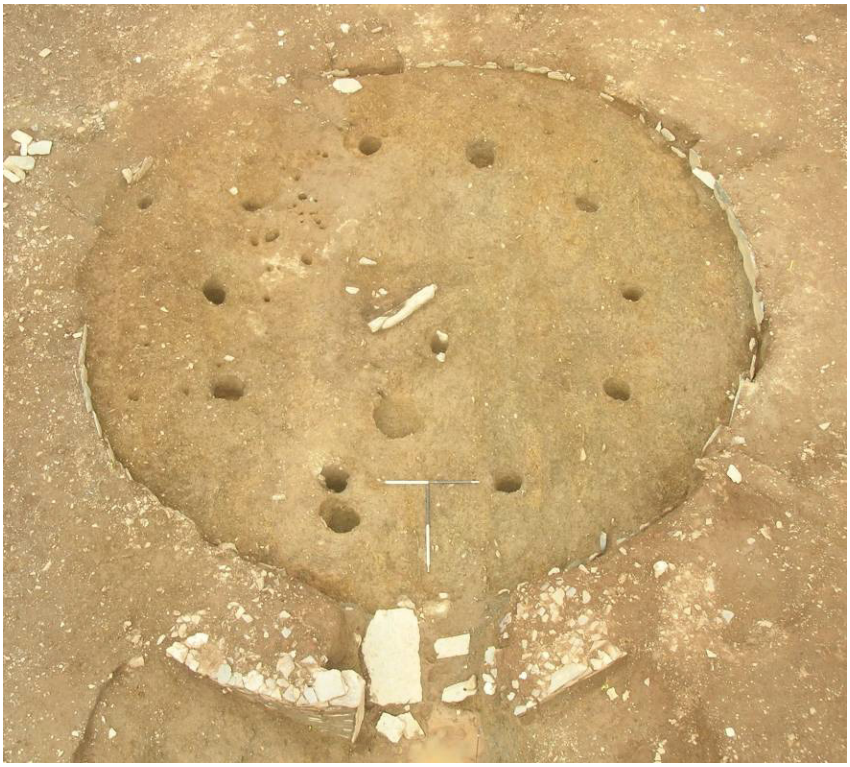
Report No: 2011R060

North Cornwall Sewage Treatment Works, Trevalga, North Cornwall

Excavation of a Late Bronze Age Roundhouse:

Archive Report



Historic Environment Projects

North Cornwall Sewage Treatment Works, Trevalga, North Cornwall

Excavation of a Late Bronze Age Roundhouse: Archive Report

Client	**South West Water**
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Acknowledgements

This project was commissioned by South West Water and carried out by Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council.

The Project Manager was Andy Jones.

The excavation team comprised James Gossip (Project Officer), Tim Carter, Fiona Fleming, Andy Jones, Stuart Randall, Francis Shepherd, Helen Thomas and Carl Thorpe.

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

Freedom of Information Act

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

Historic Environment, Cornwall Council is a Registered Organisation with the Institute for Archaeologists

Cover illustration

Overhead view of the excavated roundhouse

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Abbreviations

HBSMR	Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly Historic Buildings and Monuments Record
HE	Historic Environment, Cornwall Council
NGR	National Grid Reference
OS	Ordnance Survey
STW	Sewage Treatment Works

1 Summary

During June 2009 archaeological monitoring was undertaken by Historic Environment Projects, Cornwall Council in advance of the construction of a Sewage Treatment Works on the route of the North Cornwall STW pipeline between Boscastle and Tintagel. Topsoil stripping in a field to the south-west of Trevalga, near Boscastle, revealed the remains of a well-preserved circular structure cut into the hillslope, thought to be a roundhouse of Late Bronze Age date (*c* 1100 – 800 cal BC). Excavation revealed that the roundhouse is approximately 8.5m in diameter. A number of artefacts were recovered from the excavation including a rare triangular stone knife/razor mould.

2 Introduction

2.1 Project background

In June 2009 Historic Environment Projects (HE Projects) produced a project design for the archaeological excavation of a roundhouse which was discovered along the North Cornwall (Boscastle/Bossiney/Tintagel) Sewage Treatment Scheme (Jones 2009; Appendix I) at Trevalga, near Tintagel (Fig 1). The project was commissioned by South West Water and guided by Phil Markham (Historic Environment Advice Officer, Cornwall Council) who made recommendations on the requirements for archaeological recording. The site of the proposed STW and pipeline had previously been the subject of an archaeological assessment by HE Projects (Parkes 2008).

The roundhouse was discovered during monitoring of topsoil stripping in advance of construction of a sewage treatment works. Since the structure was situated in an area due to be excavated for the installation of a large subterranean chamber it was recommended that in order to mitigate destruction of archaeological deposits they should be excavated and recorded in their entirety.

The excavation took place during June and July 2009. During the course of the excavations there was the opportunity for local people and school children to visit the site. The results of other archaeological recording along the route of the pipeline will appear in a separate archive report (Thorpe forthcoming).

The excavation was funded by South West Water.

2.2 Aims

The purpose of the archaeological excavation was to determine the character and significance of the below ground archaeology. The aims of the excavation were:

2.2.1

- To accurately locate the roundhouse and tie it into the Ordnance Survey mapping.
- To identify and describe the archaeological features.
- To record in detail the stratigraphical relationships.
- To recover artefacts from all archaeological deposits and features.
- To retrieve environmental and scientific dating evidence from all archaeological deposits and features.
- To increase our understanding of Bronze Age settlement in north Cornwall.
- To record archaeological features in such a way to enable specialist analysis, interpretation, reconstruction and ultimately publication in an appropriate academic journal.
- To disseminate the results of the excavation appropriately.

2.2.2 Research Objectives

The primary objective was to provide evidence for the character, potential and significance of the archaeological resource in an area of North Cornwall.

2.2.3 Objectives of this report

This report provides an archive summary in order to aid specialists in assessment and analysis of datasets collected during fieldwork.

The report includes a selection of key site drawings which will assist specialists in understanding the phasing and layout of the site.

This report sets out recommendations for assessment, analysis and publication.

2.3 Methods

2.3.1 Fieldwork

The roundhouse was stratigraphically excavated by hand and in four quadrants leaving eight recordable sections. All deposits were recorded in accordance with Historic Environment guidelines and in accordance with the Institute for Archaeologists' Standards and Code of Conduct (see below). Plans were drawn of each stratigraphically important level including the surface remains immediately following clean-up after topsoil stripping, possible surviving floor deposits and basal deposits including postholes cut through the base of the roundhouse. Section drawings were made of each section to record the stratigraphic make-up within the roundhouse structure.

Adjacent areas surrounding the roundhouse were also cleaned and features within them excavated concurrently with the excavation of the roundhouse.

Allocation of numbers

- The topsoil was stripped to the level of the archaeology (the uppermost exposed sections of the roundhouse) by mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket, and then hand cleaned.
- Context numbers 100-211 were allocated for the excavation of the roundhouse. Deposits outside the area of the roundhouse were numbered 2000-2004 and 3000-3003. These have been interpreted as natural features.
- Numbers 501-527 were allocated to environmental samples.
- Numbers D1-61 were allocated to drawings in the graphic index.
- Numbers 1-38 were allocated to small finds.
- Structural elements are highlighted in bold, feature cuts in [ ] brackets and deposits in ( ) brackets. Structure numbers appear in bold.

Recording - general

- The topsoil was stripped to the level of the archaeology (the uppermost exposed sections of the roundhouse) by mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless bucket, and then hand cleaned.
- An excavation grid was established and surveyed by Total Station EDM. The positions of the grid were then copied onto a scaled base map (linked to the National Grid).
- Site drawings (plans and sections) were made by pencil (4H) on drafting film; all drawings include standard information: site details, personnel, date, scale, north-point.
- All features and finds were accurately located at an appropriate scale.
- All archaeological contexts were described to a standard format linked to a continuous numbering sequence.
- Photography: scaled monochrome photography was used as the archive standard record medium supported by digital photography for illustrative and presentation purposes.

2.3.2 Collection and processing of finds

All finds in significant stratified contexts within the roundhouse were plotted in three dimensions on a scaled base plan and described. Some post-1800 material was collected in order to illustrate the density of background scatter within the ploughsoil. Finds work was carried out to accepted professional standards and adhere to Institute for Archaeologists *Guidelines for Finds Work*.

In addition to the exposed natural subsoil and features all spoil heaps were inspected for unstratified artefacts.

All retained finds will be deposited in the Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro under the accession number: TRURI: 2009.36

2.3.3 Environmental Sampling

Soil samples were taken from those features and layers which were considered to have the greatest potential for palaeoenvironmental analysis. For soil sample details see Section 7.2. Sample numbers were taken from a unique index of numbers and a sample description entered onto a *pro forma* sample record sheet.

A total of twenty six sample numbers (Sample numbers <501> - <527>) were assigned and totalled approximately 630 litres. This included 160 litre bulk sample from layer (107) and 100% samples of postholes. All samples were sieved by flotation by Francis Shepherd (HE) in January 2011. The residues were collected on a 500 micron mesh and the floats on a 250 micron mesh. Floats and coarse residues were inspected for artefacts and the residues scanned with a magnet for evidence of hammer-scale. Once inspected, coarse residues were discarded. Unfortunately some samples had to be discarded as tubs had become damaged during storage.

2.3.4 Archiving

An ordered and cross-referenced site archive has been produced. Site plans, photographs and other records have been completed and indexed, and retrieved artefacts have been washed and marked (where appropriate) and catalogued.

2.3.5 Archive Report

Copies of this report will be distributed to the Client, the Historic Environment library and the local and main archaeological record libraries. Copies will be made available to specialists undertaking work on assessment and analysis of the site archive. A PDF copy of the report has been produced.

3 Location and setting

The site lies between the villages of Boscastle and Tintagel on the north coast of east Cornwall, a short distance to the west of the hamlet of Trevalga at NGR SX 0804389712 (Fig 1). Topographically the site slopes gently to the north-west towards the high rocky cliffs of the coast 0.8km away. To the south the land rises towards inland rolling hills.

3.1 Historic Landscape Character

An assessment of Cornwall's historic landscape character (HLC) (Cornwall County Council 1996) defines the area as one comprising Medieval Farmland, comprising farming settlements documented before the 17th AD and irregular field patterns with either medieval or prehistoric origins (Parkes 2008). Networks of winding lanes and roads connect farming settlements whose layouts are typically irregular, often clearly shrunken from hamlets (*ibid*). Much of the land has been enclosed and farmed since the Middle Bronze Age (*c* 1500 BC) and re-organised in the later medieval period into extensive 'strip' field systems (*ibid*). Whilst an excellent example of Medieval Farmland of '*unenclosed strips*' survives at Forrabury Common to the east, much of the farming landscape was modified by enclosure in the later medieval and post-medieval periods, transforming the anciently enclosed land, leaving fields with sinuous sides and whose

boundaries comprise substantial stock proof hedges and walls. This pattern of unenclosed medieval fields enclosed as strips makes up the farming landscape around Trevalga visible today.

3.2 Geology

The bedrock of the area is primarily the slate of the Upper Carboniferous Crackington Formation (Bristow 1996, 6; Geological Survey of Britain Sheet EW 335-336, 2005). Soil cover consists of shallow stony loams over stony weathered clay.

3.3 Identified archaeological sites

There were no known archaeological sites identified within the development area although the Cornwall Historic Buildings Sites and Monuments Record (HBSMR), records a number of prehistoric sites in the vicinity. These include a possible barrow group north of Bossiney (HBSMR number 23111) and a late prehistoric round at Bossiney (23088). There is a Romano-British milestone at Trethevey to the west (HBSMR number 23107) and a medieval cross at Trevalga churchyard to the east (HBSMR number 701).

4 Archaeological results

4.1 Summary

The roundhouse comprised a circular structure cut into the sloping natural subsoil (cut [146]) within which stone walling had been built. The structure had filled with silty clay deposits, which appeared to have formed rapidly. The inside face of the cut had been lined with orthostatic slate slabs set against the cut along its southern edge and against the cut and set into the ground along the north-eastern and eastern edges. Along the north western and parts of the western sides orthostatic walling was set vertically into the ground. Less stone was present on the western (downslope) side of the roundhouse were the cut was less pronounced due to the profile of the slope. Unusually an entrance was identified on the upslope side of the roundhouse rather than facing downslope and out to sea. Outside the entrance the natural subsoil had been quarried away to form an entrance hollow, where there was evidence on the western side of steps cut into the subsoil leading down to the entrance. Walls on both sides of the entrance comprised *in situ* natural subsoil which had been faced with coursed stonework revetment (walls **155** and **156**).

Internal features comprised a ring of postholes, an almost central posthole, hearth and areas of clay flooring. Additional postholes and a stone/beam-slot were recorded in the entrance. Post-occupation deposits included collapse of stone entrance walling and internal kerb/walling and subsequent silty clay hillwash deposits (collluvium).

The internal diameter of the structure measured 8.5m with walling surviving to a height of 0.7m (internal wall face of **102**) to 0.95 (external face of entrance walling **155**).

All features were cut into the natural clay subsoil.

4.2 The stone walling and cut terrace (Figs 3, 4 and 5)

The internal wall face of the roundhouse comprised a series of adjacent or slightly overlapping slate orthostats **102** set upright against and into a cut [146] in the natural subsoil forming the terrace into which the house had been built.

These were particularly well preserved around the north, eastern and southern arcs of the roundhouse cut where they survived up to 0.7m high. Cut [146], the main circular cut of the roundhouse included a slot up to 0.2m deep and 0.3m wide at the base of visible section of wall into which the orthostatic slabs were set. This had been backfilled around the slabs with deposit (147), a redeposited natural silty clay. Total excavation of the roundhouse revealed the entirety of [146] to be a vertical cut approximately 8.5m

in diameter terraced into the gradual slope and up to 0.9m deep to the base of the wall 'slot'.

On the north-western side of the roundhouse stones had been set vertically into the ground where there was less of a cut to line due to the nature of the slope. Stone walling was absent from parts of the western side of the roundhouse.

Areas of stone walling **155** and **156** were recorded either side of the entrance, constructed as facing to the wall of natural subsoil **106**. This was created by the removal of material to the north (the interior of the roundhouse) and the south (the entrance hollow), and then faced with stone **155** and **156**.

Walling 155 on the west side of the entrance comprised horizontally coursed local slates and occasional quartzite pieces. The material between and behind the slate was a mid brown silty clay (203), presumably used for bonding/bedding the stones. Small finds 35 and 36, a hammerstone and pot sherd, were found within this deposit. The wall was 23 courses high at its highest surviving point (0.95m high at its eastern end). The walling sloped up to the west as it abutted the cut in the natural subsoil. A single large stone stood upright (1m in length) at the eastern end of the wall in a slot [206], probably used as a jambstone.

Wall 156 on the east side of the entrance was less extensive but constructed from the same local slates as 155 and with similar coursing. The wall survived to a maximum height of 0.25m and 1.35m in length, laid on top of the cut into natural subsoil and facing natural subsoil 'wall' 106. There was evidence for collapse of stone from its western end into the entrance area, recorded as collapse (126). This area of collapsed stone and clay contained five small finds, numbers 18-22 (see Thorpe below).

4.3 The postholes (Fig 2 and cover photo)

Within the structure and sealed by clay layer (107) was a circular formation of eleven postholes offset a distance of 1.2m from the stone walling **102**. The postholes spaced between 1.2m and 1.6m apart, the largest gap being between [134] and [136] facing the entrance. The exception was posthole [157], set just to the south of [136], itself part of the main post ring. Postholes ranged between 0.3m and 0.4m in diameter and up to 0.65m in depth, and had well-preserved steep or vertical sides and flat bases. Stone packing was recorded in some of the postholes.

Fills were typically rather homogenous silty clays suggesting gradual infilling after removal or rotting of posts.

Postholes are described below in clockwise order from the west side of the entrance.

Posthole [157] was a circular cut with vertical sides and a flat base, slightly offset to the south of the main post-ring close to [136]. It measured 0.4m in diameter and 0.55m deep and was filled by a single deposit (158) comprising greyish brown silty clay with very few coarse inclusions. Small finds 31 and 32, a loomweight and saddle quern fragment were recovered from the fill.

Immediately to the north was posthole [136], part of the central post-ring. This had vertical sides and a flat base measuring 0.3m in diameter and 0.45m deep, filled by (137) a greyish brown silty clay with very few coarse inclusions.

Posthole [119] had vertical sides and a slightly concave base and was cut into a raised area of natural subsoil on the western side of the roundhouse structure. The posthole was slightly oval, measuring 0.45m long, 0.38m wide and 0.65m deep. Packing stones appeared to be *in situ* on the north-eastern side of the cut. Fill (120) comprised a greyish brown silty clay.

Posthole [121] was an oval cut with vertical sides and a flat base measuring 0.45m long, 0.35m wide and 0.65m deep. The fill (122) was greyish brown silty clay with collapsed packing stones evident on the sides and base of the cut.

Posthole [197] had vertical sides and a flat base measuring 0.3m in diameter and 0.35m deep. Fill (198) comprised mid brown silty clay.

Posthole [132] had vertical sides and a flat base measuring 0.36m in diameter and 0.45m deep. Fill (133) comprised mid brown silty clay.

Posthole [130] had vertical sides and a flat base measuring 0.4m in diameter and 0.6m deep. Fill (131) comprised friable greyish brown silty clay.

Posthole [111] was slightly oval, measuring 0.33m long and 0.25m wide, 0.4m deep. Sides were mostly vertical with a slightly angled western edge and the base was flat. Fill (200) comprised a mid greyish brown firm clay.

Posthole [114] had a diameter of 0.3m and depth of 0.25m, with vertical sides and a flat base. The lower sides of the cut and base were lined with flat slate stones (124) above which was (116) (0.1m deep), a reddish brown silty clay. Above this was (115), a loose, friable brown silty clay, 0.1m deep.

Posthole [110] had a diameter of 0.35m and a depth of 0.22m with steep, almost vertical sides and a flat base. A lower fill comprised a yellowish brown silty clay (118) above which was (117), a firm mid greyish brown clay with occasional charcoal flecks, possibly the position of a post rotted *in situ* (post-pipe).

Posthole [134] was circular, 0.3m in diameter with a depth of 0.47m. It had vertical sides and a flat base and was filled by (135), comprising mid greyish brown silty clay with very few coarse inclusions.

4.4 Other internal features (Fig 2)

In the centre of the roundhouse was a posthole [154], 0.3m in diameter and 0.35m deep, with steep sides and a flat base. Stone packing lined the feature on its north and south sides. Fill (153) was mid brown clayish silt with very occasional charcoal flecks. Adjacent to the north-west was the cut of a shallow, oval hearth [201], 0.8m long, 0.7m wide and 0.1m deep. The north-western edge of the feature was defined by a long sub-rectangular piece of granite embedded in the natural subsoil. Fill (202) contained large quantities of degraded charcoal concentrated mainly against this stone. The deposit colour was a mottled yellowish or dark greyish brown silty clay. A deposit of possible decayed ash was mixed with this material. Just south of posthole [154] was posthole or pit [160], a concave cut 0.3m deep and 0.4m in diameter with a stone lining in brown clayish silt fill (159).

A largely linear array of stakeholes ([173]-[196]) was clustered in the north-western quadrant (Quadrant 3), cut into the subsoil between postholes [197] and [130] over an area approximately 2.5m long and 0.5m wide, mostly around posthole [132]. Stakeholes were similar in size and shape, typically between 0.06m and 0.08m in diameter and 0.05m to 0.08m deep though some were more sizeable up to 0.2m in diameter and 0.17m deep. A 0.05m – 0.1m thick compacted layer of gritty yellow or reddish clay (113) containing moderate small (<0.05m across) and occasionally slightly larger (>0.05m across) slatey stones was recorded above the natural subsoil base of the roundhouse, surviving particularly well around the hearth [201] and in quadrants 1 and 4. This deposit was distinct enough from the natural subsoil below it and may represent a surviving area of clay floor. Postholes were cut through this material (or it as laid around *in situ* posts once erected).

4.5 The entrance features (Figs 2 and 3)

Outside to the south and south-east of the entrance was a cut out area [211] quarried from the natural subsoil to form the access for the roundhouse, measuring a maximum of 5m long (NNW-SSE) and 4.5m wide (NNE-SSW). At least four rough steps [152] survived cut into the south-western side of the feature whilst its southern edge comprised a concave slope up to modern ground level. The eastern edge was a steep slope. The depth between subsoil ground level and the base of the cut was approximately 1m, whilst the steps were each approximately 0.25m high and 1.7m

long, the edges sloping to a flat area measuring 2m long and 1.6m wide immediately outside and level with the entrance.

Four postholes and a linear slot were within the entrance. Postholes [164] and [166] flanked the inside of the entrance and [170], [172] on opposite sides of the entrance adjacent to walling [155] and [156].

Posthole [164] was 0.35m in diameter and 0.3m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. Fill (163) comprised soft reddish brown clayish silt with frequent small stones but no evident packing. The posthole was sealed by stone which was part of the collapse of wall **155**. Situated 0.9m to the east was posthole [166], 0.35m in diameter and 0.4m deep with vertical sides and a flat base. Fill (165) was a sticky reddish brown clayish silt with frequent small stones.

The two postholes were connected by [168], a linear, rectangular cut into the natural subsoil 0.9m long, 0.4m wide and 0.1m deep. Fill (167) comprised sticky reddish brown clayish silt with frequent small stones. Several large stones were embedded into the top of this deposit, probably from the collapse of **155** and **156**. The cut may have represented a beam-slot. A worked stone, possibly a stone muller (small find 34) was recovered from the top of the fill (Thorpe below).

Posthole [170] inside the entrance on the western side was vertical sided with a flat base and stone packing visible on its eastern edge, measuring 0.25m diameter and 0.3m deep. Fill (169) comprised soft reddish brown clayish silt. On the opposite side of the entrance was posthole [172] with vertical sides and a flat base, 0.25m diameter and 0.3m deep with stone packing against its western edge. Both [170] and [164] were sealed by a large flat slab thought to have been part of the collapse of wall **155**.

A posthole [204] was cut into natural subsoil on the southern end of the third step up from the base of the cut out area to the south of the entrance. This vertically sided flat bottomed posthole was 0.2m in diameter and 0.25m deep, filled by (205), a very soft, mid brown clayish silt.

4.6 Post-occupation deposits (Fig 5)

Deposits within the interior of roundhouse 102 were mostly associated with post occupation processes. The following section describes the stratigraphy within roundhouse from top to bottom (see Fig 5).

Below the topsoil (100), layers (101) (0.1m thick) and (103) (0.2m thick) filled the upper part of roundhouse and the area to the south of its entrance (211). The deposits were firm silty clays and similar in colour, a dark greyish brown with lower deposit (103) become lighter in colour with depth. Deposit (103) contained small finds 1-4, pottery sherds and pebbles. Both deposits contained only small amounts of naturally derived stone (weathered slate fragments). The lower part of the section was mostly filled by (107). Deposit (107) was a firm, mottled grey silty clay intermixed with mid brown silty clay which varied in depth from 0.35m to 0.45m and again covered the entire interior of the structure and the entrance area sealing areas of collapse and all postholes. It is thought that this deposit accumulated as a result of 'sheetwash' (illuvium), possibly following a very heavy rain storm. Sixteen small finds (numbers 5-11, 13-17, 26-28, 30 and 33), including pottery sherds, worked flint and a stone mould for a hogs backed knife/razor (with a second possible chisel mould on one side of it, see Thorpe below) were found within (107). Small find 28 was a piece of slate with three holes bored into it, found in the entrance to the roundhouse. Areas of collapse (109) in quadrant 4 and rubble within the entrance and in entrance hollow [211] were sealed within the matrix of deposit (107). This deposit and associated collapse, particularly of walling 155 and 156 represents a process occurring after the rotting or removal of posts. A thin clay layer (143)/(144), between (107) and floor (113) contained several sherds of pottery (small find numbers 23-25 and 29).

4.7 Outside the roundhouse

Six metres to the north-west of the roundhouse was 138, a low stone wall or revetment (Fig 6) comprising a single course of flat local slate stones except in two places along its length where two courses survived. The section of walling stood 0.1m high, 4.2m long and approximately 0.8m deep. The largest stone measured 0.6m by 0.4m and 0.5m thick and the smallest 0.2m by 0.8m and 0.2m thick. The stones were laid with flat edges forming a slightly convex face facing north-west and bedded onto a disturbed natural subsoil layer (140) 0.05m deep. A deposit (139) of reddish brown silty clay 0.06m deep was accumulated against the face of the wall on its north-western side. A linear pit [141] was situated just to the north and west of wall 138, cut into the natural subsoil and aligned along the same south-west/north-east axis. The pit had steep, moderately concave sides and a flat base, measuring 2m long, 0.7m wide and 0.35m deep. The very stony fill (142) was a yellowish brown friable clayish silt containing large quantities of angular and sub-angular stone including slates and quartzites measuring up to 0.3m square. A single large stone measuring 0.25m by 0.25m and 0.5m thick was laid flat on the base of the cut. The walling was undated and its relationship to the roundhouse could not be established.

Other features exposed during topsoil stripping included 2001 and 3002, initially recorded as cists but following excavation were found to be of natural geological origin.

5 Conclusions/discussion

5.1 Summary

A Bronze Age roundhouse, probably dating to between *c* 1100 and 800 cal BC was uncovered on a north facing hill-slope. It had been terraced into the side of the hill with the edge of the house lined with vertically set slabs and the entrance defined by well-preserved dry-stone walling, forming an internal diameter of approximately 8.5m. In keeping with many prehistoric roundhouses the entrance faced towards the south. Unusually this meant that the doorway faced uphill and opened out into a cut out area which had been excavated into the natural subsoil. Access into this area appears to have been via coarse steps cut into the subsoil.

The interior of the roundhouse had become infilled with a thick layer of silty clay which had probably accumulated rapidly in a single event, probably as a result of flooding from the hillslope above. Beneath the clay was a ring of deeply cut postholes, which would have held the timbers that supported the roof. Traces of an internal central hearth were also recorded. A baked clay floor surface survived in the area of the hearth. Comparatively few artefacts were recovered from the site although they did include a small assemblage of plain pottery and a particularly fine mould stone for a copper alloy knife/razor. The comparanda for mould stone suggests that the roundhouse dates to the final part of the Bronze Age, and it is hoped that a programme of radiocarbon dating will verify this.

6 Recommendations for assessment, analysis and publication

6.1 Assessment of the archive

6.1.1 Assessment of stratigraphic, artefactual and palaeoenvironmental data

This report has provided a preliminary assessment of the stratigraphic and structural sequences discovered at the Trevalga roundhouse. The phasing and structural history of the site requires confirmation by detailed study of the finds (pottery, worked stone, flint) alongside targeted scientific dating of key contexts. Once this has been carried out

a summary for publication on the structure and stratigraphy of the site can be produced for publication.

Samples for palaeoenvironmental data (seeds, charcoal, bones and soils) were recovered during the evaluation and mitigation stages. Assessment of the plant macrofossils and charcoal will provide guidance for further analysis and help identify material suitable for scientific dating.

6.2 Analysis

6.2.1 Analysis of site stratigraphy and overall chronological narratives

Careful analysis of the written and drawn record will assist stratigraphic reconstruction of site processes. This will establish site chronology, helping to determine the processes of site activity and changing use over time. Comparisons will be possible with similar site types both locally and regionally.

6.2.2 Analysis of the artefacts

If preliminary dating of the pottery is correct and the roundhouse is Late Bronze Age in date, structures of this date are rare in Cornwall and this particular building type unique. The study of form and material will therefore form an important aspect of post-excavation analysis in conjunction with the radiocarbon dating of residues on pottery (if present) and will allow comparison with material excavated at other sites of similar date in Cornwall and beyond. It will also help to establish ideas of function, assisting the development of a site narrative and an accurate chronology.

6.2.3 Analysis of the palaeoenvironmental data

Analysis of plant macrofossil remains and charcoal will contribute to an understanding of the local environment and economy during the later prehistoric period.

6.2.4 Scientific dating programme

Material suitable for radiocarbon dating (for example, charcoal and residues on ceramics) is available. From this information it should be possible to confirm and define distinctive chronological phases of activity.

6.2.5 Publication

On completion of analysis a synthesis of the results of the excavations will be submitted for publication in the County Archaeological Journal, *Cornish Archaeology*.

7 Inventories

7.1 Context List

Context	Type	Description	Cut	Above	Below	Quad-rant	Plan	Section	sample	Small find	Depth	Dimensions/ diameter
100	L	Topsoil covering site		101					520		0.25m - 0.35m	/
101	D	Uppermost fill of structure	146		100	All	1, 5, 6, 12	24, 36, 39	501		0.03m	8.5m diam
102	S	Structure – orthostatic circular wall	146	146	101		1, 5, 6, 11, 12, 15, 16, 41, 42	46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 52			0.7m, 0.9m to base of orthostat 'slot'	8.5m diam
103	L	Fill below (101), greyish brown, firm, silty clay, occasional small stones			101	All	5,6	36, 39	503	1, 2, 3, 4	0.2m	8.5m
104	L	Stone rubble below (101). Slate slabs up to 0.4m across and 0.05m thick showing in NW quadrant of roundhouse. Paving or collapse		107, 109	101, 103	3	5,6, 16				0.2m	
105	S	Roundhouse structure number	146				1, 2,					8.5m diam
106	S	Rubble at back of roundhouse, uphill southern side quadrants, close to wall 102. Spread derived from collapse of wall, within matrix of clay (107)	146	107	101	1, 4	11, 41				0.2m	1m x 3m
107	L	Deposit below (103), mottled grey clay and mid brown silty clay, firm, occasional small stones and charcoal flecks. Filling most of interior of structure 105 including entrance 211.	146	111	103		11, 12, 15, 16	12, 24, 36, 39	504, 514, 515	5, 8, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 27	0.35m-0.45m	8.5m
108	L	Natural or redeposited natural in quadrants 2 and 3 against wall 106	146		103	2, 3	11,12, 26	36?			0.1m	3m x 0.5m
109	D	Spread of stones within (107) below (104), Q3. Up to 0.05m thick and 0.2m-0.4m across.	146		104	3	12, 15,16				0.1m	1.5m x 1m
110	C	Posthole filled by (118), Q3. Oval plan, steep sides, concave base. Fills indicate post decayed *in situ*.		113	118	4		17, 21, 29			0.22m	0.39m x 0.32m

Context	Type	Description	Cut	Above	Below	Quad-rant	Plan	Section	sample	Small find	Depth	Dimensions/ diameter
111	C	Cut of posthole, filled by (210), vertical sides, slight slope on western edge, flat base.		113	210		41	18			0.22m	0.39m x 0.32m
112	D	Packing material in front of kerb. Mid yellowish brown silty clay, friable, occ small slatey stone	146		107						0.2m	?
113	L	Natural. Floor of roundhouse where surface worn away?	146				26	24, 36, 39	513	17	0.05m - 0.1m	*c* 3m x 1.5m
114	C	Posthole with stone lining Q4. circular with vertical sides and a flat base, filled by (115), (116)		113		4	19, 41	20, 28			0.22m	0.3m diam
115	D	Upper fill of posthole [114], mid brown friable silty clay		116	107	4	19, 41	20	505		0.10m	0.3m diam
116	D	Lower fill of posthole [114], reddish grey friable silty clay		124	115	4	19, 41	20	506		0.10m	0.3m diam
117	D	Upper fill of posthole [110], mid grey firm silty clay, occ small charcoal flecks. Possible post-pipe in [110]	110	118	107	4		17			0.22m	0.39m x 0.32m
118	D	Lower fill of posthole [110], mid yellowish brown friable clayish silt (redeposited natural) with small angular stones – could be post fill around (117)	110	110	117	4		17			0.22m	0.39m x 0.32m
119	C	Posthole, oval plan, near vertical sides and slightly concave base. Cut into slope between the raised area/platform at the edge of the house (in the SW, against 102) and the level floor in the centre.		113	120	2	22	23, 25			0.63m	0.45 m x 0.38m
120	D	Fill of posthole [119], mid greyish brown soft clayish silt, occ small stones and packing stones on NE side of cut, quartz near base of cut	119	119	107		22	23	507		0.63m	0.45m x 0.38m
121	C	Posthole NW of [119], oval, near vertical sides and slightly concave base		113	122		22	27			0.64m	0.46m x 0.36m
122	D	Fill of posthole [121], mid greyish brown soft silt, frequent slate inclusions and occ larger stones probably as packing. Disturbed by burrowing?	121	121				27		12	0.64m	0.46m x 0.36m
123	D	Basal fill of [114] below slate lining	114	114	124			20	512		0.05m	0.3m diam
124	D	Slate lining in [114], slates 10-0.2m	114	123	116	4	19	20			0.05m	0.3m diam
125	C	Cut associated with [114] /same as?		113		4		28			0.46m	0.3m diam
126	D	paving or collapsed stone in entrance				1	34			18, 19, 20, 21, 22	0.1m	*c* 2m x 1m

Context	Type	Description	Cut	Above	Below	Quad-rant	Plan	Section	sample	Small find	Depth	Dimensions/ diameter
127	D	Stakehole, filled by mid brown soft clayish silt and small charcoal flecks, oval with steep tapered sides and a concave base. Adjacent to posthole [119]		113	107	2					0.08m	0.07m diam
128	D	Stakehole, filled by mid brown soft clayish silt and small charcoal flecks, oval with steep tapered sides and a concave base. Angled 45° Adjacent to posthole [121].		113	107	2					0.07m	0.07m diam
129	C	Possible stakehole, filled by mid yellowish grey friable silty clay and small slate stones, and charcoal flecks, circular with steep tapered sides and a concave base.		113	107	4			509		0.1m	0.08m
130	C	Posthole, circular with near vertical sides, flat base. Sharp break of slope at base, sloping from NW to SE at surface. Part of post ring		113	131	3	41	30			0.58m	0.4m diam
131	D	Fill of posthole [130]	130	130	107	3		30	508		0.58m	0.4m diam
132	C	Posthole, circular, near vertical sides and flat base, sharp break of slope at base. Part of post ring.		113	133	3	42	31			0.45m	0.36m diam
133	D	Fill of posthole [132], mid reddish brown soft silty clay	132	132	107	3	42	31	509		0.45m	0.36m diam
134	C	Posthole, circular, vertical sides and a flat base, sharp break of slope to base, part of post ring flanking entrance.		113	135	1	41	32			0.47m	0.33m diam
135	D	Fill of posthole [134]	134	134	107	1	41	32	510		0.47m	0.33m diam
136	C	Posthole, circular with vertical sides and flat base, sharp break of slope top and bottom. Part of post ring flanking entrance.		113	137	1	42	33			0.45m	0.3m diam
137	D	Fill of posthole [136], mid greyish brown clayish silt, firm with occ angular stone inclusions.	136	136	107	1	42	33	511		0.45m	0.3m diam
138	S	Stone forming outer face of wall to north of roundhouse – revetment to earth bank on NW side of stone facing? Covered by colluvial deposit (139)		140	139		37				0.07m	4.22m x 0.78m
139	D	Waterborne deposit downslope of (138) – illuvium, mid reddish brown		138							0.06m	4m x 2m
140	D	Bedding deposit below (138). Disturbed or redeposited natural, mid reddish brown silty clay			138						0.05m	4m x 0.5m
141	C	Cut of linear pit adjacent to (138), linear with rounded ends, steep concave sides and flat base.			142	/	37	35			0.35m	2m x 0.7m

Context	Type	Description	Cut	Above	Below	Quad-rant	Plan	Section	sample	Small find	Depth	Dimensions/ diameter
142	D	Stony fill of [141], mid yellowish brown clayish silt, 50% angular stone (shale/slate), measuring 0.25x0.25x0.5	141	141		/	37				0.35m	2m x 0.7m
143	D	Oxidised layer between (107) and (113)							518	24, 25	0.05m	0.8m x 1.4m
144	D	Clay layer between (107) and (113)								23	0.05m	0.8m x 1m
145	D	Layer of collapse above (107), E end S facing baulk		107							0.1m	0.8m x 0.6m
146	C	Cut of roundhouse and slot of orthostats		149			41, 42	60			0.9m, (including 0.2m deep slot)	Roundhouse 8.5m (slot 0.3m wide)
147	D	Fill of [146] packing for 102 orthostats	146	149			42	46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 52, 60			0.2m	0.3m
148	D	Clay layer between (103) and (107)		107	103	1		39				0.2m deep
149	D	Fill of slot for stones at base of [146]				1					0.2m	0.3m
150	S	Jamb? Stones set into (149)					42					
151	S	Roundhouse same as 105					41, 42, 43	46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 52,				8.5m diam
152	S	Rab-cut steps outside SE corner of roundhouse					43	EDM			Each 0.25m high	1.7m in length
153	D	Fill of posthole [154], centre of roundhouse, mid brown friable clayish silt, packing stones on edge of cut, very occ charcoal, moderate small angular stones	154	154	107		42	53			0.16m	0.3m diam
154	C	Posthole in centre of roundhouse, circular, steep sides and flat base			153		42	53, 55			0.16m	0.3 m diam
155	S	Wall to SW of entrance, forming west side of the SE facing entrance of 105 built into cut natural slope and formed an exterior face only. Horizontally bedded, roughly coursed local slates and some quartz. Bonding material was a mid brown silty clay. Stony deposit (106) was laid between 155 and the interior facing 102. 23 courses high at highest point. A near vertical jambstone formed part of the structure within the entrance. Slates 0.01 – 0.09m deep		113	106	1	42	44			0.13m – 0.93m	2 m x 0.5m

Context	Type	Description	Cut	Above	Below	Quad-rant	Plan	Section	sample	Small find	Depth	Dimensions/ diameter
156	S	Wall to NW of entrance, forming east side of the SE facing entrance of 105, built into cut natural slope and formed an exterior face only. Horizontally bedded, roughly coursed local slate, bonding material soft brown silty clay. Stony deposit was placed between 156 and 102 to form a solid wall. Six courses at maximum depth. Missing jambstone and evidence of slippage/damage on this edge. Missing stones may form part of (126).		113	106	1	41	45			0.25m	1.35 m x 0.2m
157	C	Posthole, circular, vertical sides and flat base adjacent to [136] on eastern side of entrance to 151.			158	1	42	57			0.55m	0.4m diam
158	D	Fill of posthole [157], mid greyish brown soft silty clay with frequent stony inclusions	157	157			42	57	516, 524		0.55m	0.4m diam
159	D	Fill of posthole [160] between entrance and hearth, brown clayish silt, collapsed stone lining	160	160					517		0.3m	0.4m
160	C	Posthole between entrance and hearth			159						0.3m	0.4m
161	C	Posthole to west of entrance = [164]		162		E					0.3m	0.33m diam
162	D	Fill of posthole 161 = (163)	161		161	E			519		0.3m	0.33m diam
163	D	Fill of posthole 164 = (162), mid reddish brown clayish silt, friable with frequent small angular stones, post packing in eastern side	164	164	107	E		54			0.3m	0.33m diam
164	C	Posthole to west of entrance = [161], circular, near vertical sides with slightly concave sides. Probably contemporary with [166].			163	E		54			0.3m	0.33m diam
165	D	Fill of posthole [166], mid reddish brown clayish silt, soft, slightly sticky, frequent small angular stones. Packing on SW side	166	166		E		54			0.4m	0.33m diam
166	C	Posthole in entrance, circular, vertical sides and flat base, uncertain relationship with [168], possibly contemporary with this and [164].			165	E		54			0.4m	0.33 m diam
167	D	Possible beam-slot fill of [168], mid reddish brown clayish silt, friable, frequent small stones	168		107	E		54			0.1m	0.75m x 0.4m
168	C	Possible beam-slot filled by (167), postholes [164] and [166] at either end. Linear with vertical sides and a flat base. Aligned ENE-WSW		113	167	E		54			0.1m	0.75m x 0.4m
169	D	Fill of posthole [170], west outer entrance	170	170		E		56	521		0.3m	0.25m
170	C	Posthole filled by (169), west outer entrance		113	169	E		56			0.3m	0.25m
171	D	Fill of posthole [172], posthole east side entrance	172	172		E		56	522		0.3m	0.25m
172	C	Posthole filled by (171), east side entrance		113	171	E		56			0.3m	0.25m

Context	Type	Description	Cut	Above	Below	Quad-rant	Plan	Section	sample	Small find	Depth	Dimensions/ diameter
173	C	Stakehole - part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.05m	diam 0.071m
174	C	Stakehole - part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.062m	diam 0.093m
175	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.082m	diam 0.089m
176	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.046m	diam 0.065m
177	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.42m	diam 0.065m
178	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.075m	diam 0.082m
179	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.065m	diam 0.09m
180	C	Stakehole - part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.095m	diam 0.075m
181	C	stakehole– part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.045m	diam 0.06m
182	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.085m	diam 0.085m
183	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.115m	diam 0.131m
184	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.12m	diam 0.051m
185	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.81m	diam 0.72m
186	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.075m	diam 0.065m
187	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.12m	diam 0.08m
188	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.72m	diam 0.51m
189	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.111m	diam 0.43m
190	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.82m	diam 0.64m
191	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.41m	diam 0.45m
192	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			1.72m	diam 0.21m
193	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown		113		3	42	/			1.23m	diam 12.0m

Context	Type	Description	Cut	Above	Below	Quad-rant	Plan	Section	sample	Small find	Depth	Dimensions/ diameter
		silty clay										
194	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		3	42	/			0.155m	diam 0.015m
195	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		2	42	/			0.062m	diam 0.04m
196	C	stakehole- part of group 173 – 196, mid brown silty clay		113		2	42	/			0.061m	diam 0.052m
197	C	Posthole, circular with vertical sides and a slightly concave base		113	198	3	42	59			0.34m	0.27m diam
198	D	Fill of [197], mid brown friable silty clay	197	197	107	3	42	59	525, 527		0.34m	0.27m diam
199		Void					42					
200		Void					42					
201	C	Hearth, irregular oval, gradual concave sides and flat base		113	202		42	58			0.08m	0.8m x 0.7m
202	D	Fill of hearth [201], mid yellowish brown and dark greyish brown soft clayish silt. Also degraded charcoal concentrated adjacent to large N-S stone, slotted into natural as a barrier to the fire. Stone was blackened. Ashy/silty material in top of deposit.	201	201	107		42	58	523		0.08m	0.8m x 0.7m
203	D	Matrix of structure 155							526			
204	C	Posthole in earth-cut steps					43	61			0.25m	0.2m
205	D	Fill of posthole [204]					43	61			0.25m	0.2m
206	C	Orthostat slot east side of doorway									0.2m	0.3m x 0.2m
207	D	Fill of [206], 151							151		0.2m	0.3m x 0.2m
208	C	Orthostat slot west side of doorway, 151							151		0.15m	0.4m x 0.15m
209	D	Fill of orthostat slot west side of doorway, 151							151		0.15m	0.4m x 0.15m
210	D	Fill of posthole [111], mid grey silty clay.	111	111	107	4	41				0.4m	0.33m x 0.25m
211	C	Cut of hollow to south of roundhouse entrance, filled with same material as roundhouse			107		43, 51	EDM		29	1m	5m x 4.5m
2000		Topsoil, same as (100) and (3000)									0.3m	
2001		Cut of possible cist, slate lined except on south side. VOID – NATURAL FEATURE					4, 9, 13	10, 14				
2002		Fill of [2001]. Reappraised as natural feature. VOID – NATURAL FEATURE					13	14	502			
2003		Natural subsoil					13	14				
2004		Lining of 2001. Reappraised as natural feature. VOID – NATURAL FEATURE					9	10				

Context	Type	Description	Cut	Above	Below	Quad-rant	Plan	Section	sample	Small find	Depth	Dimensions/ diameter
3000		Topsoil covering site, same as (100) and (2000)				Area 3					0.3m	
3001		Base of topsoil - allocated to cleaning				Area 3	38, 40				0.05m	
3002		Recorded as possible cist structure but a natural feature. VOID – NATURAL FEATURE				Area 3	3, 7	8				
3003		VOID – NATURAL FEATURE										

7.1 Sample Index

Sample Number	*Context number*	*Quantity (L)*	*Description*	*Plan*	*Section*	*Notes*
501	(101)		Uppermost fill	1, 5, 6, 12	24, 36, 39	Discarded – contaminated/flooded sample
502	(2002)	1	Natural feature	13	14	
503	(103)	80	Roundhouse infill below 101	5,6	36, 39	Discarded – contaminated/flooded sample
504	(107)	160	Roundhouse infill below 103	11, 12, 15, 16	12, 24, 36, 39	Silty clay below (103)
505	(115)	8	Upper fill of posthole [114]	19, 41	20	Discarded – contaminated/flooded sample
506	(116)	0.5	Lower fill of posthole [114]	19, 41	20	Discarded – contaminated/flooded sample
507	(120)	100	Fill of posthole [119]	22	23	
508	(131)	20	Fill of posthole [130]	/	30	
509	(133)	40	Fill of posthole [132]	/	/	
510	(135)	40	Fill of posthole [134]	41	32	
511	(137)	40	Fill of posthole [136]	42	33	
512	(123)	10	Basal fill of ph [114]		20	Discarded – contaminated sample – broken tub
513	(113)	0.5	Natural surface of roundhouse	/	/	Discarded – natural subsoil
514	(107)	10	Roundhouse infill below 103	/	39	Discarded – duplicate sample – broken tub
515	(107)	1	Roundhouse infill below 103	/	39	Monolith tin
516	(158)	7	Fill of posthole [157]	42	57	Discarded – contaminated sample – broken tub
517	(159)	9	Fill of posthole [160]	/	/	
518	(143)	20	Oxidised layer between (107) and (113)	/	/	
519	(162)	10	Fill of posthole [161]	/	/	
520	(100)	1	Topsoil	/	/	Topsoil sample for geological analysis
521	(169)	10	Fill of posthole [170]	/	56	
522	(171)	10	Fill of posthole [172]	/	56	
523	(202)	10	Hearth [201]	42	58	
524	(158)	10	Fill of posthole [157]		57	
525	(198)	10	Fill of posthole [197]	42	59	Discarded – contaminated sample
526	(203)	1	matrix for wall 155	/	/	Discarded – contaminated sample – broken tub
527	(198)	10	Fill of posthole [197]	42	59	

7.2 Graphic Index

Drawing number GRE	*Description*	*Context numbers*
730/1	Pre ex plan roundhouse 105	(101)
730/2	Pre ex plan roundhouse 105	(101)
730/3	Pre ex plan 3002	(101)
730/4	Pre ex plan roundhouse 105	(3001)
730/5	Roundhouse 105 plan	(102) (103) (104)
730/6	Roundhouse 105 plan	(102) (103) (104)
730/7	Post excavation plan 3002	(3001)
730/8	Profile of 3002	(3001)
730/9	Mid excavation plan 2001	(2004)
730/10	Section 2001	(2004)
730/11	Roundhouse 105 plan	(107)
730/12	Roundhouse 105 plan	(107)
730/13	Roundhouse 2001 plan	(2002) (2003)
730/14	Post excavation profile 2001	(2002) (2003)
730/15	Roundhouse 105 plan with collapse	(107)
730/16	Roundhouse 105 plan	(109), quadrant 3
730/17	Profile of posthole [110]	(118)
730/18	Profile of posthole [111]	210
730/19	Profile of posthole [114]	(115) (116) (124)
730/20	Profile of posthole [114]	(115) (116) (124)
730/21	Profile of posthole [110]	118
730/22	Profile of posthole [119]	120
730/23	Profile of posthole [119]	120
730/24	Section through entranceway	107
730/25	Profile of posthole [119]	120
730/26	Mid excavation plan of floor	(113)
730/27	Profile of posthole [121]	122)
730/28	Profile of posthole [114]	(115) (116) (124)
730/29	Profile of posthole [110]	(118)
730/30	Profile of posthole [130]	(131)
730/31	Profile of posthole [132]	(133)
730/32	Profile of posthole [134]	(135)
730/33	Profile of posthole [136]	(137)
730/34	Paving/collapse in entrance area	(126)
730/35	Section through pit [141]	(142)
730/36	E-W baulk section	(101) (103) (107) (113) (108)

Drawing number GRE	*Description*	*Context numbers*
730/37	plan of wall 138 [141]	(142)
730/38	Mid excavation plan of 3003	natural
730/39	S-N baulk section	(101) (103) (107) (113)
730/40	Mid excavation plan of 3003	natural
730/41	Roundhouse 105 post-excavation plan	
730/42	Roundhouse 105 post-excavation plan	
730/43	Roundhouse 105 post-excavation plan	
730/44	Elevation of wall 155	/
730/45	Elevation of wall 155	/
730/46	Elevation slate wall 102	(147)
730/47	Elevation slate wall 102	(147)
730/48	Elevation slate wall 102	(147)
730/49	Elevation slate wall 102	(147)
730/50	Elevation slate wall 102	(147)
730/51	Overlay plan of entrance 112	(107)
730/52	Elevation slate wall 102	(147)
730/53	Mid-excavation profile of [154]	(153)
730/54	Profile [164]	(166) (168)
730/55	Profile of posthole [154]	(153)
730/56	Profile through entrance postholes [170] [172]	(169) (171)
730/57	Profile of posthole [157]	(158)
730/58	Section through hearth [201]	(202)
730/59	Profile of posthole [197]	(198)
730/60	Profile through roundhouse cut and slot [146]	(147)
730/61	Profile of posthole [204]	(205)

8 References

8.1 Publications

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Thorpe, C, forthcoming. *North Cornwall STW Pipeline, Archaeological Mitigation Archive* Report (HES)

9 Project archive

The HE project numbers are 2009049 (fieldwork) 2010105 (post-excavation).

The project's documentary, photographic and drawn archive is housed at the offices of Historic Environment, Cornwall 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.
2. Field plans and copies of historic maps stored in an A2-size plastic envelope (GRE 730).
3. Electronic drawings stored in the directory ..\CAD ARCHIVE\Sites N-O\ North Cornwall STW Pipeline 2009049
4. Black and white photographs archived under the following index numbers: GBP 2175 - 2176
5. Digital photographs stored in the directory ..\Images\Sites\M-P\ North Cornwall STW pipeline WB 2009049
6. English Heritage/ADS OASIS online reference: cornwall2-97544
7. This report text is held in digital form as: G:\CAU\HE Projects\Sites N\ North Cornwall STW Pipeline 2009049\ Pipeline post ex and analyses\Archive Report

Artefacts and environmental material retrieved during the project are stored at Historic Environment offices but with agreement with the landowner it is recommended that they be moved to the Royal Cornwall Museum, River Street, Truro. The museum accession number is TRURI: 2009.36 The HE site code is FBR09.

10 Appendix I Trevalga, Boscastle: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Recording

Andy Jones

10.1 INTRODUCTION

10.1.1 Background

HE (Projects) have been requested by Mike Court of South West Water to provide a project design for the archaeological excavation of a hollow-set roundhouse which was discovered during soil stripping along the North Cornwall (Boscastle/Bossiney/Tintagel) Sewage Treatment Scheme. The roundhouse is approximately 8.5m in diameter and lies within the Sewage Treatment Works. It is believed to be of Middle Bronze Age date and is of a type which is unique to the southwest region

Phil Markham (Historic Environment Advice Officer, Cornwall Council) has been consulted over the requirements for archaeological recording. His recommendations for recording have guided this project design.

10.2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

10.2.1 Excavation objectives

The purpose of the archaeological excavation is to determine the character and significance of the below ground archaeology. The aims of the excavation will be:

- To accurately locate the roundhouse and tie it into the Ordnance Survey mapping.
- To identify and describe the archaeological features.
- To record in detail the stratigraphical relationships.

- To recover artefacts from and retrieve dating evidence from all archaeological deposits and features.
- To increase our understanding of Bronze Age settlement in north Cornwall.
- To disseminate the results of the excavation appropriately.

10.3 METHODOLOGY

The archaeological programme will follow five stages; excavation; archiving; assessment; analysis; final publication.

10.3.1 Excavation

The roundhouse should be completely excavated by hand and by quadrant. The adjacent area surrounding the roundhouse should be cleaned and features within it excavated ahead of the construction of the STW site.

10.3.2 Pre-works meeting

In advance of site works a meeting will be held between HE, the resident engineer and the contractor to discuss and agree:

- Working methods and programme.
- Health and Safety issues and requirements.

10.3.3 Excavation recording

The archaeological team will record any archaeological features which are to be affected by construction activities.

Recording - general

- Site drawings (plans, sections, locations of finds) will be made by pencil (4H) on drafting film; all plans will be linked to the Ordnance Survey landline map; all drawings will include standard information: site details, personnel, date, scale, north-point
- All features and finds will be accurately located at an appropriate scale.
- All archaeological contexts will be described to a standard format linked to a continuous numbering sequence.
- Photography: scaled monochrome photography will be used as the main record medium, with colour slides used more selectively and for illustrative purposes.
- A location plan will be made linking the site with features that have been mapped by the Ordnance Survey.
- The heights of all features will be tied into the Ordnance Datum.
- Phased plans and sections at a scale of 1:10 and 1:20 will be made of all excavated features.
- Sealed/undisturbed archaeological contexts in the form of buried soils, layers or deposits within cut features (ditches and pits, etc) will be sampled for environmental evidence and dating material. Advice may be needed from Vanessa Straker (Regional Advisor for Archaeological Science).
- The spoil from the stripping will be adequately inspected for finds.
- If human remains are discovered on the site they will be treated with respect and the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer and the Ministry of Justice will be informed.

10.3.4 Treatment of finds

The fieldwork may produce artefactual/ecofactual material.

- All finds in significant stratified contexts predating 1800 AD (eg, settlement features) should be plotted on a scaled base plan and described.
- All finds will be collected in sealable plastic bags which will be labelled immediately with the context number or other identifier.
- Significant, sealed archaeological contexts (predating *c* 1500 AD) will be considered for sampling for environmental material and the strategy will be discussed with the project manager. All recovered samples will be evaluated at the assessment stage and some may be disposed of. Only flots will be retained for inclusion within the project archive.

10.4 POST FIELDWORK STAGES

10.4.1 Archiving

Following review with the HE Project Manager the results from the fieldwork will be collated as an archive. This will involve washing and cataloguing of finds, the indexing and cross-referencing of photographs, drawings and context records. Initial processing of palaeoenvironmental samples will be undertaken. This will involve flotation of bulk samples to recover plant macrofossils and other remains.

- All finds and samples, etc will be stored in a proper manner (being clearly labelled and marked and stored according to HE guidelines).
- All records (context sheets, photographs, etc) will be ordered, catalogued and stored in an appropriate manner (according to HE guidelines).
- The site archive and finds will initially be stored at HE premises and transferred to the Royal Cornwall Museum and the RCM conditions for archives will be followed. The RCM will be notified of the commencement of the project and included in discussions for sampling and disposal as appropriate.

10.4.2 Report production

The results from the survey will be presented in a concise archive report. Copies of the report will be distributed to the Client, the County Archaeologist and the main archaeological copyright libraries.

This will involve:

- producing a descriptive text;
- producing maps and line drawings;
- selecting photographs;
- report design;
- report editing;
- dissemination of the finished report
- deposition of archive and finds in the Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro.

The report will have the following contents:

- Summary
- Introduction - background, objectives, methods
- Results - factual description of the results of the various aspects of the project, with separate sections as necessary for discussion/interpretation
- Discussion - discussion of the interpretation of the results, highlighting information gained on a chronological or

thematic basis

- Archive
  - a brief summary and index to the project archive
- Illustrations
  - general location plan
  - detailed location plans to link fieldwork results to OS map
  - selected plans and section drawings (as appropriate)
  - finds drawings (if appropriate)
  - photographs (if appropriate)

10.4.3 Assessment

On completion of the archive report an assessment stage will be carried out. This will involve assessment of structural and stratigraphic data and artefactual material, etc. The outline of the assessment report, and the work required to produce it will also be determined.

- Liaise with specialists (eg, environmental samples, radiocarbon dating and artefacts, etc) to arrange for assessment of the potential for further analysis and reporting.
- Send off artefacts (ceramics, etc) to the appropriate specialist for further study.
- Send off residues from environmental samples to appropriate specialists.
- Sort out and send off suitable material for radiocarbon dating.
- Produce an assessment report and updated project design for analyses and publication.

10.4.4 Academic/Final publication

In the event of significant remains being discovered there may be a further stage of analyses leading to formal publication. This will involve the analysis of structural and stratigraphic data, artefacts, and environmental samples to be governed by an updated project design agreed with the Historic Environment Advice Officer. The scope and final form of the report will be reviewed; for example in addition to an archive report the results should be published in an academic journal (eg, *Cornish Archaeology*) and would include:

- Discussion of the significance of the results in relation to Local, Regional and National research objectives.
- A synthesis of the results from the fieldwork together with those from specialist analyses will be incorporated into any final publication.

10.5 Project staff

A team of experienced archaeologists employed by HE will carry out the archaeological fieldwork under the supervision of a project officer.

The report will be compiled by experienced archaeologist(s) employed by HE.

Relevant experienced and qualified specialists will be employed to undertake appropriate tasks during the assessment and analysis stages of the project.

The project will be managed by a member of staff who is a member of the Institute of Field Archaeologists, or the equivalent standard, who will:

- Take responsibility for the overall direction of the project.
- Discuss and agree the objectives and programme of each stage of the project with project staff, including arrangements for Health and Safety.

- Monitor progress and results for each stage.
- Edit the project report.

10.6 Monitoring

- This written scheme of investigation must be agreed by the Local Planning Authority
- The recording exercise will be monitored. The Historic Environment Service Planning Advice Officer should be informed of progress on site.
- HE (Projects) will liaise with the Historic Environment Service Planning Advice Officer to advise on the programme and progress of work, and agree site meetings as required.
- A summary of the results will be presented to the Historic Environment Service Planning Advice Officer within 1 month of the completion of the fieldwork.
- The updated project design and timetable for the archiving, analysis and publication stages will be agreed with the Historic Environment Service Planning Advice Officer.

NOTES:

- The area of the archaeological investigation will be agreed in advance of the project with the client and the Historic Environment Service Planning Advice Officer, and this will be marked out on the ground by the client in advance of the archaeological fieldwork.
- Historic Environment Service staff will not be responsible for the direction of Plant other than to ensure the level of the soil stripping is adequate. Historic Environment Service staff will not operate any machinery.
- The Historic Environment Service will not be responsible for reinstating the ground after excavations or making it safe.
- It is intended that the programme for archiving, assessment, analysis and reporting is reviewed in the light of the fieldwork results.

10.7 Timetable

The archiving and archive report will be completed within 12 months of the ending of the excavations. The timetable for further stages of assessment, analyses and publication will be agreed with Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer in the light of the results of the excavations.

10.8 Health and safety during the fieldwork

10.8.1 Health and safety statement

The Historic Environment is within the Planning and Economy Department of Cornwall Council. The HE projects team follows Cornwall Council's *Statement of Safety Policy*. For more specific policy and guidelines the Unit uses the manual *Health and Safety in Field Archaeology* (2002) 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 any fieldwork HE (Projects) will carry out a risk assessment.

10.9 Copyright

Copyright of all material gathered as a result of the project will be reserved to the Planning and Economy Department, Cornwall Council. Existing copyrights of external sources will be acknowledged where required.

This project design and estimate is the copyright of Historic Environment, Cornwall Council.

Use of the material will be granted to the client.

10.10 Insurance

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

10.10.1 Standards

The HE follows the Institute For Archaeologists' Standards and Code of Conduct and is a Registered Archaeological Organization.

As part of Planning and Economy Department of Cornwall Council, the HE projects team has certification in BS9001 (Quality Management), BS14001 (Environmental Management), OHSAS18001 (Health, Safety and Welfare), Investors in People and Charter Mark.

10.11 Freedom of Information

All information gathered during the implementation of the project will be subject to the rules and regulations of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

11 Appendix II Finds report

C M Thorpe

A total of 61 artefacts were recovered during this project.

Pottery comprises the largest number of finds (32 sherds or 52.46% of the collection). There is also stone, flint, and metalwork within the assemblage.

A single artefact came from the cleaning of the top of the structure and is best considered Unstratified. The remaining artefacts were collected from sealed features or layers and were recorded by context. A few were bulk finds; the vast majority though were treated as 'Small Finds' and were recorded three dimensionally. These were given a 'Small Find' number which is annotated by **SF** in this report.

The total number of finds from each context are summarised in the tables below.

Context No: Unstratified. Cleaning

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Modern	1g	1		

1 sherd Modern White Glazed Stoneware (china). 19th to 20th centuries.

Context No: (101) Uppermost fill of structure

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Metalwork				
Iron	19g	1		
Stonework				
Pebble	56g	1		

1 hand forged iron nail. Square shank. Sub-triangular shaped head, slightly domed profile. Prehistoric? Modern?

1 water rounded pebble (Utilised?).

Context No: (103) Fill below (101)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	7g	1	**Δ1.**	
Stonework				

Pebble	752g	2	**Δ2. Δ3.**	

SF1. 1 small undiagnostic abraded and heavily weathered sherd prehistoric pottery (gabbroic admixture?). Missing external face. Bronze Age? (Internal residue)

SF4. 1 small stone fragment, natural – discarded.

SF3. 1 quartzite cobble with distinct wear facets and grind marks. There are also pecked areas to provide finger grips. A rubbing stone also utilised as a pestle. Prehistoric.

SF2. 1 water rounded pebble (utilised?).

Context No: (107). Deposit below (103), Fills most of interior of structure 105

SF14. 1 small abraded sherd prehistoric pottery (gabbroic admixture? fabric). Hard fired. Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age?

SF 16. 2 small abraded sherds (includes 1 rimsherd) prehistoric pottery (gabbroic fabric?). Late Bronze Age/ Early Iron Age? (Internal residue)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	36g	4	**Δ14. Δ16. Δ26.**	
Medieval	1g	1	**Δ8.**	
Modern	1g	1	**Δ6.**	
Stonework				
Flint	27g	1	**Δ11.**	
Granite	70g	2		
Slate	4315g	2	**Δ7. Δ28.**	
Pebble	191g	1	**Δ9.**	
Quartz	501g	2	**Δ13.**	
Other: Greenstone	677g	1	**Δ15.**	

SF 26. 1 large neck sherd prehistoric pottery (gabbroic fabric). Hard fired, with a smoothed, burnished exterior. Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age?

SF 8. 1 bodysherd Cornish Medieval Coarseware (granitic fabric). 12th to 13th centuries.

SF 6. 1 small sherd Modern White Glazed Stoneware (china). 19th to 20th centuries.

SF 7. 1 large notched slate (post support?). Prehistoric.

SF 9. 1 elongated quartzite pebble. Bevelled ends, and pecked finger grips. Also distinct wear facets and striations on surface. Flensing tool and whetstone. Prehistoric.

SF 13. 1 fragment of white vein quartz. Sub discoidal in shape, edges show distinct percussion marks. Utilised as a fire lighter? Prehistoric.

SF 15. 1 holed greenstone block. Hour glass shaped profile to perforation of 2.5cm diameter. Loom, or thatch weight. Prehistoric.

SF 27. 1rectangular/cubic stone block (elvan?) utilised as a mould stone for a triangular shaped knife/razor and an elongated finger ingot or chisel head. Possibly imported stone? Mould has heat alteration and staining showing that has been used. Appears to have been manufactured from a block of stone utilised previously for another mould. These triangular razors are typical of the Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age.

SF 28. 1 large slate fragment, sub rectangular in shape. With three cup marks on one flat surface of diameter 4cm. Central one perforates slate. Pivot stone. Prehistoric.

2 fragments of degraded granite.

1 vein quartz block with quartz crystals on surface. Natural.

SF 11. 1 flint side/end scraper on a primary cortical flake. Prehistoric.

Context No: Interface between (103 and (113)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Stonework				
Pebble	81g	1	**Δ17.**	

SF 17. 1 oval shaped flattened greenstone pebble. Notch on top and with distinct wear on edges. Line winder? Prehistoric.

Context No: (122) Fill of posthole [121].

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Stonework				
Pebble	62g	1	**Δ12.**	

SF 12. 1 water rounded quartzite pebble. Highly polished. Pecked edges and finger grips. Polishing/burnishing stone. Prehistoric.

Context No: (126) ?paving in entrance

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	32g	4	**Δ21.**	
Stonework				
Granite	346g	1	**Δ19.**	
Slate	360g	2	**Δ20. Δ22.**	
Pebble	132g	2	**Δ18.**	

SF 21. 2 basal angle sherds prehistoric pottery (gabbroic admixture? fabric). Hard fired, with a smoothed exterior. Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age? (Internal residue)

2 sherds small abraded prehistoric pottery (gabbroic fabric). Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age?

SF 18. 1 broken elongated quartzite pebble. Pecked finger grips. Utilised as a whetstone. Prehistoric.

SF 19. 1 fragment of an oval shaped granite quern stone. Edge trimmed with one working surface showing distinct polishing and striated surface. Prehistoric.

SF 20. 1 slate fragment trimmed to a disc of 12cm diameter. Pot lid? Prehistoric.

SF 22. 1 notched slate. Prehistoric.

1 water rounded slate pebble.

Context No: (143) Oxidised layer between (107) and (113)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	18g	6	**Δ24. Δ25.**	
Stonework				
Pebble	506g	1	**Δ29.**	

SF 24. 5 small sherds prehistoric pottery (gabbroic admixture fabric). Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age?

SF 25. 1 small sherd prehistoric pottery (gabbroic admixture? fabric). Hard fired, with a smoothed exterior. Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age?

SF 29. 1 elongated quartzite pebble. Bevelled ends, and pecked finger grips. Also distinct wear facets and striations on surface. Flensing tool with use also as a hammer stone and whetstone. Prehistoric.

Context No: (144) Clay layer between (107) and (113)

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	92g	8	**Δ23.**	

SF 23. 8 sherds (including 2 basal angle) prehistoric pottery (gabbroic fabric). Hard fired, with a smoothed exterior. Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age?

Context No: (153) Fill of posthole [154].

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Stonework				
Granite	823g	1		

1 fragment of an oval shaped granite quern stone. Edge trimmed with one working surface showing distinct polishing and striated surface. Signs of having been burnt. Prehistoric.

Context No: [156] Wall to NW of entrance

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	46g	4	**Δ37.**	
Stonework				
Pebble	242g	1	**Δ38.**	

SF 37. 4 sherds prehistoric pottery (Gabbroic Admixture fabric). Hard fired, with a smoothed exterior. Late Bronze Age/ early Iron Age? (Internal residue)

SF 38. 1 broken quartzite cobble utilised as a rubbing stone. Prehistoric.

Context No: (158) Fill of posthole [157].

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Stonework				
Granite	2500g	1	**Δ32.**	
Slate	516g	1	**Δ31.**	

SF 31. 1 holed slate block. Sub rectangular in shape, with oval shaped perforation that has an hour glass profile of 2cm diameter. Loomweight? Prehistoric.

SF 32. 1 large fragment of an oval shaped granite quern stone. Edge trimmed with one working surface showing distinct polishing and striated surface. Prehistoric.

Context No: (167) Possible beam-slot fill of [168].

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Stonework				
Pebble	2300g	1	**Δ34.**	

SF 34. 1 slate cobble. Heavily weathered. Utilised as muller? Prehistoric.

Context No: (203) Matrix of structure 155 Wall to SW of entrance.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Pottery				
Bronze Age	41g	6	**Δ36.**	
Stonework				
Pebble	301g	1	**Δ35.**	

SF 36. 6 co-joining sherds forming a flat base of prehistoric pottery (gabbroic admixture fabric). Hard fired. Late Bronze Age/Early Iron Age?

SF 35. 1 quartzite pebble hammerstone. Heavy impact damage. Pecked finger grips. Prehistoric.

Context No: [3002] Recorded as possible cist structure but on reflection may be a natural feature.

MATERIAL	WEIGHT (g)	NO OF ITEMS	OBJECT NO	INTERIM BOX NO
Stonework				
Flint	6g	1		

1 flint blade, retouched. Prehistoric.

Discussion

Two flints were recovered during the course of the work and are possibly the earliest artefacts found coming from contexts (107), and [3002] Neither were diagnostic, but they could possibly be of Neolithic date; however they may be much later and contemporary with the roundhouse.

A single small, heavily abraded sherd in a gabbroic admixture fabric from context (103) may hint at activity in the area during the Middle Bronze Age as this fabric is typical of that period, however, due to the nature of the sherd this is very tentative.

The vast bulk of the sherds recovered (28 in total) were in a well-made gabbroic (or gabbroic admixture) fabric. Well fired they have a good finish to exterior surfaces being smoothed or even burnished. Though few diagnostic pieces were recovered, the form of the vessels (from what could be determined) and fabric strongly suggest that these are probably Late Bronze Age, or Early Iron Age in date.

Several sherds have internal residues which should be sufficient to obtain accurate radiocarbon dates. This material came from contexts (107), (126), (143), (144), (156), and (203).

The stone mould is of particular interest as triangular shaped razors/hogs backed knives are of late Bronze Age to Early Iron Age in date. There are very few examples from southwest England as a whole, although an example was found at Phillack. Although the greatest concentration of these items is in northwest France, this mould stone appears to be made from Cornish Greisenised Elvan (Roger Tayor pers comm).

The collection of worked stonework is also likely to be of this date and is of great interest too. The flensing tools and whetstones suggest the working of animal hides, and probably leather working; it is even possible that those stones identified as loomweights may actually have been hide stretching weights. The polishing stones may also have been associated with leather working, or perhaps burnishing pottery or metal. Fragments of oval granite saddle querns suggest that there may have been some processing of grain, though again there is the possibility that they were utilised in some other manufacturing process (for example, the grinding of ore or pigment).

The medieval and post-medieval/modern sherds from context (107) are almost certainly intrusive. There was evidence within this context that certain areas had suffered from animal burrowing and these pieces are small enough to have been brought down by animal activity. The occurrence of more modern artefacts within the field is best explained by material derived from domestic middens being utilised for the manuring and improvement of the fields.