

CHYSAUSTER ANCIENT VILLAGE GULVAL, CORNWALL CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN



Cornwall Archaeological Unit 2016



ENGLISH
HERITAGE

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Abbreviations

AEL Anciently Enclosed Land

AGHV Area of Great Historic Value

CAU Cornwall Archaeological Unit

CCRA Cornwall Committee for Rescue Archaeology

CEU Central Excavation Unit

CMP Conservation Management Plan

CROW The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000

DCMS Department for Culture, Media and Sport

DDA Disability Discrimination Act 1995

DoE Department of the Environment

EHT & EH English Heritage Trust, also known as English Heritage

ESA Environmentally Sensitive Area

GIS Geographical Information Systems

HER Historic Environment Record

NHLE National Heritage List for England

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thanks are due to a number of individuals who have supplied the information without which it would not have been possible to write this CMP, some of whom kindly commented on its drafts. These include Win Scutt, Heather Sebire, Chris Bally, Susan Greaney, Vanessa Baker, Katherine Armstrong, Verity Hope, Jennifer McCracken, Ian Leins (English Heritage), Rosy Szymanski, Olaf Bayer, Ann Preston-Jones (Historic England).

At CAU the project was managed by Adam Sharpe. Fiona Fleming authored this document and Francis Shepherd produced the illustrations. Jacky Nowakowski and Adam Sharpe provided invaluable knowledge through previous work carried out on the site.

At Cornwall Council, Andrew Willingale assisted with data management for use within GIS.

I SUMMARY

English Heritage has commissioned Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) to produce a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for Chysauster Ancient Village situated in West Penwith, Cornwall. The Plan includes an ecological survey by Spalding Associates Ltd (Horn-Norris 2016).

The plan sets out how English Heritage will address the management of Chysauster Ancient Village as a whole in a sustainable, appropriate and long term manner, following best conservation principles and avoiding negative impacts on significant aspects of the property. Chysauster Ancient Village is in the guardianship of Secretary of State for the Department of Culture, Media and Sport and is managed by the English Heritage Trust and forms part of a wider scheduled monument (National Heritage List for England 1006726) that extends onto the upland ground to the north-east of the site. The primary focus of the plan is the area currently in Guardianship but also takes into account the total scheduled area and the wider landscape context.

Chysauster Ancient Village is located near Newmill, Penzance, in the parish of Madron. It lies in West Penwith, an area renowned for its collection of nationally important archaeological sites and well preserved prehistoric landscapes. The settlement is significant in being part of a distinctive suite of courtyard house settlements in West Penwith, of which Chysauster is currently the largest known example. It contains at least ten upstanding houses and an underground chamber, or fogou, as well as a series of associated terraces and enclosures that form part of a wider contemporary field system.

This management plan summarises the known historical development of Chysauster and the history of archaeological work carried out on the site since its discovery by J. T. Blight in the late 19th century. It describes the form and condition of the site's components and sets out a conservation philosophy for its future management. Issues affecting the site are identified, together with opportunities for its future development and presentation.

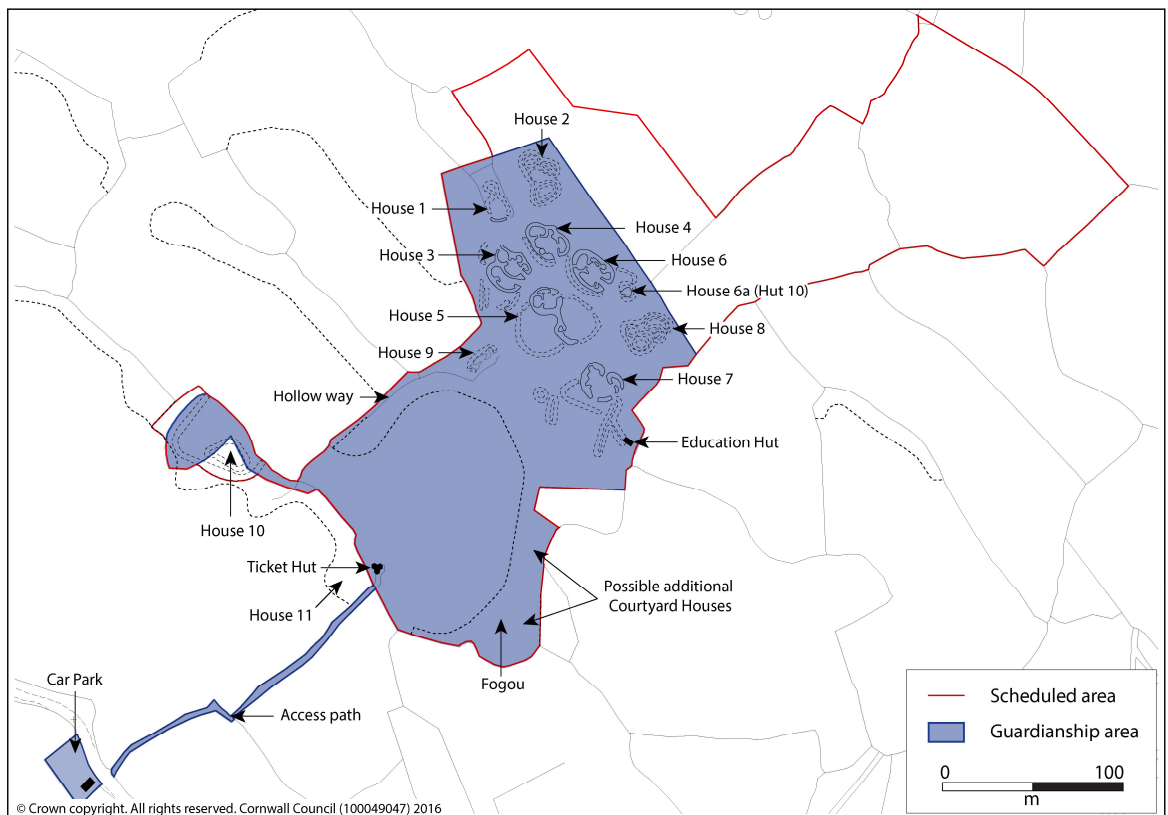
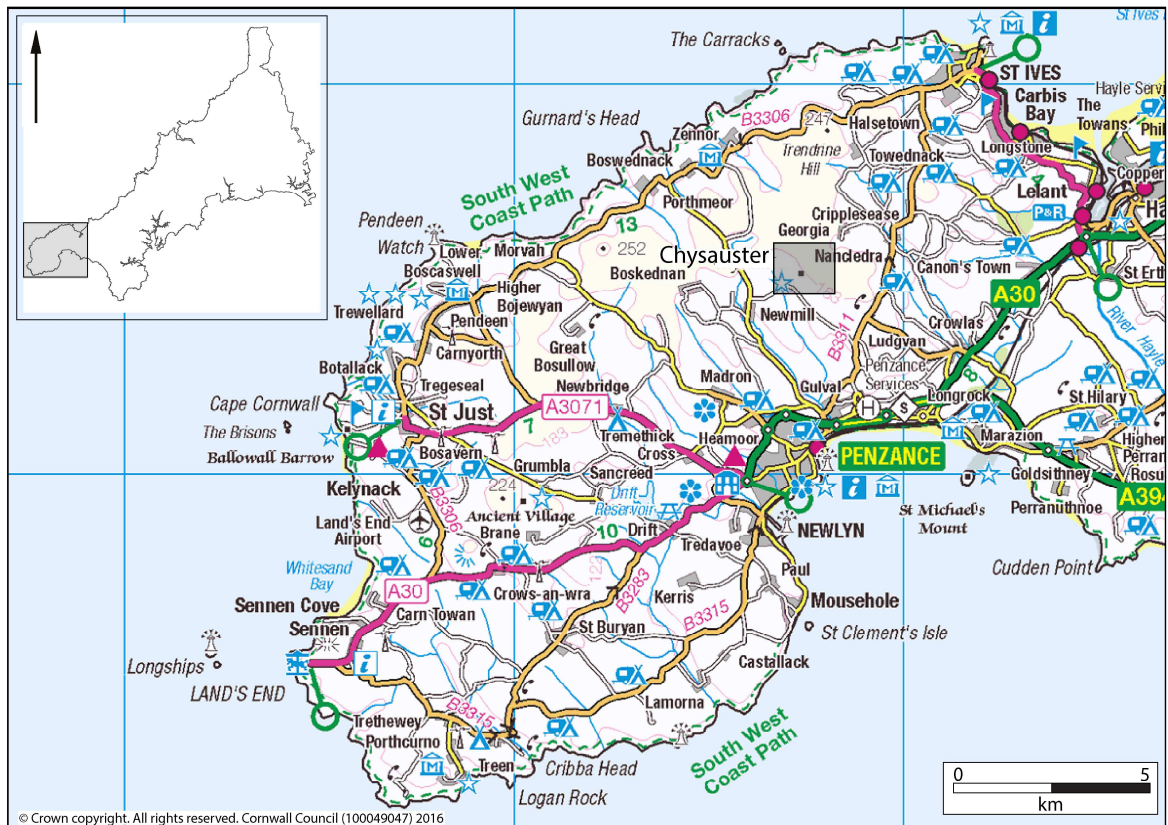


Figure 1: Location of Chysauster Ancient Village and the principal components of the Guardianship and Scheduled Monument Areas.

2 INTRODUCTION

This Conservation Management Plan comprises an assessment of the conservation considerations and management needs of Chysauster Ancient Village and makes recommendations for the protection, management and development of the site so that a clear vision for its short term and longer term future can be achieved.

2.1 Background

In October 2015 Mr Win Scutt, Properties Curator (West), English Heritage, commissioned Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) to produce a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for Chysauster Village with the aim of assessing the current condition of the site, how it is valued, its current management issues and potential for development. The plan includes an ecological survey by Spalding Associates to enable the significance of the site's habitat and protected species present within it to be assessed. This plan is intended to inform recommendations for the protection, management and development of the site to create a clear vision of its short term and longer term future.

2.2 Aims

The CMP aims to set out how English Heritage will address the management of Chysauster Ancient Village as a whole in a sustainable, appropriate and long term manner, following best conservation principles, resulting in enhancement of its conservation and other values, encouraging the wider public to discover its special qualities and avoiding unwanted and negative effects on significant aspects of the property. The primary focus of the plan is the area currently in Guardianship but also takes into account the wider scheduled area and the site in its landscape context.

The principal requirements of the proposed CMP are:

- To inform the maintenance of the site to an exemplary conservation standard in order to continue to protect and sustain its significance;
- To inform the management of current levels of public access and enjoyment and where appropriate identify additional opportunities in line with current feasibility studies;
- To inform the interpretation of the site in ways which enhance the visitor experience without adversely impacting on its significance;
- To inform the long term sustainability of the site.

In summary the plan includes:

- A historiography of the monument and archaeological works carried out on site;
- A bibliography of all known interventions and research;
- A statement of significance;
- An outline of policies for the sustained conservation of the site;
- Guidelines for implementation and review;
- A gazetteer identifying individual elements of the site, their significance and management issues.

3 UNDERSTANDING THE SITE

NB: references to individual monuments use the National Monument ID number (e.g. 30514).

3.1 The Site: Location, Geology and Topography

Chysauster Ancient Village is located near Newmill, Penzance, Cornwall TR20 8XA and is centred at SW 47241 34998 six kilometres to the north of Penzance in the parish of Madron (Fig. 1). It lies in West Penwith, an area renowned for its collection of nationally important archaeological sites and well preserved prehistoric landscapes.

The site lies on granite (British Geological Survey 1970, sheet 351/358). The topsoils tend to be thin and acidic and are of the Moretonhampstead Series, whilst the weathered subsoil, locally known as “rab”, is clay-rich and derived from the degraded granite bedrock. A tin lode with a north-north-east to south-south-west aligned strike outcrops to the north-west of the settlement and has been worked both at surface and at depth.

The courtyard house settlement is located on the mid southern slopes below Castle-an-Dinas hillfort, at the upper edge of the modern enclosed farmland. The settlement occupies the south-west facing mid-slope of the valley overlooking the Trevaylor Stream and commands clear views of the moors to the north and Mounts Bay to the south. It is inter-visible with Lescudjack hillfort on the eastern outskirts of Penzance.

3.2 Site Description

The core of the late Iron Age to Romano-British period settlement at Chysauster comprises nine (currently identified) closely-set and well-preserved courtyard houses and a fogou, together with parts of a contemporary field system. These were laid out within and partly overlying a landscape containing a number of roundhouses and an associated field system. There are indications of other detached courtyard houses in the near vicinity; documentary sources suggest that the ‘village’ was originally more extensive, particularly on its eastern side. It has been suggested that the principal period of occupation of the courtyard house settlement dates to the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD (Hencken 1933), whilst the underlying roundhouses and fields date to the late 2nd and the 1st millennia BC (Smith 1996).

The courtyard house settlement sits within an extensive ancient rectilinear field system, which closely hugs the contours of the land. In recent decades this has been surveyed and partially explored through excavation (Nowakowski and Sharpe 1986; Smith 1996). The extent of the prehistoric landscape surveyed within the area of Chysauster extends to just over 70 ha, and incorporates a Bronze Age cairn (burial monument), at least eleven roundhouses and several further probable courtyard houses, together with several phases of prehistoric field system, medieval outfields and evidence for tin streaming and the exploitation of local tin lodes by means of outcrop working and deeper shaft mining (Nowakowski and Sharpe 1986).

Many of the surviving courtyard houses at Chysauster appear to have been formally arranged along a shared ‘roadway’, giving the settlement a ‘planned’ feel. This is not yet proven to be deliberate and may simply be an accident of survival, but the predominant individual houses within the settlement core suggest a more sophisticated build than some of the peripheral houses, possibly reflecting earlier and later phases of settlement contraction, expansion and/or re-organisation. The dating, phasing and organisation of settlement at Chysauster is still poorly understood, however. Adjoining a number of the courtyard houses are small walled enclosures and terraces interpreted as garden plots and/or

building platforms. Many of the courtyard houses have substantial paved entrances marked by large orthostats. Along with the element of enclosure this gives the suggestion of private household space and autonomous control of land and social interaction (Chapter 7 in Herring *et al.* forthcoming).

The fogou at Chysauster is now peripheral to the surviving settlement, but is likely to have been more central within it, as is typical at many of the other courtyard house settlements of West Penwith (Carn Euny, Sancreed, Nanjulian, St Just and Porthmeor, for example). The Chysauster fogou has undergone little investigation but these stone-lined souterrains are often shown to have had a long period of use, primarily for storage but also perhaps as places of refuge and safeguarding. This tells us that the occupants of the courtyard house settlements were part of a society concerned with risk and the need for forward planning (Chapter 7 in Herring *et al.* forthcoming).

The occupants of Chysauster were principally farmers and metal (tin) traders. Evidence of metalworking has been found at other courtyard settlements, such as Carn Euny and Porthmeor, for example, and there is some suggestion for this at Chysauster: excavations by Borlase (1873), Hencken (1928) and Croft Andrew (1937-1939) record fragments of tin or iron slag, ore-stained moulds and a sherd of tin-glazed pottery from the site, principally Houses 4 and 6. This is significant because it demonstrates the broader outlook of the local Romano-British communities of West Penwith, who from the mid to late Iron Age had moved beyond a purely subsistence-based lifestyle to one of trade and exchange with the wider world. This had necessarily brought with it the need for a more hierarchically organised society and established centres of administration and control and local to Chysauster, the hillforts of Castle-an-Dinas, Lescudjack and Chûn Castle may have performed this function; excavations of Chûn Castle (30514) have recovered artefacts which indicate a period of settlement activity dating back to the 4th century BC and then sporadic re-occupation into the post-Roman period (HER entry).

3.3 Historic Landscape Character

Chysauster Village lies within an area of Anciently Enclosed Land (AEL) as defined by the 1994 Cornwall Landscape assessment (Herring 1998; 2009). AEL is Cornwall's agricultural heartland, characterised by farming settlements documented before the 17th century AD and irregular field patterns with either medieval or prehistoric origins that are morphologically distinct from the generally straight-sided fields of later enclosure. It tends to be found on relatively sheltered land, not too steep and not too poorly drained, but can extend onto the edges of high downs. It typically contains networks of deeply cut and winding lanes and roads, which interconnect with small irregular farming settlements and hamlets.

The bracken covered moorland to the northwest of Chysauster Village is defined as Upland Rough Ground (URG) by the 1994 Cornwall Landscape assessment (Herring 1998; 2009). URG is characterised as rough grassland, heathland and open scrub, often found on granite or poorly drained and particularly exposed downland. Here the impact of human action is often underestimated and URG is regularly regarded as largely 'natural' or 'wild'. In fact it usually has the longest history of human utilisation, its heathland habitat being the product of prehistoric human intervention and later maintenance as part of medieval and early modern land use systems.

3.4 The Setting of the Site

Chysauster sits on the side of a shallow-sided valley with clear views towards Penzance and Mounts Bay to the south and Mulfra Hill and Chûn Downs to the west. The late prehistoric hillfort of Castle-an-Dinas (NHLE 100672) is situated around 1.25 kilometres to the east. Current views from the site are mainly rural, comprising an agricultural lowland landscape and semi-wild higher upland

ground, with distant views to the south coast. Locally scattered farms are built of local vernacular stone and granite. Few modern buildings are visible and there are no intrusive features on the skyline.

The site sits within an extensive historic landscape, with evidence for a considerable time depth of settlement, funerary, agricultural and industrial activity. Contemporary views out from Chysauster Village during its lifespan would have revealed a landscape already deep in antiquity, the monuments of an earlier funerary landscape prominent on the higher slopes and moorland crests and the long settled agricultural heartland within the lower valleys containing settlements similar to, and inter-visible with, Chysauster, complete with their surrounding fields and enclosures: the courtyard house settlements at nearby Crankan (31614.02), Carnaquidden (36001) and Mulfra Vean (16180) are just three examples. Evidence of industrial activity suggests that the rich mineral lodes within this area were exploited from very early on and, as noted above, metal working may have played a key role in Chysauster's economy during the Romano-British period.

Long established inter-connecting trackways are likely to have linked Chysauster with neighbouring settlements and to prominent administrative sites within the community, such as Castle-an-Dinas and Lescudjack. These trackways would also have formed part of an important network connecting productive sites inland with the wider markets of Britain and Europe, accessed through coastal trade.

Palaeoenvironmental evidence from Chysauster (Scaife 1986) has shown some clearance of woodland and a major phase of soil erosion, which pre-date the appearance of the terraced fields and courtyard house settlement. Pollen analysis from the site showed a rise in grassland by the 1st millennium BC, which suggested a dominant pastoral economy. The stone-walled fields built and maintained by the Chysauster occupants further contained and stabilised the local soils permitting a more sustainable and intensive farming regime (Chapter 7 in Herring *et al.* forthcoming; Smith 1996).

Higher moorland currently borders the site to the north but archaeological survey (Nowakowski and Sharpe 1986; Smith 1996) has revealed that the field system associated with Chysauster once extended north eastwards into this area (Fig. 4). The lines of former field boundaries are visible as raised lines within the vegetation cover and further previously unidentified stone structures are clearly present. Elsewhere to the south and west, the current field pattern also fossilises many of the historic boundaries that formed part of this field system, with additional lynchets surviving as low earth banks within these, still clearly visible to the eye. Fields in this area remain typically small and irregular, laid out on a general north-west to south-east alignment, running along the contour line (Fig. 4).

3.5 Designations and Constraints

3.5.1 Guardianship Site

The courtyard houses comprising Chysauster Ancient Village, the fogou and parts of the associated field system are in state guardianship and managed by the English Heritage Trust (Fig. 2). Guardianship arrangements are an alternative to acquisition by a public body. The guardian (the public authority; in this case HM Government) agrees to accept responsibility for management and maintenance of the ancient monument and in return acquires certain rights over the property. The owner of the monument does not give up ownership but is subject to the guardianship agreement.

Guardianship agreements are a voluntary arrangement. The Secretary of State, Historic England and local authorities all have the power to become guardians of ancient monuments. The English Heritage Trust is currently caring for properties in guardianship under licence agreement with DCMS.

Once the monument has been taken into guardianship the guardian is under a statutory duty to

maintain it and has very wide powers to exercise control and management and to do everything necessary for its maintenance, including archaeological investigation. There is also a responsibility to provide public access and visitor facilities. Associated land may also be taken into guardianship. (<https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/hpg/HAR/ownership-guardianship/>).

The current guardianship site at Chysauster is smaller than the scheduled area and is currently confined to the courtyard houses identified by the end of the 1930s. Since that time further courtyard houses have been surveyed and a number more suggested. In addition, the landscape setting of Chysauster and its related historic elements have been identified as being of national significance in understanding how the courtyard house settlement was perceived by its contemporaries and how it functioned as part of a much larger settlement during the later prehistoric and Romano-British periods.

The substantial modern guardianship boundaries currently cut across the historic site in places, which creates an artificial division between parts of it and alters the aesthetic of the historic site as a whole. Even given the protection of the guardianship and scheduled areas, there remains a high risk that potentially significant and related archaeological sites lie outside these areas and remain unprotected.

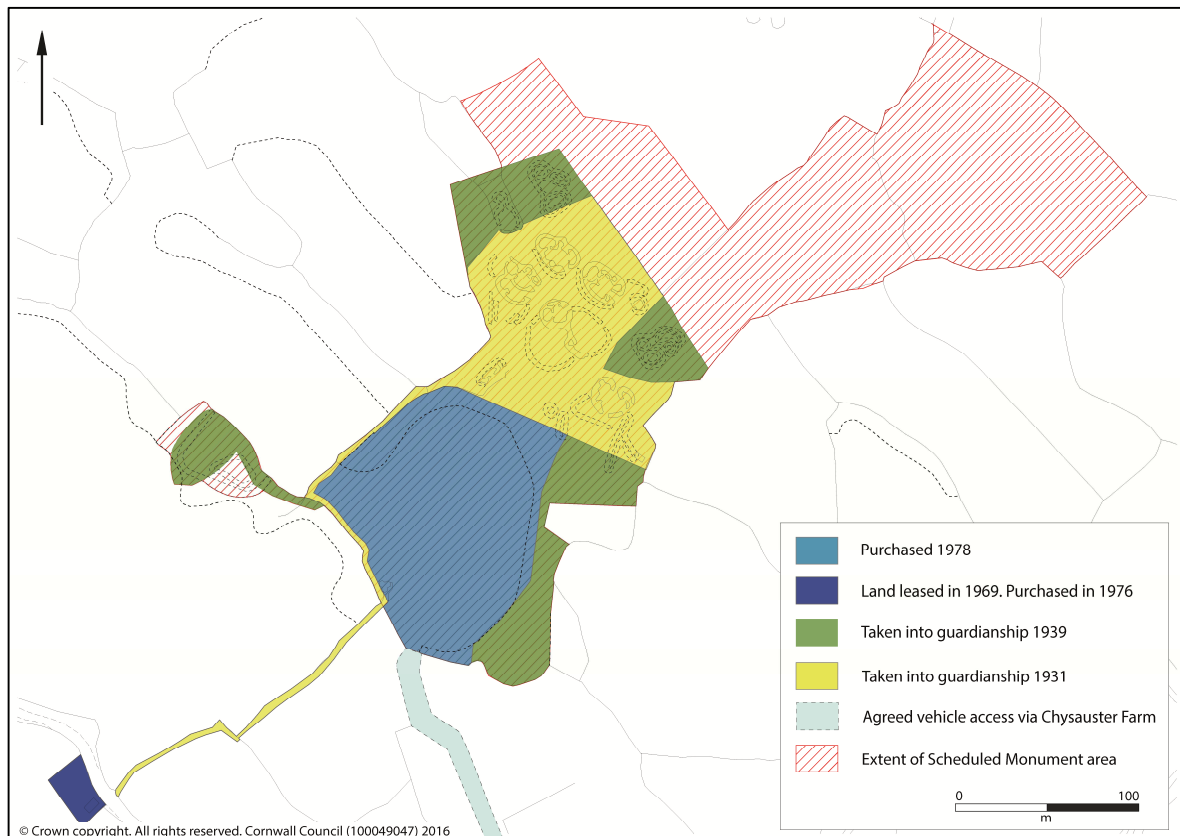


Figure 2: Land acquired at Chysauster through deeds of guardianship or conveyance (The extent of the Scheduled Monument is shown in red).

3.5.2 Scheduled Monument

Chysauster Ancient Village is part of a larger scheduled monument (former Cornwall 37, National Reference 1006726) (Fig. 1). Scheduled monuments are defined as ‘any monument which is for the time being included in the schedule [compiled and maintained by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport]’, the controlling legislation being the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. Chysauster Ancient Village was added to the *Schedule of Ancient Monuments* in 1984. The scheduled area includes the courtyard house complex, a detached Bronze Age burial cairn to the north-west and

parts of the prehistoric field system to its north-east (Fig. 1). These elements of the scheduled monument are owned and managed by adjoining landowners.

There have been proposals to extend the scheduled area but a review remains outstanding (Coe 2001, 11). As such, the scheduled area omits many significant components of the surrounding prehistoric and historic landscape, which is also likely to include further, as yet undiscovered, courtyard houses. To properly understand and conserve Chysauster Ancient Village and its setting it is vital to identify its full extent and its relationship to surrounding features; the scheduled area may need to be extended to incorporate these.

3.5.3 West Penwith Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

Chysauster Ancient Village lies within the West Penwith Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), designated in 1959, and part of the wider Cornwall AONB partnership. The AONB extends from Penlee Point to the north of Mousehole, and then around the coastline of West Penwith to Clodgy Point, St Ives. Inland, it incorporates much of the granite moorlands and ancient farmland of West Penwith.

The primary purpose of AONB designation is to conserve natural beauty and designated areas are protected through statute. AONBs have the same legal and planning status as National Parks. The legal framework covering AONBs is the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. County and Local Plans incorporate planning policy protecting the values of the AONB. The Cornwall AONB partnership has been in place since 2002 and the most current management plan was published and adopted by Cornwall Council in February 2011 (<http://www.cornwallaonb.org.uk/managementplan/>).

Where policy making decisions about Chysauster are concerned it is necessary to balance its archaeological needs with those of local ecology, economy, sustainable development and best practice.

3.5.4 Penwith Heritage Coast

Chysauster lies within the area designated as the Penwith Heritage Coast. A heritage coast is a strip of coastline in England and Wales, the extent of which is defined by agreement between the relevant statutory national agency and the relevant local authority. Such areas are not designated through statute but are protected through developmental control within the planning system. They are areas recognised for their natural beauty, wildlife and heritage and amongst the purposes of definition is support for these qualities and enabling enjoyment of them by the public. For England the national agency is Natural England (formerly English Nature).

3.5.5 Trenowin Downs County Wildlife Site (CWS)

The area immediately to the north of the guardianship site, Carnaquidden Downs, falls within the Trenowin Downs County Wildlife site (CWS), designated for its botanical interest.

3.5.6 Access under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW)

Chysauster is designated as Section 15 land under *The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000*. This preserves pre-existing public access rights and associated management arrangements. The section that relates to Chysauster is in respect of its designation as a Scheduled Monument: *Areas where the public have access rights under section 19 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979, or would have such rights but for any provision of subsections (2) to (9) of that section.*

Carnaquidden Downs, to the north of the site, is registered as Common Land and Open Access Land under the CROW Act 2000 (Fig 3).

In addition to the above designations, Chysauster also falls within areas previously designated as an Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA), Area of Great Historic Value (AGHV) and Area of Great Scientific Value (AGSV). These designations are currently being phased out of the planning process but policies to protect these areas are still saved as part of the Penwith Local District Plan (Appendix 3).

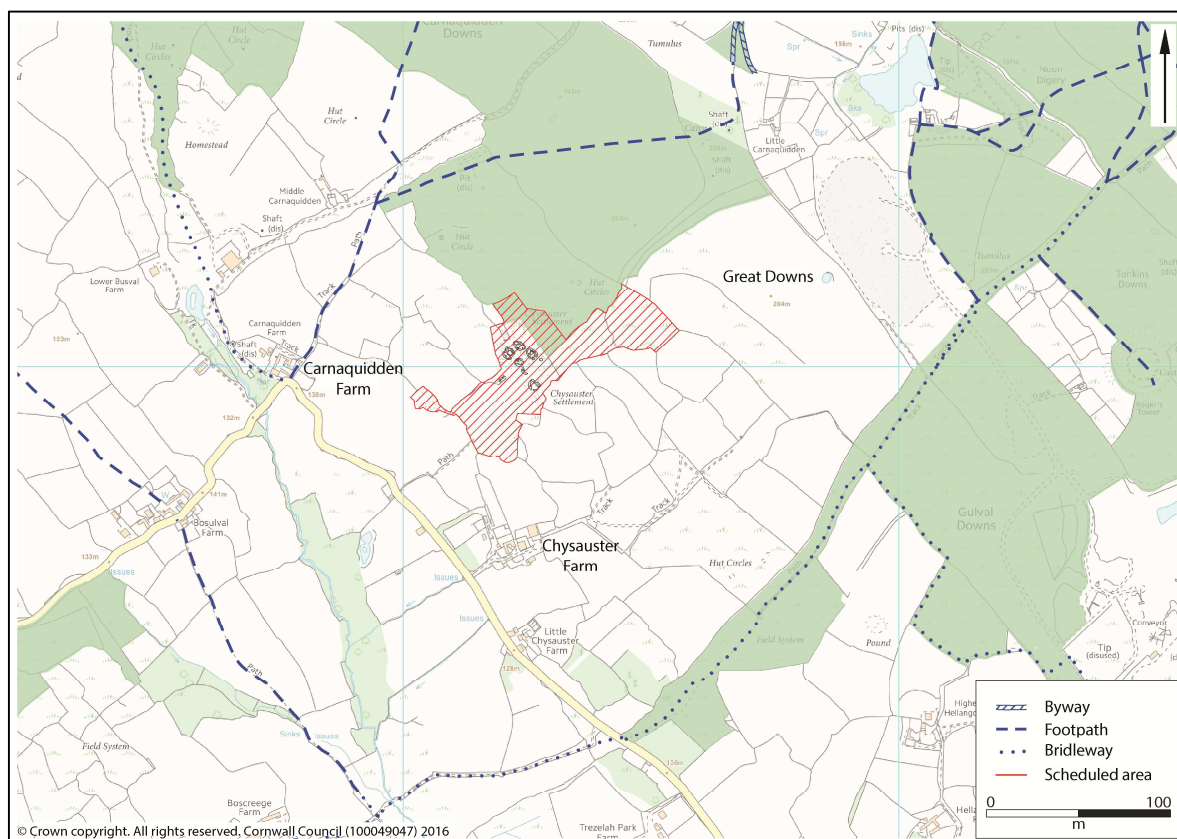


Figure 3: Areas of open access land and Public Rights of Way in the vicinity of Chysauster.

3.6 The Site Currently in Guardianship

The site is currently managed by the English Heritage Trust. An English Heritage Trust Site Manager manages the day today visitor operation on site and is supported by a central team of curators, alongside colleagues from Marketing, Events and Retail. The site is open to the public between the end of March and the beginning of November subject to an admission charge and receives between 10,000 and 13,000 visitors per annum, including educational visits. Visitor numbers by year (including educational visits) for the last five years (source: www.visitengland.com) are:

2010 – 12924; 2011 – 13117; 2012 – 10728; 2013 – 11023; 2014 - 10691

The site facilities include a small car park with space for up to 15 vehicles and a modern toilet block. Two modern buildings on the site itself comprise the ticket/custodian's hut and a small education shed. There is no on-site water or electricity, and vehicular access for staff and contractors is across private land by pre-arrangement (see Fig 2). Pedestrian access to the site is not compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) 1995/2005. The mowing of the grassed areas in the lower part of the site is presently undertaken by a local farmer, scrub and bracken management by an external contractor.

4 HISTORY AND PHASING

4.1 Historiography and Past Archaeological Work

The earliest documentary references to Chysauster date to the early 14th century: *Chisalwester* in 1302 and *Chisalvestre* in 1313 (Padel 1988). The name derives from the Cornish place-name elements *Chy*, typically referring either to a cottage or a building used for agricultural or industrial purposes, and *Salwester*, a personal name 'Sylvester'. This name is Latin in origin and derives from *Silvestris*, 'of a woodland'. Chysauster may therefore refer to a building in woodland, or one belonging to someone called Sylvester.

The documentary references pertain to the farmstead still in existence to the south of Chysauster Ancient Village, although whether this reflects a connection between the courtyard house settlement and the early medieval farmstead is unknown. During the early 19th century the site was occasionally used by Methodist preachers and became known for a time as the 'Chapels'. Hencken (1933, 357) documents an account by the then tenant at Chysauster that House 7 was the location of this activity.

4.1.1 The Work of 19th century Antiquarians

The courtyard house settlement at Chysauster was first recognised by Henry Crozier in 1849 who noted ten courtyard houses and a fogou (Pool 1990).

In 1861 a description of the site together with a plan was first published by J T Blight (1861a, fig. 2). At that time the settlement was considered to comprise at least eight ruinous and overgrown stone-built "huts" of "elliptical form" (Blight 1861a).

Cornish Antiquarian William Copeland Borlase carried out an excavation of the site in 1873 when he cleared out the interior of House 6 (coded by Borlase as House 9) (Borlase 1873; 1880-81).

In 1879 William Copeland Borlase and William Collings Lukis surveyed House 6 and in 1885 published a plan (Lukis 1885, plates XXXVII and XXXVIII). Hencken (1933, Plate LXXII) renumbered Borlase's House 9 to the current House 6.

In 1897 F Holman and JB Cornish excavated House II (later known as House 4, Hencken 1928, 149) on behalf of The Penzance Natural History and Antiquarian Society (1893-8, 106-7).

4.1.2 Excavation during the 1920s to 1930s

The first accurate survey of the settlement was carried out by DH Watkins of Callington in 1928 during excavations directed by TD Kendrick of the British Museum and Hugh O'Neill Hencken. House 3 was excavated (Hencken 1928).

In 1931 Chysauster came into guardianship. Hencken continued his work on behalf of His Majesty's Office of Works. During this time Houses 5 and 7 were excavated, work was resumed on House 3, and some limited excavation, consolidation and repair work took place on Houses 6 and 7. In addition to building up an understanding of the history of the site, the principal aims of the earlier 1930s fieldwork were the consolidation and repair of upstanding walls alongside appraising the work of the earlier 19th century excavators.

On completion of the fieldwork Hencken published a full detailed account of the results of his excavations in *Archaeologia* (Hencken 1933). Hencken's work to a large degree set out the parameters

and framework for subsequent fieldwork at Chysauster. By the early 1930s the excavations had attracted a lot of interest and, following the site being taken into State care, Chysauster began to attract large numbers of visitors. Unfortunately this resulted in significant deterioration to the site.

Professional freelance archaeologist Charles Kenneth Croft Andrew was employed by the Office of Works to carry out work at Chysauster in 1937, 1938 and finally in 1939. Croft Andrew was an experienced, extremely competent field archaeologist with a reputation for excellent recording. Each season of work involved some excavation, alongside the recording and consolidation of upstanding walls. Over these three consecutive years Croft Andrew worked on Houses 3, 5, 4, 6, 9 and “hut 10”. The results of these investigations have never been published (Nowakowski and Gould 2010).

4.1.3 Modern survey and excavation

In 1952, 319 acres of moorland existed in the immediate vicinity of Chysauster but by 1980, 98 acres had been broken in and over the next three years a further 92 acres were lost. In May 1983 during a committee visit by Cornwall Committee for Rescue Archaeology (CCRA) it was discovered that the well-preserved field system in the moorland above the courtyard house settlement was being cleared (22 acres in total) as part of a scheme of ‘improvement’. This included field boundaries that ran under the boundary wall into the guardianship site (Chapter 2 in Herring *et al.* forthcoming).

Chysauster was scheduled by the Department of the Environment (DoE) in 1984, who in the same year funded the survey of part of the field system by CCRA and the Central Excavation Unit (CEU). The works undertaken included the rescue excavation of a kerbed Bronze Age cairn and evaluation trenching of elements of the prehistoric field system within this area (Smith 1996).

Given that further moorland improvement was proposed by the owner of Carnaquidden and Middle Carnaquidden farms, a survey of 71.92 Ha of the remaining unenclosed moorland and partially reclaimed croftland within these tenements was undertaken between December 1985 and February 1986 by Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) (Nowakowski and Sharpe 1986). The landscape was surveyed at a scale of 1:1000, with two outlying courtyard houses surveyed at scales of 1:100 and 1:200. These surveys for the first time provided the landscape context for Chysauster Ancient Village (Fig. 4).

In 1986 paleoenvironmental sampling of a sealed deposit underlying the cairn and peat deposits to the south of the settlement was carried out (Scaife 1986). The pollen analysis from the cairn deposit indicated cereal growing activity within the area surrounding the cairn immediately prior to its construction, but it also detected taxa which might be associated with the initiation of soil degradation processes associated with this agricultural activity. The pollen sequence again showed clear evidence for significant anthropogenically-led changes (predominantly the clearance of valley-side woodland within the local environment leading to the erosion of topsoil) which Scaife considered highly likely to have initiated the formation of the valley peats.

In 1988 some small-scale supervision during the construction of interpretation panels on the site was carried out by CAU staff (Hartgroves 1988).

Aerial photographic plotting of West Penwith was undertaken by CAU staff during the period 1992-1999 as part of the National Mapping Programme. This considerably extended the evidence available for the extent of prehistoric settlement and field systems within the surrounding landscape.

In 1999 the supervision of works to install improved drainage and a new pathway was carried out by CAU staff. Everything revealed was 19th or 20th century in date (Thorpe 1999).

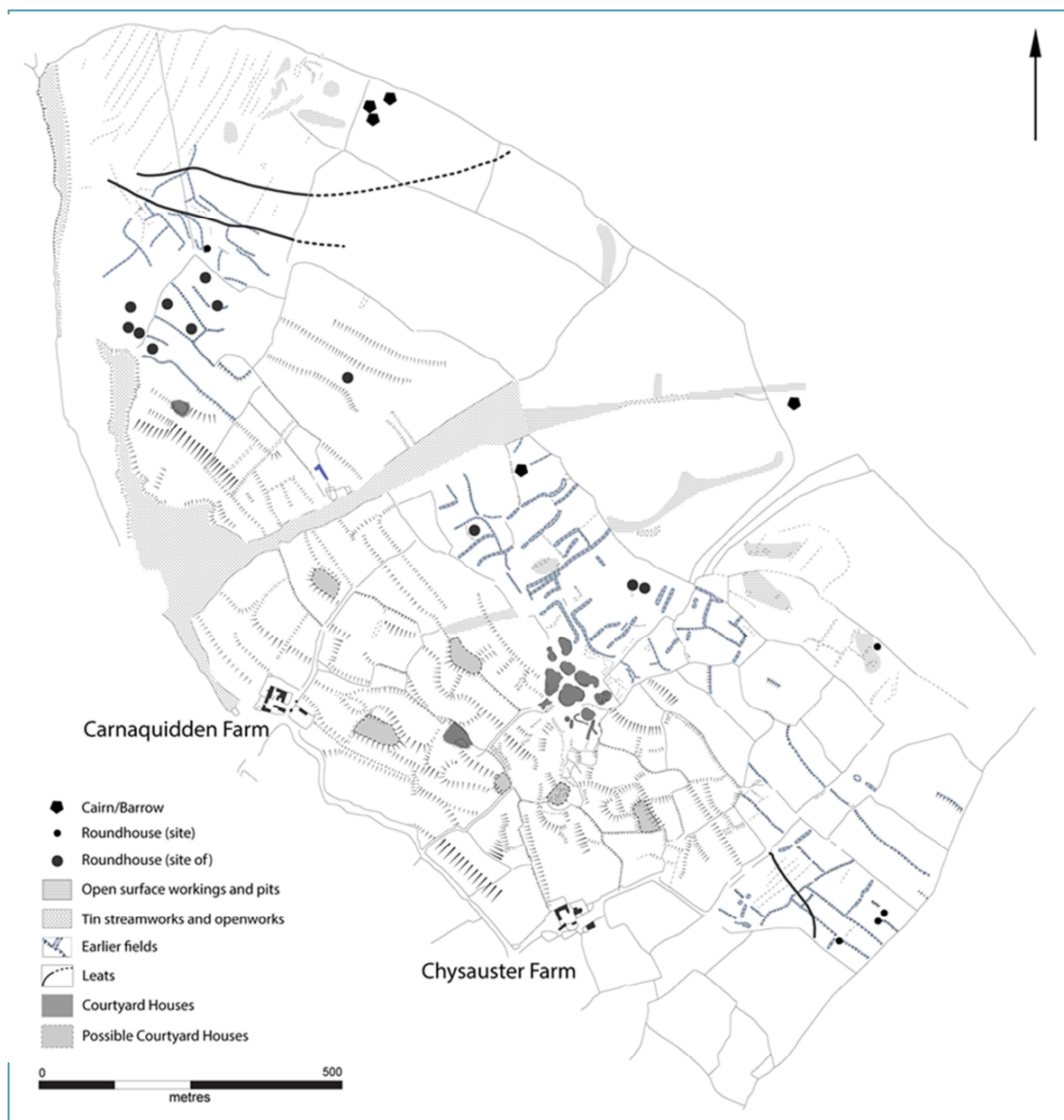


Figure 4: The landscape context for Chysauster Village based on the 1983 and 1985/6 surveys undertaken by CEU, CCRA and CAU. Extracted from Herring *et al.* forthcoming © CAU 2016.

In 2001 an interim Conservation Management Statement was produced for Chysauster Village (Coe 2001). This summarised the state of knowledge concerning the site to that date, identified gaps in understanding including those resulting from unpublished investigations of the site, the lack of an up to date survey of the guardianship site and the need to record the individual courtyard houses in detail to determine the actual extent of original and reconstructed fabric within each one. The high potential of the artefactual and excavation evidence to throw light on cultural and socio-economic aspects of the Romano-British period (including relationships between native people and the Romans and the development of trade and contacts during this period) was acknowledged.

Specific management issues identified by Coe (2001) were the need to improve visitor facilities, the potential for the reconstruction of a courtyard house to aid interpretation, the lack of disabled access to the site and the need to revisit the grounds maintenance strategy to rebalance the interests of the site's archaeology and ecology. A range of policies was proposed to guide the management of the site.

In 2004 the supervision of works to improve disabled access along the main footpath to the site was carried out by staff from Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU). A possible decorated stone orthostat was recovered from beneath the overgrown hedge, at the point where a new set of wooden steps was inserted across it ('F' and 'G', Figs 5 and 6). At the point where the access path enters the main site by the custodian's hut, a possible buried land surface was revealed from which a Roman cochlear spoon dating to the 1st to 2nd century AD was recovered (Thorpe 2004) (Fig 6).

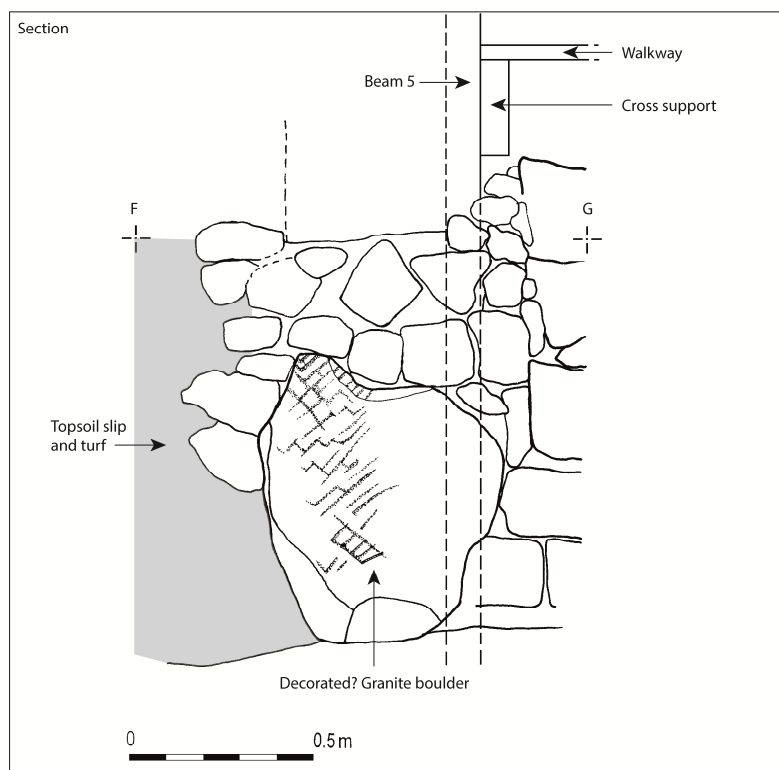


Figure 5: The possible decorated stone recovered during access improvements and its position on plan (Thorpe 2004, fig 7)

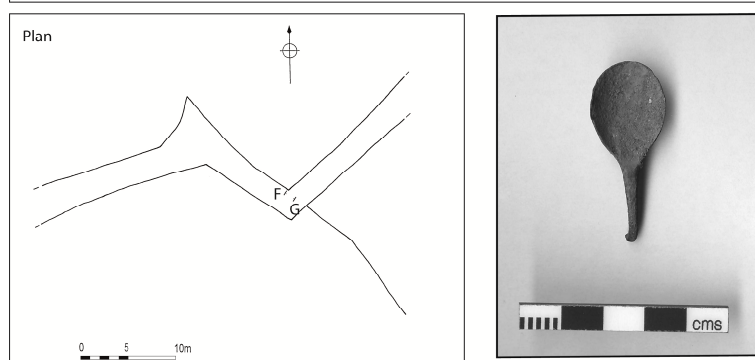


Figure 6: The bowl side of the Roman cochlear spoon found during access improvements at Chysauster (Thorpe 2004, fig 11)

In 2007 a detailed survey of some sections of walling in House 4 and 9 was carried out by Cornwall Council's Historic Environment Service (formerly CAU) staff, prior to their consolidation and repair (Gossip and Nowakowski 2008). The work in total incorporated a measured and photographic survey prior to the repair works and supervision during them. The recording was carried out within the context of similar recording of other guardianship sites within Cornwall. Detailed photographic survey work had already been undertaken at sites such as Launceston Castle, Restormel Castle and Tintagel Castle, for example, as part of ongoing research and conservation works.

In 2009 a condition survey of the site was undertaken by Philip Hughes Associates (Hughes 2009). This

remains the most current condition assessment, although an update is due shortly; a summary is given below (Section 4.3.2).

A comprehensive review of the Croft Andrew Archive and other regional and national archive material relating to Chysauster was commissioned by English Heritage and undertaken by CAU in 2010 (Nowakowski and Gould 2010). This review examined material relating to the work undertaken at the site by William Copeland Borlase in 1873, Holman and Cornish in 1897, Kendrick and Hencken in 1928, Hencken in 1931 and Croft Andrew between 1937 and 1939. The study included a consideration of artefactual material, maps, plans, photographs and other related documentation such as site daybooks and correspondence.

As well as providing a comprehensive overview of the range and context of the available archival material, this work has allowed a far better understanding of the sequence of excavation undertaken on a structure-by-structure basis within the complex, as well as the degree of rebuilding and reconstruction carried out at Chysauster by the archaeologists involved in its investigation, and by the Ministry of Works and subsequent site managers. The report also contained a range of recommendations, which included the need for an updated survey of the site and its condition; the analysis and publication of the 1937-1939 excavations; and a re-assessment of the finds from the 1928 and 1931 excavations. The 2010 report also included a summary of the interventions at each of the courtyard houses (Nowakowski and Gould 2010, section 10.3, 47-53).

4.2 Phasing and Context

Current evidence for dating the occupation of Chysauster Ancient Village is limited to pottery and finds recovered during the 19th century excavations and by Hencken and Croft Andrew during the 1930s. The chronology of the finds archive for Chysauster is in the process of review but the main span of occupation is thought to date to the 1st to 3rd centuries AD. Possible Iron Age material was recovered from Houses 3 and 7 during excavation of these by Hencken (1931; 1933), however, which may indicate earlier origins for at least some house components. This has been demonstrated at other courtyard house sites in West Penwith, such as at Carn Euny, for example (Christie 1997; Chapter 7 in Herring *et al.* forthcoming), but has not yet been clearly demonstrated for Chysauster. It is notable, however, that many courtyard house settlements, and Chysauster is no exception, occupy prime locations that clearly demonstrate significant longevity of settlement and farming landscapes. The phasing, modification and development of settlement in these areas is very likely, therefore, to reflect many centuries of use and re-use.

The roundhouses and associated fields adjacent to and within the wider area of settlement at Chysauster are thought to date to the late 2nd and 1st millennia AD (Smith 1996). Field survey by Cornwall Archaeological Unit in the 1980s (Nowakowski and Sharpe 1986) identified several possible additional courtyard houses on what is now the periphery of the main site, reinforcing the theory that the settlement was once more extensive in size (Fig. 4). Analysis of the surrounding fieldscape suggests the potential locations of a number of further detached courtyard houses. The relative phasing of the nucleated and detached courtyard houses is unknown, however.

Current interpretation considers that the principle surviving houses at Chysauster are of contemporary date deriving from one phase of construction, possibly with a 'planned' element and the suggestion of a central 'street' (Hencken 1933). The evidence for phased occupation and remodelling of houses seen at other courtyard settlements, such as Carn Euny, is deemed to be absent. On this basis settlement at Chysauster is considered to have been relatively short-lived. Evidence for a sudden abandonment 'event' is also absent, the settlement considered to have sunk into a peaceful decline before the final occupants left (Hencken 1933). However, this argument is largely based on the

apparent planned nature of the settlement. If, as now seems more likely, the settlement was originally larger and less 'organised', and potentially incorporating a number of detached houses as well, this argument becomes less compelling. It may be, therefore, that whilst the 'planned' elements of the settlement may well be contemporary, they may represent a later phase of construction than other elements of the original wider village.

Accounts of Chysauster Village by Blight (1861a; 1861b) and Borlase (1873), however, note that the settlement had suffered from significant removal of stone for building by the late 19th century. Hencken (1928, 150) quotes Richard Edmonds in 1861 as writing 'so much of the old village has lately been removed that the cave (fogou), although originally within, now lies without it'. A degree of historical modification and repair of the site was also carried out by Borlase (1873), Cornish and Holman (1897), Hencken (1928; 1931) and Croft Andrew (1937-1939). This would doubtlessly have been on the basis of the site's perceived interpretation and current thinking at that time.

A site visit was carried out by CAU in October 2015 following seasonal vegetation clearance and although a detailed survey was not undertaken, it was apparent that some earthworks associated with the houses have to date escaped likely identification and interpretation. These potentially include additional, and as yet unidentified, houses in the vicinity of the fogou and in the northwest and northeast corners of the guardianship site as well as numerous other features that may be associated with lost structures, such as buildings, garden plots and interconnecting enclosure boundaries. Furthermore, some of the areas previously identified as garden terraces or huts may rather be sections of earlier buildings or annexes. The cleared 'field' at the centre of the site contains a series of low lynchets or earthworks that may also be associated with cultivation or settlement activity – the large stone dumps alongside the hollow-way and re-used within hedge boundaries may potentially derive from the clearance of earlier structures in this area. A detailed topographical survey has since been carried out by Historic England (Bayer 2016) on behalf of English Heritage, which it is hoped will shed further light on the range and extent of all the archaeological features to be found within Chysauster Ancient Village.

Given the above, there may well be residual evidence which demonstrates phases and episodes of modification and rebuilding at Chysauster, of which the surviving courtyard houses may represent the most recent constructions. Identifying and understanding the full extent and relationship of individual parts of the site would potentially bring more clarity to patterns of shift and change over time, which may be drawn out through further review. There is certainly the potential for a far greater understanding of apparent time-depth for occupation and settlement shift than is presently considered to be the case. Any future opportunity to carry out revised interpretations of the site in light of the results of re-examining the archives from the 1930s and earlier excavations, and future modern survey and excavation, is therefore to be encouraged.

It is also important to consider the wider landscape setting and historic context of settlement at Chysauster. The distribution of surviving courtyard house settlements in West Penwith suggest that there were numerous other clusters of courtyard houses set within their own systems of small irregular fields. These appear to be typically sited on the upland valley slopes, close to the edges of improved pasture or in croft or rough ground (Chapter 7 in Herring *et al.* forthcoming) but there is a strong possibility that there were other similar settlements on the better quality, lower-lying land that were lost to agriculture many centuries ago.

The courtyard house form is considered to be unique to West Penwith and the Isles of Scilly and can be distinguished from the oval free standing houses that are more typical for this period to the east of the Hayle River and which are typically located within enclosed sites called rounds. Architectural forms for Late Iron Age and Romano-British settlement elsewhere in Britain, such as northwest Wales, for

example (Waddington 2013), share some similarities with the stone-built courtyard houses in West Penwith but this is an area of research that is currently lacking coherent study. Chysauster is ideally placed to offer research opportunities in this area. This would be particularly useful in helping to understand the commonality and differences between courtyard houses and other contemporary settlement in the South West of England (such as rounds and hilltop settlements, for example) as well as their relationship to other late prehistoric and Romano-British settlement forms in Britain and north-west Europe.

Within Cornwall it is thought that there is a close association between Romano-British settlement forms (such as rounds, for example) and the early medieval settlements indicated by place-name elements such as 'tre', 'bos' and 'ker' (Padel 1985; Johnson and Rose 1982; Preston-Jones and Rose 1986; Rose and Preston-Jones 1995; Turner 2006). Shifts in settlement between the late Romano-British and early medieval periods are not yet fully understood but it seems likely that the medieval farmsteads in Cornwall were successors to the late prehistoric settlements situated on the better quality lower-lying land, with late prehistoric settlements on the upland margins having generally fallen out of use by this time. Although it is not yet so easily demonstrated, it is possible that the former occupants of Chysauster Ancient Village moved to establish new settlements in the vicinity of Carnaquidden and Chysauster farms, which have endured in some form into the present day.

4.3 Modern History

4.3.1 Guardianship and management

When Chysauster Village was taken into guardianship in 1931, the Office of Works commissioned first Hencken and subsequently Croft Andrew to carry out several seasons of excavation, consolidation and repair. A measured survey of the site by Hencken (1933) produced the first major plan, which formed the basis of site interpretation reproduced in all guidebooks since the first Ministry of Works guidebook in 1960 (Baillie Reynolds 1960); a new guidebook is currently in preparation. The house numbering system adopted by Hencken remains in use today.

The present boundary of the guardianship site does not enclose the whole of the courtyard house settlement but currently includes at least ten courtyard houses (although others may yet be identified), a partially buried fogou in the southwest of the site and the remains of possible garden terraces and enclosures, which may conceal evidence for earlier phases of construction.

The guardianship was transferred from the Ministry of Works to the Ministry of Public Buildings and Works in 1962, to the Department of the Environment in 1970, then to the Department of National Heritage in 1992, and since 1997 rests with the Secretary of State for the Department of Culture, Media and Sport. Responsibility for the management of the guardianship site passed from the Department of the Environment to the new non-governmental organisation English Heritage in 1984 and in the same year the settlement within the guardianship site, and a further area to the north, were designated as a Scheduled Monument. Since April 2015 the responsibility for the management of the site has rested with the new charity, the English Heritage Trust.

The Guardianship site at Chysauster is the result of several deeds of guardianship along with a series of gifts and purchases. The acquired areas (as given in the DoE Scheduled Monument terrier and the deeds of guardianship and conveyance) are illustrated in Figure 2. Guardianship, ownership, rights and obligations are summarised below, extracted from Coe 2001:

- Area 1 (to include access track) – Deed of Guardianship dated 23rd February 1931 between Col R R Malone (deceased) and the Commissioner of Works. This land is now owned by

Mr/Mrs Hampden-Smith. Access to the site was restricted to the narrow path. The Commissioners agreed to construct and maintain the access path, to enclose the hut clusters in a manner as to prevent any damage being done to them by cattle and to provide and maintain stiles between the fields.

- Area 2 - Deed of Guardianship dated 20th January 1939 between Col R R Malone (deceased) and the Commissioner of Works. This land is also in the ownership of Mr/Mrs Hampden-Smith. Access arrangements were as the earlier deed but no special responsibilities were specified in the deed of 1939.
- Area 3 - This was sold by Edna Maud Hicks with Barclays Bank Ltd to the Secretary of State for the Environment on 12th October 1978. It was agreed at the time of purchase that access would be available 'from time to time, with or without lightweight vehicles, to the field purchased from the nearby public road across field no 2373, or by another route across land retained by the Vendor, Mrs Hicks, as may be agreed between the parties'. The access to be for the carrying of tools and materials to and from the Guardianship site.
- Area 4 (car park) - The use of this area as a car park was agreed via a lease, with conditions, in July 1969 between the owner Ann Elson and the Minister of Public Works and Buildings. It was purchased on 30th December 1976 by the Secretary of State for the Environment.

4.3.2 Modern condition survey

The most recent condition survey of Chysauster was carried out in 2009 (Hughes 2009) and is due to be surveyed in 2017. A summary of the main findings from 2009 concluded that invasive and damaging vegetation (bracken, gorse, brambles) was a major issue affecting the site with the potential to significantly damage below ground archaeological remains. Many of the issues and recommendations identified by Hughes 2009 condition survey have since been addressed (Heather Sebire 2016 *pers comm*) and a programme of vegetation clearance and annual maintenance is in place (English Heritage 2016). New interpretation for the site is also underway. A summary of the findings and recommendations from the 2009 survey is given below, with a note of which have been addressed:

- The preferred cover for the preservation of structural remains would be a matted and shallow-rooted turf, which might comprise a number of different species including heather
- Loose stones on wall tops and in wall faces need to be made secure, ideally using local rab and finished with soft capping – *on-going repairs are currently taking place at the site*
- Structural remains should be regularly inspected for loose stones and existing loose stones (identified in the report) repaired by re-bedding and packing – *this is currently in place*
- Stockpiles of stone to be removed away from house remains under archaeological supervision, so as to distinguish these from surviving archaeology – *this has not been addressed, to date*
- Joints in stonework to be packed with dampened rab, carefully removing and replacing stones as necessary. A detailed survey of the stonework to be carried out prior to this – *some areas have been addressed*
- Two particular sections of walling were identified as being in poor condition; the courtyard wall opposite the entrance of House 5 and the small round chamber off the narrow room in House 6b. The former is recommended for monitoring and the latter for consolidation – *this is currently being addressed*
- The consolidation works carried out in 2008, particularly on Houses 4 and 9, should be seen as a starting point for a regular programme of future repair and maintenance for the site – *they are*
- Worn paths across the tops of house walls were considered not to be causing ongoing damage but hurdles placed to deter visitors from using the paths were seen to be ineffectual and other means of discouragement should be considered – *this is being addressed*
- Maintenance of the informal grounds was generally poor, with peripheral areas of grass

becoming shaggy and rank. Bracken invasion was extensive and beginning to encroach on the houses themselves. Heather growth on the house walls had become mature and woody and substantial clumps of gorse and woody ivy were noted – *this is being addressed*

- Boundary walls and access routes were considered to be in generally satisfactory and stable condition but the visitor admission building was recommended for replacement, as also the entrance gate latch and some of the fence posts along the main entrance path - *this is not planned at present but is being monitored*
- Repairs to the toilet block were recommended - *this is not planned at present but is being monitored*
- Signage in the visitor arrival areas was relatively new and in good order but signs on the site itself were noted as beginning to fade and weather – *new signage is going in during summer 2016*
- The education hut was seen to be showing signs of significant wear and decay and a programme of repair was recommended - *this has been repaired in 2016 as part of a new interpretation project*

4.3.3 Modern setting

The modern setting of Chysauster Village remains that of an agricultural landscape on the margins of upland ground, although the layout of fields has altered little over time along with the intensity and nature of land use. The removal of historic boundary features in the vicinity of Chysauster and within the settlement itself has been documented through historic maps and plans of the area (see Hencken 1928; Hencken 1933, for example). Many of the stone boundaries which revetted or topped the lynchets have been removed and ploughing has flattened out the lynchet earthworks. The programme of moorland 'improvement' carried out during the 1980s has further resulted in the wholesale loss or near obliteration of many boundary features.

Even so, the pattern and alignment of many of the older fields, enclosures and trackways remain fossilised by the modern boundaries, clearly illustrating the time-depth of settlement and continuous agriculture in the vicinity. The modern fieldscape to the east and south of Chysauster is dominated by small irregular fields of probable prehistoric origin; these are significant as being part of the wider survival of distinctive ancient field and settlement patterns particular to West Penwith, which are particularly well-preserved. Many of the existing hedge boundaries are ancient in origin and within the fields themselves are the visible remains of former lynchets and enclosures.

To the west of Chysauster former field patterns have become obscured by modern agricultural practices and the programme of moorland 'improvement', which has resulted in the removal of some historic boundaries to create larger fields. The National Mapping Programme (NMP) survey has revealed many of the ancient boundaries and lynchets still visible as cropmarks and earthworks through aerial photography, but the predominant character of this area, with its much larger fields, has a more modern feel.

The wider landscape setting of the courtyard house settlement at Chysauster reveals that it was once part of a much more extensive contemporary landscape that itself fossilised elements of older settlement and monumental construction. These aspects of later prehistoric activity are still visible in the views out from Chysauster and the modern setting therefore fuses together both the present farming landscape and the longer time-depth of human engagement. Physical change since the 19th century may have been more rapid, but the historic setting of Chysauster remains little impacted by modern intrusion and more blended with the past.

The area of bracken and gorse to the north of Chysauster is one area that may be perceived today as a 'wilder' landscape of a sort typically seen in many current moorland areas within West Penwith. The

area north of the Chysauster was the subject of modern 'improvement' during the 1980s, which has resulted in significant loss of upstanding features, and it's presently abandoned and 'wild' face is less the result of natural processes, but rather the lack of any subsequent management regime. Although the area still contains upstanding archaeological features, the survey of this area by Nowakowski and Sharpe (1986) gives some indication of just how much has been lost: remains associated with the monument builders of earlier prehistory, the farming settlements and fields of later prehistory, the field systems of the medieval and post medieval periods and post medieval tin workings.

The marginal upland areas of West Penwith have long been subject to changes and modifications in land use, swinging in and out of use with changing pressures and demands. A programme of clearance and maintenance would enable this area to inform better understanding of how the Chysauster landscape developed and changed over time and how patterns of settlement and agriculture adapted to meet new forces for change. Additional survey within this area would add to current knowledge and further illustrate the extent of settlement and boundary features upslope of Chysauster Village.

4.4 Archives

The following archives hold material and collections relating to Chysauster (Nowakowski and Gould 2010; Susan Greaney 2016 *pers comm*):

The Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro

- Material from the Hugh O'Neill Hencken excavations of 1931.

Penlee Art Gallery and Museum, Penzance

- Material from excavations at Chysauster, possibly including material from the Holman and Cornish excavations of 1897 but more probably material from the 1928 excavations by Kendrick and Hencken. Some of the material currently on display at the Penlee Art Gallery and Museum is on loan from the Royal Cornwall Museum.

Morrab Library, Penzance

- Blight's archive of notebooks, drawings etc. and a number of photographs of the excavations carried out during the 1930s.

National Archives, Kew

- A version of Part I of the EH Chysauster File 071360/2.

Historic England Archive, Swindon

- Parts 1 to 7 of the EH Chysauster File 071360/2
- The Croft Andrew Collection (three plans of Chysauster which consist of the 1933 MOW's plan with two enlargements of House 4 and House 6 indicating areas of repair).
- A series of further plans and drawings of Chysauster (see Appendix 4)

Fort Brockhurst, Hampshire

- EH Archive 88278621, containing notes, correspondence and all finds from the Croft Andrew excavations 1937-1939

The British Museum, London

- Correspondence between Hugh Hencken and Thomas Kendrick up to 1930
- Correspondence between Croft Andrew and Christopher Hawkes in 1938 regarding a collection of pottery from Borlase's 1873 excavations
- A collection of pottery sherds from Borlase's excavations (possibly purchased after his death)

Cornwall Record Office, Truro

- A small number of photographs and early postcards, as well as some 19th century estate plans for Chysauster and Carnaquidden Farms

The Courtney Library, RCM, Truro

The material and finds collections of William Borlase's 1873 excavations at Chysauster were dispersed after his death. The Courtney Library at Royal Cornwall Museum has Borlase's archive, which includes his personal collection list, with notes as to sales after his death. Unfortunately three listed items from Chysauster were not purchased by the RCM – two (a stone object and some 'Jew's tin') remained unsold and one (5 sherds of pottery) was purchased by someone else. Although the RCM did not purchase any of his Chysauster finds, they did purchase some Carn Euny items from this collection (Susan Greaney 2016 *pers comm*)

Wayside Museum, Zennor

- At least one stone basin taken there from Chysauster by Hirst

4.5 Site Ecology

A phase one habitat survey of Chysauster Ancient Village was carried out by Spaldings Associates in December 2015 (Horn-Norris 2016). Prior to this ecological surveys were carried out during the 1990s and 2000 (Fitzgerald 1998; French *et al.* 1991; Spalding 1993; Wells 2000). The report by Horn-Norris (2016) is attached as Appendix 3 but a summary of findings is given below (and see Fig. 7).

4.5.1 Description of habitats

No habitats of European Community interest, as defined within the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended), are present within the site and the site does not lie within or immediately adjacent to a site designated for nature conservation value:

- The lower southwest section of the Guardianship site comprises short, semi-improved acid grassland, the majority of which is mown or rabbit-grazed.
- The northeast area of the Guardianship site, within which the upstanding courtyard houses are situated, is vegetated by a mosaic of dry heath and acid grassland. Within this area there is also bracken, heath and scrub.

NB: the areas of acid grassland are moderate quality examples of the habitat type, not considered to be typical examples of Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitat Lowland Dry Acid Grassland.

- The stone faces of the upstanding courtyard houses are encrusted with a variety of lichens and support abundant lower plant growth. The walls are topped with vegetation, including mosses, tall growths of Bell Heather and Ling, bracken, ivy and ferns.
- Where present, the Cornish hedge bank boundaries along the western edges of the site are typically topped by a near continuous line of woody vegetation, including Hawthorn, Blackthorn and Gorse. The Cornish hedge bank boundaries in the east support less woody vegetation, being mainly topped by bracken, grasses, ivy and ferns.

NB: the Cornish hedge banks are of local value as a semi-natural habitat with potential to support a range of animals. The sections with a continuous line of native woody scrub qualify as Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitat and as a Habitat of Principal Importance under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006.

- Where present, the dry stone walled site boundaries support generally sparse vegetation, with some encrusted lichens, and some ivy, hawthorn and Navelwort.
- The fields to the northeast of the Guardianship site but within the Scheduled area are registered as Lowland Heathland, a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitat. These are now extensively invaded by bracken and the Priority Habitat is now lost from this area.

4.5.2 Protected Flora and Fauna

Flora:

- No protected, rare or scarce plant species were recorded within the site at the time of survey in December 2015.

Fauna:

- The Cornish hedge banks topped by woody vegetation, and the areas of bracken, scrub and heather on site, have the potential to be used by foraging and commuting bats. No trees or buildings on site were recorded as having potential to support roosting bats.
- Signs of badger, mole, fox and rabbit were noted on site. All badger activity was recorded near to the hedge banks at the west of the site. However habitats on site have limited potential to be used by foraging badger and there were no badger setts noted on site.
- There is potential habitat for nesting birds within the walls, hedges and scrub: it is likely that birds will use the site for nesting during the breeding season (March - August).
- This site has potential to be used by reptiles within the complex assemblage of habitats that are present onsite; i.e. the areas of grass adjacent to bracken, stone walls and built structures, and Cornish hedge banks.

4.5.3 Recommendations

- Any management of the site should take into account the potential for bats to be present on site. If lighting is to be used on site or significant areas of habitat are to be affected by management then advice should be sought from an ecologist to advise if any further surveys will need to be completed. Management of the site, particularly the sections of Cornish hedge bank should take into account the potential use of the linear features such as hedges as bat flight lines and the corners where shrubs provide shelter as bat foraging areas.

- *Any activities that are likely to disturb these potential bird nesting habitats should be completed in the period between September and February, outside the accepted bird nesting season. If this is not practicable, activities should be preceded by a thorough inspection for nesting birds by a suitably qualified person. If nesting birds are discovered activities should be halted until nested chicks have fledged.*
- *Any management of the site should take into account the potential for reptiles to be using the site for foraging and shelter. If management is to affect any areas of potential reptile habitat then advice should be sought from an ecologist.*
- *It would be desirable to reclaim the former BAP Habitat Lowland Heathland to the north of the site, currently inundated by bracken, although it is noted that this may be a difficult process.*

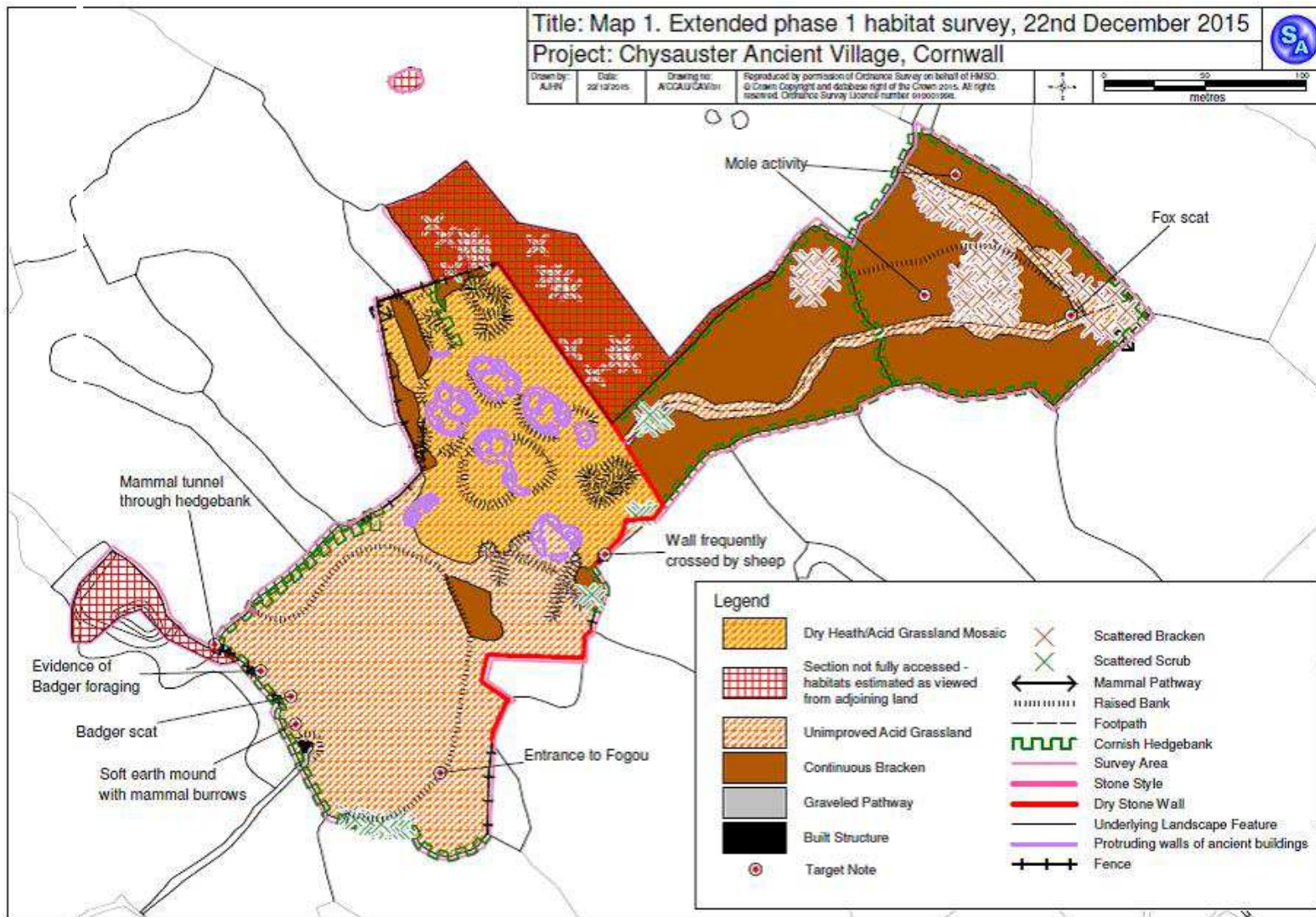


Figure 7: The extended phase 1 habitat survey of Chysauster, carried out by Spalding Associates in December 2015 (Horn-Norris 2016, Map 1)

5 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

In 2008, English Heritage published *'Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance for the Sustainable Management of the Historic Environment'* (English Heritage 2008). The idea of 'significance' lies at the core of these principles. Significance is a collective term for the sum of all the heritage values attached to a place, be it a building, an archaeological site or a larger historic area such as a whole village or landscape. The conservation principles guidance (English Heritage 2008) sets out a method for thinking systematically and consistently about the heritage values that can be ascribed to a place. People value historic places in many different ways: 'Conservation Principles' shows how these values can be grouped into four categories; Evidential, Historical, Aesthetic and Communal.

The levels of significance for each of these categories in the statement below have been broken down into the relevant aspects of each category and have been scored as High, Medium or Low to reflect both existing significance and future potential.

5.1 Evidential Value

- *'the potential of a place to yield evidence about past human activity'*

Chysauster Ancient Village is the best preserved and most studied example of the larger aggregated 'village-type' courtyard house settlements in West Penwith. These larger settlements, such as Chysauster, are comparatively rare in relation to the higher number of smaller courtyard house groups particular to West Penwith and the Isles of Scilly, often consisting of just one or two houses. How these different size settlements compare and relate is yet to be fully understood. It is not known whether aggregated settlements such as Chysauster were in fact atypical of their kind and whether they performed specialised roles within the contemporary local economy.

Some of the houses at Chysauster have undergone substantial repair and reconstruction, but there remains a high degree of architectural preservation. This has significant potential for future research into the morphology of these distinctive compartmentalised house-types and how they relate to the wider context of Romano-British settlement in the South West of England and further afield. There is also significant value of the courtyard houses to studies of local Cornish domestic architecture; looking at the construction techniques; investigating the internal plan form of individual buildings and whether they have been constructed to form a deliberate relationship to each other; and looking at aspects of settlement shift and organisation. The surviving extent of Chysauster is already sizeable in comparison to many of the courtyard settlements of West Penwith, with evidence suggesting it was once larger still. Additionally, its current layout may indicate an element of 'planning', although this has yet to be confidently demonstrated. Both aspects make Chysauster unusual amongst its known neighbours but many of its elements, the house structures, the garden plots and terraces, the surrounding field system and the fogou, are common to other contemporary settlements of this type.

Excavation at Chysauster has so far recovered large quantities of artefacts, the majority dating to the 2nd to 3rd centuries AD. This rich material record so far suggests a relatively concentrated time span of settlement activity. There is some indication for earlier occupation at Chysauster, although this needs further qualification, which a modern reassessment of past archives may help clarify. Future programmes of survey and excavation have the potential to reveal further material evidence for the nature and time-depth of human occupation of Chysauster, which might help inform our understanding of occupation chronologies; domestic, agricultural and industrial activity; ornamental display and status; spatial and functional organisation within settlements; and changes in ritual and belief. The good state of preservation of a number of the courtyard houses also opens up the potential for

studies of domestic function; changes in settlement form and architecture; the use of space in Romano-British houses; the functionality of the courtyard houses within the collective settlement; the use of enclosure to reflect contemporary beliefs and ideologies in respect to status, self-governance, identity, ownership and social organisation within Romano-British communities.

The fogou at Chysauster has seen little evaluation and there is a real opportunity to explore this feature in more detail, both to better understand this distinctive element of some courtyard settlements and to enhance visitor experience at the site. It is of interest that fogous are a feature common to both courtyard house settlements and the contemporary rounds in Cornwall; excavation has shown that fogous are firmly Iron Age features so their association with these settlements is an indicator of their considerable time-depth of activity. This is an area worthy of further research.

Within the courtyard house settlement there are features presently interpreted as garden plots and enclosures that may have obscured evidence for earlier buildings and structures. New survey of this area may help to clarify the existence of earlier settlement features and, if shown to be present, these could significantly impact on how we view the complexity of the site. There is therefore considerable potential for modern targeted survey and excavation at Chysauster to increase our understanding of the time-span, chronology and phasing of occupation within the courtyard house settlement, as well as providing information which might better enable us to understand the similarities and differences between other West Penwith settlements of this type.

Chysauster sits within a rich settlement landscape, which incorporates evidence of human activity from the early prehistoric period through to the present day. The benefits of modern survey techniques and palaeoenvironmental analysis to landscape archaeology already demonstrate the complexity and time depth of the settlement landscape in which Chysauster sits (Nowakowski and Sharpe 1986; Scaife 1986; Smith 1996). The settlement landscape surrounding Chysauster clearly reflects a long time depth of human activity and land use, as illustrated by the substantial roundhouse settlement and multi-period field systems to the north of Chysauster, the chronology and phasing of which are still not fully understood.

The occupants of Chysauster Ancient Village clearly continued to modify and adapt the land to meet changing patterns of local agriculture and industry; this has been demonstrated through modern survey of the surrounding fields and upland (Nowakowski and Sharpe 1986) where so much of the upstanding evidence for human occupation is now lost. With the modern emphasis on the significance of landscape to hold clues to the story of human settlement, land-use and social interaction, Chysauster is supremely well-placed to offer potential for future survey and research to illuminate further on how the landscape was settled and adapted over millennia of human use.

Evidential Element	Level of Significance
Courtyard houses	High
Fogou	High
Landscape context	High
Artefactual evidence	High

5.2 Historical value

- 'the ways in which past people, events and aspects of life can be connected through a place to the present - it tends to be illustrative or associative'

The present farms of Chysauster and Carnaquidden are likely those referred to in the earliest documentary records, and whose names have survived into the present day. Although it cannot be conclusively shown, it is likely that the occupants of Chysauster Ancient Village (and neighbouring courtyard house settlements) remained settled in the area, perhaps moving closer to the valley bottoms to establish farms and settlements in the locations that survive today.

It is not only the place-names that have continued the direct links to the past. The complex arrangements of fields, lanes and enclosure boundaries in proximity to Chysauster Ancient Village demonstrate the continued use of the land to sustain local communities, who chose to adapt the surviving patterns of settlement and agriculture rather than replace them wholesale. Earlier evidence of settlement and monument building in the vicinity has likewise been incorporated within the evolving structure of farming settlement, suggesting there remained strong links between former and later communities and a significant sense of continuity of 'place'.

Chysauster Ancient Village has been the subject of investigation by Cornwall's best known antiquarians (Blight, Borlase, Holman and Cornish, Lukis) and early modern archaeologists (Hencken and Croft Andrew) and the material that survives from those surveys and excavations reveals much of early archaeological techniques and interpretative thinking. This in itself preserves a rich historic legacy of early work that has paved the way for further evaluation using more modern techniques of landscape survey, excavation and scientific analysis.

Local society publications reveal that in addition to the study of Chysauster, the site was regularly visited during the 19th century by local groups interested in their local heritage. During this time the site was also partly adapted for use by local Methodist preachers. Their congregation further reinforced the on-going connection between Chysauster and the communities who lived nearby. These different aspects of use also demonstrate how the site was perceived and valued as a place to meet and to exchange shared customs, interests and beliefs, and how the use and significance of the site meant different things to different communities at different times.

Historical Element	Level of Significance
Place-names	Medium
Historic land use	Medium
Antiquarian study	High
Historic customs and beliefs	Medium

5.3 Aesthetic Value

‘the ways in which people draw sensory and intellectual stimulation from a place’

The location of Chysauster permits extensive views across the West Penwith peninsula in almost all directions, making it possible to appreciate how the courtyard settlement would have lain within its wider contemporary landscape. The monuments of past communities would have been evident on the surrounding hilltops alongside an already ancient landscape of settlements and fields. Overlooking all of this would have been the contemporary centres of local administration, trade and social organisation; Castle-an-Dinas hillfort, for example. The modern visitor to Chysauster is able to take in this vast and complex landscape and experience for themselves how local communities at the time might have perceived their environment and how they may have adapted this to meet their own needs. This could be greatly helped through revised site interpretation, which might include orientation maps and reconstruction views looking out from the site and showing contemporary settlement and fields.

Beyond the historic value of Chysauster, its setting is of high aesthetic appeal, further enriching the visitor experience and just one of the many reasons why the site holds such a special place in the hearts of the local community. The local landscape probably looked very different when Chysauster was occupied, with what is now wild moorland a patchwork of small arable fields interlinked by trackways and paths. The valleys were probably more densely wooded then than now. Although the late prehistoric landscape has seen substantial loss through modern attempts at ‘improvement’, the local habitat of today supports a rich and varied ecology, vital to the survival of sensitive flora and fauna and generally adding to the visual appeal of the courtyard house settlement and surrounding area. Walks in and around the site contrast closed-in, intimate, views with far-reaching vistas across the West Penwith peninsula and the coast. Intrinsic to its appeal is the relative lack of intrusion by modern development in the area immediately surrounding Chysauster, reflected in its designated status as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

The appeal of Chysauster both on an aesthetic level and as a site of significant historic and archaeological interest has long attracted a broad church of visitors and students. As demonstrated in the evidential section, there are numerous aspects of Chysauster Ancient Village that offer the potential for further study, but the site also has significant appeal as a place to visit in its own right. The distinctive architectural appeal of the courtyard houses and their high state of preservation combines with the sense that there is more to be discovered, which creates an irresistible appeal to the visitor. The setting of the site, with the contrast of the partly enclosed and inward character of the courtyard house settlement and the open and semi-wild character of the surrounding upland ground is also stimulating on both a visual and sensory level. This is enhanced by the ecological appeal of the site and wide variety of native flora and fauna that it supports.

Aesthetic Element	Level of Significance
Visual and intellectual aesthetic of the site	High
Visual and intellectual aesthetic of the setting	High

5.4 Communal Value

-‘the meanings of a place for the people who relate to it, or for whom it figures in their collective experience or memory’

The local community values Chysauster Ancient Village. This reflects both its historic significance and aesthetic appeal and the connection many people continue to feel with the site. Although the site itself is closed during the winter months the immediate area continues to be enjoyed by local people: there have been requests to provide access to Chysauster all year round. There is the potential to increase the level of significance through increased opportunity for community engagement.

Local heritage protection groups maintain an interest in how Chysauster is cared for and how it is promoted as part of the wider body of regionally distinctive heritage sites. CASPN (Cornish Ancient Sites Protection Network), for example, are a charitable partnership formed to look after the ancient sites and monuments of Cornwall and they work closely with local communities and organisations. They are part of a wider local voice that seeks to ensure Chysauster’s local distinctiveness is protected and that the future care of the site reflects engagement with aspects of local character and language.

There is a long established connection between Chysauster Ancient Village and local schools and colleges, who continue to visit the site on education visits and who, historically, have played a more active part in experimental archaeology projects within the site. There is the opportunity to increase this significance through increased opportunities for education and learning. A large part of the archaeological archive produced through the study and excavation of Chysauster by local antiquaries is still held by local museums and libraries, maintaining the connection to these past people and events and making them accessible to new generations of visitors and students.

There is a huge potential to invite local people to actively participate in any future works at Chysauster, to promote the site to wider visitors, to participate in the maintenance of the site, to assist with any future archaeological investigation or conservation works, and to keep a watchful eye on it out of season. There is also the opportunity for promotion of the site through English Heritage to recognise the strong local heritage of Chysauster, through the use of the Cornish language and using local artisans in any image production or reconstruction on the site. The recent establishment of the West Penwith Landscape Partnership may open up future opportunities for community archaeology and heritage-related projects where Chysauster could play a role. Enhancing the opportunities for community engagement would be a key aspiration and vision for Chysauster.

Communal Element	Level of Significance
Connection with local communities	Medium
Connection with local heritage bodies	Medium
Connection with local schools and colleges	Medium
Connection with local heritage centres	Medium

6 ISSUES AND VULNERABILITIES

6.1 Condition of the Monument

The condition survey of 2009 (Hughes 2009) covered the guardianship site, both the archaeological monument and the visitor facilities. It did not extend to the scheduled area beyond the guardianship site. The main issue the survey flagged up was the invasion of bracken, heather and gorse across the site. This issue is being addressed through the current management regime but the level of vegetation on the walls of the courtyard houses remains a concern as there appears to be a continuing threat of damage to stonework. Around the perimeter of the guardianship site the level of bracken encroachment is also a real concern, particularly as there is a high likelihood of surviving upstanding archaeology in this area. There is also some bracken evident on some wall tops, although this is relatively low level at present. Recent excavation at the Bronze Age settlement at Bosiliack, to the northeast of Lanyon Quoit, has shown the very severe impact which bracken has on buried archaeological deposits (Jones 2012). Buried features such as the floor deposits in prehistoric roundhouses can be badly disturbed and archaeological deposits within effectively destroyed by the development of a dense mat of rhizomes.

Gorse, heather and ivy are also a continuing threat, particularly where growing over areas of stonework. The primary issues with this are the reduced visibility of the monument, which impacts on the visitor experience, and the potential root damage to stonework. Vegetation cover also encourages animal burrowing, which should be discouraged (Rimington 2004).

The access pathways across the site and through the courtyard houses continue to show signs of wear from visitor footfall. Some paths are evident on and across the wall tops but these do not appear to be causing damage at present.

During the site visit of December 1st 2015 it was observed that some of the stone walling, both interior and exterior, of the courtyard houses was in poor repair, with loose stones and some areas of erosion and tumble (Figs 8 and 9 and see the site gazetteer; Appendix 1). A more detailed assessment may reveal additional areas requiring attention.

The fogou is currently closed off to visitors, with a metal grille across the entrance and part of the interior supported by sandbags to help stabilise the structure. The entrance to the fogou is showing signs of vegetation ingress and some stones within the walling either side of the hollow-way leading to the entrance were found to be loose. The interior of the fogou has not been evaluated or recorded and its present condition, particularly its stability, is unknown.

The hollow-way on the west side of the site is under low shaggy grass and, although in relatively good condition, is overhung by some large stands of gorse on its western side. This is putting the stone boundary walling under pressure and there are some areas where stones may be coming loose. The stone stile and steps are stable but uneven in places.

At the time of site visit in December 2015 the grass areas surrounding the main areas of the monument had been cut, along with the bracken, and as a result it was possible to appreciate not only how much more extensive and complex the monument is within the guardianship site, but also its' extent beyond these limits. The guardianship boundary wall appears to cut across archaeological features, particularly at the northern and eastern ends of the site. This has implications for not only the condition and survival of archaeology in these peripheral areas, but also the ability to fully understand the site as a whole.

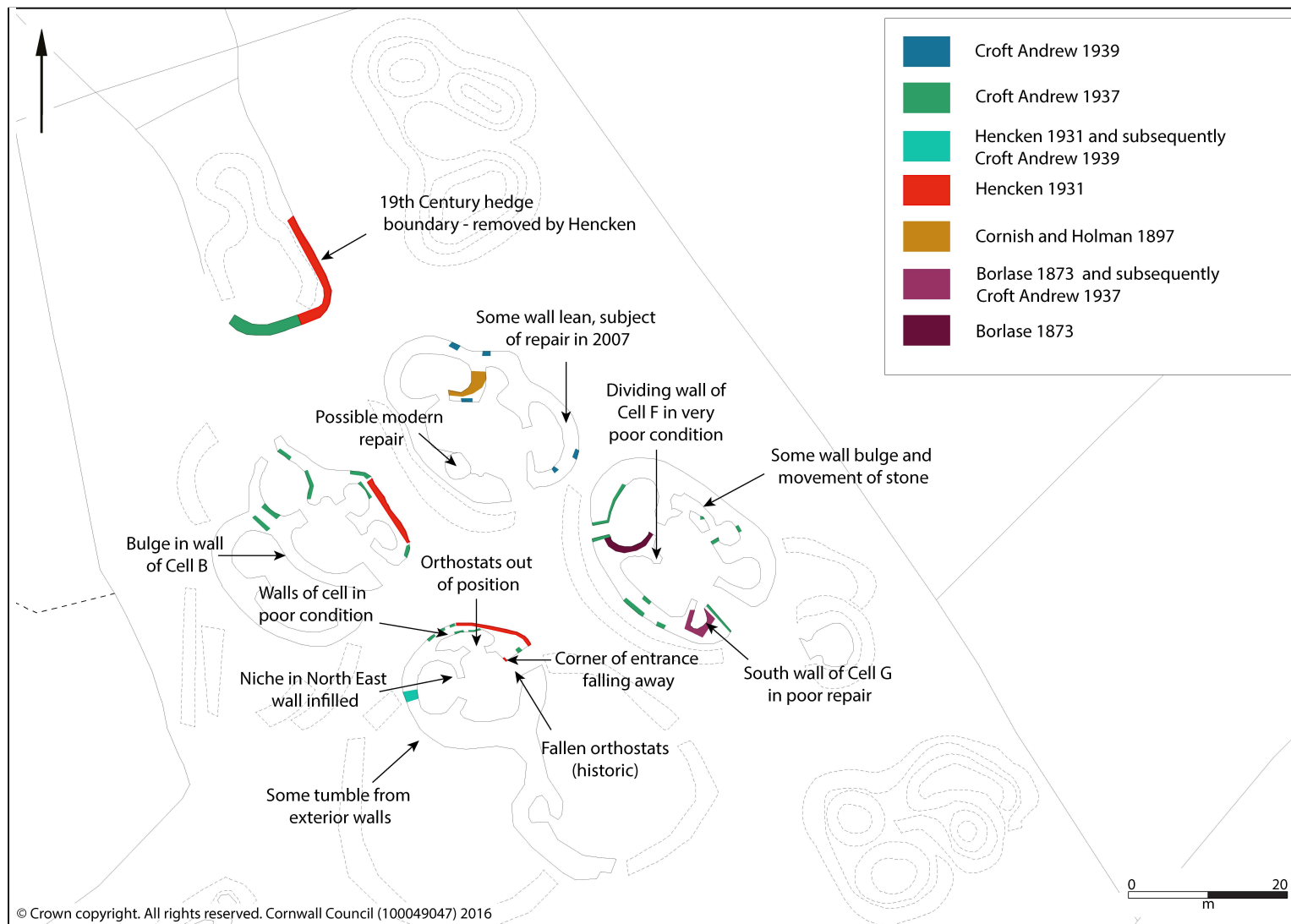


Figure 8: Historic repair and reconstruction documented for Chysauster and current issues noted as part of a rapid survey during the site visit in December 2015



Figure 9: Broadly mapped areas of vegetation cover within the Chysauster Guardianship site

6.2 Site Maintenance Issues

The Conservation Management Plan of 2001 (Coe 2001) highlighted that the grounds maintenance contract at that time was drawn up on the specification devised by English Heritage staff, which grouped Pendennis and St Mawes Castle together with Chysauster. It was felt that there had been little consideration of a specific strategy for Chysauster, particularly given the on-going issues with scrub management. The 2009 condition survey (Hughes 2009) also highlighted the issues with scrub, and particularly bracken, that was encroaching into the perimeter areas of the site. Vegetation affecting the stonework of the houses was another of the concerns identified by this survey.

The current grounds maintenance specifications (English Heritage 2016) reflect the revision of the vegetation management regime to address the issues raised by the 2009 condition survey. An updated condition survey was intended for 2014 but due to the restructuring of English Heritage this has been delayed. The contract for site maintenance is shortly to go out to a new tender but the specifications for vegetation management have not changed since 2009. A summary of the current maintenance scheme is given below.

6.2.1 Courtyard settlement

The grassy paths within and around the courtyard houses are currently mown and maintained to a maximum height of 75mm. The use of a tractor-mounted flail-mower is prohibited. Additional areas of grassy, woody and other growth in level non-path areas are expected to be cut back annually during late September to a height of 75mm (English Heritage 2009).

Bracken on the wall faces, wall tops and inside the houses is to be hand pulled on two occasions each year; in early June and mid-July; chemical spraying is prohibited.

On vegetation covered wall tops associated with the courtyard houses all gorse, ivy, broom and bramble is to be cut to ground level once a year during November and the woody stumps treated to prevent regrowth immediately after cutting, using a chemical approved by the Landscape Manager.

All woody growth from the faces of walls is to be removed once a year during November, to include as much of the root as possible without damaging the stonework; cutting roots back to the level of the stonework if necessary. Woody stumps are to be treated immediately after cutting, using a chemical approved by the Conservation Manager.

On vegetation covered wall tops associated with the courtyard houses the sides of all heather is to be pruned back level with the faces of the walls. Heather-tops are to be pruned in accordance with correct horticultural practice. Approximately 15% of the heather on the wall tops, including the oldest and tallest plants, is to be cut down to 100mm to maintain definition of the walls. This work is to be carried out once a year during February.

Heather and other growth over 300mm in height is to be cut down to 50mm over 25% of the monument area. This includes all growth not covered by the sections above, whether on level ground or wall-tops. This is to be done between late September and late October, altering the 25% to be cut on an annual basis. Cut stumps from these works are to be allowed to regrow and not treated.

Recommendations

As highlighted in the site Gazetteer (Section 6 of this Plan), the site visit in October 2015 recorded that a substantial issue with bracken and scrub growth still remains within the peripheral areas of the Chysauster Conservation Management Plan 2015

monument, as does a continued problem with the growth of heather, gorse and ivy on wall-tops and other areas of stonework. The bracken is likely to be causing damage to buried archaeology around the site perimeters and there were sections of walling within some courtyard houses where damage appeared to be the direct result of vegetation and root ingress.

It is also important that the levels of vegetation removal from in and around the courtyard houses achieve an appropriate balance. Although it would be inappropriate to make the site look too manicured, it is important that inter-visibility between the various elements of the monument is maintained and that there is a balance between appearing too tidy or untidy.

The current maintenance schedule should therefore be reviewed to ensure that the intended works are properly enforced and that the percentages of intended vegetation removal remain fit for purpose. A proper review of the vegetation management has been highlighted as one of the most pressing issues facing the monument and is one of the primary considerations of this plan. It is important that this opportunity is not lost and that a review of the current maintenance schedule prioritises the needs of the archaeological monument and takes due consideration of the ecological sensitivities of the site.

6.2.2 Informal grounds

The mowing of the grassed areas making up the lower part of the site is presently undertaken by a local farmer, with scrub and bracken management undertaken by an external contractor. Currently, vehicle access to the site is only possible across neighbouring land with the landowner's permission.

The current maintenance contract (English Heritage 2016) distinguishes areas of grass in the southern part of the site to be cut annually in late March (long grass 5), late August (long grass 6) and mid-late October (long grass 3). Short grass pathways are to be maintained throughout the year.

Recommendations

The expectation is that ragwort will be hand pulled before flowers open and that basal parts are removed. Bracken is to be sprayed with Asulox or an approved equivalent but no spraying is to take place inside or on the walls or wall tops of the courtyard houses. Sensitive non-target species, to include all other ferns, are also to be avoided.

NB: Asulox is not currently on the approved products list but may be available by special licence to a specialised contractor at the appropriate time of year on a case-by-case basis.

As noted, above, bracken continues to be an extensive problem across the site, largely around the site perimeters, though this was also seen within the area of the courtyard houses. Given that there is a high likelihood of surviving buried archaeology within these peripheral areas, the continued treatment and removal of bracken from these areas should be given a high priority.

6.2.3 Site facilities and services

The site visitor facilities, including the car park and toilet block, access path and ticket hut are subject to quarterly maintenance and vegetation clearance, March being the principal time for any annual building and services maintenance. A monthly inspection of the site is undertaken to identify any signs of damage or vandalism, as well as the need for any minor repairs (English Heritage 2005). The current maintenance contract is shortly going out to a new tender (Chris Bally 2016 *pers comm*).

The car park is in the ownership of English Heritage and has space for just 15 cars. This is likely to

prove inadequate if visitor numbers to the site increase. Some consideration should be given to the potential to expand the car park as a result.

Maintenance of the car park comprises keeping the wall-tops clear of grass and other vegetation, through using a strimmer or approved hand tools, three times annually during early March, late July and late September. The car park is also to be chemically sprayed to remove weeds, as appropriate and at a time agreed with the site manager. The access path between the car park and the monument is to be kept clear of grass and scrub on both sides to 50mm beyond the path edge (English Heritage 2016).

As the site was closed to the public during the CAU site visit in December 2015, the condition of the toilet block, ticket hut and education hut could not be closely inspected. Externally both the toilet block and education hut appear rather shabby and in need of refurbishment. At the time of the site visit the education hut was in poor condition, being a converted former Ministry of Works tool shed; it is understood this has since been refurbished. The toilet block has baby-changing facilities but no disabled facilities and is closed out of site opening hours. There is no mains water or electricity to the site and no toilet facilities beyond the car park. The ticket hut has only bottled gas to provide heating, light and limited cooking facilities for staff. There is a small retail section available at the ticket hut but no entry to visitors, being over the counter service only (Coe 2001, 14).

The entrance gate to the site is inappropriate and rather unappealing. The door jammed when trying to open it, probably due to the effects of recent wet weather. The access path up to the site is in good condition, although the wooden steps across the wall were slippery. The stone boundary walling is generally in good condition, although a few potentially loose stones were noted in places.

Visitor signage in the lower area of the site is in generally good condition, but interpretation boards across the site are very poor. The interpretation of the site is currently under review, however: new panels are due for delivery in January 2017, with a 3D panel and a proposed observation platform to follow (Susan Greaney 2016 *pers comm*; Win Scutt 2017 *pers comm*).

6.3 Site Access and Availability

6.3.1 Transport access

There is currently no public transport serving Chysauster. The local roads to the site are narrow and restrict access by larger private vehicles and coaches and there is limited car parking, with no provision for coach parking. Chysauster's hidden location makes it potentially difficult for visitors who are new to the area to find. The site is brown-signed from the A30 but signposting is not consistent on all access routes. Local road signage in the locality of the site is also limited.

Works to expand the immediate road network and car parking facilities at Chysauster would improve and increase access capability to the site but any major structural changes would have an impact on its setting and the balance of historic landscape character. There may be scope for limited and sensitive improvement, however, carried out through consultation with the local community and the Local Highways Authority, Cornwall Council; this may be restricted to increasing the size of the existing car park as upgrades to the local road scheme may not be feasible or practical.

The limited and restrictive access to the site, the lack of visitor facilities and the issues around improving these may present a long term, if not permanent, barrier to the overall appeal of the site to visitors, and therefore the ability to increase the attractiveness of Chysauster as a visitor attraction. There appears to have been a decline in visitor numbers since their peak in the 1970s and this could have an effect on the site's income and commercial viability in the longer term (Coe 2001).

6.3.2 Maintenance access

Vehicular access to the site remains an issue and current access across a neighbour's property continues to be by agreement only. Plans drawn up by English Heritage in 1988 to construct a vehicular access to the site were dropped due to concerns about the negative impact of such a development (Coe 2001). A firm surfaced access road may be achievable using ground reinforcing materials that permit vegetation growth, thus limiting its visual impact, but access permissions and limitations remain an issue.

6.3.3 Disabled access

The Equality Act of 2010 now streamlines the current legislation on discrimination, which includes replacing the Disability Discrimination Acts of 1995 and 2005. The aim has been to 'protect individuals from unfair treatment and promote a fair and more equal society'

(<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/legal-and-policy/legislation/equality-act-2010/equality-act-guidance-codes-practice-and-technical-guidance>).

Chapter 7 of the Equality Act 2010 *Statutory Code of Practice: Services, Public Functions and Associations*, (2011, page 90, 7.4), 'Disabled persons: reasonable adjustments', states *'The policy of the Act is not a minimalist policy of simply ensuring that some access is available to disabled people; it is, so far as is reasonably practicable, to approximate the access enjoyed by disabled people to that enjoyed by the rest of the public. The purpose of the duty to make reasonable adjustments is to provide access to a service as close as it is reasonably possible to get to the standard normally offered to the public at large (and their equivalents in relation to associations or the exercise of public functions)'*

(<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/documents/EqualityAct/servicescode.pdf>).

There are a number of key issues in relation to disabled visitor access to Chysauster:

- There are no disabled facilities in the toilet block.
- The car park has only one disabled parking space.
- Despite improvements to the main access path to the monument in 2004 it is not currently compliant with statutory disability policy and there is probably no likelihood for this to become so.
- The terrain around the monument is uneven and there is insufficient provision for visitors to rest around the site; only three benches are currently provided.
- There are no audio guides or visual aid guides available for the use of visitors with sight or hearing impairment.
- There is no provision for visitors with learning difficulties, either in the way of practical assistance or designated learning materials.

The location and physical character of the terrain at Chysauster makes addressing these issues in a way that both respects the monument and its setting and creates a fairer and more inclusive visitor experience problematic. The current access to and into the site is only by a relatively un-intrusive gravelled footpath, edged with post and wire fencing and which crosses at least three stone hedges, which the visitor has to clamber over via wooden steps or stone stiles. There is no provision for wheelchairs and pushchairs and access for these users may be impossible to rectify without considerable changes to the current route. The nature of the present access path and its route alongside and over some very impressive Cornish hedges adds significantly to the exploratory character of a visit to the site and is an important part of its ambience. This is a further consideration when any decision is made regarding future alterations to improve wider access to less able-bodied members of the community.

Whilst easier access to and around the site itself may be difficult to achieve, it should be possible to provide more places for people to rest around the site. Improvements to, or relocation of, the ticket hut could be considered to include disabled toilet facilities and an indoor shelter area. Additional guides could be produced to assist visitors with visual or hearing impairment, or those with learning difficulties. Other interpretation aids might incorporate sensory elements; if future plans for the site are to include a reconstructed courtyard house and garden then this would be an ideal opportunity for some broader interpretation.

6.3.4 Monument access

Within the current guardianship site, House 10 (see Fig 1) (now under the ownership of Mr M. Pearce) is presently out of bounds and inaccessible to visitors. The access path to this house has been blocked up and the house has been left to become overgrown (although it is technically subject to maintenance as long grass (5), see above, there appears to be scrub and Blackthorn in growth). A survey of House 10 was carried out by Nowakowski and Sharpe (1986) (see Section 12.23). A new survey of this area is considered essential to assess how the structure has fared under heavy vegetation growth over the last 30 years, using the existing survey as a steer to assess the effects of vegetation on the survival of upstanding stonework.

The result of House 10 being outside the current visitor area (and consequently the maintained area) is that it reduces visitor experience and potentially diminishes understanding of the wider courtyard house settlement and its context within what was clearly a densely settled landscape at the time that the ancient village at Chysauster was occupied. There is also a significant potential for the house to further degrade through neglect.

The fogou is also currently out of bounds and its entrance is barred by a steel grille. It is not clear how the current entrance way down to the fogou relates to the structure itself, or how the fogou relates to the multiple earthworks around it and within which it may sit. There is no proper record of the fogou and its full extent is unknown. It was not possible during the site visit of December 2015 to assess whether the condition of the fogou is stable and an evaluation of the feature and the surrounding earthworks is considered an urgent priority. Some non-intrusive investigation such as ground penetrating radar would be useful as a primary means of condition assessment, ahead of any further necessary mitigation. This will not only to help preserve it into the future but also help inform interpretation of the wider site and its proper management and care.

NB: An analytical earthwork survey of the guardianship site, to include House 10 and the fogou, has recently been undertaken (Bayer 2016), along with a geophysical survey of the fogou and a three dimensional photogrammetric survey of the fogou and courtyard house settlement (Susan Greaney 2016 pers comm).

The hollow-way that leads up to the courtyard house settlement from the south was used as the original access to the site when it was first opened to the public in the late 1920s. Currently the hollow-way is a marginalised feature of the site and its chronological relationship to the ancient village is not known.

During the visiting season the perimeter areas of the site are under cover of bracken, which restricts access to areas of the monument and reduces the appeal of the site to visitors. It also limits the way in which the site is perceived and interpreted.

The current guardianship boundaries have the effect of suggesting that the archaeological monument is restricted to its area, when in fact it is likely to extend substantially beyond it in most directions, particularly to the east. The northern guardianship boundary clearly cuts across a number of older

enclosure boundaries, some of which, at least, indicate a direct association with the upstanding courtyard houses. The central open grassed area in the south of site further leads to the perception that this area is archaeologically 'blank', which is unlikely to be the case. Where opportunities for English Heritage to acquire extra land and extend the guardianship boundaries arise these should be strongly considered.

Outside the area in English Heritage Guardianship, the open access land to the north of the site falls partly within the scheduled monument area (see Fig 3), although there is a considerable survival of multi-period archaeological features beyond the scheduled area that are likely to relate to not only earlier periods of land use but also the wider contemporary Romano-British settlement landscape at Chysauster. The open access land is currently not maintained and is under year-round cover of bracken and scrub. This makes archaeological features in this area almost wholly inaccessible and poorly appreciated. The historic access to Chysauster would have been via the network of trackways criss-crossing the upland ground; opening up some of these routes to pedestrian visitors to Chysauster would greatly assist in fostering an understanding of how the site fits within the surrounding landscape. The open access land to the north of Chysauster is currently in the ownership of Mr Hampden-Smith and it is recommended that he be approached by English Heritage to discuss the possibility of clearing and maintaining scrub and vegetation in this area, ideally with the support of Historic England and available stewardship schemes.

The section of the scheduled monument that extends beyond the guardianship site and outside of the open access land is beyond the English Heritage pay-line; there is a stone stile into it to the north of House 6 but there is currently no permissive access across this. This section of the scheduled monument is also under a dense cover of bracken and scrub and archaeological features within this area are almost wholly obscured and inaccessible. This is likely to be causing structural damage to both upstanding features and below ground remains but is also impacting on how the ancient village of Chysauster and its contemporary Romano-British landscape is perceived and interpreted. The poor condition of this area is also a concern to local Historic England Heritage at Risk officers who consider this area to be potentially vulnerable (Nick Russell 2016 *pers comm*; Ann Preston-Jones 2016 *pers comm*). It is recommended that English Heritage consider any future opportunity to acquire this area of land and propose to the Secretary of State to bring it into guardianship. An interim approach would be to discuss the possibility of clearing and maintaining scrub and vegetation in this area with the current owner, ideally with the support of Historic England and available stewardship schemes.

A general issue of access and availability to Chysauster is that the management of the upper rough ground immediately to the north of the ancient village is inappropriate for a site of its clear national significance and negatively impacts on its setting. A survey of this area was carried out by Nowakowski and Sharpe in 1986 and it would be beneficial for a new survey to be carried out to assess the survival of any archaeological features so as to inform future management: it is understood that this has recently been done (Win Scutt 2017 *pers comm*).

6.3.5 Site interpretation and intellectual access

There has been no modern scientific excavation or evaluation of any elements of the site. All interpretation is therefore based on investigations undertaken no later than the late 1930s and in some cases during the 19th century. The current interpretation of the courtyard house settlement at Chysauster is therefore still largely rooted in this historic evaluation. It also continues to be interpreted in isolation, and not in its historical and landscape context, although a number of landscape surveys carried out in the 1980s and 1990s and now published in the West Penwith Survey will help to redress this and promote the national archaeological significance of the survival of later prehistoric landscapes that are distinctive across the Land's End district (Herring *et al.* 2016).

Interpretation at Chysauster is relatively low-key and is currently presented to visitors via interpretation boards positioned around the site and a guidebook, which also incorporates information on the courtyard settlement at Carn Euny, Sancreed (Christie 1987). The interpretation boards, which were in poor condition at the time of the site visit, have recently been replaced (Susan Greaney 2016 *pers comm*; Win Scutt 2016 *pers comm*). It is important to sustain and nurture visitor interest and promote future engagement with the site through a regular review of interpretation at sites like Chysauster, taking into account updated research, the advancement of knowledge through new surveys and fieldwork, and changing expectations of historic site management.

Research undertaken into the site has produced a legacy of high quality excavation work, which is reasonably well understood and documented (e.g. Hencken 1933). There is also, however, a substantial and well preserved site archive of unpublished work. There has been a rapid appraisal of some of the Chysauster documentation in recent years (by Nowakowski and Gould 2010) but it would clearly benefit from a thorough review which also assesses the major artefact assemblages from the excavations, revisits earlier results, and looks at the material as a whole in the light of recent research into later prehistoric and Romano-British rural settlement in south-west Britain. Such a review would address some of the aims set out in the South West Archaeological Research Framework (SWARF), including (but not limited to) those of utilising hidden resources (Aims 11-13) and improving the understanding of non-villa rural Roman settlement (Aim 29).

NB: *an assessment of the ceramic archive is currently underway and awaiting a full project proposal to seek funding for publication (Susan Greaney 2016 pers comm).*

Negative issues relating to the current site interpretation include the present physical state of some of the unexcavated courtyard houses and the poor condition of some of the reconstructed areas of stonework in those that have been excavated. There is also a lack of specific information concerning historic structural rebuild and the extent of reconstruction of upstanding archaeology on site. There is no structure by structure analysis of the stonework in the individual houses which records the locations of historic interventions; including the reconstruction of house walling, which was very much at the heart of the excavation strategies in the 1930s (see above).

There is currently no adequate record of the fogou and the earthworks immediately around it. The interpretation for the fogou and its relationship to the courtyard house settlement remains very simplistic and based on historic investigations, many of which are nearly a century old. It lacks any real contextual information and simplifies the site without really explaining how it functioned. As noted above, the lack of detailed modern survey of Chysauster is currently being addressed through an analytical earthwork survey of the guardianship site (Bayer 2016), a geophysical survey of the fogou and two possible adjacent courtyard houses, and a three dimensional photogrammetric survey of the fogou and courtyard house settlement. These are being carried out as part of the research underpinning the forthcoming interpretation scheme with the aim of improving the understanding of the chronological relationship between key features of the site and to help with interpretation of currently unexcavated areas (Susan Greaney 2016 *pers comm*). A future geophysical survey would be recommended to include the open grassed area in the lower part of the site to determine the nature of any archaeology in this area.

6.4 Education and Outreach

English Heritage continue to develop its policy of making heritage sites available as a free and all-inclusive educational resource across a range of learning groups, supported by online services and digital resources. English Heritage aims to ensure a great experience for teachers and learners through its on-line services, learning resources, on-site facilities and welcoming staff. Additional aims include

becoming a market-leader in the field of digital learning and the building of strong links with local schools near key heritage sites (English Heritage 2015, Schedule 4, Part A)

The English Heritage education policy for Chysauster is currently under review but some key priority areas for consideration are likely to be (Vanessa Baker 2016 *pers comm*):

- The promotion of free visits with supporting resources
- To reinforce links with the National Curriculum and the highlighting of skills development
- To present heritage learning through modern day delivery methods and resources
- To reinforce partnerships with local schools, educational networks and focus groups
- To look at who visits sites outside the top 30 and how best to engage the potential for these

The drivers behind achieving these potential aims are likely to include:

- Driving up education visitor numbers to sites
- For offerings to be relevant and embedded in historical skills and accuracies, reflecting the site history
- Establishing strong networks with key focus groups, understanding the audiences and their needs
- The support and training of all English Heritage staff in developing the importance of education and to provide the best educational experiences possible
- The support of schools in delivering high quality history education, connecting them with heritage organisations, resources and opportunities, thus ensuring students receive a broad, balanced and enriched education

An analysis of Chysauster in 2001 (Coe 2001, 25) suggested that educational visits to Chysauster largely derived from local schools, particularly from St Ives, but that higher and further education groups were not highly represented. St Ives School was regularly involved in a technology event at Chysauster during the 1990s, which included building a thatched roof on one of the cells in House 6 (now removed).

The education facilities at Chysauster currently cater for small visiting groups. The education hut has been recently refurbished and updated and now contains handling materials (Win Scutt 2017 *pers comm*). Schools are entitled to free visits as part the English Heritage free visits scheme for schools. School visits need to be booked at least seven days ahead and a learning objective needs to be provided to qualify for free entry. A free planning visit is also provided. There is a downloadable teacher's guide (English Heritage 2015a) to the site but there is currently no led-visit option or the provision of additional educational materials.

The visitor number trends for Chysauster for the last ten years shows that Chysauster receives relatively small numbers of school visits overall (English Heritage 2015b; 2015c). There was a significant increase (around 30%) in June 2015, however, thought to be due to the launch of the new curriculum in September 2014, which requires in Key stage 2 a knowledge and understanding of prehistory. Research in the South West (and national research) currently suggests that teachers are not hugely comfortable on the whole with the new primary level prehistory topic and are looking for visits to help support their prehistory studies. English Heritage is therefore keen to expand on the current visit and resource provision at Chysauster to support teachers.

There is a real opportunity to improve and develop the potential for learning at Chysauster, which could include a more suitable education room and material resources as well as targeted educational

activities, such as experimental archaeology days. The opportunity to meet the changes in the National Curriculum is also timely in light of the current review of Chysauster's education strategy.

6.5 Local Community Engagement

Local interest and appreciation of Chysauster is high and there is a real opportunity to increase local engagement with the site to benefit all. In the near future there is likely to be the opportunity to broaden links with the wider community through engagement with the HLF West Penwith Landscape Partnership project; currently in development with the lead from Cornwall Wildlife Trust and a wide variety of other local partner groups such as Strategic Historic Environment at Cornwall Council and CASPN (Cornish Ancient Sites Protection Network).

6.6 Protection and Designation of the Site

The current guardianship site at Chysauster is smaller than the scheduled monument area and this creates potential issues for the due care and protection of significant archaeological features associated with the courtyard settlement at Chysauster and its historic setting. It also impacts on how the site is perceived and enjoyed by visitors as its wider landscape setting is only partly visible and accessible (see above). A review of the extent and appropriateness of both areas is recommended in order to assess the possibility of extending both if opportunity arises.

6.7 Nature Conservation Issues

The grounds maintenance policy currently adopted by English Heritage has been influenced by the previous botanical and wildlife surveys carried out for the site between 1990 and 2000 (Fitzgerald 1998; French *et al.* 1991; Spalding 1993; Wells 2000).

The most recent phase I habitat survey by Spalding Associates (Horn-Norris 2016) indicates no rare, protected or scarce plants on the site but does emphasise the local value of the vegetated Cornish hedge banks, dry stone boundary walls and the walls of the upstanding courtyard houses as potential habitats and corridors for travelling, foraging and nesting birds, mammals and reptiles.

The survey by Horn-Norris (2016) also identifies the Cornish hedge banks with a continuous line of native woody shrub as a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitat and as a Habitat of Principal Importance under the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006.

The areas of acid grassland within the site are considered to be only moderate examples of a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitat Lowland Dry Acid Grassland, but Horn-Norris (2016, 3, 18) suggested that the quality of these areas may be improved through reduced mowing.

The part of the field included within the Scheduled area, but to the north, and outside of, the Guardianship site, is registered as Lowland Heathland, a Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Priority Habitat; however at the time of the December 2015 survey this had been extensively invaded by bracken and therefore this Priority Habitat has been lost from the site. The restoration of this area as a BAP Priority Habitat has been recommended (Horn-Norris 2016).

There are some conflicts between the report produced by Horn-Norris (2016) and previous ecological reports: Wells (2000) noted the presence of nationally scarce lichens on the site; Fitzgerald 1998 recommended the improvement of the mown field by harder mowing, which forms the basis of the current management policy for this part of the site (English Heritage 2016 and see Section 8.2.2). It

is clear that the balance of management to address both archaeological and ecological needs as well as English Heritage requirements for the site as a visitor attraction needs careful consideration and regular review.

6.8 Climate Change

The effects of climate change are likely to include higher rainfall and less predictable rainfall patterns. More extreme weather and climate conditions are likely to impact on local ground conditions at Chysauster, such as soil erosion, flooding and changes to the water table. There is also the likelihood of changes in the ecological balance of the site and its surrounding landscape. This will impact on the sensitivity, condition and vulnerability of the sites' archaeology and ecology and their future management.

6.9 Staffing Capacity

The current financial climate has put pressure on heritage bodies and local authorities and this is likely to continue. The capacity to staff heritage sites such as Chysauster at an appropriate and sustainable level may become an issue in long term strategies for site development and management; it is likely in the event of significant changes to the Chysauster site that current staffing levels will need to be reviewed with a view to increasing the staff numbers.

The capacity for English Heritage to liaise effectively with local heritage bodies and Cornwall Council may also be impacted by future staffing changes and service cuts.

6.10 Tourism

The desire to develop the role of Chysauster as a commercially viable visitor attraction and educational facility needs to be balanced with achieving a healthy level of activity for the site and economic sustainability into the future. Potential negatives would be the possible impacts of increased visitor footfall on the site itself, up-scaled development within the local area, and the risk of alienation of the local community.

As part of any proposed improvements or enhancements of the site it would be beneficial to carry out a study of the carrying capacity of the site and the ways in which visitor flows to and around the site might be managed. This could consider the site as it is now as well as the potential impacts of any planned changes. The current routes and open pathways clearly guide the flow of pedestrian traffic but also increase the likelihood of erosional damage. The study could consider whether it is best to channel visitors along clearly set out pathways if this achieves greater protection for more sensitive areas. Or perhaps new pathways could be mown at certain times to alleviate pressure in areas of heavier use. Access across the walls of the houses should be actively discouraged, perhaps through signage to explain the issues this causes, or physical incentives to view the site in alternative ways, for example by a suitably placed viewing platform. Currently the number of visitors through the site is having an impact on the access areas through the site, but this is probably at an acceptable level. This is likely to change if visitor numbers increase in the future.

As improvements to the site are planned English Heritage should continue to monitor the impact on the site taking into account the potential negative impacts to the monument and the local area. Projected trends of visitor numbers and the level of benefit any developments would achieve should also be monitored.

6.11 Castle-an-Dinas Quarry

The aggregate quarry at Castle-an-Dinas is located just over 1km to the east of Chysauster within immediate vicinity of a multi-vallate late prehistoric hillfort. The quarry was bought by Cornwall Council in 2009 and is still fully operational. An archaeological assessment was carried out in 2011 ahead of a number of small-scale planning applications, which recommended appropriate archaeological mitigation (Parkes 2011).

Should there be any proposed expansion of the quarry westwards in the future there would be high potential for this to significantly impact on the setting of Chysauster and the wider landscape if any recommended archaeological mitigation is not followed (see Parkes 2011, 28, 61).

There may be some potential in considering the option to open up access to Chysauster from the direction of Castle-an-Dinas Quarry. There is more scope for locating visitor facilities in this area and existing footpaths in and around the area would link Chysauster more closely with neighbouring sites, such as Castle-an-Dinas hillfort and the Cornwall Wildlife Trust nature reserve at Bakers Pit. Impacts on the setting of the monuments of the area would probably be minimised by the existence of the quarry, although a full impact assessment would need to be undertaken ahead of any development proposals. Additional factors to consider would be the impact of quarry traffic on any proposed access route and visitor facilities and the practicalities in achieving pedestrian access to Chysauster. The potential for improving access for people with disabilities to the site would also need to be considered, along with the impacts this might have on the landscape setting of Chysauster.

6.12 Community Engagement

Chysauster is currently closed to visitors out of season and this is a source of disappointment to the local community who have expressed a wish to enjoy the site all year round. Local interest and support is vital to Chysauster's future and there are several community groups and heritage protection bodies, such as CASPN, who actively engage in the promotion and protection of local heritage sites. Chysauster is marketed as being part of a distinctive set of monuments particular to West Penwith and Cornwall and there is active local support for the site to be promoted in such a way that reflects that local distinctiveness and the place of Chysauster within the Cornish panoply of archaeological monuments.

Some suggestions as to how that might be addressed include creating opportunities for community involvement with the management and caretaking of the site out of season, opening up the site to locals out of season, community involvement with on-site activities, periodic free tours to local residents, the introduction of some dual English/Cornish language signs to and around the site.

7 CONSERVATION PHILOSOPHY

Conservation is defined as *'The process of managing change to a significant place in its setting in ways that will best sustain its heritage values, while recognising opportunities to reveal or reinforce those values for present and future generations'* (Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance, English Heritage 2008).

A site's importance may relate to the historic or archaeological importance of its structures and features, its collections of artefacts and archives, its ecological or landscape significance or its importance to the community, both locally and more widely. Frequently (and as is clearly the case with Chysauster) it relates to a combination of these factors. For a conservation philosophy to be effective and appropriate, it must address all of the significant interests in the site and seek to retain those qualities and aspects of it which lead to it being considered important.

The protection of some of these significances is ensured by statute, as for instance in the case of areas which are designated as scheduled monuments or Listed Buildings. Such designations will constrain change unless it can be demonstrated that this would result in the retention or enhancement of significance, or be otherwise unavoidable. In this respect it should be recognised that small scale incremental changes can be just as damaging to the overall authenticity of a site and its components as individual major changes.

Equally, some elements of significance are protected by policies embedded within plans drawn up by bodies such as Cornwall Council, West Penwith District Council (now abolished but saved policies are still current) or the Cornwall AONB team.

The following nationally agreed conservation principles should provide the framework underlying the sustainable management of Chysauster:

Principle 1 – The historic environment is a shared resource

Principle 2 – Participation is a key factor in sustaining the historic environment

Principle 3 – Understanding the significance of places is vital

Principle 4 – Significant places should be managed to sustain their values

Principle 5 – Decisions about change must be reasonable, transparent and consistent

Principle 6 – Documenting and learning from decisions is essential

8 VISIONS, AIMS and OPPORTUNITIES

The discovery of Chysauster in the late 19th century led to a series of early excavations that demonstrated the significance of what is now seen as the best preserved example of the type of courtyard house settlement distinctive to West Penwith, Cornwall. The historic archive documenting those early evaluations, though fragmentary in places, is impressive, both as a record of Chysauster itself and as a social history of early archaeological practice.

The significance of Chysauster led to its being taken into guardianship by the Commissioners of Works during the 1930s. It was subsequently designated as a Scheduled Monument in 1984 under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

The long-standing recognition of Chysauster's local, regional and national importance should underpin its future management, which should seek to conserve the monument to the highest possible standards and in a sustainable fashion in perpetuity, to deepen and broaden understanding of it and to further develop the site's educational potential.

The site specific aims should be:

- To ensure the preservation of the special qualities of Chysauster;
- To address gaps in knowledge concerning Chysauster;
- To continue to develop ways of communicating the special nature of Chysauster and to broaden interest in it and understanding of it;
- To further develop access to aspects and areas of the site to the widest possible audience, both physically and utilising virtual approaches;
- To conserve its collections of archives and artefacts to appropriate national standards and, wherever possible, make these available for study;
- To maintain and improve the ecology and biodiversity of the site
- To strengthen its financial viability;
- To respect and celebrate the national importance of Chysauster as a Scheduled Monument and Guardianship site and part of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty;
- To develop a strong and effective working partnership between English Heritage, Historic England, Natural England, neighbouring landowners and the local community to safeguard the site and continue to make its significance relevant to and recognised by future generations;
- To achieve the highest possible standards of environmental performance;
- To provide sustainable and rewarding employment for its staff.

8.1 Improving Understanding of the Site

8.1.1 Research

The existing documentary and material archives for Chysauster are currently divided between six repositories, two local and four national. Apart from Nowakowski and Gould's (2010) rapid assessment of the Croft Andrew archives there has been no comprehensive review or catalogue of the archives as a whole. Some of the material relating to Chysauster remains poorly researched and current understanding and interpretation of Chysauster is dependent on, and impacted by, this incomplete historic resource.

As noted above (Section 6.3), an assessment of the ceramic archive for Chysauster is currently underway as part of the reviewed interpretation of the site. A full assessment of both the material and

the documentary archive for Chysauster is considered a short term priority for determining future research agendas, site interpretation and outreach, and to inform management decisions. This would address the issues of intellectual access to the site (Section 6.3.5).

8.1.2 Survey, excavation and other archaeological and architectural recording

There are a number of gaps in existing archaeological evaluation of Chysauster, many of which can now be addressed through modern methods of survey, excavation, architectural recording and scientific analysis. As noted above (Section 3), there has recently been a programme of physical evaluation as part of the renewed interpretation scheme for Chysauster, which includes an analytical earthwork survey (Bayer 2016), a geophysical survey of the fogou, and a photogrammetric survey of the courtyard houses (Susan Greaney 2016 *pers comm*).

It is recommended that further geophysical survey is commissioned to examine the grassed area in the south of the site, for example, with the aim of determining whether any below ground archaeological remains are present and are detectable.

It would also be beneficial to undertake a detailed building record of the upstanding courtyard houses and enclosures that included an assessment of any historic repairs and reconstruction.

Excavation strategies could be developed from the results of the geo-prospection evaluation and scoping surveys to target areas of the site that remain poorly understood, and where there is good potential for surviving buried remains. Suggestions would include (but are not limited to): the fogou and probable adjoining courtyard house; the area to the south of House 7; the area to the east and north of House 8; the northwest corner of the site in the vicinity of Houses 1 and 2. Additional areas might include: the open grassed area in the south of the site if a geophysical survey indicates potential features or structures: the cell/roundhouse and terrace to the east of House 6.

There are potential benefits to a coordinated longer term research programme beyond just the furthering of understanding as to the form, function and chronology of human activities at Chysauster. Better understanding of the historic monument would, in particular, help to inform effective future management of the site. Targeted survey and excavation would also offer the opportunity to develop community projects, which could include a training excavation under the direction and supervision of local professionals. Such excavations would doubtless be a high profile visitor attraction and have the potential to generate income over several seasons, and the means to expand on site interpretation and increase wider local community engagement and interest from local schools. The results would improve on-site interpretation and contribute to the wider body of archaeological research.

These recommendations would target identified issues of monument access, intellectual access, education and outreach, and community engagement (Sections 6.3.4; 6.3.5; 6.4 and 6.5).

8.1.3 Publication and other means of dissemination of knowledge

All historic archaeological reports relating to the site should be made more widely available via the OASIS ADS-Online online directory where this is currently not the case. All archaeological reports arising from future evaluation at Chysauster should also be widely disseminated and digitised and made available through the OASIS ADS-Online online directory.

8.2 Improving the Visitor Experience of Chysauster

8.2.1 Repair and conservation

The last condition survey of Chysauster (Hughes 2009) highlighted a range of issues associated with site management, the repair needs of the monument and the requirement for improved visitor facilities. The ingress of bracken and scrub across the site was identified as a matter of particular concern; there has been much clearance of vegetation since this publication but the perimeters of the guardianship site are still affected by bracken and scrub. Other issues included the general maintenance of site facilities and repairs to stone walling in some areas of courtyard houses.

Condition surveys play a vital part in flagging up issues of concern and helping prevent unwarranted deterioration of the site. The overdue survey is now in place and future surveys should continue to be carried out regularly on a five yearly basis. Recommendations made in the reports should be carried out as required, with urgent works a matter of priority.

8.2.2 Exploring new ways of interpreting the site

The interpretation of historic sites such as Chysauster has changed immeasurably in recent years, adopting a generally low-key and all-inclusive approach that combines appealing and informative interpretation panels and guide books with the new digital technologies. The new interpretation scheme for Chysauster was installed in July 2016. Recommendations for present or future consideration might include:

- Introducing additional interpretative aids, such as audio guides and podcasts, for example.
- Introducing mobile phone apps, which open up the potential for interactive site guides, which might include walks within the wider area and reference to neighbouring sites in the landscape.

Such resources would expand the visitor experience to include the wider setting and landscape context of Chysauster but constraints for these include the current lack of electricity on site and the intermittent availability of a phone signal. There would also be a reliance on pre-visit planning and download capability to consider.

The availability of digital and mobile technologies might also open up the potential to provide interpretative material at a range of intellectual levels and across a range of languages. This approach has the benefit that interpretative material can be updated relatively easily, quickly and at low cost.

Adopting new approaches to interpretation at Chysauster could be undertaken as a phased approach over the short and longer term. This would address the issues relating to intellectual access, education and outreach, and community engagement (Sections 6.3.5; 6.4 and 6.5).

8.2.3 Evaluation of the fogou

The fogou is a particular area of the site that would benefit from a programme of investigation and assessment. There is a lack of any real interpretation of this structure due to its low visibility. A programme of field evaluation (survey and scoping excavation) would be the first step in bringing the fogou at Chysauster to wider public awareness and kick-starting a staged approach to its more detailed study, the results of which would inform its long term management and presentation.

A phased programme of non-intrusive investigation might be considered, starting with the current geophysical survey, which could inform its current condition and state of preservation and the

potential for future excavation and recording. Topics for research could include the increased understanding of the fogou and its function, and how this relates to the courtyard house settlement at Chysauster and the relationship of these distinctive subterranean structures to similar monuments elsewhere within north-western Europe.

The investigation and possible excavation of the fogou is considered part of a medium to long term aspiration (within five to ten years) that would achieve multiple benefits for Chysauster. A wider study would address the issues of site condition, monument access, intellectual access, education and outreach, and community engagement (Sections 6.1; 6.3.4; 6.3.5; 6.4 and 6.5).

8.2.4 Installing a viewing platform in House 6

In a move to increase the ways in which visitors can enjoy and experience the courtyard houses, a possible viewing platform over a section of the rear wall of House 6 has been suggested. This would aim to give visitors an elevated view over the house, which would enable them to more fully appreciate its layout. It would also permit a more inclusive view across the group of courtyard houses and how they relate together. Lastly, it would allow visitors to gain a sense of the wider landscape context of the site from an elevated viewpoint.

A wooden platform raised to hover above a small section of the north wall of House 6, so as not to disturb or impact any stonework, has been suggested. This would be aimed at having minimal visual impact so that its presence did not in any way detract from the monument. A potential advantage of the viewing platform would be that it would discourage visitors attempting to walk or stand on the walls of the courtyard houses themselves, which would help reduce damage to the stonework. A potential disadvantage to the viewing platform might be the negative visual impact of the structure on the setting of the courtyard house settlement, but if built of wood and of a suitable scale, this would help minimise this.

The suitability and scale of the platform, along with any additions such as railings and access steps, would therefore need to be carefully considered in the light of any negative impacts on the monument and would have to conform to Health and Safety regulations.

If considered appropriate, installing a viewing platform might be achievable as a short term aspiration (within one to five years) and would address some of the issues relating to monument access and intellectual access (Sections 6.3.4 and 6.3.5).

8.2.5 Opening up access to House 10

House 10 is currently closed off to public access and its relationship to the courtyard settlement is not visible. House 10 sits within the field of a neighbouring land owner and access to this area has been problematic. English Heritage should consider how to re-incorporate House 10 into the wider Chysauster sites and make it available to visitors. This would help demonstrate the presence of now peripheral courtyard houses in the vicinity of the current settlement, and how much bigger the settlement may once have been; a further possible courtyard house is identified to the south of the custodian's hut and within the same field as House 10. It is currently visible only as a deep depression in the ground under much vegetation cover.

Both houses lie within a strip of land in the eastern section of the neighbouring landowner's field. It is believed there may be the opportunity for English Heritage to open up talks with the landowner to acquire this strip of land and bring it within the guardianship site. This would be an opportunity to bring House 10 firmly back into the courtyard settlement but other solutions should also be investigated in

the event that this does not happen.

This is considered to be a medium to long term aspiration (five to ten years) that would address the issues of monument access and intellectual access (Sections 6.3.4 and 6.3.5).

8.2.6 Re-instating the hollow-way

The hollow-way is available as a route through the site but its profile could be raised through interpretive material on site. This would help to open it up as a viable access route and set it within its appropriate historic context. Site directions could also be introduced to make visitors aware of it as an alternative access route to and through the site.

English Heritage should consider inspecting the hollow-way for any necessary repairs and maintenance in order that it complies with Health and Safety standards.

This is considered to be a short term (one to five years) achievable aim that would address the issues of monument access and intellectual access (Sections 6.3.4 and 6.3.5).

8.2.7 Improvement of visitor facilities

The current visitor facilities at Chysauster are just barely adequate for the present level of annual visitors. Any programme to increase visitor potential will need to review projected needs, taking into account the scale and suitability of any improvements and their potential impact on the monument.

In the short term (relatively urgent) there needs to be the provision of water and electricity to the site to upgrade the ticket/custodian's hut. This would allow for limited on-site toilet facilities and basic heat and catering, beyond the provision of bottled gas. An expansion of the hut would be beneficial and could provide additional retail facilities and a visitor shelter as well as some small-scale exhibition space. This should be a short to medium term priority (one to five years).

The toilet block in the car park would benefit from refurbishment and the car park could do with being enlarged, if the opportunity to acquire additional land arises. Both recommendations are considered a short to medium term priority (one to five years). However, this should be reviewed in light of possible longer term opportunities to expand visitor facilities elsewhere on the site (possibly through the acquisition of part of the adjacent field).

If in the longer term it becomes possible to acquire or lease additional land adjoining the current guardianship site, this would open up the potential to expand car parking facilities, create disabled visitor access and expand and develop on-site facilities to offer increased retail and education provision, possibly extending to limited catering and exhibition space; this could include interpretation and story boards, display cabinets and visitor seating.

It is understood that current options under consideration for acquiring additional land include the fields between the site and the road to the south or the quarry (i.e. Castle-an-Dinas, Section 6.11) to the northeast of the site (Win Scutt 2016 *pers comm*). Any development within these areas would need to consider their archaeological sensitivity, relevant planning policies for the area, achieving an appropriate scale of development and the potential impacts on the monument, on its setting and on the local area. A detailed feasibility study and consultation process is recommended to accompany this.

There have been proposals in the past to reconstruct an entirely new courtyard house but these have not been pursued due to financial constraints, concerns about impact, and the lack of a potentially

suitable area within the site. The benefits of revisiting this proposal are discussed below (Section 8.7.4) but space for potential reconstruction might become available if future expansion of the site occurs.

8.2.8 Extending the area in Guardianship

A large part of the scheduled monument is not protected by Guardianship. It is this area that is most under threat from the invasion of bracken. In the medium or long term it is recommended that the Commission extends the area in Guardianship.

8.3 Improving the Management of Chysauster

A review of the maintenance policy for Chysauster should strongly focus on the continuing problem with bracken ingress across the site. Addressing this issue should draw on the results of the recent archaeological survey of the site and an evaluation of the current perimeter areas of the site to determine archaeological sensitivity and prioritise areas for urgent remedial action.

- The aim should be to prevent further bracken encroachment onto the site in the short term (one to five years) and to work towards reducing the bracken cover in the medium to longer term (five to ten years). Ideally, the aim would be to reduce bracken cover within the perimeter areas by between 80% and 100% by the end of this time.

The vegetation and scrub management for the site should be kept under review and should consider the archaeological needs of the site as a priority but with due consideration of the ecology of the site. Advice from the relevant local professional bodies in archaeological and habitat management should be sought as required. It is recommended that the current percentages of vegetation removal on the courtyard house walls and the wider grassed areas be reviewed to see whether these would benefit from being raised.

- Although there has been some rise in percentage in recent years for the removal of gorse, heather and scrubby growth within the perimeter areas, it is felt this would benefit from being higher still; a rise from the current 25% to 60% is suggested, so as to reduce the level of scrub within the perimeter areas over the medium to long term (five to ten years) while retaining some cover for wildlife and maintaining the landscape aesthetic.
- The current percentage of 15% removal of heather on the courtyard house walls is also felt to be too low. An initial increase to at least 25% is suggested, being an easier level to quantify. The aim should be to gradually reduce the overall level of heather on the wall tops and sides over the medium to long term (five to ten years) to between 50% and 75%.

The programme of monitoring vegetation management at Chysauster should be rigorous in enforcing the specifications set out in the management scheme to ensure that the short, medium and long term requirements are met.

An assessment of the houses to locate areas of historic repair and restoration should be carried out as a short term priority and a permanent record made of non-original elements of the upstanding buildings. This baseline knowledge will then help inform priorities for future management which guides the scopes of future condition surveys. The condition of the standing courtyard houses should continue to be monitored for signs of damage or disrepair as part of the five-yearly cycle of new condition surveys. Any proposed restoration or reconstruction within the standing houses should be assessed and justified according to English Heritage conservation policies (English Heritage 2008).

If the recent earthworks and/or geophysical surveys of the site reveal any hitherto unknown

archaeology then the management regime should be reviewed to take new data into account and assess its suitability in light of this. If the opportunity to extend the guardianship site arises, the current management regime should again be reviewed to assess whether it remains fit for purpose.

These recommendations could be addressed in the short term (one to five years) and monitored and expanded on over the longer term (five to ten years plus) as proves necessary. This would address the issues relating to site condition, site maintenance and monument access (Sections 6.1, 6.2 and 6.3.4).

8.4 Access Improvements

8.4.1 Road access

The problems of access to the site by larger vehicles and coaches might be solved through siting a car park closer to the main routes and offering a minibus service to and from the site. Regular runs might be impractical unless visitor numbers increase dramatically, but this might be a service that could be pre-arranged, or requested via a phone link between the car park and the staff office.

Widening road access would require discussion with the Local Highways Authority, Cornwall Council, and would inevitably have a sizeable impact on the local setting. If additional land was acquired adjacent to the site, it might be possible to establish a larger visitor car park and improved access without this being too obtrusive, particularly if this was sensitively landscaped and considerately positioned. The existing car park could still continue to be used as a staff facility, offering a rest room, toilets and staff parking, for example. The lack of an electric supply could be addressed as part of the provision of updated services to the main site.

The siting of an additional car park could be a short to medium term option (one to five years). If there are major alterations to the current site access and visitor facilities at Chysauster in the longer term (five to ten years), the need for an additional car park sited at a distance from Chysauster may change. These recommendations address the issues relating to transport access and monument access (Sections 6.3.1 and 6.3.5).

8.4.2 Public transport

If a car park was positioned closer to the main road network, it might be possible to align this with a regular public transport route for visitors travelling by bus. The possibility of a minibus service between Penzance and Chysauster could be investigated, along with the opportunity to offer reduced entrance fee if visitors showed they had used public transport to get there – this incentive could be linked to the transition Penwith movement (<http://www.transitionpenwith.org.uk/>). If opening the proposed car park to visitors using public transport was pursued as an option, it would be beneficial to consider additional facilities, such as disabled toilets, public shelter and a telephone link to the main site.

8.4.3 Access by bicycle or on foot

West Penwith is a popular area for walkers and cyclists. The provision of secure cycle parking and promotion via local cycle hire companies might encourage additional visitors to the site via these means.

Opening up pedestrian routes to the site, particularly across the open access land and upland ground to the north of Chysauster would encourage walkers to include a visit to the site: the issue of creating a potentially free access point to the site would have to be addressed in this case. The benefits to this, however, would be the expansion of intellectual access to Chysauster as part of a wider historic

landscape. There are Public Rights of Way and tracts of Open Access Land to the east and west of Chysauster, with Open Access Land directly adjoining Chysauster to the northeast. A stile currently gives access onto the section of the scheduled area that extends beyond the guardianship site to the northeast. It might be possible to open up access to the site from the north by securing additional permissive access and establishing a secondary entrance on the northern boundary; this could perhaps include a polite notice for visitors to pay at the ticket/custodian's hut.

These recommendations could be achieved as a short to medium term aspiration (one to five years) and would address the issues relating to monument access, intellectual access and community engagement (Sections 6.3.4, 6.3.5 and 6.5).

8.4.4 Access out of season

There is some local demand for Chysauster to be available to locals out of its open season. If this could be negotiated it would increase opportunities for community engagement and local 'ownership' (see Section 6.5) as well as more broadly address the issues relating to monument and intellectual access (Sections 6.3.4 and 6.3.5). The main issue with catering for out of season access would be the need to recruit and pay for staffing during this period. The receipts from admissions would not cover this cost. Nonetheless, English Heritage could explore options to making out of season access viable should the situation change.

It is noted that some locals already gain access to the site uninvited out of season. Introducing a paying option may therefore invite some local conflict: showing that any money raised would be fed directly back into keeping the site maintained and protected might help alleviate this.

A potential issue of allowing out of season access to the site raises the issue of potential vandalism or damage whilst the site is unsupervised. English Heritage should consider how this issue is mitigated at other sites within its holdings where open access is available; at nearby Carn Euny, Sancreed, for example. A possible solution might be to consider raising the entrance fee slightly and allowing open free access during the winter season, with monies raised going towards some low-key policing of the site during this period.

8.4.5 Access for people with disabilities

As noted above (Section 6.3.3), the physical fabric of Chysauster presents substantial barriers to catering for visitors with disabilities. Nonetheless, in line with current Historic England guidance (Historic England 2015) and the Equality Act of 2010, efforts should be made wherever possible towards making the courtyard settlement and its interpretation accessible to as wide a public as is possible. English Heritage is particularly well-placed to move forward on this, given the large number of sometimes equivalently difficult sites for which it has management responsibility and at which, since 1995, it has been charged with finding solutions which do not negatively impact sites of national significance.

The principal issue for Chysauster is that of the main access up to the site and this may require more radical, and potentially costly, solutions as a longer term goal (five to ten years). This might include acquiring additional land to create a new access route, as mentioned above, but the scale and suitability of any alterations would need to consider any negative impacts on the setting of the site.

Once on site, where it is impossible to provide physical access to some areas of the site, or where this significantly diminishes or limits the experience of visitors with disabilities, imaginative solutions should be considered to mitigate this issue. Most straightforwardly, these should include the provision of alternative interpretation at an accessible location on site, to suit a range of disabilities, including sight

or hearing impairment as well as mobility issues. These remedial options could be achieved in the shorter term (one to five years).

Addressing these recommendations would address the issues relating to monument access and disabled access (Sections 6.3.3 and 6.3.4).

8.5 Enhancing the Setting of Chysauster

The area to the north of Chysauster is currently under dense coverage of bracken and gorse. There are many archaeological features and structures within the immediate vicinity, which are lost to view except as slight rises in the vegetation. The result of this is that the connection between Chysauster and its landscape setting is significantly compromised. The management of these peripheral areas should be an aspiration, so as to raise the visual aesthetic of Chysauster, enhance its setting and assist in re-engaging it with the surrounding landscape. English Heritage could look at ways to support current landowners in signing up to stewardship schemes offered through the auspices of Natural England. Such schemes can provide attractive payment packages for improved management regimes but are subject to change, which might affect the security of longer-term management of these areas. In particular, the introduction of traditional grazing by native breeds of sheep or cattle might be worth considering. This would actively aid vegetation management as well as being an attractive addition to the local landscape.

The current guardianship boundaries at Chysauster are marked by a mixture of traditional Cornish hedges, a stone wall (erected in the 1930s to mark the northern extent of the Guardianship site) and concrete post and wire fences. In the north and east of the site in particular, the substantial stone walls create the impression that they mark the edge of the archaeological site, whereas in fact they cut across it in places. The 1930s stone boundaries are of local stone (some of which probably derives from former courtyard houses) but their style stands out from the vernacular in places and they starkly divide the site from the surrounding landscape. This may be difficult to remedy without substantial re-arrangement but ways to mitigate this division should be considered; again, through the opportunity to take more land into guardianship, for example, but also through additional interpretation panels and more appropriate re-build as the need arises.

The wider setting of the monument retains almost wholly rural views, with little intrusion of modern development, and this should be sustained as much as possible. Modern planning policies and alternative energy developments may present a threat but as Chysauster sits within a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty this would be expected to discourage negative development.

Addressing these issues over the longer term (five to ten years) would target the issues relating to monument access and intellectual access (Sections 6.3.4 and 6.3.5).

8.6 Protection and Designation

English Heritage should seek from Historic England a review of the current Scheduling and Guardianship of Chysauster. This is particularly important to ensure the inclusion and protection of significant archaeological features that are directly associated with Chysauster and to put in place appropriate management schemes to protect these.

Where this is not an option, English Heritage should consider encouraging and supporting appropriate and available land stewardship schemes, as mentioned above.

English Heritage should explore the opportunity to acquire additional land in order to support visitor

facilities on the guardianship site.

These recommendations are considered a short to medium term aspiration (one to five years), possibly extending to the longer term (five to ten years) where this is funding dependant. This would address the issues relating to protection and designation for the site (Section 6.6).

8.7 Education

8.7.1 Education facilities

The education hut has been recently refurbished but longer term aspirations should be to replace the hut with more adequate educational facilities. This might be considered as part of a more general review to move or upgrade the visitor facilities on site. Extended or replacement facilities, possibly adjacent to or incorporated within the custodian's hut, could accommodate a sheltered and heated workspace with tables and seating, on-site toilets and display space.

This would be considered a medium to long term priority (five to ten years), which would address the issues relating to education and outreach (Section 6.4).

8.7.2 Interpretation and intellectual access strategy

As mentioned above, the site interpretation for Chysauster is currently being upgraded with new interpretation panels already installed and a viewing platform being considered. It is important that any new interpretation strategy takes into account Chysauster's wider landscape and uses interpretative material to reflect this broader context. English Heritage should also consider the addition of audio and visual aid guides and the use of digital technologies to broaden the scope and inclusivity of interpretative material.

These recommendations are considered to be achievable short term aims (one to five years) that would address the issues relating to disabled access and intellectual access (Sections 6.3.3 and 6.3.5).

The current provision for educational visits to Chysauster is relatively basic. The addition of led visits may not be practical for sites such as Chysauster, where the number of educational visits is comparatively low. English Heritage should, however, consider augmenting the current educational provision by offering focussed activity days, targeting such themes as reconstructive and experimental archaeology, for example.

These recommendations are also considered to be achievable short term aims (one to five years) that would address the issues relating to intellectual access, education and outreach and community engagement (Sections 6.3.5, 6.4 and 6.5).

English Heritage might also consider the opportunity to incorporate training excavations within their strategy for future evaluation and research at Chysauster. These could be collaborative community-based projects or income generating projects that invite interested parties to pay to attend, with training and supervision provided by local professional archaeologists.

This could be a medium to long term aim (within five to ten years, or less) that would address the issues relating to monument access, intellectual access, education and outreach and community engagement (Sections 6.3.4, 6.3.5, 6.4 and 6.5).

8.7.3 Curriculum-based learning

One of the aims of the new English Heritage education strategy will be to address the new focus on prehistory within the National Curriculum and how English Heritage can best support teachers through the physical resources it manages. It is recommended that Chysauster features as one of English Heritage's flagship Romano-British sites.

8.7.4 Development of a reconstructed House

A proposal to build a reconstructed courtyard house at Chysauster was first made in 1987. This was to be a community based project funded by the Manpower Services Commission, but it did not proceed very far due to a lack of support and concerns about the siting of such a reconstruction (Coe 2001).

The work of St Ives School with the Cornish Ancient Technology Centre was a great success in bringing the site to life for the pupils involved and those visitors who came to the site during the work. The roof was only present for a short period each year and it was shown that some damage to the walls and the floral interest was resulting from its presence (Coe 2001).

Proposals to build a fully reconstructed courtyard house continue to feature high in the visionary aims for Chysauster and if achieved would potentially enhance the visitor experience considerably and provide an excellent research opportunity, interpretational tool and lasting educational resource. Coe (2001, 17) noted a demand for a reconstruction from many visitors to the site, with anecdotal evidence suggesting that up to a third of visitors mention such an initiative without prompting.

Prior to any decisions on a potential reconstruction there would need to be a detailed and up-to-date feasibility study made.

There are several issues and constraints which need to be addressed before a project of this type could be progressed and a feasibility study is recommended to consider these. Issues include:

- Agreeing an interpretation strategy
- Achieving support amongst the community and the heritage interests (there are three reconstruction projects in Cornwall already) locally.
- Assessing impact on visitor numbers, the carrying capacity of the site and management of visitor flow
- Assessing the impact on current facilities
- Assessing costs and agreeing sources of finance
- Finding and agreeing on an appropriate site
- Undertaking an archaeological assessment
- Getting planning permission
- Finding a supply of appropriate materials
- Management of material items within the reconstructed house to prevent loss or damage
- Resolving health and safety issues; such as lighting fires, for example
- The need for increased staffing levels

Recently there has been a suggestion from site staff to incorporate a reconstructed courtyard house with a small Iron Age/Romano-British garden. This would increase the footprint of the space required for such a project but if the opportunity to acquire additional land for the expansion of visitor facilities arises this may be a viable and attractive proposition.

The advantages of an associated garden would include: to place the courtyard house within an

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appropriate and visually pleasing setting; the opportunity to create a suitable enclosure that would help protect both the house and garden from outside vandalism or damage; the opportunity to create a level sensory area that would cater for visitors with mobility issues or visual impairment; the opportunity for research into Iron Age/Roman-British cultivation practices; the opportunity to create an additional educational resource.

Coe (2001, 17) noted:

One of the biggest constraints to a possible reconstruction might be the philosophical argument around reconstructions on heritage sites. This debate will provoke a wide spectrum of opinion, some of it held very strongly. The former chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments Andrew Saunders has expressed himself implacably opposed to such an approach at Chysauster. His view was that physical reconstruction should not be allowed on site as they are bound to mislead. Elsewhere, Castell Henllys in the Pembrokeshire Coast National Park being a good example, reconstructions on site have proved very popular and provide a stimulating and rewarding experience for the visitor.

A period of consultation and review would be recommended prior to any decision-making about a reconstruction in order to invite opinion from local communities and professional bodies. Ideally any reconstruction would be distinctly separate from the monument to avoid any suggestion that it was the location of an historic courtyard house. If additional land could be acquired next to the site, this could (following an appropriate level of archaeological investigation) be used to site a new courtyard house, as well as new car-park, ticketing and interpretation facilities.

English Heritage policy regarding reconstruction at historic monuments currently follows the guidelines on restoration and repair of historic monuments as set out in Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance (2008). A Historic England advice note on making changes to Heritage Assets (Historic England 2016) has just been published. This document sets out to illustrate the application of policies set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) as well as to provide general advice on intervention in heritage assets, including repair, restoration and alteration.

Any reconstruction at Chysauster will need to be very carefully thought through with a well-argued justification. It will be necessary to demonstrate that the proposal has been assessed against and satisfied all of the criteria set by Historic England in their draft guidelines and that any reconstruction carried out on site will follow current policy guidance on the repair and restoration of heritage assets.

8.8 Local Community Engagement

Chysauster holds a very special place in the hearts of the local community and it is vital to the long term well-being of the site that this relationship is respected and engaged with. A dialogue with the local community should be established, with the opportunity to consult on matters of site development and branding. There is also the opportunity to engage with the West Penwith Landscape Partnership, which is a local project currently in development and which brings together a whole range of special interest groups and relevant partners. It is important that the way Chysauster is perceived and represented reflects its distinctive local character and its 'special importance'. English Heritage should consider the benefits in adapting the English Heritage brand in favour of something that also reflects Chysauster's local dynamic. This might be reflected through introducing the Cornish language into areas of the site and in marketing materials, for example. The Cornish Language Partnership, MAGA, (Cornwall Council <http://www.magakernow.org.uk/default.aspx?page=374>), has very strong support and promotion at local authority level and might be approached to provide summaries in Cornish to any new guidebooks, on site panels or exhibitions, for example.

English Heritage should look at ways to encourage community engagement and involvement with Chysauster. The opportunity for shared ownership in aspects of the site might also be considered; any proposed reconstruction or garden areas, for example. Community involvement in a research programme for Chysauster is also recommended.

English Heritage is a keen participant of the newly established Ertach Kernow and is represented both on its Board and Forum. This will become a key arena for community engagement in the interpretation of English Heritage sites.

These aspirations could be addressed in the short term (one to five years) and expanded on over the longer term (five to ten years plus). This would address issues relating to monument access; intellectual access; education and outreach and local community engagement (Sections 6.3.4, 6.3.5, 6.4 and 6.5).

8.9 Nature Conservation

From an ecological perspective it would be ideal to restore the scheduled area to the northeast of the guardianship site to a grassland/heath mosaic. The reduction of bracken would help towards this as well as benefitting the preservation of the archaeology in this area and enhancing the setting of the site, as discussed in Section 8.5.

The area of acid grassland in the south of the guardianship site is considered to show evidence of over-mowing and it might be ecologically beneficial to work to restore it as BAP Priority Habitat Lowland Acid Dry Grassland. There is no archaeological impact arising from mowing in this area, only a visual one, and a review of the mowing policy for this area could be considered by English Heritage as a short term priority (one to five years).

There are no issues regarding protected plant or animal species present at Chysauster, but it is recommended that any archaeological recommendations consider retaining some wildlife habitat within the courtyard house walls and Cornish hedge boundaries enclosing the site. Achieving this is also considered a short-term aspiration (one to five years).

9 POLICIES

9.1 Managing the Site

Policy CHY1 - The Ancient Village at Chysauster will be managed according to the best principles of good conservation to ensure its survival for future generations to understand and enjoy. This Conservation Management Plan will inform any future management decisions.

9.2 The Monument, Definition, Legal Status and Boundaries.

Policy CHY 2 - English Heritage will explore options with Historic England with the aim of extending the area under guardianship to better reflect the revised extent of the site, as suggested by recent studies and area surveys (e.g. Bayer 2016; Nowakowski and Sharpe 1986; Nowakowski and Gould 2010).

Policy CHY3 – English Heritage will ask Historic England if they can review the extent of the current scheduling at the earliest opportunity. Anomalies in the current scheduling should be addressed and a more comprehensive account of the site will be prepared. The review should be strongly focussed towards any possible extension of the scheduled area and the enhanced management of the existing area.

Policy CHY4 - English Heritage will explore options to negotiate more favourable access terms to the site, with the aim of achieving more suitable vehicular access for custodial staff and contractors.

Policy CHY 5 - English Heritage will ask Historic England to work with partners including the Local Planning Authorities, Natural England, the Countryside Agency and the Cornwall AONB partnership to develop and implement policies which protect the landscape setting of the ancient village.

9.3 Archaeological Data and Investigation

Policy CHY 6 - English Heritage will, in consultation with Historic England and subject to funding, support programmes of archaeological investigation on the site which clarify management and interpretation issues. Any programme of work would need to be supported by a detailed research design.

Policy CHY 7 - English Heritage will consider commissioning further non-intrusive survey and recording of the site. This will include further geophysical survey of unevaluated areas and a detailed building record of the upstanding houses, particularly to identify areas of repair or reconstruction. A laser scan of the upstanding masonry would be helpful. The principal aims of the surveys will be to aid understanding and management of the site interpretation and to make all new information with results being available to the public.

Policy CHY 8 - English Heritage will support the assessment of all the excavation archives, but especially those produced between 1937 and 1939. English Heritage will work towards the publication of this material.

9.4 Site Facilities

Policy CHY 9 - English Heritage will investigate all options for improving disabled access to the site and its facilities.

Policy CHY 10 - English Heritage will continue to review the current facilities and consider undertaking feasibility studies ahead of any plans for their sustainable enhancement, development or replacement.

9.5 Visitor and Education Development

Policy CHY 11 - English Heritage will consider commissioning a feasibility study into a courtyard house reconstruction project. This will explore the options for and the implications of such a project. The location for a reconstructed house will be carefully considered and any decisions will be prefaced by a geophysical survey to examine the archaeological nature of the proposed area and the potential impacts on it and on the rest of the site if a courtyard house were to be reconstructed there. No proposal will be brought forward unless it can be demonstrated that the criteria set by English Heritage and Conservation Principles have been satisfied.

Policy CHY 12 - English Heritage will promote the ancient village as an all-inclusive education resource.

Policy CHY 13 - English Heritage will keep the means by which the site is interpreted under review and will maintain a strategy for improvement and/or development.

Policy CHY 14 - English Heritage will work with Cornwall Council to facilitate easier access to the site by road. This will explore the options for creating better links with public transport services and cycle routes and the potential to extend or re-site the visitor car park to cater for larger private vehicles, minibuses and coaches.

9.6 Site Condition and Grounds Maintenance

Policy CHY 15 - English Heritage will keep the current grounds maintenance contract under review and will produce and maintain, with appropriate partners, an appropriate strategy for controlling scrub and developing the wildlife interest in the site.

Policy CHY 16 - English Heritage will continue to monitor the condition of the monument. Where significant pressures are identified, steps will be taken, including closing parts of the site, to reduce erosion caused by visitors.

9.7 Use of the Conservation Statement

Policy CHY 17 - This Plan will form the basis for future decision making at Chysauster.

Policy CHY 18 - This Plan should be reviewed, revised and updated as appropriate at intervals of no more than five years.

10 USE OF THE CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

10.1 Adoption and responsibility

This Conservation Management Plan has been adopted by English Heritage as the principal document which will underpin the future management of the whole of the site, including both its designated and undesignated areas. A copy of the plan will be retained on site as a working document.

10.2 Use of the plan

The conservation policy, vision and aims set out in this plan should underpin all aspects of the future management of Chysauster Ancient Village, including not only major developments or projects but also the business of day to day site operation including small scale maintenance works.

10.3 Monitoring and improving the Plan

10.3.1 Monitoring

Monitoring of the implementation of the Conservation Management Plan's policies is a key responsibility of English Heritage as site manager.

10.3.2 Plan review

No conservation management plan can fully anticipate the effects of future legislation, changes in national or local economies or other factors affecting the ability to meet its vision and aims. Some longer term processes, such as climate change, can be expected to result in changes that can be anticipated to some extent and English Heritage is expected to address such issues.

A successful plan is a relevant plan, and to ensure that is the case, this plan should be periodically re-evaluated and, if appropriate, revised.

As a result, it is recommended that this plan is reviewed by English Heritage in consultation with key stakeholders on a five yearly basis.

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11.1.1 Websites

Information relating to the site and its context

<http://www.cornwallaonb.org.uk/>

www.Magic.gov.uk

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/chysauster-ancient-village/>

<https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/historic-environment/cornwall-and-silly-historic-environment-record/>

http://www.historic-cornwall.org.uk/a2m/rom_british/courtyard_house/chysauster/chysauster.htm

English Heritage Teachers Guide to Chysauster

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/content/learn/schools/2374266/teachers-kits/chysauster-teachers-kit-2015>

Plans and Policies

Cornwall Council AONB

<http://www.cornwall-aonb.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/conservation/areas-of-outstanding-natural-beauty/>

Penwith Local Plan

https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/3634834/Local_Plan_Text.pdf

Cornwall Local Plan

<http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/localplancornwall>

Cornwall Structure Plan

http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/3633088/cornwall_structure_plan_2004.pdf

I2 Appendix I - Gazetteer

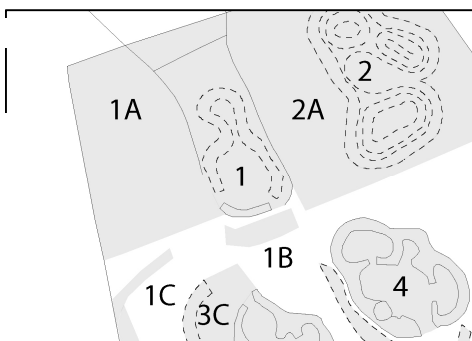
A gazetteer of the principal components of the Chysauster courtyard house settlement within the guardianship site is included below. Sites that may survive within the wider scheduled monument area have not been included as this area is currently significantly overgrown and proper assessment could not be made during the site survey. This was carried out on 1 December 2015 and was by necessity summary rather than detailed. Site conditions were relatively dry underfoot and the weather was overcast and breezy. The grounds had been recently mown and the bracken cut back, but it was still possible to see how far the bracken is encroaching across the peripheral areas of the site, now significantly impacting on the condition of Houses 1, 2 and 8 and the possible courtyard house adjoining the fogou.

The numbering for the gazetteer follows the current numbering of the courtyard houses. Where extra features associated with these houses are identified, the adopted system has been to use the house number and an alphabetic sequence. New features follow on using the numbering sequence. Descriptions of historic intervention are extracted from Nowakowski and Gould 2010.



Figure 10: Gazetteer Map for Chysauster Ancient Village showing the location of numbered sites

12.1 Courtyard House I



Location: SW 47204 35068

EH Asset Number: 151-001. Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726), HER number 36008.07

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	Bracken rhizomes are probably causing damage to buried remains. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys and no modern programme of conservation.
Rarity	Medium	Courtyard house settlements are peculiar to West Penwith and Scilly, although they may form part of a wider contemporary suite of stone-built architecture in northwest Europe.
Group value	High	House 1 is part of the courtyard house settlement group, which is the largest known of its kind.
Diversity	Low	The form of House 1 is not clearly visible and it is not certain how far House 1 is typical of its type or how it relates to the rest of the courtyard house settlement.
Amenity value	Low	The form and structure of House 1 is very poor. During the visitor season this area is typically under bracken. Making House 1 more accessible to visitors would be desirable. Clearer interpretation would improve visitor engagement and understanding.
Potential	Medium	House 1 would make a good candidate for future excavation as it has not seen any proper evaluation and there may be good survival of buried archaeological deposits within the house interior. Survey and possible excavation would help identify features within this area and inform interpretation.

Historic record and description

Not coded on Blight's 1861 plan but shown as a stone walled enclosure with a hint of internal division. Numbered House III on Watkin's 1928 plan, which shows a deteriorated two cell earthwork with a

broken internal division and a section of Cornish hedge boundary incorporated into the northern outer wall. Numbered as House I on Hencken's plan and shown as a two cell structure with a possible entrance to the southeast, marked by two orthostats but blocked by a section of modern walling. Baillie Reynolds' 1960 plan shows poorly defined earthworks with sections of more solid walling to the north and east (Blight 1861a; Hencken 1928, fig. 2; 1933, plate LXXII; Baillie Reynolds 1960).

Historic intervention

The Cornish hedge boundary that ran along the east and north sides of House I was removed by Hencken in 1931 to reveal the original house wall. Baillie Reynolds' 1960 plan suggests that the curve of the eastern wall was modified at some point to reveal the entrance flanked by two large stone uprights: there is no known documented evidence for this.

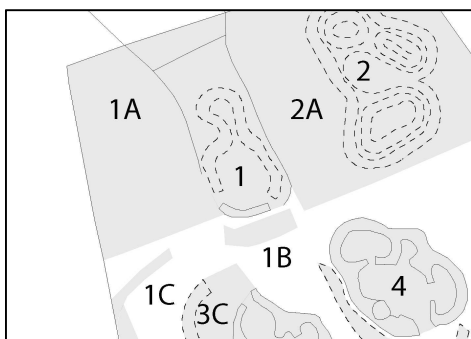
Survival/condition

House I has poorly degraded walling and cell definition, with much wall collapse. There is substantial vegetation cover of bracken, heather and ivy, which is obscuring the form of the house and adjoining boundary walling. The central courtyard contains possible stone paving and a stone drain or hearth. House I is elevated above terraced enclosures to the southwest and the southwest exterior wall survives to over a metre. An entrance in the southern wall is marked by two large orthostats. The walling either side is in poor condition and may have seen some modification: it is shown as 'modern' on Hencken's 1933 plan.

Summary of Recommended Management

Bracken, heather, gorse and ivy in this area should be removed or reduced to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications for Chysauster. The surveys of this area should be used to inform interpretation and future conservation and management.

12.2 Enclosures (1A to 1C) to SW of House I



Location: SW 47188 35066 (centred)

EH Asset Number: 151-001. Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726), HER number 36008.07

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	Bracken rhizomes are probably causing damage to buried remains. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	The survival of enclosure associated with Chysauster Ancient Village is high and the relationship between settlement and patterns of contemporary land use is a significant feature of the site.
Group value	High	The enclosures associated with House 1 form part of a wider pattern of contemporary enclosure and land use.
Diversity	Low	The pattern of enclosure appears to conform to that generally associated with enclosed settlements of the Romano-British period.
Amenity value	Low	The form and structure of the enclosures associated with House 1 is very poor and during the visitor season this area is typically under bracken. Making this area more accessible to visitors would be desirable. Clearer interpretation would improve visitor engagement and understanding.
Potential	Medium	Along with House 1, this area would benefit from further evaluation to understand the form of the enclosure boundaries, their relationship to House 1, the possible presence of a hollow-way, possible evidence for cultivation and land organisation associated with the courtyard village and possible evidence of earlier construction phases and changes in use.

Historic record and description

Blight's 1861 plan and Watkin's 1928 plan show a series of enclosures to the southwest of House I, interpreted as probable agricultural enclosures or garden plots. This includes two small enclosures adjoining House I to the south of a possible entrance. By the time of Watkin's plan there appears to be

less internal division and the two small enclosures are shown as a broken curving boundary. Hencken's 1933 and Baillie Reynolds' 1960 plans also suggest a large enclosure with no internal division, a curving boundary around the southwest of House 1 and a possible lane or hollow-way leading off to the south. There appears to have been a substantial loss of boundary definition by this time (Blight 1861a; Hencken 1928, fig. 2; 1933, plate LXXII; Baillie Reynolds 1960).

Historic intervention

None known.

Survival/condition

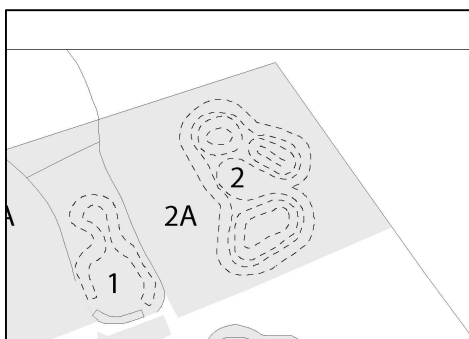
Terraces and low walling (1A) are still visible but are poorly defined; some sections may be post medieval boundaries associated with agricultural enclosure. A possible terrace to the south of House 1 may be a building platform, as seen elsewhere on site. A faint terrace (1B) to the east of House 1 and to the northwest of House 3 is also visible; possibly related to the two small enclosures shown in this position on Blight's 1861 plan. A large curving enclosure boundary (1C) to the south of House 1 currently appears to form a hollow-way between it and the garden terraces of House 3 to the east.

The area is generally under a substantial cover of bracken mixed with scrubby grass, which had been cut low at the time of the site visit. Some sections of walling are threatened by moss and ivy cover.

Recommended management

Bracken should be removed or reduced to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Grass should be kept down through annual or bi-annual mowing. Visible walling would benefit from ivy and moss clearance to aid definition. The surveys of this area should be used to inform interpretation and future conservation and management.

12.3 Courtyard House 2



Location: SW 47231 35076

EH Asset Number: 151-001. Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726), HER number 36008.08

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	Bracken rhizomes are probably causing damage to buried remains. Gorse, heather and scrub are putting pressure on surviving built remains. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	Courtyard house settlements are peculiar to West Penwith and Scilly, although they may form part of a wider contemporary suite of stone-built architecture in northwest Europe.
Group value	High	House 2 is part of the courtyard house settlement group, which is the largest known of its kind.
Diversity	Medium	The elements of House 2 are not clearly visible and it is not possible to assess how far House 2 is typical of its type or how it relates to the rest of the courtyard house settlement. There may be features here relating to other phases of house construction.
Amenity value	Low	The form and structure of House 2 is very poor. During the visitor season some of this area is typically under bracken. Making House 2 more accessible to visitors would be desirable and clearer interpretation would improve visitor engagement and understanding.
Potential	Medium	As with House 1, House 2 would benefit from further evaluation to understand the form of the enclosure boundaries, their relationship to House 2, possible evidence for cultivation and land organisation associated with the courtyard village and possible evidence of earlier settlement construction phases and changes in use.

Historic record and description

House 2 (un-coded) appears in outline on Blight's 1861 plan. It is shown as fragmentary earthworks on

Watkin's 1928 plan, with two main divisions and some suggestion of additional cells to the northwest. On Hencken's 1933 plan, House 2 is shown as an overgrown earthwork of at least four cells with some possible original surviving masonry on the southern outer wall face. No clear entrance is shown (Blight 1861a; Hencken 1928, fig. 2; 1933, plate LXXII).

Historic intervention

None known.

Survival/condition

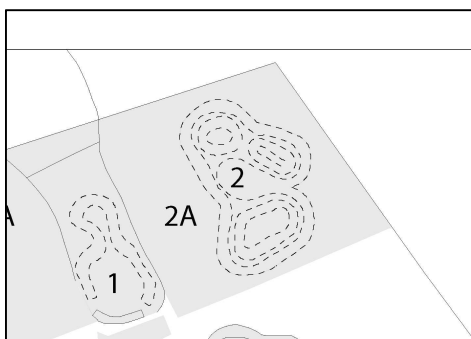
House 2 has low surviving walls and poor internal definition. The northern extent is very unclear but there may be evidence for a possible annexe or semi-detached house to the north of House 2, where sections of low walling and raised stone features are visible beneath the vegetation cover; alternatively this may indicate some external terracing in this area. No clear entrance to House 2 was noted but there is a large orthostat in the south wall.

House 2 has a substantial cover of bracken, heather and gorse on the wall areas. The interior is mossy grass, which is under threat of encroaching bracken and heather.

Recommended management

Bracken, gorse and heather should be removed or reduced to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications and grass mown annually or bi-annually. Visible walling would benefit from ivy and moss clearance to aid definition and aid interpretation.

12.4 Enclosures (2A) to N and W of House 2



Location: SW 47217 35074 (centred)

EH Asset Number: 151-001. Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726), HER number 36008.08

Criteria	Value	Notes
[Fragility/vulnerability e	Medium	Bracken rhizomes are probably causing damage to buried remains. Gorse, heather and scrub are putting pressure on surviving built remains. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	The survival of enclosure associated with Chysauster Ancient Village is high and the relationship between settlement and patterns of contemporary land use is a significant feature of the site.
Group value	High	The enclosures associated with House 2 form part of a wider pattern of contemporary enclosure and land use.
Diversity	Medium	Although their form is unclear, there appears to be stone-built structures here relating to enclosure boundaries as well as possible features relating to other phases of house construction. Some boundaries probably post-date the courtyard house settlement and may be post-medieval in date.
Amenity value	Low	The form and structure of the enclosures associated with House 2 is very poor and during the visitor season this area is typically under bracken. Making this area more accessible to visitors would be desirable and clearer interpretation would improve visitor engagement and understanding.
Potential	Medium	As with House 1, House 2 would benefit from further evaluation to understand the form of the enclosure boundaries, their relationship to House 2, possible evidence for cultivation and land organisation associated with the courtyard village and possible evidence of earlier settlement construction phases and changes in use.

Historic record and description

Watkins 1928 plan shows a hedge boundary to the north curving west to join House 2 at the junction of the two main cells (Hencken 1928, fig. 2).

Historic intervention

None known. There is no clear evidence for the curving hedge boundary recorded by Watkins and Hencken (Hencken 1928; 1933). This may be revealed by the recent survey.

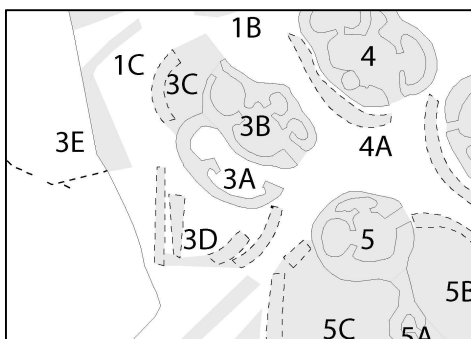
Survival/condition

Low and very indistinct terraces and stony banks are visible to the north and west of House 2. These may reflect historic enclosures or garden plots associated with House 2 but the complexity of these may also indicate part of a lost adjoining courtyard house or annexe. Some remains may reflect boundaries of post medieval date but this is not clear. A possible terrace lies to the southwest of House 2, suggesting a similar building platform to Houses 4 and 6. There is no clear evidence for the curving hedge boundary recorded by Watkins and Hencken (Hencken 1928; 1933). This may be revealed by the recent survey. Features in this area are generally poorly defined and under a substantial cover of bracken, heather and ivy.

Recommended management

Bracken, gorse and heather should be removed or reduced to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Visible walling would benefit from ivy and moss clearance to aid definition and aid interpretation.

12.5 Courtyard House 3 (3A and 3B)



Location: SW 47210 35022 and SW47215 35030

EH Asset Number: 151-001. Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726), HER number 36008.06

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	Bracken and heather are probably putting pressure on surviving built remains. There is some evidence for wall movement that may be due to root damage. There have been historic repairs to House 3 that would benefit from detailed recording. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	Courtyard house settlements are peculiar to West Penwith and Scilly, although they may form part of a wider contemporary suite of stone-built architecture in northwest Europe.
Group value	High	House 3 is part of the courtyard house settlement group, which is the largest known of its kind.
Diversity	Medium	The elements of House 3 currently suggest two semi-detached houses: this form is reflected elsewhere within the courtyard house settlement (i.e. House 5). There may be features here relating to other phases of house construction or modification.
Amenity value	Medium	The form and structure of House 3 still requires better understanding and clearer appreciation of its complexity would improve interpretation and visitor engagement.
Potential	Medium	House 3 would benefit from further evaluation to understand its current form and to identify and possible phases of modification or earlier settlement construction.

Historic record and description

Not numbered on Blight's 1861 plan, which suggested just one house, not two. Garden plots to the south were shown as more extensive than later plans. Shown on Watkin's 1928 plan as two semi-detached houses and numbered House IV. A V-shaped enclosure is shown to the south, with a smaller rectilinear enclosure adjoining to the north. A Cornish hedge boundary is shown as running

east from House I along the northern edge of cells S and R. Hencken's 1933 plan also shows House IV as two semi-detached houses, with two associated enclosures or garden plots. It is numbered as House 3 on Baillie Reynolds' 1960 plan (Blight 1861a; Hencken 1928, fig. 2; 1933, plate LXXII; Baillie Reynolds 1960).

House 3 is largely complete with walls surviving to over 1m high. In plan it takes the form of two semi-detached houses. The southern house (3A) has an entrance way which leads into an open space (A) and at the rear a round room (B) (codes shown on Hencken's 1933 plan). The entrance is lined in large blocks of granite, the remaining house walls being of smaller coursed stone. House 3A may be the earliest phase of build to which House 3B was added, or possibly a modification of one previously larger house. Two fallen orthostats are to be found in courtyard A. Cell B contains a cupped stone, or basin, paved flooring and a stone-lined drain along the south wall.

The northern house (3B) comprises a courtyard (C) with 3 cells (D, S and R) accessed by a main entrance (codes shown on Hencken's 1933 plan). A small corbelled chamber (R) is to be found on the east side of courtyard (C). Cup marks were found on one of the slabs on the southern side of the entrance into courtyard C. An unusual feature defined by large vertically set stones set into the floor was initially interpreted as a 'hearth'.

Historic intervention

The Cornish hedge boundary was removed from the north side of House 3 by Hencken and Kendrick in 1928. Parts of the outer walling to cell S were removed in error at the same time.

House 3 was completely excavated by Hencken in 1931, where it was found to be in very poor condition. There was a considerable numbers of finds from these excavations. Two fallen stone door jambs were reset at this time, position not noted.

During further excavation in 1933 Hencken recorded this site as comprising two adjoining houses, the southern one of two cells (3A) having possibly been built first. The northern one with a courtyard and three cells (3B) was thought to have been built up later against the earlier building. Hencken discovered that the drystone masonry lining of both house entrances was distinguished by large blocks of dressed granite, with the remainder of the houses being constructed of smaller coursed stone. Spoil dumps from the excavation were moved to the southwest of House 3, shown as Area III on Hencken's (1933) plan. The exterior walls of cells D and S were cleared, during which an external stone-lined and capped drain/water channel was found (Hencken 1933, 251). Cell S was discovered and excavated. A part of the floor of cell S was re-made. Some modern walling is indicated on the outer face of cells S and R on Hencken's plan of 1933; this was not removed.

In 1937 Croft Andrew noted that the wall footings on the E side of cell D needed support through having been over excavated. No repairs were noted. Croft Andrew did carry out repairs to sections of the interior and exterior walls in cells D, S and R, and to the north wall of cell B, where the wall was raised in height following its erosion by visitors walking across it (Nowakowski and Gould 2010).

Survival/condition

There is a substantial bulge in the west wall of cell B in House 3A. There are two fallen orthostats in courtyard A.

There is a fallen orthostat or shelf just within the entrance passage to House 3B. The orthostat at the entrance to cell D is also fallen. At the west end of cell D there is a small concave area in the wall,

possibly another cell.

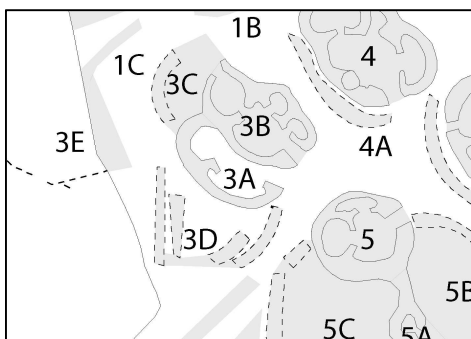
The walls to all cells are in fair to good condition, with walls up to 1.8m high in places. There is, however, a substantial cover of bracken, heather, ivy and moss on the wall tops and sides.

Recommended management

Bracken and heather should be reduced on the wall tops to comply with the levels set out in the reviewed management specifications. Moss should be cleaned from the stonework to better define the walls. The grassy interior should be mown annually or bi-annually.

The bulge in the west wall of Cell B should be assessed for further decline and the repairs by Hencken to the interior and exterior faces of cells D, S and R in House 3B should be inspected and assessed.

12.6 Garden Terraces (3C and 3D) to SW of House 3



Location: SW 47202 35036 and SW 47208 35010

EH Asset Number: 151-001. Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726), HER number 36008.06

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Low	The terraces appear to be in relatively stable condition and are not under threat from adverse vegetation. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	The survival of enclosure associated with Chysauster Ancient Village is high and the relationship between settlement and patterns of contemporary land use is a significant feature of the site.
Group value	High	The enclosures associated with House 3 form part of a wider pattern of contemporary enclosure and land use.
Diversity	Medium	As well as the terraced enclosures there appears to be some form of stone lined passage leading to the rear of House 3B and possibly accessing onto a hollow-way (18) to the west. Rear access passages from other houses (e.g. 5 and 6) within the courtyard settlement have been identified, but this extends outwards across the terraces, which is more unusual.
Amenity value	Medium	The form and structure of the terraces and enclosures associated with House 3 still require better understanding and clearer appreciation of their complexity would improve interpretation and visitor engagement.
Potential	Medium	The terraces associated with House 3 would benefit from further evaluation to understand their current form and to identify and possible phases of modification or earlier settlement construction. The passageway leading between the possible hollow way and House 3B should have a detailed record made.

Historic record and description

Two terraced garden plots or enclosures are shown to the southwest of House 3 on early plans of the site, although they are only coded (X and Y) on Watkin's 1928 plan. Their form appears to have changed little over time, although Blight's plan suggests three divisions, not two (Blight 1861a; Hencken 1928, fig. 2).

Historic intervention

Narrow trenches were cut through terraces X and Y by Hencken in 1928. These revealed that the enclosures were artificially levelled and edged with upright retaining stones around 0.5m high. The terraces were made up with loam, thought to reflect their use as garden plots (Hencken 1928, 159).

Survival/condition

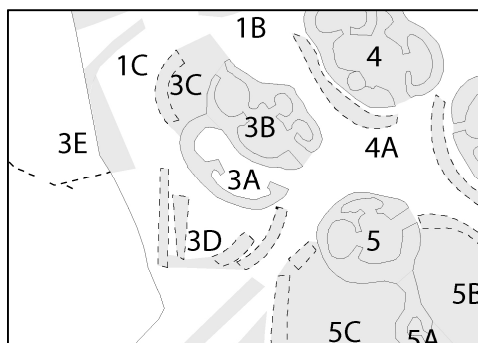
The northernmost terrace is in fair condition, with some evidence of its' retaining stone walls. It is bordered to the west by a possible hollow-way (3F - possibly an offshoot of 18) that runs from south to north along the west side of House 3. At the north end of the terrace is a narrow northwest to southeast aligned passage marked by four orthostats, one at each corner, leading to a rear entrance in cell D of House 3B. The terrace is under low grass cover with some ivy and moss on the stonework.

The southernmost terrace is under low grass cover. Its present form is now indistinct - Watkin's plan of 1928 suggests a longer triangular terrace extending to the top of the main hollow-way (Site 18), from which an offshoot (3F) may continue on along its' western edge.

Recommended management

The low grass cover on both terraces should be maintained through annual or bi-annual mowing. Ivy and moss on the visible stones associated with the passage' leading to House B should be reduced to help define stones. This would increase visual appeal and benefit interpretation. The recent surveys of the terraces should be assessed for any relationship to the hollow-ways to the south and west.

12.7 Spoil Heap (3E) to SW of House 3



Location: SW 47190 35020

EH Asset Number: Not known Type of Asset: Not known

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726) HER number 36008

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Low	The spoil heap is stable and any artefactual remains it might contain are unstratified.
Rarity	Low	Low rarity value, except that the spoil heaps are documented and mapped.
Group value	Low	Low group value except as part of the material archive of historic and early modern excavation at Chysauster.
Diversity	Low	
Amenity value	Low	
Potential	Low	May contain unstratified artefactual remains from Hencken's 1933 excavations.

Historic record and description

The spoil heap from Hencken's 1933 excavations of House 3 is shown to the west of House 3 on his 1933 plan, coded III (Hencken 1933, plate LXXII).

Historic intervention

Trenches across this area were dug by Hencken in 1931 prior to the spoil heap being placed here. The trenches indicated no archaeological features within this area, with the exception of two water worn pebbles above the rab (Hencken 1933, 249).

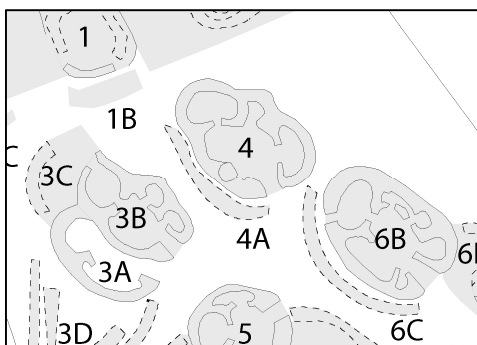
Survival/condition

Hencken's spoil heap is visible as a grass, bracken and ivy covered mound at the southern end of boundary 1C, to the southwest of House 3. The spoil heap clearly contains much loose stone, which may be eroding out at the southern end onto the hollow-way.

Recommended management

Remove or reduce bracken in this area to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Grassed areas should be mown annually or bi-annually. Reduce ivy cover.

12.8 Courtyard House 4 and Building Platform 4A



Location: SW 47234 35042

EH Asset Number: 151-001 Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726) HER number 36008.09

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Low	The walls of House 4 are in good clean condition and has seen both historic and modern repair. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	Courtyard house settlements are peculiar to West Penwith and Scilly, although they may form part of a wider contemporary suite of stone-built architecture in northwest Europe.
Group value	High	House 4 is part of the courtyard house settlement group, which is the largest known of its kind.
Diversity	Low	House 4 appears to conform to the typical architectural form of the majority of courtyard houses within West Penwith and Scilly.
Amenity value	Medium	The form and structure of House 4 is clearly defined and is a good quality example of its type.
Potential	Medium	House 4 would benefit from a detailed building record to promote understanding of courtyard house construction.

Historic record and description

House 4 is coded House B on Blight's 1861 plan, House 2 on Watkins 1928 plan and House 4 on Hencken's 1933 and Baillie Reynolds' 1960 plans. The plans are all very similar, which suggests that the structure of House 4 changed little during this time. Hencken's 1933 plan indicates a section of 'modern' walling on the southeast wall of cell C (Blight 1861a; Hencken 1928, fig. 2; 1933, plate LXXII; Baillie Reynolds 1960).

House 4 is a complete courtyard house, which has a paved entrance (F) that extends beyond the entrance onto a grassy terrace. The large courtyard (E) has large orthostats on either side of the main entrance and raised paved entrances to each cell. There is a dished stone to the south of the main entrance and a stone drain and a stone with a linear funnelled cut to it on the south side of the courtyard. On the north side of the courtyard there is a stone with a slot in it. The round room, 'cell C', has a paved entrance and contains a cupped stone, and a deep stone-lined hearth or drain. This house has seen the most excavation and reconstruction. It was described by Hencken in 1931 as being in an overgrown and dilapidated condition.

Historic intervention

House 4 was excavated by Holman and Cornish (1893-98, 106-107). Four "enclosed rooms" were cleared and some poor quality restoration of interior walls was carried out, but this did not closely follow original wall lines. The entrance to House 4 was cleared out by Hencken in 1931; who also cleared the outside wall of fallen debris. The exterior wall was found to be in better condition than the other houses, this being up to 4 (1.1m) foot high. On the south side some vegetation had forced upper courses to bulge outwards and a large stone was used as a buttress to prevent further movement (Hencken 1933, 273). Some 'modern' walling is indicated on Hencken's 1933 plan (front wall of cell C).

Further work on House 4 was carried out by Croft Andrew in 1939 (Nowakowski and Gould 2010). Croft Andrew reset the fallen stone in south east of cell A with cement. Work in cells D and E by Croft Andrew included investigating a mound by the well (this proved to be earlier excavation spoil). The floor to the west of the well was found to be intact and part of the south-west wall was rebuilt on its original foundation stone above 5 good courses of stone. A 'sunken room' (D) was stripped and the damage caused by the 19th century "excavation" was revealed. Some other minor repairs to the outer faces of cells C, B and A were carried out. Repairs to the NE interior wall of Cell A were recorded by CAU in 2007 (Gossip and Nowakowski 2008).

Survival/condition

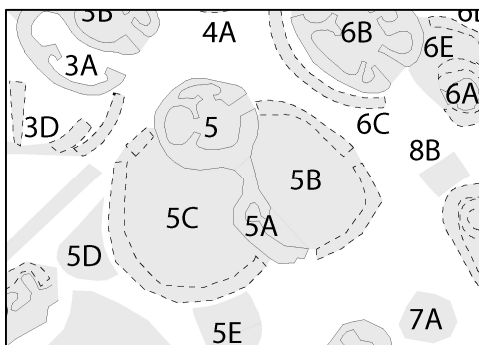
The walls of House 4 appear very clean and tidy. A small cell on the south side of the courtyard (un-coded) appears to have seen some modern repair; the top stones on the corner of the northern entrance wall appear fixed by an unidentified clear bonding agent. Cell A is a divided cell with some degree of wall lean to the west, which was the subject of repairs recorded by CAU in 2007 (Gossip and Nowakowski 2008). This currently appears stable. The floor surfaces are under low grass cover and there is much heather and grass cover on the walls, also moss on the stonework.

A building platform (4A) is visible to the southwest of House 4. Its form is now indistinct and there are many loose and moved stones. The whole is currently under low grass cover.

Recommended management

The grassed interior should be mowed annually or bi-annually. Some possible clearance of vegetation covering the stone paving and stone features within House 4 is recommended to achieve better definition. Heather and grass should be removed from walls to comply with the levels set out in the reviewed management specifications and moss cleaned from stonework. The grass cover on building platform 4A should be kept down through annual or bi-annual mowing. Some repair of loose stones should be considered to help stabilise and redefine the platform.

12.9 Courtyard House 5 and 5A



Location: SW 47234 35009

EH Asset Number: 151-001 Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726) HER number 36008.01

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	The walls of House 5 are in poor condition in places and there is some external wall collapse. House 5A only partially survives. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	Courtyard house settlements are peculiar to West Penwith and Scilly, although they may form part of a wider contemporary suite of stone-built architecture in northwest Europe.
Group value	High	House 5 is part of the courtyard house settlement group, which is the largest known of its kind.
Diversity	Medium	The form of House 5 is similar to other semi-detached examples (e.g. House 3) within the courtyard house settlement at Chysauster but the construction and internal layout appear to conform to the typical architectural form of the majority of courtyard houses within West Penwith and Scilly.
Amenity value	Medium	The form and structure of House 5 is relatively well-defined, but House 5A only partially survives. Better understanding and clearer appreciation of the form and relationship of the two adjoining houses would improve interpretation and visitor engagement.
Potential	Medium	Houses 5 and 5A would benefit from a detailed building record to promote understanding of courtyard house construction and inform on differences in type.

Historic record and description

House 5 is shown on Blight's 1861 plan as two separate ruins adjoined to an enclosure. It is shown on Watkin's 1928 plan and Hencken's 1933 plan as one house with adjoining but fragmented walling to the southeast. The southeast plot is likely to be another courtyard house (5A). Two garden plots (5B and

5C) adjoin the houses to the northeast and south. The north-eastern plot is likely to contain the remains of the second courtyard house (5A). Watkin's 1928 plan records a Cornish hedge boundary on the north side of House 5, which clips the northeast corner and extends along the north side of plot 5B. It is shown as House 5 on Baillie Reynolds' 1960 survey (Blight 1861a; Hencken 1928, fig. 2; 1933, plate LXXII; Baillie Reynolds 1960).

House 5 lies at the centre of the village and is one of smaller courtyard houses with 2/3 cells (B and C) arranged around an open courtyard (A). There is no extant wall which separates the cell on the eastern side of the courtyard. A stone-lined drain lies flush with the ground surface in the courtyard. The doorposts on either side of the doorway into the round room (B) are *in situ* as well as a cupped stone in the centre of the floor. A niche was recorded in the northwest wall of cell B by Hencken (1933). Walling at the northern end of the long room (C) at 5ft 6in high was found to be well preserved "nearly its original height" (Hencken 1933, 243).

Historic intervention

House 5 was partially excavated by Hencken in 1931 (1933, 240-249). Following the removal of bracken, surviving wall masonry, particularly on the outside wall, was found to be reasonably well-preserved: in places one to three courses of original walling had survived (Hencken 1933, 240). The modern hedge on the northern side of the house was removed. Substantial clearance and restoration of House 5 was carried out by Hencken (1933). A large fallen stone was reset on the west side of the entrance passage. Courtyard (A) was cleared of stone. Two probable door jambs X and Y were uncovered at either sides of the inner doorway to the courtyard but these were not reset. A fallen stone to the east of the main entrance was reset, however. Long room C was cleared of stone. The walling in the south-west of the round room (B) opposite the entrance had been destroyed and this gap was filled in with turf and its height restored. The entire interior of House 5 was cleared of stone and cleaned down to the rab (subsoil) (Nowakowski and Gould 2010).

Croft Andrew carried out some minor repairs to the exterior and interior walls of cell C in 1937. A patch repair was made to the north side of the entrance passage and a stone removed from behind a slab to the north of the interior corner to the entrance passage; presumably one of the fallen door jambs noted by Hencken. The gap in the wall of cell B filled with turf by Hencken was considered to be a possible rear entrance (onto terraces) but Croft Andrew thought this was not entirely convincing so filled it in with stone to the height of the adjacent wall (Nowakowski and Gould 2010).

Survival/condition

The two orthostats (Hencken's door jambs X and Y) in House 5 at the interior entrance to courtyard A have both fallen, and the northwest corner of the interior entrance wall is substantially degraded. A repair to the southwest wall of cell B is thought to be the one originally made by Hencken and infilled with stone by Croft Andrew. The niche in the northwest wall of Cell B noted and drawn by Hencken (1933) was not observed and may have been infilled. Two orthostats lean against the northwest corner of the entrance of cell C, though there is no orthostat on the northeast corner (an orthostat is shown at both corners on Hencken's plan (1933) but he records the northern stone as 'fallen across the doorway, with another large stone pushed over on the top of the wall to the south' - interpreted as a 'lintel'). Cell C may once have been sub-divided. A line of stone is visible along the floor surface at the west end. The walls of cell C are generally in very poor condition and should be assessed for repair.

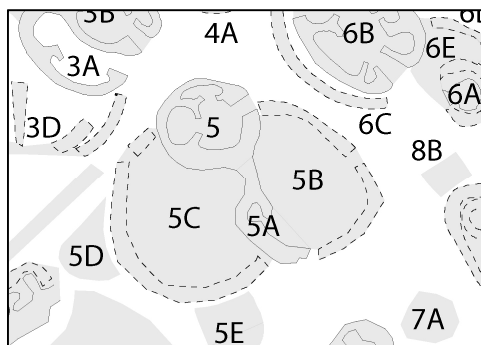
There is much bracken, gorse and heather cover on the wall tops of House 5 and moss obscures much of the stonework. Stonework from the southern exterior wall of House 5 has fallen onto the terrace.

Recommended management

In House 5 assess the walls of cell C for repair. Assess and record the repairs by Croft Andrew to the west wall of cell B to determine whether a rear entrance onto the terrace existed. Consider the possibility of reinstating this. The niche recorded by Hencken should be looked for and if found, restored, with proper recording. Record and repair the northwest corner of the interior passage wall and consider resetting the orthostats (this would require minor excavation to determine and record the original settings). The exterior walls should be assessed for repair and recording.

The bracken, gorse and heather cover on the wall top should be reduced to comply with the levels set out in the reviewed management specifications. The grassed interior should be mown annually or bi-annually and some clearance of the stone paving and internal features should be considered to better define these and aid interpretation.

12.10 Garden Terraces (5B and 5C) to N and S of House 5



Location: SW 47252 35000 and 47228 34991

EH Asset Number: 151-001 Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726) HER number 36008.01

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	The terraces themselves appear to be in relatively stable condition but there may be buried remains relating to other structures and these may be vulnerable to root or rhizome damage. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	The survival of enclosure associated with Chysauster Ancient Village is high and the relationship between settlement and patterns of contemporary land use is a significant feature of the site.
Group value	High	The enclosures associated with House 5 form part of a wider pattern of contemporary enclosure and land use.
Diversity	Medium	As well as the terraced enclosures there appears to be a possible rear entrance from House 5, accessing onto the south terrace (5C). There may be additional stone structures or remnants of former courtyard houses within the terraced areas.
Amenity value	Medium	The form and structure of the terraces and enclosures associated with House 5 still require better understanding and clearer appreciation of their complexity would improve interpretation and visitor engagement.
Potential	Medium	The terraces associated with House 5 would benefit from further evaluation to understand their current form and to identify and possible phases of modification or earlier settlement construction.

Historic record and description

The terraces adjoining House 5 to the north and south are not shown on Blight's 1861 plan but are included in the plans of Watkins, Hencken and Baillie Reynolds. The northern terrace (5B) may be the site of a former courtyard house (5A), with possible later modification as a garden plot. A thick section

of walling projecting southeast from House 5 was thought by Hencken (1933, 247) to be a retaining wall of the northern terrace, but was noted to be better built than those of the southern terrace. Areas of stonework and possible sections of walling (Areas P and Q in Hencken 1933, fig. 3) may be associated with lost sections of the courtyard house (Blight 1861a; Hencken 1928, fig. 2; 1933, plate LXXII; Baillie Reynolds 1960).

The southern terrace (5C) may have been a garden plot to House 5. A roughly semi-circular terrace was recorded by Hencken (1933, 245), surrounded and kept in place by a sloping bank of stones with some large uprights at its junction with House 5A.

Historic intervention

Hencken investigated the two terraces to House 5 in 1933. A trench running from north to south across the northern terrace (5B) revealed two concentrations of stone and sections of walling (Hencken 1933, 247-249). In the northernmost area of stone was a tall stone around 6 feet long. A low bank was observed - thought possibly to be part of the terracing.

The southern terrace was found to be artificially created and stone-lined. The lower part of the terrace was found to have deeper stratigraphy, and consisted of soil on top of a layer of artificially introduced rubble (Hencken 1933, 245-247).

Survival/condition

The terrace (5B) to the northwest of House 5 is poorly defined and under cover of low grass. Some raised areas of stonework are still visible but are covered with moss and surrounded by heather.

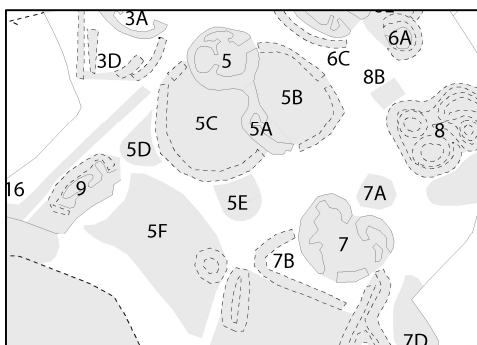
The terrace (5C) to the south of House 5 is in fair to poor condition and has lost some definition. It may incorporate a building platform, visible as a low ridge. Stone from the exterior walls of House 5 has fallen onto the terrace and additional loose stone is visible across the area. A possible stone enclosure or building may exist at the southeast end of the terrace. The large upright stone adjoining House 5A may coincide with a rear entrance from cell B (this remains uncertain). This may reflect a similar feature at House 3B; the stone edged passage leading out of Cell D. The terrace (5C) is currently under low grass cover with some bracken ingress.

Recommended management

Bracken should be removed or reduced to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Grass should be kept down through annual or bi-annual mowing. Heather, gorse and moss should be removed from areas of stonework to the levels set out for the courtyard houses in the reviewed management specification where these potentially relate to a structure.

The possible building or enclosure at the southeast corner of terrace 5C should be surveyed and assessed. The upright stones at the northeast corner adjoining House 5 should be assessed for any relationship to a rear entrance from cell B and this should be recorded.

12.11 Enclosure/Terrace (5D) to the SW of Enclosure 5C



Location: SW 47211 34985

EH Asset Number: 151-001 Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726) HER number 36008

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	This feature lacks clear definition and interpretation. Survival appears poor and there is a risk of loss. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	The survival of enclosure associated with Chysauster Ancient Village is high and the relationship between settlement and patterns of contemporary land use is a significant feature of the site.
Group value	High	If identified as a terrace or enclosure this would form part of a wider pattern of contemporary enclosure and land use.
Diversity	Medium	There are currently no clearly identified stand-alone or accreted terraces or enclosures within the courtyard house settlement.
Amenity value	Low	The form and structure of this possible terrace or enclosure requires better understanding to improve interpretation and visitor engagement.
Potential	Medium	This feature would benefit from further evaluation to understand its form, function and relationships, which could expand general understanding and interpretation of settlement organisation and land use at Chysauster.

Historic record and description

A small enclosure is shown on Blight's 1861 plan, southwest of House 5 and adjoining enclosure 5C (Blight 1861a). Watkin's 1928 plan also shows a feature to the south of enclosure 5C, but it is not clear whether this relates to House 5 or House 9 (Hencken 1928, fig. 2). Nothing is shown on later plans of the site.

Historic intervention

None known.

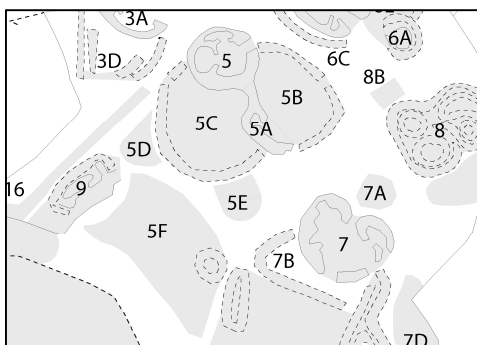
Survival/condition

A discrete area of heather, gorse and bracken marks a possible terrace or enclosure to the southwest of the House 5 enclosure (5C) and to the northeast of House 9. This could be the enclosure shown by Blight (1861a). A few standing stones are visible, which may relate to an associated structure but there is no clear form to this feature.

Recommended management

Remove or reduce heather, bracken and gorse to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications and mow grassed areas annually or bi-annually. Refer to the recent surveys of this area for further clarity on the form of this feature and any possible relationship to Houses 5 and 9. Consider further evaluation such as geophysical survey or targeted excavation. Review the management recommendations in the light of any new information produced by the surveys.

12.12 Enclosure/Terrace (5E) to the SE of Enclosure 5C



Location: SW 47211 34985

EH Asset Number: 151-001 Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726) HER number 36008

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	This feature lacks clear definition and interpretation. Survival appears poor and there is a risk of loss. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	The survival of enclosure associated with Chysauster Ancient Village is high and the relationship between settlement and patterns of contemporary land use is a significant feature of the site.
Group value	High	If identified as a terrace or enclosure this would form part of a wider pattern of contemporary enclosure and land use.
Diversity	Medium	There are currently no clearly identified stand-alone or accreted terraces or enclosures within the courtyard house settlement.
Amenity value	Low	The form and structure of this possible terrace or enclosure requires better understanding to improve interpretation and visitor engagement.
Potential	Medium	This feature would benefit from further evaluation to understand its form, function and relationships, which could expand general understanding and interpretation of settlement organisation and land use at Chysauster.

Historic record and description

None known.

Historic intervention

None known.

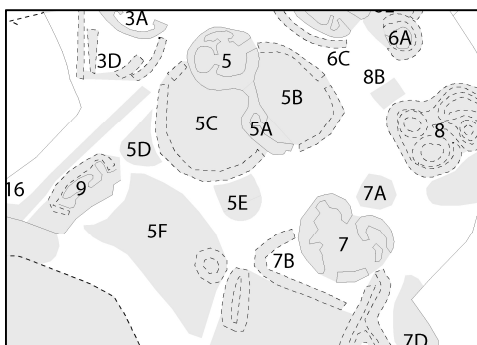
Survival/condition

A discrete, slightly raised area to the southeast of Enclosure 5C and containing some stone. No clear form or relationship to House 5 could be seen but this may be an adjoining terrace or enclosure. The area is currently under low grass with some bracken, heather and gorse present.

Recommended management

Remove heather, bracken and gorse to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Mow the grassed areas annually or bi-annually. Refer to the recent surveys of this area for further clarity on the form of this feature and any possible relationship to House 5. Review the management recommendations in the light of any new information produced by the surveys.

12.13 Spoil Heap (5F) to the S of House 5 and E of House 9



Location: SW 47220 34962

EH Asset Number: Not known Type of Asset: Not known

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726)

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Low	The spoil heap is stable and any artefactual remains it might contain are unstratified.
Rarity	Low	Low rarity value, except that the spoil heaps are documented and mapped.
Group value	Low	Low group value except as part of the material archive of historic and early modern excavation at Chysauster.
Diversity	Low	
Amenity value	Low	
Potential	Low	May contain unstratified artefactual remains from Hencken's 1933 excavations.

Historic record and description

The spoil heap from Hencken's 1931 excavations of House 5 is situated to the east of House 9, shown as area V on Hencken's 1933 plan. Mound XV is also shown to the east of the spoil heap on Hencken's plan (Hencken 1933, plate LXXII).

Historic intervention

Trenches across this area were dug by Hencken in 1931 prior to the spoil heap being placed here. The trenches indicated that no archaeological remains were present, except for two long and low ridges of loose stones just below the turf, interpreted as recent additions to the site (Hencken 1933, 240). Mound XV was considered as being possibly modern as well and was not investigated.

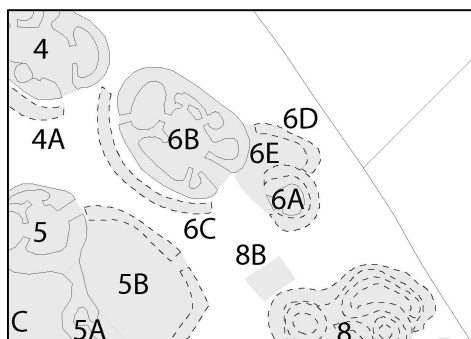
Survival/condition

A large mound covered by bracken and with a substantial pile of stone at its northwest end was identified as the spoil heap from Hencken's 1931 excavations of House 3 and House 5. This appears to be contained to the northwest by the remains of a stone walled boundary but it is unclear whether this is part of the post medieval Cornish hedge boundary, part of House 9, or a spurious feature created to enclose the spoil. Mound XV (Hencken 1933) survives to the east of the spoil heap. This feature is also covered in low grass and bracken. It may be associated with the sub-oval feature embedded within the enclosure boundary to the south of House 7.

Recommended management

Remove or reduce the bracken to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Refer to the recent earthworks to help clarify the form and function of the stone boundary at the northwest end of the spoil heap and mound XV to the east.

12.14 Hut 6 (A)



Location: SW 47279 35014

EH Asset Number: 151-001 Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726) HER number 36008.10

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	The walls of Hut 6A are generally in a reasonably stable condition but there is some threat to the structure from heather and bracken. The full form and function of Hut 6A is unknown which may impact on its future management. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	There are other courtyard house settlements in West Penwith where stone-built round rooms form part of the suite of house types and construction phases. These structures may have formed part of an accretive process by which some courtyard houses developed.
Group value	High	Hut 6A is part of the courtyard house settlement group, which is the largest known of its kind.
Diversity	Medium	The form of Hut 6A is similar to stone-built round rooms found at settlements such as Bosigran, Nanjulian and Borthporthennis, for example, where single rooms have been incorporated as part of a later house structure. Hut 6A may stand alone or form an adjoining cell with 6E; the form and relationship of these two elements remains unknown.
Amenity value	Medium	The form and structure of Hut 6A is relatively well-defined, but its relationship to adjoining features (6A and 6D) and House 6B is poorly understood. Better understanding and clearer appreciation of the form and relationship of Hut 6A would improve interpretation and visitor engagement.
Potential	High	Evaluation of Hut 6A has the potential to inform on the phasing and nature of house construction at Chysauster, informing time-depth, architectural style and function as well as how this relates to the wider suite of courtyard houses in West Penwith.

Historic record and description

Hut 6A is currently interpreted as a free standing roundhouse. A small enclosure is shown to the east of House 6 on Blight's 1861 plan and Watkin's 1928 plan. Hencken's 1933 plan shows a sub-circular feature with an entrance to the southwest, with a larger enclosure adjoining to the northwest. The structure was identified by Croft Andrew in 1939 and coded as Hut 10. It is shown as H in Baillie Reynolds' 1960 survey and 6A in the EH Monument Guide (Blight 1861a; Hencken 1928, fig. 2; 1933, plate LXXII; Baillie Reynolds 1960).

Historic intervention

Excavation of Hut 6A ('Hut 10') by Croft Andrew in June 1939 revealed a paved floor. Two hearths were also found; one in the centre of the hut was large and stone-backed. The second overlay a floor of hard rab and small stones. East to west sections across the hut were drawn by Croft Andrew (Nowakowski and Gould 2010).

Survival/condition

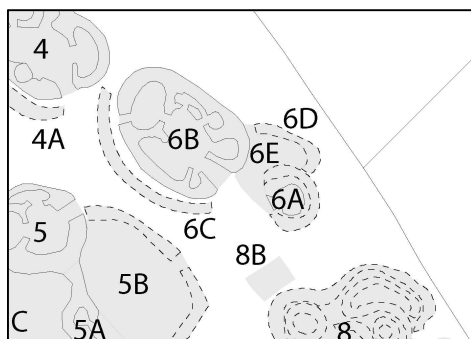
The stone walls of Hut 6A are in good condition, though under a substantial cover of grass and heather. The raised entrance to the hut leads onto a stone paved interior and the raised stone hearth is still visible. A curved linear enclosure wall (6D) to the north of Hut 6A appears to link the cell with the east wall of House 6 and there is a small raised terrace (6E) between the two areas and abutting House 6B. This may be evidence for a small terraced enclosure and a roundhouse, possibly having an industrial function or use as an external cooking area. Alternatively it is possible that 6A, along with 6D and 6E, represent the remains of a 'lost' courtyard house, perhaps originally adjoining House 6B, or perhaps an earlier phase of build that was modified following the construction of House 6B.

The walls of Hut 6A and enclosure wall 6C are under substantial cover of heather and grass, with some threat from encroaching bracken. The terrace 6E is under low grass cover. A large gorse bush stands at the junction of enclosure wall 6C and House 6B. This was planted to reduce damage to this area but now devalues the visual appreciation of the main courtyard house and the relationship between its adjoining features.

Recommended management

Bracken and heather should be removed from walls to comply with the levels set out in the reviewed management specifications and moss cleared to define stonework. Grass should be kept down by annual or bi-annual mowing. The recent surveys should be referred to in order to help clarify the relationship between the adjoining terrace and boundary wall and their association with House 6B.

12.15 Courtyard House 6 (B)



Location: SW 47258 35025

EH Asset Number: 151-001 Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726) HER number 36008.10

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	The walls of House 6B are in generally good repair but have some areas of damage. House 6B has seen the greatest extent of historic repair and reconstruction and would benefit from a detailed building record being made. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	Courtyard house settlements are peculiar to West Penwith and Scilly, although they may form part of a wider contemporary suite of stone-built architecture in northwest Europe.
Group value	High	House 6B is part of the courtyard house settlement group, which is the largest known of its kind.
Diversity	Low	House 6B is a good quality example of the type of courtyard houses found in West Penwith, although this may be partly due to the level of repair and reconstruction carried out.
Amenity value	High	The form and structure of House 6B makes it one of best appreciated houses within Chysauster Ancient Village.
Potential	Low/ Medium	House 6B has already seen substantial excavation, repair and reconstruction. There is some potential, however, for further evaluation of House 6B to focus on its relationship to Hut 6A and its adjoining terrace to shed light on the nature and phasing of settlement construction at Chysauster.

Historic record and description

Blight's 1861 plan codes House 6B as House A. There is a plan and description of House 6B in Blight's 'A Week at Lands End' (1861b). Blight's plan shows a linear northwest to southeast boundary between Houses 6B and 8. Blight published an amended plan of House 6 in 1885. Borlase coded House 6B as

House 9 in his excavation of 1873 and the Lukis and Borlase survey of 1879 (Borlase 1873; 1880-81). Watkin's 1928 plan coded House 6 as House I. His plan also shows a sizeable enclosure to the north of House 6B. This is also shown on Hencken's plan of 1933, which codes House 6B as 6 (Blight 1861a; Hencken 1928, fig. 2; 1933, plate LXXII).

House 6B is a complete courtyard house – the best preserved in the village. Some walls stand in excess of 2 m high. A paved entrance (I) leads into an open courtyard (H) around which are arranged 6 cells; in clockwise direction: G, F, E, D and B, and round room A. A small recess (C) lies within the rear wall of B. Hencken's plan in 1933 shows some 'modern' walling, probably the work of Borlase. A building platform (6C) is shown to the south of House 6 on all historic plans except Blight's.

Historic intervention

House 6B was excavated by Borlase in 1873 when he cleared away the insides of the rooms. Borlase found that some of the rooms were paved and, in some, hearths with ashes and broken pottery had survived. In the "raised" paved round room (no I on his plan) a flat stone near the central hearth was found which Borlase believed was a "seat" (1880-81, 31). A shallow granite basin, a rough trough, several mullers and a lump of tin were found (1880-81, 32). Borlase interpreted a hollowed basin on one side of the entrance into Room 5 as a tin mould (1880-81, 32). Room 5 is Hencken's cell E. It is clear that this basin had not been found *in situ* and some 50 years later Hencken noted that the basin had been reset and built into the side of the entrance by Borlase (Nowakowski and Gould 2010).

In 1931 Hencken carried out some tidying up work at House 6B. At the time the house was in a ruinous condition and vegetation and stone debris were cleared. Some of the interior walls had been raised in height (presumably by Borlase) although it was not easy to distinguish between original build and repair (Hencken 1933, 274). The southern wall of E had been rebuilt on the wrong line and the stone basin found in E (see above) had been built into one side of the entrance into the room by Borlase (Hencken 1933, 275). Old walls in poor condition in cells A and B (on Lukis and Borlase 1897 plan as rooms 1 and 2) were repaired with turf and during this exercise some finds were discovered. Parts of the entrance passage into house 6B were cleared and initial attempts were made to repair fallen masonry and rebuild walls in cell G (Room 7 on Lukis and Borlase's plan of 1879). A small stone basin was found in the entrance to G at this time and was left where found (Hencken 1933, 275). A large part of the exterior walls were also cleared during 1931 and were noted to be in a better condition than in the other houses. House 6B, like its western neighbour House 4, had been built upon an artificial platform (Hencken 1933, 275; Nowakowski and Gould 2010).

Work on House 6B was carried out by Croft Andrew in 1937 and 1938. This included some wall repairs in cells G and F, the discovery of a rear passage out of cell E, the patching up of turf filled repairs with stone in cell A, the partial demolition and rebuild of the southwest wall of cell B, repairs to the upper masonry over door jambs in cell C, cosmetic repair work in cell D, substantial consolidation in cell E that included excavation of the floor that exposed an upper and lower floor surface and the making up of the newly discovered passage walls to level of highest stones (a section of 8ft from the doorway northwards, in the same masonry style). The junction of the main wall in courtyard F with G's partition wall was investigated, the spoil from earlier work (probably by Borlase) removed and the junction consolidated. Some walls in cell G were found to be unstable and in need of rebuilding. A false wall constructed by Borlase in courtyard H was removed to reveal original footings (east of B doorway). The fallen right hand door jamb was reset. Floor levels in cells B and H noted as being over 2 feet in difference. At gateway I on the western wall an area behind a leaning orthostat was exposed and the ancient wall face revealed. The old wall was exposed and traced in both directions by a 2ft trench cut through. In 1938 the floors of cells C, D, E and F were excavated and internal features such as "fire pits", possible "ovens" and/or "furnaces", stone-lined drains, paving, mortar stones and

stone-lined hearths were found. Large areas of courtyard H were trenched. Several layers of occupation were found alongside a depression within the central area of the courtyard. Drains and pits were found below upper layers and parts of a cobbled pavement were found (Nowakowski and Gould 2010).

Survival/condition

Courtyard H has a central paved drain and orthostats to all cell entrances, which are raised above courtyard level, some stepped. There is a cupped stone in the northwest corner. Cell F is a recessed area of the courtyard and there is a further small cell (un-coded) to the west. A section of wall extending into cell F from cell E is in poor repair and is severely degraded. Cell G has a low stone shelf or bed with a large orthostat above with a hole at its base. There is a cupped stone on the floor at the south end. The south wall of cell E has some evidence of damage repair. Cell E has a lowered floor level as a result of previous excavation but still contains a large cupped stone to the south and a stone drain or hearth in the centre. Repairs to the south wall of cell E are visible, as are the repairs made to the rear entrance passage by Croft Andrew. Cells D and B suggest historic divisions, with a low stone dividing wall *in situ*. Some movement and bulging in the northeast wall of cell D is apparent. This appears currently stable but may benefit from repair. A small recess (cell C) in the north wall of cell B has the remains of a corbelled roof.

There is much heather and grass covering to the wall tops, with moss and fern on the stonework. The floor surfaces are under low grass cover.

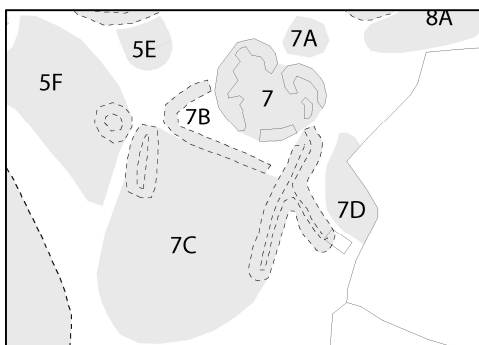
The building platform (6C) to the south of House 6B is in fair condition, though poorly defined and currently under cover of low shaggy grass.

Recommended management

The level of heather on the wall tops and sides should be reduced to comply with the levels set in the reviewed management specifications and moss cleared to help define the stonework. The northeast wall of cell D should be assessed for possible repair. The south wall of cell G should also be assessed for possible repair. The extending section of wall between cells F and H is in urgent need of repair. The grassed interior should be kept clear through annual or bi-annual mowing. Some clearance of the stone paving and stone features should be undertaken to better define these.

The grassy cover on building platform (6C) should be kept down through annual or bi-annual mowing.

12.16 Courtyard House 7



Location: SW 47264 34962

EH Asset Number: 151-001 Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726) HER number 36008.03

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	The walls of House 7 are in variable states of survival and repair and may have seen much modification, which might include the repositioning of the main entrance. Heather and bracken cover is likely to be putting some areas of stonework at risk. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	Courtyard house settlements are peculiar to West Penwith and Scilly, although they may form part of a wider contemporary suite of stone-built architecture in northwest Europe.
Group value	High	House 7 is part of the courtyard house settlement group, which is the largest known of its kind.
Diversity	Medium	House 7 shares many common elements with the remaining upstanding courtyard houses at Chysauster. There are some differences, principally the line of orthostats in the main courtyard, and the possible annexe or modified area to the north of the current main entrance. Material finds recovered from House 7 indicate some differences with the other houses, possibly reflecting earlier phases of occupation, or the possible shift in use from an occupied house to a midden area.
Amenity value	Medium/ High	The form and structure of House 7 has high visual appeal, although better understanding of the nature and phasing of the construction and use of House 7 would enhance site interpretation and increase visitor engagement.
Potential	Medium/ High	Modern evaluation of House 7 has the potential to shed light on the nature and phasing of settlement construction and domestic occupation at Chysauster, particularly the earlier life of the settlement.

Historic record and description

House 7 is shown (un-coded) on Blight's 1861 plan as largely complete. Watkin's 1928 plan shows House 7 standing in its own field, separated by historic hedge boundaries. By the time of Hencken's 1933 and Baillie Reynolds' 1960 plans House 7 appears to have lost some wall sections and interior definition (Blight 1861a; Hencken 1928, fig. 2; 1933, plate LXXII; Baillie Reynolds 1960).

Excavation by Hencken in 1931 showed House 7 to have originally comprised a courtyard (A/E) around which 5 cells were arranged (D, F, G, C and B, Hencken 1933, fig. 5). A stone-lined drain lies flush with the ground surface in the courtyard. The house was entered through a paved entrance (A) to the north. Hencken's 1933 plan shows some areas of original masonry which were preserved although the walls had only survived as low mounds. Three large orthostats stand in a line to the south of entrance A and were interpreted by Hencken as marking a further shallow cell at the S end of the courtyard. A substantial garden plot lies adjacent to the house in the south. House 7 is thought to have been used by Methodist preacher in the late 19th century.

Historic intervention

House 7 was excavated by Hencken in 1931. The exterior walls of House 7 were traced (Hencken 1933, 252). The original outer walling was found to be poor and in sections the masonry was found to be only one course high, but with better survival of some sections (up to 3 ft high for masonry on an outer face). The interior was shown to be badly preserved with very little surviving interior walling (Hencken 1933, 252). A long trench excavated through central courtyard (A) into space G demonstrated that the interior had been heavily disturbed with very little intact stratigraphy (Hencken 1933, 253). Hearth b in room B was however intact (Hencken 1933, 253). A breach in the wall at G1 was regarded as "modern" (this appears on Blight's 1861 survey, see above) but stone paving found *in situ* in the entrance passage (A) was interpreted as ancient (Hencken 1933, 254). A blocked "entrance" at F was thought by Hencken to have been an original entrance passage, with A added later, although this change was not resolved (Hencken 1933, 254); this is shown on Blight's 1861 survey but may alternatively reflect a ruinous interior cell.

Clear evidence of considerable alteration obscured the original plan of this house. A stone-lined and capped drain was found along the entrance passage into the courtyard area terminating at a sunken hollow (Hencken 1933, Fig. 5 and 254). Hencken suggested that this drain and possible reservoir was meant to trap water not to relieve flooding (Hencken 1933, 255). Three stones set in rab along space G could have been original; although a V-shaped cutting (C1 on plan) may represent modern disturbance (Hencken 1933, 255).

The poor remnants of round room B lying to one side of the courtyard with some original (secondary) paving *in situ* and an oval hollow stone basin was revealed (Hencken 1933, fig. 5, 255). Part of a stone-lined and capped drain was found along the rear wall and this ran into the inner face of wall of round room B (Hencken 1933, 255). The north side of round room B in House 7 was found to have the best preserved original walling across the entire site with walls standing up to 6ft 3 in high (Hencken 1933, 255-256). Within the interior were two stone-lined hearths *in situ* (b and c) and stratified deposits were found above and beneath the stone paving. These layers and the hearths produced finds (Hencken 1933, 256) (pot, clay and charcoal). A layer of pot sherds were found in hearth b.

Cell D to the east of the courtyard was found to be in better condition although this was filled in with stones at western end and with soil at its eastern end (Hencken 1933, 257). This infill had raised the floor levels. The interior of House 7 was cleaned to rab and the paving was raised and replaced and soil

was brought in to level the soil flush with the paving stones (Hencken 1933, 257). The excavations in 1931 revealed that House 7 had a complex history of alteration and the finds suggest that it may well have been one of the earliest buildings within the settlement (Nowakowski and Gould 2010).

House 7 was the subject of further tidying up by Croft Andrew in 1938.

Survival/condition

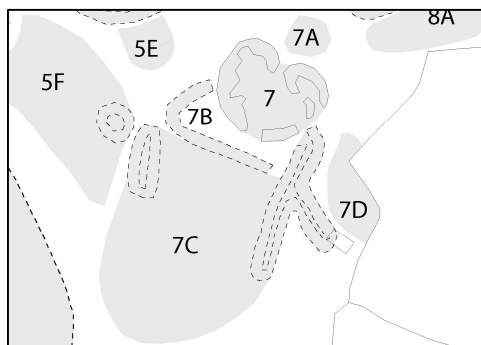
The main entrance to House 7 appears to be to the north, which is paved, with large orthostats to sides and a possible lost corner orthostat on the west side. The 'entrance' to the south has no evidence for stone lining or orthostats and may be a historic breach in the wall. The 'entrance' to the southeast also lacks any definition. Apart from a large orthostat to the northeast there is no form to suggest any entrance, although the majority of the entrances to the other surviving courtyard houses do face in this direction. It may be a ruinous interior cell, as suggested on Blight's 1861 plan, but this is not clear.

The courtyard (A;E) contains three large orthostats aligned to the south of the main entrance, with evidence for stone paving, and a north to south aligned stone drain. Cell D is in poor repair with reduced height to the walls, substantial cover of heather and some loss of walling. A large orthostat is in place at its south corner. Cell G has lost its form and is under a dense mat of low vegetation. Cell C has also lost its form but appears stable. Cell B has stone paving with a flat cupped stone and a possible hearth and there is a small alcove on the west wall with a possible stone shelf. House 7 is generally under dense vegetation, with bracken and heather predominating.

Recommended management

Bracken and heather should be removed or reduced to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Interior grass covered surfaces should be mowed annually or bi-annually.

12.17 Cell/Building 7A



Location: SW 47272 34975

EH Asset Number: 151-001 Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726) HER number 36008.03

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium/ High	The structural form of Cell 7A is indistinct and there is a risk of loss of legibility as to its former function and relationship, if any, to House 7. Vegetation cover is a threat and may be causing damage to buried archaeology. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	Courtyard house settlements are peculiar to West Penwith and Scilly, although they may form part of a wider contemporary suite of stone-built architecture in northwest Europe.
Group value	High	Cell 7A is part of the courtyard house settlement group, which is the largest known of its kind.
Diversity	Medium	Cell 7A may reflect aspects of modification and phasing of use of House 7. Alternatively, it may represent a stand-alone structure, perhaps similar to Hut 6A.
Amenity value	Low	The form and function of 7A requires better understanding to inform its interpretation and improve visitor engagement.
Potential	Low/ Medium	Further evaluation and recording of 7A has the potential to shed light on the evolution and modification of House 7 and the broader nature and phasing of settlement construction at Chysauster.

Historic record and description

A circular feature is shown on Watkin's plan of 1928 to the north of House 7 and abutted to the north by a Cornish hedge boundary. Two orthostats are shown to stand within the hedge, with a further orthostat to the northwest of the hedge (Hencken 1928, fig. 2).

The circular feature to the north of House 7 is not discussed in any literature. House 7 has been shown to have been much altered over time and the relationship of this feature to House 7 remains unclear. If the northern entrance is indeed a later modification then the position of this feature to the north of House 7 suggests it had gone out of use by the time the northern entrance was formed. Possible interpretations include a former adjoining cell, or the remains of a courtyard house, with the two large orthostats to the NW forming the original entrance.

Historic intervention

None known.

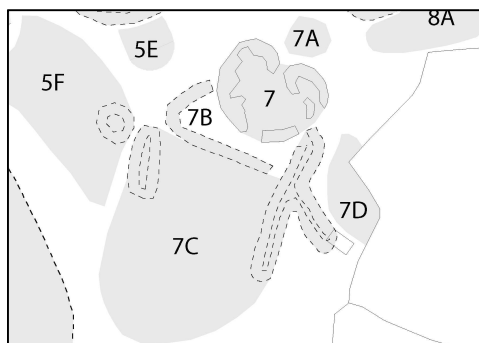
Survival/condition

The circular cell or annexe to the N of House 7 survives in very poor form and its historic form and function is impossible to determine. Its relationship to House 7 is also unclear. Two large orthostats may mark an entrance way. Additional large stones may be the remains of historic walling. A low linear lynchet running from northwest to southeast appear to be the remains of a Cornish hedge boundary, although Watkin's (Hencken 1928) plan suggests this may have incorporated some earlier surviving walling. Clearly there are a number of large stones surviving, although these are now severely encroached upon by heather.

Recommended management

Heather should be removed or reduced to comply with the levels set in the reviewed management specifications, and the surviving stones cleaned and defined. Grass should be mown annually or bi-annually. The recent surveys should be referred to in order to assess its form and relationship, if any, to House 7. An archaeological evaluation is recommended as a medium to long term (five to ten years) aim.

12.18 Terraced Enclosures (7B and 7C) to the S of House 7



Location: SW 47248 34933 and SW 47281 34942

EH Asset Number: 151-001. Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726), HER number 36008.03

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	The terraces adjoining House 7 have lost much of their definition since being first mapped in the late 19 th century. There may be additional features associated with these terraces that have not been identified or are not fully understood. This is likely to impact on their interpretation and future management. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	The survival of enclosure associated with Chysauster Ancient Village is high and the relationship between settlement and patterns of contemporary land use is a significant feature of the site.
Group value	High	The enclosures here form part of a wider pattern of contemporary enclosure and land use.
Diversity	Medium	There appears to have been a relatively extensive series of terraces associated with House 7 and these may have contained additional contemporary features, which are not yet fully identified. Alternatively there may have been a greater level of disturbance in this area through later activity not associated with the lifespan of the courtyard settlement.
Amenity value	Medium	The form and structure of the terraces require better understanding to improve interpretation and visitor engagement.
Potential	Medium	There is good potential for further evaluation of this area to shed light on the nature and chronology of enclosure and land use during the lifespan of the courtyard house settlement, the phasing, nature and extent of house construction and the intervention by later activity once the courtyard settlement went out of use.

Historic record and description

A complex series of at least four enclosures or garden plots are shown to the south of House 7 on Blight's 1861 plan. To the south of these are two sub-circular features (coded E), which appear to be set into the enclosure walls. Watkin's 1928 plan shows substantial enclosure boundaries but less interior division. A sub-oval feature is embedded in the western boundary and a curving terrace or building platform is suggested to the south of House 7. There is no clear southern boundary and the two sub-circular features are not shown. Hencken's 1933 plan also shows a terraced enclosure to the south of House 7 and a larger enclosure beyond this. It further shows the sub-oval feature within the western boundary. A curve in the western boundary may reflect one of the circular features noted by Blight. This is similar to Baillie Reynolds' 1960 plan, which shows the southern enclosure terraced by a steep bank to the south (Blight 1861a; Hencken 1928, fig. 2; 1933, plate LXXII; Baillie Reynolds 1960).

Historic intervention

None known.

Survival/condition

The terraces survive as broadly level areas to the south of House 7. They have lost some of their boundary definition but some substantial sections of grass covered stone boundary walling survive along their eastern and western edges. The sub-oval feature within the western boundary is not clearly defined but at the southwestern end of the southern terrace there are two deep depressions, under low grass cover but appearing to have some stone at the base (tested with prodded by a ranging pole). Their form and function is unclear but these appear to correspond with the two circular features shown on Blight's 1861 plan. These features are currently undated but may be the result of mineral prospecting; they appear to correspond with a series of shallow depressions along the east flank of the guardianship site, in a broadly linear distribution. Generally, there is quite a complexity of banks and depressions in this area and it is possible that earlier features contemporary with the courtyard house settlement may be present, but that these are now disturbed by the later activity here. The date of that activity is unknown, but if it is mineral prospecting it could date anywhere between the Romano-British and post medieval periods.

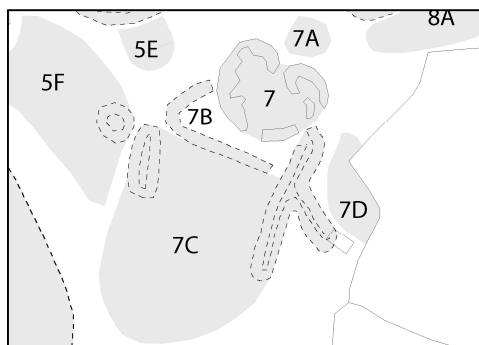
To the east of the terraces is a further raised area, on which the sites' Education Hut now stands. This may be one of the terraces shown on Blight's 1861 plan, but the definition of historic features here is no longer clear.

The terraces are now generally under low grass cover, with some bracken encroachment, particularly towards the field edges. The walled boundaries are under a low mat of grassy vegetation and ivy and there is no definition to the stonework.

Recommended management

Bracken should be removed or reduced to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Grass should be mown annually or bi-annually. The recent surveys should be referred to in order to help identify and assess the form of historic features in this area and their relationship to House 7. If the geophysical survey of the site did not extend to this area this would benefit from an extended programme of non-intrusive ground survey. Targeted excavation is also recommended, dependent on the results of this and the perceived level of any ground disturbance. This area has not been assessed through excavation but it is highly probable that there are additional, as yet unidentified, round and/or courtyard houses here.

12.19 Spoil Heap (7D) to the E of House 7



Location: SW 47281 34942

EH Asset Number: Not known. Type of Asset: Not known

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726)

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Low	The spoil heap is stable and any artefactual remains it might contain are unstratified.
Rarity	Low	Low rarity value, except that the spoil heaps are documented and mapped.
Group value	Low	Low group value except as part of the material archive of historic and early modern excavation at Chysauster.
Diversity	Low	
Amenity value	Low	
Potential	Low	May contain unstratified artefactual remains from Hencken's 1933 excavations.

Historic record and description

The spoil heap from Hencken's 1931 excavations of House 7 is shown as area VIII on Hencken's 1933 plan (Hencken 1933, plate LXXII).

Historic intervention

Trenches across this area were dug by Hencken in 1931 prior to the spoil heap being placed here. The trenches indicated there were no archaeological remains present (Hencken 1933, 257).

Survival/condition

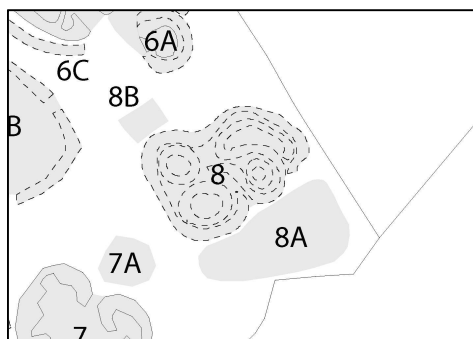
A mound to the north of the Education Hut is thought to be the spoil heap from Hencken's 1931

excavations of House 7. The mound contains large stones within it and is currently under a cover of low grass, bracken and ivy, with stands of Blackthorn at its southern end.

Recommended management

Remove or reduce bracken, ivy and Blackthorn to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Grass cover should be kept down through annual or bi-annual mowing.

12.20 Courtyard House 8



Location: SW 47290 34992

EH Asset Number: 151-001. Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726), HER number 36008.02

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	High	House 8 is in very poor condition with much loss of form. Bracken ingress across its area is likely to be causing substantial damage to buried remains. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	Courtyard house settlements are peculiar to West Penwith and Scilly, although they may form part of a wider contemporary suite of stone-built architecture in northwest Europe.
Group value	High	House 8 is part of the courtyard house settlement group, which is the largest known of its kind.
Diversity	Medium	House 8 may comprise two semi-detached houses, as shown elsewhere in the site (e.g. Houses 3 and 5, and possibly 2). The form of House 8 is unclear but appears likely to conform to the courtyard house construction type, with associated terraces or enclosures (8A) to the north.
Amenity value	Low	The form and structure of House 8 is poorly understood. During the visitor season this area is typically under bracken. Making House 8 more accessible to visitors is desirable. Clearer understanding of House 8 would enhance site interpretation and increase visitor engagement.
Potential	Medium/ High	House 8 has not been evaluated and there may be good survival of buried remains with the potential to shed light on the nature and phasing of settlement construction and domestic occupation at Chysauster.

Historic record and description

House 8 is shown (un-coded) on Blight's (1861a) plan as complete and potentially comprising two semi-detached courtyard houses. It is separated from the rest of the courtyard houses by Cornish hedge boundaries, placing it in a separate field. A (contemporary?) enclosure boundary appears to link House 8 with House 6 and an associated field system is shown to the north. By the time of Watkin's 1928 plan, House 8 appears more ruinous and the enclosure boundaries to the north are less distinct (Hencken 1928, Fig. 2). Hencken's 1933 plan shows House 8 still within its own field but ruinous (Hencken 1933, Plate LXXII).

Historic intervention

None known.

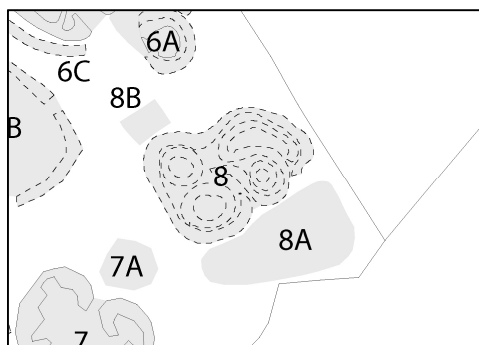
Survival/condition

House 8 is in very poor condition and its form is very indistinct. Low walls surround the interior cells, some of which can just about be discerned. There is a probable entrance to the southeast with a fallen orthostat at the southeast corner. A cell to the south of this is raised with a paved entrance and a central stone drain or hearth. The remaining cells are too poor to define but it is possible that there may be two semi-detached houses here, as in Houses 3 and 5. Alternatively, the low banks to the north may be part of the system of enclosure suggested by Blight (1861a) and Hencken (1928). There is substantial encroachment by bracken and heather, with fern and ivy on much of the stonework.

Recommended management

Bracken and heather should be removed or reduced to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Grass areas should be mown annually or bi-annually. Ivy and fern should be reduced on stonework to achieve better definition of the stonework. The recent surveys of this area should be referred to in order to aid interpretation and future management. Future excavation of House 8 should be considered as a medium to long term aim (five to ten years), as this is another area of the site that has seen no intervention, to date, and which would benefit from modern excavation and survey techniques.

12.21 Enclosures (8A and 8B) to SE and NW of House 8



Location: SW 47303 34981 and SW 47275 35000

EH Asset Number: 151-001. Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726), HER number 36008.02

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	Terraces 8A and 8B adjoining House 8 have lost much of their definition since being first mapped in the late 19 th century. There may be additional features associated with these terraces that have not been identified or are not fully understood. This is likely to impact on their interpretation and future management. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	The survival of enclosure associated with Chysauster Ancient Village is high and the relationship between settlement and patterns of contemporary land use is a significant feature of the site.
Group value	High	The enclosures here form part of a wider pattern of contemporary enclosure and land use.
Diversity	Medium	There appears to have been a relatively extensive series of terraces associated with House 7 and these may have contained additional contemporary features, which are not yet fully identified. Alternatively there may have been a greater level of disturbance in this area through later activity not associated with the lifespan of the courtyard settlement.
Amenity value	Medium	The form and structure of the terraces require better understanding to improve interpretation and visitor engagement.
Potential	Medium	There is good potential for further evaluation of this area to shed light on the nature and chronology of enclosure and land use during the lifespan of the courtyard house settlement, the phasing, nature and extent of house construction and the intervention by later activity once the courtyard settlement went out of use.

Historic record and description

Blight's (1861a) plan shows a curving enclosure boundary to the east of House 8 that ran northeast to join two linear boundaries to the northeast. Watkin's 1928 plan also shows this series of enclosures to the east and northeast of House 8 (Hencken 1928, Fig 2). The later plans by Hencken (1933, Plate LXXII) and Baillie Reynolds (1960) are less distinct but do indicate enclosure boundaries, although less complete. Both Watkin's 1928 plan and Hencken's 1933 plan show a north to south aligned hedge boundary to the west of House 8, which at that time contained House 8 within its own field. The 1986 area survey by Nowakowski and Sharpe indicates potential enclosure boundaries to the north of House 8, part of a wider field system that extended beyond the current guardianship site into the fields and upland ground to the north (Nowakowski and Sharpe 1986 and see Fig. 5).

Historic intervention

None known.

Survival/condition

An indistinct area (8A) to the east of House 8 appears to contain low banks or walls, some stonework is visible and two orthostats stand opposite the possible entrance to House 8, in a similar fashion to House 7 and with low banks either side. There are further earthworks and features to the north of House 8, which may relate to the northern part of House 8 or the remains of further enclosure boundaries in this area. There is clearly some complex archaeology here but the definition of the features is very poor.

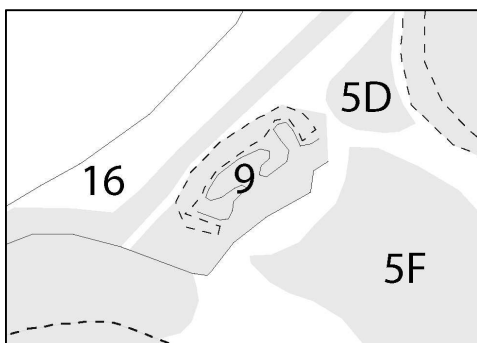
A low broadly rectilinear terrace (8B) was observed to the northwest of House 8, now grass covered but with some large upright stones visible and the suggestion of two low linear banks to the north and south. The base of the post medieval hedge boundary shown on Watkin's (Hencken 1928, Fig 2) and Hencken's (1933) plans is visible as a low stony lynchet running along the northern edge of the terrace.

The earthworks and enclosure boundaries in these areas are generally under low grass cover with substantial areas of heather over areas of stone and with significant bracken encroachment, particularly in the northeast of the area. Where stone is visible it is generally mossy with some ivy.

Recommended management

Remove or reduce bracken and heather to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Reduce moss and ivy on stonework and mow grassed areas annually or bi-annually. The recent surveys of this area should be referred to in order to identify and assess any upstanding historic features. Along with House 8, targeted excavation should be considered as this is an area lacking any previous intervention and archaeological survival is likely to be high.

12.22 Courtyard House 9



Location: SW 47197 34977

EH Asset Number: 151-001. Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726), HER number 36008.04

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium/ High	House 9 is in fair to poor condition, with substantial modification to its east side. Its full extent is not known. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	Courtyard house settlements are peculiar to West Penwith and Scilly, although they may form part of a wider contemporary suite of stone-built architecture in northwest Europe.
Group value	High	House 9 is part of the courtyard house settlement group, which is the largest known of its kind.
Diversity	Medium	House 9 is incomplete and may originally have extended further to the east. The upstanding walls indicate that it broadly conforms to the courtyard house construction type.
Amenity value	Medium	Clearer understanding of House 9 and its relationship to the wider settlement would improve interpretation and visitor engagement.
Potential	Low/ Medium	It is likely that much of House 9 is now lost beneath the post medieval Cornish hedge boundary and modern spoil heap (5F) to the east. Further evaluation in this area might shed some light on the nature and phasing of settlement construction and domestic occupation at Chysauster.

Historic record and description

House 9 is possibly shown as a U-shaped feature to the south of House 5 on Blight's (1861a) plan. It is shown as a linear feature with some suggestion of cells on Watkin's 1928 plan, with a Cornish hedge boundary enclosing it to the south and southeast (Hencken 1928, Fig. 2). It is shown as an irregular

linear 'hollow' feature (XIV) on Hencken's 1933 plan (Hencken 1933, Plate LXXII).

House 9 was officially identified by Croft Andrew in 1938; it was originally called House 10 but renumbered as House 9 in 1939 (Nowakowski and Gould 2010). It was briefly evaluated and a schematic plan produced showing an entrance, A, courtyard, B, round room, C, and three side rooms, D, E and F.

Baillie Reynolds' 1960 plan gives House 9 more definition as a celled courtyard house and indicates that the Cornish hedge boundary to the southeast was incorporated into its eastern side.

Historic intervention

Evaluation by Croft Andrew in 1938 recorded a stone floor and a hearth in cell F and demonstrated a degree of stratigraphy within the house. A doorway was also cleared (unidentified location).

Concerns about the northwest facing elevation of the southeast wall, which was leaning and unstable, led to some consolidation in 2007 (Gossip with Nowakowski 2008). This wall was incorporated as part of a post medieval Cornish hedge boundary.

Survival/condition

House 9 is currently in fair to poor condition. The interior cells to the northwest are in good condition with some surviving internal features. The current entrance is from the north, although it is not clear if this is the location of the original doorway. The southeast side is likely to have been modified when the adjacent Cornish hedge boundary was built - it is not known whether House 9 originally extended further to the southeast, although Hencken (1933) trenched this area and found nothing. The walls are now under much heather and gorse.

Recommended management

Remove heather and gorse to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications and mow grassed areas annually or bi-annually. Refer to the recent surveys of the area to identify and assess the form of House 9 and its relationship, if any, to neighbouring features.

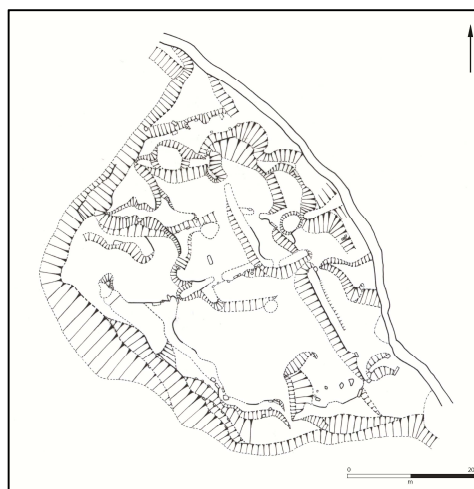
12.23 Courtyard House 10



Location: SW 47051 34934

EH Asset Number: 151-001.

Type of Asset: Historic Structures



Plan of House 10 (Nowakowski and Sharpe 1986). © CAU, Cornwall Council

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726), HER number 36008.04

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	High	House 10 is thought to be in poor condition and is currently under substantial vegetation cover. It lies outside the current visitor area and it does not appear to be managed as closely as the rest of the guardianship site.
Rarity	Medium	Courtyard house settlements are peculiar to West Penwith and Scilly, although they may form part of a wider contemporary suite of stone-built architecture in northwest Europe.
Group value	Medium/ High	House 10 is part of the courtyard house settlement group, which is the largest known of its kind. As it stands apart from the main group it may reflect a different phase of occupation or settlement organisation.
Diversity	Low/ Medium	Currently, it is not clear how far House 10 is a typical example of the courtyard house type, or how it relates to the broader courtyard house settlement.
Amenity value	Low	House 10 is not currently accessible to visitors and it is in poor condition. Re-introducing it into the visitor area would be desirable. Clearer understanding of its form and relationship to the wider settlement would improve interpretation and visitor engagement.
Potential	Low/ Medium	Further evaluation in this area might shed some light on the nature and phasing of settlement construction and domestic occupation at Chysauster.

Historic record and description

House 10 is shown as a courtyard house on Nowakowski and Sharpe's (1986) survey of the area.

Historic intervention

None known.

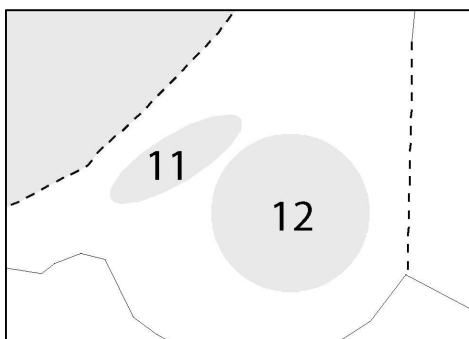
Survival/condition

House 10 is a courtyard house within the guardianship and scheduled areas but currently fenced off and inaccessible. It is clearly under substantial vegetation cover but its condition could not be assessed during the site visit in December 2015. The recent earthworks survey of the site (Bayer 2016) was able to partly access House 10.

Recommended management

It is recommended that House 10 is cleared of vegetation and a condition assessment made to determine any repair needs. The recent survey of this area should be referred to in order to assess its current survival, as compared with the survey of 1986. To define the area occupied by House 10 and to prevent farming impacts, such as stock trample, for example, a suitable stock-proof enclosure fence should be erected. It would be beneficial to the overall visitor experience to reintroduce this courtyard house to the visitor area although issues of access may impede this. If future plans include extending the site into the neighbouring field, however, these may open up this opportunity.

12.24 Fogou (II)



Location: SW 47200 34830

EH Asset Number: I5I-00I. Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (I006726), HER number 36008.II

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	High	The extent of survival of the fogou is unknown and it may be at some risk of collapse. There has been no recent investigation of its condition and no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	High	Subterranean chambers, or fogous, are found at a number of courtyard settlements in West Penwith and are part of a broader, but not commonly found, suite of underground chambers located along the western Atlantic seaboard and with affinities to similar structures found in Brittany.
Group value	High	The fogou is deeply embedded within the courtyard settlement, and is likely to be associated with a possible courtyard house to its east.
Diversity	Medium	The form and extent of the fogou is still poorly understood, although historic description indicates it broadly conforms to other examples of its type within West Penwith.
Amenity value	Low	The current amenity value of the fogou is low as it is presently out of access to visitors. Investigation of the fogou would bring clearer understanding of this feature and its relationship to the courtyard house settlement. This would aid its interpretation and promote visitor engagement.
Potential	High	There is good potential for investigation and possible excavation of the fogou to add to the understanding of its form, function and relationship to the courtyard house settlement within which it sits. This will also help promote broader understanding of the distinctive suite of contemporary underground chambers found within northwest Europe at a local, regional and national level.

Historic record and description

A fogou in the southeast corner of the guardianship site is believed to be the one recorded by Blight as being partly ruinous and around 20 ft. or so in length (coded F in Blight 1861a). It is shown on Baillie Reynolds' (1960) plan as a curving linear feature with a hollowed access way leading to the entrance and some unidentified earthworks to the east.

Historic intervention

The fogou was partially explored by Borlase in 1873. He recorded finding a floor up to 2m below the ground, two in situ capstones and one fallen capstone (Borlase 1873).

Survival/condition

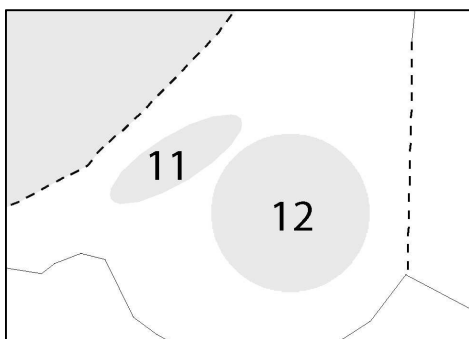
The fogou is currently closed off and the interior partially filled with sandbags to help support the structure. A grill across the entrance reveals some degree of vegetation now within the entrance. A deep hollow-way leading to the entrance may be part of the original feature (and may originally have been partly covered over?). The sides of the hollow-way are stone-lined; with some stones indicating bulging and movement which may well need repair. The fogou lies within a complex series of earthworks, which almost certainly includes an un-coded courtyard house to the east. It is not clear whether the fogou respects this possible courtyard house or is incorporated into it.

The fogou is now under low grass with some threat from bracken.

Recommended management

Remove or reduce bracken to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Grass should be mowed annually or bi-annually. Refer to the recent surveys of the fogou and surrounding area to assess the form and condition of the fogou and its relationship, if any, to the possible adjoining courtyard house (12). Further investigation and possible excavation of the fogou should be considered a medium to long term (five to ten years) aim by English Heritage, to achieve clearer understanding of this area, aid interpretation and inform future management.

12.25 Courtyard House (possible) 12



Location: SW 47216 34825

EH Asset Number: 151-001. Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726), HER number 36008

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	The possible courtyard house is currently under grass but there is increasing ingress of bracken, which is likely to be causing damage to buried remains. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	Courtyard house settlements are peculiar to West Penwith and Scilly, although they may form part of a wider contemporary suite of stone-built architecture in northwest Europe.
Group value	High	If identified as a courtyard house, this would form part of the wider courtyard house settlement group, which is the largest known of its kind.
Diversity	Low/ Medium	The identity of the earthworks to the east of the fogou remains poorly understood and requires clearer interpretation.
Amenity value	Low	Clearer understanding of the earthworks in this area and their relationship to the wider settlement would improve interpretation and visitor engagement.
Potential	Medium/ High	Investigation of this area has the potential to identify as yet unrecorded courtyard houses at Chysauster and shed light on the relationship between the houses and the fogou in this area. Further evaluation might also shed some light on the nature and phasing of settlement construction and domestic occupation at Chysauster.

Historic record and description

A possible courtyard house is shown to the east of the fogou (11) on Nowakowski and Sharpe's 1986 survey.

Historic intervention

None known.

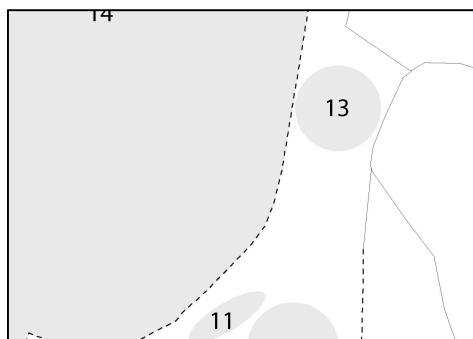
Survival/condition

A series of earthworks and depressions to the east of the fogou are almost certainly an, as yet unrecorded, courtyard house, closely associated with the fogou and possibly adjoining or incorporating it. Sections of low stone walling are visible and potential cells can be traced in rough outline. Two large stones are present at the northwest edge but no clear entrance can be discerned. Additional large stones are present across this area, though the associated earthworks have no clear form at present. This area is under low grass cover with bracken over the south end. Where visible, stonework is rough but stable, though under cover of grass, ivy and moss.

Recommended management

Remove or reduce bracken to comply with the level sets out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Mow grassed areas annually or bi-annually. Refer to the recent surveys of this area to help identify any archaeological features and their relationship to the wider courtyard settlement. Consider excavation and recording: as for the fogou, this is an unexplored area of the site and evaluation under modern excavation techniques are likely to be of considerable value.

12.26 Courtyard House (possible) 13



Location: SW 47225 34875

EH Asset Number: 151-001. Type of Asset: Historic Structures

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726), HER number 36008

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	The possible courtyard house is currently under grass but there is some ingress of bracken, which may be causing damage to buried remains. There may be some disturbance of this as a result of post medieval mineral prospecting. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Medium	Courtyard house settlements are peculiar to West Penwith and Scilly, although they may form part of a wider contemporary suite of stone-built architecture in northwest Europe.
Group value	High	If identified as a courtyard house, this would form part of the wider courtyard house settlement group, which is the largest known of its kind.
Diversity	Low/ Medium	The identity of the earthworks to the north of the fogou remains poorly understood and requires clearer interpretation.
Amenity value	Low	Clearer understanding of the earthworks in this area and their relationship to the wider settlement would improve interpretation and visitor engagement.
Potential	Medium/ High	Investigation of this area has the potential to identify as yet unrecorded courtyard houses at Chysauster and shed light on the relationship between the houses and the fogou in this area. Further evaluation might also shed some light on the nature and phasing of settlement construction and domestic occupation at Chysauster.

Historic record and description

None known.

Historic intervention

None known.

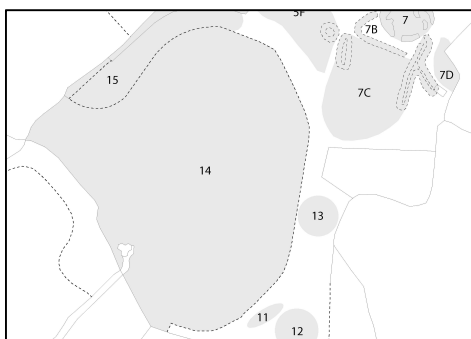
Survival/condition

To the north of the fogou there appears to be a further series of earthworks and depressions, with some sections of stone walling or terraced revetments visible. The earthworks appear to extend beyond the boundary walling to the east. The form of this feature is indistinct but this may be another courtyard house, with a possible terrace to the south. The series of shallow depressions noted to the south of House 7 extend into this area and may be associated with mineral prospecting. This may have disturbed any earlier archaeological remains. This area is currently under low grass and bracken.

Recommended management

Remove or reduce bracken to comply with the level sets out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Mow grassed areas annually or bi-annually. Refer to the recent surveys of this area to help identify any archaeological features and their relationship to the wider courtyard settlement. Consider excavation and recording: this eastern flank of the guardianship site generally is an unexplored area of the site and evaluation under modern excavation techniques are likely to be of considerable value to aiding and informing the long term management of the site and appraising areas of archaeological sensitivity for future decision-making.

12.27 Open grassed area (14) in the centre S of site



Location: SW 47172 34895 (centred)

EH Asset Number: Not known. Type of Asset: Not known

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726), HER number 36008

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	This area has seen much clearance, which will have impacted on the survival of any buried remains. There has been no modern evaluation prior to the recently commissioned surveys.
Rarity	Low	This area is currently of low to medium rarity as there are no archaeological remains yet identified and clearance may have removed much of any that once existed. If shown to contain further enclosures or courtyard houses, these would have high rarity value in that the extent of courtyard house settlement at Chysauster would be unprecedented in Cornwall
Group value	High	If identified as an area of enclosures and courtyard houses, this would form part of the wider courtyard house settlement group, which is already the largest known of its kind.
Diversity	Low	The presence and identity of any archaeological remains in this area requires clearer interpretation.
Amenity value	Medium	This area currently has some value as an attractive green space within the site, which returning towards BAP Habitat acid grassland might increase the ecological value and visual aesthetic. Its' somewhat artificial character currently loses some historic legibility and clearer understanding of any archaeological survival in this area and the relationship of this to the wider settlement would improve interpretation and visitor engagement.
Potential	Medium/High	There is the potential for evaluation of this area to shed some light on the possible continuation of the courtyard house settlement to the south

Historic record and description

None known.

Historic intervention

None known.

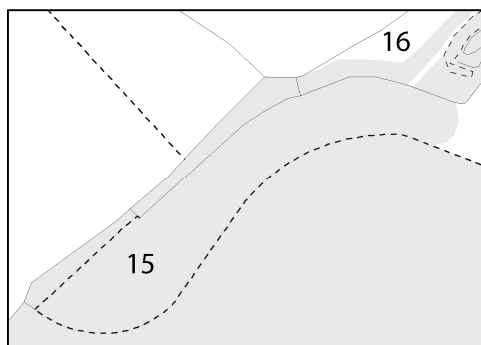
Survival/condition

The open grassed area in the south of the guardianship site and south of the main courtyard village extent appears to have been artificially cleared at some point - the 'clearance heap' (15) of stone to the northwest, bordering the hollow-way (16), is likely to contain stone from this area. The suggestion of lynchets and curvilinear earthworks can be seen in this area and it is probable that these reflect enclosures, or even additional courtyard houses, which were formerly part of the wider settlement.

Recommended management

Keep grass cover down through annual mowing to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Consider setting aside some areas beyond the main pathways to be left to grow longer to help restore them to priority BAP Habitat acid grassland. If not carried out as part of the recent survey of the fogou and adjacent areas, a geophysical survey of this area is highly recommended to ascertain whether buried archaeological remains are likely to survive and the form these might take. Targeted excavation might be considered as part of wider evaluation work on the site, dependent on the geophysical survey results. Any new information about the archaeological potential and/or sensitivity of this area will aid and inform long term management of this part of the site.

12.28 Clearance heap (15) to the W of the grassed area (14)



Location: SW 47150 34952 (centred)

EH Asset Number: Not known. Type of Asset: Not known

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726), HER number 36008

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Low	This appears to be a clearance heap, which may contain construction materials related to former enclosure boundaries or structures.
Rarity	Low	
Group value	Low	
Diversity	Low	
Amenity value	Low	
Potential	Low	There may be unstratified archaeological remains present

Historic record and description

None known.

Historic intervention

None known.

Survival/condition

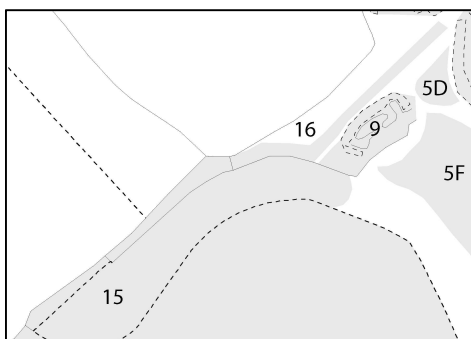
A substantial linear mound to the west of the open grassed area (14) and adjacent to the hollow-way

(16), contains a considerable amount of large stones, thought to be clearance from the open grassed area (15) to the southeast and possibly other areas of the site. This might include stone formerly used in the construction of (now lost) courtyard houses. It is currently under low grass cover and bracken.

Recommended management

Remove or reduce bracken to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Keep grass down through annual or bi-annual mowing. Include in any future geophysical survey of the site to determine whether the area contains any detectable sub-surface archaeological structures.

12.29 Hollow-way (16)



Location: SW 47163 34968

EH Asset Number: Not known. Type of Asset: Not known

Designation: Scheduled Monument (1006726), HER number 36008

Criteria	Value	Notes
Fragility/vulnerability	Medium	The hollow-way requires some repairs to existing stonework, stiles and steps. It no longer forms a main access route through the site and is at risk of being
Rarity	Low	
Group value	Low	
Diversity	Low	
Amenity value	Low	
Potential	Low	There may be unstratified archaeological remains present

Historic record and description

A hollow-way running from south to north along the western edge of the site may be the linear feature shown as 'D' on Blight's (1861a) plan, interpreted by Blight as a paved fogou that had lost its roof. The hollow-way is not shown on historic OS mapping and its date is unknown. It was used as the original access to the site.

Historic intervention

None known.

Survival/condition

The hollow-way survives as a deep grassy track between two substantial stone hedge boundaries. A stone stile is present about halfway along. The hollow-way may continue north into the site between Houses 3 and 5, with a possible branch off to its northwest along the northwest side of House 3. The stone boundary walls show some signs of disrepair and some of the steps are uneven. The stile appears to be in sound condition although some of the stones are uneven. There is some bracken encroachment on the track sides and there are areas of overhanging gorse that may be dislodging the stones in its western boundary wall.

Recommended management

Remove or reduce bracken to comply with the levels set out for the site in the reviewed management specifications. Clear overhanging gorse from the wall tops. Mow or strim long grass annually or bi-annually and assess stone boundaries, steps and stile for necessary repairs. Consider reinstating as a principal access way to the site.

13 Appendix 2 – Statutory Policies and Local Plans

Extracts from those sections of the National Planning Policy Framework (2012), The Cornwall Local Plan (forthcoming) and the saved policies from the Penwith Local Plan (2004) that are particularly pertinent to Chysauster are included below. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) supersedes the former Planning Policy Statements and Guidance for England.

13.1 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2012

Section 11 of the NPPF ‘*conserving and enhancing the natural environment*’ states:

114. *Local planning authorities should:*

- set out a strategic approach in their Local Plans, planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure;
- and maintain the character of the undeveloped coast, protecting and enhancing its distinctive landscapes, particularly in areas defined as Heritage Coast, and improve public access to and enjoyment of the coast

115. *Great weight should be given to conserving landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which have the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty. The conservation of wildlife and cultural heritage are important considerations in all these areas, and should be given great weight in National Parks and the Broads.*

Section 12 of the NPPF ‘*conserving and enhancing the historic environment*’ states:

Local planning authorities should set out in their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. In doing so, they should recognise that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance. In developing this strategy, local planning authorities should take into account:

- the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
- the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring
- the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and
- opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.

Section 127. *When considering the designation of conservation areas, local planning authorities should ensure that an area justifies such status because of its special architectural or historic interest, and that the concept of conservation is not devalued through the designation of areas that lack special interest.*

Section 139. *Non-designated heritage assets of archaeological interest that are demonstrably of equivalent significance to scheduled monuments, should be considered subject to the policies for designated heritage assets.*

13.2 Cornwall Local Plan (forthcoming):

Amendments to the current Local Plan are currently undergoing consultation. Extracts below are taken from the Cornwall Local Plan: Strategic Policies, Proposed Changes for Consultation 2016, Appendix I, which incorporates the currently proposed amendments (<http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/16048362/cornwall-local-plan-post-pac-20-11-15.pdf>).

The section on *Cornwall's Natural and Historic Environment* states:

2.121 Cornwall's natural and historic environment is at the heart of our culture and past, it must be at the heart of our future distinctiveness. It is the quality and character of the environment as a whole which is a key contributor to the economy and quality of life. It can be a competitive advantage for Cornwall in terms of attracting and retaining investment.

2.122 While other parts of the UK may be more readily accessible, it is the quality of life that is a key attractor to, and retainer of, investment in Cornwall. The historic, built and natural environments and landscapes, coast and seascape of Cornwall, is a key strength and the rich environments and heritage will be managed to act as a catalyst for the realisation of this strategy and not a barrier to it. This means the careful stewardship of our environmental assets so that growth is complementary and does not erode the very qualities that make Cornwall so attractive in the first place.

Natural Environment:

In respect of Chysauster's designated status as an AONB and area of Heritage Coast:

2.136 Proposals for development should be informed by and respond to the natural environment in line with their status:

Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB): When considering proposals for development within the

AONB, the Council will ensure that development is in accordance with the great weight afforded to their landscape and scenic beauty in national policy and the aims and objectives of the Cornwall and Tamar AONB Management Plans and their associated supplementary planning guidance on sensitivity and capacity for housing development in the AONB. These in particular, provide guidance on what constitutes 'major' development within an AONB stating that this will depend on the local context, the scale, location and type of development proposed. Permission for major development within the AONB will only be granted in exceptional circumstances.

The Cornwall AONB Management Plan is able to view by visiting:
<http://www.cornwallaonb.org.uk/management-plan>

Heritage Coast: Within the Heritage Coast area as shown on the Policies Map, proposals must respect the natural beauty of the coast, including flora and fauna, and heritage features. In addition they should facilitate and enhance the enjoyment of the Heritage Coast whilst complementing the natural beauty and heritage features; and maintain and, where necessary, enhance the environmental health of inshore waters.

Policy 23: Natural Environment

Development proposals should sustain local distinctiveness and character and protect and enhance Cornwall's natural environment and assets according to their international, national and local significance through the following measures;

1. Cornish Landscapes

Development should be of an appropriate scale, mass and design that recognises and respect landscape character of both designated & un-designated landscapes. Development must take into account and respect the sensitivity and capacity of the landscape asset, considering cumulative impact and the wish to maintain dark skies and tranquillity in areas that are relatively undisturbed, using guidance from the Cornwall Landscape Character Assessment and supported by the descriptions of Areas of Great Landscape Value.

In areas of undeveloped coast outside main towns, only development requiring a coastal location and that cannot be achieved elsewhere will be acceptable.

2. The Cornwall and Tamar Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Great weight will be given to conserving the landscape and scenic beauty within or affecting the setting of the AONB. Proposals must conserve and enhance the landscape character and natural beauty of the AONB and provide only for an identified local need and be appropriately located to address the AONB's sensitivity and capacity. Proposals should be informed by and assist the delivery of the objectives of the Cornwall and Tamar Valley AONB Management Plans including the interests of those who live and / or work in them.

3. The Heritage Coast and Areas of Great Landscape Value

Development within the Heritage Coast and / or Areas of Great Landscape Value should maintain the character and distinctive landscape qualities of such areas.

4. Terrestrial and Marine Biodiversity and Geodiversity

Specifically ensuring that with direct and cumulative impact;

a. features and locally designated sites of biological or geological interest (including Biodiversity Action Plan habitats and species, and soils SINC and RIGS), are conserved, protected and enhanced or that there is full provision for their appropriate restoration, recreation and management, and that priority species are protected and recovered.

b. there is no net loss of existing biodiversity and enable a net gain in biodiversity by designing in biodiversity, and ensuring any unavoidable impacts are appropriately mitigated and / or compensated for. This must ensure the importance of habitats identified in the South West Regional Nature Map are considered and the creation of a local and regional biodiversity network of wildlife corridors and local wildlife sites, helping to deliver the actions set out in the Cornwall Biodiversity Action Plan are recognised.

Mitigation - Where development will result in adverse impact, the council will require appropriate and proportionate mitigation and / or compensation such as replacement habitats. Wherever possible, enhancement for biodiversity should also be provided.

Historic Environment

2.136 We recognise that Cornwall's outstanding and distinctive historic environment is an irreplaceable resource that contributes to our economy, tourism, education, culture and community identity. Proposals for development should be informed by and respond positively to the historic environment to act as a catalyst for place making in Cornwall to reinforce local identity, character and distinctiveness.

2.137 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) provides guidance which should be used alongside this Plan, particularly on the identification, significance, and protection of heritage assets both designated and undesignated. We expect applicants to assess and describe the significance of these assets, including any contribution made by their setting, sufficient to understand the potential impact of any proposal on that heritage significance. The determination of planning applications by the Council will be based on the assessment of the potential harmful impact, taking into account the desirability of not only sustaining the asset's significance, but also of enhancing that significance and the positive contribution both conservation and well-informed new design can make to sustainability and local character and distinctiveness.

Policy 24: Historic Environment

Development proposals should sustain the cultural distinctiveness of Cornwall's historic environment, local distinctiveness and character by protecting, conserving, and where possible enhancing, Cornwall's historic environment and assets according to their international, national and local significance through the following measures:

- a. Designated and undesignated heritage assets and their settings will be conserved, and where appropriate enhanced in a manner appropriate to their significance including the:*
 - i. Preservation of Scheduled monuments*
 - ii. Recording of impact and evaluation on sites of known or potential archaeological interest*

(NB. This has not been reproduced in full)

All development proposals should be informed by proportionate historic environment assessments and evaluations. Where development is proposed that would lead to substantial harm to assets of the highest significance or substantial harm to all other nationally designated assets this should be exceptional and fully justified. In all cases any harm to heritage assets should be justified and weighed against the public benefits of the proposal.

Where less than substantial harm would result from a development affecting a heritage asset of moderate significance the council will weigh that harm against the public, not the private, benefits of that proposal. In these cases the council will require appropriate and proportionate mitigation by using planning conditions, management agreements and obligations.

13.3 Penwith Local Plan (adopted 2004)

The saved policies of the Penwith Local Plan) ahead of adoption of the Cornwall Local Plan (https://www.cornwall.gov.uk/media/3634834/Local_Plan_Text.pdf) include the following relevant sections:

6.3 Policies and Proposals

Safeguarding and Managing the Environmental Resource

6.3.3 POLICY CC-1

Development will not be permitted where it would significantly harm the landscape character, amenity, nature conservation, archaeological, historic or geological values of the coast and countryside of Penwith.

6.3.4 Protection, however, is only part of the approach. The management and enhancement of the coast and countryside is also an important objective in securing and improving the environmental qualities of the District. In this respect the Council is in a position to take positive steps in pursuing the aims and objectives of the Plan both by example and the promotion, support and coordination of measures initiated and funded from other sources. The policies of the Plan provide such a framework for the management and enhancement of the coast and countryside. POLICY CC-2 seeks to ensure that proposals which will maintain, enhance and facilitate the enjoyment, conservation and value of the landscape will be supported and encouraged.

6.3.5 POLICY CC-2:

Proposals which maintain enhance and facilitate the enjoyment and understanding of landscape character, amenity, nature conservation, archaeological, historic and geological values in the coast and countryside will be permitted.

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

6.3.7 Although special emphasis is rightly given to formal landscape designations it is important not to undervalue the contribution made to the identity of Penwith by all parts of the countryside. Almost any landscape is valued by somebody, for whatever reason, and the importance of safeguarding those parts of the countryside not within a designated landscape area is fully recognised. This accords with the government's view, as expressed in PPG 7, of the need to protect the countryside in general for the sake of its beauty and diversity of landscape as well as its ecological, agricultural and recreational value, a view carried through into PPS 7. There is no implication in the Local Plan, therefore, that non-designated areas of the coast and countryside are necessarily suitable for development. Where proposals are considered acceptable within the policies of the Plan development should always be integrated with its surroundings in terms of scale, siting and design and should respect the landscape character, amenity, nature conservation, archaeological, historic and geological values of the countryside (POLICIES CC-1, para. 6.3.3, GD-1, para.5.3.3 and GD-2, para. 5.3.7).

6.3.11 In pursuing the primary purpose of designation, account must also be taken of the economic and social needs of local communities. This is an acknowledgement that the countryside is not a museum and that an active rural way of life must be supported. Pressures exist for various types of development and the fundamental consideration must be that the special qualities, features and character of the AONB are properly safeguarded. However, a range of objectives and policies of the Local Plan seek to

address the needs of local communities within the AONB in ways that meet this requirement. As a result of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act, 2000 (CROW Act) a Management Plan has been prepared for the Cornwall AONB which provides more detailed guidance on key issues and relevant policy approaches. The Management Plan is complementary to the approach of the Local Plan and will provide valuable support in implementing, reviewing and developing policy.

6.3.12 In order to evaluate development proposals a strong policy approach is required to reflect the importance of the AONB. Planning Policy Guidance "The Countryside – Environmental Quality and Economic and Social Development" (PPG 7 and emerging PPS 7) stresses that policies should favour conservation of the natural beauty of the landscape. This approach is also reflected by the Structure Plan (Policy ENV 1, 1997 and Policy 2, 2004). The Local Plan identifies the importance of such matters as scale, location, design and materials in assessing the impact of development proposals throughout the District (POLICIES [GD-1](#) and [GD-2](#), paras. 5.3.3 and 5.3.7). Within the AONB, however, particular care must be taken with such matters so that where development is considered acceptable it reflects, and is in harmony with, the special character and national importance of the AONB. Care must also be taken to avoid the erosion of the character of the AONB through the cumulative effect of development, including small scale development.

6.3.13 POLICY CC-3:

Proposals for development conflicting with the objective to conserve and enhance the area of outstanding natural beauty will not be permitted.

Heritage Coast

6.3.17 The Structure Plan gives particular emphasis to the conservation of natural beauty within the Heritage Coasts and, where compatible with this objective, facilitating their enjoyment for recreation and tourism (Policy MAR 1, 1997 and Policy 2, 2004). The Local Plan, particularly General Development Guidance policies (Section five), provides a detailed framework that can be used effectively to ensure that development proposals reflect the character of the Heritage Coast.

6.3.18 POLICY CC-4:

Proposals for development conflicting with the objective to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of the heritage coast will not be permitted.

6.3.33 POLICY CC-6:

Proposals for development which would significantly harm the integrity of a designated or candidate special area of conservation, or a designated or proposed special protection area, or which would conflict with the conservation objectives for such a site will not be permitted.

Areas of Great Scientific Value

6.3.36 The maintenance of nature conservation interests is also of importance in the more extensive Areas of Great Scientific Value (AGSVs), designations of countywide importance representing a broader approach to nature conservation than the protection of specific sites. These areas act as a buffer around the most important and sensitive nature conservation sites and provide links between protected sites facilitating the movement of wildlife.

6.3.38 The importance of safeguarding the nature conservation interest of AGSVs is reflected in the Structure Plan. Policy ENV 5 (Policy 2, 2004) states that development should not have an adverse impact on the landscape features within the AGSV of importance to wildlife by reason of their physical links between habitats.

County Wildlife Sites

6.3.39 The Cornwall Wildlife Trust (CWT) is an agency concerned with the conservation of the County's wildlife and the natural environment that supports it. The Trust designates County Wildlife Sites which represent important areas of natural and semi-natural habitats such as heathlands, wetlands, open water, dunes and woodland and are indicative of the sites of countywide importance intended to be protected by Policy ENV 5 of the Structure Plan (Policy 2, 2004).

6.3.43 POLICY CC-8:

Development will not be permitted where it would significantly harm the nature conservation or geological interest of Areas of Great Scientific Value, County wildlife Sites, County Geological Sites, Ancient Woodland Sites and Local Nature reserves. Where development is permitted any impact on such values must be minimised and conditions will be imposed, or a planning obligation sought, to ensure that mitigating measures are undertaken.

Protected Species

6.3.44 The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and, for example, the Protection of Badgers Act 1992 give protection to a wide range of plants, animals and their habitats. The Council will not, therefore, permit any development that would adversely affect any species or its habitat protected by law. The Local Plan also acknowledges the need to protect and provide for wildlife in general when considering specific development proposals (POLICIES [GD-2](#) and [GD-3](#), paras. 5.3.7 and 5.3.9).

6.3.45 POLICY CC-9:

Proposals for development which would cause significant harm to a protected species or its habitat will not be permitted.

Features of Conservation Value

6.3.46 Throughout the countryside there are features which are not only of landscape and historic character but are also of importance for nature conservation. Such features may include streams, river corridors, ponds, wetlands, trees, woodland and field boundaries. River corridors are important areas of open land which should be protected from inappropriate development which could have an adverse impact on nature conservation, fisheries, landscape, public access or water-related recreation. Where development is subject to planning control it is important to safeguard such features (POLICY [GD-2](#), para. 5.3.7) and, where appropriate, provision made for landscaping and other conservation measures for the benefit of wildlife (POLICY [GD-3](#), para. 5.3.9). River corridors are important areas of open land which should be protected from inappropriate development which could have an adverse impact on nature conservation.

6.3.47 The importance of landscape features for wildlife, however, is significantly increased by the collective network they create across the landscape which connects many fragmented habitats. In effect they act as corridors or steppingstones joining one habitat to another. It is particularly important,

therefore, to safeguard those landscape features and habitats which are of major importance for wildlife. Such an approach is advocated by the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC) through the Habitats Regulations (1994) in pursuing biodiversity. It suggests that where development is permitted, the Council will seek to ensure that mitigating measures are taken to offset the loss of value of landscape features and habitats for wildlife.

6.3.48 POLICY CC-10:

Proposals for development which would have a significant adverse effect on the integrity or continuity of landscape features and habitats of major importance for wild flora and fauna will not be permitted.

Where development which would have a more limited adverse effect is permitted, damage to nature conservation values must be minimised and where appropriate a planning obligation will be sought to ensure that compensatory measures are undertaken to retain the continuity or integrity of the features or habitats.

Safeguarding Hedgerows

6.3.55 Hedgerows have had little protection in the past but their continuing loss nationally has resulted in the Government producing the Hedgerow Regulations 1997, under the Environment Act 1995, to provide protection for important hedgerows.

6.3.57 POLICY CC-12:

Proposals for development which would result in the loss or damage to trees, woodland, hedgerows and Cornish hedges which would make a significant contribution to the character of the landscape and nature conservation will not be permitted.

Sites of Archaeological and Historic Importance

6.3.76 Where there is reason to believe that important archaeological remains may exist on a proposed site it is vital that early consideration is given to this in the planning process. The Council may request a field evaluation to be undertaken, which provides a rapid and inexpensive operation used to help define the character and extent of the remains and thereby indicate the weight which should be attached to their preservation. Where preservation 'in-situ' is not considered justified it is important that satisfactory provision is made for excavation and recording of the remains before the development commences. In the absence of an agreement the Council can secure excavation and recording by imposing conditions.

6.3.77 Although many archaeological sites and remains are located in the countryside the following policy will also apply to those located in the towns and villages.

6.3.78 POLICY CC-15:

Proposals for development which would damage Scheduled Ancient Monuments and other nationally important archaeological remains, or their setting, will not be permitted.

Areas of Great Historic Value

6.3.80 *Within the Areas of Great Historic Value and where remains of county importance are affected proposals will not be permitted unless there is no significant adverse impact. The Structure Plan also safeguards the structure, character and setting of the archaeological and historic environment in general, but particularly the AGHV (Policy ENV 2, 1997 and Policy 2, 2004).*

6.3.81 POLICY CC-16:

Proposals for development within the Areas of Great Historic Value and those affecting archaeological remains of county importance will not be permitted where it would harm:

- i. The historic character of the landscape or***
- ii. The value, character or setting of the remains***

I4 Appendix 3 – Ecology Survey (Horn-Norris 2016)