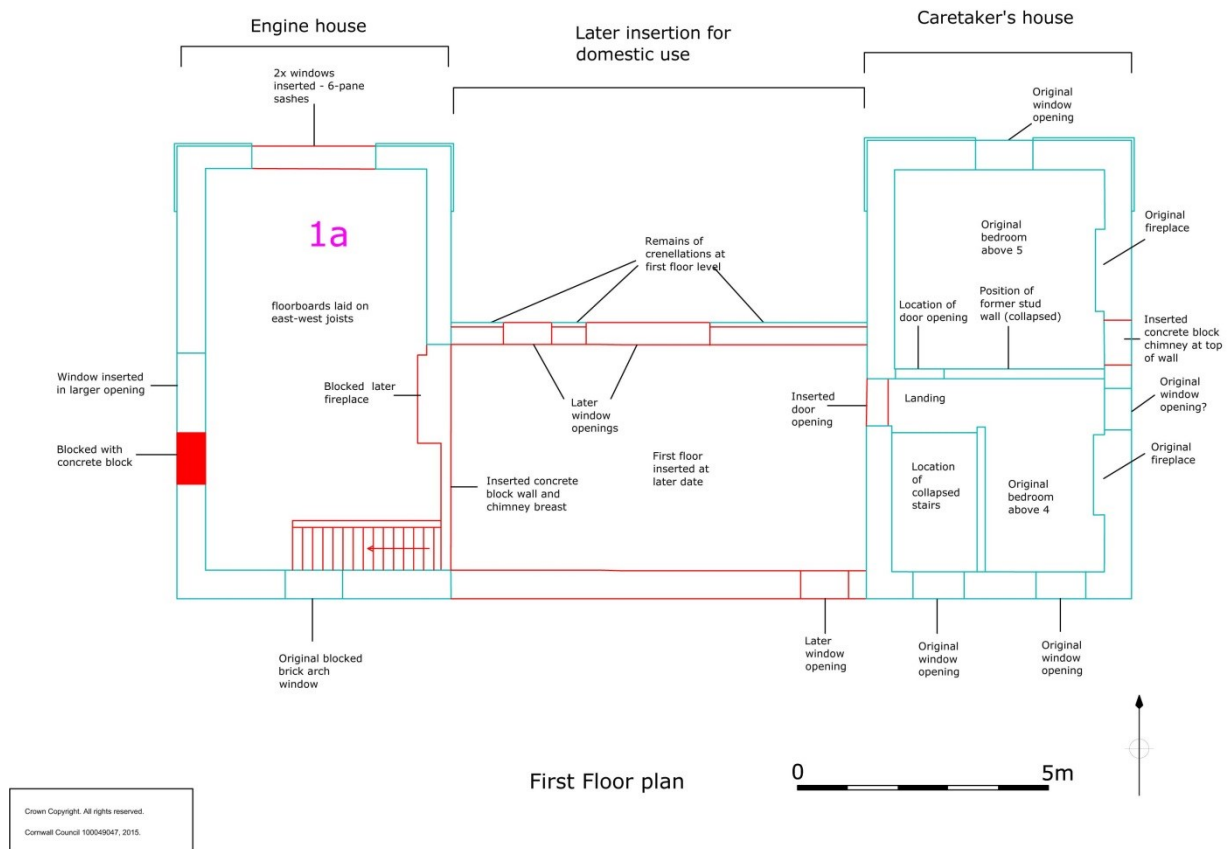


Fig 38 First Floor plan.

Appendix 1: Written Scheme of Investigation

Castle Minor, Tintagel: Written Scheme of Investigation for historic building record and archaeological watching brief

Client: Martin Delahunty
Client contact: N/A
Client tel: -
Client email: -

Project background

Castle Minor is situated on the north-western edge of Tintagel on a north facing coastal slope overlooking the sea at NGR SX 05400 89105. The site lies at a height of 75m OD in the south dropping down to 45m in the north. The house at Castle Minor was designed by Silvanus Trevail in the late 19th century as an engine house to provide power for the hotel above and also provide the hotel caretaker's lodgings (Taylor 2011). Having lain derelict for some time, consent has now been given by Cornwall Council for planning application PA12/11748 for the demolition of the existing house and erection a new dwelling. This consent is subject to a series of conditions.

Condition 7 reads as follows:

No development (including demolition) shall take place within the area to be developed until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological recording based on a written scheme of investigation submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority.

Reason: In order to ensure that satisfactory arrangements are made for the investigation, retrieval and recording of any possible archaeological remains on the site in accordance with Policy ENV14 of the North Cornwall Local Plan 1999 and the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework 2012 with specific reference to Para 128.

The requirements for the extent and nature of the archaeological work on site were discussed with Phil Copleston, Senior Development Officer (Historic Environment, Cornwall Council) prior to the production of this Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI). Cornwall Archaeological Unit was advised that a historic building record (equivalent to a Historic England level 2-3 building survey) was required prior to demolition and that a watching brief should be carried out during groundworks associated with the new building and removal of the old building.

Site history

The house at Castle Minor was constructed at the end of the 19th century and named 'Hotel Cottage' on the 2nd Edition OS map. It was designed as part of the Castle Hotel complex by Cornwall's most important Victorian architect Silvanus Trevail. The building's original function was as an engine house providing power for the Castle Hotel following complaints that the original engine, housed in the hotel itself, was too noisy and not powerful enough. The building also provided caretaker's accommodation (Perry and Harradence 2008, 140).

The study area does not lie within a designated area, but is surrounded by a scattering of known (some of which are Scheduled) Bronze Age, Iron Age, Romano-British, early medieval, and medieval remains. Therefore, there is potential for below-ground archaeological features to survive in areas that were not disturbed by the construction of the 19th century building.

Project extent

The study area covers approximately 0.49 HA and consists of a field enclosure, largely defined by boundaries of medieval or post-medieval origin within which is Castle Minor house constructed on a building platform cut into the hill-slope to the south.

Aims and objectives

The principal aim of the study is to gain a better understanding of the function and historic development of the house and identify any below-ground archaeological remains. The objectives are to obtain a record of the house prior to demolition and obtain a record of any archaeological features uncovered during groundworks.

The equivalent of a Level 2-3 building survey (as defined by Historic England 2006) will be produced.

Working methods

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

Desk-based assessment

An archaeological assessment was carried out in 2011 (Taylor 2011) which will be used to inform the fieldwork stage.

Fieldwork: historic building record

The equivalent of a Level 2-3 building survey (as defined by Historic England 2006) will be produced.

Archaeological recording will include architectural features and details of sub-surface elements. Measured information and detail, as appropriate, will be added to copies of existing drawings if they exist.

A measured ground floor plan of the building will be produced and annotated to show phased development and architectural detail.

Analysis of the fabric will be undertaken on site (recorded as notes) to allow a description to be written up at the archive stage.

Photographic recording will include colour photography using a digital SLR camera (with a resolution of 10 million pixels or higher).

CAU follows Historic England guidance on digital image capture and file storage (2014).

The photo record will comprise:

- General views.
- All external elevations.
- All internal room spaces.
- Examples of structural and architectural detail.

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

- Photographs of details will be taken with lenses of appropriate focal length.
- A tripod will be used to take advantage of natural light and slower exposures.
- Difficulties of back-lighting will be dealt with where necessary by balancing the lighting by the use of flash.

A metric scale will be included in all views, except where health and safety considerations make this impractical.

Fieldwork: Watching brief

The watching brief will be carried out during groundworks associated with the new build. Measured information and detail, as appropriate, will be added to copies of existing contractors drawings.

Any archaeological remains encountered will be archaeologically excavated and recorded.

Recording methodology - 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 map; all drawings will include standard information: site details, personnel, date, scale, north-point.
- Plans and sections will be made of significant features, at an appropriate scale (preferably 1:20 or 1:10).
- All areas excavated as part of the groundworks will be accurately located on a site location plan at an appropriate scale.
- All finds from significant stratified contexts will be collected.
- All archaeological contexts will be described to a standard format linked to a continuous numbering sequence. All contexts recorded will be recorded via the medium of HE pro-forma context recording sheets.
- Registers of drawings, photographs, finds, samples and contexts will be maintained during the fieldwork.
- The excavated spoil will be carefully inspected for finds.

Note: If significant archaeological deposits are exposed, works will be temporarily halted and a meeting will be convened with the client to discuss the most appropriate way forward.

Photography

Photographic recording will include colour photography using a digital SLR camera (with a resolution of 10 million pixels or higher).

CAU follows Historic England guidance on digital image capture and file storage (2014).

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

- Photographs of details will be taken with lenses of appropriate focal length.
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- Difficulties of back-lighting will be dealt with where necessary by balancing the lighting by the use of flash.
- A metric scale will be included in all views, except where health and safety considerations make this impractical.

Finds

- All finds will be retained from each archaeological context excavated.
- All finds, where appropriate, shall be washed.
- All pottery, and other finds where appropriate, shall be marked with the site code and context number.
- Finds work will be to accepted professional standards and adhere to the Chartered Institute of Field Archaeologists' Guidelines.

Sampling

- The archaeologist undertaking the watching brief will assess the potential for environmental sampling.
- Environmental sampling will be guided by Environmental Archaeology (English Heritage 2001/02)

- Other Historic England guidance such as Geoarchaeology (2004) and Archaeometallurgy (2001) will be consulted if required.

Creation of site archive

To include:

- Digital colour photographs (stored according to HER guidelines and copies of images made available to the client).
- A detailed site/building description.
- Preparation of finished drawings.
- Completion of the Historic England/ADS OASIS online archive index.
- Completion of paper, digital, photographic and artefactual archive

Archive report

A written report will include:

- Summary
- Project background
- Aims and objectives
- Methodology
- Location and setting
- Designations
- Site history
- Building record results
- Archaeological results
- Conclusions
- References
- Project archive index
- Supporting illustrations: location map, historic maps, plans, elevations/sections, photographs

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

Archive deposition

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

The archiving will comprise the following:

1. All correspondence relating to the project, the WSI, a single paper copy of the report together with an electronic copy on CD, stored in an archive standard (acid-free) documentation box.
2. A2 drawn archive storage (plastic wallets for the annotated record drawings).
3. The project archive will be deposited initially at ReStore PLC, Liskeard and in due course (when space permits) at Cornwall Record Office.
4. Digital data will be stored on the Cornwall Council network which is regularly and frequently backed up.

CAU uses the following file formats for stored digital data:

DOCX Word processed documents

XLSX	Spreadsheets
PDF	Exports of completed documents/reports/graphics
JPG	Site graphics and scanned information
DNG or TIF	Digital photographs
DWG	AutoCAD drawings, measured surveys
MXD	ArcView GIS (electronic mapping) data
AI	Adobe Illustrator graphics

Timetable

The study is anticipated to be commenced during December 2016 CAU will require at least one weeks' notice before commencement of work, in order to allocate field staff and arrange other logistics.

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

Monitoring and Signing Off Condition

Monitoring of the project will be carried out by the Senior Development Officer (Historic Environment). Where the SDOHE is satisfied with the archive report and the deposition of the archive written discharge of the planning condition will be expected.

1. The SDOHE will monitor the work and should be kept regularly informed of progress.
2. Notification of the start of work shall be given preferably in writing to the SDOHE at least one week in advance of its commencement.
3. Any variations to the WSI will be agreed with the SDOHE, in writing, prior to them being carried out.
4. If significant detail is discovered, all works must cease and a meeting convened with the client and the SDOHE to discuss the most appropriate way forward.

Monitoring points during the study will include:

- Approval of the WSI
- Completion of fieldwork
- Completion of archive report
- Deposition of the archive

References

- English Heritage, 2006. *Understanding Historic Buildings: A guide to good recording practice*. English Heritage, Swindon
- English Heritage, 2007. *Understanding the Archaeology of Landscapes: A guide to good recording practice*. English Heritage, Swindon
- English Heritage, 2014. *(Draft) Guidance note on Digital Image Capture and File Storage*. English Heritage, Swindon
- Perry, R and Harradence, H, 2008. *Silvanus Trevail, Cornish architect and entrepreneur*, Francis Boutle Publishers, London
- Taylor, S, 2011. *Castle Minor, Tintagel, Cornwall, Archaeological Assessment* CAU report, Truro

Cornwall Archaeological Unit

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

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

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

Standards



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

<http://www.archaeologists.net/codes/ifa>

Terms and conditions

Contract

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

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

Project staff

The project will be managed by a nominated Archaeology Projects Officer who will:

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

Work will be carried out by CAU field staff, with assistance from qualified specialists and sub-contractors where appropriate. The project team is expected to include:

Joanna Sturgess BA

Project Officer at CAU with a wide range of experience in recording historic buildings, landscapes, excavation, post-excavation and characterisation. Past historic building works have included City Wharf, Truro; Harvey's Foundry, Hayle; Boswednack Serpentine works; Porthmeor farm; Bartle's Foundry, Pool; Manor Tannery, Grampound; Duchy Palace, Lostwithiel, Cutmadoc Farmhouse, Lanhydrock, the Piggery and Cider House at Godolphin, Poltesco Mill House and variety of domestic buildings, mine sites, farm buildings and industrial buildings. Other projects include Gwithian's past excavations, Lemon Quay excavation, Goonhilly Earth Station survey, Lower Boscawell and Trevesa in West Penwith landscape surveys. Expertise includes use of Total Station, CAD software and GIS. Holder of a CSCS card and qualified first aider.

Report distribution

Paper copies of the report will be distributed to the client, to local archives and national archaeological record centres.

A digital copy of the report, illustrations and any other files will be held in the Cornwall HER and also supplied to the client on CD or other suitable media.

Copyright

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

Use of the material will be granted to the client.

Freedom of Information Act

As Cornwall Council is a public authority it is subject to the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which came into effect from 1st January 2005.

CAU will ensure that all information arising from the project shall be held in strict confidence to the extent permitted under the Act. However, the Act permits information to be released under a public right of access (a "Request"). If such a Request is received CAU may need to disclose any information it holds, unless it is excluded from disclosure under the Act.

Health and safety statement

CAU follows Cornwall Council's *Statement of Safety Policy*.

Prior to carrying out on-site work CAU will carry out a Risk Assessment.

Insurance

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

Jo Sturgess

Archaeology Projects Officer

3/11/2015

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