



A391 St Austell to A30 Link Road, Cornwall – Ground Investigation Test Pits. Archaeological Watching Brief



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Archaeological Watching Brief

Client	Cormac Solutions
Report Number	2018R054
Date	September 2018
Status	Final
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Checked by	S R Taylor
Approved by	Andy Jones
Project number	146730
Site code	SALR18
Data location	\\CAU\Archive\Sites\A\ A391 St Austell to A30 Link Road GI WB 146730
Historic England / ADS OASIS online reference	cornwall2-327570
Planning reference	N/A

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

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Acknowledgements

This study was commissioned by Doug Boden of Cormac Solutions and carried out by Cornwall Archaeological Unit, Cornwall Council.

The Project Manager was Sean Taylor with fieldwork undertaken by Carl Thorpe.

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

Freedom of Information Act

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Abbreviations

CAU	Cornwall Archaeological Unit
CIfA	Chartered Institute for Archaeologists
CRO	Cornwall Record Office
GI	Ground Investigation
HER	Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record
HLC	Historic Landscape Characterisation
MCO	Monument number in Cornwall HER
NGR	National Grid Reference
OD	Ordnance Datum – height above mean sea level at Newlyn
OS	Ordnance Survey
SDOHE	Senior Development Officer Historic Environment
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigations

1 Summary

Cornwall Archaeological Unit was commissioned by Cormac Solutions to carry out an archaeological watching brief during the digging of 65 Ground Investigation test pits along the 7.8 km route of a proposed link road (part of the A391) connecting the A30 at Victoria, to St Austell, Cornwall.

Excavation by the Ground Investigation team was carried out with an archaeologist in attendance to record any features which were exposed during the ground disturbance. The archaeological watching brief was focused on the fields classified as Anciently Enclosed Land (Medieval Farmland HLC Sub-Type; land mainly enclosed and farmed from the medieval period) under the 1994 Cornwall-wide Historic Landscape Characterisation [HLC] (Cornwall Council 1996), and the field to the north-west of Roche centred at SW 98213 60792 within which was a scheduled Bronze Age barrow (DCO1626; MCO3403).

Fieldwork was undertaken between Monday 23rd April and 27th June 2018. Due to the difficulty in obtaining permission to access some of the locations of the test pits, in the event only 53 were monitored.

No archaeological features were revealed during the test pitting stage, however, a prehistoric flint blade was found within TP 49 at Higher Trezaise, while another couple of prehistoric flints were recovered from TP 106 at Trerank Farm. This suggests these areas have an archaeological potential to reveal further evidence for prehistoric activity.

However, as the total area excavated was minimal the results should be considered in the light of the desk-based assessment (Taylor 2016) and the results of any future geophysical survey and evaluation trenching undertaken.

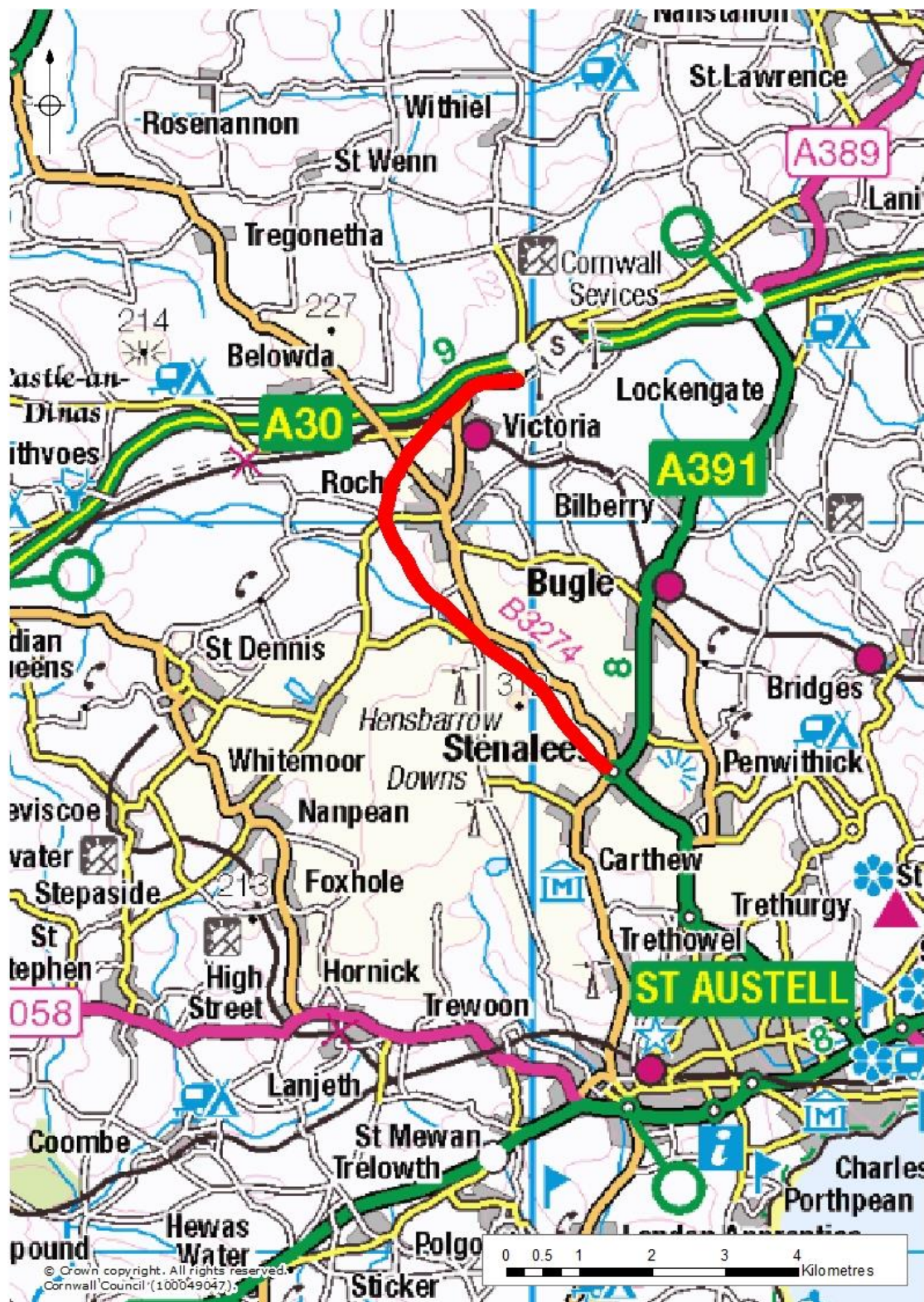


Figure 1. Location map. Proposed route of A391 shown in red.

2 Introduction

2.1 Project background

Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) was commissioned by Cormac Solutions to carry out an archaeological watching brief during the digging of 65 Ground Investigation (GI) test pits along the 7.8 km route of a proposed link road (part of the A391) connecting the A30 at Victoria, to St Austell, Cornwall (Figure 1).

An archaeological assessment of the planned route of the road was undertaken in 2016. This identified two nationally important designated sites along the route: a Scheduled barrow (DCO1626) south of Treranke Cottages (SW 98213 60793); and a Grade II Listed milestone (DCO 14248) at Stenalees (SX01103 56689). Numerous sites of local significance including elements of field systems, long-established routeways and boundary stones, medieval and post-medieval settlements, china clay works, streamworks, and deep mining sites were also identified (Taylor 2016).

Phil Copleston, Senior Development Officer Historic Environment (SDOHE), Cornwall Council was consulted by Cormac Solutions to set the requirements for archaeological recording during the test pitting stage.

In response CAU wrote a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) covering the length of the route to provide a methodology for the watching brief. The archaeological watching brief was focused on the fields classified as Anciently Enclosed Land (Medieval Farmland HLC Sub-Type; land mainly enclosed and farmed from the medieval period) under the 1994 Cornwall-wide Historic Landscape Characterisation [HLC] (Cornwall Council 1996), and the field to the north-west of Roche centred at SW 98213 60792 within which was a Scheduled Bronze Age Barrow (DCO1626; MCO3403).

The WSI was agreed with the SDOHE on 21/9/2017 (a copy of the WSI is included at the end of this report; see Appendix 2).

This report presents the results of the archaeological watching brief.

2.2 Aims

The principal aim of the watching brief was to gain a better understanding of the character and potential of the archaeological resource by recording sites and features revealed by the test pitting.

The project objectives were as follows:

- To record archaeological features and deposits revealed by the scheme.
- To recover and record artefacts uncovered by the works.
- To disseminate the results of discoveries appropriately.

2.3 Methods

2.3.1 Fieldwork

Fieldwork covered the excavation of 65 test pits dug along the proposed road corridor (Figures 2-5). Excavation by the GI team in these locations was carried out with an archaeologist in attendance to record any features which were exposed during the ground disturbance.

The GI team used a JCB fitted with a 0.6m wide toothed-bucket. In all instances the test pits were excavated in stages to ensure that the topsoil was not mixed with the subsoil. The archaeologist was allowed to inspect the test pit at the interface of the topsoil and subsoil as this was the best opportunity to note any potential archaeology. Each test pit was then dug down to approximately 3m in depth to expose the deeper regolith (superficial material covering solid rock) and bedrock.

Each test pit was recorded by the archaeologist to include its location (10 figure NGR), dimensions and depth of the excavation (metres) and the stratigraphic detail revealed

in section. A digital colour SLR camera with a GPS unit was used to photographically record each test pit. A metric scale was included in all photographs.

Fieldwork was undertaken between Monday 23rd April and 27th June 2018. Due to the difficulty in obtaining permission to access some of the locations of the test pits, in the event only 53 were monitored.

2.4 Location and setting

The route (Fig 1) of the road crosses over varied topography, skirting the edges of higher ground and running through generally level ground as it progresses north of the St Austell granite (Figs 3 to 5).

The route starts from the north at the old A30 west of Victoria roughly at SW 98768 61593 rising slightly through improved pasture before dropping down steeply into the head of a valley of a tributary of the River Fal. The route then rises past the settlement of Trerank (SW 98265 59401) before following the north eastern side of the valley of the Fal to its source south of Pentivale (SW98848 58739). Crossing the minor road at Coldvreath (SW 99010 58508) it then follows the northern flank of Hensbarrow Downs (at roughly SW 99702 58233) rising to 280m OD before falling down to the roundabout at the western end of Stenalees (SW 01109 56697).

The underlying geology along the route is varied. To the south, the route commences on the St Austell (Hensbarrow) granite. It leaves the granite at Tresayes Downs and runs through the metamorphic aureole that has greatly affected the calcareous slates, grits, and thin limestones of the Lower Devonian Meadfoot Beds at Trerank Moor (forming hard bands of Calca-silicates), before terminating at the northern end at Victoria on slightly metamorphosed slates again belonging to the Meadfoot Beds (BGS sheet 347).

In terms of the 1994 Cornwall-wide Historic Landscape Characterisation the watching brief was focused on those test pits in Anciently Enclosed Land (Medieval Farmland HLC sub-type; land mainly enclosed and farmed from the medieval period), those around the barrow south of Treranke Cottages were in Post-medieval Enclosed Land (land enclosed in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, usually from land that was previously Upland Rough Ground and often medieval commons), while those examined on Hensbarrow Down were in Upland Rough Ground (areas of rough grassland, heathland, and open scrub, usually on the higher or more exposed ground in a locality). Full definitions of these landscape characterisations are to be found in the assessment report (Taylor 2016).

As noted above, a Scheduled Bronze Age barrow (DCO1626) lies south of Treranke Cottages (SW 98213 60793) and a Grade II Listed milestone (DCO 14248) is recorded at Stenalees (SX01103 56689).

3 Archaeological results

See Figures 3, 4 and 5 for the location of finds.

The full description for each test pit is summarised in Table 2 (Appendix 1 at the end of this report). No archaeological features were revealed during the test pitting stage, however, finds were found in the following test pits (Table 1).

Name	Test Pit ref	NGR (SW)	Description	Period
Higher Trezaise	TP 49	99406 58305	1 small flint blade. No apparent evidence for retouch.	Mesolithic?
Higher Trezaise	TP 50	99358 58321	1 sherd of White-glazed stoneware, salt-glazed, often termed 'Pearlware' (china).	19 th to 20 th centuries.
Hillside Farm	TP 60	98952 58597	1 sherd German Frechen Stoneware.	General date: 17 th to 18 th centuries.
			1 sherd Creamware.	19 th century.
Pentivale	TP 84	99037 59008	1 sherd Cornish Medieval Coarseware, (South-western micaceous ware).	12 th to 13 th centuries.
Trerank Farm	TP98	98332 59426	1 shoulder sherd with cordon probably from a bowl. Lostwithiel Ware. Surface bears traces of white paint decoration.	15 th to 16 th centuries.
Trerank Farm	TP 99	98268 59383	1 rim sherd from a cooking vessel of Cornish Medieval Coarsewares, (South-western micaceous ware) - Lostwithiel - type ware.	13 th to 14 th centuries.
Trerank Farm	TP 103	98131 59508	1 sherd Creamware.	19 th century.
Trerank Farm	TP 106	98104 59644	1 flint primary flake.	Prehistoric.
			1 miscellaneous retouched flint.	Prehistoric, possibly Neolithic.
			1 flanged rim sherd probably from a cream making bowl. Lostwithiel Ware.	15 th to 16 th centuries.

Table 1 Table of finds (including general location, test pit identification number, NGR, description and potential date).

In terms of subsoil and bedrock the test pits were mainly dug through degraded slate (shillet) bedrock, often covered by a deep layer of subsoil and deeper regolith.

4 Conclusions

Overall, the watching brief on the test pits provided a rapid initial assessment of the archaeological potential along the proposed route. However, as the total area excavated was minimal the results should be considered in the light of the desk-based assessment (Taylor 2016) and the results of any future geophysical survey and evaluation trenching recommended.

Of particular note are the prehistoric flint finds near to Higher Trezaise, and Trerank Farm.

At Higher Trezaise the small flint blade, possibly Mesolithic in date (c10,000-4000 cal BC), recovered from TP 49 (Fig 6) located at SW 99406 58305 is the first evidence recorded for prehistoric activity in the immediate area (the nearest is an alleged Bronze Age barrow MCO 2814 located roughly 355m to the south east).

The same is true for the flints from TP 106 (Fig 7) located at SW 98104 59644 on Trerank Farm. Unfortunately these are undiagnostic though one could possibly be Neolithic in date (c4000-2500 cal BC). Here the nearest evidence for prehistoric activity is an alleged Bronze Age barrow (MCO 3401) located roughly 185m to the north east at SW 98200 59799.

Both locations are situated near to a spring and close to an area of lower-lying damper ground. Elsewhere in this part of Cornwall, this type of location has shown a high potential for prehistoric flint scatters (eg, Ventonvaise, near Callestick). Locales of this type would have been ideal for prehistoric hunters who would have been able to exploit the animals that lived in the wetland or went there to drink (Dudley 2011).

Medieval pottery was found at Pentivale (TP 84) and Trerank Farm (TP 98, TP 99 and TP 106).

The settlement of Pentivale is first recorded in 1285 when it is spelt 'Penfunte-Fala' (Henderson 1920). The name is Cornish and contains the elements *pen* and *fenten* and *Fal* (river name) and means 'headwater of the Fal' (Padel 1985). The test pit lies roughly 200m to the north east of the centre of the settlement, so this probably represents the manuring of fields using domestic waste to improve the fertility of the fields. Interestingly, this sherd may pre-date the earliest known record for this settlement, as it is potentially 12th century in date.

The settlement of Trerank is first recorded in 1260 when it is spelt 'iTrefrac' (Gover 1948). The name is Cornish and contains the elements *tre* meaning 'estate, farmstead' (which implies a settlement of early medieval origin), and *frac* meaning 'Frenchman or freeman' (Padel 1985). The ceramics from TP 98 and TP 99 which lie adjacent to the settlement (roughly within 100m) support this date and continuing occupation through the 16th century to the present day. TP 106 lies further from the settlement (roughly 250m) and again probably represents manuring of the field to improve fertility.

The 19th and early 20th century material from test pits around Higher Trezaise (TP 50), Hillside Farm (TP 60), and Trerank Farm (TP 103) probably reflect the continuing practice of spreading midden material on the fields into the post medieval period.

No other archaeological features or finds were recorded in the course of the project.

5 References

5.1 Primary sources (in chronological order)

Tithe Map and Apportionment, 1877. Parish of Roche (licensed digital copy at CRO)

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

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

Ordnance Survey, MasterMap Topography

British Geological Survey, 1982. Map sheet 347 Bodmin.

5.2 Publications

Cornwall County Council, 1996. *Cornwall: A Landscape Assessment 1994* report produced by Landscape Design Associates in association with Cornwall Archaeological Unit

Dudley, P. 2011. *Goon, Hal, Cliff and Croft: The Archaeology and Landscape History of West Cornwall's Rough Ground*, Cornwall Council and English Heritage

Gover, JEB. 1948. Place-Names of Cornwall (unpublished manuscript)

Henderson, C. 1920. *A History of the Parish of Roche*

Padel, OJ. 1985. *Cornish Place-Name Elements*

Taylor, SR, 2016. *A30 to St Austell Link Road, Cornwall. Archaeological Assessment*, CAU report, Truro

5.3 Websites

<http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/> Online database of Sites and Monuments Records, and Listed Buildings

6 Project archive

The CAU project number is **146730**

The project's documentary, digital, photographic and drawn archive is maintained by Cornwall Archaeological Unit. The contents of this archive are as listed below:

1. A project and information file containing site records and notes, project correspondence and administration (file no: 146730).
2. Field plans and copies of historic maps stored in an A2-size plastic envelope (GRE 913/1-8).
3. Electronic data is stored in the following location: \\CAU\Archive\Sites\A\ A391 St Austell to A30 Link Road GI WB 146730
4. Historic England /ADS OASIS online reference: cornwall2-322437
5. The artefacts recovered and retained during the course of this project have been given the site code SALR18. These are temporarily held at the CAU archive store.

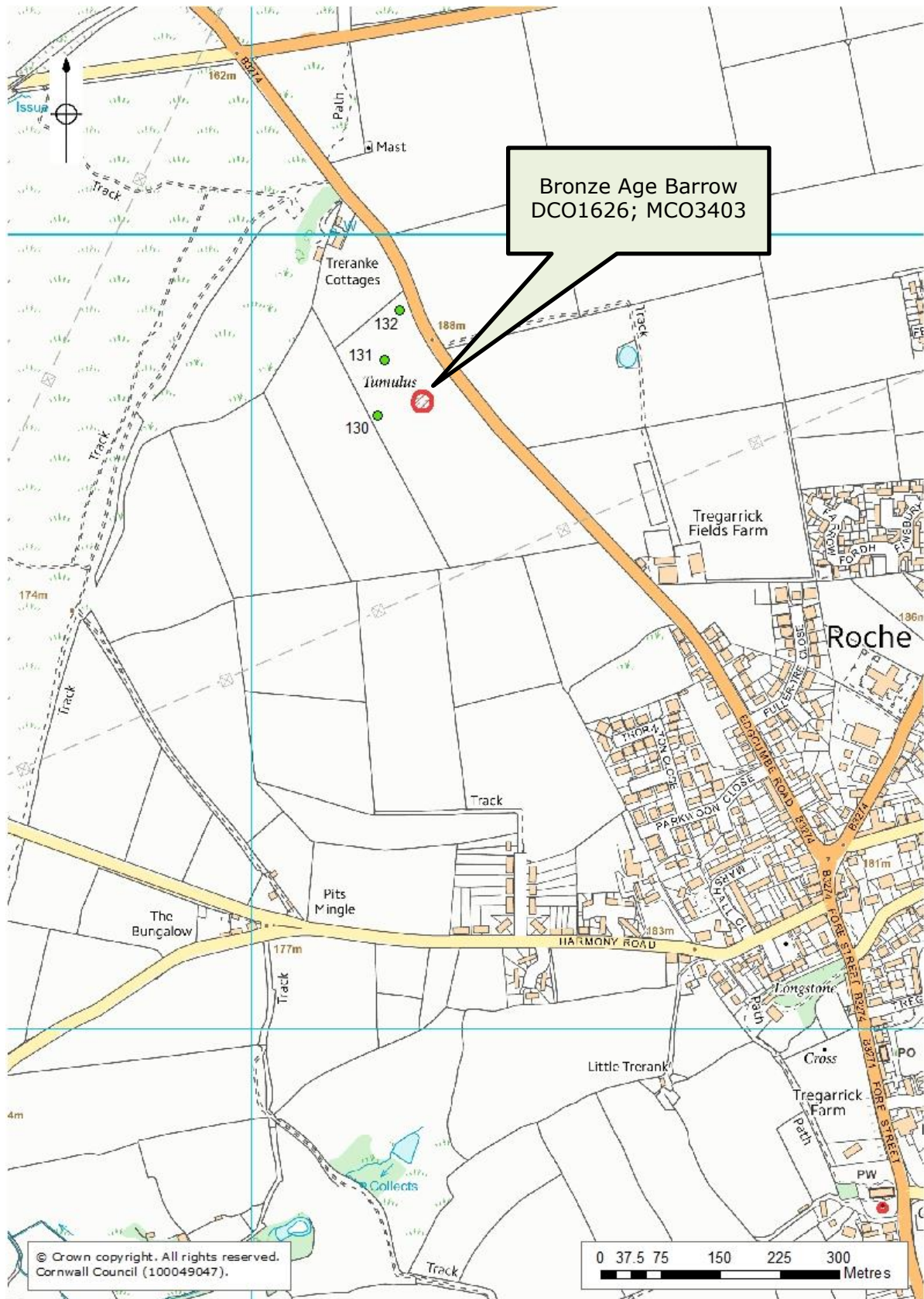


Figure 2. Location of test pits around the Scheduled Bronze Age Barrow at Roche.

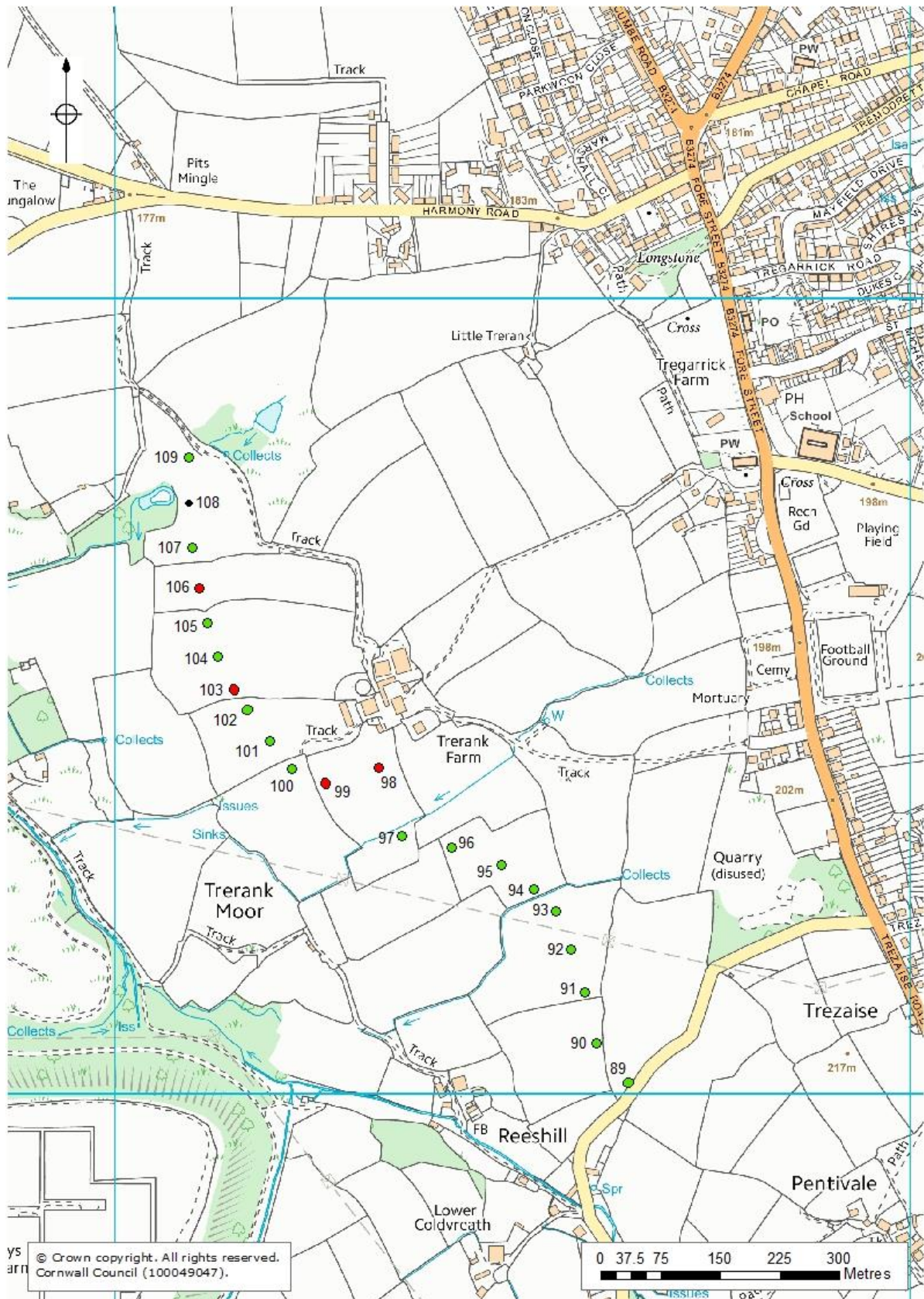


Figure 3. Location of test pits around Trerank Farm. Red dots have produced artefacts. Black dots were not dug.

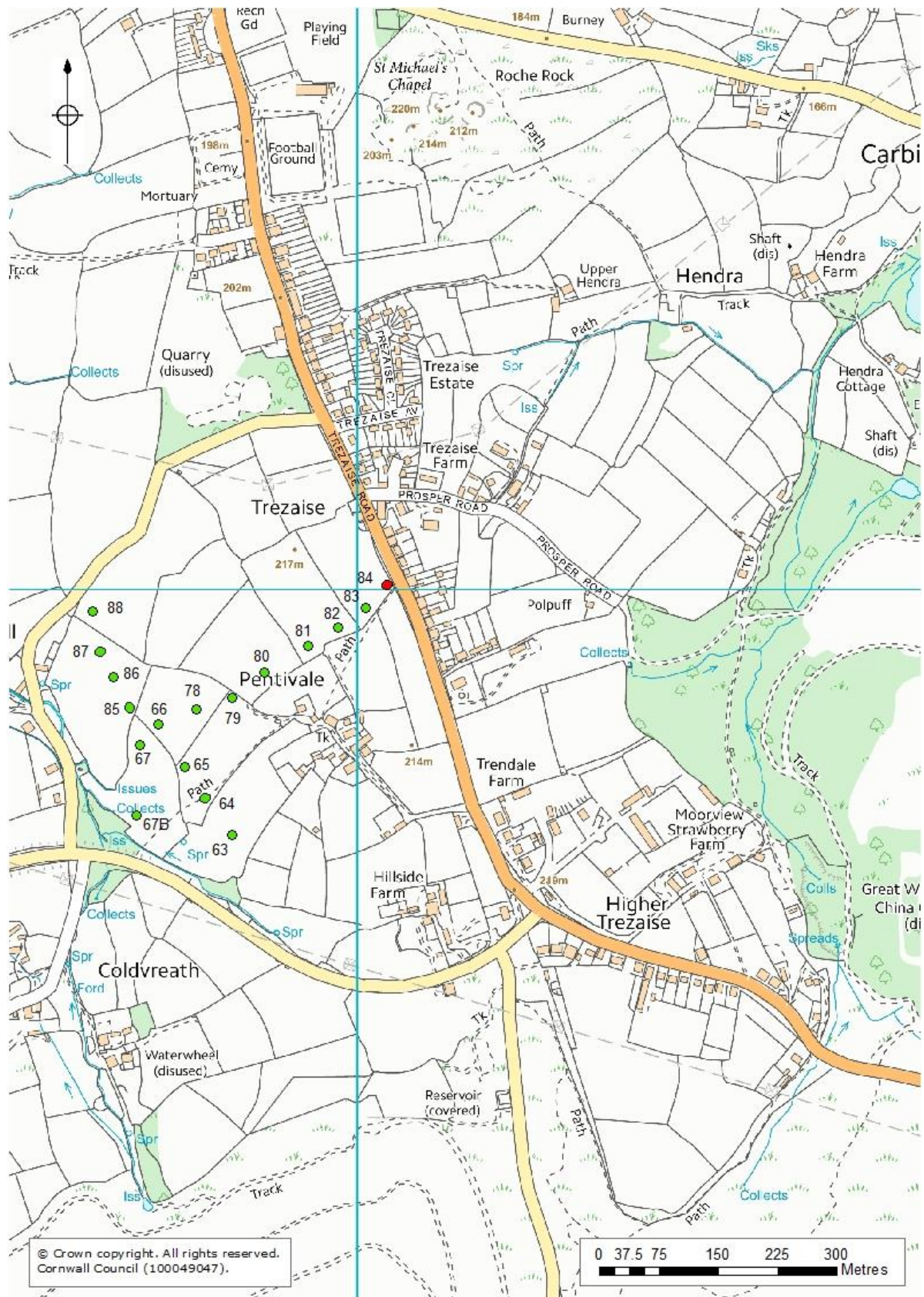


Figure 4. Location of test pits around Pentivale. Red dots have produced artefacts. Black dots were not dug.

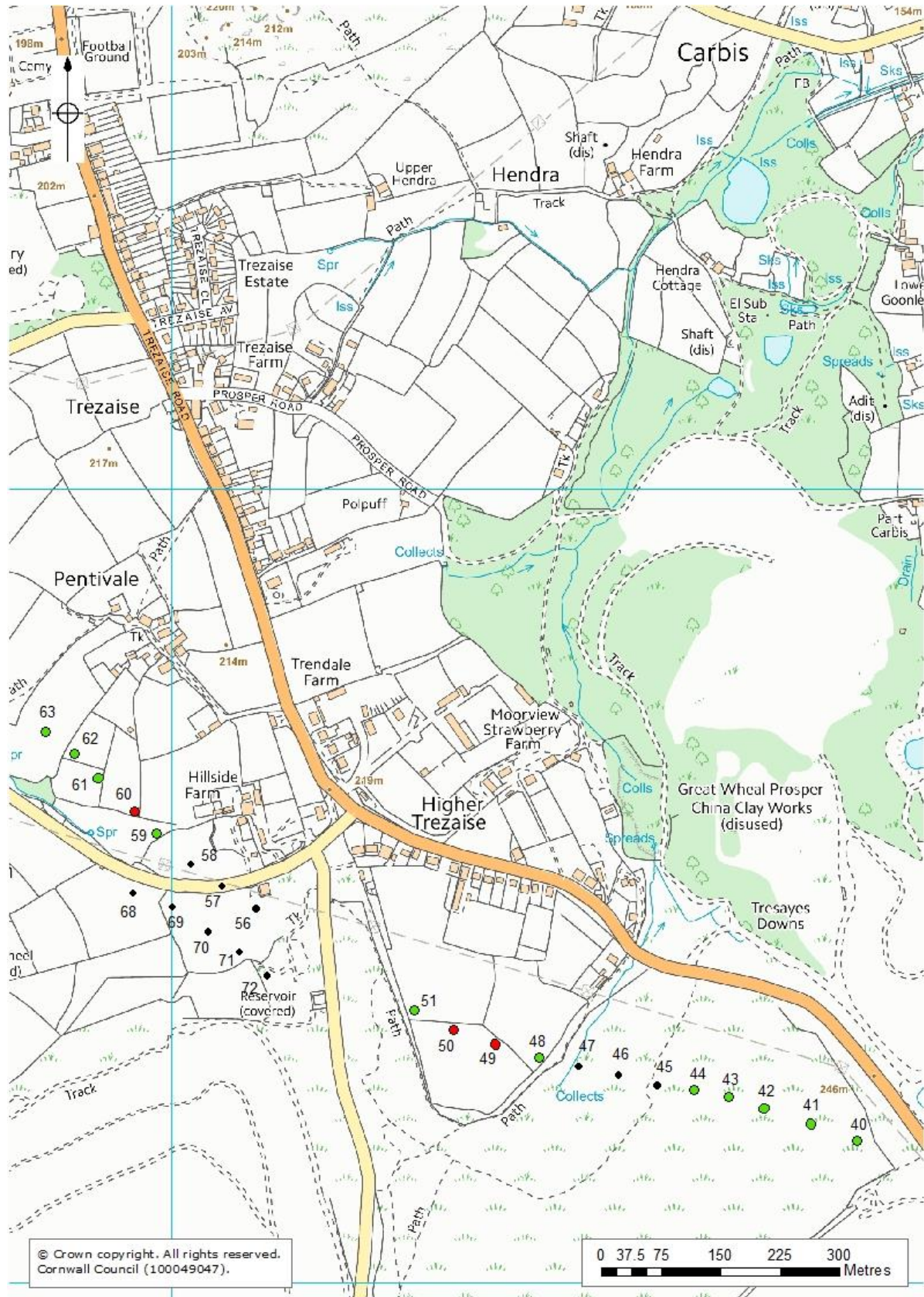


Figure 5. Location of test pits around Hensbarrow Down and Hillside Farm. Red dots have produced artefacts. Black dots were not dug.



Figure 6. Test Pit 49. Typical test pit within grassed field. This pit produced a Mesolithic flint blade.



Figure 7. Test Pit 106. Typical test pit within ploughed field. This pit produced several flints, possibly of Neolithic date.

Appendix 1: Test pits

Table 2 below gives a succinct description of each test, its GI reference number, NGR, general location and dimensions. Where finds were found these are described in red. See Figures 2 to 5 (incl.) for the test pit locations.

No	GI test pit ref	OS Prefix	X REF (E)	Y REF (N)	General location	Dimensions	Description
1	TP 40	SW	99835	58205	Hensbarrow Downs	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.05m of dark black-brown peaty loam, 0.1m of grey-brown clay, 0.15m of dark red-brown clay and 1.65m of yellow, grey-brown clay with granite fragments. This overlay 1m of kaolinised granite that was not bottomed.
2	TP 41	SW	99840	58194	Hensbarrow Downs	3m x 0.6m x 2.9m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.05m of dark black-brown peaty loam, 0.1m of grey-brown clay, 0.2m of orange-brown clay and 1.6m of yellow, grey-brown clay with granite fragments. This overlay 0.9m of kaolinised granite that was not bottomed.
3	TP 42	SW	99757	58219	Hensbarrow Downs	3m x 0.6m x 2m deep	0.05m of mixed clays (surface of path) overlying 0.05m of dark black-brown peaty loam, 0.05m of grey-brown clay, 0.1m of dark red-brown clay and 1.35m of yellow, grey-brown clay with granite fragments. This overlay 0.4m of solid granite bedrock that was not bottomed.
4	TP 43	SW	99686	58231	Hensbarrow Downs	3m x 0.6m x 3m	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.05m of dark black-brown peaty loam, 0.05m of grey-brown clay, 0.1m of bright orange, red-brown clay, and 1.55m of yellow, grey-brown clay with granite fragments. This in turn overlay 1.2m of orange, red-brown clay with numerous granite fragments that was not bottomed.
5	TP 44	SW	99659	58235	Hensbarrow Downs	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.05m of dark black-brown peaty loam, 0.05m of grey-brown clay, 0.15m of dark orange, red-brown clay, and 2.7m of orange, red-brown clay with granite fragments that was not bottomed.
6	TP 45	SW	99611	58247	Hensbarrow Downs	-	Not excavated. Permission not granted for access.
7	TP 46	SW	99560	58261	Hensbarrow Downs	-	Not excavated. Permission not granted for access.
8	TP 47	SW	99510	58274	Hensbarrow Downs	-	Not excavated. Permission not granted for access.
9	TP 48	SW	99467	58290	Higher Trezaise	3m x 0.6m x 2.8m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.2m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.2m of grey-brown clay, and 1.35m of orange, grey-brown clay with some stone fragments. This overlay 0.2m of decayed natural bedrock and 0.8m of solid bedrock (metamorphic contact zone rock) that was not bottomed.

No	GI test pit ref	OS Prefix	X REF (E)	Y REF (N)	General location	Dimensions	Description
10	TP 49	SW	99406	58305	Higher Trezaise	3m x 0.6m x 2.6m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.1m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.1m of grey-brown clay, 0.2m of orange, red-brown clay and 1.55m of light yellow, grey-brown clay with a few stone fragments. This overlay 0.6m of decayed natural bedrock. Solid bedrock was encountered at the base of the trench. 1 small flint blade. Mesolithic?
11	TP 50	SW	99358	58321	Higher Trezaise	3m x 0.6m x 1.5m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.1m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.1m of grey-brown clay, 0.1m of orange, red-brown clay and 1.15m of decayed natural bedrock. Solid bedrock was encountered at the base of the trench. 1 sherd of Modern china, 19th to 20th centuries AD.
12	TP 51	SW	99301	58342	Higher Trezaise	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.05m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.1m of grey-brown clay, 0.15m of orange, red-brown clay and 1.65m of yellow, grey-brown clay with a few stone fragments. This overlay 1m of decayed natural bedrock that was not bottomed.
13	TP 56	SW	99104	58473	Hillside Farm	-	Not excavated. Permission not granted for access.
14	TP 57	SW	990064	58500	Hillside Farm	-	Not excavated. Permission not granted for access.
15	TP 58	SW	99023	58529	Hillside Farm	-	Not excavated. Permission not granted for access.
16	TP 59	SW	98998	58572	Hillside Farm	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep.	0.05m compacted grey-brown clay and angular stone fragments/gravel (surface of trackway) overlying 0.05m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.1m of grey-brown clay, 0.2m of dark orange-brown clay and 2.1m of grey-brown, and orange brown clays with numerous stone fragments. This overlay 0.5m of decayed natural bedrock.
17	TP 60	SW	98952	58597	Hillside Farm	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.1m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.15m of grey-brown clay, 0.2m of orange, grey-brown clay and 0.6m of mixed orange-brown clay with a few stone fragments. This overlay 0.5m of dark grey-brown clay with numerous stone fragments and 0.5 m of decayed natural bedrock. 1 sherd Frechen Stoneware. 17th to 18th centuries AD. 1 sherd Creamware. 19th century.
18	TP 61	SW	98908	58629	Hillside Farm	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.1m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.1m of grey-brown clay, 0.5m of orange, red-brown clay and 2.25m of mixed orange-brown clay with stone fragments.

No	GI test pit ref	OS Prefix	X REF (E)	Y REF (N)	General location	Dimensions	Description
19	TP 62	SW	98870	58663	Hillside Farm	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.15m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.15m of grey-brown clay, 0.5m of orange, grey-brown clay and 0.5m of grey, green-brown with stony fragments. This overlay 1.65 m of decayed natural bedrock.
20	TP 63	SW	98832	58687	Pentivale	2.9m x 0.6m x 3m deep.	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.1m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.15m of grey-brown clay, 0.1m of dark orange-brown clay and 0.6m of light orange-brown clay with a few stone fragments. This overlay 1m of decayed natural bedrock and 1m of solid bedrock.
21	TP 64	SW	98819	58744	Pentivale	3m x 0.6m x 2.8m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.05m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.05m of compacted yellow, grey-brown clay and stony fragments (surface of path), 0.05m of grey-brown clay and 1.8m of orange-brown clay. This overlay 0.8m of decayed natural bedrock that was not bottomed.
22	TP 65	SW	98780	58776	Pentivale	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.10m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.10m of grey-brown clay, 0.1m of dark red-brown clay and 1.65m of orange, red-brown clay with stony fragments. This overlay 1m of decayed natural bedrock that was not bottomed.
23	TP 66	SW	98742	58834	Pentivale	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep.	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.15m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.15m of grey-brown clay, 0.2m of dark red-brown clay and 2.25m of dark yellow-brown clay with some stone fragments. This overlay 0.2m of light grey clay with stony fragments that was not bottomed.
24	TP 67	SW	98721	58791	Pentivale	3m x 0.6m x 2.8m	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.15m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.15m of grey-brown clay, and 0.85m of dark yellow-brown clay with stony fragments. This overlay 1.6m of decayed natural bedrock that was not bottomed.
25	TP 67B	SW	98736	58710	Pentivale	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep.	0.01m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.25m of mixed clay and stone rubble (Dumped material from stream bed?), and 0.25m of dark grey-brown clay and stone. This overlay 2.49m of mixed silts and clays (varied colours) that was not bottomed.
26	TP 68	SW	98950	58492	Hillside Farm	-	Not excavated. Permission not granted for access.
27	TP 69	SW	98999	58476	Hillside Farm	-	Not excavated. Permission not granted for access.
28	TP 70	SW	99044	58444	Hillside Farm	-	Not excavated. Permission not granted for access.

No	GI test pit ref	OS Prefix	X REF (E)	Y REF (N)	General location	Dimensions	Description
29	TP 71	SW	99084	58418	Hillside Farm	-	Not excavated. Permission not granted for access.
30	TP 72	SW	99119	58388	Hillside Farm	-	Not excavated. Permission not granted for access.
31	TP 78	SW	98802	58860	Pentivale	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep.	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.1m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.1m of grey-brown clay and 1.75m of orange-brown clay with stone fragments. This overlay 1m of decayed natural bedrock that was not bottomed.
32	TP 79	SW	98840	58869	Pentivale	3m x 0.6m x 3.4m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.1m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.1m of grey-brown clay and 0.75m of orange-brown clay with stone fragments. This overlay 1m of decayed natural bedrock and 1.4m of solid bedrock.
33	TP 80	SW	98889	58896	Pentivale	2.9m x 0.6m x 2.8m deep.	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.15m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.15m of grey-brown clay and 1.15m of orange-brown clay with stone fragments. This overlay 1.3m of decayed natural bedrock that was not bottomed.
34	TP 81	SW	98923	58929	Pentivale	3m x 0.6m x 2.8m deep	Ploughed field. 0.3m of mixed grey-brown clay loam and clay ploughsoil overlay 1.2m of orange, yellow-brown clay with stone fragments. This overlay 0.5m of decayed bedrock, and 0.8m of solid bedrock.
35	TP 82	SW	98961	58949	Pentivale	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep.	Ploughed field. 0.2m of mixed grey-brown clay loam and clay ploughsoil overlay 0.2m of dark orange-brown clay, and 2.1m of orange-brown clay with stone fragments. This overlay 0.5m of decayed natural bedrock that was not bottomed.
36	TP 83	SW	98999	58979	Pentivale	3m x 0.8m x 3m deep	Ploughed field. 0.35m of mixed grey-brown clay loam and clay ploughsoil overlay 0.2m of dark orange-brown clay, and 1.45m of orange-brown clay with stone fragments. This overlay 1m of decayed natural bedrock that was not bottomed.
37	TP 84	SW	99037	59008	Pentivale	3m x 0.8m x 3m deep	Ploughed field. 0.4m of mixed grey-brown clay loam and clay ploughsoil overlay 0.2m of dark red-brown clay, and 1.4m of orange-brown clay with some stone fragments. Below this was a 0.3m thick band of hard rock (blue elvan?) which overlay 0.7m of orange-brown clay with stony fragments that was not bottomed. 1 sherd Cornish Medieval Coarseware (South-western micaceous ware). 12th to 13th centuries AD.

No	GI test pit ref	OS Prefix	X REF (E)	Y REF (N)	General location	Dimensions	Description
38	TP 85	SW	98718	58859	Pentivale	3m x 0.6m x 2.7m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.10m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.10m of grey-brown clay and 1.55m of orange-brown clay. This overlay 0.9m of decayed natural bedrock that was not bottomed.
39	TP 86	SW	98677	58910	Pentivale	3m x 0.6m x 2.8m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.15m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.15m of grey-brown clay and 1.45m of orange, yellow-brown clay with stone fragments. This overlay 0.4m of decayed natural bedrock and 0.6m of solid bedrock.
40	TP 87	SW	98649	58951	Pentivale	2.8m x 0.6m x 2.7m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.10m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.15m of grey-brown clay and 1.7m of dark red, orange-brown clay with stony fragments. This overlay 0.7m of decayed natural bedrock that was not bottomed.
41	TP 88	SW	98654	58975	Pentivale	3m x 0.6m x 2.8m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.15m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.15m of grey-brown clay and 1.35m of orange, yellow-brown clay with stone fragments. This overlay 0.5m of decayed natural bedrock and 0.6m of solid bedrock.
42	TP 89	SW	98632	59016	Reeshill	3m x 0.6m x 2.9m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.15m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.30m of grey-brown clay and 0.20m of grey, orange-brown clay. This overlay 0.8m of decayed natural bedrock, and 1.4m of solid bedrock.
43	TP 90	SW	98605	59092	Reeshill	2m x 0.6m x 3m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.10m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.05m of light orange, grey-brown clay and 0.2m of orange, yellow-brown clay. This overlay 1.6m of decayed natural bedrock and 1m of solid bedrock.
44	TP 91	SW	98593	59127	Reeshill	2.5m x 0.6m x 3.1m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.15m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.10m of grey-brown clay, and 0.05m of yellow -brown clay. This overlay 1.65m of decayed natural bedrock and 1.1m of solid bedrock.
45	TP 92	SW	98559	59185	Reeshill	2.5m x 0.6m x 2.9m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.10m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.10m of grey-brown clay, This overlay 2.65m of decayed natural bedrock that was not bottomed.
46	TP 93	SW	98545	59241	Reeshill	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.15m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.10m of grey-brown clay, and 0.2m of pale grey-brown clay and stone. This overlay 2.5m of decayed natural bedrock that was not bottomed.
47	TP 94	SW	98524	59254	Trerank Farm	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.10m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.20m of grey-brown clay, This overlay 1.65 m of decayed natural bedrock and 1m of solid bedrock.
48	TP 95	SW	98484	59288	Trerank Farm	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.10m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.20m of grey-brown clay, This overlay 1.65 m of decayed natural bedrock and 1m of solid bedrock.

No	GI test pit ref	OS Prefix	X REF (E)	Y REF (N)	General location	Dimensions	Description
49	TP 96	SW	98419	59310	Trerank Farm	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.15m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.20m of grey-brown clay, This overlay 1.6m of decayed natural bedrock and 1m of solid bedrock.
50	TP 97	SW	98374	59323	Trerank Farm	3m x 0.6m x 2.8m	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.10m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.10m of grey-brown clay, and 1.45m of orange, grey-brown clay. This overlay 1.1m of decayed natural bedrock.
51	TP 98	SW	98332	59426	Trerank Farm	3m x 0.6m x 2m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.15m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.20m of light orange, grey-brown clay, and 0.2m of orange-brown clay. This overlay 1.4m of solid bedrock. 1 sherd from a bowl, Lostwithiel ware. 15th to 16th centuries.
52	TP 99	SW	98268	59383	Trerank Farm	3m x 0.6m x 2.5m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.2m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.2m of grey-brown clay, This overlay 1.45m of orange-brown clay with some stone fragments, 0.4m of decayed natural bedrock and 0.2m of solid bedrock. 1 rim sherd Cornish Medieval Coarseware (South-western micaceous ware). Lostwithiel-type ware. 13th to 14th centuries AD.
53	TP 100	SW	98242	59401	Trerank Farm	3m x 0.6m x 2.4m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.1m of grey-brown clay loam, and 0.2m of grey-brown clay, This overlay 1.65m of orange-brown clay with some stone fragments. Below this was 0.4m of solid bedrock (elvan) that was not bottomed.
54	TP 101	SW	981199	59425	Trerank Farm	2.8m x 0.6m x 2.6m deep.	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.05m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.10m of grey-brown clay, This overlay 1.6m of orange-brown clay with stony fragments, And 0.8m of decayed natural bedrock. Solid bedrock lay at the base of the trench.
55	TP 102	SW	98169	59473	Trerank Farm	3m x 0.6m x 2m deep.	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.1m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.15m of grey-brown clay, This overlay 1.1m of orange-brown clay with stony fragments, And 0.6m of solid bedrock.
56	TP 103	SW	98131	59508	Trerank Farm	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep.	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.05m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.07m of grey-brown clay, and 1.83m of orange-brown clay. This overlay 1m of soft, red, grey-brown clay that was not bottomed. 1 sherd Creamware. 19th century.
57	TP 104	SW	98123	59558	Trerank Farm	3m x 0.6m x 2.8m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.15m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.2m of grey-brown clay, and 1.1m of yellow, grey-brown clay with some stone fragments. This overlay 1.3m of yellow, light orange-grey, brown clay with some stone fragments that was not bottomed.
58	TP 105	SW	98097	59603	Trerank Farm	3m x 0.6m x 2m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.1m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.1m of grey-brown clay, and 0.5m light grey-brown clay. This overlay 1.05m of orange, red-brown clay with stone fragments and 0.2m of decayed natural bedrock that was not bottomed. Trench ended due to water ingress.

No	GI test pit ref	OS Prefix	X REF (E)	Y REF (N)	General location	Dimensions	Description
59	TP 106	SW	98104	59644	Trerank Farm	3m x 0.6m x 2.8m deep	Ploughed field. 0.3m of mixed grey-brown clay loam and clay ploughsoil overlay 1.7m of pale orange, yellow-brown clay. This overlay 0.8m of decayed bedrock that was not bottomed. 2 flints – Prehistoric. 1 flanged rimsherd from a bowl, Lostwithiel ware. 15th to 16th centuries.
60	TP 107	SW	98095	59678	Trerank Farm.	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.1m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.1m of grey-brown clay, and 1.75m of pale yellow, orange-brown clay with stone fragments. This overlay 1m of decayed natural bedrock that was not bottomed. Trench ended due to water ingress.
61	TP 108	SW	98092	59745	Trerank Farm	-	Not excavated. Totally waterlogged area.
62	TP 109	SW	98100	59804	Trerank Farm	3m x 0.6m x 2.1m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.1m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.1m of grey-brown clay, and 1.55m of orange, grey-brown clay with stone fragments. This overlay 0.3m of pale grey clay that was not bottomed. Trench ended due to water ingress.
63	TP 130	SW	98149	60785	Barrow field at Treranke Cottages	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.1m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.1m of grey-brown clay, and 0.2m of orange-brown clay with some stone fragments. This overlay 1.55m of red, grey-brown clay with stone fragments and 1m of decayed natural bedrock.
64	TP 131	SW	98160	60853	Barrow field at Treranke Cottages	3m x 0.6m x 2.8m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.1m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.1m of grey-brown clay, and 0.2m of orange-brown clay with some stone fragments. This overlay 1.35m of red, grey-brown clay with stone fragments and 1m of decayed natural bedrock.
65	TP 132	SW	98190	60914	Barrow field at Treranke Cottages	3m x 0.6m x 3m deep	0.05m of grass roots and topsoil overlying 0.1m of grey-brown clay loam, 0.15m of grey-brown clay, and 1.7m of orange-brown clay with some stone fragments. This overlay 1m of decayed natural bedrock.

Appendix 2: Written Scheme of Investigation

A30 to St Austell Link Road (Hensbarrow Downs) Ground Investigations Watching Brief

Client: Cormac Solutions

Project background

This document sets out a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) by Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) for a programme of archaeological monitoring of ground investigation (GI) works at Hensbarrow Downs (centred at SW 9974 5824, Fig 1).

The work has been requested by Cornwall Council's Senior Development Officer Historic Environment (SDHOE) to support a future planning application for a link road between the A30 at Victoria and St Austell.

Site history

The area under investigation has previously been the subject of an archaeological assessment (Taylor 2016). This has informed the rest of this section. Gazetteer numbers referred to in the text come from this report.

Historic Landscape Character (HLC)

The HLC type for Hensbarrow Downs is Upland Rough Ground (URG). A variety of archaeological sites and landscapes, including rare features, survive well in this Type, because land-use has become increasingly extensive (as opposed to intensive) through time. Upstanding prehistoric sites are generally best-preserved in URG. They include Bronze Age ritual or ceremonial monuments and settlements. Features of the historic era include field systems and streamworking, both of which are represented in this area.

Known archaeological sites

Two Scheduled Monuments lie to the south of the proposed road corridor.

- Hen's Barrow (DCO1420)
- Round barrow west of Hensbarrow (DCO1152)

Hensbarrow was formerly rich in Bronze Age monuments in the form of barrows and cairns; many of these have been destroyed by the china clay industry (Herring and Smith 1991). Hen's Barrow itself is a rare survival, situated 600m to the southwest of the corridor at its closest point. This is a large round cairn up to 45m in diameter and 5.4m high, situated on the former summit of Hensbarrow Beacon at 312m OD, since eclipsed by the massive clay tip to the southeast which reaches nearly 400m OD.

A smaller round barrow, 22m in diameter and up to 0.5m high, survives (although re-profiled following damage caused by the construction of an access road) just over 500m to the west at the entrance to Littlejohn's china clay works (Johns and Herring 1994), whilst an additional site between Hensbarrow and the road corridor is likely to be a misinterpreted aerial photo plot of surface mineral workings.

Earthworks have been identified on Hensbarrow likely to date to the Iron Age/Romano-British periods, the majority beneath the massive clay tip at Gunheath, but including a bank(s) (R53) that appears to underlie later fields on the western edge of Hensbarrow Downs.

Evidence for the early extraction of alluvially-deposited tin is known from predominately near-surface workings in river valleys and upland mires. This activity is likely to have occurred since the beginning of the Bronze Age and continued throughout the prehistoric to post-medieval periods. Much of the later activity will have erased or covered evidence of earlier workings. Many of the workings have been identified from earthworks and cropmarks from aerial photographs and interpreted as medieval. Evidence for this can be seen in the head of the valley draining northwest of Hensbarrow Downs (R49).

A potentially old section of an extant road (R50) is shown on the OS 1st Edition 1" map of 1803-9, whilst a section of the Roche to Stenalees road is shown on the c1840 Tithe Map as a track (R55). Two minor routes or tracks (R52 and R54) are shown on the 1881 OS 1st Edition 25" map.

Several field boundaries (R51) are shown on the 1839-42 Tithe Maps but have subsequently been removed. Stones marked on the historic OS mapping may represent boundaries of much earlier date, typically relating to parish, manorial, or ownership divisions. An example (R57) can be found on the downs.

Early china clay working on the downs may be represented by an enclosure (R56) shown on the 1881 OS 1st Edition 25" map.

Potential archaeological sites

This part of Hensbarrow Downs may be rich in potential for prehistoric monuments, early streamworking, and post-medieval field systems.

Project extent

The project will be confined to the area of Hensbarrow Downs that has remained free of clay working along the proposed corridor of the link road.

Aims and objectives

The principal aim of the study is to gain a better understanding of the archaeology of the development area in order to inform a future planning application for the link road.

The objectives are to:

- Obtain an archaeological record of the site prior to development.
- Characterise the potential for buried archaeological deposits and features.
- Recover and record artefacts uncovered by the works.
- Disseminate the results of discoveries appropriately.

Working methods

All recording work will be undertaken according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) guidance (CIfA 2014a, 2014b, 2014c, 2017). Staff will follow the CIfA *Code of Conduct* (2014d). The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists is the professional body for archaeologists working in the UK.

Pre-fieldwork

In advance of the fieldwork CAU, will discuss and agree with the client:

- Working methods and programme.
- Health and Safety issues and requirements.
- Transfer of Title for artefacts.
- Obtaining an accession number from the appropriate archive repository.

Fieldwork: watching brief

The SDOHE has advised that a watching brief is recommended on the site during GI works. This work will be guided by CIfA's guidance on undertaking watching briefs (CIfA 2014b).

Archaeological recording will take the form of a watching brief to monitor the excavation of test pits dug along the proposed road corridor. Excavation by the GI team in these locations will be carried out with an archaeologist in attendance to record any features which are exposed during the ground disturbance.

The archaeologist should be allowed to inspect the test pit should any archaeological remains be revealed and/or at the interface of the base of the soil horizons and natural substrate as this is the best opportunity to note any potential archaeology. Section recording can be undertaken once the pit is fully excavated.

Each test pit will be recorded to include its location (10 figure NGR – to be obtained from the GI team), dimensions and depth of the excavation (metres), and the stratigraphic detail revealed in section.

Where archaeological remains are encountered the site archaeologist will need the opportunity to make an appropriate record before the test pit is further excavated or back filled.

If complex and/or significant archaeological deposits are encountered then the archaeological requirements will be reviewed by the client, the SDOHE, and CAU. **In the event that remains cannot be adequately recorded due to the limited nature of the intervention then work on the test pit should cease and the location moved.** A contingency should be allowed to record any significant archaeological remains uncovered during the groundworks. The significance of the remains will be agreed between the client, the SDOHE, and CAU.

- **Fieldwork: liaison with ground investigation team**

Prior to the start of fieldwork CAU will contact the GI team to agree the work schedule and to liaise about the watching brief.

The GI team will share with CAU the results of a programme of borehole recording due to take place after the test pitting. The results of these will be referred to in the WB report.

Recording

During the archaeological recording the archaeologist will:

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

- Site drawings (plans and sections) will be made by pencil (4H) on drafting film; all drawings will include standard information: site details, personnel, date, scale, north-point.
- All features and finds will be accurately located at an appropriate scale.
- All archaeological contexts will be described to a standard format linked to a continuous numbering sequence.
- Photographic recording will comprise colour photography using a digital SLR camera (with a resolution of 10 million pixels or higher). Photographs will include a record of significant features and a record shot of one section of the test pit. A metric scale, site and context identifier, and a north arrow where appropriate, will be included in all record shots.

Treatment of human remains

- If human remains are discovered within an archaeological context on the site the client, the SDOHE, and Public Health, Cornwall Council will be informed.
- Any human remains should only be excavated and removed if it is considered that they will contribute towards further scientific understanding.
- A coroner's license must be obtained from the Ministry of Justice before any remains are disturbed.
- Any consents or licenses required will be obtained on behalf of the client by CAU
- If human remains are uncovered, which require excavation, they will be will be excavated with due reverence. The site will be adequately screened from public view. Once excavated, human remains must not be exposed to public view. If human remains are not to be removed their physical security will be ensured, by backfilling as soon as possible after recording.

Treatment of finds

The fieldwork may produce artefactual material. The following recording and retention policies will be followed:

- In the event that objects containing precious metal(s) are encountered, the coroner will be informed as per the provisions of the Treasure Act 1996.
- Significant finds in stratified contexts will be plotted on a scaled base plan or with a Leica GPS unit and recorded as small finds.
- All finds will be collected in sealable plastic bags which will be labelled immediately with the site code, the context number or other identifier, the type of material, and the finder's initials. The only exception to this policy will be that large assemblages of modern (post-1800) material may be representatively sampled.
- Modern (post-1800) finds may be disposed of at the cataloguing stage. This process will be reviewed ahead of its implementation.

Treatment of samples

The fieldwork may produce environmental samples. The following collection, recording and processing policies will be followed:

- Sealed/undisturbed archaeological contexts in the form of buried soils, layers or deposits within significant archaeological features that have the potential to contain palaeoenvironmental evidence and/or material suitable for scientific dating will be sampled.
- Where bulk samples are taken a minimum of 40 litres will be sampled from these deposits where feasible.
- In the event that significant organic remains are encountered, advice may be sought from the Historic England Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science.
- All samples will be described to a standard format linked to a continuous numbering sequence.
- Bulk samples will be processed using flotation with appropriate mesh sizes.

Creation of site archive

Following review with the CAU Project Manager the results from the fieldwork will be collated as an archive.

This will involve the following:

- All finds, etc., will be washed, catalogued, and stored in a proper manner (being clearly labelled and marked and stored according to CAU guidelines).
- All records (context sheets, photographs, etc.) will be ordered, catalogued and stored in an appropriate manner (according to CAU guidelines).
- Colour digital images taken as part of the site archive will be either converted from colour to black and white negative film and added to the site archive, or deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS).
- Completion of the English Heritage/ADS OASIS online archive index.

Reporting

The results from the project will be drawn together and presented in a concise report. The scope of the report will be dependent on the scale and significance of the results from the project.

In the case of negative results the findings will be presented in a CAU short report format. In the case of limited results the findings will be presented in a concise archive report. Which type of report is most appropriate will be agreed by CAU and the SDOHE at the conclusion of the fieldwork stage.

The report will include the following elements:

- Summary
- Project background
- Aims and objectives
- Methodology
- Archaeological results
- Chronology/dating evidence
- Significance
- Discussion/Conclusions
- References
- Project archive index
- Supporting illustrations: location map, historic maps, plans, elevations/sections, photographs
- Inventory of test pits and descriptions (table)
- Inventory of borehole logs (table)

Archive deposition

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

The archiving will comprise the following:

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

CAU uses the following file formats for stored digital data:

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

Timetable

The study is anticipated to commence on Tuesday 10th October or Wednesday 11th October and last for a week. CAU will require at least 2 weeks' notice before commencement of work, in order to allocate field staff and arrange other logistics.

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

Monitoring and Signing Off Condition

Monitoring of the project will be carried out by the SDOHE. Where the SDOHE is satisfied with the archive report and the deposition of the archive, written discharge of the planning condition will be expected.

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

Monitoring points during the study will include:

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

References

- CIfA, 2014a. *Standard and guidance for archaeological field evaluation*, CIfA, Reading
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- CIfA, 2014c. *Standard and guidance for archaeological excavation*, CIfA, Reading
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- CIfA, 2017. *Standard and guidance for historic environment desk-based assessment*, CIfA, Reading
- Historic England 2015. *Guidance note on Digital Image Capture and File Storage*, Historic England, Swindon
- Taylor, S R, 2016. *A30 to St Austell Link Road, Cornwall, Archaeological Assessment*, CAU Truro

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