



# Cornwall & Scilly Historic Environment Record

Historic Environment Record, Historic Environment Service,  
Cornwall Council



Pydar House, Truro, Cornwall TR1 3AY  
Tel: 01872 224306

Site Name: Penrice Academy, Charlestown Road, Charlestown, St Austell, Cornwall PL25 3NR	
Grid ref (10-fig): SX 02930 52160 (centre, approx.)	Report No: 2019R037
Parish: St Austell	PA & Condition No: 171012-610-PA18/03007
Site Type: None	
Period:	Form:
Description: CAU carried out a watching brief for a gas pipeline at Penrice Academy, St Austell, for Peninsula Learning Trust, on April 11 <sup>th</sup> 2019. The new pipeline ran from existing services to a new school science building; the watching brief covered c100m of its course, its western corner and its southern run, alongside tennis courts (Figs 1 and 2). The watching brief was required for this part of the trench under a planning condition for the new science building, because this south west side of the school complex is open to a playing field, containing a Scheduled Monument (SM), a prehistoric standing stone known as the Longstone (Fig 3), and several Bronze Age round barrows are recorded nearby. Previous CAU watching briefs (July-August 2018, and October 2018) covered works for the building itself, and a related soakaway (). As noted in the previous watching brief reports (Parkes 2018a and 2018b), earlier geophysical survey recorded no clear archaeological features, but found high ferrous levels (Jones 2008). The school is on a ridge at c72m OD, above the coast c1km to the south east (Fig 1), and was laid out in the later 20 <sup>th</sup> century on farmland enclosed c1800. Ground conditions and visibility were good for the watching brief. As was the case for the earlier school science building works, site fencing protected the standing stone, and the SM was not directly affected by the works (Fig 3). The pipeline trench was made using a mini-digger. It ran approximately 4m from the fence along the south side of the tennis court, and was c 0.5m wide and 0.9m deep (Fig 4). Exposed stratigraphy was as follows (Figs 5 and 6): <b>(1).</b> 0m-0.15m deep from surface, <b>topsoil</b> , mid brown silty clay, few stones (disturbed or stripped along the south run of the trench). <b>(2).</b> 0.15m-0.9m deep; <b>natural clay subsoil</b> , varying in colour, mostly orangey or yellowy-brown, clay with few stones. No early or otherwise significant artefacts, features or deposits were found. The previous watching briefs found that the north part of the playing field nearer to the school complex has 'made ground', redeposited presumably to level the playing field, while the area closer to the Longstone still has archaeological potential for buried early remains. The gas pipeline watching brief indicates that the field south of the tennis courts is relatively undisturbed; however, it did not produce any evidence of buried archaeological resource or potential here. <b>References:</b> Jones, A, 2008. <i>Penrice Community College, St Austell Geophysical Survey: Statement of Archaeological Implications</i> CAU Report No. 2008R078 Parkes, C, 2018a. Cornwall & Scilly Historic Environment Record format, CAU report ref. no. 2018R061 Parkes, C, 2018b. Cornwall & Scilly Historic Environment Record format, CAU report ref. no.2018R074	
The CAU project number is PR146890. The project's documentary, digital, photographic and drawn archive is maintained by Cornwall Archaeological Unit, Cornwall Council, Fal Building, County Hall, Treyew Road, Truro, TR1 3AY. This archive contains: 1. Projects file with site records and notes, correspondence and administration. 2. Digital report and photographs stored in the directory: \Sites P\Penrice Academy gas pipeline WB 146890.	
Land Use (Area): School grounds	Land Use (Site): Margin of school playing field
OASIS No. cornwall2-352779	Date of Site Visit: April 11th 2019
Cathy Parkes, Cornwall Archaeological Unit, Cornwall Council, Fal Building, County Hall, Treyew Road, Truro. TR1 3AY.	

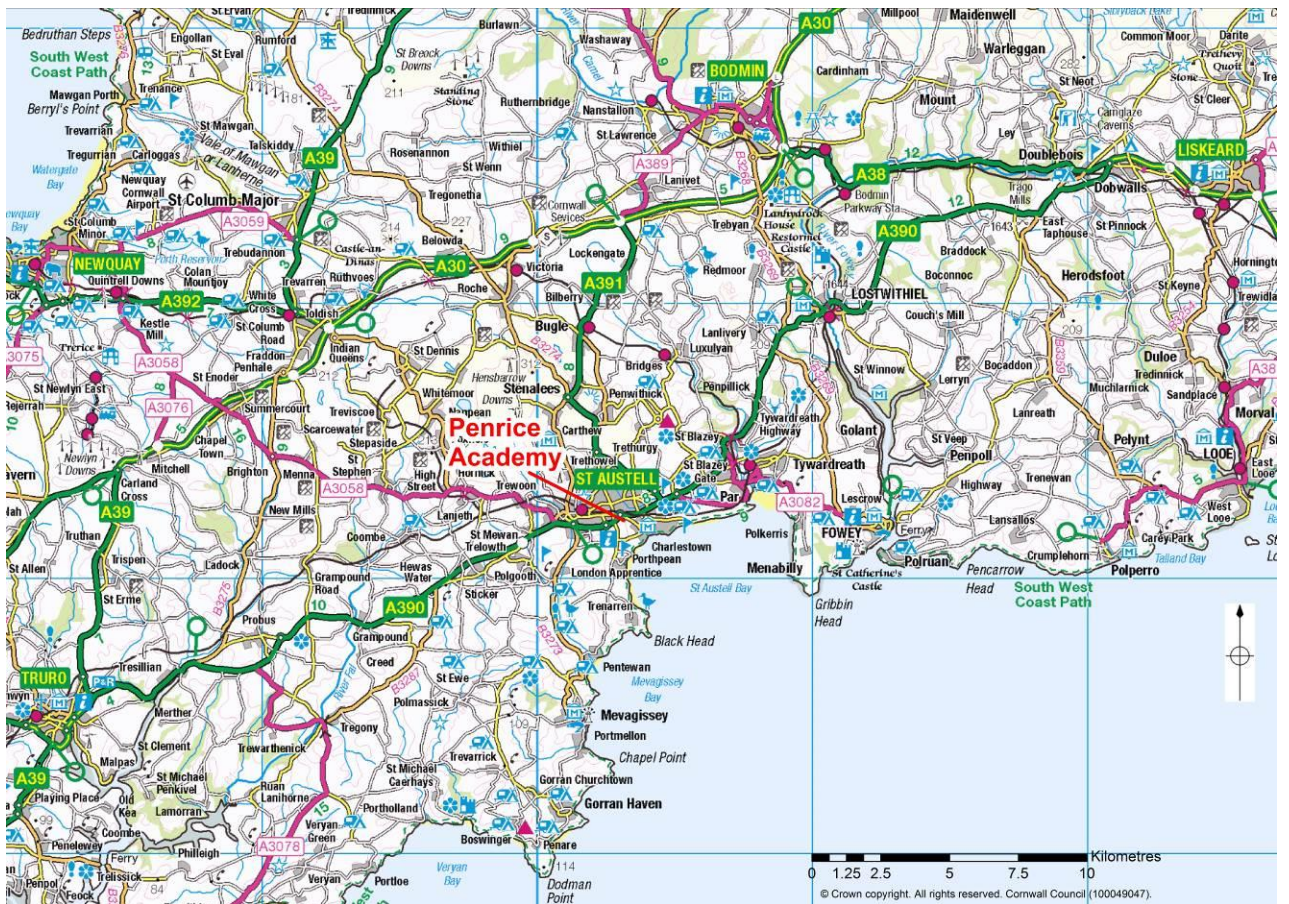


Fig 1 Location map with Penrice Academy marked in red.

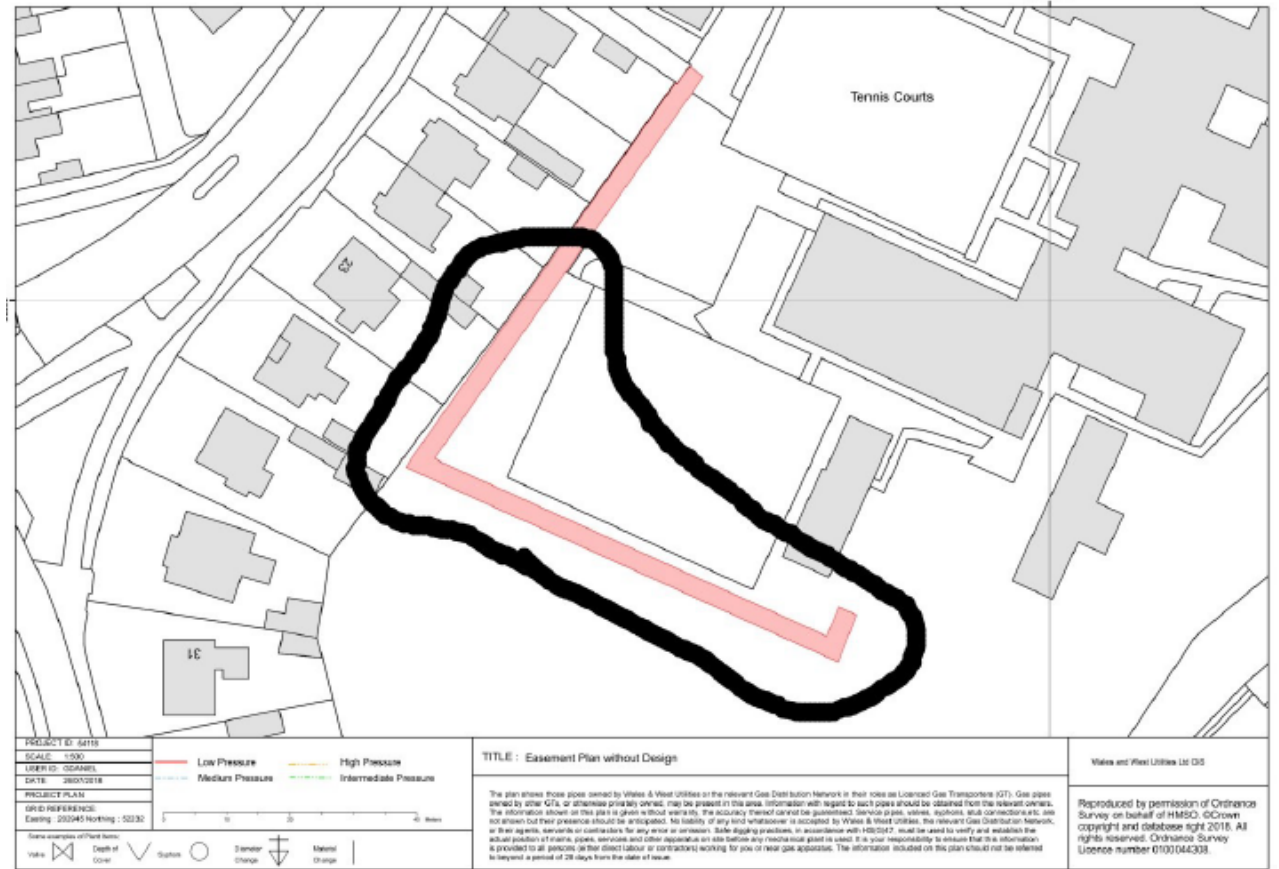


Fig 2 Plan of Penrice Academy grounds showing pipeline outside tennis courts marked in red, with the part included in the watching brief outlined in black.





*Fig 3 Area at start of watching brief, looking south from near the new buildings served by the pipeline, showing the Longstone to the left, and temporary fence beside the tennis courts, far right, on the course of the pipeline.*



*Fig 4 West corner of pipeline trench, looking NNE, with 1m scale.*





*Fig 5 Southern part of pipeline trench, looking north west, showing typical section with 1m scale.*



*Fig 6 Southern part of pipeline trench, looking north east, showing detail of typical section with 1m scale.*