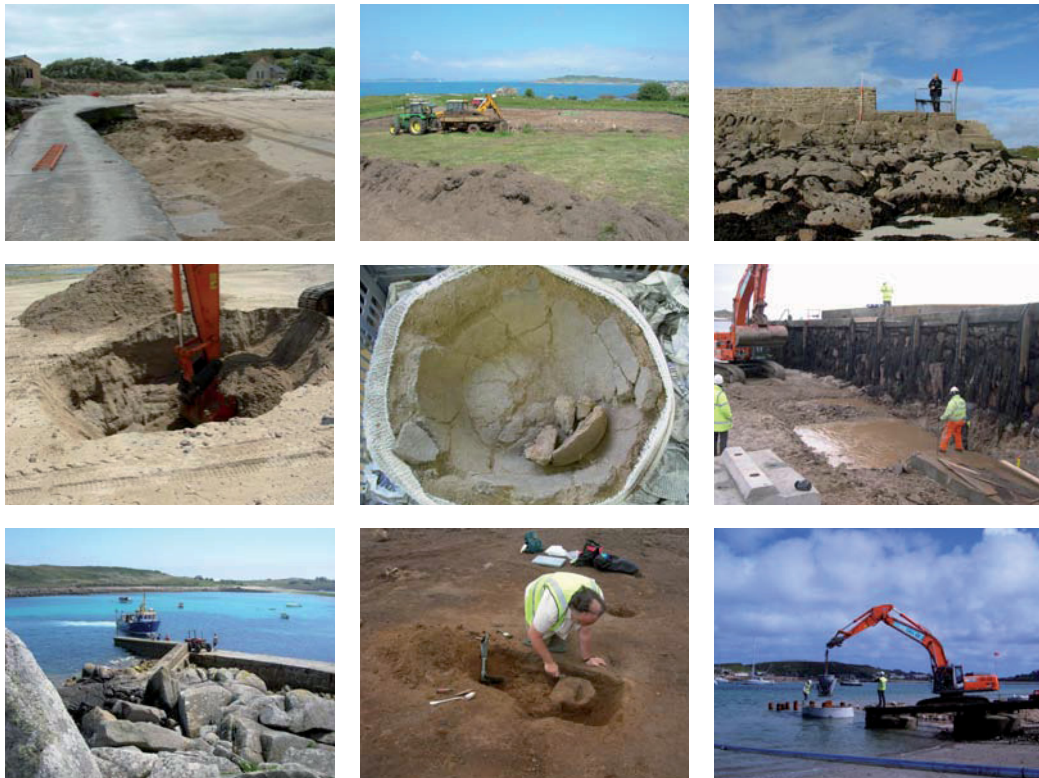


# Isles of Scilly Off Island Quay Refurbishments

## Archaeological recording



**Historic Environment Service (Projects)**

Cornwall County Council



# Isles of Scilly

## Off Island Quay Refurbishments

### Archaeological recording

<b>Client</b>	<b>The Duchy of Cornwall</b>
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<b>Report author(s)</b>	<b>Charles Johns, Katharine Sawyer</b>
<b>Checked by</b>	<b>Peter Rose</b>
<b>Approved by</b>	<b>Peter Rose</b>

Historic Environment Service, Environment and Heritage,  
Cornwall County Council  
Kennall Building, Old County Hall, Station Road, Truro, Cornwall, TR1 3AY  
tel (01872) 323603 fax (01872) 323811 E-mail [hes@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:hes@cornwall.gov.uk)  
[www.cornwall.gov.uk](http://www.cornwall.gov.uk)

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Within the Historic Environment Service, the Project Manager was Charles Johns, who also undertook some of the fieldwork and compiled this report. Carl Thorpe assisted with the watching brief on the St Agnes contractor's compound and reported on the finds. Katharine Sawyer was subcontracted by HES to undertake some aspects of the watching briefs and reporting and Trevor Kirk to assist during the watching brief on St Agnes compound. Laura Ratcliffe, Senior Conservation Officer at the Royal Cornwall Museum excavated the contents of the two Bronze Age pots from St Agnes.

The views and recommendations expressed in this report are those of the Historic Environment Service projects team and are presented in good faith on the basis of professional judgement and on information currently available.

## **Freedom of Information Act**

As Cornwall County 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.

## **Cover illustration**

Top row (from left): Church Quay, Bryher; contractor's compound, St Agnes; Higher Town Quay, St Martins

Middle row (from left): test pit at Anneka's Quay, Bryher; Urn A from St Agnes; groundworks at Higher Town Quay

Bottom row (from left): Porth Conger Quay, St Agnes; Carl Thorpe excavating Bronze Age urns, St Agnes; construction work in progress at Anneka's Quay, Bryher

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## **Abbreviations**

AID	Archaeological Item Description (EH term)
CCC	Cornwall County Council
CRO	Cornwall County Record Office
CAU	Cornwall Archaeological Unit (now HES)
EH	English Heritage
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
HEPAO	Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer (CCC)
HER	Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Historic Environment Record
HES	Historic Environment Service, Cornwall County Council
IOS	Isles of Scilly
MMP	Monuments Protection Programme
NGR	National Grid Reference
OS	Ordnance Survey
PRN	Primary Record Number in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly HER
RCM	Royal Cornwall Museum
RIC	Royal Institution of Cornwall
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation



# 1 Summary

Between April and November 2007, the Historic Environment Service (Projects), Cornwall County Council undertook a programme of watching briefs during works associated with refurbishments to the quays on the off islands of Bryher, St Agnes and St Martin's in the Isles of Scilly, commissioned by the Duchy of Cornwall.

The first watching brief, at Church Quay, Bryher, was carried out on 4 April 2007. A 2m wide trench was dug around the quay and backfilled when it had been observed and recorded. In most places the overburden of sand was removed down to the natural subsoil or *ram*. In the north-western area there was much loose broken granite (presumably from the carn on the southern side of the quay and some pieces of reinforced concrete). A soil sample was taken from a black deposit in the *ram* and on the stones. No other features or finds were apparent.

A second watching brief was undertaken in late May and early June 2007 during preparation of the contractor's compound near Kallimay Point on St Agnes. The following finds and features were identified:

- Two Bronze Age urn bases placed in small pits;
- Remains of a probable 19<sup>th</sup> century farm building;
- Site of a concrete base for a late 1980s meteorological balloon.

The urns were lifted in blocks of soil and taken back to Truro, where the contents were excavated by a specialist from the Royal Cornwall Museum. Both urns were found to contain 'nested' fragments of smaller pots but no cremated bone or other finds. Whilst the digging of pits and burying of pottery and other artefacts is a well-attested phenomenon in the British Isles during the later prehistoric period and extensive archaeological evidence has been discovered for the curation and 'structured deposition' of broken potsherds the discovery of nested pots dating to the Bronze Age is much rarer and so far unique in Scilly.

It was not necessary to carry out a watching brief during the work at the quay at Porth Conger, St Agnes as the only ground disturbed there was bedrock.

A site visit was made on 4 July 2007 to observe the ground condition prior to the commencement of work at Aneka's Quay, Bryher. Two test pits were dug but no archaeological features or finds were apparent in either pit.

The final watching brief at Higher Town Quay St Martin's was undertaken on 9 November 2007. A trench 4m wide was excavated along the north side of the quay and backfilled when it had been observed. This revealed sand, 500mm deep, over bedrock.

The only further work proposed on the findings of the watching briefs is further study and reporting on the Bronze Age urns from St Agnes, which merit wider dissemination than an archive level report. Therefore, it is recommended that the results should be published as a short article in *Cornish Archaeology*, the annual journal of the Cornwall Archaeological Society.



## **2 Introduction**

### **2.1 Project background**

In April 2007, Robert Bentinck, Marine Manager for JMCL, asked the Historic Environment Service (Projects) (HES) to provide a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) and estimate for archaeological watching briefs during proposed refurbishment and improvement of Porth Conger Quay, St Agnes; Anneka's Quay and Church Quay, Bryher and Higher Town Quay, St Martin's in the Isles of Scilly. The WSI (Johns 2007) was based on a Brief by Phil Markham, Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer (HEPAO), Cornwall County Council and Eleanor Breen, Assistant Planning Officer (Conservation) and Field Monument Warden, Council of the Isles of Scilly (Markham and Breen 2007) and informed by the Environmental Impact Assessment undertaken for the project (Parsons Brinkerhoff 2006).

The WSI was approved by Eleanor Breen the Assistant Planning Officer for the Council of the Isles of Scilly and HES was subsequently commissioned to undertake the work by Adrian Smith, Assistant Land Steward for the Duchy of Cornwall.

### **2.2 Aims**

The watching briefs were required to:

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains;
- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered;
- To establish the nature of the activity on the sites;
- To identify any artefacts relating to the occupation of the sites;
- To provide further information on the archaeology of the Isles of Scilly from any archaeological remains encountered.

### **2.3 Methods**

The archaeological recording involved four main phases of work:

- Fieldwork.
- Archiving, analysis and interpretation.
- Report production and dissemination.
- Archive deposition.

#### **2.3.1 Fieldwork**

The fieldwork was undertaken according to the methodology outlined in the WSI (Johns 2007). Any surviving remains which would have been disturbed or destroyed by the development were archaeologically excavated and recorded.

A scaled photographic record was made of each of the quays prior to work commencing and maintained throughout the watching brief.

All finds were retained from each archaeological context excavated, and washed and sorted.

The English Heritage Advisor for Archaeological Science was consulted before the project commenced and during the progress of the project regarding the strategy for palaeoenvironmental sampling. The archaeologists undertaking the watching briefs assessed the potential for environmental sampling, but no suitable deposits were identified other than a small sample taken at Church Quay, Bryher and no further work is recommended on this sample.

### **2.3.2 Archiving**

During this phase the results of the fieldwork were collated for archiving. This involved indexing site drawings and photographs, processing and identifying artefacts, and excavating the contents of the two urns from St Agnes.

### **2.3.3 Report production**

The main product of the archaeological recording is this report, copies of which have been supplied to the client, the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly HER, the Isles of Scilly Museum and the Courtenay Library of the Royal Institution of Cornwall, River Street, Truro. .

### **2.3.4 Archive deposition**

An ordered and integrated site archive has been prepared in accordance with *The Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991 2<sup>nd</sup> edition) upon completion of the project.

The archive including a copy of the written report will be deposited at the Isles of Scilly Museum within two months of the completion of the published report on the St Agnes urns and confirmed in writing with the HEPAO and the Assistant Planning Officer for the Council of the Isles of Scilly.

## **3 Background**

### **3.1 Site location and description**

Anneka's Quay and Church Quay, Bryher (NGR SV 88181491): The construction compound for Anneka's Quay was in a field to the north west of the construction area. The access route passes through an existing cut in the dunes at the top of the beach. The compound of Church Quay was located in fields to the north of the site adjacent to the public toilet. Access was via existing tracks to the current access through the sand dunes. There are no designated features of terrestrial conservation significance near either site although the dunes are of botanical interest (Parsons Brinkerhoff 2006, 82).

Higher Town Quay, St Martins (NGR SV 9309 1511): The existing quay has been built out from the side of the rocky headland of Cruther's Point which encloses the eastern end of Higher Town Bay, at right angles to the road that contours round the shoreline of Cruther's Hill, before climbing steeply towards the village of Higher Town, the closest property in which is about 600m from the quay (*ibid*, 97).

Porth Conger Quay, St Agnes (NGR SV 8843 0858): The existing quay projects out from the rocky shore mid way along the west side of the bay for a distance of approximately 54m. The deck of the quay slopes at a gradient that is more or less the same profile as the beach with the result that the height of the structure visible remains constant at about 2.5m (*ibid*, 109).

### **3.2 Archaeological Background**

Anneka's Quay and Church Quay, Bryher: The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) identified known archaeological sites, comprising a field system, hut circles and an old land surface in the intertidal area to the south of Anneka's quay. In addition, there is a field system and cist grave in the intertidal areas to the south of the quay. There were no known archaeological features in the construction compound (Parsons Brinkerhoff 2006, 95).

Higher Town Quay, St Martins: The EIA identified a number of archaeological sites, including a field system, a stone alignment, peat deposits, cist graves and hut circles in the intertidal area of Higher Town Beach (also known as Par Beach) but considered that the proposed development would not have any direct impact on these due to their distance from the quay

although it was possible that there could be undiscovered, submerged sites in the immediate vicinity (*ibid*, 107).

Porth Conger Quay, St Agnes: The EIA did not identify any known archaeological sites in the intertidal or submerged areas of Porth Conger but there is evidence for a field system and hut circle in the cliff face to the south of the present quay. It was considered that these would not be affected by the proposed works to the quay although there was a possibility that further sites exist in the area identified for passenger facilities (Parsons Brinkerhoff March 2006, 119-20).

The field selected for the contactor's compound (field number 2949) was adjacent to a Scheduled Monument (SM 15450) and enclosed on three sides by Scheduled field boundaries which are part of that Monument (*ibid*, 120).

### **3.3 Planning Background**

The plans and Environmental Impact Assessments for these sites were put to the Planning and Development Committee of the Council of the Isles of Scilly on 4 May 2006. The applications are summarised below:

P/06/020 Porth Conger Quay, St Agnes. Refurbishment and improvement of the quay.

P/06/021 Anneka's Quay, Bryher. Refurbishment and improvement of the quay.

P/06/023 Church Quay, Bryher. Refurbishment and improvement of the quay.

P/06/022 Higher Town Quay, St Martins. Refurbishment and improvement of the quay.

These applications were approved subject to a number of conditions. The archaeological conditions were:

Porth Conger Quay, St Agnes Condition 4.

*No work shall be commenced on any part of the development hereby permitted, including the field of the construction compound, until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, to include the measures contained in the Environmental Statement, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*

*Reason 4.*

*The site comprises an area of known archaeological interest where it is the Local Planning Authority's policy to provide for the examination of archaeological remains.*

Church Quay, Bryher Condition 4.

*No work shall be commenced on any part of the development hereby permitted until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, to include the measures contained in the Environmental Statement, and which has previously been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the County Archaeologist.*

*Reason 4.*

*The site comprises an area of known archaeological interest where it is the Local Planning Authority's policy to provide for the examination of archaeological remains.*

Anneka's Quay, Bryher Condition 4.

*No work shall be commenced on any part of the development hereby permitted until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, to include the measures contained in the Environmental Statement, and which has previously been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the County Archaeologist.*

Reason 4.

*The site comprises an area of known archaeological interest where it is the Local Planning Authority's policy to provide for the examination of archaeological remains.*

Higher Town Quay, St Martins Condition 2.

*No work shall be commenced on any part of the development hereby permitted until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, to include the measures contained in the Environmental Statement, and which has previously been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority with the County Archaeologist.*

### **3.4 Requirement for work**

The Brief for archaeological recording (Markham and Breen 2007) considered that the ground works could disturb buried archaeological remains including environmental and palaeoenvironmental material. The above sites would therefore require a 'watching brief' and an environmental sampling strategy. Apart from Anneka's Quay all of the quays would require a basic photographic record prior to alteration. It was important that a suitably qualified archaeologist(s) should be present during the ground works in order to identify and record any features of interest and to undertake the environmental sampling if appropriate.

#### ***Porth Conger EIA Agreed Mitigation:***

- Archaeological features would be identified and protected by a 5m (minimum) buffer if practical
- In view of the archaeological importance of the field in which the construction compound was located, an archaeological watching brief would be carried out during the preparation of the site
- The track access to the construction site from the construction compound would be protected by a synthetic track way
- A 5m buffer would be established on the side of the wall and construction compound
- Archaeologically important finds discovered would be sampled and/or recorded.

This site would therefore have a 'watching brief' together with an environmental sampling strategy, including the intertidal area to be dredged and a basic photographic record.

#### ***Anneka's Quay and Church Quay EIA Agreed Mitigation:***

- Archaeological features would be identified and protected by a 5m (minimum) buffer if practical
- Field boundaries would be protected
- Archaeologically important finds discovered would be sampled and/or recorded
- Access along the beach between Church Quay and Anneka's Quay using wheeled vehicles would not be permitted.

This site would therefore have a 'watching brief' together with an environmental sampling strategy and a basic photographic record.

#### ***Higher Town Quay EIA Agreed Mitigation:***

- Archaeological features would identified and protected by a 5m (minimum) buffer if practical

- Field boundaries would be protected
- An archaeological watching brief would be undertaken during the construction works
- Archaeologically important finds discovered would be sampled and/or recorded

This site would therefore have a 'watching brief' together with an environmental sampling strategy and a basic photographic record.

## 4 Results

### 4.1 Church Quay, Bryher

A photographic record was made of the quay, prior to works commencing on 4 April 2007 (eg Fig 11).

A trench was then dug around the quay using a 2m toothless bucket, commencing at the south-western point of the quay and working along the southern face and around the eastern end, then re-commencing at the north-western point and working along the northern face of the quay. The trench was back-filled once it had been observed and recorded (Fig 12).

In most places the overburden of sand was removed down to the natural subsoil, known locally as *ram*. Between 0.5m and 1.5m of clean pale sand with shells and occasional modern rubbish was lying over a hard orange-brown ram with many small and medium stones in it. In the north-western area there was much loose broken granite (presumably from the carn which is visible on the southern side of the quay at this point) and some pieces of reinforced concrete.

A small sample was taken from a small area of black deposit in the ram and on the stones, at about 2.5m from the quay and therefore just outside the footprint of the quay extension. No other features or finds were apparent.

A wash-out pit of approximately 3m by 2m was then excavated in the works compound above the beach to a depth of approximately 0.5m. Under the turf was about 0.4m of brown sandy topsoil with few stones. This graded into a finer, clayey soil with occasional large stones and boulders. No finds or features were noted.

### 4.2 Anneka's Quay, Bryher

The site was visited on 4 July 2007 to observe the ground condition check being carried out by Nuttalls prior to the commencement of work at Anneka's Quay.

Before this was undertaken several large rocks were removed, by machine, from the end of the temporary pontoon positioned to the north of Anneka's Quay. Then a search was carried out, both by machine and by hand, for the telephone cable which comes ashore just to the north of Anneka's Quay, so as to ensure that it was not damaged by the ground condition check. The sand was dug out to a depth of about 1m but the cable was not located. No archaeological features were revealed during this work.

The decision was then taken to carry out the ground condition check on the southern side of Anneka's Quay. There was a 1.2m low tide and a pit was dug, by machine, at the southern side of the end of the quay. This almost immediately began filling with water. Sand and gravel were removed with lumps of ram visible in the spoil from a depth of about 2m. One large boulder and a few smaller stones were removed (Fig 14).

Because the amount of water in the pit made observing the ground condition impossible this pit was back-filled and another dug about 10m further up the beach on the southern side of Anneka's Quay. Again there were sand and gravel with orange-brown *ram* becoming visible at a depth of between 2m and 3m. There were few stones and no archaeological features were apparent in either pit.

### **4.3 Contractor's compound, St Agnes**

#### **4.3.1 Introduction**

Three of the boundary walls of the field selected for the contractor's compound on St Agnes (field number 2649) form part of a Scheduled Monument (No 15450) which is adjacent to the field to the north and west (Fig 4). The field itself is not scheduled but the access track to it passes across the scheduled monument.

The field is in Countryside Stewardship and currently down to grass; prior to that it had been ploughed and rotavated and used for 'bulking up' bulbs.

In accordance with the recommendations of the EIA, the Planning Condition and the Brief for Archaeological Recording a watching brief was undertaken during preparation of the site, which involved stripping the topsoil and subsoil to the surface of the natural *ram*. Also as recommended, a buffer zone of at least 5m was left between the scheduled field boundaries and the excavated area.

#### **4.3.2 The Scheduled Monument**

The scheduled monument is listed as 'Prehistoric field system at Porth Killier and Kallimay Point, St Agnes' NGR SV88260856 (Fig 4). The following description is based on the EH Archaeological Item Description (AID) by Dave Hooley, formerly the Monuments Protection Programme (MPP) archaeologist for Scilly.

The scheduled monument includes a prehistoric field system surviving east of Porth Killier and across Kallimay Point on northern St Agnes. At the south-west tip of its surviving relict and perpetuated extent, the field system is adjacent to a prehistoric settlement exposed in the cliff face at the south east side of Porth Killier, radiocarbon dated to the Middle to Late Bronze Age, with evidence for later settlement in the vicinity (Johns *et al* forthcoming).

The prehistoric field system occupies the broad spur behind Kallimay Point as a relict field system and extends inland, perpetuated by modern field boundaries. On the spur, where not masked by soil deposits and vegetation, its walls are visible as lines of variously spaced or contiguous boulders, some edge-set and generally 1.5m wide and 0.5m high. Three relict walls subdivide the spur on a NNW-SSE axis. The central of the three, not shown on the OS map as it was first recognised on the MPP visit in 1993, extends along part of the spine of the spur from a small granite outcrop on its southern summit at SV 88290855, beside the present footpath. This wall is extended south east from the outcrop by the sinuous line of the present, mapped field wall extending south east towards the rear of the Turk's Head.

The north-east wall on the spur follows the contour close to the present coast, turning to and truncated by the coastal cliff at its northern end, as mapped. Its southern end fades as a visible feature but the scrub is so dense here as to admit the possibility of an unrecorded extension surviving to the south east. This wall is probably the upper boundary of a prehistoric field that occupied a slight hollow in the terrain between Kallimay Point and Black Point.

The third wall, on the spur's western slope and as mapped by the OS, is of different character. It survives as a pronounced lynchet, generally 2m wide and up to 1.5m high, extending in an almost straight line NNW from the limit of recent clearance, but at the north its course changes, curving north east then west to the cliff edge; at the cliff it joins an inturned angle in



a recent (19<sup>th</sup> century?) wall which follows the coastal margin, suggesting that it may have been adopted into the early post-medieval field system for part of its recent history. Such re-use may help account for the degree of lynchetting visible on this boundary. A distinct 5m wide hollow runs along the eastern side of this lynchet's straight sector; when observed by a Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) field officer in 1988, the hollow was felt to be defined on the north-east by a second bank running parallel to the main lynchet and similar to it in form. The MPP archaeologist could not detect a far edge to this second 'bank', beyond the hollow, so prefers to interpret this simply as a linear hollow, probably a trackway and perhaps a post-medieval feature, beside the upper edge of the lynchet. The bracken and bramble scrub is dense in this area and further work at a favourable season would be useful to clarify this point. The CAU record also claims the 'second bank' extended as a visible feature into the present field south-east of the footpath; again this was not detectable in 1993.

South-west of the lynchett boundary, a fourth boulder wall runs for 50m north-east to south-west towards the prehistoric settlement focus, but curving inland and truncated by modern pasture clearance at each end. In 1993 the course of the coastal footpath ran along the north-west side of this wall, not the south east side as mapped by the OS.

Further traces of the early field system are apparent as survivals in the unusually sinuous courses of some modern field boundaries in the enclosed land south of the spur, contrasting markedly with the straight-line boundaries laid out in recent centuries. These perpetuated lengths include a wall rising south-east to a slight hillock overlooking the coastally-exposed settlement focus; there it turns north-east and runs to a north-west to south-east aligned wall parallel with the perpetuated wall running south-east from the spur's southern outcrop towards the Turk's Head. From the top of the hillock behind the settlement, a short survival of sinuous wall also runs south-west; between it and the coast is a curious sub-circular enclosure in the modern field wall on the south west side of modern field plot No 2145; the enclosure is 12m across and possibly originates as a hut circle.

This early field system has been known for some time; in 1974 Ashbee suggested that Kallimay Point is the site of a possible promontory fort, with 'indications of a double rampart cutting off this headland' (Ashbee 1974, 321). No trace of such a rampart has been found by later workers, including the MPP archaeologist. Ashbee's 'double rampart' was tentatively identified by the OS with the lynchett boundary described above on the western slope of the Point, but the OS, the CAU field officer and the MPP archaeologist all shared the opinion that this boundary is part of the early field system, not a fort rampart. Its relationship to the topography of the Point is totally inconsistent with it defining a promontory fort.

Apart from the newly recognised wall along the spine of the Point, the field system was surveyed by the OS in 1978 and was visited by a CAU field officer in 1988 and by the MPP archaeologist in 1993. Further surviving areas of lynchett prehistoric field system with settlement sites survive from 50m to the south on the more elevated land north of Higher Town. Those remains extend the line of some of the perpetuated elements of the field system covered by this item, confirming their identity as parts of an overall field system which will have extended over much of north-eastern St Agnes. The relict field system near Higher Town has produced various artefacts indicating Romano-British occupation, perhaps a confirmation that the early field system on the higher land contained a later or longer focus of settlement than that by the coast, as has been suggested from the disposition of datable artefacts from the coastal settlement exposure (Johns *et al* forthcoming).

#### **4.3.3 Results of the watching brief**

The watching brief commenced on 29 May 2007, the topsoil being stripped by a mechanical excavator equipped with a 2m wide toothless bucket and taken by tractor and trailer to a

stockpile on the 20-30m wide buffer between the excavation area and the south-west (scheduled) field boundary.

Below the turf the topsoil (24) was a homogeneous layer of stony, very dark greyish brown sandy silty clay grading to dark greyish brown and varying in depth from 0.36m in the southern part of the field to less than 0.20m deep in the northern part. The natural subsoil (25) was hard, dark yellowish brown (orange) *ram* with many outcropping granite stones.

The following finds and features were identified:

- Two Bronze Age urn bases placed in small pits;
- Remains of a probable 19<sup>th</sup> century structure;
- Site of a base for a late 20<sup>th</sup> century Meteorological Office balloon and length of copper lightning conductor strip.

Apart from some potsherds in the vicinity of the pot bases and a collection of flint, rounded stones and occasional quartz fragments from the excavated soil and surface of the *ram* there were no other features or finds in the field.

#### **4.3.3.1 Bronze Age urns**

The two urn bases were both buried in pits of approximately the dimensions as the urns, which were only 0.18m apart (Figs 5 and 6). The top of the larger pot (**Urn A**) measured approximately 0.38m in diameter (Pit [1]) and the smaller one (**Urn B**) approximately 0.27m (Pit [3]). The eastern edge of the larger pot was clipped by the machine, and possibly by earlier ploughing, and this accounted for the loose potsherds in the vicinity.

The pots were planned and photographed and the larger pot was then half-sectioned on the side that had been disturbed by the machine. This revealed the remainder of the side and part of the base of the pot. The fill, which was retained as a soil sample, was firm, dark brown sandy silty clay containing no finds, no cremated bone and no inclusions such as stones or charcoal.

The smaller pot, which seemed to be lying slightly on its side, showed no sign of any recent damage either by the machine or by ploughing.

Initially, a number of possible features were identified in the area around the pots and these were carefully cleaned, recorded and investigated (Fig 5). Almost invariably these proved to be disturbance caused by rat runs or dislodged stones (features [5], [7], [[13], 15], [17], [19]). Only one feature, [9], was a possible post-hole. This was a circular cut 0.54m in diameter and 0.25m deep filled with very dark greyish brown sandy silty clay (10) which contained no finds or inclusions other than small stones

The pots were successfully lifted in blocks of soil by HES finds specialist Carl Thorpe on 4 and 5 June (Fig 8) and conveyed back to the mainland on the following day. The contents of the pots were excavated in controlled conditions by Laura Ratcliffe, Senior Conservator at the Royal Cornwall Museum (Fig 9).

The GPS reading on the larger pot was

N 49° 53'.723

E 006° 20'.508

#### **4.3.3.2 Late 19<sup>th</sup> century structure**

In the north-east corner of the field a small section of the base of a wall was uncovered [21]. This was aligned approximately east-west and was 0.6m wide and traceable for a length of 2.2m (Fig 5). The wall base consisted of granite blocks of average size 0.25m by 0.20m with some suggestion of a face on the south side.

Although the alignment seems slightly different, it is possible that this is the remnant of the south wall of a small rectangular structure shown at this location on the 1890 and 1908 OS maps (Figs 2 and 3).

The GPS reading on the centre of the wall was

N 49° 53'.753

E 006° 20'.511

#### **4.3.3.3 Late 20<sup>th</sup> century Meteorological Office balloon base**

From August 1987 the Meteorological office, at Bracknell and RAF balloon fliers from Cardington established an operating base on St Agnes, which involved flying a balloon 70 feet long by 29 feet in diameter at heights of up to about 4,500 feet over the island. The equipment was landed in late September and the balloon inflated and flown to a height of 600 feet by 6 October. The first balloon was damaged in the great hurricane along the south coast and a second balloon installed which was flying at up to 4,200 feet by 20 October (Fig 10). The experiments lasted until early December 1987 (Hicks 1987-88, 112; Hicks 1988, 114-115).

The tethering point for the balloon was a roughly constructed concrete base with some smaller anchor points, which were removed by Fran Hicks after the experiments ceased (F Hicks pers comm to K Sawyer). The remains of this base – a rectangular area of rubble in a yellow sand matrix ([22]/(23)) measuring approximately 3m by 2m with a very long copper lightning conductor strip was revealed at the centre of the field during the topsoil strip.

#### **4.4 Access track to the contractor's compound, St Agnes**

The track access to the construction site from the construction compound was protected by a synthetic track way, where it crossed the Scheduled field system. Firstly a layer of a *ram* from the compound field was deposited, this was covered by this heavy duty terram and then a mixture of *ram* and aggregate, finally heavy duty timber bog mats were laid over the top.

#### **4.5 Porth Conger Quay, St Agnes**

A photographic record was made of the quay at the commencement of construction work (eg Fig 15).

It was not necessary to carry out a watching brief during the construction of the quay as the only ground disturbed here was bedrock.

#### **4.6 Contractor's compound and access, Par Beach, St Martin's**

HES undertook a desk-based archaeological assessment of the area and there were no known sites that would be affected. A site visit made with Robin Tatum (Beckett Rankine) on 29 August did not identify any previously unknown archaeological features.

#### **4.7 Higher Town Quay, St Martin's**

A photographic record was made of the quay prior to the commencement of construction work (eg Fig 17).

The watching brief at Higher Town Quay, St Martin's was undertaken on 9 November 2007, a trench 4m wide was excavated along the north side of the quay and backfilled when it had been observed. This revealed pale brown/grey sand 300mm deep over grey/dark grey sand 200mm deep over bedrock. No finds or environmental material were identified (Fig 18).

## **5 Finds Summary Report**

### **5.1 The finds**

By Carl Thorpe

A total of 134 artefacts were recovered during the watching brief on the contractors' compound at St Agnes. The artefacts were cleaned and sorted to aid the task of identification.

Pottery comprises the largest group, 68 sherds in total, some 50% of the collection. There is also flint, 57 in total, some 42% of the collection, stone, and metalwork, within the assemblage.

Some 62 artefacts (46% of the total) came from unstratified contexts, being collected from the spoil heaps derived from topsoil stripping of the excavation area, cleaning of the surfaces of the excavation and from field walking.

The rest of the artefacts came from recognisable features, all being bulk finds collected by context. None were three dimensionally recorded.

The collection of flints derived from the plough soil covering the entire field (there was no distinct concentration) and were of varied form and age, the majority that were diagnostic being Neolithic or Bronze Age in date.

The ceramics recovered all appear to be of Bronze Age date, and it is most likely that all come from either of the two vessel bases recovered (Urns A and B) described below. These are the bases of two medium to large vessels that appear to have been deliberately trimmed to form large 'bowls' by the careful removal of the upper two thirds of each.

Token basal sherds of two smaller vessel bases had been placed within the larger (one in each) and then the 'bowls' were deposited within close fitting pits within the field. The fabrics of all the vessels were apparently granitic, being derived from local clays.

The finds are listed in Appendix 2 of this report (section 10.2).

## **6 The St Agnes Urns**

### **6.1 Excavation of the urn contents**

By Laura Ratcliffe

#### **6.1.1 Urn A1**

##### **6.1.1.1 Description**

A soil block containing the just visible broken edges of an urn base. The urn itself appears to be 27cm in diameter from the remains at the point of exposure above the soil. There is no rim present and it has been found that this is the base and some depth of lower body of an urn.

The ceramic looks thick but coarse and looks complete but fragmented in position. There are no clean new breaks on the exposed areas and no spread of disassociated upper body

fragments were nearby suggesting there was only ever a base present in the burial environment. Half of the inside of the urn was excavated on site. No apparent contents or deposits. No change in soil colour.

#### **6.1.1.2 Treatment**

The half-excavated side shows no soil colour change and no contents to the urn. Mechanical removal of the rest of the soil shows the soil remaining the same but a cluster of ceramic sherds, again base sherds in one corner of the interior of the urn base. This time the base fragments within the primary urn base are clearly associated and in a less disturbed state.

The fragments of the primary urn are associated but fragmented in position. Fine roots run through the soil and cracks in the urn.

It looks like a small ceramic vessel base (Urn A2) has been deposited within the larger urn base at the original time of burial (Fig 9).

### **6.1.2 Urn B1**

#### **6.1.2.1 Description**

A soil block containing the just visible broken edges of an urn base. The urn itself appears to be 24cm in diameter from the remains at the point of exposure above the soil. There is no rim present and it has been supposed that this is the base and some depth of lower body of an urn.

The ceramic looks thick but coarse and looks complete but fragmented in position. There are no clean new breaks on the exposed areas and no spread of disassociated upper body fragments were nearby suggesting there was only ever a base present in the burial environment. No investigative cleaning was done on site.

#### **6.1.2.2 Treatment**

Mechanical, careful removal of the soil from the interior of the urn. Some small fragments of pottery in the upper area of the soil, very thin and not from the main urn base. No change in soil colour indicating any deposits. The base of the urn is about 50mm down from the exposed broken upper edges of the urn body; it is all present but fragmented and slightly raised within the whole. On top of the base there are a series of fragments that are not part of the same pot as the primary urn base in the soil block as they are base and body sherds as well and are of a coarser material with areas of thinner black ceramic, matching the small pieces found higher in the soil. These pieces are touching but not associated into a definite portion of pot like the main base and look much more disturbed (insect/animal?) although future reconstruction work will no doubt indicate they all fit together. One can only assume they are a second base deposited inside the first, larger base at the time of burial (Urn B2) (Fig 9).

## **6.2 Description of the urns**

By Carl Thorpe

### **6.2.1 Urn A1**

This is the complete base of a large Bronze Age Urn. The internal diameter of this vessel is 140mm (the external diameter could not be determined as the vessel is still enclosed within the soil block in which it was lifted). The vessel appears to have been deliberately trimmed, cut down into a bowl shape prior to deposition within the pit, a bowl with an external 'rim' diameter of 270mm and an internal height of 120mm. The wall of the vessel was 9mm thick. The vessel is coil made in a granitic fabric (see below) with inclusions up to 1mm in size. The

colour is variable but basically is Munsell colour 2.5Y 3/2 Very Dark Greyish Brown. The interior appears to have been carefully smoothed.

Insufficient evidence survived to determine the shape of the original vessel (there were no rim or side sherds present), however the increasing diameter of the base suggests that this was probably a bi-conical urn.

#### **6.2.2 Urn A2**

This vessel was found nested within A1. It is the base of a medium-size Bronze Age Urn of which roughly two-thirds of the diameter survived. The external basal diameter of this vessel is 85mm. Only the lower part of the base was present, surviving to an internal height of 35 mm. The wall of the vessel was 6mm thick. The vessel is coil made in a granitic fabric (see below) with inclusions up to 15mm in size. The colour is variable but basically Munsell colour 7.5YR 3/2 Dark Brown. The exterior had been carefully smoothed, while concentric marks visible on the base was evidence that the base had been sat on a mat prior to firing.

Insufficient evidence survived to determine the shape of the original vessel (there were no rim or side sherds present), however the increasing diameter of the base suggests that this was probably a bi-conical urn.

#### **6.2.3 Urn B1**

This is the complete base of a large Bronze Age Urn. The internal diameter of this vessel is 150mm (the external diameter could not be determined as this vessel is still enclosed within the soil block in which it was lifted). The vessel appears to have been deliberately trimmed, cut down into a bowl shape prior to deposition within the pit, a bowl with an external 'rim' diameter of 240 mm and an internal height of 110mm. The wall of the vessel was 11mm thick. The vessel is coil made in a granitic fabric (see below) with inclusions up to 2mm in size. The colour is variable but basically Munsell colour 5YR 3/1 Very Dark Grey.

Insufficient evidence survived to determine the shape of the original vessel (there were no rim or side sherds present), however the increasing diameter of the base suggests that this was probably a bi-conical urn.

#### **6.2.4 Urn A2**

This vessel was found nested within B1. It was the base of a medium-size Bronze Age Urn of which less than one-third of the diameter survived. The external basal diameter of this vessel is 70mm. Only the lower part of the base was present, surviving to an internal height of 35 mm. The wall of the vessel was 7mm thick. The vessel is coil made in a granitic fabric (see below) with inclusions up to 15mm in size. The colour is variable but basically is Munsell colour 5YR 3/1 Very Dark Grey. The exterior had been carefully smoothed, while the interior has a rough finish.

Insufficient evidence survived to determine the shape of the original vessel (there were no rim or side sherds present), however the increasing diameter of the base suggests that this was probably a bi-conical urn.

### **6.3 Granitic fabric (Isles of Scilly).**

Pottery made from this fabric has been found in both funerary and domestic contexts. The fabric is hand-made with very variable firing. Colour varies from buff coloured to dark grey. The fabric is often coarse with inclusions up to 5mm in size. Petrological analysis (Williams 1978) revealed the presence of large quantities of mica, feldspar, quartz, tourmaline and fragments of granite. This suggests a local source for the clay used to produce this material.

Forms of vessel often crude in appearance are mostly jars varying from storage vessels via

medium sized cooking pots to small vessels suitable for serving food and drink. Flat-bottomed in shape they can be bi-conical, straight sided bucket, or more rarely carinated. Decoration is common consisting of plaited cord, incised line, stamped or comb. Occasionally finger nail impressions are used. In addition there may be applied cordons, lugs (either solid or pierced), vestigial lugs or dimples and applied handles.

A type series for this pottery was identified at from a domestic assemblage at Nornour where radiocarbon dating suggested a continuous occupation from 1950 to 1130 BC. A Middle Bronze Age date is suggested for this ware (Butcher 1978).

## 7 Discussion

The main result of the watching briefs is the discovery of the two Bronze Age urn bases during the watching brief on St Agnes. As well as containing 'nested' sherds from smaller vessels both pots appear already to have been broken when placed in the ground.

Whilst the digging of pits and burying of pottery and other artefacts and deposits is a well-attested phenomenon in the British Isles during the later prehistoric period (cf Richards and Thomas 1984; Bradley 1990; Bradley 2007; Cole and Jones 2002-3) and extensive archaeological evidence has been discovered in Cornwall for the curation and 'structured deposition' of broken potsherds (eg Nowakowski 2007), the discovery of nested pots dating to the Bronze Age is much rarer and so far unique in Scilly.

An initial search for parallels to the St Agnes urns has revealed the following examples, all of which are important finds that added to our knowledge of Bronze Age ritual practices.

In 1887 a Bronze Age urn was discovered at Harlyn Bay, St Merryn which contained a pygmy cup with a bronze dagger laid across it, a bronze pin, a whetstone, a slate spindle whorl and much cremated bone, all placed in a cavity and covered by a slate capstone with no definite evidence for a covering barrow or cairn (Preston-Jones and Rose 1987, 92).

During the excavation of a round barrow at Gallibury Down on the Isle of Wight in 1979 a Bronze Age American *vase à anse* was found within a food vessel urn in a cremation burial and covered by a second inverted food vessel (Tomalin 1988, 208, fig 5).

During rescue excavation on the Indian Queens Bypass in 1993 an Early Bronze Age cremation was discovered which had been placed in a basket together with a bronze awl and then placed in an urn, which had been buried in a pit at the centre of the Highgate ritual enclosure, a sub-circular arrangement of ditches and postholes (Nowakowski 1993, 22-3)

Perhaps the most famous Bronze Age nested object is the Rillaton gold cup which was reportedly found inside an urn within a barrow in 1837 (Wilson 1851; Smirke 1867).

At Porth Killier, on St Agnes, Isles of Scilly, a series of Bronze Age pits was recorded during the coast protection scheme in 1997. The pits come closest to single-period sealed contexts of anything yet studied for the Scillonian prehistoric period but only contained a small assemblage of pottery sherds. The types present are simple forms which occur all through the long sequence at Nornour. The function of the pits is unknown. They do not seem to have been ovens or boiling pits, stones and boulders had been deposited into the pits suggestive of some sort of levelling off of the area after they went out of use (Johns *et al* forthcoming).

It has been suggested that the act of pit digging and deposition may have been intended to render activity memorable and fix a connection between people and place (cf Cole and Jones 1991-2, 134). Although it has been argued that the character of such pits generally developed with time, with more care taken over the objects selected and the pits themselves being better crafted, in Cornwall the shape of pits and repertoire of materials placed in them seems to have

changed little from the beginning of the Neolithic period into the Bronze Age, other than the changing ceramic types placed in them (Jones 2007).

In the absence of other archaeological remains, the position of the St Agnes urns in the landscape was considered. Looking to the north from the urns there is an alignment comprising the carn, or small granite outcrop beside the present footpath/track, White Island off Samson and beyond that Gweal Island off Bryher. Moving to the carn, the prominent rock at Kallimay Point (not visible from the pots) is also on this alignment. Looking back from the carn, the pots can also be seen to line up with the hill rising behind the field to the south. This alignment marks the line of true north – south.

Looking east from the urns is Kittern Hill on Gugh and to the west a prominent rock outcrop. It seems likely that the urns were buried at this spot to mark this cosmological spot. Although there were no surviving traces, the urns may originally have been covered by a cairn of stones and earth which was removed when the field was first brought into cultivation.

Note: It seems probable that the carn described above is the remains of a chambered cairn (this was noted by Carl Thorpe during the IOS management survey in 1988). Three of the stones forming the cist are visible, as is the rubble forming the cairn structure which has previously been considered to be part of the scheduled field system.

## 8 Recommendations

The only further work proposed is further study and reporting on the Bronze Age urns from St Agnes which merit wider dissemination than an archive level report. Therefore, in addition to this archive report, the results should be published as a short article in an academic journal, eg *Cornish Archaeology*, the annual journal of the Cornwall Archaeological Society.

The next stage is an Assessment and Updated Project Design for Analysis and Academic Publication of the urns. This is likely to involve the following tasks:

- 1) Excavation of the urns from their soil blocks;
- 2) Washing and joining the urns;
- 3) Photographing the urns for publication;
- 4) Research on comparanda for ‘nested’ vessels;
- 5) Microscopic study of the fabrics;
- 6) Writing a simple account of the vessel bases and their context;
- 7) Publication;
- 8) Compilation and deposition of archive.



## 9 References

### 9.1 Primary sources

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### 9.3 Websites

<http://www.imagesofengland.org.uk/> English Heritage's online database of Listed Buildings

## 10 Project archive

The HES project number is **2007033**

The project's documentary, photographic and drawn archive is housed at the offices of the Historic Environment Service, Cornwall County Council, Kennall Building, Old County Hall, Station Road, Truro, TR1 3AY. The contents of this archive are as listed below:

1. A project file containing site records and notes, project correspondence and administration and copies of documentary/cartographic source material (file no 2007033).
2. Field plans and copies of historic maps stored in an A2-size plastic envelope (GRE 631).
3. Electronic drawings stored in the directory ..\CAD ARCHIVE\Scilly\Off Island Quays 2007033
4. Black and white photographs archived under the following index numbers: GBP 1928 and BBP 1929
5. Digital photographs stored in the directory ..\Images\Sites\Scilly\Off Island Quays Watching Briefs 2007033
6. This report text is held in digital form as: G:\CAU\HE PROJECTS\SITES\SCILLY\SITES.M-P\OFF ISLAND QUAYS REFURBISHMENT WATCHING BRIEF 2007033\IOS OFF ISLAND QUAYS WATCHING BRIEFS REPORT REV 01.DOC

Artefacts and environmental material retrieved during the project will be stored at the Isles of Scilly Museum, Church Street, St Mary's, TR21 OJD. The site code for the St Agnes Compound Watching Brief is AQC07.

# 11 Appendices

## 11.1 List of contexts assigned during the St Agnes Compound Watching Brief

Context no	Type	Description	Interpretation	Dimensions (m)
1	Cut	Pit, circular in plan	Pit containing BA Urn B	0.38 diameter
2	Deposit	Firm, dark brown sandy silty clay	Fill of [1]	“
3	Cut	Pit, circular in plan	Pit containing BA Urn A	0.24 diameter
4	Deposit	Firm, dark brown sandy silty clay	Fill of [3]	“
5	‘Cut’	‘Pit’ circular in plan	Thin layer of decomposed natural	
6	Deposit	Greyish brown sandy silty clay	Undisturbed natural - <i>ram</i>	
7	‘Cut’	‘Pit’ circular in plan	Rat burrow	
8	Deposit	Greyish brown sandy silty clay	Fill of [7]	
9	‘Cut’	Pit or post-hole circular in plan	Possible post-hole or small pit	0.54 dia x 0.25 deep
10	Deposit	Very dark greyish brown sandy silty clay	Fill of [9]	“
11	‘Cut’	Linear feature	Rat burrow	
12	Deposit	Greyish brown sandy silty clay	Fill of [11]	
13	‘Cut’	Linear feature	Rat burrow	
14	Deposit	Greyish brown sandy silty clay	Fill of [12]	
15	‘Cut’	Linear feature	Rat burrow	
16	Deposit	Greyish brown sandy silty clay	Fill of [15]	
17	‘Cut’	Linear feature	Rat burrow	
18	Deposit	Greyish brown sandy silty clay	Fill of [16]	
19	‘Cut’	‘Pit’ circular in plan	Rat burrow	
20	Deposit	Greyish brown sandy silty clay	Fill of [19]	

## 11.2 List of finds from the St Agnes Compound Watching Brief

Site code AQC07

### Context Unstratified

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	46g	1		
Stonework				
Flint	238g	56		
Pebble	1926g	5		

3 medium flint cores.

1 small flint core.

38 small waste flint flakes,

1 flint thumbnail scraper.

3 flint side scrapers.

1 shaft scraper.

1 flint fabricator,

1 broken butt-end of a flint blade,

2 flint blades.

5 water-rounded granite pebbles.

1 sherd of Bronze Age pottery, granitic fabric.

### Context (8)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Metalwork				
Iron	6g	1		

1 iron fragment, possibly a nail, of unknown date.

### Context (10)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	102g	4		

Four co-joining sherds forming an undiagnostic body sherd of Bronze Age pottery, granitic fabric.

### Context (12)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	50g	2		

Stonework				
Flint	2g	1		
Pebble	264g	1		

1 retouched flint blade, Prehistoric.

1 water-rounded granite pebble, utilised?

2 undiagnostic bodysherds of Bronze Age pottery, granitic fabric.

#### Context No (14)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	32g	1		
Stonework				
Pebble	337g	1		

1 water-rounded granite cobble, utilised? Prehistoric.

1 undiagnostic bodysherd of Bronze Age pottery, granitic fabric.

#### Context No: Urn A.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	-	28		

Complete base of a medium to large-sized Bronze Age pot. Thickness of wall is c1cm. Consists of a minimum of 22 sherds. Vessel appears to have been deliberately cut down to form a bowl.

Contains c6 sherds of the basal angle and side of a smaller thin-walled (5-6mm) Bronze Age vessel nested within it.

Granitic fabric.

*Lifted in soil block so not weighed.*

#### Context No: Urn B.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	-	33		

Complete base of a medium-sized Bronze Age pot. Thickness of wall is c10mm. Consists of a minimum of 12 sherds. Vessel appears to have been deliberately cut down to form a bowl.

Contains 21 sherds of the basal angle and side of a smaller Bronze Age vessel nested within it.

Granitic fabric.

*Lifted in a soil block so not weighed.*

### 11.3 Brief for archaeological recording

**Address:** The Duchy of Cornwall, Hugh House, The Garrison, St Mary's, Isles Of Scilly

**Date:** 30<sup>th</sup> March 2007

**Sites:** Porth Conger Quay, St Agnes

Anneka's Quay, Bryher

Church Quay, Bryher

Higher Town Quay, St Martins

**Applicant/Agent:** The Duchy of Cornwall, Hugh House, The Garrison, St Mary's, Isles Of Scilly

**Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer:** Phil Markham, Tel: 01872 322546, e-mail: [pmarkham@cornwall.gov.uk](mailto:pmarkham@cornwall.gov.uk) Cornwall County Council, Historic Environment Service, Kennall Building, Old County Hall, Truro, TR1 3AY

**Assistant Planning Officer (Conservation) and Field Monument Warden:** Eleanor Breen Council of the Isles of Scilly, Old Wesleyan Chapel, Garrison Lane, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly TR21OJD Telephone 01720424351, Fax 01720424317, Email [ebreen@scilly.gov.uk](mailto:ebreen@scilly.gov.uk)

This brief is only valid for six months. After this period the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer should be contacted. Any written scheme of investigation (WSI) resulting from this brief shall only be considered for the same period. The contractor is strongly advised to visit the site before completing their WSI as there may be implications for accurately costing the project.

Contractors Written Scheme of Investigation

We would not expect any ground works to be undertaken until the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer, Cornwall County Council and the Assistant Planning Officer (Conservation) and Field Monument Warden have approved the archaeological contractor's written scheme of investigation.

#### 1. Introduction

This brief has been written by the Historic Environment Planning Advice officer. It sets out the minimum archaeological works expected to be conducted for such a site.

#### 2. Site Location and Description

Port Conger Quay St Agnes SW 8843 0858: The existing quay projects out from the rocky shore mid way along the west side of the bay for a distance of approximately 54m. The deck of the quay slopes at a gradient that is more or less the same profile of the beach with the result that the height of the structure visible remains constant at about 2.5m. (Parsons Brinkerhoff March 2006)

Anneka's Quay and Church Quay Bryher SW 88181491: The construction compound for Anneka's Quay is in a field to the north west of the construction area. The access route passes through an existing cut in the dunes at the top of the beach. The compound of Church Quay will be located in fields to the north of the site adjacent to the public toilet. Access will be via existing tracks to the current access through the sand dunes. There are no designated features of terrestrial conservation significance near either site although the dunes are of botanical interest. (Parsons Brinkerhoff March 2006)

Higher Town Quay St Martins SW 9309 1511: The existing quay has been built out from the side of the rocky headland of Cruther's Point which encloses the eastern end of Higher town Bay, at right angles to the road that contours round the shoreline of Cruther's hill, before climbing steeply towards the village of Higher town, the closest property in which is about 600m from the quay. (Parsons Brinkerhoff March 2006)

#### 3. Planning Background

The plans and Environmental Impact Assessments for the seven sites were put to the Planning and Development Committee on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2006. The applications are summarised below:

P/06/020 Porth Conger Quay, St Agnes. Refurbishment and improvement of the quay.

P/06/021 Anneka's Quay, Bryher. Refurbishment and improvement of the quay.

P/06/023 Church Quay, Bryher. Refurbishment and improvement of the quay.

P/06/022 Higher Town Quay, St Martins. Refurbishment and improvement of the quay.

These applications were approved subject to a number of conditions. The archaeological conditions are:

Porth Conger Quay, St Agnes Condition 4.

*No work shall be commenced on any part of the development hereby permitted, including the field of the construction compound, until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, to include the measures contained in the Environmental Statement, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*

*Reason 4.*

*The site comprises an area of known archaeological interest where it is the Local Planning Authority's policy to provide for the examination of archaeological remains.*

Church Quay, Bryher Condition 4.

*No work shall be commenced on any part of the development hereby permitted until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, to include the measures contained in the Environmental Statement, and which has previously been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the County Archaeologist.*

*Reason 4.*

*The site comprises an area of known archaeological interest where it is the Local Planning Authority's policy to provide for the examination of archaeological remains.*

Anneka's Quay, Bryher Condition 4.

*No work shall be commenced on any part of the development hereby permitted until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, to include the measures contained in the Environmental Statement, and which has previously been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the County Archaeologist.*

*Reason 4.*

*The site comprises an area of known archaeological interest where it is the Local Planning Authority's policy to provide for the examination of archaeological remains.*

Higher Town Quay, St Martins Condition 2.

*No work shall be commenced on any part of the development hereby permitted until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, to include the measures contained in the Environmental Statement, and which has previously been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority with the County Archaeologist.*

#### **4. Archaeological Background**

Porth Conger Quay St Agnes: There are no known sites in the inter-tidal or submerged areas of Porth Conger but there is evidence for a field system and hut circle in the cliff face to the south of the present quay. These will not be affected by the proposed works to the quay but there is a possibility that further sites exist in the area identified for passenger facilities. (Parsons Brinkerhoff March 2006)

Anneka's Quay and Church Quay Bryher: There are known archaeological sites, consisting of a field system, hut circles and an old land surface in the inter-tidal area to the south of Anneka's quay. In addition, there is a field system and cist grave in the intertidal areas to the south of the quay. There are no known archaeological features in the construction compounds. (Parsons Brinkerhoff March 2006)

Higher Town Quay St Martins: There are a number of archaeological sites, including a field system, a stone alignment, peat deposits, cist graves and hut circles in the inter-tidal area of Higher Town Beach (also known as Par Beach) but the proposed development will not have any direct impact on these due to their distance from the quay. It is possible that there are undiscovered, submerged sites in the immediate vicinity. (Parsons Brinkerhoff March 2006)

#### **5. Requirement for work**

Ground works may disturb buried archaeological remains including environmental and palaeoenvironmental material. The above sites will therefore require a 'watching brief' and an environmental sampling strategy. Apart from Anneka's Quay all of the quays will require a basic photographic record prior to alteration. It is important that a suitably qualified archaeologist(s) is present during the ground works in order to identify and record any features of interest and to undertake the environmental sampling.

Porth Conger EIA Agreed Mitigation:

- Archaeological features will be identified and protected by a 5m (minimum) buffer if practical
- In view of the archaeological importance of the field in which the construction compound is located, an archaeological watching brief will be carried out during the preparation of the site
- The track access to the construction site from the construction compound will be protected by a synthetic track way
- A 5m buffer will be established on the side of the wall and construction compound
- Borehole cores taken for technical purposes will be examined by an archaeologist for evidence of archaeological deposits
- Archaeologically important finds discovered will be sampled and/or recorded.

This site will therefore have a ‘watching brief’ together with an environmental sampling strategy, including the intertidal area to be dredged and a basic photographic record.

Anneka’s Quay and Church Quay EIA Agreed Mitigation:

- Archaeological features are identified and protected by a 5m (minimum) buffer if practical
- Field boundaries will be protected
- Borehole cores taken for technical purposes will be examined by an archaeologist for evidence of archaeological deposits
- Archaeologically important finds discovered will be sampled an/or recorded
- Access along the beach between Church Quay and Anneka’s Quay using wheeled vehicles will not be permitted.

This site will therefore have a ‘watching brief’ together with an environmental sampling strategy and a basic photographic record.

Higher Town Quay EIA Agreed Mitigation:

- Archaeological features are identified and protected by a 5m (minimum) buffer if practical
- Field boundaries will be protected
- An archaeological watching brief will be undertaken during the construction works
- Borehole cores taken for technical purposes will be examined by an archaeologist for evidence of archaeological deposits
- Archaeologically important finds discovered will be sampled and/or recorded

This site will therefore have a ‘watching brief’ together with an environmental sampling strategy and a basic photographic record.

The specific aims are:

The watching briefs are required to:

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains
- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered
- To establish the nature of the activity on the site
- To identify any artefacts relating to the occupation of the site
- To provide further information on the archaeology of the Isles of Scilly from any archaeological remains encountered.

The environmental sampling will include, where appropriate:

- Bulk sampling
- Monolith sampling
- Macro & Micro Flora Analysis (including pollen analysis)
- Macro & Micro Fauna Analysis
- Radio-carbon dating for artefact analysis

For the photographic record, the recorder needs to consider:

- Site layout and organisation
- Function
- Materials, method of construction
- Original fixtures and fittings
- Subsequent fixtures and fittings
- Date/period of initial build and subsequent alterations.



## **6. General Methodology**

- 6.1 All stages of the investigation shall be supported by a written scheme of investigation.
- 6.2 The contractor is expected to follow the code of the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IFA).
- 6.3 Details including the name, qualifications and experience, of the site director and all other project personnel (including specialist staff) shall be included within the written scheme of investigation.
- 6.4 All the latest Health and Safety guidelines shall be followed on site.
- 6.5 The IFA's Standards and Guidance should be used for additional guidance in the production of the Written scheme of investigation, the content of the report and the general execution of the project.
- 6.6 Terminology will be consistent with the English Heritage Thesaurus.

## **7. Archaeological Recording Methodology**

- 7.1 Prior to the commencement of on site works the contractor should familiarise themselves with the site by examining the information held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record and the Cornwall Records Office.
- 7.2 An archaeologist shall be present during all ground works associated with the development. A toothless ditching bucket can be used for the removal of any overburden until the first archaeological horizon is exposed. This will then be hand cleaned and recorded as appropriate.
- 7.3 Any surviving remains which will be disturbed or destroyed by the development shall be archaeologically excavated and recorded.
- 7.4 Details of how all archaeological contexts and artefacts will be excavated, surveyed, recovered and recorded shall be provided. The site will be tied into the national grid.
- 7.5 Details of the site planning policy shall be given in the written scheme of investigation. The normal preferred policy for the scale of archaeological site plans is 1:20 and sections 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.
- 7.6 The photographic record shall consist of photographs in both black and white prints and colour photography with negatives (and CD if appropriate). For both general and specific photographs, a photographic scale shall be included. In the case of detailed photographs a north arrow will be included. The photographic record shall be accompanied by a photographic register detailing as a minimum, feature number, location and direction of shot.
- 7.7 If significant archaeological deposits are exposed, all works must cease and a meeting convened with the client and the Historic Environment Planning advice officer to discuss the most appropriate way forwards.

## **8. Finds**

- 8.1 All finds will be retained from each archaeological context excavated.
- 8.2 All finds, where appropriate, shall be washed.
- 8.3 All pottery, and other finds where appropriate, shall be marked with the site code and context number
- 8.4 The written scheme of investigation shall include an agreed list of specialist consultants, who might be required to conserve and/or report on finds, and advise or report on other aspects of the project including environmental sampling.
- 8.5 The requirements for conservation and storage shall be agreed with the appropriate museum prior to the start of work, and confirmed in writing to the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer.
- 8.6 Finds work should be to accepted professional standards and adhere to the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Guidelines for Finds Work*.
- 8.7 Environmental sampling should be guided by *Environmental Archaeology* (English Heritage Centre for Archaeology Guidelines. 2001/02).
- 8.8 Other English Heritage guidance that may be helpful includes *Geoarchaeology* (2004) and *Archaeometallurgy* (2001).

8.9 The English Heritage Advisor for Archaeological Science will be able to provide archaeological science advice if required (Vanessa Straker 0117 975 0689).

## **9. Human Remains**

9.1 Any human remains which are encountered must initially be left in situ and reported to the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer and the appropriate authorities. If removal is necessary this must comply with the relevant National Government regulations.

9.2 If human remains are not to be removed their physical security must be ensured, preferably by back filling as soon as possible after recording.

9.3 If human remains are to be removed this must be done with due reverence and in accordance to current best practice and legal requirements. The site must be adequately screened from public view. Once excavated, human remains must not be exposed to public view.

## **10. Results**

10.1 The full report including all specialist assessments of artefact and environmental assemblages shall be submitted within a length of time (but not exceeding six months) to be agreed between the applicant and archaeological contractor, Cornwall County Council Historic Environment Record and the local museum. A further digital copy shall be supplied on CD-ROM preferably in 'Adobe Acrobat' PDF format.

10.2 This report will be held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record and made available for public consultation.

10.3 The report must contain:

- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.
- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation
- A discussion of archaeological findings in terms of both the site specific aims and the desk based research
- Location map, a drawing showing those areas examined as part of the archaeological recording, and copies of any archaeological plans and sections. All plans shall be tied to the national grid.
- All specialist reports or assessments
- A summary of the archive contents and date of deposition
- A context register with brief descriptions shall be included as an appendix
- A copy of the brief and the approved written scheme of investigation will be included as an appendix

10.4 A contingency shall be made within the costs for full publication in an appropriate journal. The Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer will notify the contractor of such a need within four weeks of receipt of the report.

## **11. Archive Deposition**

11.1 An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with *The Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991 2<sup>nd</sup> edition) upon completion of the project. The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with the appropriate museum.

11.2 If the finds are to remain with the landowner a full copy of the documentary archive shall be housed with the Cornwall County Record Office and with the Courtenay Library of the Royal Institution of Cornwall.

11.3 The archive including a copy of the written report shall be deposited with the appropriate museum within two months of the completion of the full report and confirmed in writing with the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer.

11.4 Where there is only a documentary archive this will be deposited with the Cornwall Record Office as well as the Courtenay Library of the Royal Institution of Cornwall.

11.5 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer.

11.6 Only on the completion of 11.1 to 11.4 (inclusive) will there be a recommendation for the discharge of any archaeological condition.

## 12. Monitoring

- 12.1 The Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer of Cornwall County Council and the Assistant Planning Officer (Conservation) and Field Monument Warden for Council for the Isles of Scilly will monitor the work and should be kept regularly informed of progress.
- 12.2 Notification of the start of work shall be given preferably in writing to the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer of Cornwall County Council and the Assistant Planning Officer (Conservation) and Field Monument Warden for Council for the Isles of Scilly at least one week in advance of its commencement.
- 12.3 Any variations to the written scheme of investigation shall be agreed with the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer and the Assistant Planning Officer (Conservation) and Field Monument Warden for Council for the Isles of Scilly, preferably in writing, prior to them being carried out.

## 11.4 Written Scheme of Investigation

Client: The Duchy of Cornwall  
Client contact: Robert Bentinck  
Client tel: 01362 820575  
Client e-mail: RobertBentinck@jmcl.co.uk

### 11.4.1 Project Background

Robert Bentinck, Marine Manager for JMCL, has asked the Historic Environment Service (Projects) (HES) for a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) and estimate for an archaeological watching brief during proposed refurbishment and improvement of Porth Conger Quay, St Agnes, Anneka's Quay and Church Quay, Bryher, Higher Town Quay, St Martin's, Isles of Scilly. The WSI is based on a Brief by Phil Markham, Historic Environment planning Advice (HEPA) Officer, Cornwall County Council (CCC) (Markham 2007).

### 11.4.2 Site location and description

Porth Conger Quay St Agnes (NGR SV 8843 0858): The existing quay projects out from the rocky shore mid way along the west side of the bay for a distance of approximately 54m. The deck of the quay slopes at a gradient that is more or less the same profile of the beach with the result that the height of the structure visible remains constant at about 2.5m (Parsons Brinkerhoff March 2006).

Anneka's Quay and Church Quay Bryher (NGR SV 88181491): The construction compound for Anneka's Quay is in a field to the north west of the construction area. The access route passes through an existing cut in the dunes at the top of the beach. The compound of Church Quay will be located in fields to the north of the site adjacent to the public toilet. Access will be via existing tracks to the current access through the sand dunes. There are no designated features of terrestrial conservation significance near either site although the dunes are of botanical interest (*ibid*)

Higher Town Quay St Martins (NGR SV 9309 1511): The existing quay has been built out from the side of the rocky headland of Cruther's Point which encloses the eastern end of Higher town Bay, at right angles to the road that contours round the shoreline of Cruther's hill, before climbing steeply towards the village of Higher town, the closest property in which is about 600m from the quay (*ibid*).

### 11.4.3 Planning Background

The plans and Environmental Impact Assessments for these sites were put to the Planning and Development Committee on the 4<sup>th</sup> May 2006. The applications are summarised below:

P/06/020 Porth Conger Quay, St Agnes. Refurbishment and improvement of the quay.

P/06/021 Anneka's Quay, Bryher. Refurbishment and improvement of the quay.

P/06/023 Church Quay, Bryher. Refurbishment and improvement of the quay.

P/06/022 Higher Town Quay, St Martins. Refurbishment and improvement of the quay.

These applications were approved subject to a number of conditions. The archaeological conditions are:

Porth Conger Quay, St Agnes Condition 4.

*No work shall be commenced on any part of the development hereby permitted, including the field of the construction compound, until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, to include the measures contained in the Environmental Statement, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.*

*Reason 4.*

*The site comprises an area of known archaeological interest where it is the Local Planning Authority's policy to provide for the examination of archaeological remains.*

Church Quay, Bryher Condition 4.

*No work shall be commenced on any part of the development hereby permitted until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, to include the measures contained in the Environmental Statement, and which has previously been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the County Archaeologist.*

*Reason 4.*

*The site comprises an area of known archaeological interest where it is the Local Planning Authority's policy to provide for the examination of archaeological remains.*

Anneka's Quay, Bryher Condition 4.

*No work shall be commenced on any part of the development hereby permitted until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, to include the measures contained in the Environmental Statement, and which has previously been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the County Archaeologist.*

*Reason 4.*

*The site comprises an area of known archaeological interest where it is the Local Planning Authority's policy to provide for the examination of archaeological remains.*

Higher Town Quay, St Martins Condition 2.

*No work shall be commenced on any part of the development hereby permitted until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological work in accordance with a written scheme of investigation, to include the measures contained in the Environmental Statement, and which has previously been submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority with the County Archaeologist.*

#### **11.4.4 Archaeological and historical background**

Porth Conger Quay St Agnes: There are no known sites in the inter-tidal or submerged areas of Porth Conger but there is evidence for a field system and hut circle in the cliff face to the south of the present quay. These will not be affected by the proposed works to the quay but there is a possibility that further sites exist in the area identified for passenger facilities (Parsons Brinkerhoff March 2006).

Anneka's Quay and Church Quay Bryher: There are known archaeological sites, consisting of a field system, hut circles and an old land surface in the inter-tidal area to the south of

Anneka's quay. In addition, there is a field system and cist grave in the intertidal areas to the south of the quay. There are no known archaeological features in the construction compounds (*ibid*).

Higher Town Quay St Martins: There are a number of archaeological sites, including a field system, a stone alignment, peat deposits, cist graves and hut circles in the inter-tidal area of Higher Town Beach (also known as Par Beach) but the proposed development will not have any direct impact on these due to their distance from the quay. It is possible that there are undiscovered, submerged sites in the immediate vicinity (*ibid*).

#### **11.4.5 Requirement for work**

Ground works may disturb buried archaeological remains including environmental and palaeoenvironmental material. The above sites will therefore require a 'watching brief' and an environmental sampling strategy. Apart from Anneka's Quay all of the quays will require a basic photographic record prior to alteration. It is important that a suitably qualified archaeologist(s) is present during the ground works in order to identify and record any features of interest and to undertake the environmental sampling.

#### ***Porth Conger EIA Agreed Mitigation:***

- Archaeological features will be identified and protected by a 5m (minimum) buffer if practical
- In view of the archaeological importance of the field in which the construction compound is located, an archaeological watching brief will be carried out during the preparation of the site
- The track access to the construction site from the construction compound will be protected by a synthetic track way
- A 5m buffer will be established on the side of the wall and construction compound
- Borehole cores taken for technical purposes will be examined by an archaeologist for evidence of archaeological deposits
- Archaeologically important finds discovered will be sampled and/or recorded.

This site will therefore have a 'watching brief' together with an environmental sampling strategy, including the intertidal area to be dredged and a basic photographic record.

#### ***Anneka's Quay and Church Quay EIA Agreed Mitigation:***

- Archaeological features are identified and protected by a 5m (minimum) buffer if practical
- Field boundaries will be protected
- Borehole cores taken for technical purposes will be examined by an archaeologist for evidence of archaeological deposits
- Archaeologically important finds discovered will be sampled an/or recorded
- Access along the beach between Church Quay and Anneka's Quay using wheeled vehicles will not be permitted.

This site will therefore have a 'watching brief' together with an environmental sampling strategy and a basic photographic record.

### ***Higher Town Quay EIA Agreed Mitigation:***

- Archaeological features are identified and protected by a 5m (minimum) buffer if practical
- Field boundaries will be protected
- An archaeological watching brief will be undertaken during the construction works
- Borehole cores taken for technical purposes will be examined by an archaeologist for evidence of archaeological deposits
- Archaeologically important finds discovered will be sampled and/or recorded

This site will therefore have a ‘watching brief’ together with an environmental sampling strategy and a basic photographic record.

Note: HES understand that borehole cores will not be taken and that therefore there is no longer a requirement for archaeological assessment of these (P Markham pers comm.).

#### **11.4.6 Aims and Objectives**

The specific aims are:

The watching briefs are required to:

- To establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains
- To determine the extent, condition, nature, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered
- To establish the nature of the activity on the site
- To identify any artefacts relating to the occupation of the site
- To provide further information on the archaeology of the Isles of Scilly from any archaeological remains encountered.

The environmental sampling will include, where appropriate:

- Bulk sampling
- Monolith sampling
- Macro & Micro Flora Analysis (including pollen analysis)
- Macro & Micro Fauna Analysis
- Radio-carbon dating for artefact analysis

For the photographic record, the recorder needs to consider:

- Site layout and organisation
- Function
- Materials, method of construction
- Original fixtures and fittings
- Subsequent fixtures and fittings
- Date/period of initial build and subsequent alterations.

#### **11.4.7 Methodology**

The archaeological recording will involve four main phases of work:

- Fieldwork.
- Archiving, analysis and interpretation.
- Report production and dissemination.
- Archive deposition.

#### **11.4.7.1 Fieldwork**

Prior to the commencement of on site works the archaeologist undertaking the watching brief will familiarise themselves with the site by examining the information held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record and with methodology set out in this WSI.

The archaeologist will be present during all ground works associated with the development. A toothless ditching bucket can be used for the removal of any overburden until the first archaeological horizon is exposed. This will then be hand cleaned and recorded as appropriate.

Any surviving remains which will be disturbed or destroyed by the development shall be archaeologically excavated and recorded.

If significant archaeological deposits are exposed, all works must cease and a meeting convened with the client and the HEPA Officer or the Assistant Planning Officer of the Isles of Scilly Council to discuss the most appropriate way forwards.

##### *Recording*

- A location plan will be made, plotting the areas of groundworks onto the Ordnance Survey Landline at 1:200.
- The heights of all features identified will be tied into the Ordnance Datum if appropriate.
- The location of features recorded during the watching brief will be plotted onto a drafting film overlay to the prepared location plan.
- All finds from significant stratified contexts will be accurately located on the location plan at an appropriate scale.
- All archaeological contexts will be described to a standard format linked to a continuous numbering sequence. All contexts recorded will be recorded via the medium of HES pro forma context recording sheets.
- Registers of drawings, photographs, finds and contexts, samples will be maintained during the fieldwork.
- The excavated spoil will be carefully inspected for finds.

##### *Site planning policy*

- Site drawings (plans, sections, locations of finds) will be made by pencil (4H) on drafting film; all plans will be linked to the prepared location map and to the national grid; all drawings will include standard information: site details, personnel, date, scale and north-point.
- Site plans will be drawn at 1:20 and sections at 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.
- Site drawings (plans and sections) will be digitised and converted into AutoCAD drawings.

##### *Photographic record*

- A scaled photographic record will be made of each of the quays prior to work commencing
- A photographic record will be maintained throughout the watching brief.
- The photographic record will consist of both black and white prints and colour transparencies together with negatives, with digital photography used selectively for illustrative purposes.

- It will include both general and feature specific photographs, a photographic scale (including north arrow) will be included in the case of detailed photographs.
- The photographic record shall be accompanied by a photographic register detailing as a minimum feature number, location, and direction of shot.

#### *Finds*

- All finds will be retained from each archaeological context excavated.
- All finds, where appropriate, shall be washed.
- All pottery, and other finds where appropriate, shall be marked with the site code and context number.
- The written scheme of investigation shall include an agreed list of specialist consultants, who might be required to conserve and/or report on finds, and advise or report on other aspects of the project including environmental sampling.
- The requirements for conservation and storage shall be agreed with the appropriate museum prior to the start of work, and confirmed in writing to the Inspector of Ancient Monuments.
- Finds work will be to accepted professional standards and adhere to the Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Guidelines* (IFA 2001a).

#### *Sampling*

- The English Heritage Advisor for Archaeological Science will be consulted before the project commences (Vanessa Straker 0117 975 0689).
- The archaeologist undertaking the watching brief will assess the potential for environmental sampling.
- If suitable deposits are identified the following types of sample will be taken as appropriate:
  - Bulk sampling
  - Monolith sampling
  - Macro & Micro Flora Analysis (including pollen analysis)
  - Macro & Micro Fauna Analysis
  - Radio-carbon dating for artefact analysis
- Environmental sampling will be guided by *Environmental Archaeology* (English Heritage 2001/02)
- Other English Heritage guidance such *Geoarchaeology* (2004) and *Archaeometallurgy* (2001) will be consulted prior to the commencement of the project.

#### *Human remains*

Any human remains which are encountered will initially be left *in situ* and reported to the HEPA Officer or the Assistant Planning Officer for the Council of the Isles of Scilly and the appropriate authorities. If removal is necessary this will comply with the relevant National Government regulations.

If human remains are not to be removed their physical security will be ensured, if possible by back filling as soon as possible after recording.



If human remains are to be removed this will be done with due reverence and in accordance to current best practice and legal requirements. The site will be adequately screened from public view. Once excavated human remains will not be exposed to public view.

#### **11.4.7.2 Archiving**

During this phase the results of the fieldwork will be collated for archiving. This will involve the following tasks.

- Indexing of site drawings and photographs.
- Processing and analysis of artefacts and environmental samples, if appropriate.

**Note:** The requirements for Archiving and Reporting will be reviewed in the light of the fieldwork results

#### **11.4.7.3 Report production**

A report will be produced which will describe the results of the desk-based study and the nature of the fieldwork undertaken, the circumstance and conditions under which it occurred and the results that were obtained. Production of the report will involve:

- Producing a descriptive text.
- Producing maps, scaled plans and section drawings.
- Selecting photographs.
- Report design.
- Report editing.
- Dissemination of the finished report.

The report will have the following contents:

- Summary
- Introduction - Background, aims, methods
- Results - A concise non-technical summary of the results
- Discussion - A discussion of archaeological findings in terms of both the site specific aims and the desk based research
- Specialists' reports - Specialists' reports or assessments as appropriate
- Archive - A summary of archive contents and date of deposition
- Appendices - Copies of the Brief and WSI, context register
- Illustrations - Location map
  - Site location plan
  - A drawing showing those areas examined as part of the archaeological watching
  - Copies of relevant historical cartography & plans
  - Plan and section drawings resulting from the archaeological recording.

- Finds drawings (if appropriate)
- Illustrative photographs
- Note: All plans will be tied to the national grid.

#### *Contingency for analysis and publication*

A contingency is made within the accompanying estimate for assessment for specialist analysis and full publication in an appropriate journal. The HEPA Officer or the Assistant Planning Officer for the Council of the Isles of Scilly will notify the contractor of such a need within four weeks of receipt of the report.

#### **11.4.7.4 Report dissemination**

The full report including all specialist assessments of artefact assemblages will be submitted within a length of time (but not exceeding six months) to be agreed between the applicant and HES, with copies supplied to the client (two), Cornwall County Council Historic Environment Record, the Isles of Scilly Museum and the Courtenay Library of the Royal Institution of Cornwall, River Street, Truro. A further digital copy shall be supplied on CD-ROM in 'Adobe Acrobat' PDF format. A draft will initially be submitted to the HEPA Officer or the Assistant Planning Officer for the Council of the Isles of Scilly for comment.

#### **11.4.7.5 Archive deposition**

- An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with *The Management of Archaeological Projects* (English Heritage 1991 2<sup>nd</sup> edition) upon completion of the project. The requirements for final deposition of the project archive will be agreed by the HEPA Officer or the Assistant Planning Officer for the Council of the Isles of Scilly and HES
- The archive including a copy of the written report will be deposited at the Isles of Scilly Museum within two months of the completion of the full report and confirmed in writing with the HEPA Officer and the Assistant Planning Officer for the Council of the Isles of Scilly.
- Where there is only a documentary archive this will be deposited with the Cornwall Record Office as well as the Isles of Scilly Museum.
- A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to the HEPA Officer and the Assistant Planning Officer for the Council of the Isles of Scilly.

#### **11.4.7.6 Monitoring**

- The HEPA Officer and the Assistant Planning Officer for the Council of the Isles of Scilly will monitor the work and will be kept regularly informed of progress.
- Notification of the start of work will be given in writing to the HEPA Officer and the Assistant Planning Officer for the Council of the Isles of Scilly as far in advance of its commencement as possible.
- Any variations to the WSI shall be agreed with the HEPA Officer and the Assistant Planning Officer for the Council of the Isles of Scilly in writing prior to them being carried out.

#### 11.4.7.7 Copyright

Copyright of all material gathered as a result of the project will be reserved to the Historic Environment Section, Planning, Transportation and Estates Department, Cornwall County Council. Existing copyrights of external sources will be acknowledged where required. Use of the material will be granted to the client.

#### 11.4.7.8 Timetable

The work is anticipated to begin in early April 2007.

#### 11.4.8 Project staff

##### *HES staff*

The project will be managed by Senior Archaeologist **Charlie Johns (BA, MIFA)**. As a Senior Archaeologist with HES (1991- present) Charlie has special responsibility for projects in the Isles of Scilly where he has worked on numerous projects: notably directing the excavation of the Bryher Iron Age sword and mirror burial in 1999 (Johns 2002-3); updating 'Scilly's Archaeological Heritage', the popular archaeological guide to the islands, in 2003 (Ratcliffe and Johns 2003) and compiling the Isles of Scilly Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Survey for English Heritage in 2003-4 (Johns *et al* 2004). Since 2005 he has co-directed the 'Islands in a Common Sea' research project in Scilly with Dr Jacqui Mulville of Cardiff University (Johns and Mulville forthcoming; Johns *et al* 2006), for this work he has been awarded the title Honorary Research Fellow in Cardiff University's School of History and Archaeology.

The fieldwork will be undertaken by **Katharine Sawyer (MA)**. Katharine is a freelance archaeologist based in St Mary's. Since 2000 she has undertaken archaeological watching briefs in Scilly and Cornwall, either independently or in association with HES including: Hell Bay Hotel, Bryher (Sawyer *et al* 2003); Tresco Playing Field (Taylor and Johns forthcoming) and Lower Benham Battery St Mary's (Johns and Sawyer 2005). She is also a tour guide and lecturer, leading guided walks, boat trips and short break holidays, and teaching adult education classes. As a Trustee of the Isles of Scilly Museum she undertakes identification of artefacts, interpretation and arrangement of displays. Since 2006 she has been studying part-time for a PhD at the University of Exeter on the Setting and Function of the Neolithic and Bronze Age Chambered Cairns and Cists of the Isles of Scilly. For the purpose of this project Katharine will be sub-contracted by HES.

Initial finds processing, identification and cataloguing will be carried out by **Carl Thorpe BSc**, HES's finds archaeologist who has carried out all similar work for Scillonian projects in the last two decades including the Isles of Scilly Electrification Project (Ratcliffe 1991), the Bryher cist burial and Tresco Playing Field. He is currently reassessing the pottery assemblage from the 1971 excavations at East Porth, Samson with a view to final publication in Cornish Archaeology (Neal forthcoming). Carl also has extensive experience as field archaeologist having undertaken many watching briefs and will provide Katharine with assistance in fieldwork and taking environmental samples if necessary.

##### *Specialists*

**John Allan MPhil – Medieval/post-medieval pottery specialist:** John works for the Exeter Archaeological Field Unit. He is the leading authority on medieval and post-medieval pottery in south west England and author of many publications. He will carry out the pottery assessment and analysis in the event of medieval or post-medieval pottery being recovered

**Henrietta Quinnell BA, MIFA, FSA – Prehistoric, Roman, post-Roman pottery:** Henrietta is a freelance pottery specialist and the leading authority on prehistoric pottery in the

south-west. She will carry out the pottery assessment and analysis in the event of prehistoric pottery being recovered.

**Julie Jones BA – Archaeobotanist:** An experienced freelance archaeobotanical specialist based in Bristol, Julie has carried out palaeoenvironmental assessments and analyses for numerous HES projects.

**Rowena Gale – Wood Anatomist:** Rowena is an Honorary Research Associate, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew and visiting Research Fellow of the Department of Archaeology, University of Reading. She will undertake assessment and analysis of any suitable charcoal samples, including identification of samples suitable for radiocarbon dating.

**Helen Wilmot-The Conservation Centre Salisbury:** Helen will carry out the assessment and conservation of metalwork if required.

**Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory, University of Waikato, New Zealand:** Samples for radiocarbon dating will be sent the University of Waikato.

All recording work will be undertaken according to the Institute of Field Archaeologists *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Watching Briefs* (IFA 2001b). Site staff will be expected to follow the IFA *Code of Conduct* and *Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology*.

#### **11.4.9 Health and safety statement**

Historic Environment Service (Projects) is the trading name of the Historic Environment Section, within the Planning, Transportation and Estates Department of Cornwall County Council. The Service follows the County Council's *Statement of Safety Policy*. For more specific policy and guidelines the Service uses the manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (1997) endorsed by the Standing Conference of Archaeological Unit Managers and also the Council for British Archaeology's Handbook No. 6 *Safety in Archaeological Field Work* (1989).

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

#### **11.4.10 Insurance**

As part of Cornwall County Council, HES is covered by Public Liability and Employers Liability Insurance.

#### **11.4.11 References**

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*Charles Johns*

*Senior Archaeologist*

*13 April 2007*

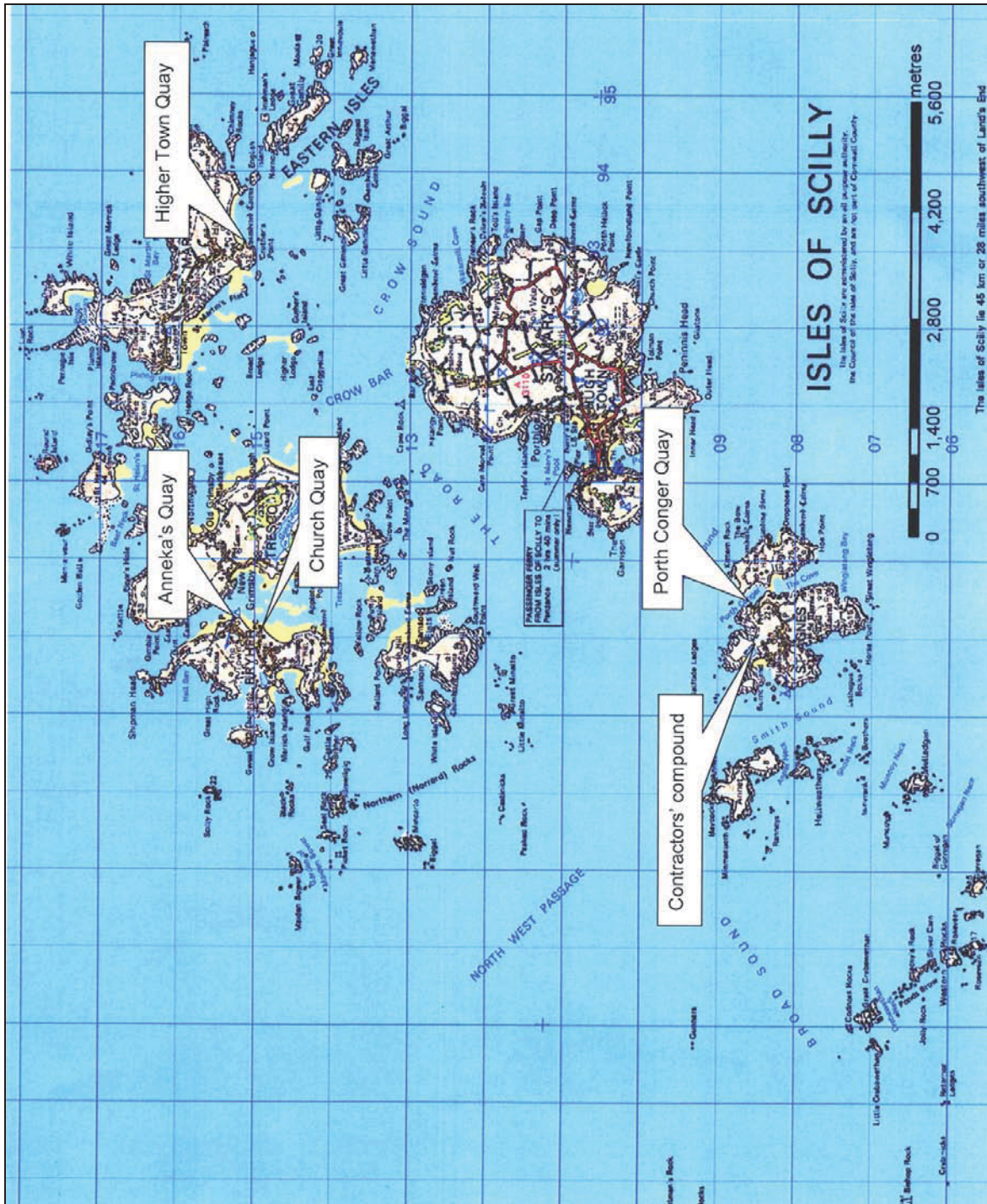


Fig 1 Location map

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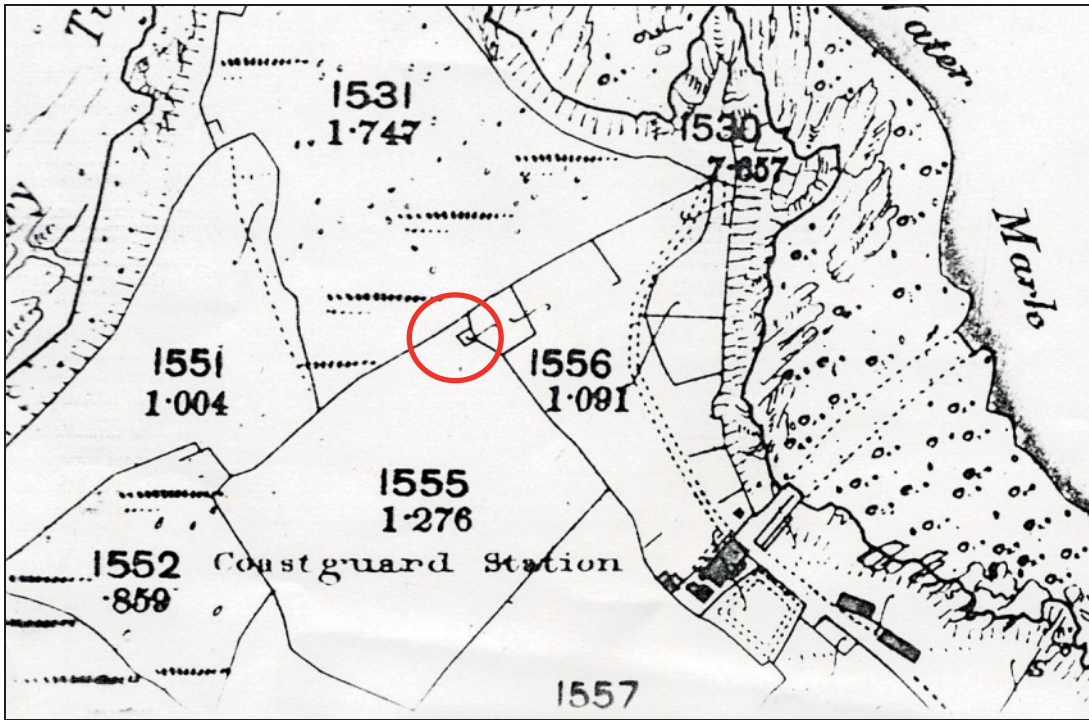


Fig 2 St Agnes, First Edition of the Ordnance Survey 25 Inch Map, c1880 (not to scale); 19<sup>th</sup> century structure [21] circled

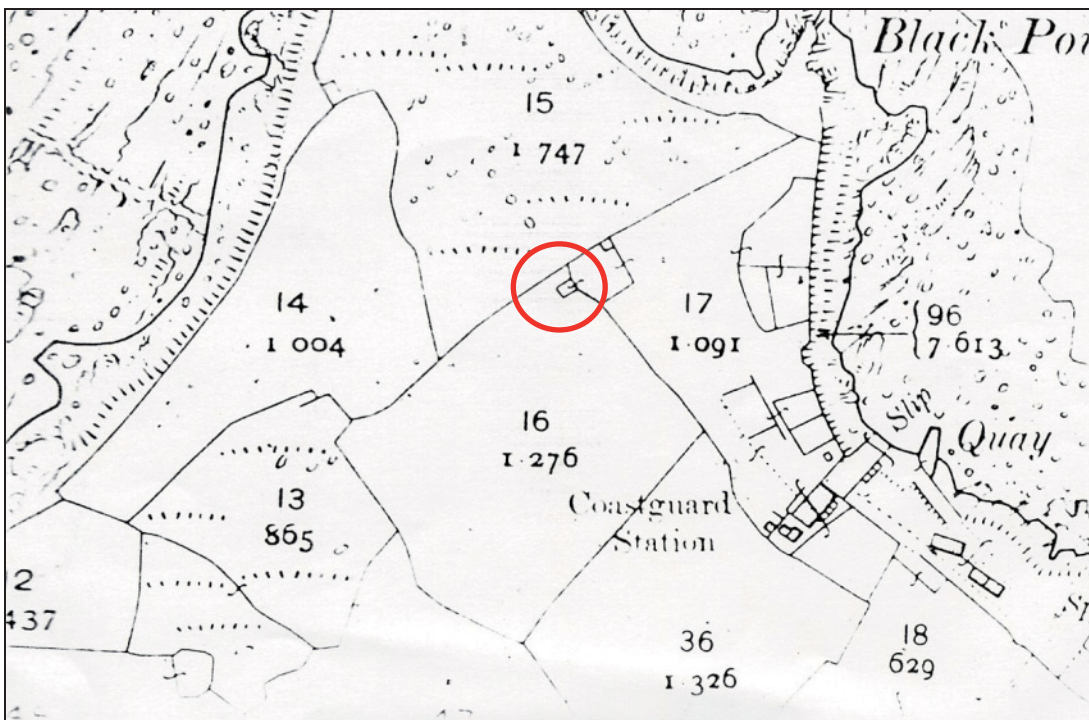


Fig 3 St Agnes, Second Edition of the Ordnance Survey 25 Inch Map, c1908(not to scale); 19<sup>th</sup> century structure [21] circled

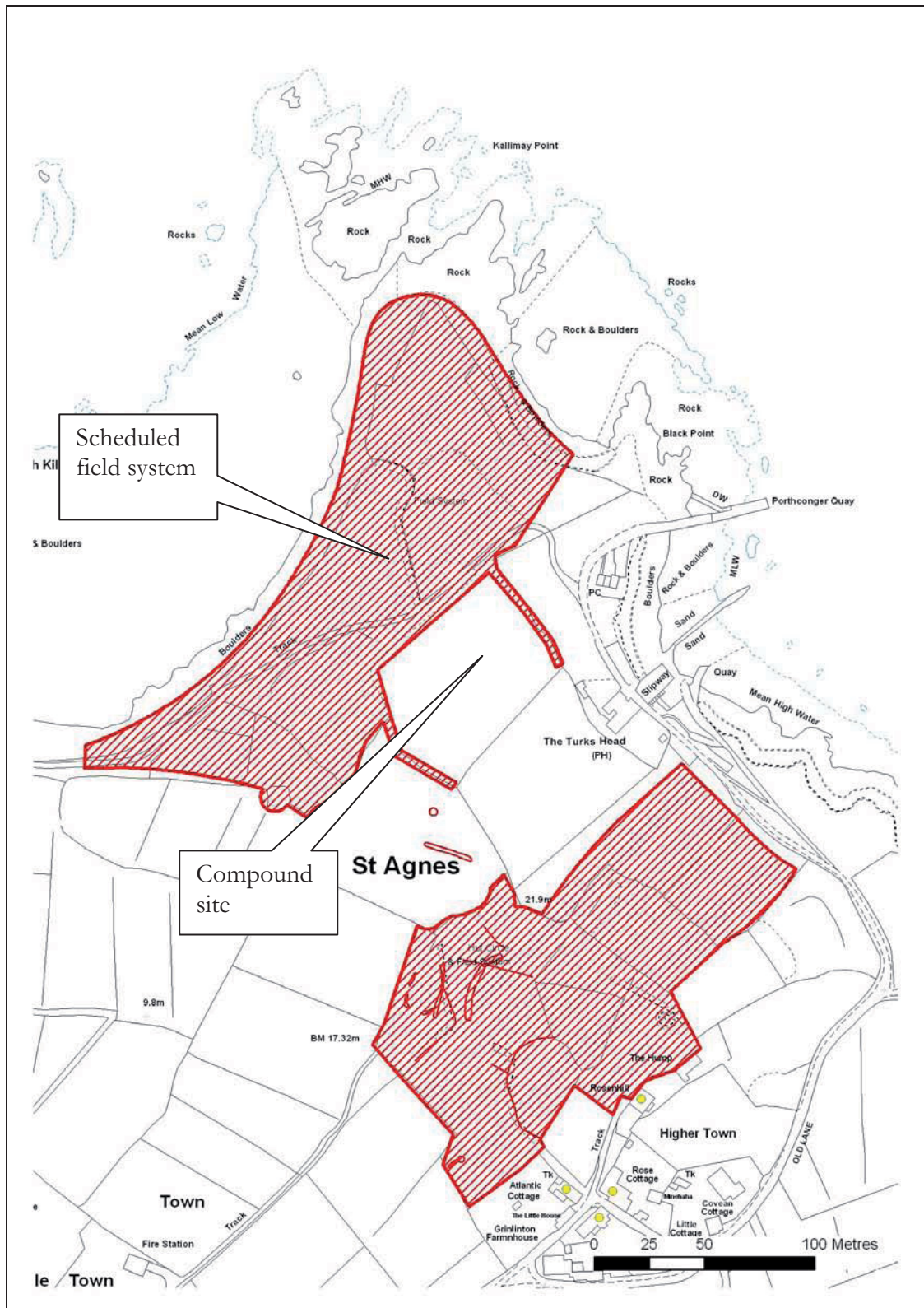


Fig 4 The scheduled field system at Kallimay Point, St Agnes (shaded red). Note the scheduled field boundaries on three side of the contractor's compound

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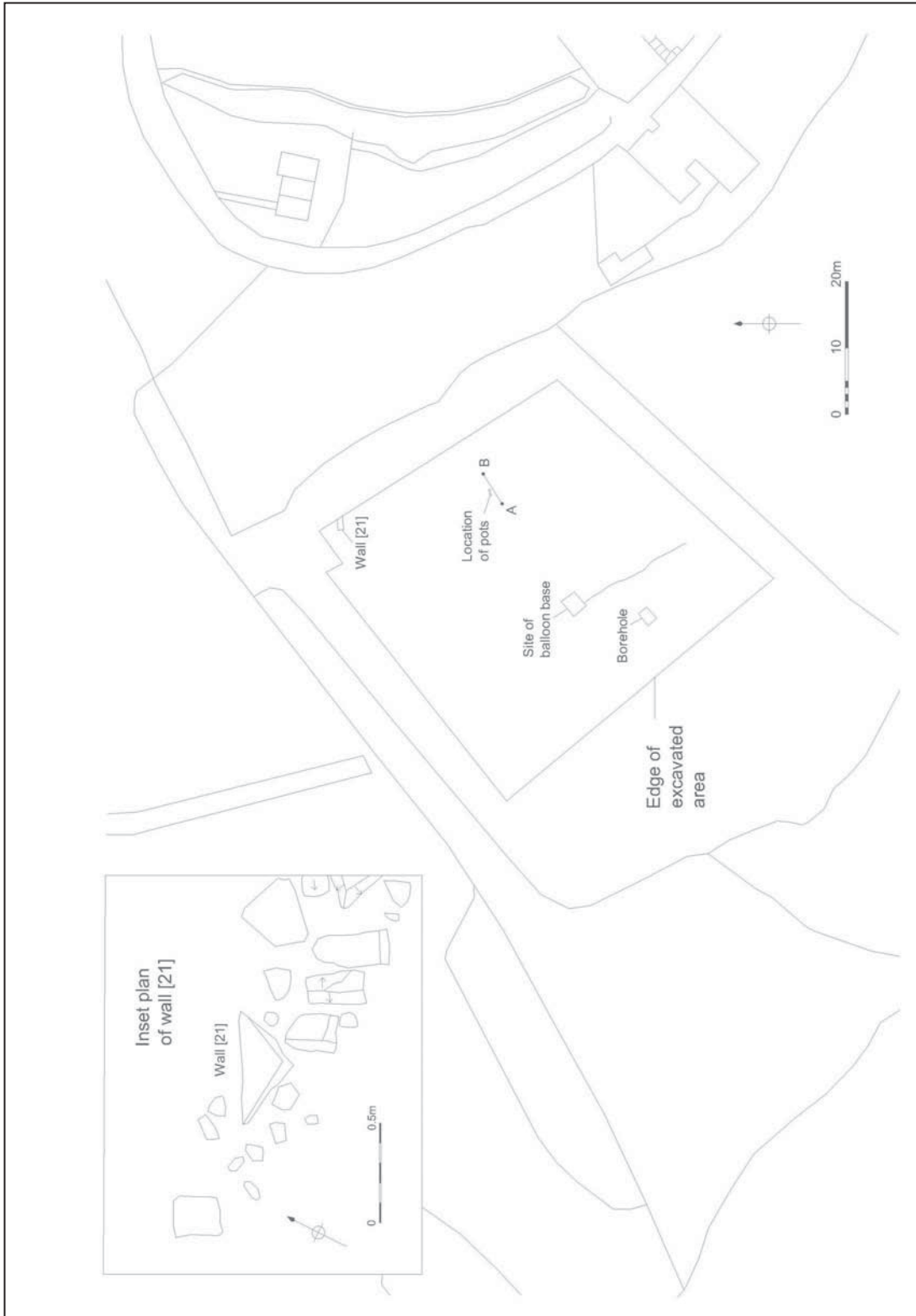


Fig 5 *St Agnes contractor's compound. Ordnance Survey digital mapping showing the site and its environs (2003). Inset, possible wall footings of late 19<sup>th</sup> century farm building [21] (This map is based upon Ordnance Survey material with the permission of the Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office © Crown Copyright. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown Copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings. CCC Licence No. 1000 19590 2006)*

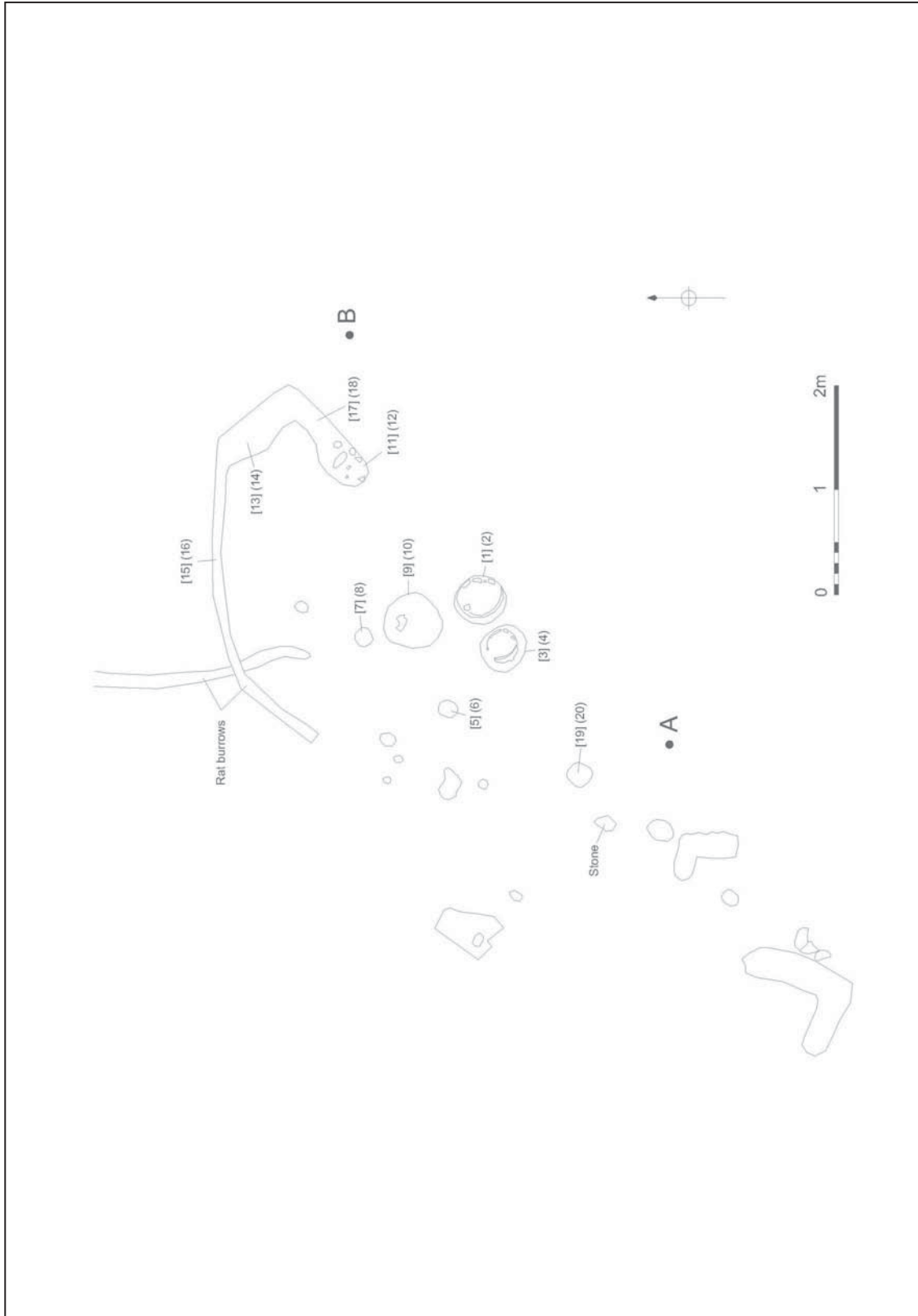


Fig 6 St Agnes contractor's compound, plan of features in vicinity of the Bronze Age urns, natural features are unlabelled (HES)



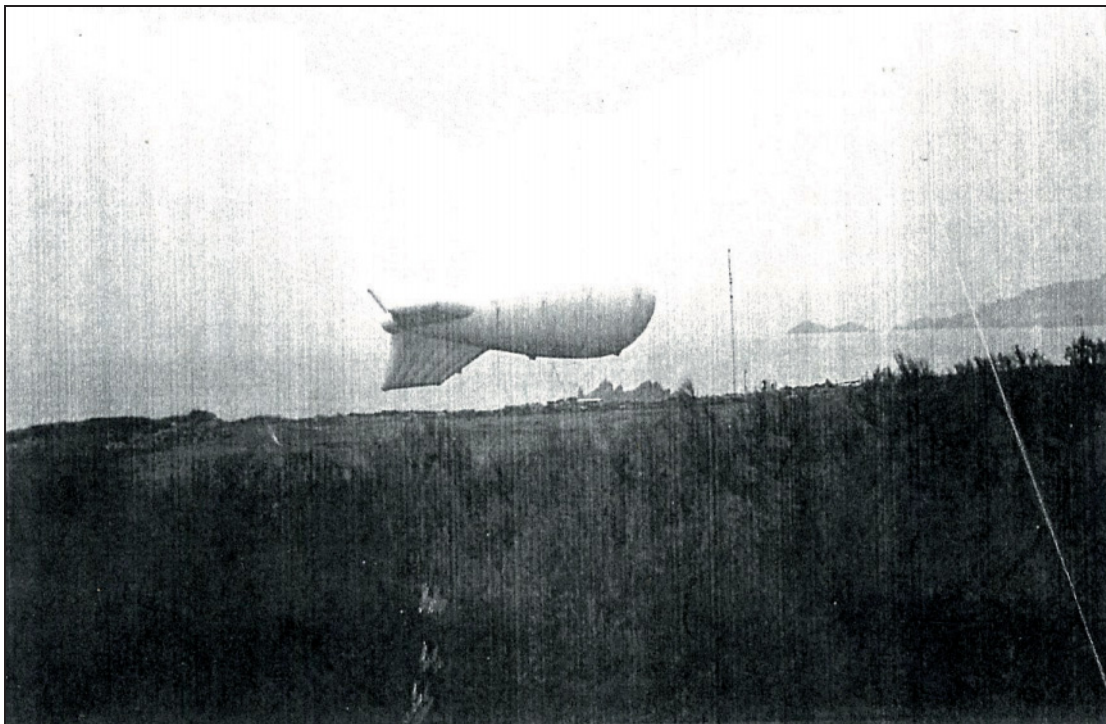
*Fig 7 Looking south from the carn to the compound site and Higher Town Hill (photo: HES)*



*Fig 8 Carl Thorpe excavating the urns (photo: HES)*



*Fig 9 Urn A (left) and Urn B after excavation of their contents, showing the fragments of smaller vessels nested inside (photo: Laura Ratcliffe, Royal Cornwall Museum)*



*Fig 10 Meteorological balloon, St Agnes, December 1987 (photo courtesy of Natalie Legg)*



*Fig 11 Church Quay, Bryher prior to works commencing, April 2007 (photo: Katharine Sawyer)*



*Fig 21 Excavations alongside Church Quay, April 2007 (photo: Katharine Sawyer)*



*Fig 13 Anneka's Quay, Bryher, before commencement of works (photo: Edmund Nuttall Ltd)*



*Fig 14 Test pit adjacent to Anneka's Quay, Bryher, July 2007 (photo: Katharine Sawyer)*



*Fig 15 Porth Conger Quay, St Agnes before commencement of works, June 2007 (photo: HES)*



*Fig 16 Porth Conger Quay, St Agnes during refurbishment work, September 2007 (photo: HES)*



Fig 17 Higher Town Quay, St Martin's before commencement of works, September 2007 (photo: HES)



Fig 18 Higher Town Quay, St Martin's during watching brief, November 2007 (photo: HES)