Archaeological monitoring during trenching at land to the south of the Link Road, Launceston, Cornwall Archaeological Watching Brief

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**Cornwall Archaeological Unit** 

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Report No: 2016R063

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Report No		Report Name						Re	port Author
2016R063	at	Archaeological monitoring during trenching at land south of the, Link Road, Launceston, Cornwall							n P Smith
Event Type		1							
Watching Brief	f								
Client Organis	ation			Client Co	ontact				
Development Securities (Launceston) LtdNiall Brucker									
Monuments (M	(IonUID)	)							
Fieldwork dates (From) (To) (Created By) (Create Date)									
27/09/16	2	27/09/1	6		Ryan S	Smith			29/09/16
Location (postal address; or general location and parish) Land west of Pennygillam Industrial Estate, Slate Quarry Hill, Launceston, Cornwall									
(Town – for urban sites) (Postcode						(Postcode)			
Launceston									
(Easting) X co-ord (Northing) Y co-ord									
SX 232787	8	3405							
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### **List of Figures**

Figure 1: Location of site.

*Figure 2: Location of trench.* 

Figure 3: Location of features within the trench.

Figure 4: View of the site looking south.

Figure 5: Pre excavation view of trial trench looking north.

Figure 6: Possible ditch [107], east facing section.

Figure 7: Post excavation view of trial trench looking north (scale 1m).

## Project background

Cornwall Archaeological Unit was commissioned by Mr Niall Brucker of Development Securities (Launceston) Ltd to carry out a watching brief during the excavation of a trial trench in in a field to the south of the Launceston 'Link Road' and east of the B3254 South Petherwin road (Figs 1 and 2). The trench was excavated as a material operation, to part implement the planning application (PA12/07683), which is for the construction of an access road.

A Written Scheme of Investigation was produced by Archaeology Planning Solutions in 2014. This specified the methodology for archaeological recording (Appendix 1).

CAU undertook the watching brief during the trenching, which was carried out as part of the initial ground works. This report details the results of the watching brief.

### Location, setting and site history

The site lies within the Parish of St Mary Magdelene, Launceston. It is located less than 500m south of Launceston, south of the 'Link road' and to the east of the B3254 South Petherwin road, and to the west of the Scarre Industrial Estate (SX 32670 83218) (Figs 1 and 2).

The underlying geology of the site belongs to the Crackington Formation, mudstone and sandstone interbedded, sedimentary bedrock formed approximately 312 to 322 million years ago in the Carboniferous Period. The trench was located within an open field which is currently down to pasture (Fig 4).

The land in which the site is set has been characterised as Anciently Enclosed Land, that is to say land which has been farmed and enclosed since at least the medieval period.

The surrounding area within 1km of the site contains large numbers of archaeological sites, including Early Bronze Age barrows, possibly three Iron Age rounds (settlement enclosures) and medieval farms and fields. To the west of the site is Badash farm, a settlement of medieval origin, first mentioned in 1418. The surrounding hedged field boundaries, according to the Environmental Statement (RPS Planning & Development 2012), within the immediate landscape could have originated in the medieval period and represent the remnants of former strip fields.

Geophysical survey of the site itself also identified linear and curvilinear ditched anomalies which had the potential to be buried archaeological sites (Archaeological Surveys Ltd 2012).

### Aims and objectives

The archaeological monitoring aimed to record the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered during the trenching (see Appendix 1).

General aims of the monitoring and/or trial trenching were to:

- Record the nature of the main stratigraphic units encountered in terms of their physical composition (Stone, sand, gravel, organic materials etc.), their archaeological formation (primary deposits, secondary deposits, etc.) and their overall relationship with each other.
- Assess the presence and survival of archaeological remains relating to the main periods of occupation revealed.
- Assess the presence and condition of any artefactual evidence (including pottery, brick, tile, stone, glass, metal, bone, small finds, industrial residues, etc.).

• Assess the presence and condition of any ecofactual and environmental evidence (including animal bone, human bone, plant remains, pollen, charcoal, molluscs, soils, etc.).

Specific aims of the archaeological monitoring were to:

- Record any evidence of past settlement/funerary or any other land use.
- Recover artefactual evidence to date any evidence of past activity that may be identified.
- Sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past activity.

### Working methods

All recording work was undertaken according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standards and Guidance for Archaeological watching brief* (CIfA 2014) and the *Standard and guidance for Archaeological excavation* (CIfA 2014). The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists is the professional body for archaeologists working in the UK.

On Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2016, a single trench, measuring 10m long by 2m wide was excavated by a mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket

Site drawings (plans, sections) were made by pencil on drafting film; all plans were to be linked to the Ordnance Survey Landline electronic map; all drawings were either 1:10 or 1:20 scale. All contexts were sequentially numbered (Appendix 2). There were no small finds.

Photographs were taken using a Lumix 16Mp digital camera.

### **Results** (Figs 3, 5, 6 and 7)

Detailed descriptions of the contexts are given in Appendix 2. The stratigraphical sequence in the trench is given from top to bottom.

A typical section of the trench from the top down was ordered as follows: (**101**), (**102**) and (**103**). The topsoil (**101**) was a dark brown silty loam, very loose, 0.1-0.2m deep with sparse stone inclusions, made up of very small pieces of broken mudstone/slate. Several sherds of modern glazed pottery were found in this layer. The topsoil overlay layer (**102**), a dark brown silty loam deposit which was 0.15m-0.2m thick, with common stone inclusions.

Layer (**103**) was a 0.4m thick orangey brown layer of natural silty clay. In some parts of the trench (**103**) was replaced by (**106**), a pale yellowy brown silty deposit of natural clay with shillet inclusions.

Approximately 3.2m from the south end of the trench, a possible archaeological deposit was revealed within the trench. Excavation revealed an amorphous area of very compact, pale reddish/yellowish brown silty clay soil (104). Within this layer were occasional flecks of charcoal and a poorly defined area which appeared to have been subjected to burning. Excavation of this area, however, did not reveal any cut and there were no artefacts with which to date the layer.

Approximately 2.7m from the south end of the trench on the east facing side and adjacent to layer (**104**) was the cut for a possible shallow ditch [**107**], which may have been associated with a removed field boundary (Fig 6). However, the feature did not appear in the opposite west face of the trench.

The cut of the ditch [**107**] was ill-defined but identifiable as being steep-sided with a U-shaped base. It measured 0.42m deep by 0.38m wide and was filled with (**108**). The ditch cut through the natural subsoil layers (**106**) and (**105**), but there were no artefacts with which to date the feature, and it is possible that it was natural.

## Conclusion

Although no significant archaeological remains were uncovered in the trench, it is likely given the historic landscape character of the area and the results from the geophysical survey, that the wider site has the potential to contain significant buried archaeological features and artefacts. The depth of the topsoil and subsoil layers in the trench also indicates that any subsurface remains should have survived modern agricultural activity. In light of this it is recommended that an archaeologist be present during later phases of the groundworks.

## References

### **Primary Sources**

Ordnance Survey, 2007, Mastermap Digital Mapping

#### Publications

Archaeological Surveys Ltd, 2012, Land off Link Road Launceston Cornwall Magnetometer Survey Report.

Archaeology & Planning Solutions, 2014. *Link Road, Launceston, Cornwall. Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Mitigation*.

RPS Planning & Development, 2012. *Environmental Statement, Appendice 10. Archaeology & Cultural Heritage* 

#### Web sites

http://www.bgs.ac.uk/discoveringgeology/geologyofbritain/viewer.html?src=topNav British Geological Survey Geology of Britain Viewer

## **Project archive**

The CAU project number is 146619

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

- 1. A project file containing site records and notes, project correspondence and administration.
- 2. Drawings are archived under the following index number: 864

Electronic data is stored in the following locations:

- 3. Project admin: \\Sites\Site L\Launceston\Launceston Link Road
- 4. Digital photographs: \\Historic Environment (Images)\Sites I-L\Launceston south of link road 2016
- 5. Historic England/ADS OASIS online reference: cornwall2-264278

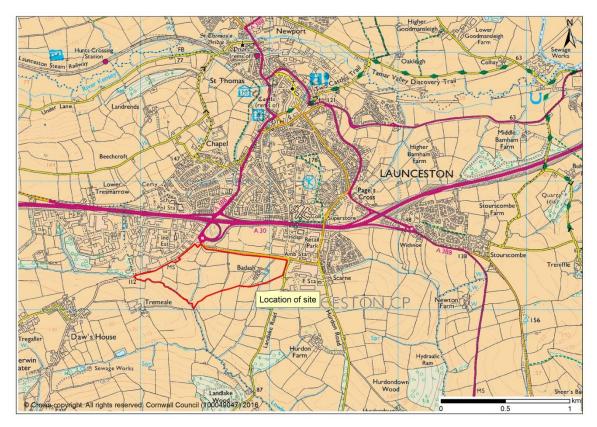


Figure 1: Location of site.

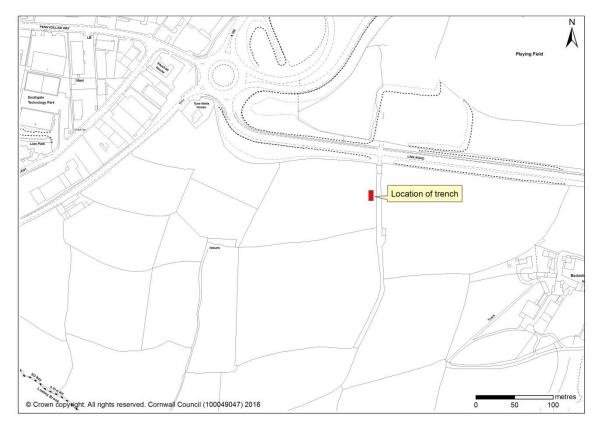


Figure 2: Location of trench.

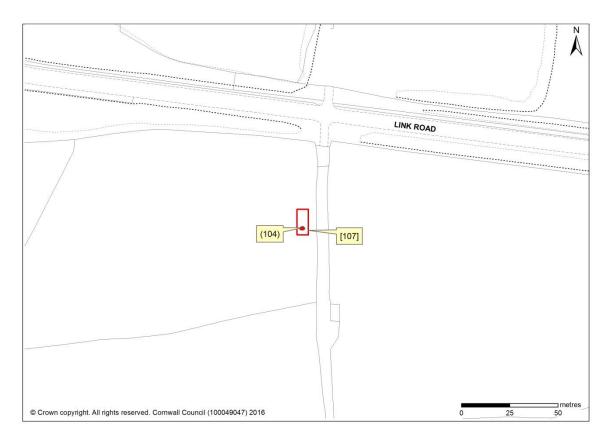


Figure 3: Location of features within the trench.



Figure 4: View of the site looking south.



Figure 5: Pre excavation view of trial trench looking north.



Figure 6: Possible ditch [107], east facing section.



Figure 7: Post excavation view of trial trench looking north (scale 1m).

## **Appendix 1: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Mitigation**

Cornwall



### Contents

1	Introduction			
2	Hedgerow Analysis			
3	Option A			
4	Option B			
5	Option C			
6	Procedural Details			
Figure 1:	The Site			
Figure 2;	Hedgerows to be removed			
Figure 3:	Proposed trial trench plan (Option B)			

### 1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for archaeological mitigation has been prepared by Archaeology & Planning Solutions (APS), acting on behalf of Development Securities (Launceston) Ltd. (hereafter referred to as "the client").
- 1.2 The land to which this WSI refers lies within fields to the south of Link Road, Launceston centred on National Grid Reference SX 3277 8336 (see Figure 1) and hereafter referred to as the Site. The underlying geology comprises the Crackington Formation (http://maps.bgs.ac.uk).
- 1.3 An archaeological desk-based assessment for the Site has previously been carried out as part of a Cultural Heritage chapter for an Environmental Impact Assessment of a wider area. This was informed by the results of a geophysical survey which identified a number of potential archaeological anomalies within the Site and the wider area.
- 1.4 Based on the findings of the geophysical survey further archaeological works are required as Condition 7 of the planning permission (application no. PA12/07683). This condition states that:

"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."

- 1.5 Discussion with the council's advisor on 18<sup>th</sup> April 2012 established that the conditioned archaeological work will consist of the following:
  - · the archaeological recording of the Cornish hedges prior to removal; and
  - archaeological monitoring during topsoil stripping, along with the recording and excavation of any exposed archaeological levels.
- 1.6 Development will be split into two areas as follows:
  - Area 1 which consists of an access road leading southwards from Link Road; and
  - Area 2 which consists of a retail food store, petrol station and associated development. This is located directly to the east of the Area 1 access road. (see Figure 1).
- 1.7 This WSI therefore presents a detailed methodology for the archaeological mitigation work to address Condition 7 of the planning permission.

#### Hedgerow Analysis

1.8 Prior to the construction of the access road and foodstore an archaeological examination of the hedgerows which are due to be removed will be carried out.

#### Archaeological Work

1.9 There are currently three options available to address the remainder of Condition 7 which are as follows:

Option A

1.10 This consists of archaeological monitoring during topsoil/subsoil stripping, along with the recording and excavation of any exposed archaeological levels.

Option B

1.11 This consists of the excavation of trial trenches targeted on anomalies of potential archaeological origin identified in the geophysical survey, followed by further archaeological investigation if appropriate.

Option C

- 1.12 It is also possible that the trial trenches will be excavated within the footprint of the access road and that a watching brief will be carried out within the footprint of the food retail area and vice-versa.
- 1.13 Once the preferred option has been chosen this WSI will be augmented with a Method Statement, which is to be supplied to the council's advisor by the appointed fieldwork contractor prior to commencement of groundworks on the site. This Method Statement will identify the appointed contractor, the project manager for the fieldwork and post-excavation analysis/reporting, key site staff and post-excavation specialists and also details of the relevant systems and processes that will be implemented to deliver the aims and objectives of the WSI once it has been approved by Cornwall Council.

#### 2 Hedgerow Analysis

2.1 A 1.5m wide section will be excavated by machine under archaeological supervision across the existing north-south trackway which is defined by hedges on both sides. A further trench will be excavated across the east-west aligned hedgerow to the west which is crossed by the access road (see Figure 2). This will establish how the hedgebanks were constructed and will assess whether any buried soils are present beneath. An appropriate environmental sampling strategy will be undertaken if required.

#### 3 Option A

- 3.1 Under Option A the archaeological investigation will comprise the close archaeological monitoring of the topsoil/subsoil removal for all significant groundworks covering both the access road and foodstore. This will include the mapping, investigation, sampling and recording of all significant archaeological deposits.
- 3.2 The following document will be adhered to during the archaeological monitoring:
  - Institute for Archaeologists Standard and guidance for an archaeological watching brief (revised October 2008).

#### 4 Option B

- 4.1 Under Option B three trenches (T7, T8 and T9) will be excavated within the footprint of the access road. Trench T7 will be 50m long and trenches T8 and T9 will both be 30m long. In addition seven trenches (T1-T6 & T10) will be excavated within the footprint of the food retail store. These will all be 50m long with the exception of trench T2 which will be 40m long and trench T3 which will be 30m long. The locations of these trenches are shown in Figure 3 where they are superimposed on to the results of the geophysical survey (see Figure 3).
- 4.2 The following document will be adhered to during the archaeological monitoring:
  - Institute for Archaeologists Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation (revised October 2008).
- 4.3 The results of the trial trenching will be used to assess whether a further stage of archaeological investigation is required. This assessment will be carried out using the results of a consultation process with the council's archaeological advisor.

#### 5 Option C

5.1 It is also possible that the trial trenches will be excavated within the footprint of the access road and that a watching brief will be carried out within the footprint of the food retail area and vice-versa.

#### 6 Procedural Details

6.1 Whatever option is taken the following will still apply.

#### Aims

6.2 The archaeological monitoring and/or trial trenching aims to record the extent, condition, nature, character, quality and date of any archaeological remains encountered, as dictated by current best practice.

- 6.3 In general the aims of the monitoring and/or trial trenching are to:
  - record the nature of the main stratigraphic units encountered in terms of their physical composition (stone, sand, gravel, organic materials etc.), their archaeological formation (primary deposits, secondary deposits etc.) and their overall relationship to each other;
  - assess the presence and survival of archaeological remains relating to the main periods of occupation revealed;
  - assess the presence and condition of any artefactual evidence (including pottery, brick, tile, stone, glass, metal, bone, small finds, industrial residues etc.); and
  - assess the presence and condition of any ecofactual and environmental evidence (including animal bone, human bone, plant remains, pollen, charcoal, molluscs, soils etc.).
- 6.4 The specific aims of the archaeological monitoring and/or trial trenching are to:
  - record any evidence of past settlement/funerary or any other land use;
  - recover artefactual evidence to date any evidence of past activity that may be identified; and
  - sample and analyse environmental remains to create a better understanding of past activity.

#### Methodology

- 6.5 Although the precise sampling methodology will be determined on site, it is provisionally proposed that the following approach will be used. Deposits will be excavated by hand, using appropriate tools. All archaeological features should be subject to appropriate levels of excavation. In summary, this equates to:
  - any deposits relating to funerary/ritual activity (e.g. burials, cremations,) and domestic/industrial activity (e.g. walls, post-holes, hearths, floor surfaces/floor make-up deposits) will be investigated by removing a 100% sample of the deposit from each feature; and
  - features relating to agricultural and other activities will be subject to the following sampling levels. Pits will require a minimum of a 50% sample of the deposits from each feature; linear features (e.g. ditches/gullies, paths/tracks) will require a minimum of a 20% sample (if appropriate) of the deposits from each feature.
- 6.6 However, it is recognised that there may be cases when individual features do not merit these levels of sampling. Nonetheless, any variation to these levels would need to be approved by the council's advisor.

- 6.7 All machine work must be completed under archaeological supervision. Care should be taken to ensure plant and machines do not damage underlying remains, particularly in soft conditions.
- 6.8 Any human remains that are encountered will be reported to the appropriate authorities. Subsequent removal will comply with the relevant Home Office regulations and current archaeological best-practice.
- 6.9 All finds of gold and silver or hoards of prehistoric metals will be moved off site to a safe place and reported to the Coroner's Office according to the procedures set out in the Treasure Act 1996. Where removal cannot be completed on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the artefacts from theft or damage.
- 6.10 Suitable contexts will be subjected to environmental sampling at an appropriate scale. This work will meet the minimum standards recommended by the council's advisor.
- 6.11 All artefactual and ecofactual remains, whether stratified or not (including material from spoil tips), will be collected, bagged and labelled. Artefacts will be subject to preliminary study on site in order to help date excavated features.

#### Recording Systems

- 6.12 The recording system must be compatible with the most widely used in the county. Pro-forma context sheets should include all relevant stratigraphic relationships and, for complex stratigraphy, a separate matrix diagram should be employed. The following plans and sections are required:
  - an overall site plan of the excavated area will be prepared detailing archaeological deposits, as well as the extent of the area relative to the National Grid on a 1:2500 plan. An overall plan will be prepared at a 1:100 scale;
  - sections containing significant deposits, including half sections, should be drawn as appropriate. Section drawings should include heights aOD;
  - all archaeological plans and sections should be on drawing film and at a scale of 1:10 or 1:20 and should include context numbers and aOD spot heights for all principal strata and features; and
  - an adequate photographic record of any significant archaeological remains is required, in both plan and section.

#### Finds and Samples

6.13 A high priority should be given to dating any remains and so all artefacts and finds are to be retained. Consideration should also be given to the recovery of specialist samples for scientific analysis, particularly samples for absolute dating, structural materials and cultural/environmental evidence. Environmental samples should be taken from suitable deposits and examined for carbonised remains, macroscopic plant remains, pollen, seeds, insects, molluscs etc.

- 6.14 All finds and samples are to be treated in a proper manner to prevent deterioration. This will involve cleaning and conservation, where necessary, and labelling, cataloguing and secure storage in appropriate containers.
- 6.15 The appointed archaeological contractor will submit as part of the Method Statement a strategy for palaeo-environmental sampling on the site and for processing and analysis of samples. This work should accord with the minimum standard guidance provided by the council's advisor. The contractor is expected to seek the advice of a palaeo-environmental specialist.
- 6.16 The appointed archaeological contractor will need to demonstrate that arrangements are in hand to cover all necessary processing, conservation and specialist analysis of finds and samples.
- 6.17 Every effort should be made to ensure that finds analysis is consistent with existing local systems.

#### Monitoring

6.18 The council's advisor will be notified of the start of the works giving at least two weeks notice in writing. If appropriate a review meeting will be held on site to consider the results and to progress the required works to a satisfactory standard.

#### Health and Safety

6.19 All relevant health and safety legislation and regulations must be followed. All the health and safety requirements of the main groundworks contractor must also be adhered to. High visibility jackets, safety helmets and protective footwear are to be used by all personnel. Other items such as dust masks, goggles and gloves will need to be worn as appropriate. The archaeological contractor is required to provide a full risk assessment and their Health and Safety manual for the approval of the client prior to fieldwork commencing. The archaeological organisation must be satisfied they are in receipt of all information reasonably obtainable on contamination and the location of live services before any site work takes place.

#### Post-Excavation

- 6.20 The archive will be prepared immediately after site works are completed. This will be prepared in accordance with a specification agreed in advance with the council's advisor.
- 6.21 Each category of finds will be assessed by specialist staff and all artefacts and ecofacts will be processed in accordance with standard practice.

- 6.22 One draft copy of the report will be made available to the client as soon as it is ready. Once approved copies of the finished report will be submitted to the client before submission to Cornwall Council and their archaeological advisor, along with digital data on CD-ROM.
- 6.23 Arrangements will be made for deposition of the finds (with the written permission of the landowner) and the site archive with the relevant museum within twelve months of the completion of fieldwork. Written confirmation of this will be provided to the council's advisor.
- 6.24 Provision will be made for an appropriate level of academic publication of the results of the excavations. If appropriate a summary report will be submitted for publication in the relevant local journal. Additional publication requirements will be agreed with the council's advisor.

If appropriate the report should include:

- a review of the aims and methods used;
- a table summarising the descriptive text showing the features, classes and numbers of artefacts and their interpretation, with reference to the county artefacts type series;
- artefact analysis to include the production of a descriptive catalogue, with finds critical for dating and interpretation illustrated;
- the report should be illustrated with appropriate material including site and excavation area plans, sections (1:10), plans of any archaeological features (1:20) and general and detailed photographs;
- the nature, extent, date, condition and significance of the archaeological and environmental material uncovered with specialist opinions and parallels from other sites in the area;
- an interpretation of the results should be produced and attention should be given to the significance of the remains in local, regional and national terms; and
- a reconsideration of the methodology used, including a confidence rating of the strategy and the results.
- 6.25 Copies of all reports arising from fieldwork will be deposited with the Cornwall Historic Environment Record (HER).

#### Archiving

6.26 The site archive, which will comprise records of the archaeological excavations and any materials recovered, including written elements, plans and drawings, digital photographs, photographic prints and transparencies (where appropriate) and other primary data recovered during the investigation, must be quantified, ordered, indexed and made internally consistent. It should also contain as a minimum requirement a site matrix, site summary (a short report giving a preliminary account of the discoveries) and brief written observations on the artefactual and environmental data.

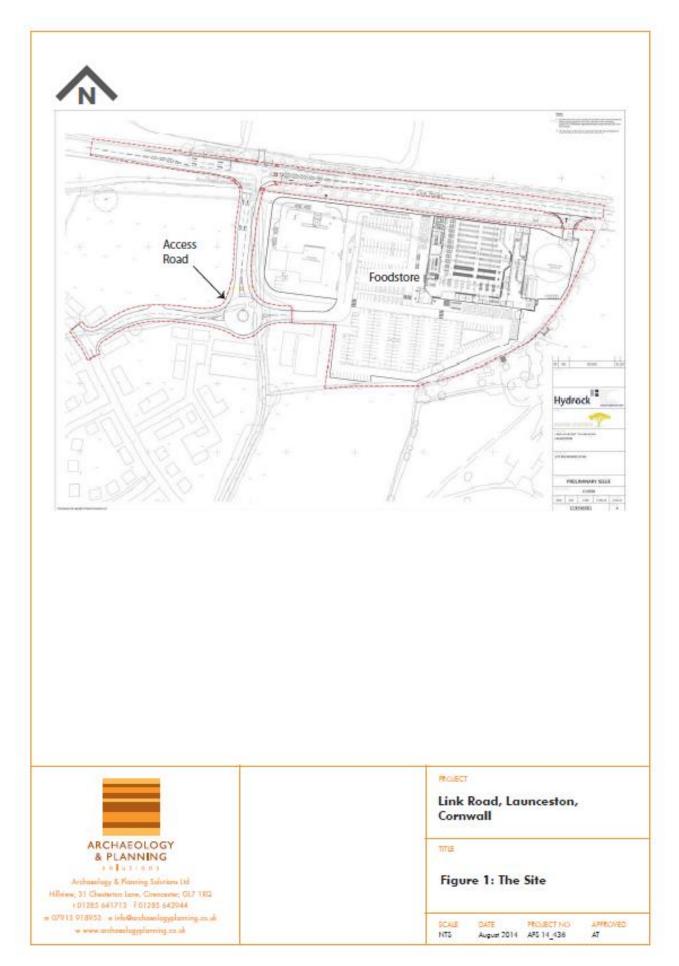
- 6.27 All artefacts and ecofacts recovered during the archaeological monitoring will be made available to the contractor pending completion of the report, to be stored during the course of the archaeological investigation at the contractor's secure offices or usual place of secure storage of archaeological finds.
- 6.28 All artefacts recovered during the archaeological investigation are to be suitably washed (where the condition of the artefacts allows) and marked by the contractor and all artefacts and ecofacts bagged and boxed by the contractor, in accordance with current United Kingdom Institute for Conservation/RESCUE publication First Aid for Finds (3rd. ed. 1998). All 'small finds' will be boxed together, separate from bulk finds.
- 6.29 Within 12 months of completion of the written and drawn site archive, a microfiched security copy of these elements of the archive will be deposited by the contractor in the Historic Environment Record and shall send confirmation in writing of such deposition at the same time to the council's advisor, except if further excavation/post-excavation work is required, when, by agreement, the period may be extended.
- 6.30 The contractor is advised to contact the council's archaeological advisor for advice and/or a suitable microfilming/microfiching contractor in connection with the making of this copy and to consult Microfilming Archaeological Archives (IFA Paper No 2, 1999). Cost estimates for the microfiching/microfilming of the site archive should be included within the contractors' quotations for this project.
- 6.31 Subject to the legislation of the Treasure Act 1996, all artefacts and ecofacts unearthed from the investigation and all other elements of the site archive should be deposited by the contractor in an appropriate public museum registered or provisionally registered by the Museums and Galleries Commission and acceptable to Cornwall Council. No artefacts or ecofacts from the site shall be deposited in the relevant museum without the prior written consent of the landowner.
- 6.32 Prior to the deposition of finds in the recipient museum, the contractor should agree with that museum the sample or quantity of bulk finds (pottery, animal and (if appropriate) human bone, other ecofactual material, building material, burnt flint, worked flint and stone) to be deposited.
- 6.33 The contractor should contact the recipient museum prior to preparing cost estimates for the work in order to discuss any special requirements for the deposition of finds.
- 6.34 Subject to the resources available and to discussion with the recipient museum, all articles needing conservation will be properly stabilised by the contractor prior to their deposition at the recipient museum and records of their treatment lodged with the

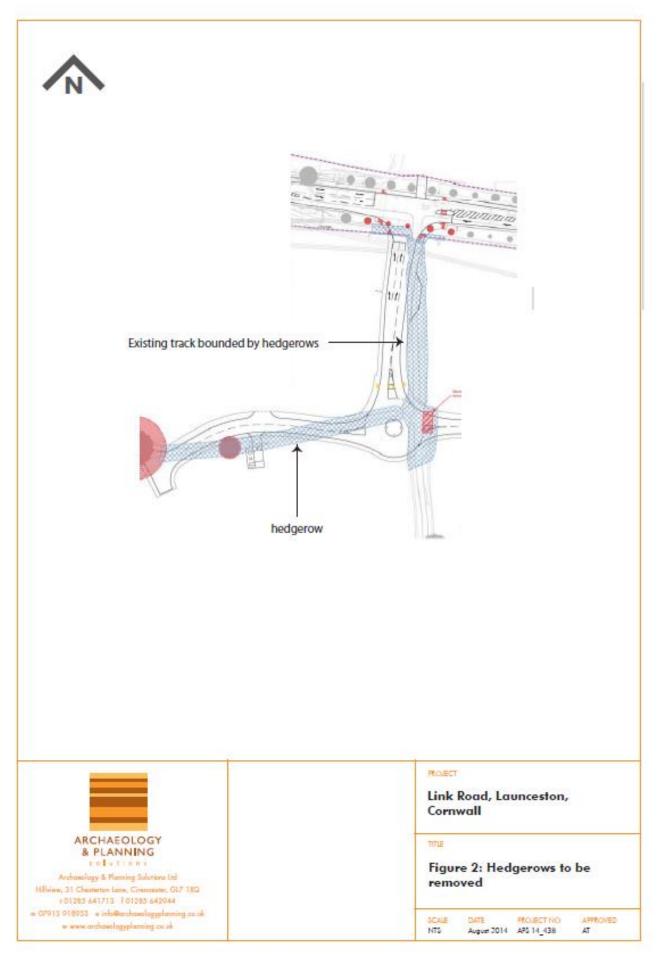
museum. Those items for which available resources do not permit stabilisation will be separately packed and listed by the contractor.

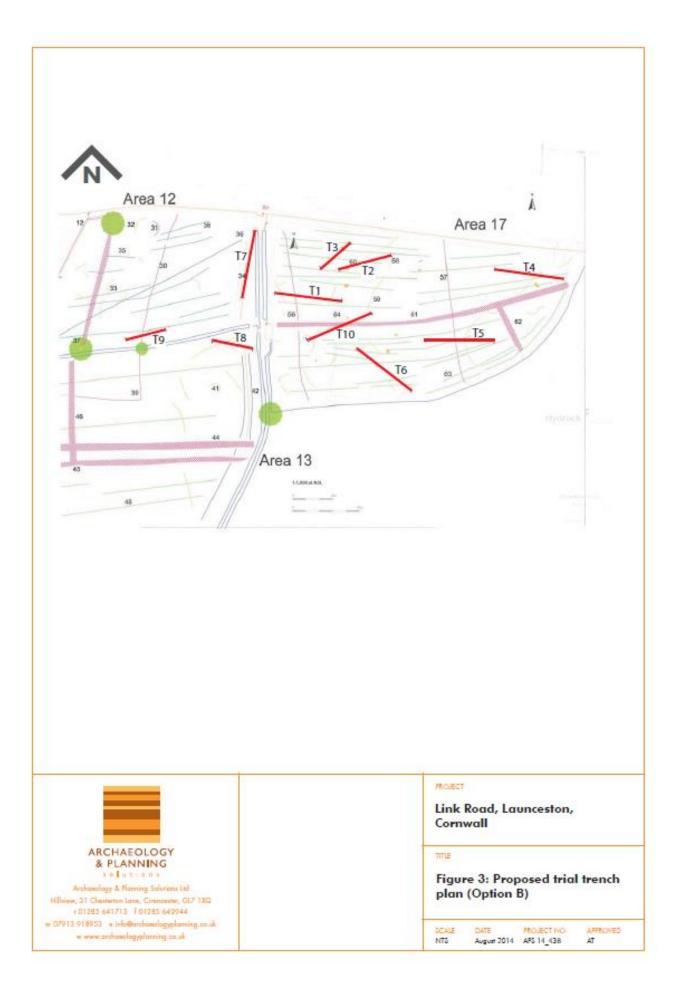
- 6.35 Prior to commencement of the archaeological investigations, the contractor shall obtain from the recipient museum an accession number for excavated artefacts and ecofacts from the project and any guidelines regarding deposition of such artefacts and ecofacts specific to the recipient museum.
- 6.36 Artefacts and ecofacts deposited by the contractor in the recipient museum must be accompanied by the remainder of the original site archive or by a complete duplicate record thereof. A microfiched security copy of the site archive should also be supplied by the contractor to the recipient museum.
- 6.37 Subject to the agreement of the landowner, all artefacts and ecofacts recovered from the archaeological evaluation should be deposited by the contractor within the recipient museum within five years from the date of completion of the investigation.
- 6.38 Work on the site archive shall be completed within twelve calendar months of completion of the archaeological monitoring. Copyright of the written, drawn and photographic elements of the site archive shall be vested jointly with the contractors and the recipient museum.
- 6.39 The following document should be adhered to:
  - Museum and Galleries Commission Standards in the Museum Care of Archaeological Collections (1992).

#### Requirements of Archaeological Contractor

- 6.40 The archaeological contractor will provide a Method Statement for undertaking the archaeological works which will be compatible with the requirements of the council's advisor. This will include all fieldwork and post-excavation work, including archiving.
- 6.41 It will include a brief method statement, resourcing levels, risk assessment and programme/schedule for the works. The contractor should also provide a brief career profile of the site director, which demonstrates his/her suitability for undertaking the work.
- 6.42 A full cost estimate for the fieldwork, post-excavation and archiving should be provided to the client. This estimate should include costs pro-rata using day rates.







# **Appendix 2: Context List**

Context Number	Description
(101)	Topsoil: a dark brown silty loam between 0.1-0.2m thick, loose, sparse stone inclusions, mudstone <0.01m in size, irregular shapes, unsorted. Two sherds of modern glazed pottery noted within the topsoil.
(102)	Subsoil: a dark brown silty loam, 0.15-0.2m thick, common stone inclusions, mudstone/slate fragments, irregular shapes, unsorted, loose material
(103)	Orangey brown natural silty clay layer, varied in depth, 0.4m or less. It occurred in bands and did not continue along the full length of the trial trench.
(104)	An amorphous area of pale reddish, yellowish brown silty clay, 0.1m deep, very compact, contained occasional flecks of charcoal and a patch of soil which had turned darker red, possibly through burning.
(105)	A light grey natural slate outcrop domed in shape, located in the base of the trench at the south end of the trench. It was situated below possible [107]. The slate was fractured and fragmented in layers, varying angles, very friable.
(106)	A natural pale yellowish silty brown clay with shillet inclusions, 0.15m thick but which was thicker in the area around [107], overlies layer(105).
[107]	Possible ditch cut or natural feature. Steep-sided with a 'U' shaped base. The feature measured 0.42m deep by 0.38m wide, and was filled with (108). Poor to moderate edge definition. No clear evidence of continuation in the opposing face of the trench.
(108)	Fill of [107], a pale reddish, very compact clay soil, common stone inclusions, 0.37m thick.

## **Cornwall Archaeological Unit**

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