Maiden Green Link Road, Truro, Cornwall
Archaeological Mitigation

Cornwall Archaeological Unit

Report No: 2025R002

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Archaeological Mitigation

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

The Project Manager was Dr Fiona Fleming. The project officer was Carolyn Royall. The excavation team included Jay Gossip, James Graham, Phoebe Holmes, Oscar Lawson Jones, Paul Redish, John Richardson, Jack Smith, Ryan Smith and Megan Val Baker.

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.

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Abbreviations

AEL	Anciently Enclosed Land
CAU	Cornwall Archaeological Unit
HLC	Historic Landscape Character
OS	Ordnance Survey
SDOHE	Senior Development Officer (Historic Environment)
SMS	Strip, Map and Sample
WB	Archaeological monitoring and recording (Watching Brief).

1 Summary

Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) undertook a programme of Strip, Map and Sample excavation and archaeological monitoring on the Maiden Green Link Road, Truro, between July and September 2024. This work was carried out to satisfy Condition 39 (Application B) of the outline consent PA20/09631 in relation to the reserved matters application PA23/07445 granted by Cornwall Council.

Significant features identified by the works included multi-phased ditched enclosures of broadly medieval date, several pits also of probable medieval date, possibly agricultural or small-scale industrial in nature, some of this number potentially associated with early mineral prospection, also several shallower pits of uncertain date and function, possibly natural hollows. In addition, ditches associated with post-medieval field boundaries and drainage ditches, and larger pits almost certainly prospective in nature, possibly associated with some form of water processing area or a nearby kiln or smelter. Also, an intriguing and extensive scatter of amethyst and quartz crystal ranging in size from large blocks to small points and fragments, potentially of pre-medieval origin. A pit dug into the crystal deposit contained material radiocarbon dated to the early 2nd century AD, although this is potentially intrusive and can't be taken as firm dating for the pit infilling. Crystal deposits are known to be associated with later prehistoric sites, however, and the highly visual character of this scatter, and its location near to a springhead, might led to it having been a focus for later prehistoric communities, which if proven would be of high local, regional and national significance.

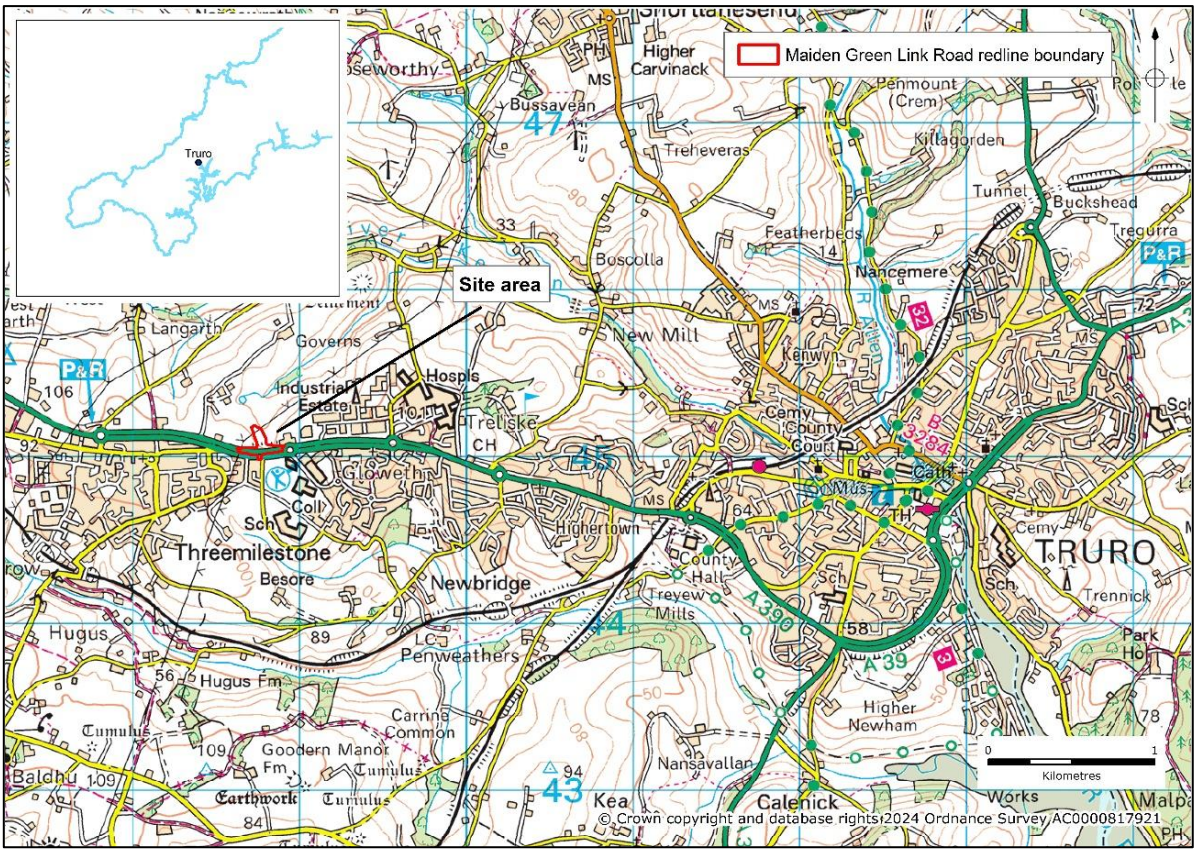

Fig 1 Location map.

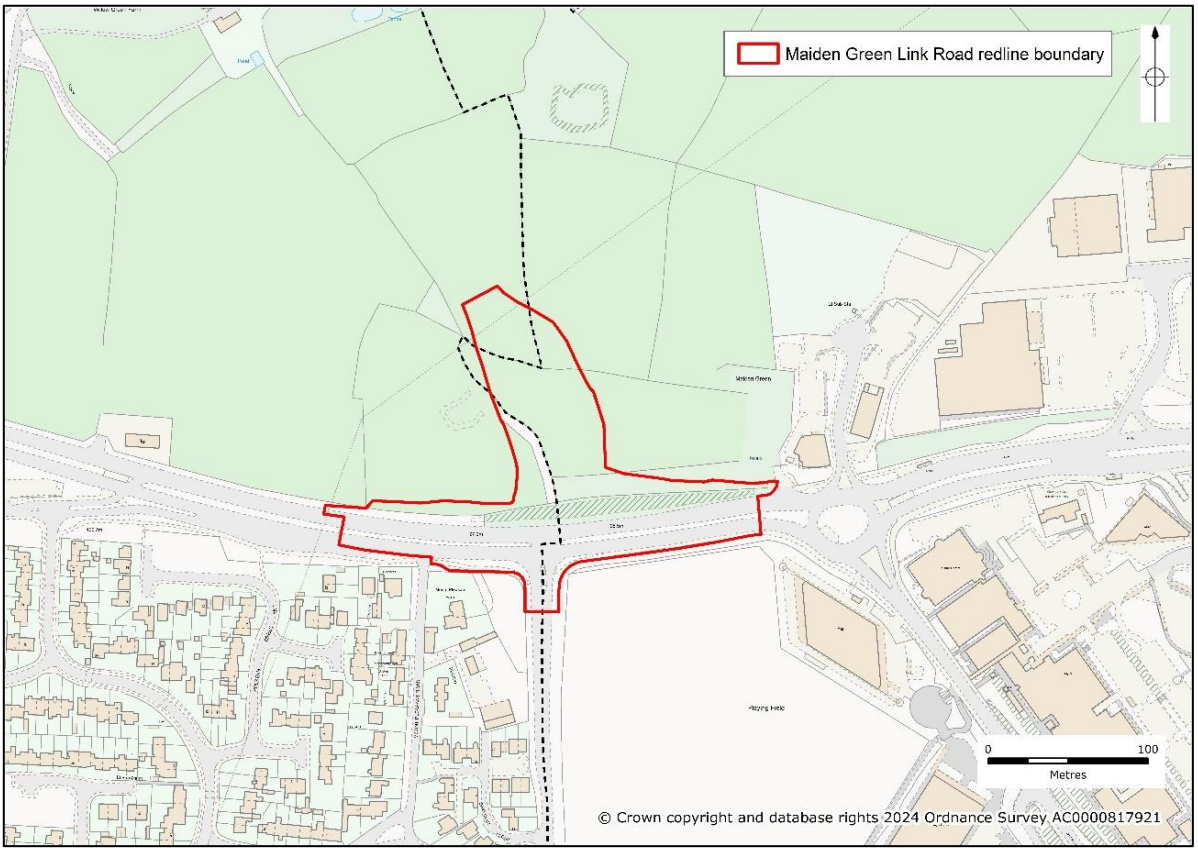

Fig 2 Site extent.

2 Introduction

2.1 Project background

Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) was commissioned by Cormac Solutions Ltd to undertake a programme of Strip Map and Sample (SMS) excavation and archaeological monitoring and recording along the route of the Maiden Green Link Road, Truro. This will be a section of link road between the Truro Northern Access Road (currently under construction) and the A390, centred at SW 78770 45070. This work was carried out to satisfy Condition 39 (Application B) of the outline consent PA20/09631 in relation to the reserved matters application PA23/07445 granted by Cornwall Council. The archaeological mitigation for the scheme was agreed with the Senior Development Officer (Historic Environment) – SDOHE, on the basis of desk-based assessment and geophysical survey.

This report presents a preliminary quantification and assessment of the archaeological mitigation results as an Archive Level Report. The archaeological features identified by the mitigation are presented as a series of feature groups, with detailed information on associated samples and finds, which have been used in the post excavation assessment. Further details of the background, site history and the aims and methods of the project can be found in the Project Design (Fleming 2024), reproduced here in Appendix 1.

2.2 Location and setting

The site is located on the west side of Truro, Cornwall, in Kenwyn parish, centred on NGR SW 78770 45070 (Figs 1 and 2). It lies to the west of the Treliske Industrial Estate immediately to the west of the former settlement of Maiden Green and towards the high point of a north facing hillslope above a small (now dry at surface) stream valley feeding into the River Kenwyn, potentially close to the springhead which might lie under the modern road corridor.

The underlying geology of the site is Devonian Period mud and sandstones of the Porthtowan Formation, with superficial alluvial deposits along some watercourses (Geology of Britain Viewer 2025). Soils of this area comprise well-drained loamy brown earths of the Denbigh 2 Association (Cranfield University 2025; SSEW 1983).

The Historic Landscape Character (HLC) of the site is that of Recently Enclosed Land (Farmland; post-medieval). This is land enclosed in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, usually from land that was previously Upland Rough Ground and often medieval commons (Cornwall County Council 1996; Herring 1998). The northern end of the site just falls within Anciently Enclosed Land (Farmland; Medieval). This is ancient agricultural heartland which has been settled and farmed since prehistory but whose field and settlement patterns were formalised during the medieval period, although often preserving older boundary lines. Farming settlements are typically documented before the 17th century AD (source, Institute of Cornish Studies place-names index) and field patterns are morphologically distinct from the generally straight-sided fields of later enclosure (Cornwall County Council 1996; Herring 1998). Land designated as Anciently Enclosed Land (AEL) typically has high archaeological potential.

3 Aims and objectives

3.1 Overall Scheme Aim

The principal aim of the archaeological work was to gain a better understanding of the archaeology of the development area.

The objectives were:

- Obtain an archaeological record of the site prior to development.
- To prepare an appropriate archaeological archive including the treatment and preservation of any artefacts.

Key objectives were to:

- Identify the nature and significance of the geophysical anomaly on the south side of the site and to ensure the preservation of any archaeological remains by record.

The results of the fieldwork were anticipated to feed into research objectives set out in the current South West Archaeological Research Framework Research Strategy (Grove and Croft 2012; Webster 2007) including:

21 – Improve our understanding of the environmental aspects of farming.

21a: Development of field systems and intensification of agriculture in the Bronze and Iron Ages.

21b: Medieval and Post-Medieval agriculture.

3.2 Broad Research Questions:

Two broad research question have been identified from the results of the archaeological mitigation, which will be more fully addressed within the post excavation assessment project design:

1. What is the evidence for medieval land division, settlement and industrial activity within the scheme and how does this contribute to the understanding of rural settlement and economy during this period?
2. What is the date and significance of the crystal scatter, are there any national parallels?

4 Archaeological results

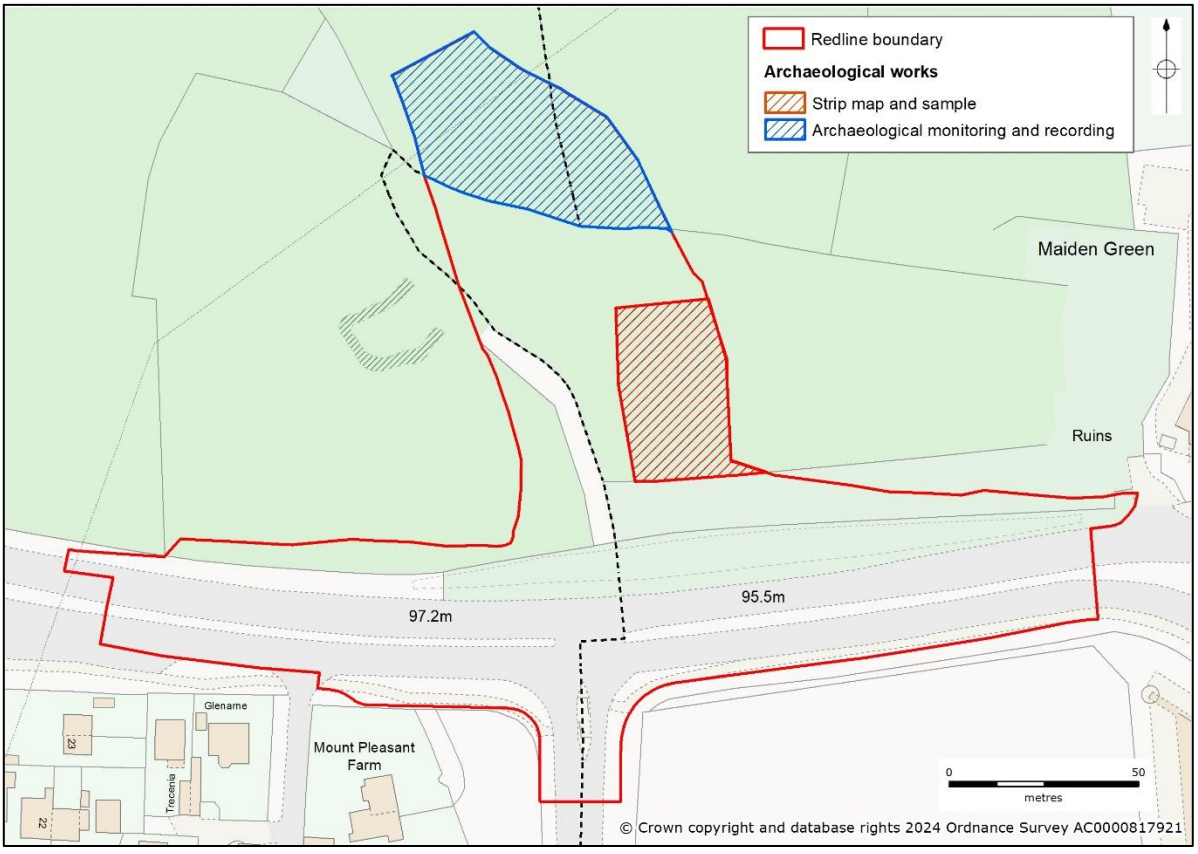

Fig 3 Plan showing the areas of the site where Strip, Map and Sample (SMS) excavations and archaeological monitoring and recording (WB) was undertaken.

The results from the archaeological mitigation are presented here for both the Strip, Map and Sample (SMS) and archaeological monitoring, or watching brief (WB) areas of works. The initial identification for two areas of archaeological monitoring and one SMS area was modified during the programme of works in discussion with the client and the SDOHE, on the basis of the results from the initial SMS area. Consequently, one of the WB areas was removed and the SMS area was extended (see Fig 3).

A continuous sequence of context numbers was allocated to each area. Cuts are given in square brackets, for instance [1], deposits in round brackets, (2), and structures without brackets, 3.

4.1 Strip, Map and Sample Area (SMS)

The SMS area was a sub rectangular piece of land to the north of the A390 and west of Maiden Green and Treliske Industrial Estate, centred on NGR SW 78786 45091 (Fig 3). The area was initially smaller, having been determined on the basis of several anomalies identified by geophysical survey (GSB Prospection 2011). These included a potential enclosure, linear features and other uncertain responses considered to be potentially of archaeological origin. As a consequence of the results the SMS area was subsequently extended to the north by approximately 20m to the extent shown in Figure 3.

Context numbers were issued from a continuous sequence 1001-1218. The archaeological features are presented as a series of two groups, based on their morphology (for example, pits, ditches) and the features' likely dating or function.

4.1.1 Sediment deposit sequence

The site lay within a small valley, the land rising to both the east and west and dropping gently to the north towards the valley of the River Kenwyn. Where exposed, the substratum bedrock consisted of pinkish highly fragmented shillet stone (1061). This was only encountered on the western edge of the site where the stripped area had cut into the east facing valley slope (Fig 4).

Underlying the rest of the site was a light orange yellow compact silty clay (1046). This layer was largely stone-free with a high content of fine silt and was considered likely to be a periglacial wind-blown loess deposit dating to the Pleistocene epoch. This deposit was overlain by (1003), a darker reddish orange compact silty clay with occasional stone inclusions. Deposit (1003) was considered likely to be a colluvial sediment, washed into the shallow valley during the Holocene epoch.

In the central portion of the site, (1046) and (1003) were overlain by a darker mottled greyish brown deposit (1047) which was also considered likely to be a Holocene hill-wash sediment. Large quantities of quartz crystal and amethyst were embedded in (1047) and in the central parts of (1003) and (1046).

Deposit (1095) was a highly compacted light pink stony material likely to be redeposited shillet (1061); this deposit was found at the western end of the site to the north of a modern farm track which crossed the SMS area. It is considered to be a layer of hardcore associated with 20th century activity and is similar to (1065), a highly compacted levelling layer running along the length of the track.

The modern soil profile overlying these earlier sediments consisted of a subsoil/buried topsoil (1002) which consisted of a mid-yellowish brown silty clay 0.3m thick with occasional stones and charcoal inclusions; this lay below a mid to dark greyish brown friable silty clay topsoil (1001) which contained large lenses of charcoal and was up to 0.4m thick. This topsoil sequence was deepest towards the valley bottom at the northern end of the site; to the south, the modern topsoil sequence had been disturbed during the 20th century construction of the modern A390 between the Threemilestone and Truro College roundabouts.

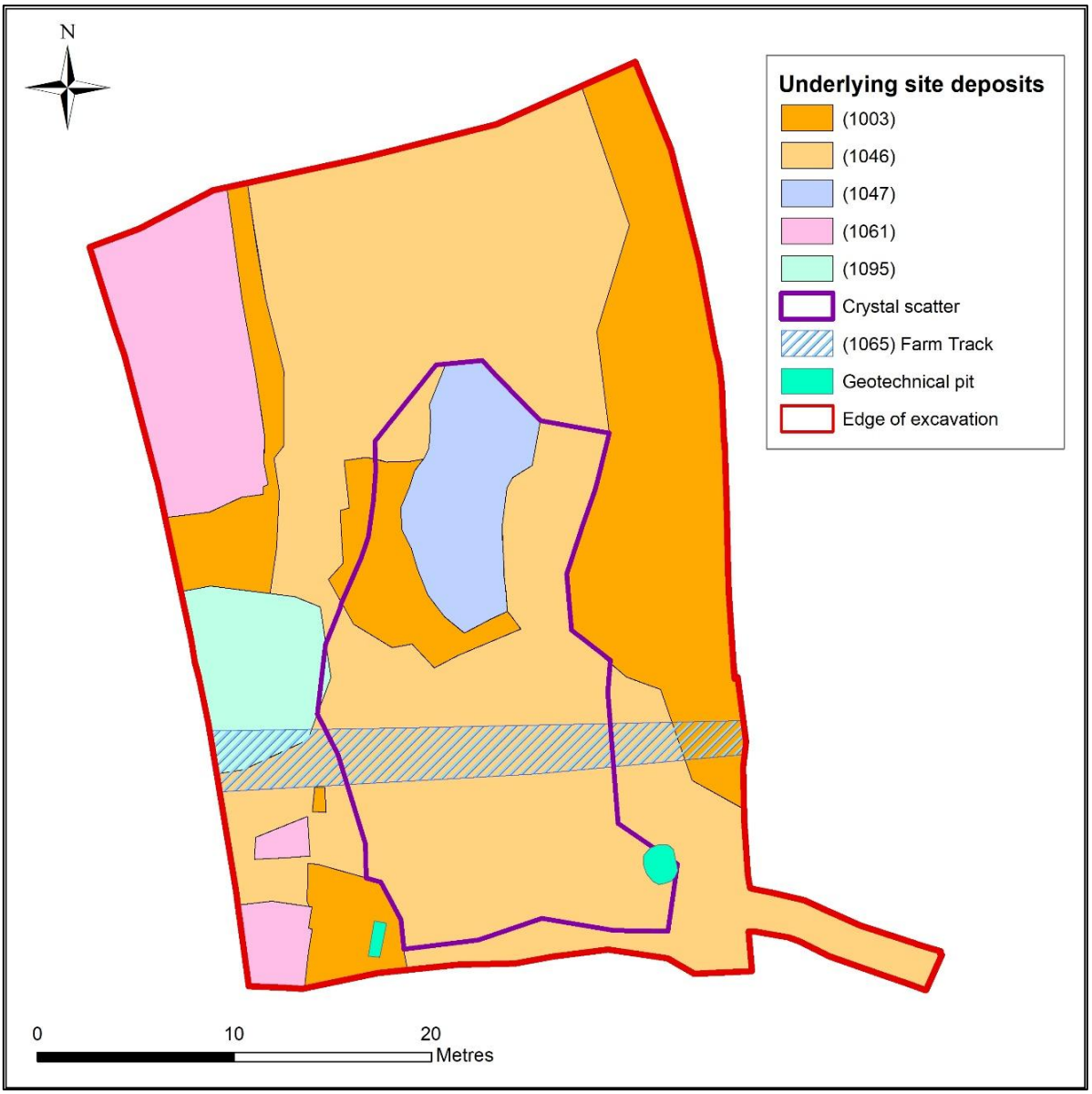

Fig 4 Underlying deposits within the SMS area.

4.1.2 The Pits

4.1.2.1 Pit group P1

This is a group of six pits: [1088], [1099], [1135], [1182], [1185] and [1204], all cutting (1046) (Fig 8).

Pits [1088] and [1099] were both situated immediately to the south of the modern farm track (1065). Pit [1088] had a U-shaped profile with straight near-vertical sides and a flat base, it was 2.3m long, 1.56m wide and 0.75m deep. There was a distinctive layer of mottled yellowish brown silty clay (1087) found around the edges of the pit which contained frequent small gravelly stones. It is unlikely that this was a primary erosional fill as it was found from top to bottom and not as a tip-line at the base of the pit, it may therefore have been a deliberate lining material or simply a degraded interface between the natural deposits through which the pit cut, and its fills. The lower part of the pit was packed with large quartz blocks surrounded by (1086), a dark greyish black plastic silty clay 0.2m thick. Above this was the main pit fill comprising mid-greyish brown compact and largely stone-free clay (1007) (Fig 5).

Pit [1099] was a large oval pit located 1.3m to the west of [1088]. This had a U-shaped/stepped profile with stepped sides and concave base, it was 2.5m long, 1.8m wide and 1.2m deep. Like its neighbour, pit [1099] had a distinctive layer of yellowish brown gritty silty clay (1098) around its edges which may have been a deliberate lining material or a degraded interface between the natural and the pits fills. The lower part of the pit was similarly packed with large quartz blocks surrounded by (1097), a dark greyish brown compact silty clay 0.57m thick containing occasional charcoal flecks. Above this was the main pit fill comprising mid-greyish brown compact silty clay (1008) containing occasional large quartz blocks, charcoal and fragments of ceramic burnt material; crystal fragments were found throughout.

Fig 5 Pit [1088] looking northwest.

Pit [1135] was located immediately to the north of the modern farm track towards the western side of the site, it had a U-shaped profile with straight near-vertical sides and was 3m long, 1.8m wide and 2.1m deep (Figs 6 and 7). Only the upper portion of the pit was hand dug and fully recorded due to safety restrictions; the lower portion being machine excavated to establish overall depth. Five fills were recorded, the lowest being a greyish, yellowish brown compact clay/silty clay (1154) 0.6m thick containing large sub-angular quartz rocks and iron-rich shillet. Above this was a stone-free dark greyish brown friable silty clay (1153) up to 0.3m thick. A thin layer of gravelly silt (1155) separated (1153) from the penultimate layer, (1143), which was a compact greyish brown silty clay containing quartz block and some charcoal traces. The topmost fill of the pit was a fine waterlogged deposit of greyish brown compact silty clay (1030) up to 0.7m deep. Several pottery sherds of south-western micaceous ware dating to the 13th to 16th centuries AD were recovered from within this fill, which had been cut by a later post-medieval ditch [1136] (see Ditch Group 3).

Pits [1182] and [1185] were situated in close proximity to each other towards the northeastern corner of the SMS area. The larger of the two was [1185], being 3m long and 2m wide. Only the upper portion of the pit was hand dug and fully recorded due to

safety restrictions; the lower portion being machine excavated to establish an overall depth of 2m. The main (upper) fill of this pit was a dark greyish brown plastic clay (1180) 0.82m thick which contained common quartz stones. Within this layer were two lenses of a light yellowish silty clay (1183) and on the southern edge of the pit was a probable slump layer of reddish yellow silty clay (1184).

Pit [1182] was remarkably similar to [1088], having a U-shaped profile with straight near-vertical sides and a flat base. It was 2.3m long, 1.37m wide and 0.72m deep and contained two fills, the lower of which was a 0.2m thick mottled brownish yellow silty clay (1181) and the upper being a 0.52m thick dark greyish brown plastic clay (1179). Both fills contained common quartz rocks.

The final pit in this group was [1204]. Only the western edge of this pit remained intact, the rest having been cut by ditch [1126] in Slot 34. Only one fill was attributed to pit [1204], a dark reddish brown silty clay (1205).

Interpretation

Little of pit [1204] remained, making it difficult to fully understand the extent and function of the original cut. What was observed of both the cut and fill, however, was consistent with it being of similar morphology of the other pits in this group.

The function of the other five pits is currently uncertain, although all had similar upper fills of mid to dark silty clay. It is considered likely that all six were of similar date and function, although pits [1135] and [1185] were much deeper than the others. Pit [1135] had been cut by a post-medieval ditch [1136] (see Fig 6) and pottery from its upper levels were dated from the 13th to 16th centuries AD exclusively, indicating a likely medieval date for the original cutting of the pit. It is possible that they represent prospecting pits, excavated to identify metalliferous lodes or small-scale industrial activity. The features are not dissimilar to a group of pits recorded at Highgate Roundabout, Indian Queens, for example, which were shown through radiocarbon-dating to be prospecting pits of post-medieval origin (Jones 1994; A Jones 2025, pers comm).

Several samples, including bulk samples for waterlogged plant remains and charred plant remains, as well as monoliths, were taken from this set of features, which will allow for further investigation during the post-excavation assessment phase.

Table 1 Group P1 Summary.

Group	Feature	Fill	Finds	Samples	Plan	Section	Photo ID	PX assess. potential (Y/N)
P1	[1088]	(1007), (1086), (1087)		15, 20, 24	29	28	D45 9135, 9143-7, 9190	Y
	[1099]	(1008), (1097), (1098)	Crystals	18, 21, 23	33	32	D45 9185-6	Y
	[1135]	(1030), (1143), (1153), (1154), (1155)	Pottery and metal fragments	25, 27, 31, 32, 33	68	67	D45 9209, 9241, 9281-4, & Ryans camera	Y
	[1182]	(1179), (1181)	Crystals	44, 55	87	86	D45 9430-3	Y
	[1185]	(1180), (1183), (1185)	Crystals		85	84	D 45 9434-5	N
	[1204]	(1205)			108	107	D45 9414-5, 9438-40	N

Fig 6 Pit [1135] partially excavated looking south.

Fig 7 Pit [1135] fully (machine) excavated looking south.

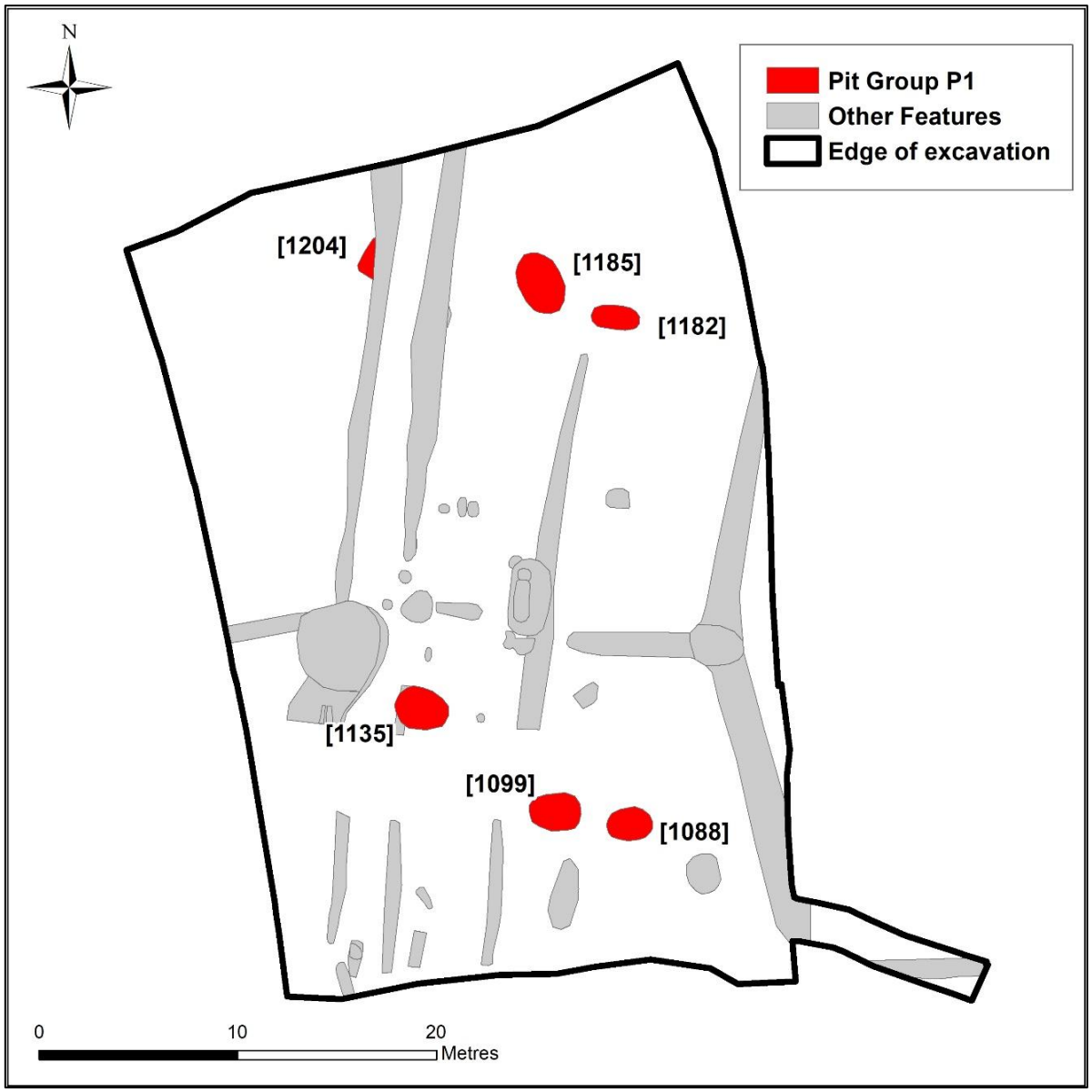

Fig 8 Pit group P1.

4.1.2.2 Pit group P2

This group comprised three pits, each of very different nature but cutting earlier features and on initial observation likely to be of post-medieval date (Fig 11).

Pit [1081] was a large shallow sub-circular feature 4.5m by 4.4m across and up to 0.42m deep; it had a flat base and sloped down gently northwards reflecting the general valley slope. The pit contained two fills, the main fill (1080) being a loose mid greyish brown silty clay containing many stones with cavities between them. Quantities of brick and glass as well as sherds of south-western micaceous ware and North Devon ware of 15th to 19th century date were recovered from this layer which was interpreted as a 19th century levelling layer. Towards the outer edges of the pit was a second, more compacted layer containing common small quartz and shillet fragments (1079); pottery dating from the 13th to 19th centuries was recovered from this deposit, alongside pieces of slag, possibly copper slag, and fragments of tile, possibly part of a kiln lining (see Appendix 2). The pit cut several earlier features, including ditch [1127] of Ditch Group 1, ditch [1213] of Ditch Group 2, and ditches [1126], [1171], [1172] and [1175] of Ditch Group

3 (see Fig 11). Several sherds of pottery recovered from fill (1079) conjoined with pottery recovered from fill (1006), the upper fill of ditch [1213] (see Appendix 2), suggesting these two fills were the same or broadly contemporary with each other.

Pit [1092] was a shallow subcircular pit 0.8m across situated in the southwest corner of the site. It was concave in profile with a flat base and filled with a mid-brown friable silty clay (1091). The fill of this pit was packed with abundant pottery fragments of 13th to 19th century date, including south-western micaceous ware, salt-glazed stoneware, Staffordshire-type slipware and North Devon ware. The pit appeared to cut a larger feature [1090] and its fill (1089), both possibly associated with levelling prior to the construction of a post-medieval wall 1062 which ran along the southern edge of the site.

Pit [1102] was located at the junction of, and cutting the upper fills of, three earlier ditches [1054], [1093] and [1118] (see Ditch Group D1). It was investigated with a series of slots which together formed Slot 12. Pit [1102] was oval in shape with a flat base, 2.5m by 2m across and up to 0.4m deep. The upper fill (1106) of the pit contained a high concentration of large quartz blocks within a mid-brown friable silty clay matrix. Below this was a lower fill (1103) which was a mid-reddish brown silty clay containing fewer stones and possibly an erosional interface between the pit cut and the natural hill wash (1003) in this part of the site. A fragment of late medieval pottery and a clay pipe bowl of 18th century date were recovered from this pit.

Interpretation

All three pits in Pit Group 2 are considered likely to be of post-medieval date and representing a later phase of activity on site. Their exact function is uncertain. The large quantities of artefacts found within [1092] is suggestive of it being a rubbish pit. The large quantities of large quartz blocks within fill (1106) of pit [1102] could potentially be packing or levelling material to perhaps stabilise the ground around a possible entrance way located at the intersection of the earlier deep ditches [1054], [1093] and [1118] (see Ditch Group D1). The large curvilinear cut [1081] is more enigmatic. It is a large shallow feature cutting earlier medieval features and was filled with two post-medieval levelling layers, but its initial purpose is currently uncertain; it could perhaps have some small-scale industrial function, possibly related to water management or some form or processing activity requiring water collection. The presence of small quantities or possible kiln material and slag might indicate it was associated with a small kiln or smelter in the near vicinity.

Table 2 Group P2 Summary.

Group	Feature	Fill	Finds	Samples	Plan	Section	Photo ID	PX assess. potential (Y/N)
P2	[1081]	(1079), (1080)	Pottery, brick, glass, slag, tile, stone, metalwork	61	22, 56, 57	21, 54, 55	D45 9133-4, 9248-51	N
	[1091]	(1092)	Pottery, brick		25, 31	23, 30	D45 9129, 9181, 9184	N
	[1102]	(1103), (1106)	Pottery, clay pipe		39, 62	36, 37, 38	D45 9192-3	N

Fig 9 Pit [1081] slots 10 and 19 looking southwest.

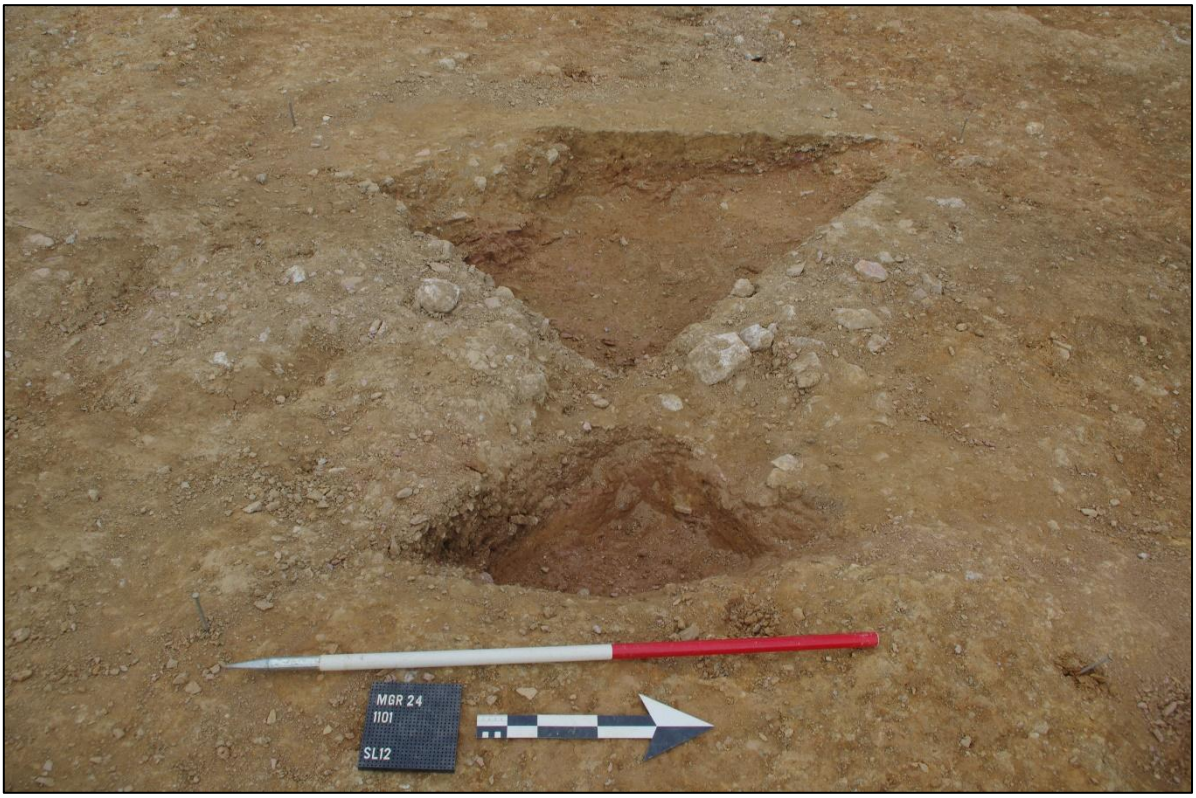

Fig 10 Pit [1102] slot 12, two quarters sectioned looking west.

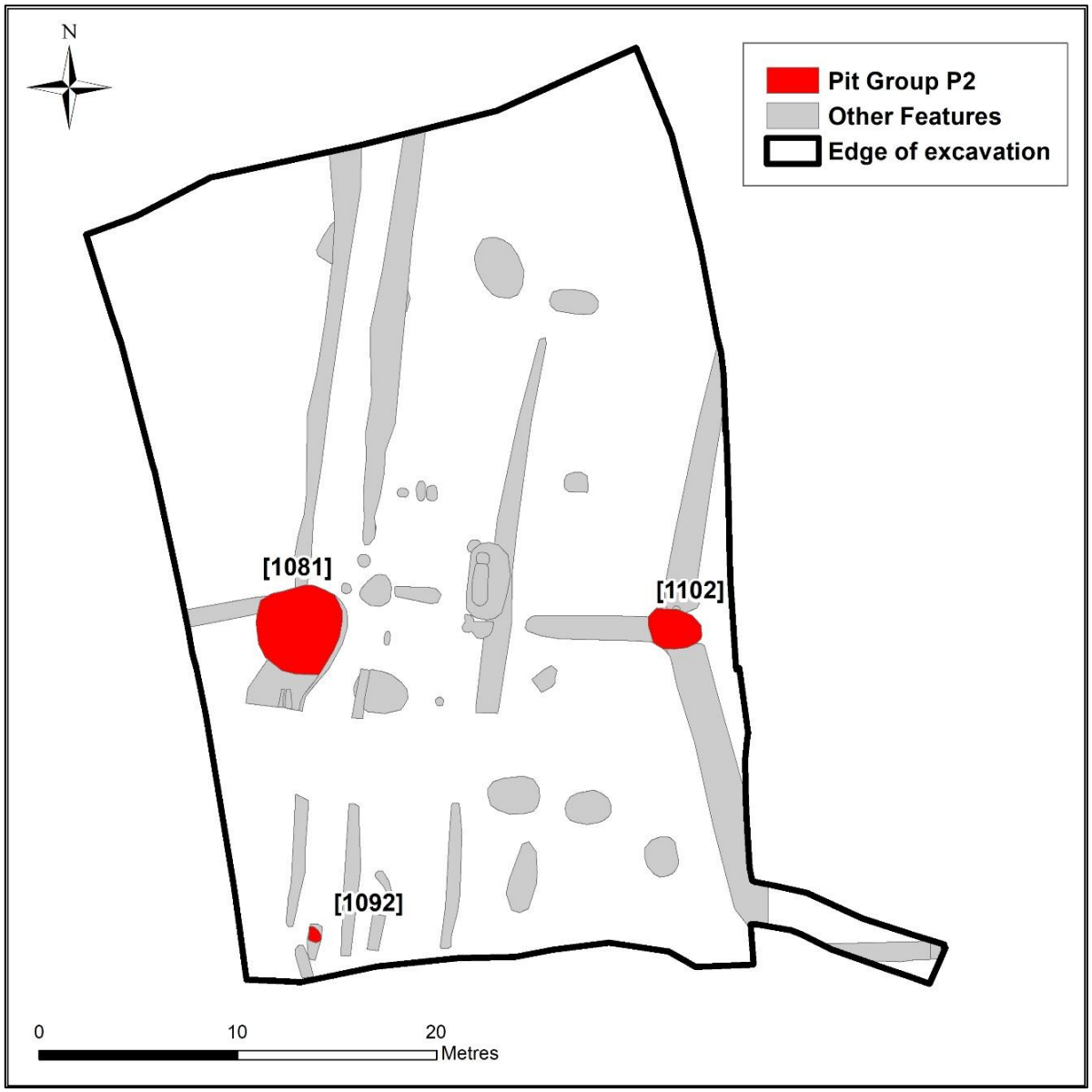

Fig 11 Pit group P2.

4.1.2.3 Pit group P3

This was a scatter of six small pits located between [1081] of Pit Group 2 to the west, and [1210] of Pit Group 4 to the east; they all had shallow concave profiles, were oval or subcircular in shape, and were no larger than 0.73m in their greatest dimension (Fig 14).

Pit [1073] lay immediately to the northwest of Pit Group 4, cutting the crystal-rich deposit (1047) and the outer edge of [1210]. It was oval in shape, 0.72m by 0.5m across, and 0.18m deep with a primary fill of 0.11m thick light yellowish brown compact silty clay (1074). The upper fill of this pit was a dark grey and stone-free compact silty clay (1020), containing crystals but no dateable artefacts.

Pit [1114] cut (1003); it was also oval in shape, 0.73m by 0.38m across and 0.1m deep with a single fill of mid-grey compact silty clay (1028) containing occasional stone and charcoal fragments.

Whilst largely stone free, a number of slate and quartz pieces were located towards the top of subcircular pit [1141], which was 0.58m across and 0.12m deep. Its upper fill was

a mid-grey friable silty clay (1140) and its basal fill a light orange friable silty clay (1142) which was considered to be a primary fill composed of eroded (1003) through which the pit cut.

Pit [1146] was situated immediately to the northeast of [1081] (Pit Group P2); it was oval in shape, 0.5m by 0.3m across and 0.17m deep and cut through deposits (1003) and (1046) (Fig 12). The pit contained a single fill of light orange-grey compact silty clay (1033) containing occasional quartz and shillet fragments and crystals.

Pit [1196] was subcircular in shape, 0.39m across and 0.13m deep (Fig 13). It cut through (1046) and had a single fill of dark reddish brown compact silty clay (1029) which contained frequent stone fragments and crystals.

The final pit in this group was [1212], which cut the crystal-rich deposit (1047); it was oval in shape, 0.5m by 0.42m across, and 0.12m deep. This pit had two fills; a primary, probably erosional, fill of light mottled yellowish brown friable silty clay (1170) with occasional small stone content. Above this was the main fill of the pit, which was a light grey friable stone-free silty clay (1023). Eight quartz crystals were recovered from this pit.

Interpretation

The regular shape of the cuts of these pits indicates that they were anthropogenic rather than natural features. Other than quartz and amethyst crystals, none contained anything dateable by way of pottery from within their fills. Pit [1073] most likely post-dates the large pit [1210] of Pit Group 4.

Table 3 Group P3 Summary

Group	Feature	Fill	Finds	Samples	Plan	Section	Photo ID	PX assess. potential (Y/N)
P3	[1073]	(1020), (1074)	Crystals	8	15	8, 14	D45 9095, 9106-7	Y
	[1114]	(1028)			41	40	D45 9207-8	N
	[1141]	(1140), (1142)			61	60	D45 9259, 9263-4, 9272	N
	[1146]	(1033)	Crystals		64	63	D45 9262, 9275-6	N
	[1196]	(1029)	Crystals		109	103	D45 9421-3, 9436-7	N
	[1212]	(1023), (1170)	Crystals	42	77	75	D45 9306, 9313-4, 9306	Y

Fig 12. Pit [1146] half sectioned looking south.

Fig 13 Pit [1196] half sectioned looking west.

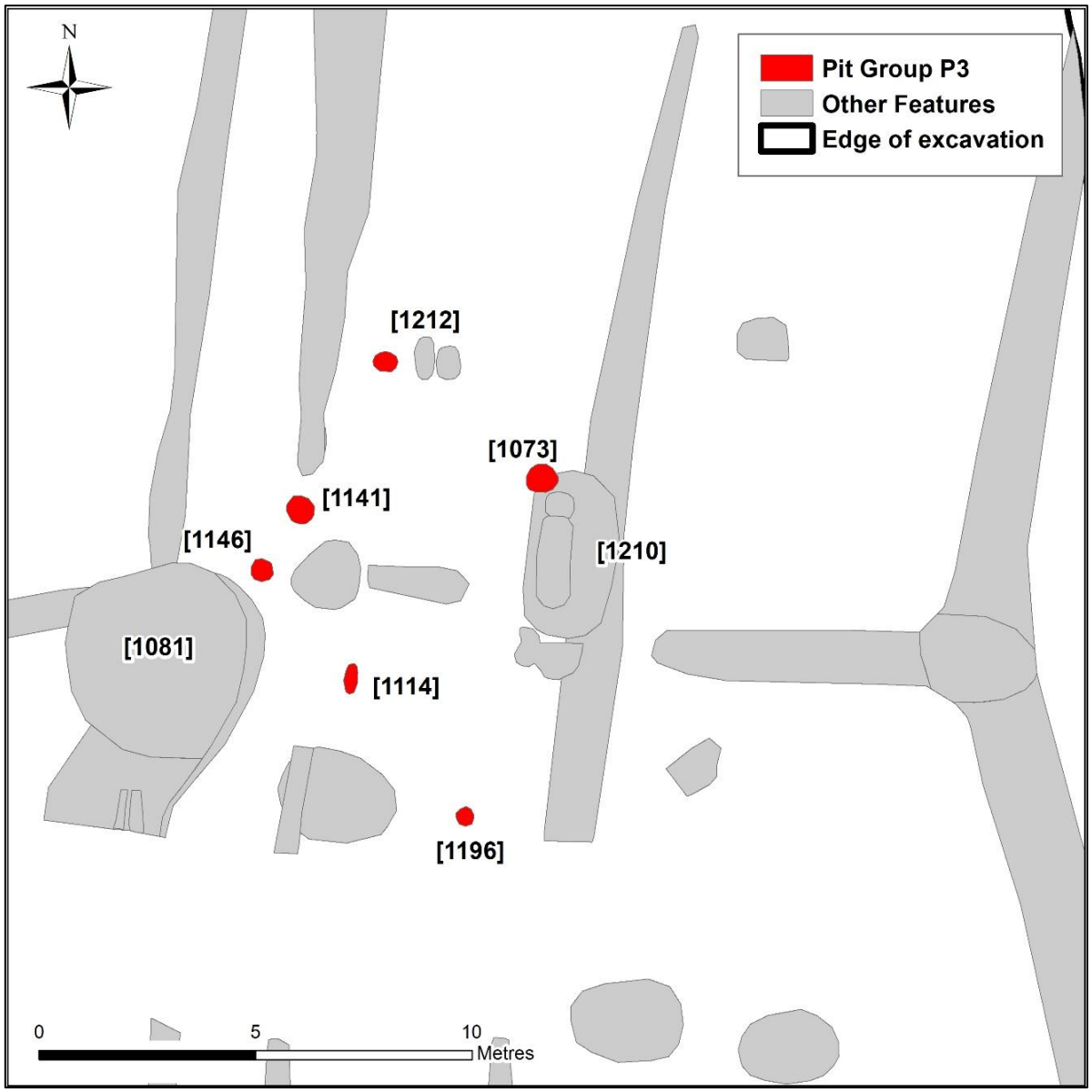

Fig 14 Pit group P3.

4.1.2.4 Pit group P4

This was an enigmatic group of pits towards the centre of the site on the eastern edge of the crystal-rich layer (1047) (Fig 20). The latest phase of this group comprised pits [1085] and [1109], both cutting an earlier feature [1210].

Feature [1210] was a large pit-like feature which was cut through the Holocene hill-wash layer (1003) and into the Pleistocene deposit (1046); it was sub-rectangular in shape 3.8m long, 2m wide and 0.85m deep with a U-shaped profile (Fig 18). Its western edge was straight and vertically sided whilst its eastern side was stepped, as was its base. The pit contained three distinct fills the lower of these being a 0.13m thick mid-grey friable silty clay (1209); above this was a 0.12m thick deposit of dark yellowish brown mottled silty clay (1208). The upper fill of the feature was a 0.6m thick dark mottled brown silty clay (1206). Stone was common throughout all three fills. Embedded in the upper levels of (1206) towards the northern end of the pit was a large rectilinear block of quartz containing a distinct vein of amethyst crystal. This block was too large to lift and recover but coincided with the base of pit [1085] (see following paragraph).

Pit [1085] was cut into the upper levels of feature [1210] and cut deposit (1047); it was sub-rectangular in shape, 1.65m long, 0.5m wide, with a sloping base which varied in depth from 0.25m at its northern end to 0.55m at the south (Figs 15-17). A large flat stone formed the base of the pit towards its northern end which was embedded in (1206), the upper fill of [1210] (see above). Pit [1085] contained three separate fills; at the southern end was a basal fill which was a compact gritty layer of mid greyish yellow silty clay (1096) containing several large quartz blocks which were wedged into the bottom of the pit. Above this was a mid-dark yellowish grey compact silty clay (1084) with common small stone content, which was found right across the length of the pit. The upper fill of the pit was a distinctive 0.2 m thick and relatively stone free dark blackish grey compact silty clay (1009) (Fig 15). All three fills of this feature contained quantities of quartz crystal and amethyst.

Immediately to the north of pit [1085] was an oval pit [1109] (Fig 17). This pit appeared to be cut by [1085] and was therefore likely to be the earlier of the two features. It was 0.55m by 0.45m across and 0.42m deep and contained a single fill of mid brownish grey compact silty clay (1108). A large quartz block was wedged into this pit which appeared to have been deliberately backfilled. Like its neighbour, pit [1109] contained quantities of crystals and had been cut into (1206), the upper fill of [1210].

Interpretation

No dateable artefacts were recovered from this group of features, although pits [1085] and [1109] both contained quartz and amethyst crystal fragments (Fig 19). These features were situated near the centre of the crystal scatter itself and may therefore have had some intrinsic connection with it (see section 4.15 below). Whilst pit [1085] appeared to cut deposit (1047), which contained the concentration of crystals, this was not so evident for the two lower pits [1190] and [1210]. Bulk samples and a monolith sample were taken from this set of features which will hopefully allow more clarification after post-excavation assessment.

Fig 15 Pit [1085] quarter sectioned looking west.

Fig 16 Pit [1085] half sectioned looking south.

Fig 17 Post ex of pits [1085] and [1109], looking south.

Fig 18 Pit [1210] looking south.

Fig 19 Crystals embedded into (1047) immediately to the west of [1085].

Table 4 Group P4 Summary

Group	Feature	Fill	Finds	Samples	Plan	Section	Photo ID	PX assess. potential (Y/N)
P4	[1085]	(1009), (1084), (1096)	Crystals	13, 16, 19	20	19, 34	D45 9130-2, 9136-9, 9182-3, 9187-9, 9197-8	Y
	[1109]	(1108)	Crystals	22	20	34	D45 9197-9200	Y
	[1210]	(1206), (1208), (1209)	Crystals	57	111	19, 110	D45 9441-2, 9443-8	Y

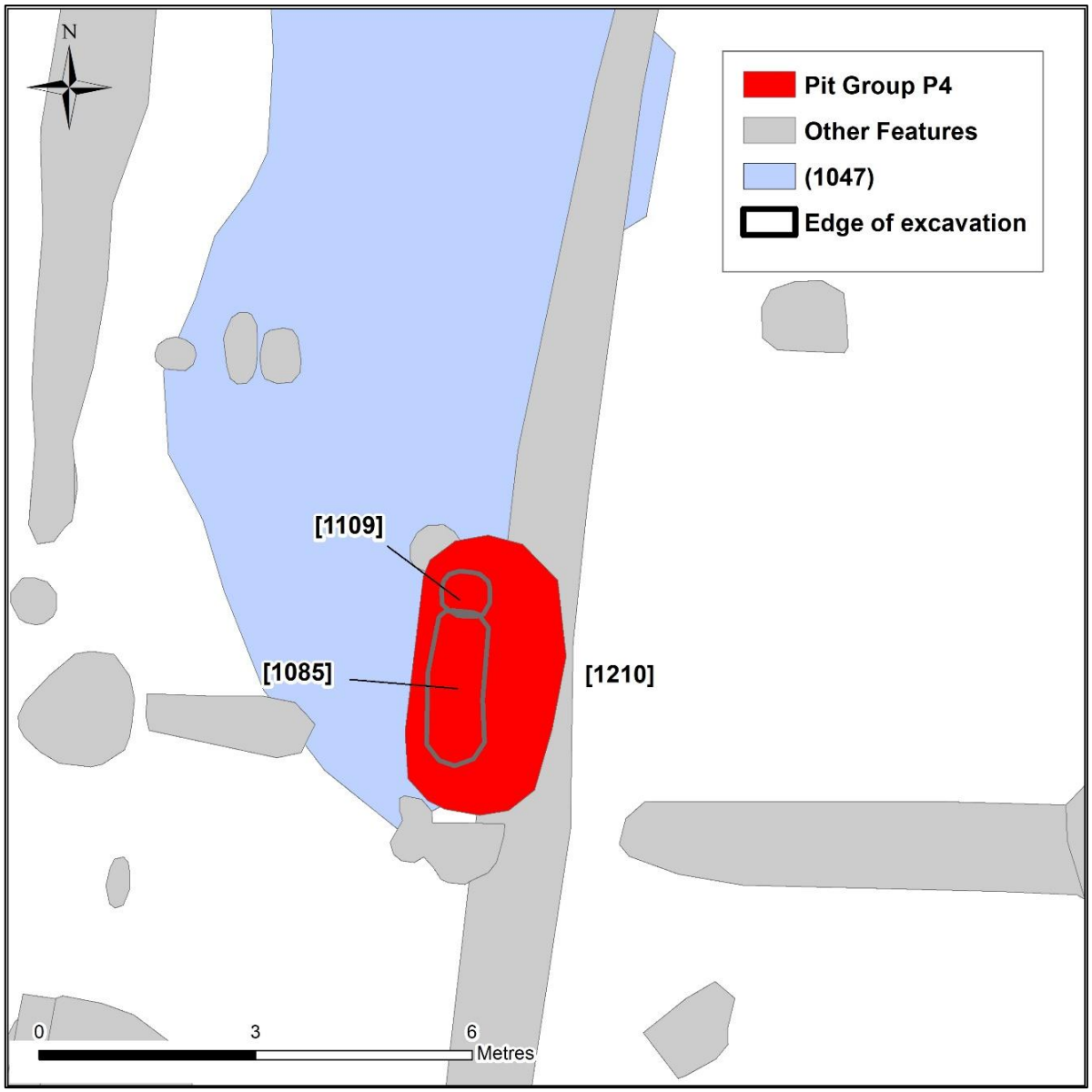

Fig 20 Pit group P4.

4.1.2.5 Pit Group P5

This was a varying group of eight disparate features (Fig 22).

Features [1145] and [1147] were adjacent to each other and cut deposit (1003). Feature [1145] was a narrow shallow gully 0.28m wide by 0.23m deep and filled with a mid-orangey red compact silty clay (1148). Cut [1147] lay immediately to the east of [1145]; it was a curvilinear pit-like feature, 1.8m by 1.6m across and 0.01m deep and filled with a light yellowish grey compact silty clay (1012). Pit [1147] appeared to cut the gully [1145]; no artefacts were recovered from either feature, although two sherds of 13th to 15th century micaceous Cornish coarseware pottery were recovered from the surface of this pit prior to excavation.

Feature [1151] was a shallow linear gully cutting (1046), it was of irregular profile 0.81m wide and 0.16m deep and contained a single fill of mottled mid-brown friable silty clay (1150) from which some crystals were recovered.

Pit [1158] lay towards the southwest end of the site and cut (1046). It was a small concave oval feature 0.85m by 0.35m across and 0.1m deep. It contained a single fill of compact pinkish brown silty clay (1041).

[1167] and [1169] were two adjacent cut features with similar V-shaped profiles 0.16m deep and which were situated within the crystal-rich deposit (1047) (Fig 21). Their single fills were also similar to each other, being mottled mid greyish-yellow silty clays containing quartz and amethyst crystals, (1166) and (1168).

Fig 21 Features [1167] and [1169] half sectioned looking south.

[1211] was an irregular cut feature situated towards the northeast end of the site; it had an irregular profile 1.1m wide and 0.14m deep with a single fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (1015) containing crystals but no other artefacts.

The final feature in this group was [1217]. This was an irregular cut feature 1.6m by 1m across and 0.14m deep with a light greyish brown silty clay fill (1081). It was situated immediately to the south of Pit Group P4.

Interpretation

All features within this group were considered most likely on excavation to be natural or semi-natural (water-eroded) in origin.

Table 5 Group P5 Summary

Group	Feature	Fill	Finds	Samples	Plan	Section	Photo ID	PX assess. potential (Y/N)
P5	[1145]	(1148)			64	63	D45 9275-7	N

	[1147]	(1012)			64	63	D45 9260-1, 9275-7	N
	[1151]	(1150)	Crystals			66	D45 9279-80	N
	[1158]	(1041)	Crystals			69	D45 9288-9, 9291-3	N
	[1167]	(1166)	Crystals		77	75	D45 9312-3	N
	[1169]	(1168)	Crystals		77	75	D45 9312-3	N
	[1211]	(1015)				74	D45 9303-4, 9309-11	N
	[1217]	(1018)				79	D45 9332	N

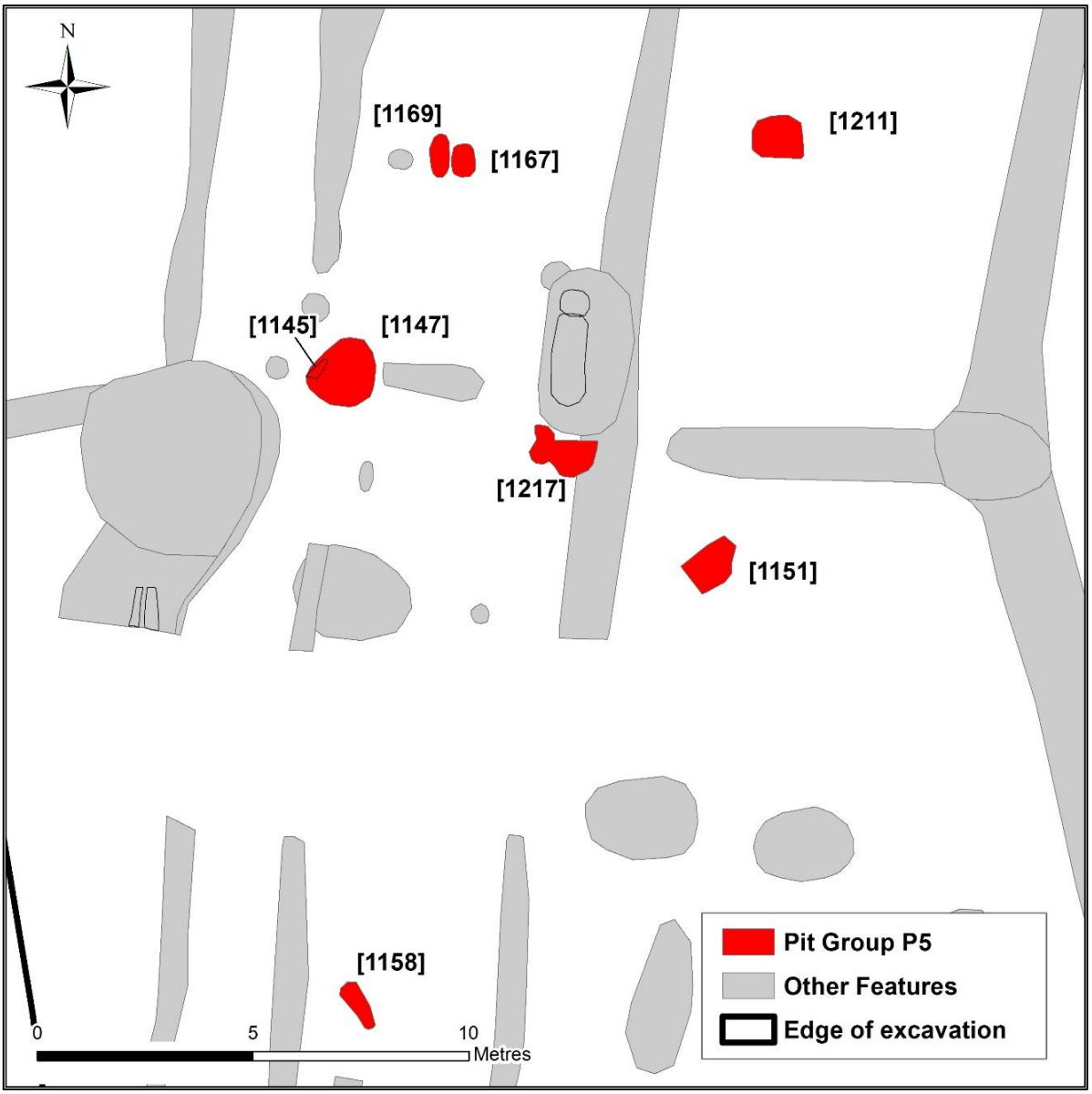

Fig 22 Pit group P5.

4.1.3 The Ditches

4.1.3.1 Ditch Group D1

Ditch Group D1 comprised a series of ditched features which intersected towards the east side of the SMS area. Ditches [1093], [1127], and [1216] were considered likely to be disparate parts of the same shallow east-west orientated linear feature which potentially represented a later phase of re-cutting associated with two north-south aligned ditches, [1118] and [1054] (Fig 28). Ditches [1118] and [1054] had both experienced several recuts over their use-life, culminating in the cutting of pit [1102] (see Pit Group P2) at the intersection of all three ditches.

Fig 23 Ditch [1054] slot 4, looking north.

(photo board shows south in error).

Ditch [1054] ran for 15m from the northeastern end of the site in a NNW-SSE direction. Three separate slots were excavated across this feature which cut through deposits (1003) at its northern end and (1046) to the south; at its deeper parts this ditch also cut through (1061), the degraded shillet bedrock. The stratigraphy of ditch [1054] was largely similar in two of the three excavated slots (Slots 4 and 18), where it had a U-shaped profile 0.45-0.5m deep and a single fill of yellowish-brown silty clay (1053) (Fig 23). Pottery of potentially medieval date was recovered from fill (1053) in Slot 4.

Ditch [1054] had experienced two phases of recutting, the first being [1059] which had a similar U-shaped profile to the original ditch and a single fill of mottled brown stony silty clay (1052) that appeared to be primarily composed of redeposited natural shillet (1061). This stony layer had experienced a further recut, [1112] in Slot 4 and [1129] in Slot 18, both towards the eastern edge of the main ditch. Recut [1112] was filled with a reddish brown compact stony clay (1111). Recut [1129] contained two fills, both of which were compact yellowish brown silty clays (1130) and (1131), the basal layer (1131) being much stonier than (1130) above.

The most southerly of the slots excavated across ditch [1054], (Slot 6), presented a completely different profile to the other two slots, being V-shaped and 0.8m deep (Fig 24). In slot 6, ditch [1054] had three separate fills, the lower being a 0.11m thick relatively stone-free greyish brown silty clay (1078). Above this was a noticeably stonier 0.35m thick mottled brown silty clay (1121), from the upper levels of which a piece of animal bone was recovered. The final fill of the ditch was a compact yellowish-brown silty clay (1122) within which a large amethyst block was embedded (see Fig 43). Recut [1059] was not obviously recognised in Slot 6 but might have been present as the interface between fills (1078) and (1121), fill (1121) being of similar character to fill (1052) in Slots 4 and 18. An initial allocation of fill number (1052) to the upper layers in Slot 6 was revised on reassessment of the section, based on no certain observation of recut [1059] and the identification of two separate recuts of ditch [1054] present on the east and west sides of ditch [1054].

Ditch [1120] was cut into the eastern side of the ditch; it was U-shaped, 0.55m wide and 0.35m deep, and filled with (1072), a yellowish-brown silty clay. Cut into the western side of [1054] in Slot 6 was ditch [1124] which had a V-shaped profile, was 0.5m wide and 0.25m deep, and filled with (1123), a yellowish brown compact silty clay. Both recuts [1120] and [1124] may have been contemporary with each other, given their relative position and lack of any intercutting of each other. Pottery of probable post-medieval date was recovered from fill (1072) – this was originally allocated to fill number (1052) and subsequently revised. A sherd of 14th to 15th century pottery was also recovered from Sample 5 taken from this fill, again initially allocated to (1052) and subsequently revised to (1072).

Fig 24 Ditch [1054] slot 6, looking south.

Ditch [1120] is a recut of ditch [1054] on its east side (left of shot), ditch [1124] is a recut of ditch [1054] on its west side (right of shot). Upper fills revised, context (1052) removed (but might be the same as (1121)), fills (1072), (1121), (1122) and (1123) added.

Ditch [1118] ran for 12.6m from the eastern limit of excavation in a NNE-SSW direction. Two separate slots (2 and 13) were excavated across this feature which cut through deposit (1003) and the degraded shillet bedrock (1061). The profile and stratigraphy of ditch [1118] within these two slots were very different. The excavation of Slot 2 exposed a double-ditched feature at its lowest levels, cutting (1061). This double-ditched feature comprised ditch [1056] to the west and ditch [1058] to the east; both cuts had very shallow U-shaped profiles and were 0.15m deep, the berm between them being only 0.06m high. The fills of both ditches were similar dark greyish brown compact silty clays, (1055) and (1057) and they were both capped with (1060), a mid-yellowish-brown silty clay. Ditch [1118] was later recut by a shallow concave feature [1218] containing a single fill of dark blackish brown silty clay (1004) with frequent quartz stone content.

Slot 13 was excavated across ditch [1118] near its intersection with [1093] and pit [1102] to establish the stratigraphic relationships between these three features (Fig 25). It was a single cut feature at this point, having a 0.66m deep U-shaped profile and containing two distinct fills (1115) and (1116). The lower fill (1115) was a mid-brown plastic silty clay with moderate stone content and was considered likely to be a continuation of fills (1055) and (1057) in Slot 2 to the north. Above (1115) was (1116), a light yellowish-brown stone-free silty clay containing lenses of water sorted gritty material. Fill (1116) was cut by both [1093] and [1218] and their respective fills. Feature [1218] was cut into the eastern side of ditch [1118]. This feature had a shallow concave profile and was filled with a stony basal fill (1117), above which was (1004), a light yellowish brown soft silty clay. Fill (1004) was very similar to (1005), the fill of [1093], which intersected ditch [1118] immediately to the north of Slot 13 and was captured in Slots 13 and 12 (see Pit Group P2).

Fig 25 Ditch [1118] slot 13, looking south.

Ditch [1218] cuts [1118] to the east (left of shot), ditch [1093] cuts [1118] to the west (right of shot).

Running westward from the intersection of ditch [1154] with ditch [1118] was a shallow concave ditch [1093] (Fig 26). This ditch was 6m long, 0.87m wide and 0.12m deep and contained a single fill of dark greyish brown silty clay (1005). The ditch was recorded in

Slots 11 and 12 and appeared potentially contemporary with recut [1218], the later phase of ditch [1118] recorded in Slots 2 and 13.

Fig 26 Ditch [1093] slot 11 looking east.

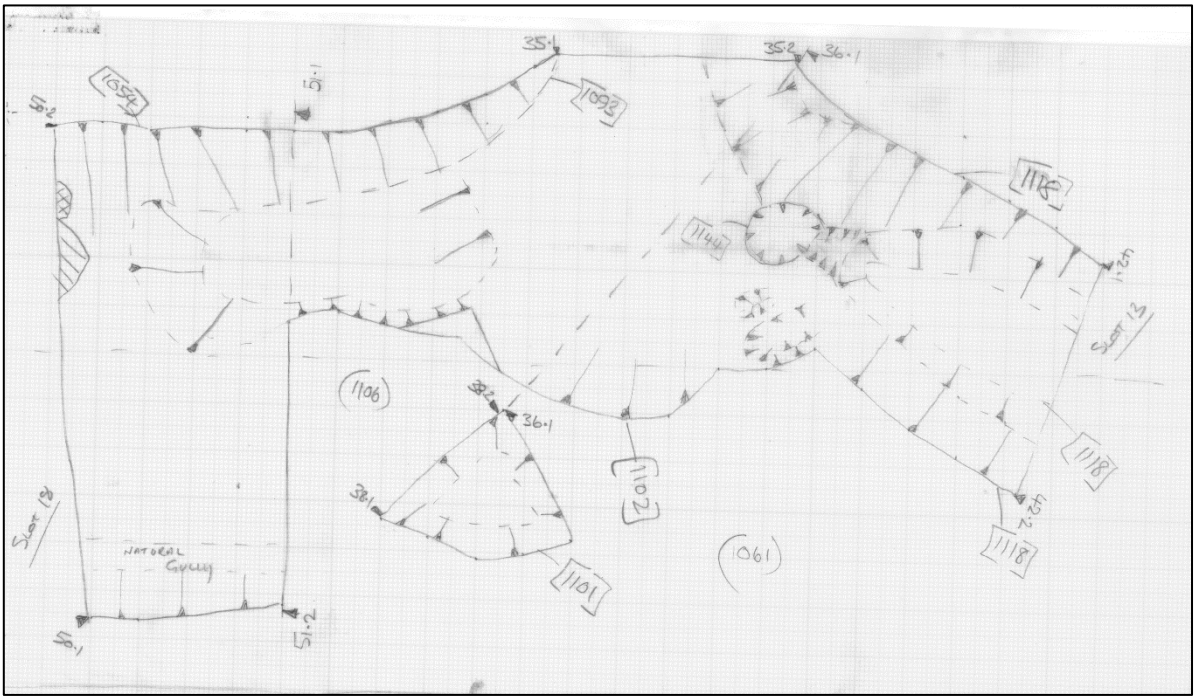

Fig 27 Ditch intersection showing pit [1144], Slot 12, north to right.

Two other features with similar profiles to ditch [1093], and on a similar alignment, were identified continuing westwards across the site; ditches [1216] and [1127] (Fig 28). Ditch [1127] was a shallow feature running westwards from pit [1081] (Pit Group 2) towards the limit of excavation; it was investigated in Slot 17 and proved to be 1m wide and 0.15m deep with a concave profile containing a single fill of mid-reddish brown compact silty clay (1128). [1216] was the group number given to two cut features [1177] and [1178], which on excavation became evidently part of the same shallow cut feature. The profile of [1216] was irregular/concave with a flat base up to 0.9m across and no deeper than 0.08m, its single fill (recorded as (1025) and (1027) within original cut contexts) being a reddish-brown silty clay which contained crystals. The similar profile across all three features is suggestive of them being parts of the same interrupted feature. No dateable artefacts were recovered across any parts of this feature.

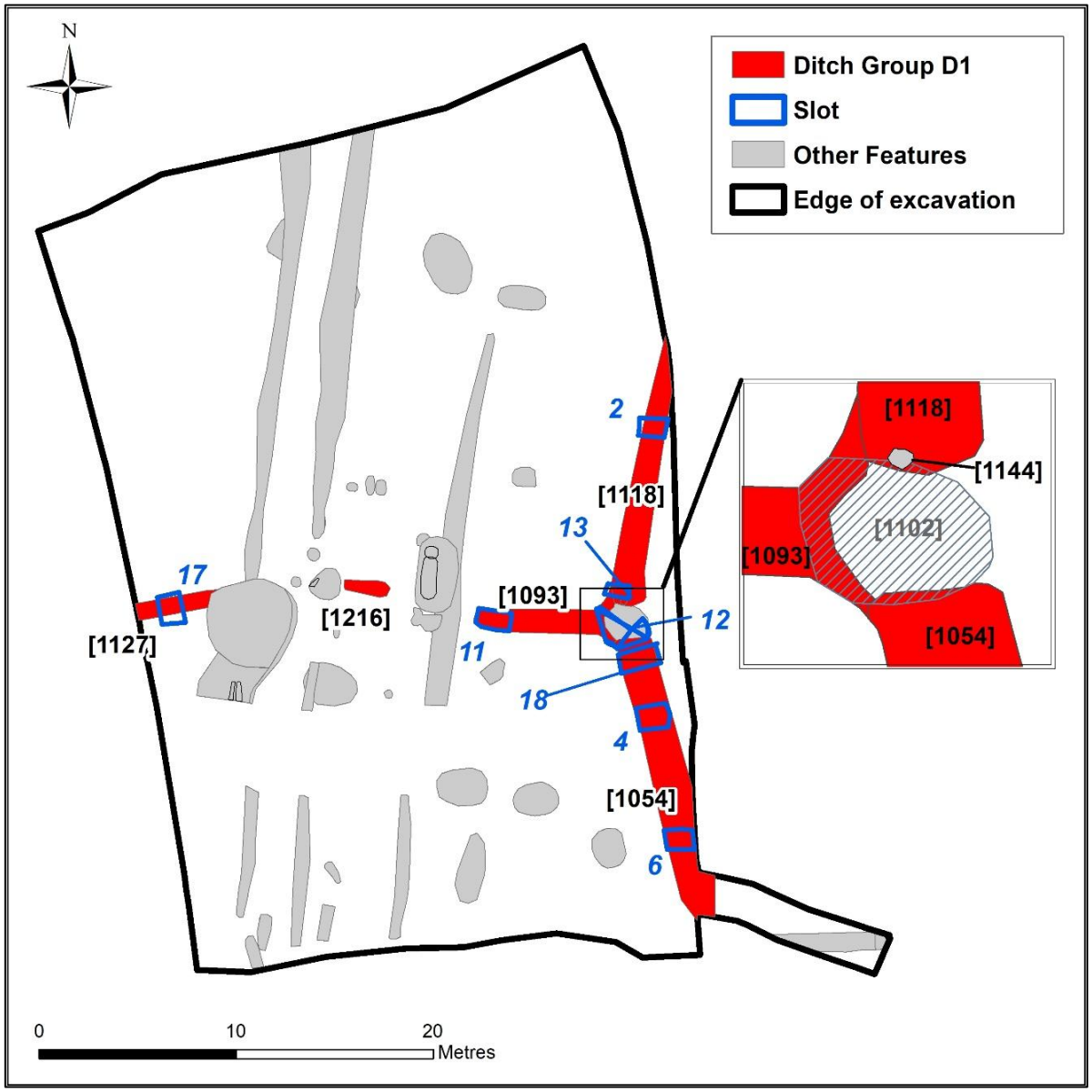

Fig 28 Ditch group D1.

Interpretation

The earliest features of this ditch group are likely to be the two ditches [1054] and [1118] which ran along the eastern edge of the site; they are probably part of the same

contemporary feature, appearing to have formed an early land boundary (medieval or earlier) which was later recut on at least two occasions. A deliberate gap appears to have been left between the two ditches to form a narrow entranceway 1.6m wide (Fig 28, inset). Cut into the base of the southern terminal of ditch [1118], the northern of the two ditches, was a small oval pit [1144]; this may have held a post structure on the northern side of the entrance, perhaps for a gate (Fig 27). During the later phases of ditches [1118] and [1054], a shallow east-west ditch [1093] was constructed perpendicular to their west sides, which cut into this entrance and continued both north and south into both earlier ditches, effectively blocking the entrance and forming two distinct enclosures.

Table 6 Group D1 Summary

Group	Feature	Slot No:	Sub-cut	Fill	Finds	Samples	Plan	Section	Photo ID	PX assess. potential (Y/N)
D1	[1054]	4	[1054]	(1053)	Pottery		10	9	D45 9082-5	N
			[1059]	(1052)	Pottery, slag			9	D45 9082-5	N
			[1112]	(1111)			10	9	D45 9082-5, 9202-6	N
		6	[1054]	(1078), (1121), (1122)	Animal bone, amethyst		18	16, 17	D45 9090-1, 9108-28	N
			[1120]	(1072)	Pottery		18	16, 17	D45 9090-1, 9108-28	N
			[1124]	(1123)			18	16, 17	D45 9090-1, 9108-28	N
		18	[1054]	(1053), (1132)		2	52	50, 51	D45 9242-7	N
			[1059]	(1052)				50, 51	D45 9242-7	N
			[1129]	(1130), (1131)				50, 51	D45 9242-7	N
			[1134]	(1133)	Crystals			50, 51	D45 9242-7	N
	[1093]	11	[1093]	(1005)			27	26	D45 9140-2	N
		12	[1093]	(1110)				35	D45 9191	N

	[1118]	13	[1118]	(1115), (1116)			43	42	D45 9212-3	N
		13	[1218]	(1004), (1117)			43	42	D45 9212-3	N
		2	[1056]	(1055)	Pottery	6, 10	6	4, 5	D45 9079-81	Y
		2	[1058]	(1057		6, 10	6	4, 5	D45 9079-81	Y
		2	[1218]	(1004)				4,5	D45 9079-81	N
	[1127]	17	[1127]	(1128)			53	49	D45 9252	N
	[1216]		[1177]	(1025)	Crystals	43		80	D45 9320-22, 9328-30	Y
			[1178]	(1027)				81	D45 9320-22, 9328-30	N

4.1.3.2 Ditch group D2

This is a group of four north-south orientated ditches (see Fig 32). Ditches [1071] and [1083] are likely to be contemporary features cut into the natural shillet (1061) in the southwest corner of the excavated area. Ditch [1071] was encountered in Slots 7 and 14, it had a 0.2m wide U-shaped profile and was up to 0.25m deep. Ditch [1083] was situated 1.2m to the north of ditch [1071] in Slot 9 and had a similar U-shaped profile, 0.4m deep. Both ditches were filled with similar greyish brown stony silty clay fills, (1070) and (1082), and they each had a well-formed terminal, the berm between them most likely being an entranceway (Fig 29). Whilst no artefacts were recovered from ditch [1071], ditch [1083] contained large quantities of pottery with a 14th to 19th century date range.

At its southern end where it met the southern limit of excavation, ditch [1083] had been cut by [1090], which was considered to potentially relate to a levelling episode immediately prior to the construction of the post-medieval wall 1119 (See Build Group 1 and Fig 40).

Feature [1213] was a 5.5m long ditch section, of which only the eastern edge was identifiable with insufficient remaining to establish its original profile, width or depth. It was encountered in Slot 10 where it had been intersected by pit [1081] of Pit Group 2, and also in Slot 23 where it had been cut by [1172] of Ditch Group D3. The ditch had a single dark greyish brown fill ((1006) in Slot 10 and (1173) in Slot 23). Several large sherds of 13th or 14th century pottery were recovered from fill (1006). Some of these conjoined with pottery recovered from fill (1079) (see Appendix 2), a partial upper fill of pit [1081], indicating potential contemporaneity of fills (1006) and (1079), as also noted in Section 4.1.2.2.

Three metres to the north of [1213] was the southern terminal of linear [1215]; this was a double-ditched feature which continued northwards across the site to the extended limit of excavation and cut deposit (1046). A broadly similar morphology for the double-

ditched feature of linear feature [1215] was identified at all points of intervention (Slots 1, 3 and 24) and comprised two shallow parallel and adjacent ditches [1049] and [1051], separated only by a low rounded berm. Ditch [1049] ran along the west side of feature [1215], with ditch [1051] adjacent along the east side (Figs 30 and 31).

Fig 29 Ditches [1071] Slot 14 and [1083] Slot 9, looking southeast.

Ditches [1049] and [1051] both had U-shaped profiles, were between 0.3m and 0.6m in width, 0.07m to 0.33m deep and got progressively deeper as they continued northwards. They were filled with single mid-dark greyish brown compact silty clays (1048) in [1049] and (1050) in [1051]. The eastern of the two ditches [1051] appeared to be the earlier of the two being cut by its neighbour [1049] at its terminal.

A fourth slot (Slot 25) was excavated across linear feature [1215] to coincide with its junction with a possible east-west linear feature visible on the geophysical. The same double-ditched arrangement of ditches [1049] and [1051] was exposed at the base of this slot, which proved to have a more complex stratigraphy that the other three survey (see Fig 31). The upper levels of double ditches [1049] and [1051] had been truncated by a deep U-shaped cut [1186] which was 0.7m wide and 0.5m deep. This cut feature contained a single fill of moderately stony greyish brown silty clay (1190) from which a sherd of 16th to 17th century south-western micaceous ware was recovered. It was uncertain if feature [1186] was a discrete pit or a linear recut of [1215] but it was itself cut by a wide shallow feature [1192] filled with moderately stony light yellowish brown silty clay (1191). [1186] was considered likely to be the east west linear feature identified on the geophysical survey. Medieval and post-medieval pottery sherds ranging between 14th and 19th century in date were recovered from all four slots excavated across [1049].

Fig 30 Ditch [1215] (1049]/ [1051]) slot 3 looking north.

Fig 31 Ditch [1215] (1049]/ [1051]) at the base of slot 25 looking south.

The ditches are cut by a stony filled pit/linear [1186], which is itself cut by a wide shallow feature [1192].

Interpretation

Artefactual evidence would suggest that ditch [1213] was of potentially medieval origin, it is on a similar alignment to and may have been contemporary with the earlier phases of the double-ditched linear feature [1215], made up of the two gullies [1049] and [1051]. It might be a field or enclosure boundary of some form, the two gullies possibly suggesting some form of water management was present.

Ditches [1071] and [1083], at the south end of the site, are probably part of the same linear feature, possibly a field or enclosure boundary. A possible entranceway 1.2m across was present between ditches [1071] and [1083], towards the southern extent of excavation (see Fig 29).

Ditches [1213] and [1071] were both cut by [1172] of Ditch Group 3. All four linear/ditched features in Ditch Group 2 are considered likely to be broadly contemporary with each other and are most likely to be land boundaries of some description, possibly with medieval origins but likely continuing in use into the post-medieval period.

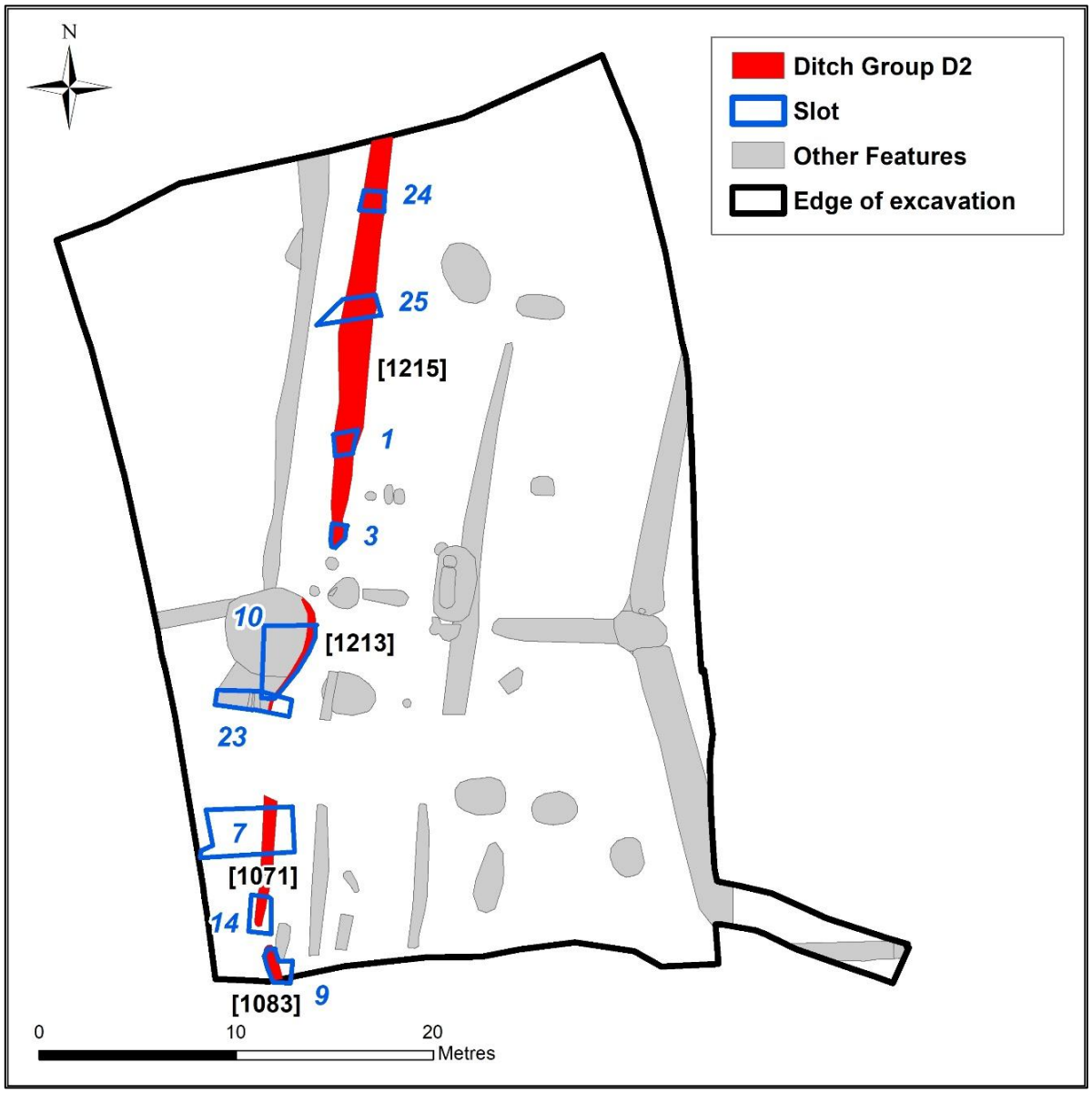

Fig 32 Ditch group D2.

Table 7 Group D2 Summary

Group	Feature	Slot No:	Sub-cut	Fill	Finds	Samples	Plan	Section	Photo ID	PX assess. potential (Y/N)
D2	[1071]	7	[1071]	(1070)				13	D45 9092-3	N
		14	[1071]	(1070)				45	D45 9219-23	N
	[1083]	9	[1083]	(1082)	Pottery, metalwork		24, 46	23, 30	D45 9129, 9216-8, 9221-3	N
			[1090]	(1013), (1089)	Pottery		46	23, 44	D45 9129	N
	[1213]	10	[1213]	(1006)	Pottery		22, 56	21	D45 9133-4	N
		23	[1213]	(1173)				76	D45 9315	N
	[1215]	1	[1049]	(1048)	Pottery		3	26	D45 9073-5	N
			[1051]	(1050)			3	26	D45 9073-5	N
		3	[1049]	(1048)	Pottery	1	8	7	D45 9071-2, 9076-8	Y
			[1051]	(1050)			8	7	D45 9071-2, 9076-8	N
		24	[1049]	(1048)	Pottery	45	83	82	D45 9344	Y
			[1051]	(1050)		45	83	82	D45 9344	Y
		25	[1049]	(1048)	Pottery			88	D45 9345-57, 9364-7	N
			[1051]	(1050)				88	D45 9345-57, 9364-7	N
			[1186]	(1190)	Pottery, stone	54		88	D45 9345-57, 9364-7	Y

			[1188]	(1189)				88	D45 9345-57, 9364-7	N
			[1192]	(1191)				88	D45 9345-57, 9364-7	N

4.1.3.3 Ditch group D3

This is a group of north-south orientated ditches all located to the western side of the site (see Fig 37). The longest of these was [1126] which ran northwards from, and was potentially contemporary with, pit [1081] (Pit Group 2). Ditch [1126] cut sediment unit (1046) and continued for 22.5m to the extended limit of excavation. Five slots were excavated across this feature which varied greatly in profile and stratigraphy, becoming deeper and more complex as it ran northwards. At its southern end in Slot 22 ditch [1126] was closer to a gully, being 0.68m wide and 0.34m deep with a U-shaped profile. Three fills were identified in this slot, the lower being a dark grey-brown plastic silty clay (1165), the middle fill being a stony layer (1164), which was considered to be primarily composed of reposited (1061), the natural degraded shillet bedrock, and above this a dark grey-brown plastic silty clay (1034), which was very similar to the basal fill.

Fig 33 Ditch [1126] slot 27, looking south.

The profile of ditch [1126] in Slots 16 and 27 was V-shaped; in Slot 16 it was 0.68m wide and 0.35m deep with a single fill (1034); the same dark layer as (1034), encountered in the previous slot. In Slot 27, ditch [1126] was 0.7m wide, 0.47m deep and contained three separate fills, the lower being a mid-greyish brown silty clay (1195). Above this

was a darker reddish-brown silty clay (1194), with an upper fill of dark blackish brown silty clay (1193), considered likely to have been the same as (1034) in the other two slots to the south (Fig 33).

The final two slots, 26 and 34, excavated towards the northern end of this linear exposed a more complex stratigraphy within ditch [1126]. The ditch profile was still V-shaped, but it was much wider and deeper than in the previous slots and had experienced several episodes of slumping and a recut (Fig 34). The morphology of the ditch in these two slots was significantly different from the others for it to be assigned a new cut number [1200].

Ditch [1200] was up to 1.54m wide and 1m deep and its basal fill of dark grey compact silty clay (1199) was packed at its lower levels with abundant large quartz rocks. Above this fill was a series of slump layers of light yellowish grey plastic silty clay (1197) derived from the natural deposit (1046) through which the ditch had been cut. The upper fill of [1200] was a dark grey-brown silty deposit (1202). In Slots 34 and 26 a recut of ditch [1200] was identified, [1202]. Recut [1202] varied from U to V-shape in its profile, was up to 1.6m wide and 0.7m deep and contained two distinct fills (1198) and (1187). The lower fill (1198) was a mid-greyish brown stony silty clay, above which was a less stony reddish brown silty clay (1187). In Slot 26, fill (1187) contained two sherds of 18th to 19th century green-glazed earthenware.

Fig 34 Ditch [1200] and recut [1202] slot 26, looking south.

To the south of pit [1081] was linear feature [1172] which was recorded in Slot 23 (Fig 37). This U-shaped linear feature ran northwards towards the southern edge of pit [1081]. It was 2.59m wide and 0.35m deep and contained a single fill of dark brown stony silty clay (1037). The feature was 2.59m wide and 0.35m deep and appeared to cut ditch [1213] of Ditch Group D2. The relationship between ditch [1172] and pit [1081] could not be confidently ascertained, but there is the possibility that rather than being cut by pit [1081], linear [1172] alternatively fed into it, suggesting possible contemporaneity.

Two small parallel gullies [1171] and [1175] were cut into the base of linear feature [1172], both filled with the same dark reddish orange stony silty clay (1174). Gullies [1171] and [1175] potentially predate ditch [1172], which appears to have been cut after these features were filled in. No artefacts were recovered from either of these features. As with linear [1172], the relationship between the two gullies and pit [1081] was not confidently identified, but the gullies are potentially the earlier of this group of features.

To the east of linear feature [1172] were two north-south aligned linear ditches [1136] and [1139], which were separated by the compacted surface of a modern farm track that crossed the site from east to west. Ditch [1136] was exposed in the section of pit [1135] (see Pit Group 1 and Fig 6), where it was 1.7m wide and 0.48m deep with a V-shaped profile. It contained a single mid-pinkish grey compact stony fill (1125) from which a sherd of 18th to 19th century North Devon ware was recovered.

Ditch [1139] was investigated in Slot 21 (Fig 35); it had a U-shaped profile, was 1.4m wide by 0.55m deep and had a dark brown stony basal fill (1138) which was considered to be the result of a single episode of backfill, overlain by dark yellowish brown silty clay (1137). Ditch [1139] had been recut by [1214], which had a concave profile and a single fill of mid-pinkish grey compact stony, shillety, clay (1038). The remarkable similarity of fills (1125) and (1038) suggests that the recut [1214] of ditch [1139] was contemporary with ditch [1136], with ditch [1139] perhaps being the earlier of the two features and ditches [1136] and [1214] forming a later extension. A sherd of 18th to 19th century pottery was recovered from fill 1125, with pottery ranging between 13th to 14th century and 18th to 19th century in date recovered from fill (1038). This date range suggest a likely residual assemblage.

Fig 35 Ditch [1139] slot 21, cut by ditch [1214], looking south.

The final ditch in this group was [1064], situated at the far southeast corner of the site. Investigated in Slot 5, ditch [1064] ran for 6m in a roughly east west direction before disappearing into the southern baulk (Fig 36). It had a 0.4m wide by 0.1m deep V-shaped

profile and was cut through deposits (1003) and (1061). The ditch contained two distinct fills, a basal fill of mid-blueish/blackish grey compact stony silty clay (1063) below a mid-greyish brown compact silty clay (1044). No artefacts were recovered from either fill. The ditch was cut by [1068], a shallow linear cut considered to relate to a levelling episode prior to the construction of the post-medieval wall 1062 (See Build Group 1).

Fig 36 Ditch [1064] slot 5, looking east.

Interpretation

All the ditches in this group probably date to the post-medieval period, although some could potentially be earlier. Ditch [1064] is likely to be a boundary ditch predating the construction of the post-medieval/early 19th century wall 1062, which relates to a field boundary present on the 1840 Kenwyn Tithe map. The deep V-shaped profile of ditches [1126] and [1200] at the northern end of the site, along with associated slumping along the east side of [1200], might be consistent with their being water-cut channels. Ditch [1202] might have recut [1200] to refresh this function after silting up. The geophysical survey results do, however, suggest a possible gap between [1126] and [1200] which might indicate two potentially separate features, although possibly serving similar functions as land boundaries/water management features.

Whilst on similar alignments, there is no certain evidence of either of the linear features [1172] or [1126] cutting through the middle of pit [1081]; this would either suggest that these features were contemporary (but abutted/respected each other), indicating a potentially associated function, or that pit [1081] was the later feature cutting through and obliterating any trace of the earlier features. The wide feature [1172] running northward towards pit [1081] is considered the most likely to be contemporary with this feature, into which it potentially runs. Feature [1172] might be a trackway or a water channel but being uncertain of the function of the pit itself, it is difficult to be more precise. Within ditch [1172], gullies [1171] and [1175] are potentially earlier features, perhaps also water channels of some description.

Ditches [1136] and [1139] are potentially near contemporary in date. Ditch [1139] is perhaps the earlier of the two features, with ditch [1136] and recut [1214] representing an extension/continuation of this linear boundary northwards at a time pre-dating the construction of the modern farm track. The pinkish stony fills of these latter features are possibly deposited degraded shillet (1061), suggesting a deliberate back fill episode, with the material assemblage residual deposition during this activity.

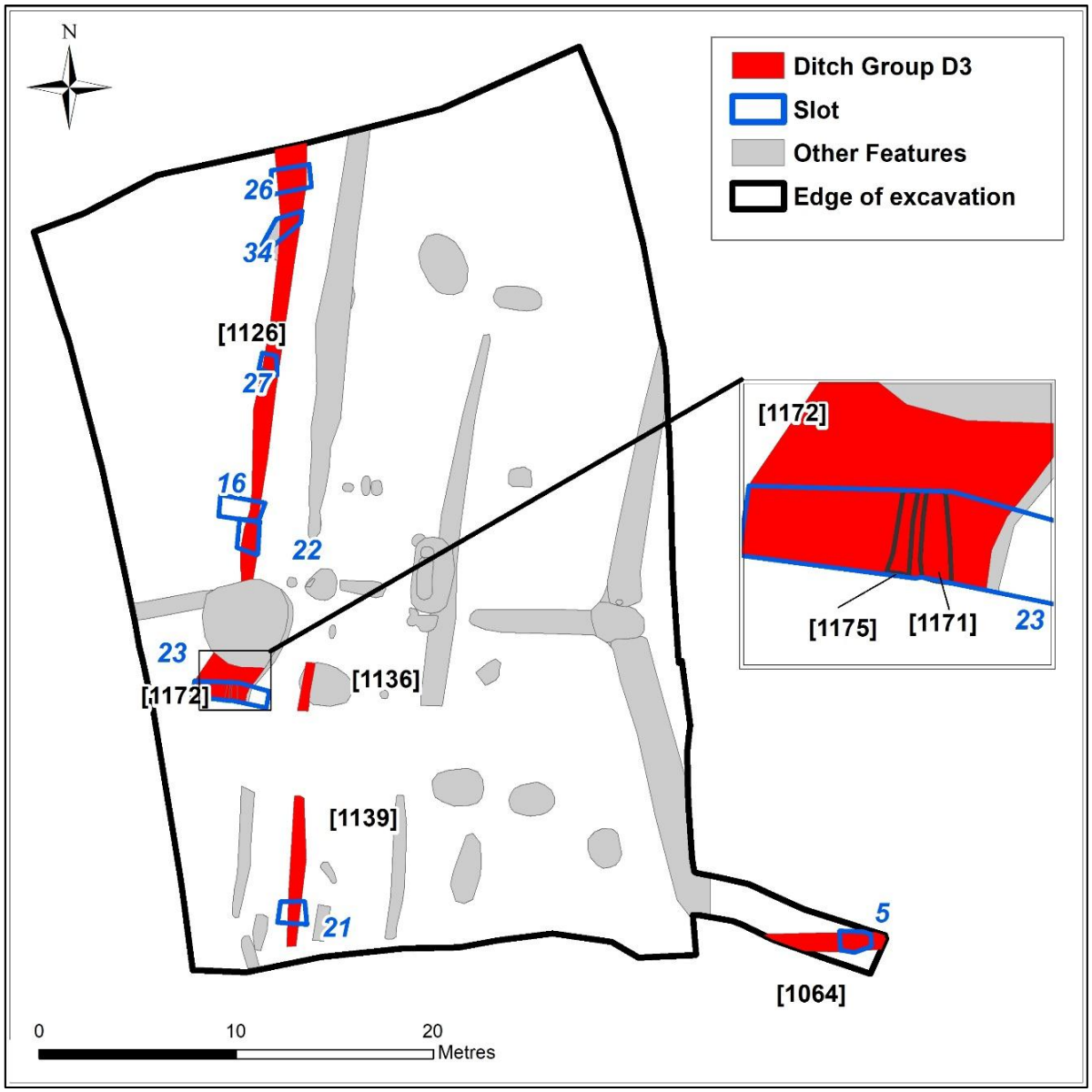

Fig 37 Ditch group D3.

Table 8 Group D3 Summary

Group	Feature	Slot No:	Sub-cut	Fill	Finds	Samples	Plan	Section	Photo ID	PX assess. potential (Y/N)
D3	[1064]	5	[1064]	(1044), (1063)		3	12	11	D45 9086-8	Y

			[1068]	1062, (1066), (1067)	Pottery		12	11	D45 9086-8	N
	[1126]	16	[1126]	(1034)	Metalwork		48	47	D45 9210-1, 9215-6, 9230-40	N
		22	[1126]	(1034), (1164), (1165)			73	72	D45 9307-8	N
		26	[1200]	(1197), (1199), (1203)		60	105	104	D45 9362, 9424-9	Y
			[1202]	(1187), (1198)	Crystals, pottery, metalwork	60	105	104	D45 9362, 9424-9	Y
		27	[1126]	(1193), (1194), (1195)		56	91	90	D45 9368	Y
		34	[1200]	(1197), (1199), (1203)			108	107	D45 9414-5, 9438-40	N
			[1202]	(1187), (1198)			108	107	D45 9414-5, 9438-40	N
	[1136]	n/a	[1136]	(1125)	Pottery		68	67	D45 9209, 9241, 9281-4	N
	[1139]	21	[1139]	(1137), (1138)	Pottery		59	58	D45 9257-8	N
			[1214]	(1038)	Pottery, glass, metalwork			58	D45 9257-8	N
	[1171]	23	[1171]	(1174)				76	D45 9315-6	N
	[1172]	23	[1172]	(1037)				76	D45 9315-6	N
	[1175]	23	[1175]	(1174)				76	D45 9315-6	N

4.1.3.4 Ditch group D4

This is a group of three linear features towards the centre of the site, all running downslope and parallel to many of the features in Ditch Groups D2 and D3 (see Fig 39).

The features were all visible on the surface of the stripped area due to their mid to dark greyish fills contrasting with the surrounding lighter yellow Pleistocene deposit (1046).

Feature [1077] was a linear ditch that ran downslope from the modern farm track (1065) for 19m. It was investigated in Slot 8 (Fig 38), where it was 1.4m wide and 0.2m deep with a concave profile. The feature contained two fills, the lower being a mid-mottled grey compact clay (1075) and the upper, a mid-to dark brown friable silty clay (1010). Both fills contained quartz and amethyst crystals, with a basal sherd of 16th to 17th century micaceous earthenware recovered from the upper fill (1010).

Fig 38 Ditch [1077] slot 8, looking south.

Linear [1152] was situated to the south of the farm track and considered likely to be a continuation of ditch [1077] to the north. It was investigated in Slot 20 where it was found to have an irregular profile 1m across by 0.16m deep with a single mid grey-brown silty clay fill (1042), also containing quartz and amethyst crystals.

Feature [1162] in this group was a 3.4m long section of ditch 0.77m wide and 0.08m deep with an irregular profile. Its fill, (1149), like the others in this group, was a mid to dark greyish brown deposit containing abundant quartz and amethyst crystals.

Interpretation

All three features in this group were fairly superficial, being no deeper than 0.2m with generally irregular profiles. Their fills were all dark silty clays containing quantities of quartz and amethyst crystal. Ditch [1077] was very high in the stratigraphical sequence and post-dated the features described in Pit Group 4, which were positioned immediately to the west (see Fig 39). They are all considered likely to be water-eroded channels of potentially 19th century or earlier date, potentially associated with the fanning out or naturally occurring re-channelling of the stream prior to this drying up. The stream is recorded on the OS surveyor drawings of *c*1811 but does not appear on subsequent historic mapping.

Table 9 Group D4 Summary

Group	Feature	Slot No:	Sub-cut	Fill	Finds	Samples	Plan	Section	Photo ID	PX assess. potential (Y/N)
D4	[1077]	8	[1077]	(1010), (1075)	Crystals, pottery, stone		15	14	D45 9100-2	N
	[1152]	20	[1152]	(1042)	Crystals			65	D45 9265-71, 9278	N
	[1162]	n/a	(1011)/ (1149)					71	D 45 9296-300	N

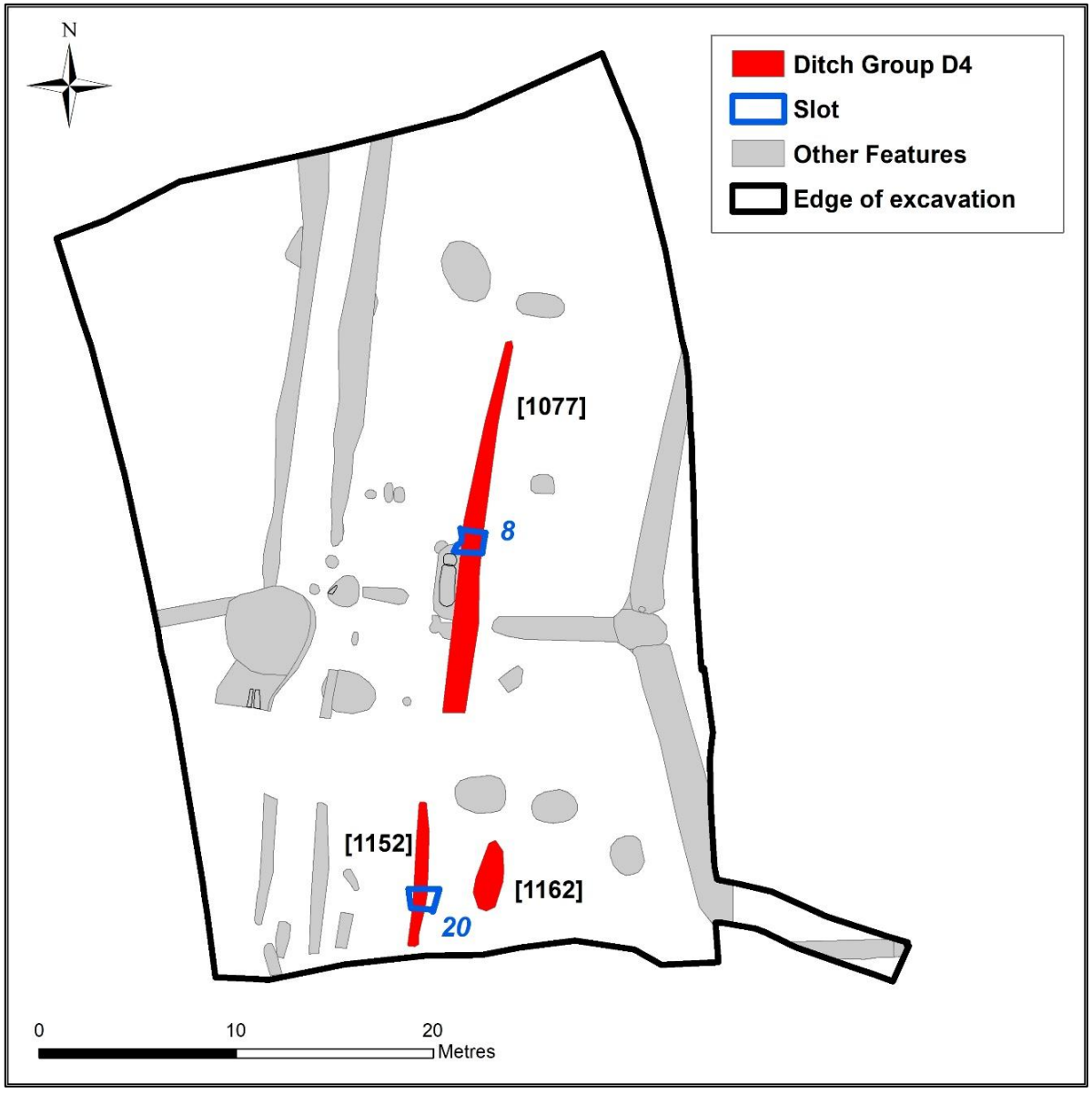

Fig 39 Ditch group D 4.

4.1.4 The Built Structures

4.1.4.1 Build Group B1

The southern limit of excavation coincided with the line of a boundary wall which was recorded in Slot 5 as 1062 and in Slot 9 as 1119 (Fig 41). It was constructed of dry stone comprising large upright slate and shillet pieces and occasional quartz blocks which in Slot 5 were laid onto compact mottled grey/orange stone-free silty clay (1067). The wall followed the line of an earlier ditch [1064] of Ditch Group D3 (see Fig 36) which had been cut by [1068], considered likely to be a levelling cut for the wall foundation prior to its construction. Pottery sherds recovered immediately under the wall in (1067) have been dated to the 18th and 19th centuries indicating that the wall was constructed in the late post-medieval period. The field boundary to which the wall most likely corresponds is recorded on the 1840 Kenwyn Tithe map; the wall might form part of a stone facing to an associated earthen bank (not identified).

The wall followed a similar pattern of construction in Slot 9 where the upper levels of an earlier ditch [1083] of Ditch Group D2, which ran perpendicular to the wall line, had been truncated with a levelling cut [1090]. Cut [1090] was filled with a compact pinkish brown stony material (1089), likely to have been redeposited degraded shillet bedrock (1061) used to form a hard level surface upon which the wall was constructed (Fig 40).

Fig 40 Post-medieval wall 1119 with cut [1090] and ditch [1083] beneath looking north, Slot 9.

Interpretation

The line of the wall runs parallel with (and 3.5m to the north of) a boundary marked on the Ordnance Survey first edition map, and also the Kenwyn Tithe map of 1840 (Fig 50). It is considered most likely that the two features are the same, the wall being slightly displaced on the historic mapping due to rectification errors. This would corroborate the dating evidence in Slot 5 and indicate that the wall is an 18th or early 19th century

feature predating the construction of the current A390. It is also possible the wall construction faced an earlier, post-medieval, boundary, but no certain evidence of this was identified.

Table 10 Group B1 Summary

Group	Cut	Slot No:	Build	Fill	Finds	Samples	Plan	Section	Photo ID	PX assess. potential (Y/N)
B1	[1068]	5	1062	1067	Pottery		12	11	D45 9086-9	N
	[1090]	9	1119	1089			46	44	D45 9129, 9216-8	N

Fig 41 Build group B1.

4.1.5 The Crystal Scatter

A notable feature of the site was a wide scatter of transparent quartz and amethyst crystals (see Fig 42). These ranged in size from individual crystal points less than 2cm long and 1cm across to large blocks over 35cm across (see Figs 19 and 43). The scatter covered the central portion of the site and was most dense around Pit Group 4 (Fig 42).

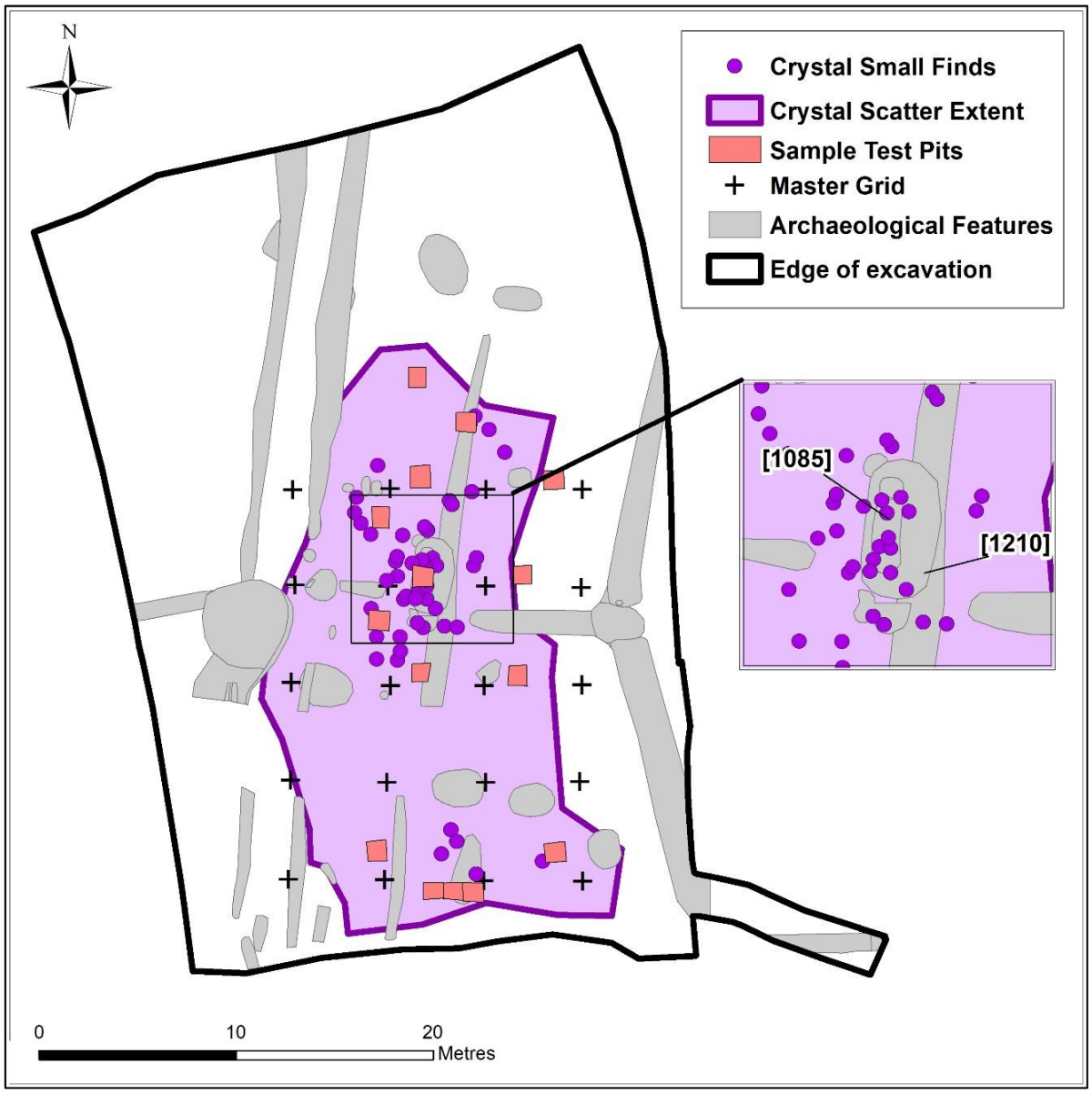

Fig 42 Crystal scatter.

Whilst quartz is common across the UK, large water-clear quartz is much rarer, only forming in specific geological conditions (Ballin 2008); Cotterell 2011). Amethyst belongs to the quartz family being composed of silicon and oxygen, its purple colour is due to the presence of trace amounts of iron and manganese. In Cornwall, quartz crystal and amethyst formation is associated with the mineralisation that occurred during the granite intrusions formed during the episode of mountain building known as the Variscan Orogeny, that now form the backbone of the county (Symes 2010). The intrusion of high

heat magma into deep fractures in the sedimentary Devonian shales known locally as 'killas' gave rise to vein lodes containing tin, arsenic, copper and iron as well other minerals including quartz and its variations. These quartz-rich veins can be weathered out onto the surface or exposed in coastal outcrops. The site is not near a granite outcrop itself, the two closest being Carnmenellis to the southwest and St Austell to the northeast (*ibid*), and the nearest documented occurrence of amethyst at a mine site is 5.5 km away at Wheal Unity, St Day (Mindat.org 2025).

With this in mind it is considered highly unusual and archaeologically significant that this concentration of quartz and amethyst was present at this location, with a wider scatter across this site. Based on current understanding, a local outcropping is possible, but would be a notable occurrence, or alternatively, the scatter represents material collected and brought in from a significant distance away, which subsequently dispersed and percolated across the site through either water movement or man-made activity. Whether the scatter is *in situ* as formed, introduced form elsewhere by man, or washed in from a nearby site, remains at present uncertain; however, the main concentration of crystals appeared to be focused on Pit Group 4. Marks on several of the quartz crystal points on initial examination appeared to be consistent with them having been used, perhaps as awls, and some of the amethyst blocks appeared to have been deliberately 'squared off' although further assessment and analysis will be needed to confirm this.

The sheer quantity of crystals found on site meant that it would have been prohibitively too time consuming to recover them all; it was therefore agreed with the SDOHE that a sample would be taken. The agreed sample strategy was that the area of the crystal scatter be gridded out and a set of 1m x 1m test pits (roughly equivalent to a 5% sample) excavated. The test pits were 100% bulk sampled to a depth where no further crystals were apparent. In all, 15 test pits were excavated with depths varying from 0.08m to 0.6m, and the greatest volume of material sampled from a single pit was 500 litres. The bulk samples were dry sieved on site, and all crystals contained within them recovered for later analysis.

Fig 43 Crystal block found in top of ditch [1054], Slot 6.

4.2 Archaeological monitoring

Two areas had originally been highlighted by the SDOHE as requiring continuous archaeological monitoring during groundworks. These areas had seen no geophysical survey and were therefore of unknown archaeological potential. Once work had commenced on site it was agreed with the SDOHE that only one area of archaeological monitoring would be carried out, that at the northern end of the site (see Fig 2). It was felt that the other area, a narrow strip of ground bordering the A390, had been too much disturbed by groundworks associated with the realignment of the A390 in the mid-20th century to have provided any useful archaeological data, so this was dispensed with.

Context numbers for the area covered by archaeological monitoring were issued from a continuous sequence 2001 to 2018. The archaeological features are presented as a single group. Three features initially flagged at potentially of archaeological significance (2009), (2010) and (2011) were investigated but not recorded as they were dismissed as modern plough-strikes.

4.2.1 Sediment deposit sequence

The site lay on the east-facing slope of the same valley as the SMS area, 25m to the north. The substratum bedrock consisted of light pinkish highly fragmented shillet stone (2005), considered to be a continuation of (1061) to the south. A wide exposure of this material was encountered across the centre of the stripped area (Fig 44).

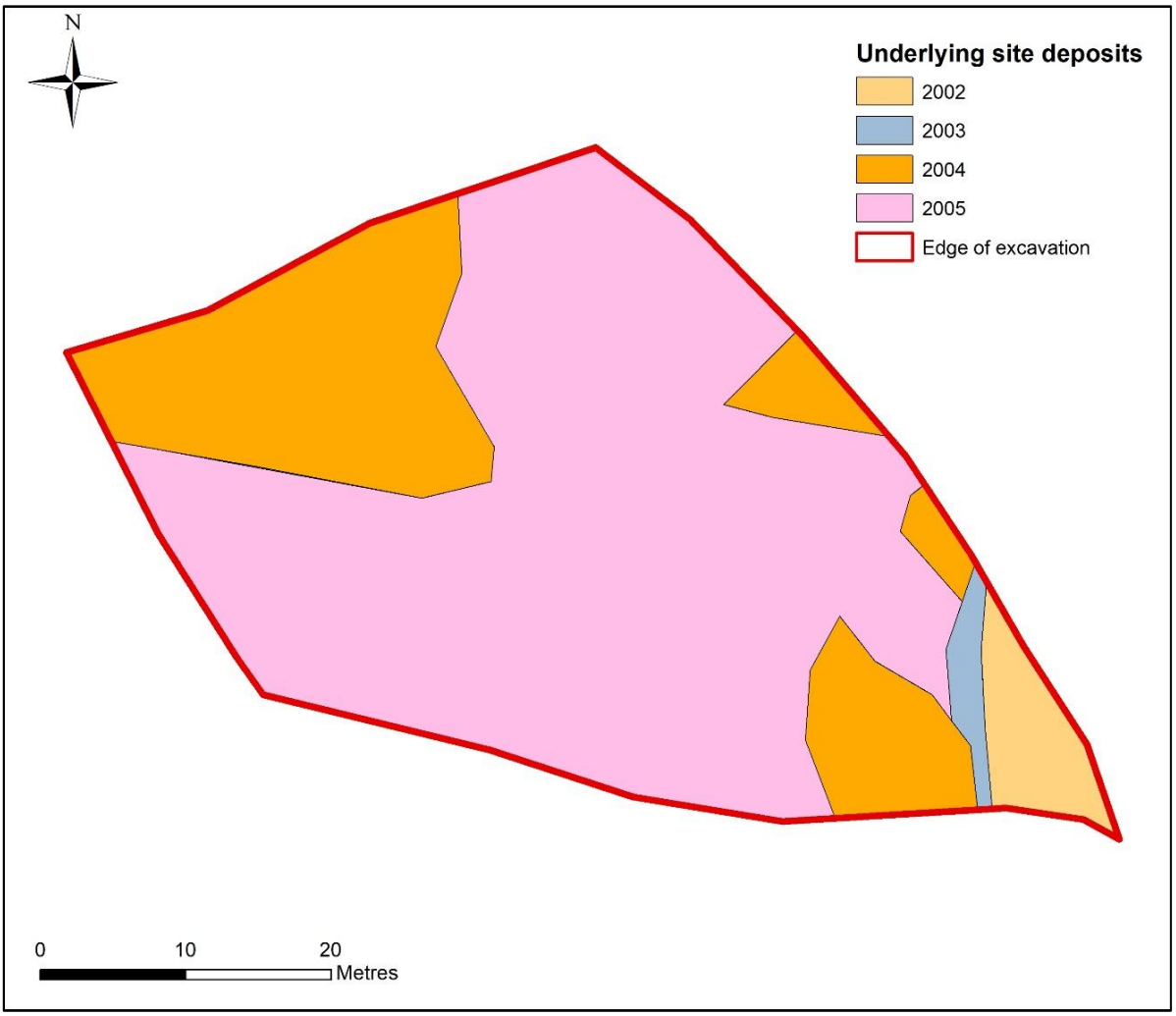

Fig 44 Underlying deposits WB area.

The southeastern corner of the site coincided with the valley bottom and a wide area of dark silty clays assumed to be associated with the natural stream/spring line were exposed (2003). This was largely removed during stripping to expose (2002), a light orange yellow compact silty clay. Deposit (2002) was largely stone-free with a high content of fine silt and was considered likely to be a periglacial wind-blown loess deposit dating to the Pleistocene epoch and therefore a continuation of (1046) in the SMS area.

Holocene hill wash (2004), a mid-orange yellow stony material the equivalent of (1003) in the SMS area, was found in relatively small pockets at the east end of the site but more widely spread across the upper slopes to the northwest.

Directly overlying the substratum was a relatively shallow (up to 0.4m) modern soil profile of mid greyish brown clay loam (2001). There was no topsoil in the southeast corner of the site, instead a layer of modern levelling stony hardcore (un-numbered/recorded).

4.2.2 Ditch group WB D1

This is a group of three linear ditches (Fig 47), two of which related to a post-medieval hedge boundary marked on all editions of the Ordnance Survey mapping for the area as well as the 1840 Kenwyn Tithe map (Fig 50). Three slots (Slots 28, 29 and 30) were excavated across this boundary. As is typical of post-medieval Cornish field boundaries, this linear was double-ditched with a berm up to 2.3m wide between the ditches on which once sat the hedge bank (Fig 45). Both ditches were cut into the shillet bedrock (2005).

Fig 45 Ditches [2013] and [2018] slot 28, looking east.

The wider of the two ditches, [2013], was upslope (to the west) of the second and continued for 45m right across the stripped area. It was of U-shaped profile, 1.7m to 2.2m wide and 0.35m to 0.38m deep with concave/straight sides and a generally flat base. The single fill of this ditch was a very stony, shillety reddish/greyish brown friable

silty clay (2006). The second ditch [2018] of the hedge boundary was situated to the east and downslope of the first, it only extended partway across the site and was investigated in Slots 28 and 30. Ditch [2018] had a more concave profile than its neighbour and was less than 1m across and only 0.22m at its maximum recorded depth; its single fill (2007) was similar to that of the adjacent ditch.

The final linear ditch in this group was [2016], an east-west orientated ditch seen running for 10.5m across the stripped surface (Fig 46). Two slots were excavated and fully recorded across this ditch. Slots 31 and 32 and its apparent terminal at the west end was confirmed by excavation but only recorded by GPS. Ditch [2016] was cut into the shillet bedrock, was of uniform width (0.7m) along its entire length, and of a U-shaped profile with vertical sides. The ditch became progressively deeper as it ran eastwards (downslope) and had a stepped profile in both of the recorded slots. In Slot 31 the ditch was 0.35m deep at its western end and dropped sharply midway along the slot to 0.55m. The basal fill (2015) was a pinkish brown compact stony clay primarily composed of redeposited natural (2005), above which was a 0.2m thick relatively stone-free and organic greyish brown compact silty clay (2014). The upper fill (2008), a mid-pinkish grey-brown compact stony layer, was only encountered in the eastern half of the slot.

Slot 32 was positioned at the bottom of the slope where the ditch met the eastern limit of excavation; here again it had a stepped base being 0.28m at the west end and dropping sharply to 0.83m towards the middle of the slot (Fig 46). The stony upper layer (2008) was up to 0.75m deep in this slot and completely filled its eastern end. Small pockets of a grey-brown clay (2017) were found within this layer and more noticeably at its base. The dark organic material (2014) seen in Slot 31 was also encountered at the base of the western end and pottery sherds dating from the 14th to 19th centuries were recovered from this deposit. It was not physically possibly to fully excavate the eastern end of the slot, the ditch being only 0.7m wide; it was excavated to a depth of 0.83m but then deemed too unsafe to continue. At its western end the ditch was seen to abruptly terminate on the surface and a slot excavated, the ditch simply petered out at this point, it was very shallow, and no recordable section exposed.

Fig 46 Ditch [2016] slot 32, looking north.

Interpretation

Ditches [2013] and [2018] are clearly elements of the same post-medieval field boundary which is marked on the 1840 Kenwyn Tithe map (Fig 50) and therefore at least of early 19th century origin, possibly earlier.

The uniform width and vertical sides of ditch [2016] are consistent with it having been machine excavated, from the pottery evidence perhaps in the early to mid-19th century, the mix of pottery recovered suggesting likely residual material. Apart from the organic layer (2014) and small pockets of clay (2017), much of the ditch had been filled with stony layers (2008) and (2015) both probably redeposited shillet bedrock through which the ditch was dug. The shillet bedrock is free draining and therefore the need for a drainage ditch seems unlikely. As it is positioned perpendicular to the post-medieval or earlier field boundary it may have been constructed as a later land division boundary.

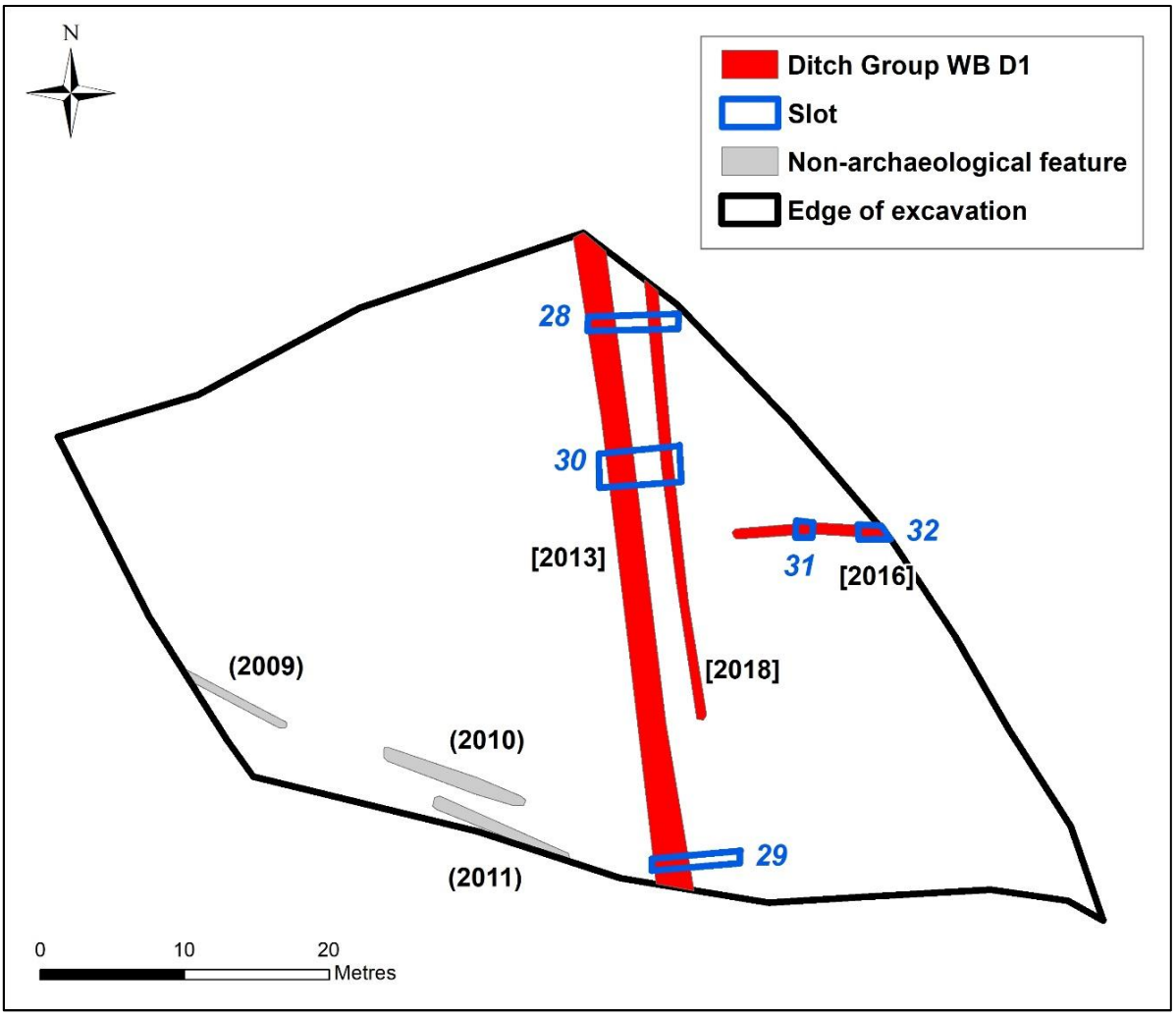

Fig 47 Ditch group WD D1.

Table 11 Group WD D1 Summary

Group	Feature	Slot No:	Fill	Finds	Samples	Plan	Section	Photo ID	PX assess. potential (Y/N)

WB D1	[2013]	28	(2006)			99	98	D45 9390-2, 9402-7	N
		29	(2006)			93	92	D45 9393-5	N
		30	(2006)			101	100	D45 9408-13	N
	[2016]	31	(2008), (2014), (2015)		58	97	94	D45 9396-8	Y
		32	(2008), (2014), (2017)	Pottery		96	95	D45 9399-40	N
	[2018]	28	(2007)			99	98	D45 9390-2, 9402-7	N
		30	(2007)			101	100	D45 9408-13	N

5 Factual Data

5.1 Introduction

Following the completion of fieldwork a spreadsheet containing all contextual, recorded, artefactual, and ecofactual information was compiled.

Assessments for the ceramics, the crystals deposit and the ecofacts have been carried out for the material recovered from the various phases of work and the specialist reports are included in Appendices 2-7.

5.2 Stratigraphic/structural data

Total numbers of contexts are presented in Section 4, above.

Across much of the entire site, stratigraphy was relatively straightforward, with the earliest archaeological remains surviving largely as negative features cut through the colluvium (where present) and underlying loessic clay deposits, with deeper features cut down into bedrock, all sealed by topsoil. The predominant features of the site are a series of rectilinear ditches cut to form either land boundaries and/or drainage features, which would have been positioned on a broadly north-south alignment adjacent to the historic stream course within the valley bottom. Some of the ditches have double channels at their base, either deliberately formed so, or the results of water action. Dating material from the fills of the earliest of these ditches suggest these could have been dug from around the 13th to 14th centuries AD. Most of the ditches have phases of recutting, which material dating suggests might have taken place within the 15th to 17th centuries AD and perhaps later, into the 18th to 19th centuries AD. Within the additional area of archaeological monitoring, a pair of ditches [2013] and [2018] cut into the bedrock correspond with a field boundary shown on the 1840 Kenwyn Tithe map (see Fig 50). A ditch cut perpendicular to these [2016], and containing a mix of pottery of between 14th and 19th century date (probably residual), might be a contemporary or later field boundary.

On the south side of the site, an east-west aligned ditch and wall section 1119/1062 also correspond with a field boundary shown on the 1840 Kenwyn Tithe map (see Fig 50). The features overlie a north-south aligned ditch [1083] at the western end of the site,

which is cut into bedrock. The fill of this ditch contained a mix of 14th to 19th century pottery, probably residual.

In addition to the ditches, several pits recorded in their vicinity are potentially of broad contemporaneity, dated through artefactual material and/or radiocarbon dating to the later medieval/early post-medieval periods, having a predominantly 15th to 17th century date range (see Appendix 2 and section 5.5, below). Most of the pits cut either the colluvium and/or the loessic clays, with the deeper features cutting down well into bedrock. Some smaller ephemeral pits cut into the loess and/or colluvium might be naturally formed pockets or declivities rather than man-made.

On the western side of the site there are a series of ditches that appear to connect with a more uncertain pit-like feature [1081]. These might also have some water related function, possibly for agricultural purposes but potentially including small-scale industrial features - in particular, the wide shallow pit [1081] might have been formed for some form of water-related catchment or processing activity, perhaps for a nearby kiln or smelter, given the presence of a possible copper slag fragment and kiln tile from its upper fill (1079). Additionally, the very large pit [1035] at the southern end of the site, alongside pits [1182] and [1185] downslope at the northern end of the site, all of which were cut deep into the bedrock, might have been prospecting pits of some form. Medieval pottery of 13th to 14th century date, as well as some 18th to 19th century material was recovered from ditch [1213], which ran along the eastern side of pit [1081] and potentially pre-dated it. Some of the pottery conjoined with sherds recovered from a partial upper fill (1079) of pit [1081], indicating that both features may have been infilled at the same time.

The upper fill (1020) of pit [1135] contained 13th to 16th century pottery whilst a sample from this fill returned a radiocarbon date from Maloidae of 252±27 BP, 1517-1805 cal AD (SUERC 134978) (see Section 5.5, below). The wide range returned by this radiocarbon date might be unreliable, although a later medieval into early post-medieval date would conform with the material dating evidence. A possibly post-medieval ditch [1136] cuts fill (1020). Pit [1135], alongside pits [1082] and [1085] might be interpreted as possible early post-medieval prospecting pits, whilst pit [1081] might be associated with mineral prospecting, sorting or processing in some way, possibly incorporating earlier features that could be either agricultural, associated with water management, or even earlier (medieval) prospecting activity in this area.

A group of irregular linear ditches running through the centre of the site, [1077], [1152] and [1162], were very shallow ephemeral features cutting the loessic clay deposit (1046). They were interpreted as probable historic water channels associated with the former dried up stream. The shallow fills contained some crystals and later medieval pottery, but this might all be considered residual and likely derived from the wider site.

Within deposit (1047) and cut into this and the dense concentration of amethyst and quartz crystals at this point, was a narrow sub-rectangular pit [1085] and a small oval pit [1190], which sat at its northern end. The fill of both pits was very dark and clay-rich and contained a concentration of crystals. Both also contained large quartz/amethyst rocks that might have been deliberately placed within the features, although this is somewhat speculative. Both pits sat within a larger pit [1210], initially thought to be a man-made feature, but which might have been alternatively formed, or partly formed, through the intercutting by water movement at his location, which could potentially have undermined the base of pit [1085] in particular. The fills of feature [1210] were relatively porous stony silty clays, in distinct contrast to the very dense and compact nature of the fills of pits [1085] and [1091]. A sample taken from the core of the upper fill (1009) of pit [1085] returned a radiocarbon date from Ilex of 1937±27 BP, 07-214 cal AD (SUERC 134978) (See Section 5.5, below). If real, this date stands out in contrast to the largely medieval and post-medieval character of the site. However, the date is confused by a second radiocarbon date from the basal fill (1096) of pit [1085], which returned a date of 72±27 BP, 1689-1923 cal AD (SUERC 134978), based on a sample of Populus/Salix. As with the sample taken from pit [1135], this dating result from the basal fill of pit [1085] might be considered unreliable. A possible explanation for its spurious nature is

that the basal fill (1096) was contaminated or formed of percolated material from feature [1210] or the adjacent water channels, which undermined a genuinely early Romano-British feature. The results of the thin section analysis, however (see Appendix 6), suggest that the fill of pit [1085] is very similar in make-up to pits [1088] and [1099], which might suggest broad contemporaneity with these (R McPhail, 2025, pers comm). The upper fill (1009) of pit [1085] does, however, have indications of mixing and possibly puddling, which would indicate a degree of contamination and water saturation (see Appendix 6). On this basis, it is probable that the early Roman period date is the result of introduced materials into the upper pit fill from a nearby location.

5.3 Artefactual data

All finds recovered from all phases of mitigation have been cleaned, quantified, and catalogued (see Appendix 2).

A heat affected flint, the distal end of a waste flake, was recovered from the topsoil (1001) or upper surface of fill (1004), the fill of ditch [1218], probably residual (see Appendix 7 for further description).

The majority the pottery recovered from the Maiden Green site was of medieval date, the larger amount dating to the 15th century, with a reasonable representation of 13th to 14th century material and a smaller amount of 15th to 16th century material. Most of this medieval pottery was considered to be South-western micaceous wares, which included Cornish Wares, possibly St Germans Ware, and North Devon tempered wares. Many of the sherds appeared relatively fresh, with minimal abrasion. Additionally, several sherds potentially conjoin, suggesting little movement since deposition (see Appendix 2). There is undoubtedly some degree of residual occurrence, however, particularly from the upper fills of some of the pits and recuts of earlier features, with additionally some intermixing of pottery between fills – as in the case of ditch [1213] and pit [1081] on the west side of the site, for example, where conjoining pieces of the same 13th to 14th century vessel were recovered from both fills. This would suggest that the two features were infilled at the same time and were perhaps in contemporary use, albeit with potentially phased construction (based on stratigraphic relationships).

Post-medieval finds included a substantial amount of pottery, alongside some metalwork, brick and tile (potentially part of a kiln lining and also fragments of floor tile), glass, and part of a clay pipe bowl. A piece of possible tin slag was recovered from the fill (1052) of recut [1059] in Slot 4, with glassy slag, possibly copper slag, recovered from fill (1079) of pit [1081]. Some of the post-medieval pottery, as with the medieval assemblage, was relatively fresh with minimal abrasion and was probably close to original point of deposition. Some was inevitably residual and/or intermixed with other finds of medieval and post-medieval date.

Numerous crystals were recovered from many of the fills and features across the site, both smaller crystals and larger rocks of quartz and amethyst. A sample of the concentrated deposit of crystals in the centre of the site was taken through a grid of 15 test pits, 20 samples in all (some having more than a single fill). An initial assessment of the crystals was undertaken (see Appendix 7). This assessment reiterated the unusual nature of the crystal scatter, as such a natural geological phenomenon would typically be found at lower levels and encountered during at-depth mining operations, although occasional outcrops at surface do occur in Cornwall (and see Section 4.1.5, above). The assemblage in its entirety was noted to have come from minimally disturbed contexts and was in remarkably good condition, suffering no obvious external forms of damage, abrasion or breakage. Only a very small number of pieces, relative to the size of the overall assemblage, were selected as having any potential for having been worked, with very low confidence that this was so. Studied at x2 magnification, it was not possible to be resolutely certain of any working or wear marks, but higher magnification might clarify further. The relative softness of the quartz and amethyst crystals were, however, considered to prevent their use as heavy, or even light-duty tools.

No evidence for crystal-specific activities such as selection, sorting or rearrangement could be identified and it was felt that if any working had taken place, this would have been at an off-site location. Nonetheless, the deposit was considered to be a rare and unusual phenomenon that would have been highly visible and therefore a source of interest to past communities who encountered it, the significance of which is lost to us today (see Appendix 7).

5.4 Ecofactual data

A total of 42 samples were taken from the site for the recovery of environmental remains, which included four monolith samples. Environmental assessment of nine of the samples has been undertaken to determine potential for radiocarbon dating and also the potential for analysis of charred plant remains (CPR). This identified five samples with potential for radiocarbon dating but none with potential for further CPR analysis (Appendix 4).

Assessment of the monolith samples produced eight pollen samples from two tins taken from pits [1085] and [1099]. The results of the further analysis are presented in Appendix 5. Overall pollen preservation was considered poor, which would limit the potential for further analysis.

Thin sections were made from three of the monolith samples, from pits [1085], [1088] and [1099]. The results of the further analysis are presented in Appendix 6.

Samples were taken from pits [1085], [1088], [1099] and [1135] for the potential assessment of waterlogged plant remains but these have not been submitted.

5.5 Radiocarbon dating

Five samples from the site were identified as having potential for radiocarbon dating. The samples derived from material taken from the upper and lower fills of pit [1099], the upper and basal fills of pit [1085] and the upper fill of pit [1135]. The assessment of potential for charcoal suitable for dating identified that the low quantities of charcoal and the high levels of root contamination compromised the potential for reliability as the charcoal could be intrusive (Challinor 2025, Appendix 4). The samples from pits [1099] and [1135] were the most convincing, but the date range produced for pit [1135] must be taken with some level of doubt. Equally, the two contrasting dates from pit [1085] must be considered for possible contamination of fills or intrusive material skewing the results. The results are summarised below.

Pit [1099]

- Upper fill (1008) - Corylus 385±27 BP, 1440-1636 cal AD (SUERC 134978)
- Lower fill (1097) - Alnus/Corylus 397±27 BP, 1436-1629 cal AD (SUERC 134978)

Pit [1135]

- Upper fill (1030) - Maloidae 252±27 BP, 1517-1805 cal AD (SUERC 134978)

Pit [1085]

- Upper fill (1009) - Ilex 1937±27 BP, 07-204 cal AD (SUERC 134978)
- Lower fill (1096) – Populus/Salix 72±27 BP 1689-1923 cal AD (SUERC 134978)

The dating results from the fill of pit [1099] aligns with the expectations from feature morphology, material evidence and stratigraphic relationships across the rest of the site. The dating of pit [1135] might be unreliable, but overall, the results suggest that pits [1099] and [1135] probably fall into the later medieval to early post-medieval periods, pit [1135] potentially being the slightly later of the two features.

The radiocarbon dates for pit [1085] pose a bit more of a conundrum. The sample taken from the upper fill (1009) was solidly from the core of the fill, but the thin section results suggest that the fill was very heterogenous, more mixed than the other two pits and possibly puddled by water saturation. The early Roman period date might therefore be from material introduced from nearby. The juxtaposition of pit [1085] with the crystal

deposit is notable, but there is not sufficient certainty in the dating evidence to place this as Roman period or earlier, and the overarching evidence suggests this pit was broadly contemporary with pits [1088] and [1099], and therefore of medieval origin.

One explanation for the much later date from the basal fill (1096) of pit [1085] was that this was contaminated or intermixed with materials washing or percolating in through water action from the adjacent water channels or stream. This is plausible, given the porous nature of the surrounding fills of pit-like feature [1210] and could have resulted in a spurious date.

5.6 Statement of Potential

5.6.1 Potential of stratigraphic/structural data

There is considered to be no potential for further stratigraphic and structural analysis of the site to verify the primary data.

5.6.2 Potential of artefactual data

Assessment has been made for the artefactual assemblage from the site at Maiden Green (see Appendix 2).

The results indicate that there was a focus of activity here from around the 13th to 14th centuries into the 18th to 19th centuries. Initially, this was probably more agricultural in nature, possibly including some form of water management or drainage, and was perhaps associated with the settlement of Maiden Green just uphill to the east. Most of the pottery is domestic in nature and the lack of very abraded pottery would suggest it originated from very close by and was recovered from where it was initially deposited. In itself the assemblage is remarkable for the quantity of medieval pottery found within a single site, and contains some good diagnostic examples for identification, but the nature of the pottery is otherwise relatively commonplace. A selection of the pottery was taken for comparison with others in a study looking to form a fabric type series of medieval and post-medieval pottery in Devon and Cornwall. The examples from Maiden Green were of interest and useful as fabric comparanda but were not eventually retained for the type series collection (K Berlewen, 2025 pers comm).

Later medieval to early post-medieval activity on the site might have been associated with either or both agricultural and small-scale industrial enterprise, which might have included some metal working, kiln firing or processing activities. Some of the larger pits might have been prospecting pits, but the artefactual data neither confirms nor disproves this. Interestingly, crucible fragments were recovered during evaluation of the field to the south of Willow Green Farm (Fleming and Royall 2024; Morris 2022), just over 250m to the northwest of Maiden Green, and from the settlement of Venton Green just over 350m to the northwest, during the SMS excavations for the NAR (see Fleming and Royall 2024). This would suggest there was some form of small-scale mineral processing taking place in the vicinity of these settlements in the later post-medieval period, and probably earlier. Future work in the area might uncover further evidence to enlighten on the location(s) and nature of this.

The potentially early Roman period date for pit [1085] is most likely spurious, but if this came from a nearby site, it could point to a focus of much earlier activity in the vicinity of the Maiden Green site. During later prehistory this was probably a small, enclosed stream valley, close to a springhead; a watery environment and potentially liminal place on the margins of the later prehistoric settlement nucleus just over the crest of the hill to the south, under what is now the Truro College and Richard Lander sites. The location of the crystal deposit so close to the springhead and a known focus of nearby settlement is remarkable, whatever its origin. Whether a naturally formed *in-situ* outcrop of unusually shallow exposure, or a manually introduced deposit remains uncertain, but if visible at surface, this would very probably have been considered of special significance during later prehistory and into the early Roman period and would in that case have very likely attracted a focus of activities that might have had some ritualistic or spiritual purpose. Further work in the vicinity might uncover more evidence in support of this

hypothesis, but there is nothing further to be gained from this site through further analysis of the evidence currently available to us, and the potential for an early focus of activity here remains putative.

It must also be noted that, if remaining highly visible, the quartz and amethyst deposits would also probably have attracted mineral prospecting at this location and might have influenced the digging of prospecting pits in this area.

There is considered to be limited potential for further analysis from the remaining finds assemblage, however, and no further work is suggested.

5.6.3 Potential of ecofactual data

Charcoal

The charcoal can provide information about local woodland, woodland resources and exploitation and fuelwood supplies. Only the samples from pits [1099] and [1135] offered this potential. One of the larger fragments of wood from pit [1135] exhibited evidence of woodworking, having a cut surface (Appendix 4).

The charcoal from the samples taken from the site had limited dating potential, as discussed above, but broadly supported the hypothesis of a predominantly late medieval/early post-medieval core of activity for the site, whilst throwing up some questions regarding the anomalous pit [1085] associated with the crystals scatter in the centre of the site.

There is considered to be limited potential for further analysis from the charcoal assemblage, and no further work is suggested.

Pollen

The pollen assessment from the two samples taken from pits [1099] and [1085] revealed that overall pollen preservation was poor (Appendix 5).

Sample 16 taken from pit [1085] revealed limited potential for environmental reconstruction but suggested a relatively open downland environment with wild grasses, dandelion and daisies present. Shrubs such as hazel and heathers were present, but few trees, excepting alder. Alder is a pioneer species that thrives in wet marshy environments and is often found growing on moist ground near rivers, ponds and lakes (Alder (Alnus glutinosa) - British Trees - Woodland Trust). Along with spores of fern and sphagnum moss recovered from sample 16, the evidence suggests a rather damp environment at Maiden Green, which would be expected if within a former stream valley.

Sample 21 taken from pit [1099] also indicated an open environment with grasses and herby species, including dandelion and grasses and shrubs such as heathers and hazel, similar to above. More tree species were present, including alder, pine and birch. Small quantities of spores from bracken were noted, along with ferns and sphagnum moss, also indicative of a damp environment.

The two samples indicate that during the later medieval period, and possibly as early as the early Roman period (if the dating of pit [1085] is accepted), was broadly as would be expected from an open downland environment with open shrubby grassland and occasional trees, close to damper environs within the stream valley. The range of species recovered from the charcoal samples supports this summation, additionally identifying the presence of oak, smaller trees such as holly and types of Maloidae (e.g., hawthorn, apple, pear) and poplar/willow, again indicative of damper environments (Appendix 4). The majority of the tree species identified from the Maiden Green samples are colonisers and potentially established on cleared or disturbed areas of downland, as well as close to the wetter marshy ground of the valley floor. The current understanding of major woodland clearance in the British Isles was that this broadly took place during the Neolithic to early Bronze Age, with some variation in timeframe between lowland and highland areas (Bell and Walker 2005, 204). Recolonisation by pioneer species after this time might explain, at least in part, the environmental assemblage recovered from

Maiden Green, although more exact environmental reconstruction and the timeframes of this are not possible on the limited evidence.

Given the generally poor preservation and limited sample numbers, there is considered to be limited potential for further analysis from the charcoal assemblage, and no further work is suggested.

Thin Sections

The thin section analysis revealed that the fills of pits [1088], [1099] and [108] were all similarly dark due to their very fine charcoal content, with the fills of pits [1088] and [1099] containing homogenous muddy silting deposits. Charcoal, burnt soil, and fire-cracked rock fragments were present in fills (1082) and (1097), suggesting these were formed of trapped silt from activities/processes upslope, including wash/colluviation from a nearby fire, or fires (see Appendix 6). Post-deposition the pit fills became easy sites for plants and shrubs to take root.

The upper fill (1096) of pit [1085] was similar in character to fills (1082) and (1097) but was more heterogenous, suggesting more mixing, and possible puddling, of this deposit. This might be in part due to its location close to the former stream bed and other water channels associated with this. The fill was otherwise thought to derive from a similar source as pits [1088] and [1099], containing in-wash from nearby processing activities and/or fire installations (Appendix 6).

5.6.4 Summary statement of potential

Later Prehistoric/Roman

The early Roman period date returned from Pit [1085] must be considered potentially suspicious. Further clarity is unlikely to be possible from the evidence available from the excavations at Maiden Green but further work in the area might reveal the potential for further assessment and consideration of the quartz and amethyst deposit, alongside any meaning or relationship it may have signified for local communities during later prehistory and into the early Roman period.

Medieval to Post-medieval

The overall finds assemblage and radiocarbon dating results (albeit these are limited) support the overall premise of activities associated with a small agricultural settlement on the downland margins at Maiden Green, that might have origins as early as the 13th to 14th centuries AD and with a floruit of activity between the 15th to 19th centuries. The features recorded at Maiden Green potentially had an agricultural function, possibly associated with some water management, during the medieval period, with perhaps the introduction of some small-scale industrial or minerals-related activities at a slightly later point in the medieval period and into the early post-medieval period.

The evidence from the site adds to the body of work resulting from wider investigations and mitigation in the Langarth area and might contribute to the greater understanding of this area during later prehistory and into the medieval and early post-medieval periods, in the light of further evidence materialising. There would be some benefit to further documentary research into this area to understand the settlement and its historic context, particularly in relationship to the neighbouring settlements of Willow Green and Venton Green (the latter is covered to be some extent from the excavation results and documentary research presented for the Truro NAR; Fleming and Royall 2024), but no further material analysis is required.

6 Discussion

The results from the SMS excavations and archaeological monitoring area are presented here by period, where known, and includes the specialist assessment results, where relevant.

6.1 Prehistoric to Roman (*c*10,000 cal BC - AD 410)

Only two artefacts recovered during the work at Maiden Green gave any indication of a later prehistoric origin: a stray waste flake from a flint core and a water worn pebble. They are indicative of a background of later prehistoric activity on-site or in the near vicinity, and a small part of the bigger story of early human activity in this area.

Although undatable in themselves, the crystal scatter is intriguing. Many of the crystals found on site were perfectly transparent and these along with amethyst have occasionally been found at prehistoric sites in Britain. There are two known examples of similar crystals being found on archaeological sites close by, both in Iron Age contexts. Within 300m of the Maiden Green site on the southern side of the A390 several small quartz crystal fragments were found associated with an Iron Age roundhouse hearth (Structure 3) as well as a group of prehistoric pits during archaeological works carried out at Truro College Playing Fields in 2004-5 (Gossip 2006 and 2024 pers com). Three clear quartz crystals were found in 2023 during the Truro Northern Access Road (NAR) archaeological mitigation works, associated with the Iron Age roundhouse in SMS area F 0.6 km to the northeast of the Maiden Green site. One piece was recovered from the roundhouse ditch itself and two others from a group of small irregular pits and a possible wall structure immediately to the west of the roundhouse and considered likely to have been associated with it (Fleming and Royall 2024).

Further afield, a hand-full of crystal assemblages dating to the Neolithic have been recorded, generally focussing on mortuary contexts, for example at Parc le Breos (Wales), Achnacreebeag (Scotland) and at Dorstone Hill in Herefordshire (Overton *et al* 2022). It has been argued that the presence of this exotic crystal material in these prehistoric contexts indicates that it was being used ceremonially to forge local identities and connect the living and the dead (*ibid*).

The deliberate mining and processing of quartz crystal deposits on Exmoor during the Early Bronze Age has also been the subject of research (Juleff and Bray 2007). Several pits containing fills that included large quantities of quartz and slate, along with traces of iron ore, were investigated and shown through radiocarbon dating to be Early Bronze Age in date, there being no associated artefactual evidence. The quartz fragments had angular 'flake-like' morphology that was taken to mean they had been produced by crushing or smashing (*ibid*).

The cultural significance of crystal deposits during later prehistory, both in terms of their mineral make-up and their colour and materiality, as well as how the use of such crystals manifested in various aspects of Bronze Age life, both sacred and practical, is considered to have been meaningful (Juleff and Bray 2007). There is currently very little evidence for sites containing crystal deposits in any form within the South West, so the potential for the crystal scatter at Maiden Green to be of prehistoric origin would make it highly significant.

The crystal scatter was most dense in deposit (1047), a likely Holocene hill wash deposit. Quartz in particular is associated with a wide variety of 'ritual' monuments in western Britain from the Neolithic onwards and the deposit may have been washed in from elsewhere close by, perhaps from a burial/ceremonial monument once positioned top of the slope to the south where the modern A390 now runs. The specialist assessment of the crystal scatter also offers insight into the possible derivation of the deposit, along with its possible meaning and use (see Appendix 7). A deposit of this nature would usually be expected at some depth and located close to the edges of the granitic outcrops of Cornwall, neither of which can be easily demonstrated in the case of maiden Green.

Whatever its derivation, the juxtaposition of Pit Group P4 with the crystal scatter is of interest, and a direct relationship is possible, although there is not enough evidence to fully confirm this. The radiocarbon dating results have suggested a possible early Roman period date for the infilling of pit [1085], but this has to be considered tenuous on the current evidence – that the date derives from intrusive material can't be fully ruled out.

Equally, assessment of the crystal samples taken has been tantalisingly inconclusive. It is possible that a small number might bear some signs of having been worked, but this is a tentative assessment, the overall conclusion being that is perhaps unlikely to have been a stockpile curated for practical purposes. A more sacred meaning might still have existed, however, and it can be reiterated that its probably highly visual nature, alongside the demonstrated value of crystals in later prehistoric culture, would support a potentially symbolic purpose. As stated above, if the crystals were originally from a prehistoric context, this would render the site at Maiden Green of regional and national significance.

6.2 Medieval (AD 410-1540)

During the medieval period, the landscape to the west of Truro was one of small farmsteads and hamlets located within associated pockets of farmland and areas of open downland and commons (Herring and Ratcliffe 2023). The ecofactual evidence, although limited in its extent, indicate an open downland landscape of wild grassland and herbaceous species, with small shrubs such as heather and hazel, and occasional trees such as alder, birch, pine, holly and some oak. Spores of ferns and sphagnum moss, along with tree species such as willow also indicate the damper environment of the small stream valley in which the site at Maiden Green site was situated.

Significant quantities of medieval pottery have been recovered from contexts across the Maiden Green site indicating that there was medieval activity on-site and that several of the recorded linear boundaries are likely to date from this period. Ditch [1213] contained sherds of conjoining pottery dating from the 13th to 15th centuries AD and may have formed part of a much longer medieval land boundary that (along with [1071], [1083], and [1215]) ran north-south across the entire site. The north-south boundary running down the eastern side of the site and incorporating ditches [1054] and [1118] may also date to this period. Both boundaries potentially had planned entranceways. Later recutting of many of the ditches occurred at a subsequent stage, potentially later in the medieval period, perhaps the 15th to 17th centuries on the basis of dating material, but this could also have occurred later into the post-medieval period.

Whilst there was no evidence for medieval settlement actually on site, many of the pottery sherds dating to this period were sooted from use; cooking and cream making vessels were identified from the assemblage, indicating the presence of a hearth (and settlement) close by. This may have been at Maiden Green, around 100m to the east, which could have existed in some form in the later medieval period (see Figs 49 and 50).

The evidence from pits [1088], [1099], and [1085] suggest their fills derive in part from water washed residues from nearby fires (see Appendix 6). The dating from pit [1099] suggests they were probably infilling during the 15th to 17th centuries, which potentially indicates a life use of similar date to the earlier phases of activity on the site, the 13th to 15th centuries.

The assessment of samples taken from pit [1135], part of the group of large oval pits in Pit Group PG1, suggests this might have originated in the later medieval period, potentially from the early 16th century onwards, although confidence in the reliability of the dated sample is somewhat low; and the pottery assemblage from this pit is earlier, 13th to 16th centuries in range. (see Section 5.5 and Appendix 2). Pit [1135] might have formed part of a slightly later phase of activity on the site during the later medieval period and into the early post-medieval period. Along with the other pits in Pit Group 1, it might be associated with some early mineral prospecting taking place in the area, and possibly some small-scale industrial processing taking place on-site or closely nearby. Pit [1081] in particular might be associated with some sort of water collection or processing activity, and fragments of slag and possible kiln material recovered from its fill might support this.

The site's position in relation to the former stream and possible springhead must also be considered, along with the double-ditched feature at the base of several of the ditches, which might indicate some form of water management or activities relating to the control of water in this area during the medieval period.

Overall, the potential evidence for medieval settlement and land-use in the vicinity of Maiden Green can be considered of local and regional significance, helping expand on the current understanding of medieval settlement origins and land organisation within the river valleys and high ground to the west of Truro. The broader understanding of the higher ground on the western edges of Truro being predominantly open downland during the medieval period (see Herring 2019; Herring and Ratcliffe 2023), becoming taken in as hamlet common during this period might stand, but the timeframe for establishing some of the smaller hamlets and farmsteads in this area might be earlier than postulated. Recent work on the Truro Northern Access Road (NAR) (Fleming and Royall 2024), alongside the evidence from Maiden Green, suggests this potentially extends back into the 13th-14th centuries as a point of origin, rather than being of later, but still pre-18th century, date, as has been currently assumed.

6.3 Post-medieval (AD 1540-1900)

There is clear evidence for post-medieval activity on site. Two ditches associated with post-medieval Cornish hedge boundaries were recorded through excavation during the Maiden Green archaeological works. These features largely correspond with boundaries recorded on the 1840 Kenwyn Tithe map (Fig 50) and would have been associated with the post-medieval enclosure of former downland. The small pit [1092] in Pit Group 2 is best interpreted as a probable small rubbish pit and contained artefacts dating from the 13th to 19th centuries AD. Whilst the precise function of the large pit [1081] and the associated linears running towards and away from it remains uncertain, if related to some form of small-scale processing industry requiring water control as part of its mechanics, this could have been taking place during the later medieval into the post-medieval period. The pit contained post-medieval brick pottery and glass considered to be associated with its end-of-life levelling.

The post-medieval smallholding of Maiden Green was situated less than 100m to the east of the site and is likely to have been the settlement related to the activity recorded here. It was probably one of three farmhouses shown on Martyn's map of 1748 (Fig 48), alongside one at what is now Willow Green Farm, and another at Venton Green. Maiden Green is shown but not named on the OS survey of 1813 (Fig 49). In the 1840 Kenwyn Tithe award, the settlement of Maiden Green is shown as houses, yard and a mowhay within the tenement of Pencoose. Enclosures associated with the settlement are listed as ferns (for animal bedding) and an orchard. The plot containing the excavation site is recorded as 'undertown'. The 'Green' suffix is quite unusual in Cornwall, being an English word that normally refers to small areas of open grassland that were effectively common shared by several households (Herring 2019). The date of origin of the name Maiden Green is not known.

During the 1840s, the settlements of Venton Green and Maiden Green were leased by members of the Robins family. The 1841 census for Maiden Green lists Ann Robins as head of household and farmer (45yrs) and Elisha Robins (perhaps her brother) listed as blacksmith (40yrs) with his wife Elisabeth (35yrs) and their seven children, as well as Fernando Pasco listed as labourer aged 75 (Cornwall Online Census Project). At this time, Maiden Green encompassed the settlement now referred to as Maiden Green, and also Willow Green, what is now Willow Green Farm; it was at the latter that Ann Robins resided, Elisha presumably occupying Maiden Green itself (see Fleming and Royall 2024 for further detail). The listing of a different occupation to farming for the 'man' of the house is commonplace in this area, at Willow Green Cottage another member of the Robins family, William Robins, was named as farmer and copper miner. This suggests that the living provided by farming these smallholdings was meagre and it was necessary to have a supplemental activity in order survive. By the time of the 1851 census the Robins appear to have left the smallholding of Maiden Green and brothers Henry and John Harvey are now listed as farmer and farm servant. Maiden Green is still shown as an extant and named farmstead on the OS 4th edition map of *c*1932-39.

The settlement of Maiden Green would be considered of local significance, evidencing the division of medieval land holdings and expansion onto the downland and commons, as well as the subsistence-based and peripatetic working lifestyle of farming smallholders during the later medieval into post-medieval periods, and the gradual demise of this into the 19th century. As mentioned above, it is possible that the origins of Maiden Green and its sister settlements of Venton Green and Willow Green are earlier than previously thought, with material dating evidence suggesting some form of domestic activity taking place in the vicinity potentially as early as the 13th century. The demonstrated connections to local families in the area well into the 19th century, many names still persisting into the present day, has high communal value.

6.4 Modern (AD 1901–present)

Excepting for wall 1062/1119, none of the features and boundaries recorded during the SMS area are marked on the OS mapping or the 1840 Kenwyn Tithe map and are therefore likely to have gone out of use by the early 19th century at the latest. The only modern feature encountered on site was the modern farm track (1065) which ran east west across the site. The southern edge of the site had been disturbed by the constructing of the modern A360 in the 20th century AD, which extended to subsume most of the plot recorded as 'orchard' on the 1840 Kenwyn Tithe map.

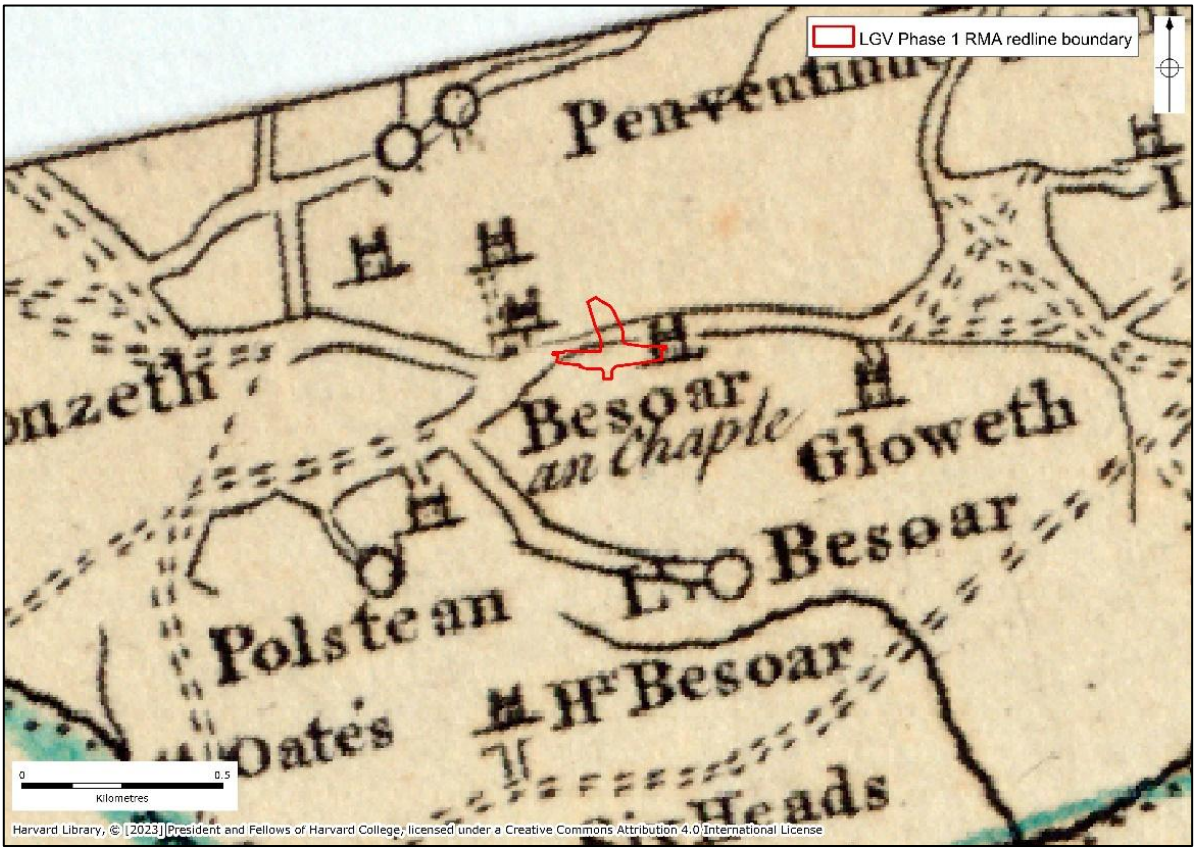

Fig 48 Martyn's map of 1748 showing the site relative to the settlements of Maiden Green, Willow Green and Venton Green. Some offset due to georeferencing error. Harvard Library, © [2023] President and Fellows of Harvard College, licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License.

Fig 49 Ordnance Survey Sheet XXXI Surveyed 1803 to 1811, Published 1813.

This file has been provided by the National Library of Scotland from its digital collections. Georeferenced Maps viewer - Map images - National Library Georeferenced Maps viewer - Map images - National Library of Scotland of Scotland

Fig 50 Kenwyn Tithe map of 1840, with interpretation of features within Maiden Green.

7 Conclusions

The results of the fieldwork and the assessment of significance allow for some recommendations to be made for further work. These recommendations are for guidance only and the Local Planning Authority (LPA) will guide the required work.

7.1 Collation of archive and production of post-excavation assessment and Updated Project Design

On completion of the primary archive reporting an assessment stage was carried out in agreement with the Senior Development Officer Historic Environment (SDOHE). This involved the assessment of structural and stratigraphic data and artefactual/ecofactual material, alongside some limited radiocarbon dating, the results of which are summarised in this updated report, Section 5, with full reports attached as Appendices 2-7.

This report also includes an Updated Project Design, the premise of which is that, with limited potential for further analysis, this report should conclude the body of material work to be carried out for the post-excavation phase at Maiden Green, with no further analysis required.

7.2 Updated project design

Pending final approval by the SDOHE, it is recommended that no further analysis needs to be undertaken for this project. The specialist assessment results are summarised in the main body of the report and attached in full as appendices 2-7. A discussion of the fieldwork results, background research and specialist results are included in Section 6. The report will be uploaded to the digital archive OASIS and it is suggested that the project be included in the annual summary of work undertaken in Cornwall in the local Cornwall Archaeological Society Journal, which will include a signpost to the full report.

It would be hoped that future work in the area might reveal further evidence of the later prehistoric and early Roman period landscape in this area, which might help inform on the enigmatic crystal scatter and the potentially early activity directly associated with this.

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Appendix 1: Project Design
Maiden Green Link Road, Truro

Client: Cormac Solutions Ltd – Engineering Design Consultancy

Planning ref (if appropriate): PA23/07445

Project background

This document sets out a project design by Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) for a programme of archaeological investigation at Maiden Green, Truro, for a section of link road between the Truro Northern Access Road (currently under construction) and the A390, centred at SW 78770 45070 (Figs 1 and 2).

The work has been requested by Cornwall Council's Senior Development Officer Historic Environment (SDHOE) to satisfy Condition 39 (Application B) of the outline consent PA20/09631 in relation to the reserved matters application PA23/07445 granted by Cornwall Council. The planning condition states that:

A) Prior to the commencement of Construction Works (save for Enabling Works) within any phase, sub-phase or development parcel a Written Scheme of Investigation ("WSI"), shall have been submitted to and approved by the Local Planning Authority in writing. The WSI shall include:

1. An assessment of significance including research questions;

2. The programme and methodology of site investigation and recording;

3. The programme for post investigation assessment;

4. Provision for analysis of the site investigation and recording;

5. Provision for publication and dissemination of the analysis and records of the site investigation;

6. Provision for archive deposition of the analysis and records of the site investigation; and

7. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the WSI.

B) No development within any phase, sub-phase or development parcel shall take place otherwise than in accordance with the WSI approved under Part (A).

C) No phase, sub-phase or development parcel shall be occupied or brought into use until the site investigation, recording and post investigation assessment for that phase, sub-phase or development parcel has been completed in accordance with the programme set out in the WSI approved under Part (A) and the analysis, publication and dissemination of results, and archive deposition (where applicable) has also been secured in accordance with details set out in the WSI approved under Part (A).

Reason: To ensure that provision is made to record finds of archaeological interest in accordance with the aims and intentions of Policy 24 of the Cornwall Local Plan Strategic Policies 2010-2030 and paragraph 205 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2021 and. A pre-commencement condition is necessary in this instance due to the need to ensure that a programme and methodology of site investigation and recording of archaeological features is undertaken before physical works commence on site.

Informative The archaeological recording condition for any phase, sub-phase or development parcel will normally only be discharged when all elements of the WSI for that phase, sub-phase or development parcel, including onsite works, analysis, reporting, publication and (where applicable) archive work has been completed.

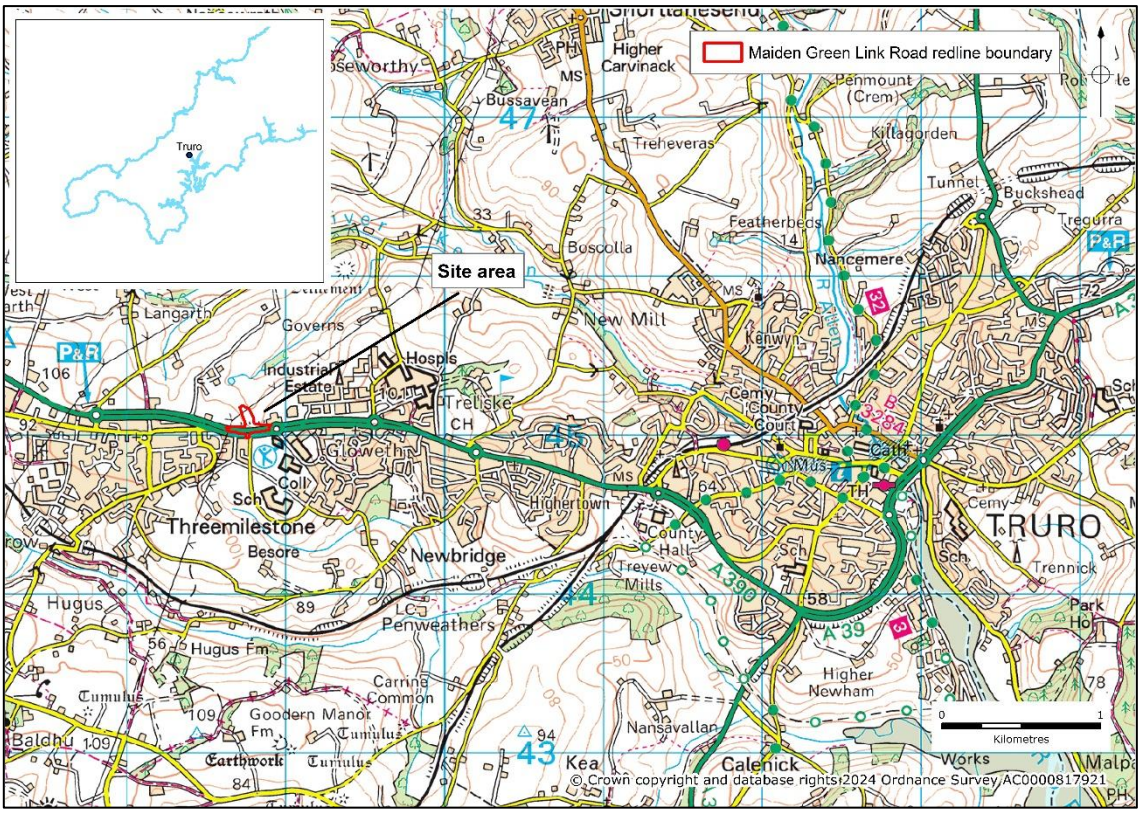

Figure 1: Site location map.

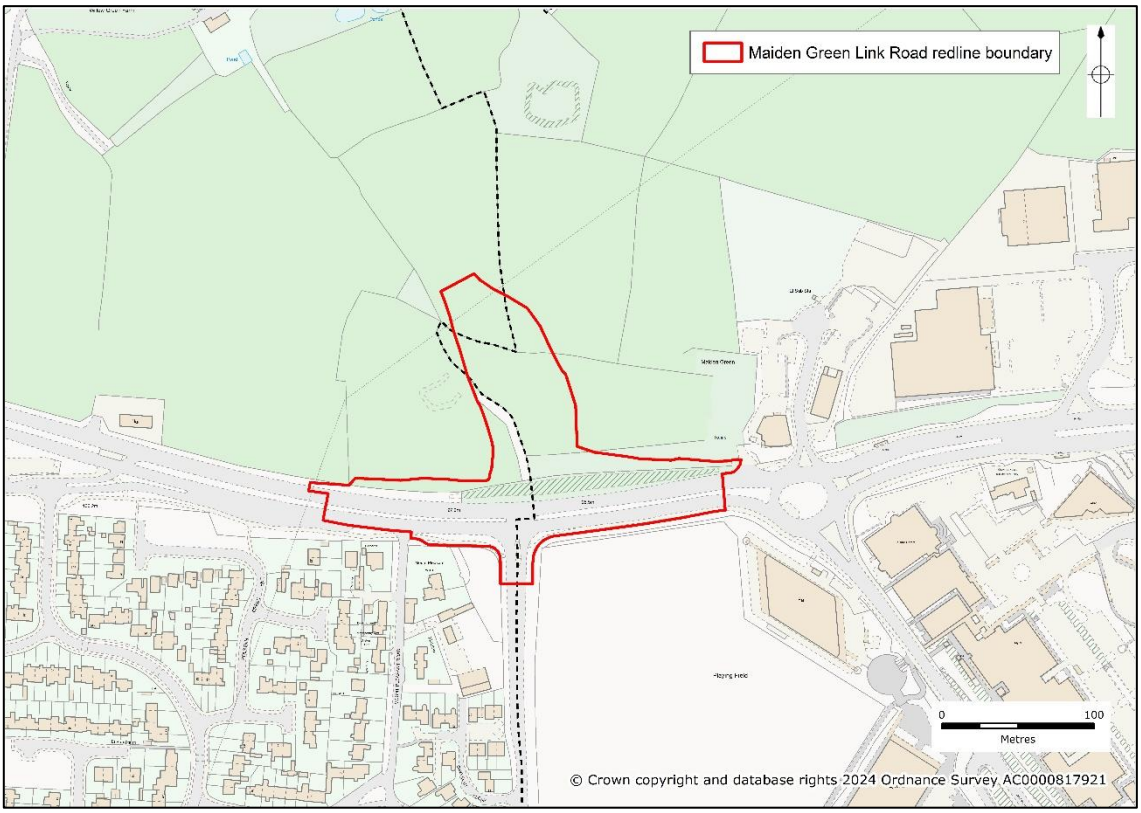

Figure 2: Site extent.

This project design (formerly termed a Written Scheme of Investigation or WSI) refers to a programme of archaeological work agreed with the SDOHE for the area within the redline planning boundary (Figs 1 and 2), hitherto referred to as 'the site'. The scope of works has been formed on the basis of existing available geophysical surveys, desk-based assessments, evaluations and mitigation schemes carried out for the wider Langarth outline planning area (see Site history, below).

The project design comprises the overarching methodology for the requested archaeological works, presently a combination of archaeological monitoring (formerly termed a watching brief) and SMS excavation and includes the recording of historic hedge boundary sections within the site that are programmed for removal.

Site history

The area under investigation forms part of a wider scheme of proposed development at Langarth, to the west of Truro. Appraisal of the heritage-based resource of the proposed Langarth development has included desk-based assessment by Arcadis (Latham 2020) and historic landscape assessment by Peter Herring (Herring 2019), which have contributed to the consideration of heritage and archaeological impacts as part of a broader Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). One of the geophysical surveys forming part of the investigations for the wider scheme was undertaken by GSB Prospection on behalf of CgMs Consulting and incorporates the area of the site (GSB Prospection 2011, Area 1). An archaeological desk-based assessment (Brown 2018) was produced ahead of a former proposed development of the site (planning ref PA18/11022). Archaeological evaluation trenching was requested as part of related planning conditions (issued under PA21/06047) but was never carried out, although a WSI was produced for the work (Boyd 2021).

A programme of archaeological monitoring and investigation has recently been undertaken in the vicinity of the site as part of the Truro Northern Access Road (NAR) scheme of works. The results are currently being assessed for publication but have demonstrated the potential of the area for surviving below ground archaeological remains of later prehistoric (Bronze Age through to Romano-British) date, as well as surviving below ground and upstanding archaeological sites and features of medieval to post-medieval date, which have substantially increased our understanding of the historic landscape of the area, as well as its earlier origins of settlement and land use. Although the geophysical surveys and evaluations carried out as part of the wider Langarth proposals have considerably contributed towards the identification and understanding of the archaeological resource of the area, several significant later prehistoric sites have been recorded as part of strip map and sample excavations that were not revealed through prior survey and evaluation, demonstrating a much higher potential for later prehistoric activity in the area than previously assessed. The archaeological work also uncovered evidence for activity and use of the A390 corridor during the Second World War as part of the D-Day preparations.

The available assessments, surveys, evaluations and mitigation programmes have been consulted and inform the rest of this section.

Site location and setting

The site is located on the west side of Truro, Cornwall, in Kenwyn parish, centred on NGR SW 78770 45070 (Figs 1 and 2). It lies immediately west of the former settlement of Maiden Green, on the edge of the Treliske Industrial Estate, with the Truro College and new Richard Lander Secondary School sites to the southeast and the Mount Pleasant development at Threemilestone to the southwest. The site will incorporate a section of a former historic lane (and former trackway) that ran between the settlements of Maiden Green and Willow Green, of possible medieval to post-medieval date (see Figs 5-7, and possibly 4). It will form a new road junction with the A390, linking this with the Truro Northern Access Road (NAR) - currently under construction.

The site is located towards the high point of a north facing hillslope above a small stream valley feeding into the River Kenwyn. A stream is shown on the *c*1809 OS survey drawing just to the west of the lane (Fig 5), which might account for the sinuous linear anomaly identified as a possible natural feature by the geophysical survey (GSB Prospection 2011, fig 12 – and in light green in Fig 9). The stream does not feature on later historic or modern mapping.

The Historic Landscape Character (HLC) of the site is that of Recently Enclosed Land (Farmland; post-medieval). This is land enclosed in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, usually from land that was previously Upland Rough Ground and often medieval commons (Cornwall County Council 1996; Herring 1998). The northern end of the site just falls within Anciently Enclosed Land (Farmland; Medieval). This is ancient agricultural heartland which has been settled and farmed since prehistory but whose field and settlement patterns were formalised during the medieval period, although often preserving older boundary lines. Farming settlements are typically documented before the 17th century AD (source, Institute of Cornish Studies place-names index) and field patterns are morphologically distinct from the generally straight-sided fields of later enclosure (Cornwall County Council 1996; Herring 1998). Land designated as Anciently Enclosed Land (AEL) typically has high archaeological potential.

The area in which the site is located was probably open downland into the later medieval to post-medieval periods. The origin of many of the boundaries within this area probably lies in the establishment and then subdivision (a process beginning in the late medieval to early post-medieval period) of *hamlet common* – an area of enclosed grazing and fuel grounds shared between the farmers of neighbouring medieval hamlets, such as Langarth to the northwest of the site (Herring and Ratcliffe 2023). The line of the A390 where it runs through the site follows a much older (at least medieval) route across the downland (MCO62139) that ran between Truro and Redruth via Chacewater. At Threemilestone, to the west of the site, another medieval road (MCO74853) branched off towards St Agnes, linking with the ancient spinal route that ran through the County, now largely fossilised by the A30 trunk road.

The underlying geology of the site is Devonian Period mud and sandstones of the Porthtowan Formation, with superficial alluvial deposits along some watercourses (Geology of Britain Viewer 2024). Soils of this area comprise well-drained loamy brown earths of the Denbigh 2 Association (Cranfield University 2024; SSEW 1983).

Known archaeological sites

Sites recorded in the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record (HER) have record numbers, prefix MCO, in brackets, accessed via the Heritage Gateway.

The area containing the site is rich in prehistoric archaeology, which includes numerous Bronze Age round barrows and barrow cemeteries, in particular those found to the east of the site at Gloweth (MCO56935; MCO56936; MCO2459; MCO2626) and Treliske Hospital (MCO2459; MCO2626; MCO3676-MCO3683; MCO56935-MCO56936). Structures associated with a Late Bronze Age settlement were recorded during excavations at Mount Pleasant in 2005, now the Richard Lander School site (Gossip 2021).

Iron Age settlement activity is well-recorded in near proximity to the site, with an extensive unenclosed Iron Age roundhouse settlement and associated field system (MCO55328) at Mount Pleasant (Gossip 2021), to the south of the site. Prominently situated close to this area of Iron Age activity, and just over 120m southwest of the edge of the site, is the Iron Age 'round' settlement at Mount Pleasant (MCO8256). A further potential round is located closely adjacent to the south of the settlement at Higher Besore (MCO55327), along with two further potential rounds at Langarth (MCO62159) and Governs (MCO25183), to the west and east respectively. Two particularly prominent and relatively well-preserved Iron Age rounds are located at Bosvisak (MCO7654) and Penventinnie (MCO8352) to the north and northeast of the site. Recent excavations within 500m northeast of site uncovered a small roundhouse of probable Iron Age date (Fleming

2023; forthcoming), based on initial dating of pottery recovered from the feature. The roundhouse was situated within a field system of probable contemporary date, parts of which saw re-use into the post-medieval period (*ibid*).

The medieval landscape of the site and surrounding area comprises the remains of numerous medieval field systems. Boundaries still visible as earthworks and/or cropmarks were mapped during the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly NMP project. A field system (MCO31892) of possible medieval to post-medieval date is recorded from aerial photographs at Willow Green. Excavations as part of the NAR scheme of works recorded boundaries associated with this site, some of which corresponded with field boundaries shown on the *c*1840s Tithe map, some which were likely older - these remain currently undated but could be potentially medieval or earlier in origin (Fleming forthcoming). Settlements of medieval or earlier origin are documented at Langarth (MCO62148) to the northwest, Penventinnie (MCO16258) to the northeast, and Gloweth (MCO14533) to the east of the site, along with the Domesday settlement and manor of Bosvisack (MCO13545) to the northwest.

Sites of post-medieval date in proximity to the site are predominantly of rural agricultural character; field boundaries, trackways and settlements, including those at nearby Willow Green (MCO62150) and Venton Green (MCO62149), along with Maiden Green (MCO62151) itself. Excavations at Venton Green as part of the NAR scheme of works recorded substantial remains of structures and features associated with the post-medieval settlement. Pottery recovered from the site is still in assessment but fragments of pot dating back to between the 12th and 15th centuries are included in a larger assemblage of 16th to early 19th century material, potentially suggesting a settlement of medieval origin (Fleming forthcoming). The placename of Venton Green, which includes the Cornish element *Venton*, meaning 'spring', might corroborate this. Venton Green, Willow Green, and possibly Maiden Green, all feature as farmhouses on Martyn's map of 1748 (Fig 4) and the *c*1809 OS survey drawings (Fig 5). A post-medieval quarry (MCO62164) is recorded within the site, on the west side of the historic lane. The quarry is shown on the *c*1840s Tithe Map, on the edge of a plot aptly named 'Quarry Field' (Fig 6).

During the Second World War the A390 west of Truro was the location for a string of temporary U.S. Army camps (e.g., MCO55061; MCO31894; MCO58048; MCO31885) constructed during the build up to the D-Day landings. This was 'C' sausage camp – named for the shape of the camps on military maps - within Area 'O' of the South Western Zone (Administrative order no. 7, Operation Overlord - South Western Zone. - World War II Operational Documents - Ike Skelton Combined Arms Research Library (CARL) Digital Library (oclc.org)).

The site lies between a small, tented camp (MCO34994) and a larger military camp at Treliske (MCO31894), which was occupied by support units of the US Army's 29th Division. Rows of tents and associated structures at both sites were plotted from 1940s RAF aerial photographs during the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly NMP project. There has been little material evidence found for these camps to date but archaeological monitoring during the NAR scheme of works recorded a series of parallel ditches forming pairs lined up along the roadside hedge line within the site of one of the former camps, interpreted as potential drainage ditches or drip gullies dug either side of individual tents. A range of finds from the site included wooden tent pegs, ceramics, ironwork, a wrapper with ingredients listed, and a badly corroded regimental ensign button (Fleming 2023; forthcoming).

A Second World War military building (MCO58048) in use as a Young Farmer's hall is still extant 100m to the west of the site.

Potential archaeological sites

The geophysical survey carried out by GSB Prospection (2011) identified a rectilinear anomaly on the south side of the site that could potentially be a small enclosure of later prehistoric (perhaps Iron Age/Romano-British) origin (Fig 9). A group of uncertain

responses to the northwest of the possible enclosure were also identified and considered equally to be potentially archaeological or geological in origin. Their loosely linear arrangement might indicate fragments of linear features of uncertain date, but this is not certain based on the geophysical survey alone. Two strong linear anomalies running through the site from north to south are thought likely to be field drains. A sinuous linear anomaly identified as a possible natural feature (shown in bright green in Figure 9) could potentially correspond with a section of former stream bed (as mentioned above).

Health and Safety and Environmental Policies

CAU Health and Safety Policies

All works will be carried out in accordance with the Health and Safety Act 1974, the Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992 and other relevant health and safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice, including Principle 5 of CIfA's Code of Conduct (CIfA 2019). CAU has access to Cornwall Council's online Health and Safety policies and guidance and follows Cornwall Council's *Statement of Safety Policy* (Cornwall Council 2021 – Policy Number PLY001). CAU also has its own rigorous policy for managing health and safety at work (CAU 2019).

Relevant risk assessments are carried out before each fieldwork task and CAU will produce a risk assessment prior to archaeological work commencing. This will include the most up to date assessment of working with Covid. CAU will discuss specific RAMS and RAs produced for the site by the client and will adhere to these whilst on site.

Specific Health and Safety Measures

- The CAU project team will undertake and adhere to any site induction and safety courses provided by the client or on-site agent.
- Any specific known hazards relating to the site will be made known to the CAU project team by the client, along with the relevant guidance and instruction on carrying out work in vicinity of these.
- Appropriate health and safety requirements for general working on site by the CAU project team will be observed. In particular these may relate to:
    - Working near plant and machinery.
    - Working near or within deep excavations.
    - Working with hand-held and/or power tools.
    - Identifying and mitigating environmental hazards (e.g., dust, contaminants).

Environmental Policies

CAU recognises its professional and intellectual responsibilities towards the protection of archaeological heritage and the wider environment generally. All CAU staff undertake carbon literacy training. Archaeological activities have the potential to affect the environment and CAU is resolved to adopting working policies that accord with the laws, regulations and other policy mechanisms concerning environmental issues and sustainability. In particular, CAU aligns with CIfA's *Code of Conduct* (2019, Principles 1 and 2) and *CIfA's Environmental Protection Policy Statement* (CIfA 2018, Policy 4). As part of Cornwall Council, CAU aligns with its environmental aspirations in working towards a carbon neutral Cornwall, as set out in the Carbon Neutral Cornwall web page Carbon Neutral Cornwall - Cornwall Council Intranet (cornwallonline.net).

The CAU project team will make themselves aware of, and will adhere to, the environmental policies of the client whilst on site and, if and where necessary, will endeavour to minimise environmental impacts arising from archaeological fieldwork.

Project extent

The programme of archaeological mitigation for the site has been set out to include a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording (formerly termed watching briefs), alongside a small area identified for targeted Strip, Map and Sample (SMS)

excavation. Included in the archaeological monitoring and recording will be the photographic recording of all historic hedge boundaries, up to and including those of early 20th Century date, that are planned for removal, with more detailed survey, drawn records, and possibly sampling, where these are deemed appropriate for more significant features. All manner of archaeological mitigation within the redline boundary will be kept under dynamic review and discussion with the client and SDOHE.

Aims and objectives

The principal aim of the study is to gain a better understanding of the archaeology of the development area.

The objectives are to:

- Obtain an archaeological record of the site prior to development.
- To prepare an appropriate archaeological archive including the treatment and preservation of any artefacts.

Key objectives are to:

- Identify the nature and significance of the geophysical anomaly on the south side of the site and to ensure the preservation of any archaeological remains by record.

The results of the fieldwork may be expected to feed into the following research objectives set out in the current South West Archaeological Research Framework (Grove and Croft 2012; Webster 2007):

21 – Improve our understanding of the environmental aspects of farming.

> 21a: Development of field systems and intensification of agriculture in the Bronze and Iron Ages.
>
> 21b: Medieval and Post-Medieval agriculture.

64 - Improve understanding of the less-researched areas of Post-Medieval to Modern defence and warfare.

Working methods

All recording work will be undertaken according to the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) guidance (CIfA 2020; 2023a; 2023b; 2023c). Staff will follow the CIfA *Code of Conduct* (2019). 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.

Fieldwork: archaeological monitoring and recording

The SDOHE has advised that continuous archaeological monitoring and recording is required on the site during groundworks to fulfil the planning condition. Two areas for monitoring have been identified (see Fig 3). These two areas have seen little to no geophysical survey and are currently undetermined by way of archaeological potential. This work will be guided by CIfA's guidance on undertaking archaeological monitoring and recording (CIfA 2023b).

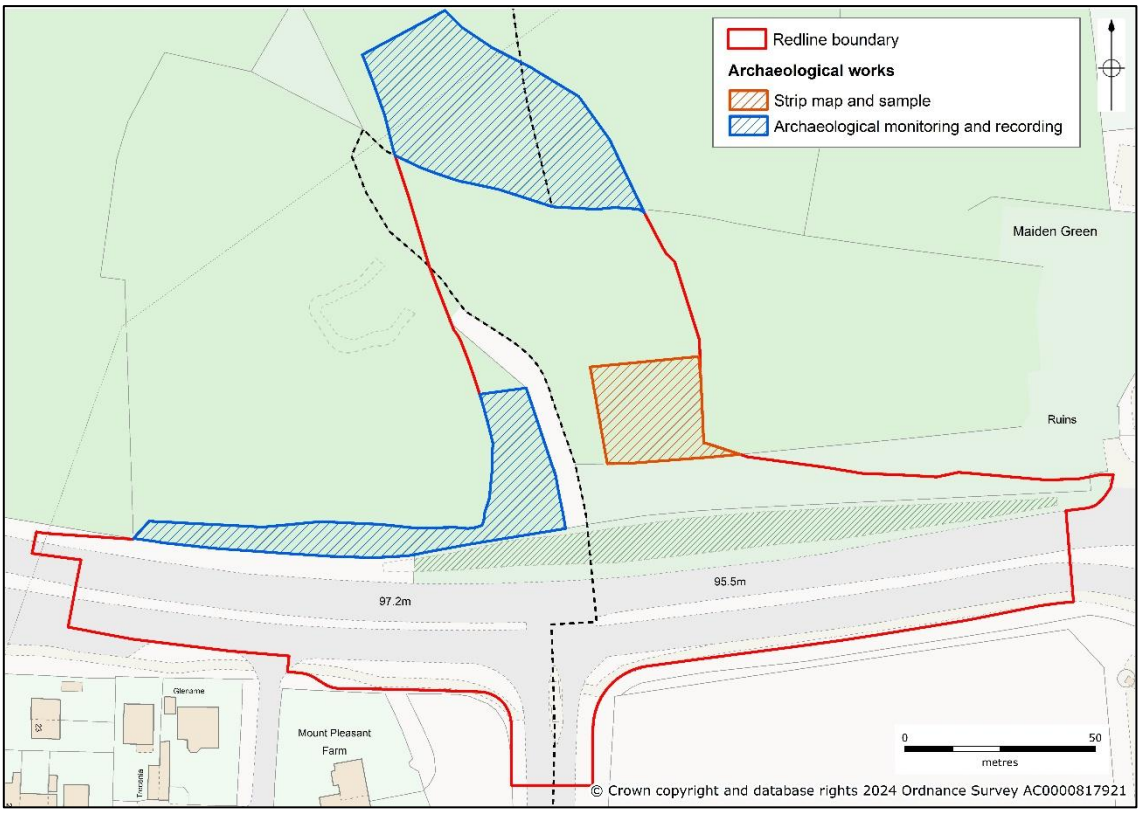

Figure 3 Plan showing the areas of the site identified for Strip, Map and Sample (SMS) excavations and those for archaeological monitoring and recording.

All groundworks which might potentially contain archaeological features will be undertaken under continuous archaeological supervision. This will include any removal of soil across the site, the excavation of footing or service trenches, or other activities which would result in the lowering of the present site levels. All soil stripping should be undertaken by a machine equipped with a toothless grading bucket where possible. Should archaeological features be revealed, mechanical excavation will be halted, and the exposed features cleaned up by hand to determine their significance prior to either their recording or further mechanical excavation. The developer will allow reasonable time for the excavation and recording of any features thus revealed. Where a temporary stop of work is required the site archaeologist will request this via the developer and the SDOHE.

Historic hedge Boundary recording

All historic hedge boundaries up to and including those of early 20th Century date that have been identified for removal will be mitigated through an intermittent archaeological watching brief. The hedge boundary sections to be removed will be taken down by machine to expose clean end sections ready for an archaeologist to record. The exposed hedge sections will be kept free of loose materials so that the archaeologist has clear access. Digital photographs will be taken to record the boundary in section and to capture internal features and construction detail. Should a boundary contain features of particular significance (e.g., atypical construction methods, buried palaeosoils) a measured and drawn survey of a boundary section may be made and samples may be taken. The client and CAU will liaise over the programme of boundary removal to agree the most expedient use of time on site.

Fieldwork: excavation

The SDOHE has advised that strip map and sample excavation is required on the site prior to groundworks. One area of 0.075ha encompassing the possible rectilinear

enclosure has been agreed (see Figs 3 and 9), to be kept under review dependent on the findings and in discussion with the client and the SDOHE. This work will be guided by CIfA's guidance on undertaking archaeological excavation (CIfA 2023c).

Areas to be excavated will be laid out to British National Grid coordinates using a Leica GPS device. Where this has not already been carried out, the client will be asked to arrange for the areas due to be stripped to be scanned by a suitably trained operative with a CAT scanner to identify buried services prior to stripping taking place, Adjustment of stripped areas that may subsequently be necessary will be confirmed with the SDOHE prior to excavation.

Soil stripping of the excavated areas will be carried out under archaeological supervision using a machine fitted with a toothless grading bucket. The soil will be stripped cleanly to a level at which archaeological features or layers are revealed or the natural substrate, as appropriate. There will be no access onto the SMS area for through traffic or other plant (aside from the excavating machine) whilst archaeological work is taking place, or until they have been signed off by the CAU archaeologist.

Upon completion of the controlled stripping of the designated archaeological area, CAU, in consultation with the SDOHE, will confirm the extent of excavation/sampling that is required. Typically, this will consist of the following sample levels:

- All small discrete features (postholes, pits, etc <1m in diameter) will be fully excavated (excepting large numbers of very small features such as stakeholes which will be subject to a lower sampling frequency).
- Larger discrete features (eg, pits >1m) will be half-sectioned.
- Linear/curvilinear features will be sampled at 10-20%, depending on length.
- Spoil will be examined for artefacts visually and by metal detection.
- The opportunity to use a metal detector on site to check features prior to excavation and to monitor spoil heaps will be explored with the client. If agreed on, a suitably experienced metal detectorist will be brought in to carry out this task.

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 preserved *in situ* then full-scale excavation may subsequently be required**. 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. Generally, work progress will be kept under continual review to permit a flexible and proportionate approach to the level of any archaeology encountered.

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; CAU will follow Historic England (2015) guidance on digital image capture and storage. Photographs will include a record of significant features and general working shots. 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 or if they will be disturbed by the development process.
- If excavation of human remains is proved necessary, the guidance given in the current CIfA guidelines for recording human remains (CIfA 2017) will be followed.
- 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. For larger schemes, an excavation for human remains licence will be arranged by CAU prior to commencement of works.
- If human remains are uncovered, which require excavation, they 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 is likely to 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 project geoarchaeological specialist (see below).
- 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. Consideration will be given to metallurgical sampling.

Creation of the physical and digital 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 (drawings, 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 added to the site archive or deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS).
- Completion of the ADS OASIS online archive index.
- All correspondence relating to the project, the project design, and a single paper copy of the report, stored in an archive standard (acid-free) documentation box.
- Drawn archive storage (plastic wallets for the annotated record drawings).
- Additional digital data (survey, external reports, etc)

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 physical archive will go to an accredited archive repository, when a dedicated space becomes available. Until that time material will be stored at CAU offices. An accession number for the physical archive will be obtained once space becomes available for deposition.

- Digital data will be stored on the Cornwall Council network which is regularly and frequently backed up.
- Digital data (CAU reports, external reports, survey data, geophysics data, digital photographs etc) forming part of the site archive will be deposited with the ADS.
- The documentary archive will be deposited at an accredited archive repository when space is available. Until that time material will be stored at Cornwall Council Restore facility.

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

Outreach opportunities

Public benefit will be promoted indirectly through the increase in knowledge that the results of investigation provide to the local and wider community and through formal publication. In certain circumstances and as appropriate to the significance of the results and proportionate to the scale and nature of the work this may extend to community engagement and other innovative forms of dissemination including the use of different forms of media, exhibitions or events.

A contingency will be made within the costs for potential outreach/public engagement. The SDOHE will notify CAU of such a need during onsite work or within four weeks of receipt of the report, in consultation with the client and CAU.

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.

In the case of significant and/or extensive results a post excavation assessment report will be produced in accordance with CIfA's guidelines for post-excavation assessment (2023c). This will include a summary of the site archive and work carried out for assessment, a discussion of the potential of the data, and an updated project design (UPD) setting out proposals for analysis and publication.

The report will include the following elements:

- Summary
- Project background
- Aims and objectives
- Methodology
- Location and setting
- Site history
- Archaeological results
- Chronology/dating evidence
- Interpretation and discussion of results
- Assessment of the potential of any data for further analysis
- Proposals for publication of the further analysis in an appropriate format
- Conclusions
- References
- Project archive index
- Supporting illustrations: location map, historic maps, plans, elevations/sections, photographs
- Project design as an appendix

Timetable

The study is anticipated to commence during Spring/Summer 2024. CAU will require at least 4 weeks' notice before commencement of work, in order to allocate field staff and arrange other logistics.

The archive report will be completed within 6 months of the end of the fieldwork. The deposition of the archive will be completed within 6 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 project design 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 project design
- Completion of fieldwork
- Completion of archive report
- Deposition of the archive

Regular (e.g., weekly) updates will provided to the SDOHE in areas of significant archaeology.

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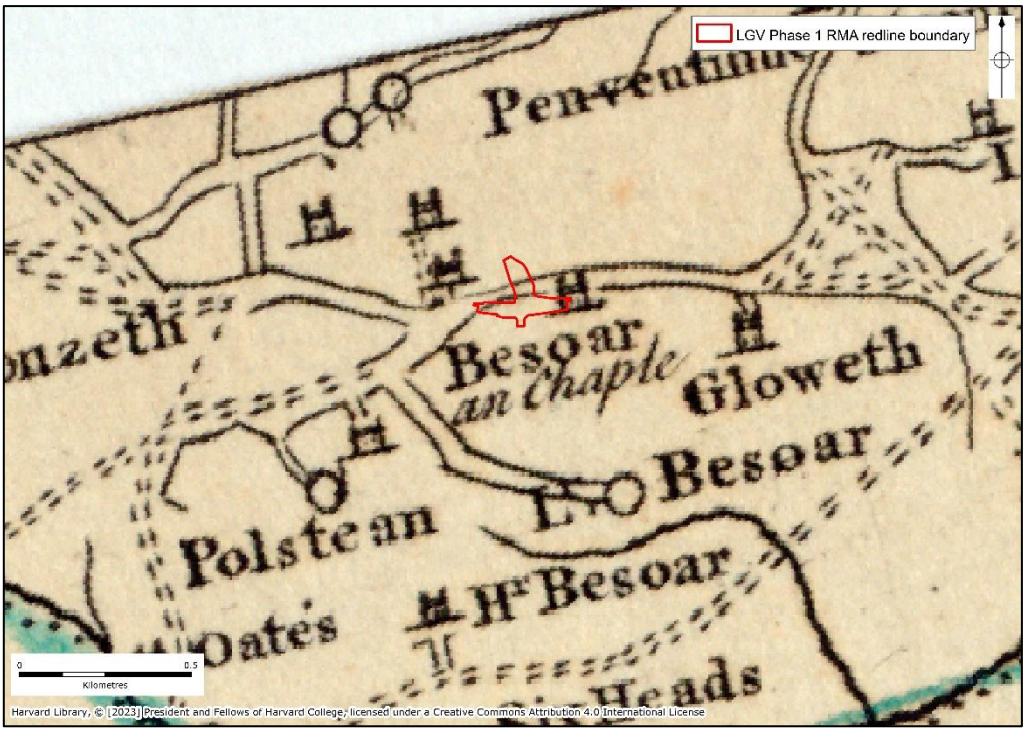

Figure 4 Martyn's map of 1748 showing the site relative to the settlements of Maiden Green, Willow Green and Venton Green. Some offset due to georeferencing error. Harvard Library, © [2023] President and Fellows of Harvard College, licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License.

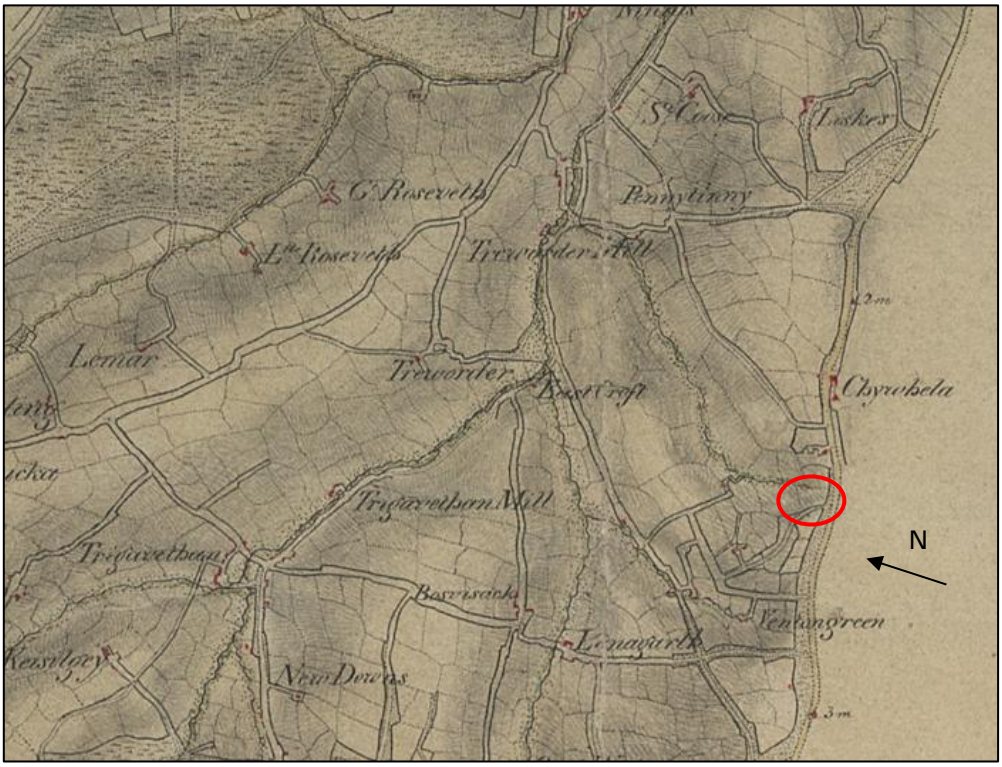

Figure 5 Ordnance Survey drawing of 1809. OS 1809 Grampound by Budgen, Charles, Draughtsman. This file has been provided by the British Library from its digital collections. It is also made available on a British Library website. Catalogue entry: Maps O.S.D. View in BL Georeferencer, OGL v1.0

https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=28603169

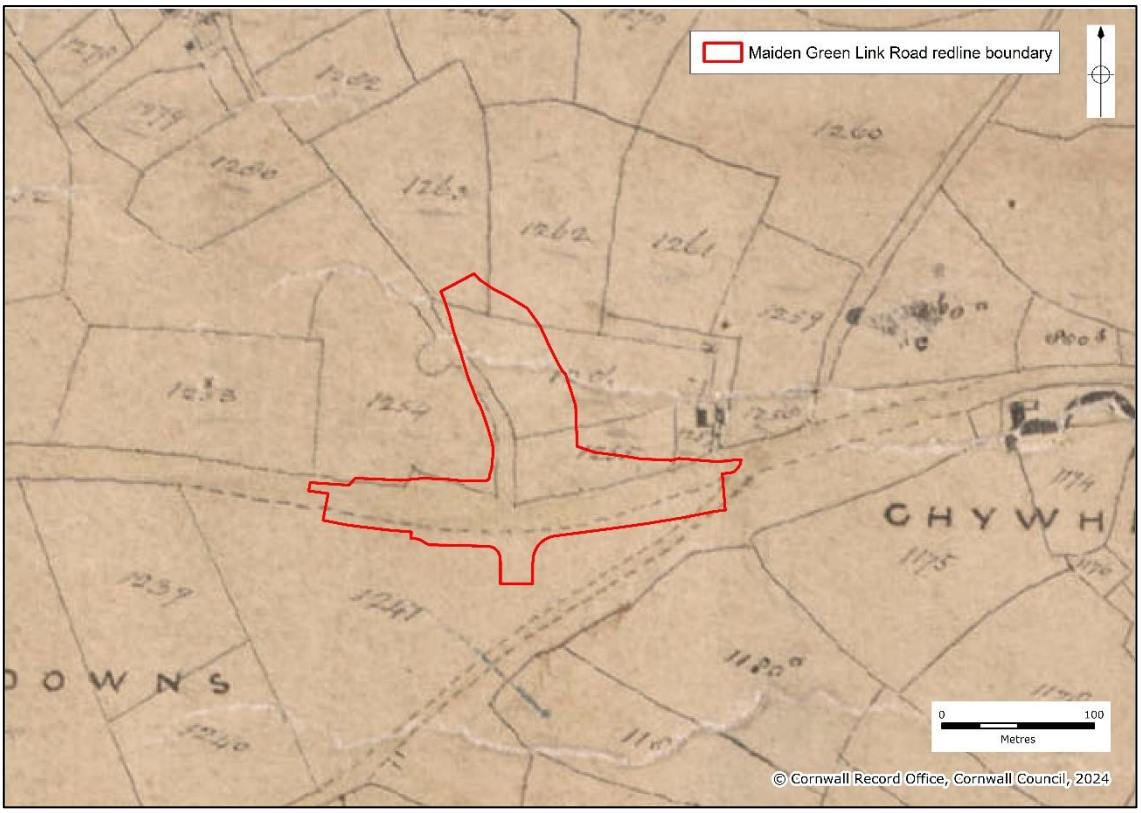

Figure 6 Kenwyn Tithe Map c1840s.

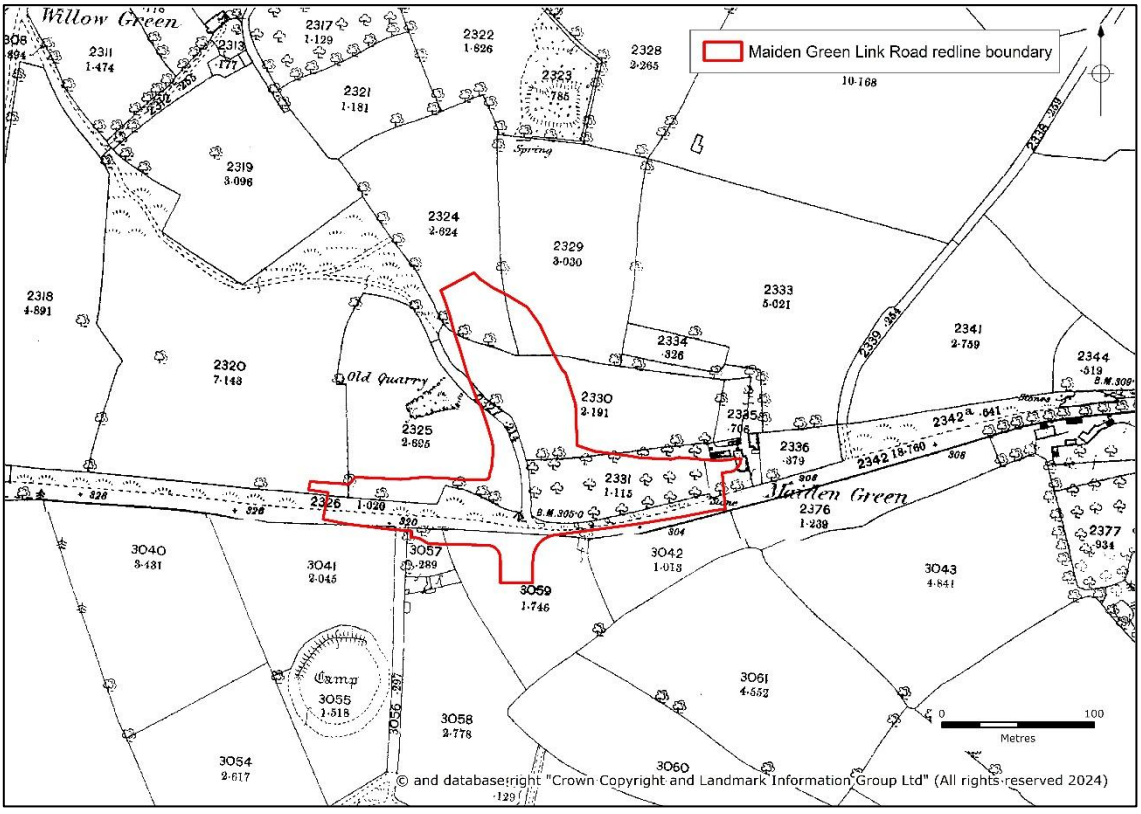

Figure 7 OS 1:2500 map c1880.

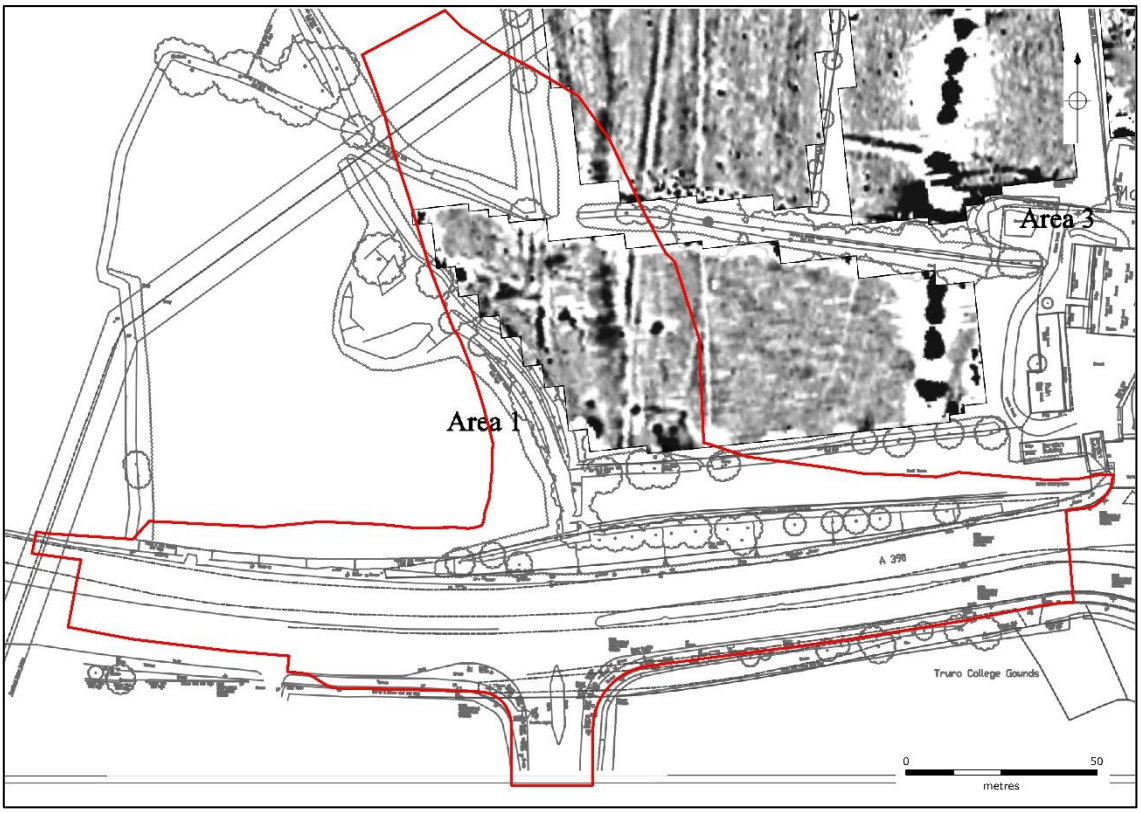

Figure 8 OS Site area overlaying the raw geophysical survey data (overlay GSB Prospection 2011, fig 11).

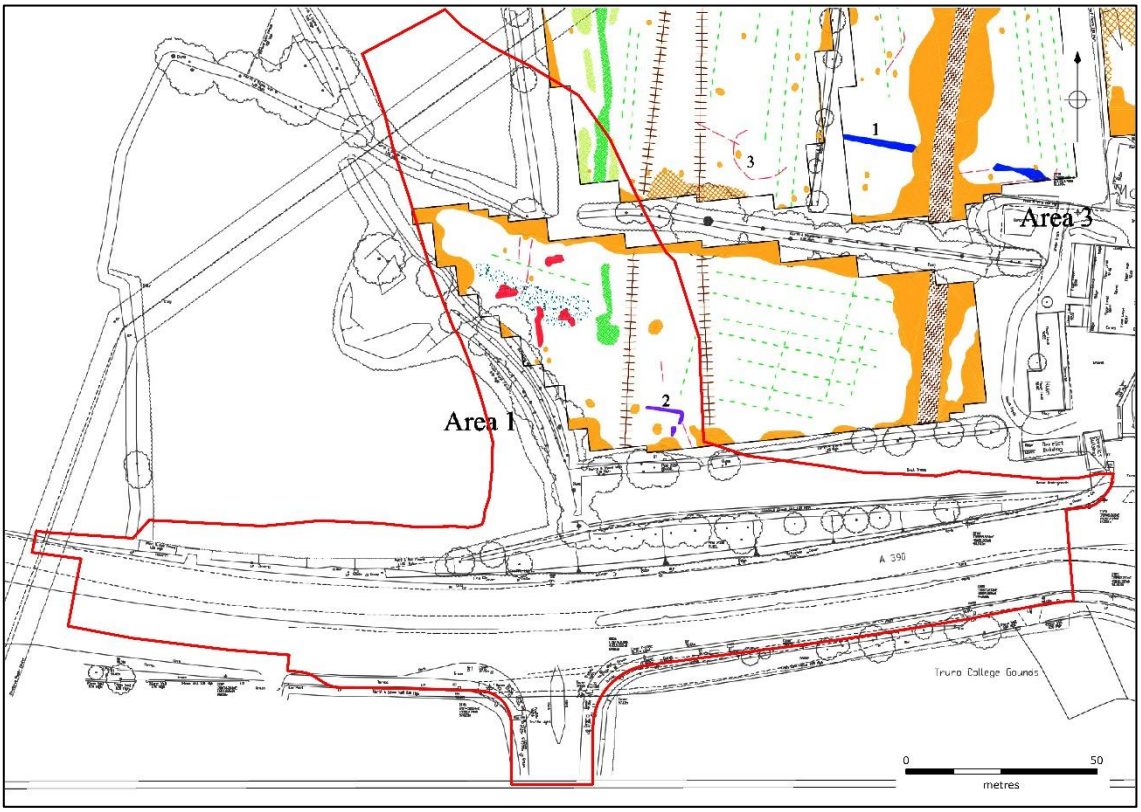

Figure 9 OS Site area overlaying the interpreted geophysical survey data (overlay GSB Prospection 2011, fig 12).

Cornwall Archaeological Unit

Cornwall Archaeological Unit is part of Cornwall Council. CAU employs 14 project staff with a broad range of expertise, undertaking around 120 projects each year.

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

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

Standards

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

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

Terms and conditions

Contract

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

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

Project staff

The project will be managed by Dr Fiona Fleming who will:

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

Work will be carried out or supervised by CAU field staff, with assistance from qualified specialists and sub-contractors where appropriate. All staff will follow CAU's Health and Safety Policy and work in accordance with a site-specific risk assessment.

Specialists

Finds Illustration	George Scott
Conservation	Laura Ratcliffe BSc

Environmental sampling	Dr Michael Allan FLS, FSA
Palaeoenvironmental advice	Dr Michael Allan FLS, FSA
Lithics	Anna Lawson-Jones BA
Prehistoric and Roman pottery	Henrietta Quinnell/ Dr Imogen Wood
Medieval ceramics	John Allen/ Dr Imogen Wood
Medieval/post-medieval pottery	Carl Thorpe, CAU
Prehistoric to medieval metalwork	Anna Tyacke
Animal remains	Dr Clare Randall (freelance specialist in faunal analysis and human osteology)
Human remains	Dr Richard Mikulski, CAU

Report distribution

A digital copy of the report will be sent to the client. A paper copy can be supplied on request.

Once verified by Cornwall HER, a digital copy of the report will also be publicly available online via the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) Library.

Copyright

Freedom of Information Act

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

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

Health and safety statement

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

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

Insurance

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

Dr Fiona Fleming

Senior Archaeologist

13/10/2022

Cornwall Archaeological Unit

Cornwall Council

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Appendix 2: Finds Catalogue and Report

Maiden Green Pottery Report

Josephine May – December 2024

Medieval

Nearly all the pottery recovered from the Maiden Green site is likely to be medieval South-western micaceous ware (Cornish courseware), 79 sherds weighing 1429g from 15 contexts. Of these, 19 sherds are probable to be St Germans Ware, 12 of which from a single context (1091) are probably of 15th century date, the remaining seven are probably of 16th to 17th century date and from several separate contexts. Pottery from the 13th to 15th centuries accounts for 24 sherds (708g), with pottery from the 15th century amounting to 45 sherds (4401g) and pottery from the 15th to 16th centuries, nine sherds (280g). Many of the sherds appeared relatively fresh, with minimal abrasion. Additionally, several sherds potentially conjoin, suggesting little movement since deposition; this can also be seen with some of the post-medieval pottery.

Context (1006), the fill of ditch [1213], had five sherds (122g) representing two vessels potentially dating from the 13th to 14th centuries. These vessels join sherds from (1079), one rim sherd (SF01) conjoins three rims, which is probable a cream making bowl or dish. Five sherds with concentric incised line decoration, two conjoining, join the four (SF12) from (1006). Just one post-medieval sherd of probable North Devon Ware (94g) (SF13) was found. Context (1006) is recorded as the fill of an earlier ditch [1213], which was later cut by feature [1081]. Deposit (1079) is recorded as a compacted layer within the base of this feature. The conjoining sherds from (1006) and (1079) could all potentially originate from (1006) and have become mixed by the later truncation of this ditch. Later finds of post-medieval date were also recovered from ditch [1213], within context (1173/1006); (1173) is likely the same context as (1006). These finds are included in the post-medieval section below.

Context (1053) was a fill of ditch [1054], cut by ditch [1059]. Two sherds of potentially 13th to 14th century South-western micaceous ware (57g) from context (1053) comprised one bodysherd from a cooking pot, and one uneven rim sherd (52g) with a finger mark, possibly from a large bowl or cooking pot.

Context (1072) was a fill of ditch [1120], a recut of ditch [1054]. A bodysherd of potentially 14th to 15th century South-western micaceous ware (8.1g) from context (1072), sooted, was possibly part of a jug.

Context (1082), the fill of ditch [1038], contained two sherds (9g) (one abraded) of probable 14th to 15th century South-western micaceous ware.

Context (1012), the fill of a natural gully [1147], contained just two pottery sherds (SF09 and SF10), (13g). The sherd from (SF09) is of probable 14th to 15th century date. SF10 had slip glaze so probably 15th century or later in date.

Ten sherds were found in context (1079), one finger impressed rim maybe worth drawing, example from (Austin *et al*, 1989, 140). Three sherds (41g) of 15th to 16th century date one rim of possibly St Germans ware, possibly from a cooking pot, and two conjoining sherds probably from a cream making bowl. One sherd (38g) of 16th to 17th century South-western micaceous ware is probable a flanged cream

making bowl. More modern sherds are also present in this layer, all expected to be 17th to 19th centuries North Devon ware; four sherds (242g), one a bowl or dish, another a tall jar or "buzza" pilchard jar. Three other sherds glazed earthenware (201g), probably locally made.

One sherd of probable 15th to 16th centuries St Germans ware (16g) was found in a context potentially to be (1079), along with post-medieval finds of four sherds of likely North Devon ware (36g), three conjoining, possibly post deposition break and a sherd of Creamware.

Later medieval sherds were found in context (1030), the uppermost fill of a large oval pit (1135). Three conjoining (recent break) sherds (12.5g) of possibly 15th century date, with faint incised curving decoration and a glazed exterior, are probably from a jug and are worth drawing. Another jug of potentially 15th century date might also be represented, broken into small pieces, 11 sherds (112g), including part of a handle. Five another later medieval sherds (131g) including one handle and three possible St Germans Ware conjoining sherds.

In context (1038), the fill of a recut [1214] of ditch [1139], one likely jug handle (93g) of 13th to 14th century South-western micaceous ware was recorded, along with four sherds (48.5g) of possible 15th century South-western micaceous ware, three of which were conjoining glazed sherds. The remaining finds from context (1038) are post-medieval (18th-19th century) North Devon Ware (86g), a rim sherd (61g) of a 19th century Stoneware plate and five sherds (27g) of refined 19th century white earthenware. One sherd of unglazed earthenware may be of later medieval date but is unlikely to be South-western micaceous ware.

Context (1091), the fill of pit [1092], contained the most amount of pottery, 26 Sherds (258g) of likely 15th century date. Minimum four vessels, with fresh breaks, and incised decoration including concentric lines and waves, which are worth drawing. The glaze is abraded. Twelve of these sherds (108g) are probably St Germans ware and include the remains of a handle. One Sherd (50g) of 16th to 17th century South-western micaceous ware was also present. A large number of pottery sherds of 17th to 19th century date were also present (624g), detailed in the post-medieval sections, below. The pottery from context (1091) has a wide range of dates and several conjoining vessels.

Context (1048), the fill of ditch [1049], contained material from three of the intervention slots, with a range of dates. Two sherds, (169g) one sherd (SF60) from a bowl or cooking pot of probable 14th to 15th century date and one sherd of 15th to 16th century date, also probably from a bowl or cooking pot. Sherds of later date from this context are detailed below in the post-medieval sections below.

Later medieval pottery from context (1187), the upper fill of a ditch/pit [1202], consisted of just one sherd (36g) of possible glazed St Germans ware. There were also two conjoining sherds of possible post-medieval North Devon ware (10g).

Post-Medieval 16th to 17th century

Post-medieval pottery of 16th to 17th century date is represented by 18 sherds weighing (589g). Likely South-western micaceous ware accounts for 17 of these sherds (577g), from nine contexts. Most of these finds have been discussed in the medieval section.

Context (1010), the upper fill of a natural water-eroded shallow gully [1077], produced a basal angle sherd (SF07), (24g), and one other undiagnosed glazed red earthenware sherd (SF04), (12g), both considered to probably be of post-medieval date.

One rim sherd (132g), (SF11), of 16th -17th century South-western micaceous ware, probably from a cream making dish, came from (1013), a silty deposit abutting a post-medieval wall 1062.

Context (1190), the fill of ditch [1186], contained just one sherd (52g) of potentially South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware), probably from a cooking pot.

Context (1082), the fill of ditch [1038], contained three sherds (69g) of likely 16th to 17th century South-western micaceous ware. These include two conjoining, sooted and very abraded, are possibly from a bowl or cooking pot.

Context (1048), the fill of ditch [1049], also found were two sherds (32.5g), conjoining but recently broken, of 16th to 17th century date are probably from a South-western micaceous ware cream making bowl.

Post- Medieval - 17th to 19th century

North Devon ware of probable 17th to 19th century date is represented by 85 Sherds (2044g), from 16 separate contexts. Some of these sherds are probably gravel tempered ware, 24 sherds (591g) dating from the 17th century onwards (Allan 2009, 1). Grant (1983, 83) states that North Devon pottery in the 17th century is unlikely to have travelled much further than Launceston, as there were numerous potteries in the south. Lake's pottery in Truro produced coarse domestic ware and pilchard pots and could have provided pottery for this site. (Brears 1974, 152). A few other more modern pot sherds were recorded, just 49 Sherds (628g) in total including Stonewares, Bristol / Staffordshire wares and other unidentified glazed earthenware.

Context (1072), the fill of ditch [1120], a recut of ditch [1054], contained three sherds (68g) of 18th to 19th century date.

Post-medieval finds were recovered from ditch [1213], within context (1173/1006); (1173) is expected to be the same context as (1006). These finds comprised two sherds (28g) of likely South-western micaceous ware and nine sherds (67g) of possible 17th to 19th century North Devon gravel tempered ware, one probably from a dish or bowl. One sherd (15g) of probable Chinese porcelain and a 19th century clay tobacco pipe were also recorded.

Two sherds (31g) from a bowl of likely 18th to 19th century North Devon ware came from context (1067), along with one sherd (17g) of an English Stoneware jar, of the same date range. These are from a buried topsoil or levelling layer underlying wall [1062].

Context (1080) contained five sherds (116g) of potential 18th to 19th century North Devon ware, representing two separate vessels. Four sherds, two being rim sherds and three of which were conjoining sherds, were probably from a bowl, with the fifth sherd possibly from a jug or tall jar, although there is low confidence in this interpretation. One thin glazed red earthenware sherd (6g), l possibly locally made, 18th to 19th century date. One later medieval likely South-western micaceous ware rim sherd (37g) of 15th to 16th century date, probable from a bowl, was also recorded. Context (1080) was a 19th/20th century levelling layer within [1081].

Context (1082), the fill of ditch [1038], contained 25 sherds (487g) of 18th to 19th century date, most likely North Devon Ware, 19 of these sherds (439g) from one probable chamber pot, five conjoining. The rim is uneven and has a fragment of pot stuck to it, suggesting a vessel exploded in the kiln while the pot was being fired. Of the other six sherds (48g), two (11.9g) were from a possible cup. Also recorded from this context: two sherds (18g) of Refined White Earthenware of 18th to 19th century date, one red earthenware cream making dish sherd (SF43) (44g) of uncertain source and date.

In context (1091), the fill of a shallow pit [1092] two vessels with conjoining sherds were found. Fourteen sherds (90g), eight conjoining, of a White Salt-glazed Stoneware mug, very thin-walled and dating to around 1720-1780. There is enough surviving to give a complete profile, possibly worth drawing. Two late-17th to 18th century Staffordshire or Bristol type slipware probable posset cups consisting of 15 sherds (133g), with two sherds conjoining, were also recorded. These are similar to a vessel found at TNAR22 (2029). Posset cups or pots were used for a drink made from hot milk curdled with ale, wine or lemon, a spicy flavour being imparted by the addition of sugar with cinnamon, ginger or nutmeg (Brears 1974, 142). The base sherds were sooted showing the vessel was heated.

Fourteen sherds (393g) of North Devon ware pottery were also recovered from context (1091). A minimum of three cooking vessels are probably represented, all sooted. One other likely 18th to 19th century sherd (8g) of Staffordshire type slipware with manganese slip coating was also recorded.

Context (1106) produced just one rim sherd (26g) of a probable North Devon gravel tempered ware flanged cream dish, along with a clay pipe bowl and stem dating *c*. 1700-1840 (Ayto, E G 1987, 7).

Context (1125), the fill of ditch [1136], produced just one sherd (22g) of 18th to 19th century earthenware, with the remains of one incised line into the slip glaze. This is possible Sgraffito decoration. North Devon ware produced highly Sgraffito decorated harvest jugs. They began copying this style from the continent in the late 16th century (Grant 1983, 2).

Context (1138), the basal fill of ditch [1139], contained three conjoining sherds (91g) from the same vessel, either a jug, tall jar or 'Buzza' pilchard pot, of possible 18th to 19th century North Devon Ware.

Context (1048), the fill of ditch [1049], also found were two sherds (171g) of post-medieval (17th-19th century) potential North Devon gravel tempered ware, one of the sherds (SF61) having abraded glaze.

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Area	Context	Slot	Feature	Small find number	Material	Number	Weight (g)	Description	Period	Broad Period
SMS	1003		Deposit	8	Crystal	11	359	Amethyst / Native Rock		
SMS	1003		Deposit	15	Crystal	2	10	Quartz		
SMS	1003		Deposit	25.1	Crystal	8	17	Amethyst		
SMS	1003		Deposit	25.2	Crystal	3	37	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1003		Deposit	25.3	Crystal	9	33	Quartz		
SMS	1003		Deposit	40	Crystal	2	4	Quartz		
SMS	1003		Deposit	47.1	Crystal	14	12.9	Amethyst		
SMS	1003		Deposit	47.2	Crystal	6	67.8	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1003		Deposit	47.3	Crystal	21	45.4	Quartz		
SMS	1006		Ditch 1213	1	Pottery	1	87.6	Rim sherd of red Earthenware, South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware). Bowl or Dish. Sooted. Joins 1079 three conjoined rim sherds.	13th to 14th centuries AD	Medieval
SMS	1006		Ditch 1213	12	Pottery	4	35.3	Body sherds of red Earthenware, Likely South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware. Sooted. Joins sherd from 1079, five body sherds.	13th to 14th centuries AD	Medieval
SMS	1006		Ditch 1213	13	Pottery	1	94.2	Bodysherd glazed red Earthenware, likely North Devon ware.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1009		Pit 1085	5	Crystal	1	4.7	Crystal Tip		
SMS	1009		Pit 1085	6	Crystal	4	271	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1009		Pit 1085	38	Crystal	1	5	Crystal Tip		
SMS	1009		Pit 1085	41	Crystal	5	20	Amethyst		
SMS	1009		Pit 1085		Crystal	22	33.2	Amethyst		

SMS	1009		Pit 1085		Crystal	12	53.6	Quartz		
SMS	1010		Gully 1077	4	Pottery	1	12	Bodysherd of Glazed Red Earthenware. Hard fabric. Glazed interior with the appearance of Saltglazed Stoneware.	16th to 17th centuries AD	Post-Medieval?
SMS	1010		Gully 1077	7	Pottery	1	24.5	Basal angle sherd, Glazed red Earthenware, Likely South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware). Very coarse inclusions.	16th to 17th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1010	Slot 8	Gully 1077		Crystal	15	24.7	Amethyst		
SMS	1010	Slot 8	Gully 1077		Crystal	5	32	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1010	Slot 8	Gully 1077		Crystal	44	181.6	Quartz		
SMS	1010	Slot 8	Gully 1077		Crystal	1	11.6	Druzy Crystal Tip. Poss. Fabricator?		
SMS	1010		Gully 1077	2	Stone	1	1.5	Water-worn pebble		
SMS	1010		Gully 1077	3	Crystal	8	9.2	Amethyst		
SMS	1010		Gully 1077	16	Crystal	1	2	Amethyst		
SMS	1010		Gully 1077	17	Crystal	1	4	Quartz		
SMS	1010		Gully 1077	37.1	Crystal	1	1	Amethyst		
SMS	1010		Gully 1077	37.2	Crystal	3	11	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1010		Gully 1077	39	Crystal	2	26	Quartz		
SMS	1010		Gully 1077	48	Crystal	4	2500	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1010		Gully 1077	49	Crystal	1	242	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1010		Gully 1077	50	Crystal	1	346.7	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1010		Gully 1077	54	Crystal	1	32.2	Quartz		
SMS	1011		Gully 1162	59.1	Crystal	1	5	Quartz		
SMS	1011		Gully 1162	59.2	Crystal	5	2.6	Amethyst		
SMS	1011		Gully 1162	59.3	Crystal	9	37.3.1	Amethyst in Matrix		

SMS	1011		Gully 1162		Crystal	92	115	Amethyst, Matrix		
SMS	1011		Gully 1162		Crystal	39	55	Quartz		
SMS	1011		Gully 1162		Crystal	37	238	Quartz, Amethyst, Matrix		
SMS	1012		Gully 1147	9	Pottery	1	3.1	Bodysherd of South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware).	14th to 15th centuries AD	Medieval
SMS	1012		Gully 1147	10	Pottery	1	9.8	Bodysherd of slip Glazed South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware). Thin walled, sooted.	13th to 14th centuries AD	Medieval
SMS	1013		Gully 1147	11	Pottery	1	131.6	Flanged rim sherd South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware). Trace of glaze externally. Likely Cream making dish.		Medieval
SMS	1020		Pit 1073		Crystal	1	12.6	Crystal Tip		
SMS	1020		Pit 1073		Crystal	5	270.8	Amethyst		
SMS	1020		Pit 1073		Crystal	33	83.1	Quartz		
SMS	1025		Gully 1177		Crystal	3	41	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1025		Gully 1177		Crystal	3	41	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1025		Gully 1177		Crystal	8	81	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1025		Gully 1177		Crystal	37	79	Quartz		
SMS	1025		Gully 1177		Crystal	1	1000	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1029		Pit 1196		Crystal	16	28	Quartz Crystal Matrix		
SMS	1029		Pit 1196		Crystal	8	6	Amethyst		
SMS	1029		Pit 1196		Crystal	47	118	Poor Quality Quartz Crystal		
SMS	1029		Pit 1196		Crystal	17	20	Quartz Crystal		
SMS	1030		Pit 1135		Pottery	3	12.5	Conjoining (recent break) bodysherd green glazed externally with faint	15th century AD	Late Medieval

								incised curving decoration. Possible South-western micaceous ware. Fine inclusions. Black core. Possible Jug.		
SMS	1030		Pit 1135		Pottery	4	106.8	Bodysherds, three conjoining unglazed South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Courseware). Likely St Germans ware. Thick walled vessel	16th to 17th centuries AD	Post Medieval
SMS	1030		Pit 1135		Pottery	1	24.4	Handle of unglazed South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware).	15th to 16th centuries AD	Late Medieval
SMS	1030		Pit 1135		Pottery	11	112.2	One handle with bodysherd and other sherds are broken into very small fragments. Green glazed South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware). Black core. Jug.	15th century AD	Late Medieval
SMS	1030		Pit 1135		Stone	1	9.8	Quartz rich stone, with two incised lines. Probably natural		
SMS	1030		Pit 1135		Crystal	2	6.6	Quartz in Matrix		
SMS	1030		Pit 1135		Stone	1	3	Natural		
SMS	1030		Pit 1135		Metalwork	1	65.5	Concretised iron lump		
SMS	1030		Pit 1135		Crystal	34	184.6	Quartz		
SMS	1030		Pit 1135		Crystal	7	13	Amethyst		
SMS	1033		Pit 1146		Crystal	1	16.9	Quartz		

SMS	1034	Slot 16	Gully 1126		Metalwork	6	32.7	Fragments of corroded iron with lump of soil. Breaking apart.		
SMS	1038		Ditch 1214		Pottery	1	93.1	Handle of unglazed red earthenware, South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware). Likely from a jug.	13th to 14th centuries AD	Medieval
SMS	1038		Ditch 1214		Pottery	4	48.5	One basal angle and three conjoining base sherds buff yellow 'clear' glazed earthenware. Likely South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware). Sooted base.	13th to 15th centuries AD	Medieval
SMS	1038		Ditch 1214		Metalwork	2	78.9	Corroded iron one piece with two nails *in situ*, one with hand intact.		
SMS	1038		Ditch 1214		Glass	1	1.4	One shard of thin flat green glass.		Post-Medieval
SMS	1038		Ditch 1214		Pottery	2	27	Bodysherd of unglazed red earthenware. Sooted.	15th to 16th centuries AD?	Late Medieval
SMS	1038		Ditch 1214		Pottery	2	24	Rim and bodysherd conjoining of green glazed likely North Devon ware. Sooted exterior. Likely a Bowl.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1038		Ditch 1214		Pottery	3	62.4	One basal angle and two bodysherds of green glazed, likely North Devon gravel tempered ware. Basal angle sooted on	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval

								side. Three different vessels.		
SMS	1038		Ditch 1214		Pottery	1	61.1	Rim sherd of Relief-moulded white Stoneware. Scalloped edge. Plate.	19th century AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1038		Ditch 1214		Pottery	5	26.9	One rim and one base sherd of glazed Refined White Earthenware 'China', no decoration.	19th century AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1039		Pit 1163		Pottery	1	2	Rim sherd of English Porcelain.		
SMS	1039		Pit 1163		Glass	2	3	Two shards of modern green bottle glass.		
SMS	1041		Gully 1158		Crystal	1	2.3	Quartz (worked?)		
SMS	1042	Slot 20	Gully 1152		Crystal	11	40	Quartz		
SMS	1042	Slot 20	Gully 1152		Crystal	1	8	Crystal Point		
SMS	1042	Slot 20	Gully 1152		Crystal	1	0.5	Amethyst		
SMS	1043		Natural feature		Crystal	3	8.7	Quartz		
SMS	1046			55	Crystal	1	112.9	Crystal Tip		
SMS	1046			56	Crystal	1	96.7	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1046			57	Crystal	1	137.6	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1046			58	Crystal	2	17.5	Quartz		
SMS	1047		Deposit	14	Crystal	1	13.9	Quartz		
SMS	1047		Deposit	18.1	Crystal	1	33	Druzy Crystal Tip		
SMS	1047		Deposit	18.2	Crystal	2	11	Quartz		
SMS	1047		Deposit	19.1	Crystal	1	2	Quartz		
SMS	1047		Deposit	19.2	Crystal	3	6	Amethyst		
SMS	1047		Deposit	20	Crystal	4	4	Quartz		
SMS	1047		Deposit	21.1	Crystal	9	16	Quartz		
SMS	1047		Deposit	21.2	Crystal	1	0.5	Amethyst		

SMS	1047		Deposit	22	Crystal	1	1	Quartz		
SMS	1047		Deposit	26	Crystal	1	73	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1047		Deposit	27.1	Crystal	3	24	Quartz		
SMS	1047		Deposit	27.2	Crystal	1	3	Quartz / Matrix		
SMS	1047		Deposit	27.3	Crystal	1	13	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1047		Deposit	28.1	Crystal	3	44	Quartz		
SMS	1047		Deposit	28.2	Crystal	1	6	Amethyst		
SMS	1047		Deposit	28.3	Crystal	2	8	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1047		Deposit	29.1	Crystal	1	40	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1047		Deposit	29.2	Crystal	2	14	Quartz		
SMS	1047		Deposit	29.3	Crystal	2	52	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1047		Deposit	31.1	Crystal	1	54	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1047		Deposit	31.2	Crystal	2	11	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1047		Deposit	31.3	Crystal	1	5	Quartz		
SMS	1047		Deposit	34	Crystal	5	21	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1047		Deposit	36.1	Crystal	9	46	Amethyst / Matrix		
SMS	1047		Deposit	36.2	Crystal	1	1	Quartz		
SMS	1047		Deposit	42	Crystal	2	1	Quartz		
SMS	1047		Deposit	44.1	Crystal	1	0.6	Amethyst		
SMS	1047		Deposit	44.2	Crystal	1	63.9	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1047		Deposit	44.3	Crystal	7	50.2	Quartz in Matrix		
SMS	1047		Deposit	44.4	Crystal	12	10.7	Quartz		
SMS	1047		Deposit	45	Crystal	1	496.1	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1047		Deposit	46	Crystal	1	2500	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1047		Deposit	51	Crystal	1	444.3	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1047		Deposit	52	Crystal	1	418.2	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1047		Deposit	53	Crystal	1	302.5	Quartz in Matrix		
SMS	1048	Slot 24	Ditch 1049	60	Pottery	1	32.2	Bodysherd of South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware).	14th to 15th centuries AD	Medieval

SMS	1048	Slot 24	Ditch 1049	61	Pottery	1	143.8	Basal Sherd of North Devon gravel tempered ware. Abraded Glaze.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1048	Slot 1	Ditch 1049		Pottery	1	136.5	Rim sherd of unglazed South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware). Sooted Bowl / Cooking pot.	14th to 15th centuries AD	Medieval
SMS	1048		Ditch 1049		Glass	1	84.3	Basal angle shard, Green Wine 'Onion' Bottle.	17th to 18th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1048		Ditch 1049		Pottery	1	27.6	Bodysherd Green Glazed Earthenware, likely North Devon Gravel Tempered ware.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1048		Ditch 1049		Pottery	2	32.5	Two conjoining sherds, one a rim, Green glazed South-western micaceous ware. Bowl, likely Cream making. Recent break.	16th to 17th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1052	Slot 4	Ditch 1059		Pottery	1	8.1	Bodysherd of South-western Micaceous ware (Cornish Coareware). Sooted. Possible Jug. From sample 005.	14th to 15th centuries AD	Medieval
SMS	1052	Slot 4	Ditch 1059		Slag	1	34.1	Tin slag?		Medieval / Post Medieval
SMS	1053	Slot 4	Ditch 1054		Pottery	1	52.4	Rim sherd earthenware, trace of glaze. Likely South-western micaceous ware. Uneven rim with finger mark. Sooted on both sides. Large bowl / cooking pot.	13th to 14th centuries AD	Medieval

SMS	1053	Slot 4	Ditch 1054		Pottery	1	57.4	Bodysherd of likely glazed North Devon Ware. Sooted exterior, cooking pot.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1053	Slot 4	Ditch 1054		Pottery	1	25.1	Bodysherd of red earthenware with very abraded glaze. Likely North Devon ware.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1055	Slot 2	Gully 1056		Pottery	1	6.9	Bodysherd of green glazed earthenware, likely North Devon Ware.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1067	Slot 5	Layer		Pottery	2	30.7	One rim and one bodysherd. Glazed earthenware, likely North Devon ware, Bowl.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1067	Slot 5	Layer		Pottery	1	16.8	Bodysherd English glazed stoneware. Likely a jar.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1072	Slot 6	Ditch 1120		Pottery	1	46.7	Bodysherd of glazed North Devon ware.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1072	Slot 6	Ditch 1120		Pottery	2	21.7	Rim and bodysherd glazed earthenware, likely North Devon ware.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1075	Slot 8	Gully 1077		Crystal	15	132.8	Quartz		
SMS	1075	Slot 8	Gully 1077		Crystal	4	79.2	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1079		Pit 1081		Pottery	1	27.8	Rim sherd with (pie crust) finger impressed decoration, South-western micaceous ware (Cornish courseware).	13th to 14th centuries AD	Medieval
SMS	1079		Pit 1081		Pottery	3	130.5	Conjoining rims sherds of South-western micaceous ware. (Cornish Coarse ware) Sooted. Bowl or	13th to 14th centuries AD	Medieval

								Dish. Cream making. Joins SF01 from 1006, ditch 1213.		
SMS	1079		Pit 1081		Pottery	5	56.1	Bodysherds, two conjoining red earthenware, Likely South-western micaceous ware. Sooted. Concentric incised lines. Joins SF12 from 1006, ditch 1213.	13th to 14th centuries AD	Medieval
SMS	1079		Pit 1081		Pottery	1	31.9	Bodysherd of South-western micaceous ware.	13th to 14th centuries AD	Medieval
SMS	1079		Pit 1081		Pottery	1	16.7	Rim sherd of South-western micaceous ware, St Germans ware traces glaze. Likely cooking pot.	15th to 16th centuries AD	Late Medieval
SMS	1079		Pit 1081		Pottery	2	23.9	Rim and bodysherd conjoining of unglazed South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware). Likely Bowl for cream making.	15th to 16th centuries AD	Late Medieval
SMS	1079	Slot 10			Pottery	1	15.6	Body sherd of likely South-western micaceous ware (Cornish courseware), St Germans ware.	15th to 16th centuries AD	Late Medieval
SMS	1079	Slot 10	Pit 1081		Brick	1	1040	Broken hand made red brick, 4 inches (105mm) wide, 2 1/2 (65mm) inches thick.	18th to 19th Centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1079	Slot 10	Pit 1081		Brick	1	320	Broken red brick fragment, no complete measurements.		Post-Medieval

SMS	1079	Slot 10	Pit 1081		Brick	1	740	Broken hand made dark red brick, 4 inches (105mm) wide, 2 1/4 inches (55mm) thick.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1079	Slot 10	Pit 1081		Brick	1	1200	Broken hand made red brick, with surface flaws. 4 1/4 inches (108mm) wide and 2 1/2 inches (63mm) thick.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1079	Slot 10	Pit 1081		Brick	1	1780	Broken hand made buff coloured brick. 4.2 inches (105mm) wide and 2 1/2 (65mm) inches thick.		Post-Medieval
SMS	1079	Slot 10	Pit 1081		Brick	1	53.3	Fragment of red brick.		Post-Medieval
SMS	1079	Slot 10	Pit 1081		Pottery	1	135.4	Basal angle sherd, glazed red earthenware, likely Bowl.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1079	Slot 10	Pit 1081		Pottery	1	209.6	Basal angle sherd, glazed earthenware, likely North Devon ware. Tall Jar / "Buzza" pot.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1079	Slot 10	Pit 1081		Pottery	2	65.5	Two conjoining basal angle sherds, slip glazed eathenware. Thick base, black reduced core, sooted sides, with residue.	18th to 19th centuries AD?	Post-Medieval
SMS	1079		Pit 1081		Pottery	1	37.7	Flanged Rim sherd of slip glazed South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Couseware). Likely Flanged Cream making Dish. Sooted.	16th to 17th centuries AD	Post-Medieval

SMS	1079		Pit 1081		Pottery	1	10.3	Rim sherd yellow slip glazed red Earthenware, likley North Devon Gravel Tempered ware. Bowl or Dish.	17th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1079		Pit 1081		Pottery	1	17.1	Basal angle sherd glazed Earthenware, likely North Devon ware.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1079		Pit 1081		Pottery	1	15.5	Body sherd glazed of North Devon gravel tempered ware.	17th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1079	Slot 10			Pottery	4	36	Three conjoining bodysherds, poss. modern break and one body sherd of glazed earthenware, likely North Devon ware.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1079	Slot 10			Pottery	1	9	One base sherd of glazed earthenware, Creamware.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1079	Slot 10			Tile	1	221	Broken red earthenware tile, not quite flat, coarse tempered and micaceous. Kiln lining?		
SMS	1079	Slot 10			Slag		127.2	Glassy slag with mixed with quartz. Corroded iron stuck to surface. Copper slag?		
SMS	1079	Slot 10	Pit 1081		Tile	4	301.7	Fragments of red earthenware tile, 1 inch thick, one is slightly curved, coarse tempered and micaceous. Slight blackening to two of the tiles.		

SMS	1079	Slot 10	Pit 1081		Stone	1	980	Stone with rounded shaping, one straight poss. broken edge.		
SMS	1080	Slot 10 NEQ	Pit 1081		Tile	2	64.1	Two fragments of course floor tile, with black surface.		
SMS	1080	Slot 10 NEQ	Pit 1081		Pottery	1	37.4	Rim sherd of likely South-western micaceous ware, splashes of glaze. Likely a bowl.	15th to 16th centuries AD	Late Medieval
SMS	1080	Slot 10 NWQ	Pit 1081		Pottery	1	42.2	Basal angle sherd of glazed Earthenware likely North Devon ware. Jug or tall jar.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1080	Slot 10 NWQ	Pit 1081		Pottery	4	73.3	Four sherds from one vessel. Two rim sherds. Three sherds conjoining. Green glazed North Devon ware. Likely a Bowl.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1080	Slot 19 NWQ	Pit 1081		Brick	1	285.6	Handmade red brick fragment, very coarse, loads of quartz of varying sizes in the inclusions. Almost more inclusions than clay. Dark surface.		
SMS	1080	Slot 19 NWQ	Pit 1081		Stone	1	27.3	Slate with broken hole, poss. broken roof tile but hole looks quite fresh.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post Medieval
SMS	1080		Pit 1081		Stone	1	580	Shaped stone rounded, broken.		
SMS	1080		Pit 1081		Tile	5	420	Fragments of tile, one 1 inch thick, coarse tempered and micaceous.		

								Slight blackening on one, on broken edge.		
SMS	1080		Pit 1081		Brick	2	1540	Broken hand made red bricks, similar inclusions, different bricks blackened side. 4 inches (100mm wide) and 2 1/4 (55mm) inches thick.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1080		Pit 1081		Brick	1	560	Broken red brick 2 1/4 inches thick.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1080		Pit 1081		Brick	1	103.2	Red brick fragments.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1080		Pit 1081		Metalwork	1	240.3	Corroded broken iron axe head.		
SMS	1080		Pit 1081		Metalwork	3	238.1	Corroded iron, one flat with circular lump, one concretion fragment and one poss. part of axe head shaft.		
SMS	1080		Pit 1081		Pottery	1	6.3	Bodysherd glazed red earthenware, thin walled.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post Medieval
SMS	1080		Pit 1081		Glass	1	122.2	Basal angle shard, Green Wine 'Onion' Bottle. c. 1680-1720.	17th to 18th centuries AD	Post Medieval
SMS	1082		Ditch 1083		Metalwork	1	3.9	Oval buckle frame, undecorated, missing the pin. Lead (Pewter) or Tin alloy (c. 1660-1720).	17th to 18th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1082	Slot 9	Ditch 1083		Pottery	1	16.2	Rim sherd clear glazed buff coloured South-western micaceous ware. Interior surface abraded.	16th to 17th centuries AD	Post-Medieval

								Sooted. Likely a Bowl / Cooking Pot. Joins rim sherd from 1082 found on 21/08/24		
SMS	1082		Ditch 1083	43	Pottery	1	44.2	Rim sherd glazed red Earthenware likely South-western Micacous ware (Cornish Coarseware), cream making dish.	16th to 17th centuries AD?	Post-Medieval
SMS	1082		Ditch 1083		Pottery	1	7.7	Bodysherd unglazed South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware). Abraded surface.	14th to 15th centuries AD	Medieval
SMS	1082		Ditch 1083		Pottery	1	1.4	Bodysherd unglazed coarse red Earthenware, Likely South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware).	14th to 15th centuries AD	Medieval
SMS	1082		Ditch 1083		Pottery	2	53.2	Conjoining rim and bodysherd clear glazed buff coloured, South-western micaceous ware. Very abraded interior. Sooted. Likely a Bowl / Cooking Pot. Joins rim sherd from 1082 found on 14/08/24.	16th to 17th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1082		Ditch 1083		Pottery	1	10	Bodysherd likely glazed North Devon ware. Sooted exterior. Similar sherds found on 21/08/24.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1082		Ditch 1083		Pottery	2	11.9	Conjoining rim and bodysherd glazed likely North Devon ware. Similar to sherd found in	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval

								1082 on 14/08/24. Possible Cup.		
SMS	1082		Ditch 1083		Pottery	1	7.4	Bodysherd Green Glazed Earthenware, likely North Devon ware.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1082		Ditch 1083		Pottery	6	148.8	Likely one vessel, three conjoining sherds, two rim sherds. Glazed red Earthenware. Very black core from reduction. Likely North Devon ware. Probably chamber pot. Joins sherds on in 1082 on 21/08/24.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1082		Ditch 1083		Pottery	13	290	One vessel with four rim sherds, three conjoining. These also join the sherds found in 1082 on 14/08/24. Glazed red Earthenware. Very black core from reduction. Likely North Devon ware. Probably Chamber pot. Rim looks uneven and fragments of pot stuck to the surface, suggesting an explosion in the kiln. This might be a second.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1082		Ditch 1083		Pottery	2	8.5	Rim and basal sherd of glazed Refined White Earthenware 'China'. Rim has a painted black line decoration.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1082		Ditch 1083		Pottery	2	18.4	Basal angle and bodysherd, glazed red	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval

								earthenware, likely North Devon ware.		
SMS	1082		Ditch 1083		Metalwork	3	18	Three corroded iron probable nails		
SMS	1082		Ditch 1083		Metalwork	4	56.7	Four corroded iron probable nails		
SMS	1091		Pit 1092		Pottery	14	149.8	Bodysherds of glazed, course, red Earthenware with incised decoration to the under glazed exterior. South-western micaceous ware. Ribbed concentric lines on some and a wave pattern on one sherd and unclear markings on another. Three vessels and several conjoining sherds, but fresh breaks. Glazed, abraded.	15th century AD	Late Medieval
SMS	1091		Pit 1092		Pottery	14	90.2	Two rim, Four basal angle and two base sherds. Eight conjoining sherds, giving a complete profile. One sherd with handle scar. White Salt-glazed Stoneware (c. 1720-1780) Mug.	18th century AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1091		Pit 1092		Pottery	12	108	Bodysherds one with remains of handle. Green glazed. Likely South-western micaceous ware (Cornish coarseware) Likely St Germans. Abraded glaze.	15th century AD	Late Medieval

SMS	1091		Pit 1092		Pottery	1	50.3	Bodysherd of green glazed South-western micaceous ware?	16th to 17th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1091		Pit 1092		Pottery	1	8.2	Bodysherd of Staffordshire type slipware. Manganese slip coated.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1091		Pit 1092		Pottery	3	72.1	Three conjoining sherds, one a rim sherd. Buff coloured Earthenware, likely North Devon ware, with some glaze and sooting. Bowl likely Cooking Pot.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1091		Pit 1092		Pottery	15	132.8	Three rim sherds, two basal angles, one base and one bodysherds with remains of handle. All Bristol / Staffordshire-type slipware, with dots and trailed decoration. Likely three vessels. Bases are sooted black; the two basal angles conjoin. Two bodysherds also conjoin. Likely Posset cups. Very similar example from TNAR22 (2029).	Late 17th to 18th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1091		Pit 1092		Pottery	7	238.3	Two conjoining rim sherds and one base sherd. Glazed, red Earthenware, likely North Devon gravel tempered ware. Sooted. Likely all one vessel, Bowl / Cooking Pot.	17th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval

SMS	1091		Pit 1092		Pottery	4	82.5	Bodysherds of Green Glazed Red Earthenware, likely North Devon ware. Three sherds are heavily sooted.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1091		Pit 1092		Brick	2	2460	One hand made brick broken into two pieces, dark colours. 8 3/4 inches (230mm) long, 4 inches (100mm) wide and 2 1/4 inches (55mm) thick.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1106	Slot 12	Pit 1102		Pottery	1	26.2	Rim sherd of glazed red earthenware. Likely Flanged Cream Dish. Sooted.		Late Medieval?
SMS	1106	Slot 12	Pit 1102		Clay Pipe	2	12.3	Clay pipe bowl, undecorated, broken before spur. *c*. 1700-1840. One piece of stem.	17th to 18th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1108		Pit 1109		Crystal	6	6	Amethyst		
SMS	1108		Pit 1109		Crystal	3	23.4	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1108		Pit 1109		Crystal	9	37	Quartz		
SMS	1122	Slot 6	Ditch 1054		Crystal	1	8000	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1122		Ditch 1054		Crystal	1	5000	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1125		Ditch 1136		Pottery	1	21.5	Bodysherd Slip Glazed Red Earthenware. Poss. remains of Sgraffito decoration. Likely North Devon ware.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1133	Slot 18	Gully 1134		Crystal	1	8	Crystal Tip		
SMS	1138		Ditch 1139		Pottery	3	90.5	Three conjoining sherds. One basal angle. Glazed North Devon ware. Jug, tall jar or 'Buzza' pot.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval

SMS	1150		Gully 1151		Crystal	7	16.2	Quartz		
SMS	1150		Gully 1151		Crystal	1	0.4	Amethyst		
SMS	1166		Pit/gully 1167		Crystal	3	31	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1166		Pit/gully 1167		Crystal	48	99	Quartz		
SMS	1166		Pit/gully 1167		Crystal	9	7	Matrix		
SMS	1166		Pit/gully 1167		Crystal	4	3	Amethyst		
SMS	1166		Pit/gully 1167		Crystal	1	2000	Amethyst in Matrix		
SMS	1168		Pit/gully 1169		Crystal	2	23	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1168		Pit/gully 1169		Crystal	18	28	Quartz		
SMS	1168		Pit/gully 1169		Crystal	2	2	Amethyst		
SMS	1168		Pit/gully 1169		Crystal	9	49	Matrix		
SMS	1168		Pit/gully 1169		Crystal	1	750	Matrix		
SMS	1170		Pit 1212		Crystal	8	13	Quartz		
SMS	1187	Slot 26	Ditch/pit 1202		Metalwork	1	135.3	Corroded Iron		
SMS	1187	Slot 26	Ditch/pit 1202		Crystal	1	1	Amethyst		
SMS	1187	Slot 26	Ditch/pit 1202		Pottery	1	36.4	Bodysherd of Green glazed Earthenware, South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware) Possible 'St Germans' ware.	15th to 16th centuries AD	Late Medieval
SMS	1187	Slot 26	Ditch/pit 1202		Pottery	2	10	Two conjoining bodysherds green Glazed Earthenware, likely North Devon ware.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1190	Slot 25	Ditch 1186		Stone	1	244.6	Smooth Stone		
SMS	1190	Slot 25	Ditch 1186		Pottery	1	52.3	Basal angle sherd, Earthenware, South-western micaceous ware. Glazed internally and sooted exterior. Cooking pot.	16th to 17th centuries AD	Post-Medieval

	10(6)(0)9)			35	Crystal	3	8	Quartz		
	1001/ NL (1004)				Flint	1	7.7	Flint secondary Core Rejuvenation Flake, heated affected, fractured and patinated. Distal end.	Prehistoric	Prehistoric
SMS	1003/1047		Deposit	23	Crystal	3	21.2	Quartz		
SMS	1003/1047		Deposit	24.1	Crystal	1	1	Crystal Tip		
SMS	1003/1047		Deposit	24.2	Crystal	1	1	Quartz		
SMS	1003/1047		Deposit	24.3	Crystal	3	1	Amethyst		
SMS	1003/1047		Deposit	30	Crystal	6	57	Quartz		
SMS	1003/1047		Deposit	32	Crystal	1	2	Crystal Tip		
SMS	1003/1047		Deposit	33.1	Crystal	1	2	Amethyst		
SMS	1003/1047		Deposit	33.2	Crystal	1	4	Quartz		
SMS	1003/1047		Deposit	33.3	Crystal	1	3	Crystal Tip		
SMS	1008/1097		Pit 1099		Crystal	23	56.1	Amethyst		
SMS	1008/1097		Pit 1099		Crystal	21	341	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1008/1097		Pit 1099		Crystal	189	1500	Quartz		
SMS	1024/1048		Ditch 1049/1051		Crystal	2	2.1	Quartz		
SMS	1024/1048	Slot 3	Ditch 1049/1051		Crystal	10	9.7	Amethyst		
SMS	1024/1048	Slot 3	Ditch 1049/1051		Pottery	1	99	Rim sherd of South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware), traces of glaze. Sooted. Bowl / Cooking Pot.	15th to 16th centuries AD	Late Medieval
SMS	1094/1047		Pit 1210	44.1	Crystal	1	34.1	Crystal Tips		
SMS	1094/1047		Pit 1210	44.2	Crystal	1	3.9	Quartz		
SMS	1123/1006	Slot 23	Ditch 1124		Metalwork	1	30.8	Corroded iron lump with stones attached.		
SMS	1140/42		Pit 1141		Crystal	2	12.3	Crystal Tips		

SMS	1173/1006	Slot 23	Ditch 1213		Pottery	1	8.2	Bodysherd of green glazed South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware).	16th to 17th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1173/1006	Slot 23	Ditch 1213		Pottery	1	19.7	Basal angle sherd of green glazed South-western micaceous ware (Cornish Coarseware). Probably a dish or bowl.	16th to 17th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1173/1006	Slot 23	Ditch 1213		Pottery	1	14.6	Basal angle sherd of Porcelain with unglazed blue painted decoration. Probably Chinese. Glaze very blue.	17th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1173/1006	Slot 23	Ditch 1213		Pottery	9	66.6	Bodysherds of Green Glazed Red Earthenware, likely North Devon gravel tempered ware. Most likely the same vessel.	17th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
SMS	1173/1006	Slot 23	Ditch 1213		Clay Pipe	2	13.8	One milled bowl, with part of spur surviving and one stem fragment. c. 1850-1910 Dutch style, copied by some English makers.	19th century AD	Post-Medieval
WB	2008	Slot 32	Ditch 2016		Pottery	1	4.2	Bodysherd of Glazed Earthenware pottery 'Yellow ware'.	19th century AD	Post-Medieval
WB	2008	Slot 32	Ditch 2016		Pottery	1	0.7	Bodysherd of Glazed Refined White Earthenware, plain.	19th century AD	Post-Medieval
WB	2014	Slot 32	Ditch 2016		Pottery	1	58.7	Basal Angle Sherd, English Stoneware, with embossed circle decoration. Poss. Bottle or Jar.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval

WB	2014	Sample 59	Ditch 2016		Pottery	1	4.2	Bodysherd South-western Micaceous ware.	14th to 15th centuries AD	Medieval
WB	2014	Sample 58	Ditch 2016		Pottery	1	5	Bodysherd of Glazed Red Earthenware. Likely North Devon ware.	18th to 19th centuries AD	Post-Medieval
WB	2014	Sample 59	Ditch 2016		Pottery	1	1.3	Rim sherd of Refined White Earthenware, 'Pearlware' with scalloped edge c. 1800-1840.	19th century AD	Post-Medieval
	2106?		Wrong number/uncertain		Crystal	1	7.6	Amethyst in Matrix		
	2106?		Wrong number/uncertain		Crystal	3	54.9	Crystal Tips		
	2106?		Wrong number/uncertain		Crystal	19	83.5	Quartz		
	2109?		Wrong number/uncertain		Crystal	3	17	Quartz		
	2109?		Wrong number/uncertain		Crystal	2	25.2	Amethyst in Matrix		
	2106?		Wrong number/uncertain		Crystal	1	7.6	Amethyst in Matrix		

Appendix 3: Table of Samples

Site Code	Area	Site sub-division	Sample No	Context	Feature	Volume taken (l)	Volume (ml)	Weight (g)	Root %	Charcoal %	Notes
MGR24	SMS	Slot 3	1	1048	Ditch [1049]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Slot 4	2	1053	Ditch [1054]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Slot 5	3	1063	Ditch [1064]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Slot 6	4	1072	Ditch [1120]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Slot 6	5	1072	Ditch [1120]	10					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Slot 2	6	1055	Ditches [1056/1058]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Slot 8	7	1075	Gully [1077]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		8	1020	Pit [1073]	10					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Slot 6	9	1078	Ditch [1054]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Slot 2	10	1004, 1055, 1061	Ditches [1056/1058]						Monolith
MGR24	SMS	Slot 9	11	1082	Ditch [1083]	10					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Slot 11	12	1005	Ditch [1093]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample

MGR24	SMS		13	1009	Pit [1085]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		14	1096	Pit [1085]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		15	1007, 1086	Pit [1088]						Monolith
MGR24	SMS		16	1009, 1084	Pit [1085]						Monolith
MGR24	SMS		17	1008	Pit [1099]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		18	1097	Pit [1099]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		19	1009	Pit [1085]	20					WPR bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		20	1086	Pit [1088]	20					WPR bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		21	1008, 1097	Pit [1099]						Monolith
MGR24	SMS		22	1108	Pit [1109]	10					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		23	1097	Pit [1099]	20					WPR bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		24	1087	Pit [1088]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		25	1030	Pit [1135]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		26	1140	Pit [1141]	20					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		27	1143	Pit [1135]	250					WPR bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Grid 7/-1, Slot 20	28	1149		10					Crystal test pit

MGR24	SMS	Grid 8/-1, Slot 20	29	1149		10					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS	Grid 9/-1, Slot 20	30	1149		10					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS		31	1153	Pit [1135]	20					WPR bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		32	1154	Pit [1135]	20					WPR bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		33	1143	Pit [1135]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Grid 11/15	34	1003		400					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS	Grid 8/23	35	1010, 1075		40					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS	Grid 8/23	36	1156		60					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS	Grid 8/23	37	1157		140					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS	Grid 8/23	38	1161		80					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS	Grid 6/20	39	1047		310					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS	Grid 6/20	40	1159		200					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS	Grid 6/20	41	1160							Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS		42	1023, 1170	Pit [1165]	10					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		43	1025	Gully [1177]	30					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		44	1181	Pit [1182]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Slot 24	45	1051	Ditch [1050]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Grid 14/20	46	1003		300					Crystal test pit

MGR24	SMS	Grid 4/18	47	1047, 1046		500					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS	Grid 4/13	48	1003		400					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS	Grid 6/10	49	1047		280					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS	Grid 6/10	50	1010		50					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS	Grid 11/10	51	1003		275					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS	Grid 13/1	52	1046		410					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS	Grid 4/1	53	1046		250					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS	Slot 25	54	1190	Ditch [1186]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS		55	1179	Pit [1182]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Slot 27	56	1194, 1195	Ditch [1126]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Grid 6/15	57	1047, 1094		80					Crystal test pit
MGR24	WB	Slot 31	58	2014	Ditch [2016]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	WB	Slot 32	59	2014	Ditch [2016]	30					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Slot 26	60	1187, 97-9	Ditch [1200]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Slot 10	61	1079	Gully [1126]	30					Dating & environmental bulk sample
MGR24	SMS	Grid 6/25	62	1003, 1047		140					Crystal test pit
MGR24	SMS		63	1209	Pit [1210]	40					Dating & environmental bulk sample

Appendix 4: Charcoal Assessment

Maiden Green, Truro (MGR24)

Wood charcoal assessment

Dana Challinor, May 2025

Nine samples were submitted for charcoal assessment: to establish the preservation, quantity and taxonomic diversity of the material and to determine potential for further analysis. All of the samples came from deposits within pits, some of which were intercut into a dense concentration of quartz and amethyst crystals. Other activities at the site were of medieval or post-medieval date and the potential for these samples to provide suitable material for C14 was recorded as part of the assessment.

Methodology

Assemblages were scanned under a binocular microscope, at up to X45 magnification, with *c.*10 charcoal fragments randomly extracted, fractured (only if necessary) and examined in transverse section to provide preliminary species identification. Selected fragments were subsequently examined in longitudinal sections rat high magnification (up to X400) to confirm the identification of each new taxon. This does not amount to a full identification on all fragments as many were either not fractured or were not distinguished from similar genera (e.g. *Alnus/Corylus*) at this stage, but it confirms the presence of taxa in the assemblages. Some notes were also made on the maturity in order to assess suitability for dating purposes. A score for charcoal abundance was made (1000+=super-abundant; ++++=abundant; +++=moderate; ++=low; += rare), along with potential for further analysis. Suitability for radiocarbon dating was also noted, with a capital Y given to those of greatest potential.

Results

All of the flots contained significant components of modern roots and general quantities of charcoal were low. Four samples did not produce any charcoal or charcoal flecks only that were too small for identification. Where identifiable material (>2mm) was present, preservation was fair, although much of the charcoal was covered or infused with sediment. This was not sufficient to prevent positive identification in larger fragments but limits the potential of samples with small fragment sizes. The presence of the following taxa was confirmed:

Corylus avellana (hazel)

Ilex aquifolium (holly)

Maloideae (hawthorn, apple, pear, whitebeam, rowan etc.)

Populus/Salix (poplar/willow)

Quercus (oak)

Not all fragments of *Alnus/Corylus* (alder/hazel) were examined at high magnification and might be of either taxa, but some fragments were confirmed as *Corylus*. Very little maturity data was recorded on account of small fragment sizes and no small roundwood pieces were observed. An exception was from sample <17> which produced mostly oak that were relatively large (up to 25mm). Growth rates were generally slow (with little late wood pores visible), with occasional to frequent tyloses – these, however, were patchy and not present in every ring, which suggests that the charcoal derived from the heartwood-sapwood transition zone rather than full heartwood. Possible traumatic tyloses were also noted and there were high levels of vitrification. Sample <25> also contained mostly oak fragments, with one super large piece of 73mm length. Much of this material exhibited strong ring curvature (close to pith) but also contained multiple

tyloses indicating heartwood. The large 73mm piece was from roundwood of >40 years and exhibited evidence of woodworking in the form of a cut surface.

Sample	Context	Feature	Charcoal quantity	Identifications	Analysis potential	C14 potential
13	1009	Pit [1085]	+	*Quercus, Ilex*	n	y
14	1096	Pit [1085]	+	*Alnus/Corylus*, *Populus/Salix*, Maloideae	n	y
17	1008	Pit [1099]	++	*Quercus, Corylus*	n	Y
18	1097	Pit [1099]	++	*Corylus, Alnus/Corylus*	n	y
20	1086	Pit [1088]	-		n	n
22	1108	Pit [1109]	-		n	n
24	1087	Pit [1088]	-		n	n
25	1030	Pit [1135]	++	*Quercus*, Maloideae	n	Y
63	1209	Pit [1210]	-		n	n

Table 1: Charcoal assessment results

Implications

The low quantities of charcoal and the high incidence of modern roots are both factors impacting the potential of this material. All of those with identifiable charcoal produced non-oak taxa that would technically be suitable for dating, but the high levels of contamination and small fragment size/quantity compromise the potential for reliability as the charcoal could be intrusive. Two samples, <17> from pit [1099] and <25> from pit [1135], were more convincing as contemporary deposits of charcoal, since the material was too large to have resulted from later root incursions and of sufficient quantity to suggest deposits of burnt material.

Consequently, the potential of this material to provide additional data is very low and no further microscopic work is recommended on this material. However, the two richer assemblages from <17> and <25> offer some evidence on maturity and growth patterns, providing a small insight into woodland exploitation and fuelwood supplies – assuming that dating is successfully obtained. The cut surface on the piece from <25> is also a rather nice example, which merits a photographic record. It is recommended that a short report (based mostly upon the assessment results) is included in the final publication, along with photographic evidence of the worked wood.

Appendix 5: Pollen Assessment

Pollen Assessments of deposits from Maiden Green, Truro

Tom Hill 2025

Introduction

Samples deemed to be of palaeoenvironmental potential were obtained during ground investigations at Maiden Green, Truro, undertaken by Cornwall Archaeology Unit (CAU). A total of eight samples were submitted for provisional pollen assessments, obtained from two difference features. 5 samples were derived from Feature [1085], derived from fills (1009) and (1096). A further 3 samples were derived from Feature [1099], from fills (1008) and (1097). At the time of writing, the function of the Features was not clear, but suggested to be either waterholes/wells or cess pits

A summary of the sampling strategy undertaken by CAU is provided in Table 1. Provisional pollen assessments have been commissioned to evaluate whether pollen is preserved in sufficient abundance and diversity within the samples. If so, the assessment will infer whether the pollen assemblages have the potential to inform landscape conditions that prevailed during the development of the sedimentary archives.

Site	Feature	Fill	Depth
Maiden Green	[1085] Tin <21>	1008	8cm
		1008	43cm
		1097	73cm
	[1099] Tin <16>	1009	3cm
		1009	8cm
		1084	13cm
		1084	18cm
		1084	23cm

Table 1: Summary of samples submitted for palynological consideration from Maiden Green, Truro

Methodology

Pollen preparation varies depending on the organic/minerogenic content of each sample. Pollen preparations were undertaken by Department of Geography, Royal Holloway University of London (RHUL). Preparations follow the methodologies outlined by Campbell et al. (2016) and Moore et al. (1991) which include (1) sampling a standard volume of sediment; (2) adding a single tablet of the exotic clubmoss *Lycopodium clavatum* to provide a measure of pollen concentration in each sample; (3) treatment with hydrochloric acid and potassium hydroxide to remove carbonates and humic acids respectively (4) sieving of the sample to remove coarse mineral and organic fractions (>180µm); (5) density separation (sodium polytungstate) (6) removal of finer minerogenic fraction; (7) acetolysis and (8) mounting of the sample in glycerol jelly and onto microscope slide.

Upon completion of sample preparation, the laboratory technician noted the abundance of microcharcoal in all samples, which required samples to be further diluted to allow subsequent microscopy to be undertaken. A standard assessment of pollen potential requires either a total of 10 microscope slide traverses to be undertaken, or a count of at least 100 total land pollen grains (TLP), excluding aquatics and spores. During an assessment, comments relating to state of pollen preservation are also undertaken. In relation to the pollen slides, the presence of other visible microfossil features (charcoal, pre-Quaternary pollen and spores, other identifiable non-pollen palynomorphs (NPPs) such as dinoflagellate cysts, testate amoebae etc) is also summarised, if encountered.

Results

At the time of writing the report, the age of the two stratigraphic sequences was unknown, with radiocarbon dates assumed pending. CAU suggest the features may date to the medieval period.

Pollen was found to be encountered in restricted abundance and diversity in four of the five samples obtained from Monolith Tin <16> (Feature [1085], with grain degradation commonplace within all samples, often restricting the ability to undertake provisional identifications. Assessment counts of 100TLP were achieved from the three samples derived from Monolith Tin <21> (Feature [1099], however floral diversity was similarly low, and all samples also displayed evidence of grain degradation. The results of the pollen assessments are provided in Table 2.

<16>

Four of the five samples yielded insufficient pollen for assessment purposes, with only the uppermost sample (0.03m bgl) yielding a pollen count exceeding 100TLP. In all cases, grain degradation was common, with the majority of grains displaying crumpling/folding and surface exine corrosion. Some grains were also broken, but this was more restricted. Due to this, it was often not possible to identify the degraded grains with any confidence and as such, counts were limited to those with more distinct grain shapes and surface sculpturing (commented on further in the Discussion section).

The four lowermost samples (0.23m, 0.18m, 0.13m and 0.08m bgl) contained restricted assemblages mostly typified by herbs, with Poaceae (wild grasses) most common, supported by *Plantago* undif. (plantains) and Lactuceae (e.g. dandelions). Occasional grains of Asteraceae (e.g. daisies) were also consistently observed. Isolated grains scattered between samples included Rubiaceae (e.g. madders) and Apiaceae (Umbelliferae) undif. (umbellifers). Shrubs were also present in all samples, typified by *Corylus-Myrica* type (hazel or sweetgale) and Ericaceae undif. (heathers). Trees were restricted to occasional grains of *Alnus* (alder). Aquatics taxa were not encountered, whilst spores were present but in low numbers, typified by occasional grains of *Polypodium* (polypody) and *Pteropsida* (monolete) undif. (ferns), in addition to isolated grains of *Sphagnum* (moss) and *Pteridium* (bracken).

The uppermost sample (0.03m bgl) yielded a broadly similar assemblage in terms of the restriction composition and diversity of grains observed, but Ericaceae undif. appeared more common, as was *Plantago* undif.. However, this may in part be due to the slightly higher concentration of grains encountered within this sample. Isolated grains of *Cirsium* type (thistle), *Trifolium* (clovers) and *Succisa* (devils-bit) were also noted.

Supporting microfossil evidence was relatively limited, but as previously mentioned, microcharcoal concentrations were high in all samples. Occasional coprophilous ascospores were observed at depth (inc. *Podospora* type, *Sporormiella* type), whilst isolated carbonicolous ascospores were observed at 0.23m bgl (e.g. *Gelasinospora* type).

<21>

The three samples from <21> yielded slightly higher grain concentrations, enabling 100TLP assessment counts to be achieved. However, the level of grain corrosion remained high, resulting in difficulties identifying grains. When identifiable, broadly

similar assemblages were encountered through the sequence. Shrubs appear most common, particularly Ericaceae undif., supported by *Corylus-Myrica* type. Herbs are also influential however, with Lactuceae most typical, supported by Poaceae and *Plantago* undif., in addition to isolated grains of Asteraceae. Trees are restricted to isolated grains of *Alnus*, *Pinus* (pine) and *Betula* (birch). The uppermost sample (0.08m bgl) contains a slightly stronger herb signal, with Lactuceae more common, at the expense of Ericaceae undif.

Aquatics are absent, whilst spores are present in low but consistent numbers. Occasional spores of *Pteridium* (bracken), *Pteropsida* (monolete) undif and *Sphagnum* appear most common, supported by *Polypodium*. Supporting microfossil evidence is limited, although the abundance of microcharcoal in all samples is once again highlighted. Isolated coprophilous ascospores were recorded in 0.43m bgl, whilst the uppermost sample (0.08m) contained slightly more of these, in addition to isolated ascospores of carbonicolous fungi.

Discussion

The following comments are based on assessment level pollen counts and as a result, any provisional interpretations must be treated with caution. For interpretations to be deemed reliable, full analysis would be required. However, pollen preservation overall was found to be poor, which would limit any palaeoenvironmental potential of the two sequences under consideration.

Prior to providing brief summaries and associated provisional comments regarding the potential vegetation that likely prevailed during the development of the two sequences under initial assessment, it must also be emphasised that the level of grain degradation encountered resulted in it not being possible to reliably identify all palynomorphs encountered. Grains were often heavily corroded or crumpled, whilst microcharcoal was observed in abundance in all samples. Degradation was primarily recorded as grains being corroded or crumpled. Such preservation issues can prevent the observation of the necessary morphological characteristics of the grains and spores under assessment. As a result, the grains that could be identified with confidence, were often those with distinct morphological features (e.g. tetrads – e.g. Ericaceae undif; monoporate grains – e.g. Poaceae; polypantoporate grains – e.g. *Plantago* undif, trizonocolpate grains – e.g. *Corylus-Myrica* type; 'crested' grains – e.g. Lactuceae). As such, it is therefore important to explain that such identifications have the potential to bias any attempts to reconstruct vegetation conditions, in light of other grains that could not be identified due their poor state of preservation. All grains identified with confidence will constitute a proportion of the pollen (and hence vegetation composition) at the time of sediment deposition. However, within the assemblages presented herein the identifiable grains will appear to be abundant, but this may not be a fair reflection of the true vegetation that was present at the time. As such, the below comments should again be treated with caution and will require supporting environmental assessments (e.g. plant macrofossils) to direct subsequent interpretations and discussions.

Pollen preserved in Sequence <16> was found to be poor, with full assessment counts not possible in five of the six samples under provisional assessment. Microcharcoal was abundant, which suggests burning on or near the site was influential throughout the time period encompassed by the sequence. This may indeed account for the poor state of preservation of many of the grains. When present, herbs were most common overall, with wild grasses, plantains and species belonging to Lactuceae (including dandelions) and Asteraceae (including daisies) most common. There were also isolated grains of umbellifers and madders, but these were rare and have the potential to be allochthonous (wind-blown). Shrubs were typified by heathers and hazel/sweetgale, with heathers becoming more common within the uppermost sample. The heathers appeared to be typified by *Calluna* (common heather). Trees were almost wholly absent, with only isolated grains of alder observed. Spores were rare and aquatics were absent. As such, the assemblages encountered, albeit in low numbers, suggest an open landscape with some likely disturbance taxa. Supporting microfossil evidence also included occasional

ascospores associated with dung and fire, which appeared restricted to the lowermost samples from the sequence.

Sequence <21> was broadly similar to that encountered in <16>, in terms of the overall assemblage composition (being mostly typified by herbs and shrubs), but heathers appeared more common. Spores are relatively rare, although consistently encountered through all samples (polypody, ferns, moss, bracken etc), and aquatics were once again absent. Isolated grains of pine, birch and alder were also recorded. There appeared to be a slight reduction in heathers within the uppermost sample, with herbs being slightly more common (typified by grains taxa belonging to Lactuceae), which could be seen as suggesting the area became more open with time. This is reinforced by the presence of dung and fire ascospores in slightly higher numbers within the uppermost sample. Preservation as slightly better within this sequence, but the issues highlighted above in relation to poor grain preservation was also commonplace and as such may not be a fair reflection of the vegetation composition at the time of deposition.

Recommendations for further analysis

Pollen was encountered in limited abundance and restricted diversity in the majority of samples under provisional assessment. The level or grain degradation suggests that the assemblages summarised herein may not necessarily be a fair reflection of the vegetation present during the development of the two sequences. As such no further works are suggested for these sequences.

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		Depth							
		<21>			<16>				
		8cm	43cm	73cm	3cm	8cm	13cm	18cm	23cm
Trees	*Alnus*	1		1		3		2	2
	Betula			1					
	Pinus	1							
Shrubs	*Corylus-Myrica* type	11	16	8	8	12	3	8	2
	Ericeceae undif.	49	71	88	37	5	2	6	4
	Salix	1							
Herbs	Poaceae	8	12	13	33	35	30	34	13
	Poaceae >37µm			1					
	Cyperaceae	1				1			
	Apiaceae (Umbelliferae) undif.		1				1	1	
	Asteraceae	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	1
	Brassicaceae								
	Caryophyllaceae								
	Cantaurea								
	Chenopodiaceae								
	Cirsium type				2				
	Helianthemum								
	Lactuceae undiff.	34	17	16	7	5	2	8	3
	cf. Liliaceae								
	Plantago undif.	11	8	11	13	4	2	9	4
	Potentilla type							1	
	Rubiaceae undif.			1				2	1
	Rumex type								
	Succisa				1				
	Trifolium				1			1	
	Urtica								
Spores	*Polypodium*	3	1	2	5	5	1	3	2
	Pteridium	5	4	3	1				1
	Pteropsida (monolete) undif.	7	2	1		2	1	1	3
	Sphagnum	4	6	1	2			1	1
Charcoal		xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Carbonicolous fungi		x							x
Coprophilous fungi		xx	x				x	x	xx
Glomus sp.		x						x	
Grain degradation		xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx	xxx
Abundance		mod	mod	mod	mod	low	low	low	low
Diversity		low	low	low	low	low	low	low	low
Recommended for further analysis?		n	n	n	n	n	n	n	n

Table 2: Summary of pollen encountered at Maiden Green, Truro

Appendix 6: Thin Sections Assessment

Maiden Green, Truro; Soil Micromorphology

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October 2025

Original report reproduced here without included figures

Extended summary

A three-thin section study was carried out. All pit fills are similarly dark because of their very fine charcoal content. The upper fill of Pit 1085 (M1009) also includes small examples of burnt soil (hearth fragments?) and is a more heterogeneous silty clay loam compared to the other (basal) pit fills; it also appears to be more puddled. Pit fills of Pits 1099 (M1097) and 1088 (M1082) are homogeneous muddy silting deposits, with features of subsequent rooting and rewetting/slaking. The presence of very fine charcoal and examples of fine charcoal and burnt soil (especially in Pit 1088), as well as the possibility that fire-cracked rocked fragments and shards occur, strongly indicate wash/colluviation from a fire installation(s).

Introduction

A study of a three thin section subsamples from Roman (?) and Medieval pits at Maiden Green, Truro was carried out. The samples, which were provided by Fiona Fleming (Cornwall Archaeological Unit) and Chris Carey (Bournemouth University), were pre-processed and forwarded to Spectrum Petrographics, Inc (USA) for thin section processing. The thin sections were analysed using soil micromorphology employing standard techniques (see below).

Methods

Soil micromorphology

The undisturbed monolith subsample (Tables 1 and 2) was impregnated with a clear polyester resin-acetone mixture; samples were then topped up with resin, ahead of curing and slabbing for thin section manufacture by Spectrum Petrographics, Inc, USA (Goldberg *et al*., 2022). The thin section was further polished with 1,000 grit papers and analysed using a petrological microscope under plane polarised light (PPL), crossed polarised light (XPL), and oblique incident light (OIL), at magnifications ranging from x1 to x200/400. Thin sections were described, ascribed soil microfabric types (MFTs) and microfacies types (MFTs) (see Tables 1 and 2), and counted according to established methods, and as used on Scandinavian sites previously (Bullock *et al*., 1985; Courty, 2001; Courty *et al*., 1989; Karkanas and Goldberg, 2018; Macphail and Cruise, 2001; Macphail and Goldberg, 2018; Nicosia and Stoops, 2017; Stoops, 2003; Stoops *et al*., 2018).

Results

Soil micromorphology and preliminary interpretations

Results are presented in Tables 1-2. 9 characteristics were identified and counted from the three thin sections.

Local Soils

Typical Brown Soils (Denbigh 1 and 2 soil associations) are typical of the area under study, and are formed on Palaeozoic slaty mudstones and siltstones, but can also occur over bare rock (Findlay *et al*., 1983).

Pit 1099 (M1097): The basal fill of the pit (1097) is a very weakly humic, moderately very fine charcoal-rich, greyish brown silty clay loam, with gravel and small stone-size

rock fragments. It is characterised by rare fine charcoal (max ~1mm) and abundant very fine charcoal, giving the soil a dark colour; many matrix coats and infills also occur. Post-depositional very fine rooting is recorded by occasional ferruginised root traces (Vepraskas *et al*., 2018). The findings suggest that 1097 is muddy colluvial fill composed of a fine anthropogenic soil probably enriched with very fine charcoal because of relatively nearby use of fire installations producing 'soot' (cf. medieval moat fill at City Hall Square, Copenhagen; Macphail and Devos, 2023).

Pit 1085 (M1009): The fill is heterogeneous with dominant a weakly humic, very fine charcoal-rich, dark greyish brown silty clay loam and diffuse areas of reddish brown moderately very fine charcoal-rich silty clay loam, for example. Deposits include a trace of fine charcoal and many to very abundant very fine charcoal, along with rare to occasional burnt mineral grains and probable burnt soil examples (see Figs 9 and 10 from original report, below) (Röpke and Dietl, 2017). Pedofeatures such as occasional matrix intercalations and many void coatings are indicative of muddy slaking (Kühn *et al*., 2018). This, together with the presence of semi-collapsed voids and the deposit's heterogeneity suggest mixing and possible puddling of this upper fill (see Fig 13 from original report, below) (Macphail and Goldberg, 2018, 342-346; Rentzel *et al*., 2017). Again, the high concentrations of very fine charcoal (hence the dark soil colour) and small amounts of burnt mineral material indicate inputs from fire installations.

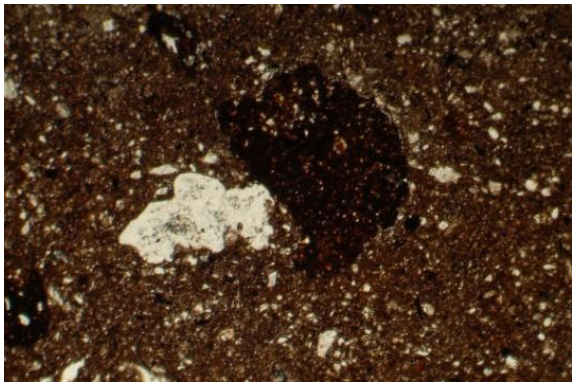

Fig. 9: Photomicrograph of M1009 (Pit 1085); compact very fine charcoal-rich silty clay loam, with probable burnt soil (of hearth origin?) present (right centre). PPL, frame width is ~3.70mm.

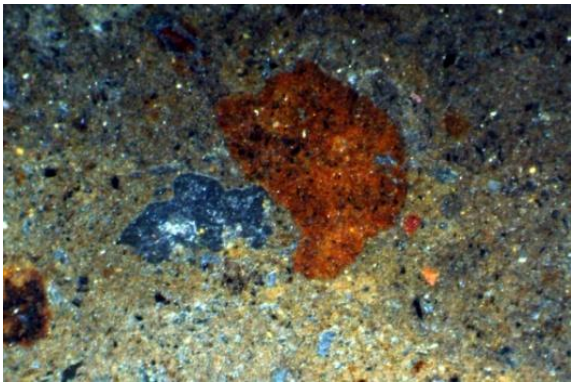

Fig. 10: As Fig 9, under OIL; note rubefied mineral inclusions; the image also records deposit heterogeneity.

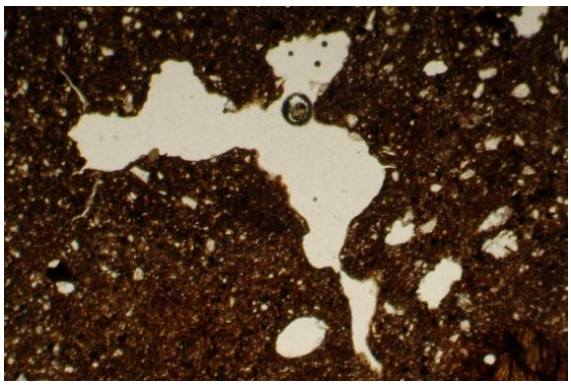

Fig. 13: Photomicrograph of M1009 (Pit 1085); semi-collapsed void/polymorphic closed vugh formed through structural collapse in water-saturated/possibly trampled/puddled soil. PPL, frame width is ~3.70mm.

Pit 1088 (M1082): The fill is a weakly humic, moderately very fine charcoal-rich, greyish brown to reddish brown silty clay loam, with small concentration of gravel-size quartzitic rock and fine charcoal fragments at 0-5mm and 20-25 mm depth, and ferruginised fine root remains throughout. The presence of microlaminated matrix pans records muddy silting, with semi-collapsed voids, indicative of phases of root growth/and renewed use and rewetting/slaking of the fill. As well as the occurrence of very fine charcoal, the embedded examples of (fire-cracked?) gravels, burnt soil (possible blackened turf?) and fine charcoal examples (max 3.5mm; fuel ash) all indicate inputs from a fire installation(s) (Courty and Fedoroff, 1982; Macphail and Goldberg, 2018), 381-383; Röpke and Dietl, 2017). The pit (probably like Pit 1099) may have been trapping silt from activities/processes upslope. The relatively fertile and moist conditions in the pit, compared to surrounding soils/subsoils, probably preferentially encourage plant rooting possibly by shrubs, etc. Their remains became ferruginised as a post-depositional process (Vepraskas *et al*., 2018).

Conclusions

Conclusions are presented in the Extended Summary (P1).

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Table 1: Maiden Green, Truro; Soil Micromorphology samples and counts

Thin	Layer	Relative	MFT	SMT	%Voids	Gravel	Root	Charcoal	VF
section		**depth**					**traces**		**Charcoal**
Pit 1088									
M1082	1082	0-5-20-25-75 mm	A3	1a1(Gr,Ch),FeRt	25%	*	aaaa	(aaa)	aaaa
Pit 1085									
M1009	1009	0-75 mm	A2	1b,2a	35%	*		a*	aaa-aaaaa
Pit 1009									
M1097	1097	0-75 mm	A1	1a	<10%	ffff	aa (Fe)	a	aaaa
Table 1, cont.									
Thin	**Burnt**	**Burnt**	**Matrix**	**2ndary**					
section	**mineral**	**soil'**	**fills, etc**	**Fe**					
Pit 1088									
M1082	(aaa-qtz)	a-1	aaaaa	aaaaa					
Pit 1085									
M1009	aa	a-2	aa-aaa	aaa					
Pit 1009									
M1097			aaa	aaa					

* - very few 0-5%, f - few 5-15%, ff - frequent 15-30%, fff - common 30-50%, ffff - dominant 50-70%, fffff - very dominant >70%;

a - rare <2% (a*1%; a-1, single occurrence), aa - occasional 2-5%, aaa - many 5-10%, aaaa - abundant 10-20%, aaaaa - very abundant >20%

Table 2: Maiden Green, Truro; Soil Micromorphology (Descriptions and preliminary interpretations)

Microfacies type (MFT)/Soil microfabric type (SMT)	**Sample No.**	**Depth (relative depth)** **Soil Micromorphology (SM)**	**Contexts and preliminary findings and interpretations**
			Basal fill of Pit 1088
MFT A3/SMT 1a1 (Gr, Ch), FeRt	M1082	0-75 mm SM: weakly humic, moderately very fine charcoal-rich, greyish brown to reddish brown silty clay loam (SMT 1a1), with small concentration of gravel-size quartzitic rock (SMT Gr) and fine charcoal fragments (SMT Ch) at 0-5mm and 20-25 mm depth, and ferruginised fine root remains throughout (SMT FeRt); *Microstructure*: massive with microlaminated, fine channel, 25% voids, with partially collapsed fine (root) channels; *Coarse Mineral*: C:F, as SMT 1a, with very few gravels; *Coarse Organic and Anthropogenic*: small concentration of (possibly fire-cracked?) gravel-size quartzitic rock (SMT Gr) and fine charcoal fragments (SMT Ch) at 0-5mm and 20-25 mm depth (max 3.5mm), a fine gravel-size burnt soil (possible blackened turf), and abundant ferruginised fine (once-woody) root remains throughout; *Fine Fabric*: SMT 1a1, as SMT 1a1: dusty and speckled greyish brown to reddish brown (PPL), very low to moderate interference colours (XPL as SMT 1a), grey to ochreous brown (OIL), many to abundant very fine charred organic matter; *Pedofeatures*: *Textural*: abundant matrix finely laminated matrix panning, with many matrix intercalations and associated void coatings, and with coarse inclusions as embedded clasts; *Amorphous*: very abundant diffuse iron impregnations especially associated with root remains; *Fabric*:; *Excrements*:	*The fill is a weakly humic, moderately very fine charcoal-rich, greyish brown to reddish brown silty clay loam, with small concentration of gravel-size quartzitic rock and fine charcoal fragments at 0-5mm and 20-25 mm depth, and ferruginised fine root remains throughout. The presence of microlaminated matrix pans records muddy silting, with semi-collapsed voids, indicative of phases of root growth/and renewed use and rewetting/slaking of the fill. As well as the occurrence of very fine charcoal, the embedded examples of (fire-cracked?) gravels, burnt soil (possible blackened turf?) and fine charcoal examples (max 3.5mm; fuel ash) all indicate inputs from a fire installation(s). The pit (probably like Pit 1099) may have been trapping silt from activities/processes upslope. The relatively fertile and moist conditions in the pit, compared to surrounding soils/subsoils, probably preferentially encourage plant rooting possibly by shrubs, etc. Their remains became ferruginised as a post-depositional process.*
			Upper fill of Pit 1085
MFT A2/SMT 1b, 2a	M1009	0-75 mm SM: Heterogeneous with dominant weakly humic, very fine charcoal-rich, dark greyish brown silty clay loam (SMT 1b) and diffuse areas of reddish brown moderately very fine charcoal-rich silty clay loam (SMT 2a);	*The fill is heterogeneous with dominant weakly humic, very fine charcoal-rich, dark greyish brown silty clay loam and diffuse areas of reddish brown moderately very fine charcoal-rich silty clay loam, for example.*

		Microstructure: massive, fine channel, 35% voids, fine channels and semi-collapsed vughs/polymorphic closed vughs; *Coarse Mineral*: C:F well sorted silts, with very few fine sands, and very few fine gravels; *Coarse Organic and Anthropogenic*: trace of fine charcoal and many to very abundant very fine charcoal, with rare to occasional brunt mineral grains and probable burnt soil examples; *Fine Fabric*: SMT 1b, as SMT 1a, with very abundant very fine charcoal and occasional fine burnt mineral material; SMT 2a: reddish brown (PPL), XPL and OIL as SMT 1a, with many to abundant very fine charcoal; *Pedofeatures*: *Textural*: occasional matrix intercalations and many void coatings; *Amorphous*: many fine iron impregnations; *Fabric*: ; *Excrements*:	*Deposits include a trace of fine charcoal and many to very abundant very fine charcoal, along with rare to occasional burnt mineral grains and probable burnt soil examples. Pedofeatures such as occasional matrix intercalations and many void coatings are indicative of muddy slaking. This, together with the presence of semi-collapsed voids and the deposit's heterogeneity suggest mixing and possible puddling of this upper fill. Again, the high concentrations of very fine charcoal (hence the dark soil colour) and small amounts of burnt mineral material indicate inputs from fire installations.*
			Basal fill of Pit 1099
MFT A1/SMT 1a	M1097	0-75 mm SM: Very weakly humic, moderately very fine charcoal-rich, greyish brown silty clay loam (SMT 1a), with gravel and small stone-size quartzitic rock fragments (SMT St); *Microstructure*: compact massive, <10% voids, fine channels; *Coarse Mineral*: C:F (Coarse:Fine limit at ~10µm), 60:40, poorly sorted silts, with very few sands (including quartzitic shards), and with dominant gravel to small stone-size (>50mm) granitic rock fragments; *Coarse Organic and Anthropogenic*: rare fine charcoal (max ~1mm) and abundant very fine charcoal, and occasional ferruginised root traces; *Fine Fabric*: SMT 1a: dusty and speckled greyish brown (PPL), moderate interference colours (open porphyric, stipple speckled with uni-strial and granostriate b-fabric, XPL), pale greyish brown (OIL), many to abundant very fine charred organic matter; *Pedofeatures*: *Textural*: many matrix coats and infills; *Amorphous*: many ferruginised root traces and mottling; *Fabric*:; *Excrements*:	*The basal fill (1097) is a very weakly humic, moderately very fine charcoal-rich, greyish brown silty clay loam, with gravel and small stone-size rock fragments. It is characterised by rare fine charcoal (max ~1mm) and abundant very fine charcoal, and many matrix coats and infills. Post-depositional very fine rooting is recorded by occasional ferruginised root traces. The findings suggest that 1097 is muddy colluvial fill composed of a fine anthropogenic soil probably enriched with very fine charcoal because of relatively nearby use of fire installations producing 'soot'.*

Appendix 7: Crystals Assessment

MGR24 – amethyst and quartz crystal assessment

Anna Lawson-Jones (June/July 2025)

* *The report in entirety includes appendices for further interest/information, which are not included here.*

Introduction

This report assesses the crystal and crystalline assemblage collected during mitigation work carried out at Maiden Green, Truro (site code MGR24) by Cornwall Archaeological Unit.

The assemblage consists of 6,730 pieces the vast majority of which have not been obviously worked or used. The total weight is 66,128.2g, nearly half of which consists of amethyst crystals and related crystalline material. The remaining just over half consists of quartz crystals and crystalline material. Thirty-three just possibly used pieces (all quartz) have been selected for further possible consideration. The wider lithic assemblage additionally includes a small pebble; a water abraded stone and a single waste flint flake.

Following assessment, this assemblage appears to represent part of an unusually shallow, near ground surface amethyst and quartz exposure - a natural geological phenomenon usually found at lower levels and more frequently encountered during mining operations which routinely followed similar mineral-rich veins. It is, as a result, an unusual archaeological excavation assemblage.

All pieces have been catalogued, and form part of the main site archive indices.

An appendix has been added to the back of this report listing amethyst and quartz geological qualities and some historic to modern-day uses, following a rapid internet search.

Methodology

The methods and terminology used conform to CIFA's guidelines for specialist reporting (https://www.archaeologists.net/reporting-toolkit).

The majority (82%) of the assemblage has come from 20 test pit samples. These had not been catalogued prior to assessment, although they had been washed and bagged by volunteers. They have now been recorded by sample as the following: amethyst, amethyst in matrix, quartz, quartz in matrix, crystal in matrix, low grade crystal and a single piece of rose quartz.

A smaller amount (18%) of the assemblage had previously been catalogued as a part of the initial post-excavation archiving process. This material is recorded as: amethyst, amethyst in matrix, quartz, quartz in matrix, amethyst/quartz in matrix, crystal tip/tips, druzy crystals (referring to the glittery effect of tiny crystals forming a blanket covering), low grade crystal/matrix, and a rose quartz tip.

All of this material has been counted and weighed. A single maximum dimension for each individual piece, sample or context group has also been recorded.

Macroscopic inspection of all pieces to determine potential use or wear has now been undertaken using rapid x 2 magnification. The amended catalogue can be found in the project archive.

For each catalogued item or group of items, recorded descriptions are selectively presented below.

Broad dating and quantification

Projected dating for the potential working, use or gathering of this crystal-rich deposit is not possible due to the lack of definitely worked pieces and the lack of definitely linked cut features, associated diagnostic deposits / artefacts, or archaeological (as opposed to geological) reference collections.

The results of this assessment are selectively summarised in the following tables.

Test pits & features (with how many)	No. of possible used pieces?	Total pieces	Weight (grams)
Test pits x 20	23	5,465	31,577.8
Pits x 10	4	577	6603.3
Ditches x 3	0	15 – (inc.1 x stone)	13,256.4 – (inc. 1 x stone)
Ditch / pit x 1	0	1	1
Deposits x 2	3	101	4882
Gullys x 7	3	355 - (inc. 1 x pebble)	5702.5 – (inc. 1 x pebble)
Pit / gulleys x 2	0	97	2992
Natural feature x 1	0	3	8.7
? (wrong context) x 1	0	23	146
(1003), (1046), (1001)	0	81 – (inc. 1 x flint)	958.5 – (inc. 1 x flint)
TOTAL	**33**	**6730**	**66128.2g**

Table 1: Quantification by test pit or context type.

Assemblage condition

All of the assemblage is in a notably good condition.

The majority of the assemblage has come from minimally disturbed contexts. No macroscopically obvious plough damage, burning, surface exposure or floor/trample-associated abrasion or breakage has been recorded.

Results

The results are ordered by test pit/sample, context (deposit number) and find (F.no.) or small find (SF.no.).

Note: SF numbers were assigned on site. Find or F numbers have been assigned during the assessment and comprise (for the previously un-catalogued bulk sampled test pits) of the sample number followed by the find number (in numeric order for each sample).

It should be noted that the selected potentially used pieces (predominantly crystals) have only been macroscopically examined with none categorically showing concerted use wear. Question marks have been used to suggest this in the following tables.

Undated - test pit sampled material (previously uncatalogued)

Eleven of the twenty samples produced twenty-two pieces to be looked at under higher magnification. None are clearly used or modified. Although points and piercers have been suggested for some of the pieces, the relative softness of quartz and amethyst compared to flint renders them unsuitable for use on any but the softest of materials. It should be stressed that they have been selected from many similarly shaped and sized pieces, some of which also display minor tip damage, but these are more clearly naturally damaged (via chemical etching or very minor physical damage from slope associated soil creep or root damage etc).

The possibly used, naturally tapered pieces include seven points? five point/piercers? two piercers? one point/borer? and one point/awl? In addition, there are two small possible pick-like (?) tools – neither are good examples, one crystalline hammerstone? with a notched or indented end and a possibly waisted (opposed indent) piece or possible weight? Two abraded crystalline lumps stood out as slightly more rounded, possibly anthropogenically worn (trample abraded?) or weather exposed pieces from the rest of the assemblage, but this could also be chemical rounding. In addition, a single complete yellowish quartz crystal (F.49.5) was initially picked out as of interest because of its slightly unusual colouring – although like the rose quartz this is a natural variation.

The following table shows a simplified breakdown of the results from a rapid, piece by piece scan of the entire test pit sample assemblage.

Grid no.	Context no.	Sample no.	Material=Am-amethyst, Qu-quartz, Cr-crystal, LGC-low grade crystal, *-used?	Total piece no.	Used? /Find no.	Possible use
7/1	1149	28	Am– 9, Qu– 16, Qu in matrix- 1, LGC- 51	77	0	0
8/1	1149	29	Am-130, Am in matrix- 3, Qu- 59, LGC- 136, LGC- 1*	329	F.29.1	Point?
9/1	1149	30	Qu- 133, Am- 314, Am in matrix- 4, LGC- 102, LGC- 1*	554	F.30.1	Pick?
11/15	1003	34	Qu- 86, Am in matrix- 4, Am- 16, LGC- 18, LGC- 1*	125	F.34.1	Pick?
8/23	1010	35	Am- 7, Am in matrix- 2, Qu- 50, Rose Qu- 1, Qu in matrix- 2, LGC- 96	158	0	0
8/23	1156	36	Am- 16, Am in matrix- 1, Qu- 62, LGC- 22, Qu- 1*	102	F.36.1	Point/ piercer?
8/23	1157- Layer 2	37	Am- 8, Qu- 71, LGC- 30	109	0	0
8/23	1161- Layer 4	38	Am- 1, Qu- 30, Cr in matrix- 2, LGC- 82	115	0	0
6/20	1047	39	Am- 163, Qu in matrix- 5, Qu- 671, Am- 30, LGC-575, Am- 1*, Am- 1*, Qu- 1*, LGC- 1	1,448	F.39.1 F.39.2 F.39.3 F.39.4	Point/ piercer? Hammers tone- notched end? Point? Point?
6/20	1159	40	Am- 54, Qu- 160, LGC- 158, Am in matrix- 4, Qu- 1*	377	F.40.1	Abraded lump?
14/20	1003	46	Qu- 18, LGC- 15	33	0	0
4/18	1046/ 1047	47	Am- 27, Am in matrix- 9, Qu- 167, LGC-214, LGC- 1*, LGC- 1*, AM- 1*, Qu- 1*,	421	F.47.1 F.47.2 F.47.3 F.47.4	Point/ borer? Waisted- weight? Point/ piercer? Point/awl
4/13	1003	48	Qu-26, LGC- 18, LGC- 1*	45	F.48.1	Point/ piercer?
6/10	1047	49	Am- 35, Qu- 316, LGC-391, Qu- 1*, Qu- 1*, Qu- 1*, LGC- 1* <u>LGC- 1*=not used but notable.</u>	747	F.49.1 F.49.2 F.49.3 F.49.4 <u>F.49.5</u>	Abraded lump? Piercer? Point? Piercer?
6/10	1010	50	Am- 4, Am in matrix- 18, LGC- 23	45	0	0
11/10	1003	51	Am- 17, Am in matrix- 3, Qu- 52, Qu in matrix- 5, LGC- 35	112	0	0
13/1	1046	52	LGC- 3	3	0	0
4/1	1046	53	Am- 2, Qu- 51, LGC- 90	143	0	0

6/15	1047/ 1094	57	Am- 20, Am in matrix- 8, Qu- 103, Qu in matrix- 2, LGC- 6, Qu- 1*	140	F.57.1	Point/ piercer?
6/25	1003/ 1046	62	LGC- 180, Qu in matrix- 3, Qu- 184, Am in matrix- 2, Am- 11, LGC- 1*, Qu- 1*, Qu- 1*	383	F.62.1 F.62.2 F.62.3	Point? Point? Point?
TOTAL		**20 samples**		**5,465**	**23**	

Table 2: Bulk sampled test pit crystal and crystalline material.

Significance

No distinctive patterning by crystal colour, type, quality or size (suggestive of sorting) has been identified for the test pit assemblage.

Twenty-two pieces have been selected as being of possible interest, but further inspection at x 5 magnification is likely to show that most have naturally abraded tips. The twenty third piece was picked out for being a relatively distinctive colour – rather than because of any potential use.

Undated – feature and test pit sampled material (previously catalogued)

Seven of the thirty-two different contexts produced ten pieces that should be looked at under higher magnification, although again none are obviously used or modified. As above, it should be stressed that these have been selected from similarly shaped and sized pieces, which also display limited tip damage and are more clearly naturally damaged via chemical etching or very minor physical damage from soil creep or root damage.

The possibly used, largely naturally tapered pieces include six points? one battered point? And one point/piercer? In addition, there are two possibly shaped amethyst in matrix blocks. It is uncertain if these are shaped or just fortuitously squared due to their geological geometric characteristics.

The following table shows a simplified breakdown of the results from a rapid, piece by piece scan of the entire test pit sample assemblage.

Context no.	**Cut type / cut no.**	**SF no.s and F no.s**	**Material=Am-amethyst, Qu-quartz, Cr-crystal, LGC-low grade crystal, *-used?**	**Total piece no.**	**Used? /Find no.**	**Possible use**
1003	Crystal test pit- Deposit	SF8, 15, 25.1, 25.2, 25.3, 40, 47.1, 47.2, 47.3	Am in matrix- 11, Qu- 34, Am- 22, Cr tips- 9	76	0	0
1009	Pit [1085]	SF5, 6, 38, 41, 35, 35.1*	Rose Qu- 1, Am in matrix- 5, Cr tips-1, Am-27, Qu- 14 Qu-1*	49	SF.35.1	Point?
1010	Crystal test pit Gully [1077]	SF3, 16, 17, 37.1, 37.2, 39, 48, 49, 50, 54*	Am- 10, Qu- 3, Cr tips- 3, Am/Qu in matrix- 5, Am in matrix- 2 Qu in matrix- 1*,	23	SF.54	Point?
1010	Gully [1077] Slot 8	F.1010.1	Am- 15, Cr tips- 5, Qu- 44 Druzy cr tip- 1*	65	F.1010.1	Point/piercer?

Context no.	Cut type / cut no.	SF no.s and F no.s	Material=Am-amethyst, Qu-quartz, Cr-crystal, LGC-low grade crystal, *-used?	Total piece no.	Used? /Find no.	Possible use
1011	Gully [1162]	SF59.1, 59.2, 59.3	Qu- 40, Am- 5, Am in matrix- 94, LGC- 37	176	0	0
1020	Pit [1073]	0	Cr tip- 1, Am- 3, Am in matrix- 2, Qu- 32, LGC- 1	39	0	0
1025	Gully [1177]	F.1025.1	Cr tips-3, Am in matrix- 9, Qu-37 Qu in matrix- 1*	50	F.1025.1	Point?
1029	Pit [1196]	0	Qu in matrix- 16, Am- 8, LGC- 47, Qu- 17	88	0	0
1030	Pit [1135]	0	Qu- 24, LGC- 10, Am- 7	41	0	0
1033	Pit [1146]	F.1033.1	Qu in matrix- 1*	1	F.1033.1	Point?
1041	Cut [1158]	0	Qu- 1	1	0	0
1042	Natural gully [1152] Slot 20	0	Qu- 11, Cr tip- 1, Am- 1	13	0	0
1043	Natural feature	0	Qu- 3	3	0	0
1046	Crystal test pit-Deposit	SF55, 56, 57, 58,	Cr tip- 1, Am in matrix- 2, Qu- 2	5	0	0
1047	Deposit	SF14, 18.1, 18.2, 19.1, 19.2, 20, 21.1, 21.2, 22, 26, 27.1, 27.2, 27.3, 28.1, 28.2, 28.3, 29.1, 29.2, 29.3, 31.1, 31.2, 31.3, 34, 34.1*, 36.1, 36.2, 42, 44.1, 44.2, 44.3, 44.4, 45*, 46, 51*, 52, 53	Am- 5, Am in matrix- 14, Cr tips- 11, Druzy cr tip- 1, Qu- 43, Qu in matrix- 8, Am in matrix- 1* Am in matrix- 1* Cr tip – 1*	86	SF34.1 SF45 SF51	Point? Shaped block? Shaped block?
1075	Cut [1077] Slot 8	0	Qu- 15, Cr tips- 4	19	0	0
1084	Pit [1085]	0	Qu- 41, Am- 23, Am in matrix- 2, Qu in matrix- 1, Cr tips- 5	72	0	0
1096	Pit [1085]	0	Cr tips- 2, Am in matrix- 1, Qu- 11, Am- 8	22	0	0

Context no.	Cut type / cut no.	SF no.s and F no.s	Material=Am-amethyst, Qu-quartz, Cr-crystal, LGC-low grade crystal, *-used?	Total piece no.	Used? /Find no.	Possible use
1108	Pit [1109]	F.1108.1	Am- 6, Cr tips- 2, Qu- 9, Cr tip- 1*	18	F.1108.1	Battered point?
1122	Ditch [1054] Slot 6	0	Am in matrix- 2	2	0	0
1133	Cut [1134] Slot 18	0	Cr tip- 1	1	0	0
1150	Cut [1151]	0	Qu- 6, Am- 1, LGC- 2	9	0	0
1166	Pit/gully [1167]	0	Cr tips-3, Qu- 48, Matrix- 9, Am- 4, Am in matrix- 1	65	0	0
1168	Pit/gully [1169]	0	Cr tips- 2, Qu- 18, Am- 2, Matrix- 9, LGC- 1	32	0	0
1170	Pit [1165]	0	Qu- 8	8	0	0
1187	Ditch/ pit [1202] Slot 26	0	Am- 1	1	0	0
1003 / 1047	Deposit	SF23, 24.1, 24.2, 24.3, 30, 32, 33.1, 33.2, 33.3	Qu- 11, Cr tip- 3, Am- 4	18	0	0
1008 / 1097	Pit [1099]	F.1099	Am- 23, Cr tips- 21, Qu- 188, Qu in matrix- 1*	233	F.1099.1	Point?
1024 / 1048	Ditch [1049] Slot 3	0	Am- 10, Qu- 2	12	0	0
1094 / 1047	Crystal test pit-Pit [1085]	SF44.1, 42	Cr tip- 1, Qu- 1	2	0	0
1140 / 1142	Pit [1141]	0	Cr tips- 2	2	0	0
1209	Pit [1210]	0	Qu- 3, Am in matrix- 2	5	0	0
2106?	? wrong context?	0	Am in matrix- 1, Cr tips- 3, Qu- 19	23	0	0
TOTAL				**1,260**	**10**	

Table 3: Hand excavated and sampled cut feature and deposit crystal and crystalline material.

Significance

No distinctive patterning by crystal colour, type, quality or size has been identified for this hand excavated assemblage, implying a lack of sorting or organisation.

Ten pieces have been selected as being of possible interest, although further inspection at x 5 magnification may show that they have been naturally abraded at their vulnerable tips, rather than worn or modified through use.

Additional non-crystalline material

The following three lithic pieces are not crystals or crystalline but do form a part of the site's stone assemblage. The single flint is broadly Late Neolithic in form. Flint is more resilient to wear and tear than quartz and amethyst and can be knapped to produce razor-sharp cutting edges and tapered hard wearing points etc. However, this is a waste piece. It has been burnt, possibly due to discard into a hearth (rendering it much less sharp or dangerous). It would seem to be a stray, residual piece. The lack of other flint from any context strongly suggests a lack of adjacent Neolithic (or more generally prehistoric) activity given its ubiquity on sites of this period.

The small black pebble and the waterworn siltstone (with recent unintentional impact damage) are both unused as tools and undated.

Context no.	Cut type / cut no.	SF no.s and F no.s	Material	No. of pieces	Used?	Possible use
1001	NL (1004)	F.100.1	Flint	1	0	Burnt, broken waste flake. Not used.
1010	Crystal test pit Cut [1077]	SF2	Pebble	1	0	Small, complete black water-worn pebble
1190	Ditch [1186]	F.1186.1	Smooth stone	1	0	Rounded triangular water-worn, fairly flat siltstone. Two areas of recent damage. No clear use.
TOTAL				**3**	**0**	

Table 4: The non-crystal or crystalline lithic assemblage.

Significance

The flint, the pebble and the naturally abraded siltstone all appear to have been brought to the site - possibly as a result of midden spreading, domestic waste disposal, road works etc, during the medieval, post medieval or modern period. Occasional, broadly associated pottery would support this.

No further work is required.

Discussion

The presence of the unusually shallow Maiden Green quartz and amethyst outcrop is likely to have been known in the past. Partial exposure by the adjacent, now dry-at-surface spring would have attracted both animal and human prehistoric activity with associated scuffing disturbance, further revealing the presence of crystals. The lack of obvious prehistoric interest in this concentrated, eye-catching crystal deposit is in itself noteworthy. The range of colours - purple, lavender, pink, occasionally reddish, clear and glassy, yellowish, cream and white, which along with the individual crystals' distinctive six-sided shaping, would always have been visually striking (and probably more so than they are today).

Pastural use, post-medieval enclosure and more recent road alterations have changed the site's original landscape setting and drainage pattern, although this disturbance is not macroscopically identifiable in the crystal assemblage as abrasion, notable crushing or breakage. Similarly, the spread of crystals across the site does not appear to reflect any focussed, non-natural deposition or selectivity with regard to feature fills, wider

deposits or geological test pits. There are no obvious concentrations of sorted crystals by type, size, colour, quality, frequency or use.

The relative softness of quartz and amethyst crystals would not have allowed for their use as heavy, or even light-duty tools. Even slight use on a soft substance is very likely to have rapidly blunted the already non-sharp tips. Because of this, it is considered very likely that any use of crystals from this site is likely to have taken place off-site, having been individually selected.

The landscape setting of the MGR24 site and the lack of obvious crystal-related activity is interesting. Set within a north facing, sloped and watery environment this outcrop could well have been regarded as being set within a fairly accessible, distinctive, small – but potentially not well known or frequented, seasonally liminal space. It was physically unsuitable for permanent early settlement, but was perhaps also unsuitable for other, less obvious reasons today.

Periodic archaeological features did cut across the crystal spread and did produce some of the largely, if not entirely residual assemblage, but still evidence for crystal-specific activity – use, rearrangement or sorting is missing.

Quartz crystals are occasionally recorded from Cornish prehistoric contexts. A long quartz crystal was deposited centrally beneath Godrevy Barrow (near Gwithian) above an underlying Mesolithic flint scatter, and its barrow mound may have had a white quartz pebble capping (Jones, 2024, 30). White quartz/quartz nodules and quartzite have been recorded at many Neolithic and Bronze Age sites, with barrows appearing to have a particular significance, often acting as repositories for materials including quartz collected from elsewhere, which could be incorporated within their structure - forming external mound coverings, mound and/or bank components (often alongside pink and yellow clays – Jones 2024), or as complete cairns. In the case of Carvinnack Barrow (Dudley, 1964, 414-451) a large quartz cairn was later sealed by a dark overlying soil mound, while at Treskyber Barrow 1 a quartz cairn ring was recorded. It is possible that quartz, in some of its forms including as crystals, may have been linked with or symbolic of death and renewal?

As Jones (2024, 149) states during his discussion of deliberate inclusions and barrow construction practices *'The inclusion of quartz pieces is a frequent occurrence on barrow sites, and it is likely given its triboluminescent properties that it was considered to be a magical material'.*

Worked, shaped and used non-crystal quartz and quartzite tools are also known from Cornwall (Skellington 1998-99, 121-125) and elsewhere (Waddington 2004 etc). No reference to a similar use of amethyst has been found although it is a recognised component of Roman and later decorative portable pieces and jewellery (often with a religious link – see attached appendices).

Clear rock quartz, unlike long slender crystals could be knapped like flint, as has recently been recorded at Dorstone Hill, Herefordshire where 337 worked pieces were found and recorded, although none had been used as tools. These pieces were interpreted as a distinct, select deposit which would have memorably sparked light while being worked on the site (Overton et al 2022a and b). Very little of the MGR24 quartz was as large or clear as the Dorstone rock quartz, but its Early Neolithic use and deposition at Dorstone is of interest, partly because it was imported to the site from at least 20 miles away. This sourcing, for use elsewhere poses the interesting question of what would be left marking its point of collection and transportation today? Could Maiden Green have functioned in the same way?

To conclude, it is likely that during the prehistoric period crystals were regarded with a degree of reverence; sometimes largely left undisturbed at source, or only used selectively for particular purposes, at particular times, perhaps by particular people. Crystals, then as now, may well have fallen into the realms of decoration or curation, contained within the sphere of ritual activity – encompassing spirituality, magic and healing.

We know that since metalworking became routine, naturally coloured mineral-rich crystals were sought after as a display of wealth for decorative purposes on boxes and goblets, rings and crowns etc. Today semi-precious stones are still valued for their colours, shape and relative rarity and as a result are associated with modern-day jewellery, decoration, healing etc.

It is clear that this site's crystals were not regarded as a reserve for whole-sale removal, regular organised removal or as a reserve for tool production and use. It is also clear that recent road improvements rendered the upper part of the crystal exposure invisible – negating recent more pecuniary or local, perhaps spiritual related interest.

This assessment strongly suggests that the MGR24 crystals were not worked on site, would not have made a useful raw material source for fully functioning tools and was not significantly disturbed or altered via sorting, piling, organising, storing (even hiding) or curating to have left any evidence recognisable today. It is considered very likely, given the site's lack of obvious crystal-based usage, that it was the subject of a piecemeal practice involving the selection and removal of specific pieces for specific uses during the prehistoric (and probably medieval) past, on a small scale and leaving no trace.

To modern eyes this accessible, unusually shallow, varied and surely sought after crystal source is a notable and unusual oddity.

Recommendations

This assessment has largely been concerned with better understanding any use or potential for past significance of the MGR24 quartz and amethyst crystal deposit.

Thirty-three crystals and crystalline pieces (all quartz-related) have been selected for further scrutiny at high magnification to confirm or deny any use wear. This has not been able to be identified or confirmed under low magnification. It is particularly suggested that this should be pursued if prehistoric radiocarbon dates are attained for the site.

If any pieces are confirmed as having been definitively used, then a description of the wear and photography of the relevant pieces could be undertaken, to go alongside limited publication (depending on the dating).

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