

# Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record

## Site Recording Form



<b>Site Name:</b> Land South of The Chase, Harlyn Bay, St Merryn, Cornwall	<b>Planning Reference:</b> PA21/06575
<b>Grid Reference (10-Fig):</b> SW 87725 75341	<b>OS Map Number:</b> OSGB36
<b>Parish:</b> St Merryn	<b>OASIS ID:</b> southwes1-507351
<b>Site Type:</b> Residential Development - Single House	
<b>Period:</b> Undated/Modern	<b>Form:</b> Archaeological Recording Event
<p><b>Description:</b> Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of a private client (The Client) prior to the development of the site for a single dwelling on Land South of The Chase, Harlyn Bay, St Merryn, Cornwall. The work was carried out by S. Walls on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022 in accordance with a WSI (Boyd 2022) drawn up in consultation with Cornwall Council.</p> <p>The site lies at c.13m AOD and is located just inland of Harlyn Beach and is accessed off Harlyn Warren. The soils of this area are windblown sands which overlie the slates and siltstones of the Trevese Slate Formation and Rosenum Formation with superficial deposits of blown sand.</p> <p>The site forms part of the Barton of Harlyn, the seat of the Tregewe family which became extinct in the male line around the reign of Henry VIII. It passed by marriage to the Michel family and in 1632 to Thomas Peter Esq. of Treator in Padstow (Lysons 1814). The site lies opposite an Iron Age cemetery and Bronze Age round house, a Scheduled Monument excavated in 1900 and 1976 which uncovered the remains of c.110 inhumation burials. A number of prehistoric burials have been discovered in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries as a result of cliff falls from cliffs on the western side of Harlyn Beach. A number of other prehistoric features including settlements and barrows are recorded in the wider landscape. Excavations along the line of a sewage pipeline to the south of the site in the 1990s uncovered the remains of features dating to the Bronze Age (Exeter Archaeology 1997). The tithe map and apportionment for St Merryn record the site as part of a large arable field named Undertown, owned by the Peter family who held the Barton of Harlyn. By the later 19<sup>th</sup> century it had become part of Harlyn Warren which it remained until being developed for residential use in the 1960s-70s.</p> <p>The site was stripped of vegetation and modern landscaping deposits from the 1960s-70s works (up to c.1m of material) prior to the commencement of works. The archaeological monitoring consisted of monitoring the excavation of the footings for the proposed house through windblown sand deposits.</p> <p>The footings covered a total area of 12m (NE-SW) x 10m (NW-SE) and were between 1m and 1.4m wide and excavated to a depth of 1m below the reduced ground level. The stratigraphy that was encountered consisted solely of a 1m thick, clean homogenous light reddish-yellow sand, this clean windblown sand became firmer towards the base (c.0.3m thick).</p> <p>No features other than a modern pit were noted cutting this deposit. The only find was a late 19<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> century flowerpot, which was discarded on site. The excavations did not get deep enough to be expose the natural geology, or reach the known levels of archaeological features.</p> <p><b>Bibliography:</b>  <b>Boyd, N.</b> 2021: <i>Land South of The Chase, Harlyn Bay, St. Merryn, Cornwall: Written Scheme of Investigation</i>. SWARCH WSI no. MHBC22WSIv1.  <b>British Geological Survey</b> 2022: <i>Geology of Britain Viewer</i>. <a href="http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html">http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html</a>  <b>Soil Survey of England and Wales</b> 1983: <i>Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales</i>.</p>	
<b>Land Use (Area):</b> Residential	<b>Land Use (Site):</b> Residential
<b>Date of Site Visit:</b> 22.06.22	
<b>Recorder's Name, Address, and Phone Number:</b> S. Walls, South West Archaeology Ltd., Hacche Lane Business Park, Pathfields, South Molton, Devon, EX36 3LH, 01769 573 555	

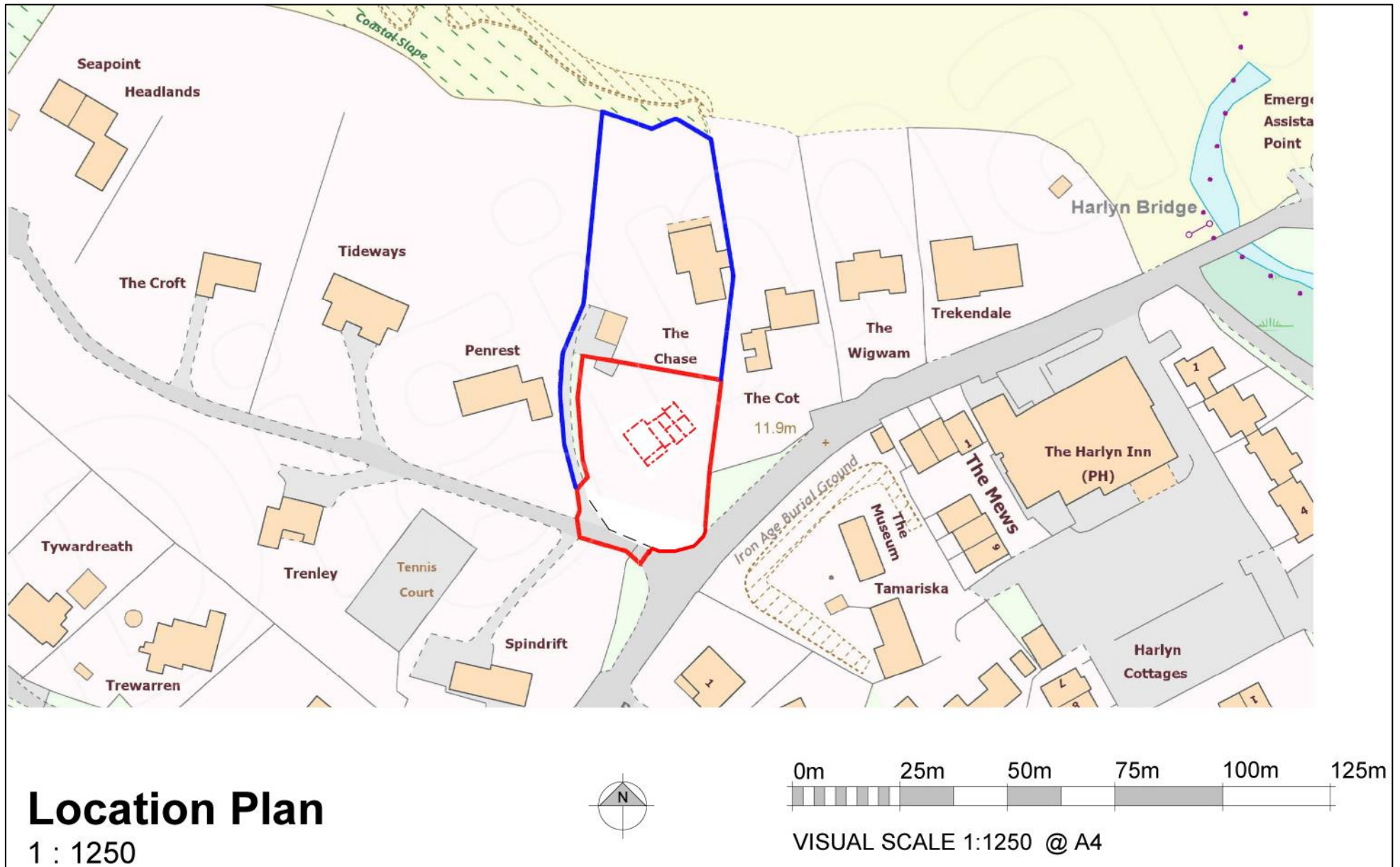


FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION AND PLAN OF EXCAVATED TRENCHES, BASED ON ARCHITECTS PLANS.

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FIGURE 2: REPRESENTATIVE SHOT OF THE FOOTING EXCAVATIONS, FROM THE NORTH-EAST (NO SCALE).



FIGURE 3: NORTH-WEST FACING SECTION, VIEWED FROM NORTH-WEST (0.4M SCALE).