

**ST. MORAN CHURCH
LAMORRAN
ST. MICHAEL PENKIVEL
CORNWALL**

Results of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording



South West Archaeology Ltd. report no. 220924



www.swarch.net

Tel. 01769 573555
01872 223164

St. Moran Church, Lamorran, St. Michael Penkivel, Cornwall

Results of Archaeological Monitoring and Recording

By Dr. S. Walls, MCIfA
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Work undertaken by SWARCH for Tresillian and Lamorran-with-Merther PCC (The Client)

SUMMARY

This report presents the results of an archaeological monitoring and recording carried out by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) for Tresillian and Lamorran-with-Merther PCC (The Client) during works to improve drainage and as part of wider strategy of restoration works at St. Moran Church, Lamorran, St. Michael Penkivel, Cornwall.

The work at Lamorran Church consisted of the digging of a French drain around the outside of the building and the creation of a new floor in the South Transept. The trench for the French drain exposed the footings of the walls, and the top of a single cut feature (possibly a grave) was revealed.

The work inside the church demonstrated that, prior to the installation of a central suspended timber floor, the South Transept had been floored with granite pavers set into an off-white lime mortar. These stepped down in front of the elaborate Verman Memorial tablet standing next to the south wall and included a reused medieval cross slab.

These works ensure that environmental conditions within the church, and specifically around the Verman Memorial, will improve, leading to the lifting and restoring of this significant memorial tablet.



October 2022

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TRESILLIAN AND LAMORRAN-WITH-MERTHER PCC (THE CLIENT)
 ANDREW LANGDON
 NICK JEANS
 THE CONTRACTORS (FOR THEIR CO-OPERATION AND INTEREST)
 CORNWALL COUNTY COUNCIL

PROJECT CREDITS

PROJECT DIRECTOR: DR. SAMUEL WALLS, MCIFA
PROJECT MANAGER: DR. SAMUEL WALLS, MCIFA
FIELDWORK: DR. SAMUEL WALLS, MCIFA
PHOTOGRAPHY: DR. SAMUEL WALLS, MCIFA
REPORT: DR. SAMUEL WALLS, MCIFA
GRAPHICS: DR. SAMUEL WALLS, MCIFA
EDITING: DR. BRYN MORRIS, MCIFA

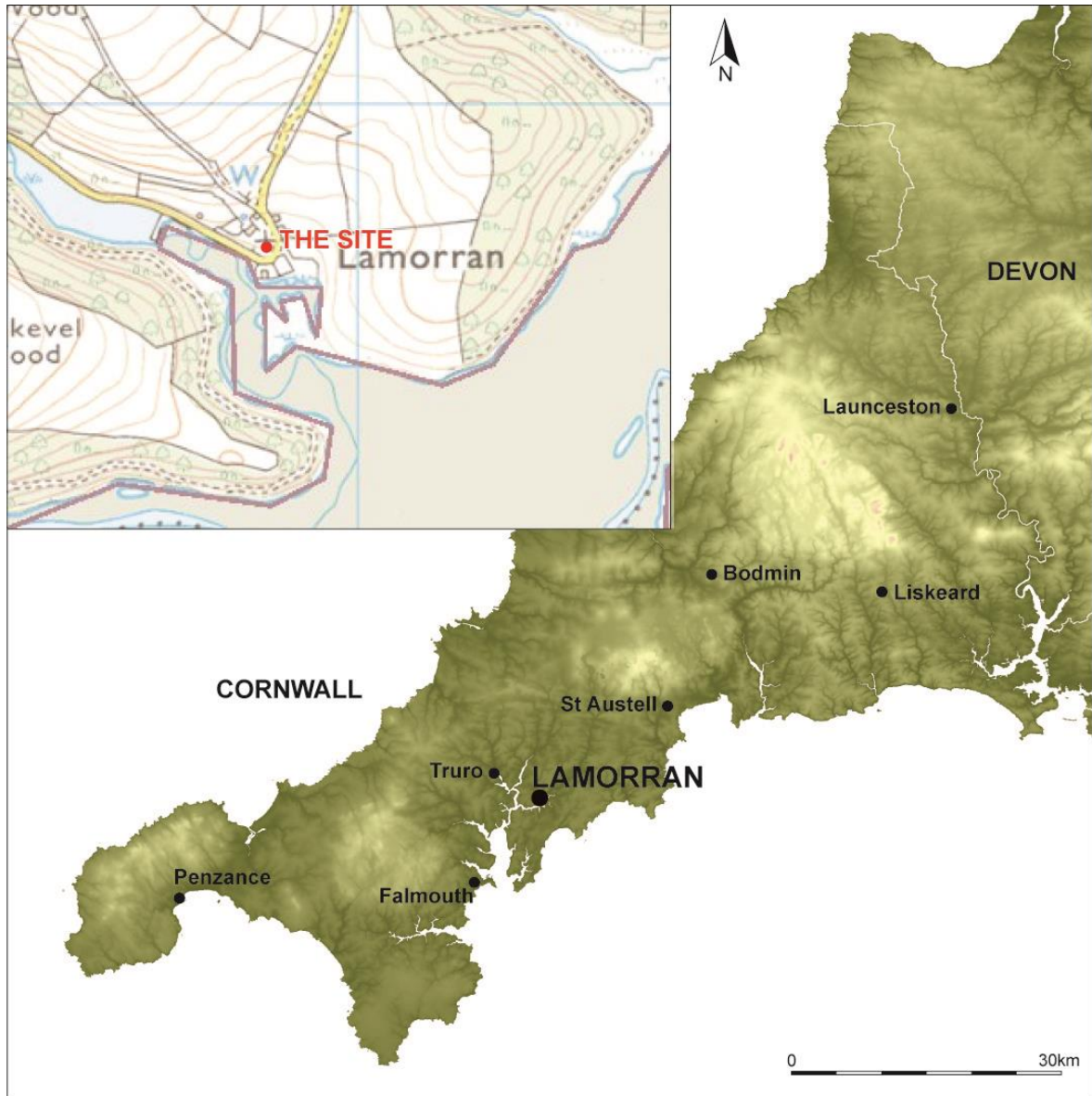


FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION (THE SITE IS INDICATED).

1.0 INTRODUCTION

LOCATION:	ST. MORAN CHURCH, LAMORRAN
PARISH:	ST. MICHAEL PENKIVEL
COUNTY:	CORNWALL
CENTROID NGR:	SW 87859 41768
PLANNING REF:	N/A
SWARCH REF:	LCSM21
OASIS REF:	SOUTHWES1-510844

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) was commissioned by Tresillian and Lamorran-with-Merther PCC (The Client) to undertake archaeological monitoring and recording at St. Moran Church, Lamorran, St. Michael Penkivel, Cornwall. This work was undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) drawn up by SWARCH (Boyd 2021) in accordance with best practice, Historic England, and ClfA guidance. A copy of the WSI is attached (see Appendix 2).

1.2 TOPOGRAPHY AND LOCATION

Lamorran Church lies at the centre of the hamlet of Lamorran, within the bend of the road that runs through the settlement, and less than 50m to the north of a tributary of the River Fal. The church stands at the base of a steep south-east facing slope, at c.5m AOD (Figure 1). The soils of this area are the well-drained fine loamy and fine silty soils over rock of the Denbigh 1 Association (SSEW 1983), which overlie the interbedded sandstone and argillaceous rocks of the Portscatho Formation (BGS 2022).

1.3 HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The settlement of Lamorran is located in the historic parish of the same name, in the deanery and west division of the historic hundred of Powder (Lysons 1814). The origin of the parish name is derived from *Iann Moren*, i.e. the church of St. Moren (St. Maremma the Virgin). As the churchyard retains a sub-circular plan, it is likely that the extant church was built on the site of the Iann. In AD969, King Edgar granted two *mansæ* (hides) and one *pertica* at Lamorran and Trenowth to the thegn Ælfheah Gerent and his wife Morwei (S770); this has been interpreted to mean the whole of the former parish of Lamorran (Hooke 1994 41-2).

From c.1327, the Manor of Lamorran belonged to the Halep family, from whom it passed to the Trevenors sometime before 1383 (Polsue 1867; Lysons 1814). They held it until sometime before 1556, when the coheiresses of Richard Trevenor conveyed it to the families of Roscarrock and Chamond. In 1658 one John Verman Esq. died seised of the manor. A John Verman Esq. (*sic.*) of Lamorran (this being the eldest son of the commemorated John) is listed on a deed held at the Devon Heritage Centre (1926B/W/+31/8) as having conveyed the Manor to (his father-in-law) William Walrond of Bradfield, Esq. in 1660. Lysons indicates, however, that the manor continued through the Verman family until the early 18th century, when it passed to the Spark(e)s. By 1736 Sir John Molesworth, Bart. was the Lord of Lamorran Manor having married the Sparke heiress, and in the early 19th century it was purchased by the 3rd Viscount (George Evelyn) Falmouth.

St. Moran's Church is a Grade II* Listed Building (list no. 1328931), whose rebuilt fabric is mostly of 1845, with some surviving 15th century fabric. The List description is as follows:

GV II Small church. Some surviving C15 fabric but mostly rebuilt 1854. Slatestone with granite dressings and steep pitched banded Delabole slate roof and granite coped gables. Nave, chancel, north transept, south transept and south porch.*

North wall of nave has three-light cusped and traceried C19 granite window. North transept has similar window to north gable. East wall of north transept has pointed, splayed door frame with rubble jambs and voussoirs to left possibly Medieval and C19 three-light pointed arched window to right. C19 chancel east window three-light in Decorated style. South transept is probably C15 with original three-light flat headed window to east wall (containing some fragments of Medieval glass) and an original three-light Perpendicular window to south gable. South wall of nave has C15 flat headed window with C19 hoodmould. Porch in angle between nave and chapel has C15 four-centred moulded door frame and small buttress to left. West gable has C19 pointed door frame and C15 Perpendicular three-light window (re-sited) over.

Interior has arch braced pitch pine roof and pointed chancel arch on pillars. Fittings of C19 oak pews and pulpit with pierced decoration. Norman font with round bowl on round base and four carved heads over round shafts.

The church has a detached belltower to the west, also Listed Grade II* (List no. 1141056):

Small bell tower. Possibly C16-C17 but may be late Medieval. Small size slatestone rubble with scantle slate roof with gable ends. Rectangular plan. 2 storeys. South front has central nearly semi-circular doorway with slate voussoirs. Small square window over in repaired walling. Similar size window to first floor rear is original 2-light oak mullion. Entrance to first floor and bellframe is by stone and earth ramp from churchyard to narrow doorway in west gable with original oak frame. Small original oak window to left and opposite in east wall. Small corbelled arched openings to ground floor east and west walls towards rear. Interior has original floor beams and surviving contemporary oak bellframe with curved braces and 1 bell still in situ. Formerly 3 bells; one was stolen and the third one is in Tresillian church. N.B. This second bell was not actually 'stolen' but was moved to St Michael Penkivel in 1864 (Jeans Pers. Comm.).

Finally, there is a free-standing churchyard cross, which is both Listed and Scheduled (scheduling below, List no. 1015625):

The monument includes a medieval churchyard cross situated within the churchyard at Lamorran, on the River Fal in south Cornwall. The churchyard cross, which is Listed Grade II, survives as an upright head and shaft set on a base, all of Pentewan stone, which itself sits on a low mound. Pentewan stone is an intrusive white elvan from the south coast of Cornwall, which was used for intricate carvings during the medieval period. The head has unenclosed arms, a form called a 'Latin' cross, its principal faces orientated north-south. The overall height of the monument is 1.85m. The head measures 0.25m high by 0.36m wide across the side arms, each of which are 0.07m high, and 0.12m thick. The upper limb has been fractured at some time in the past. The side arms are of ovoid section and each arm has a 0.05m triangular projection or cusp on the top and bottom of the arm. The lower limb is round in section and is set on the octagonal section shaft. The shaft measures 1.23m high by 0.23m wide at the base tapering to 0.13m at the top, and is 0.23m thick at the base tapering to 0.12m at the top. On the north face of the shaft, near the top, is a fracture 0.12m long by 0.1m wide and 0.06m deep. The north east, north west, south east and south west sides of the shaft slope out 0.16m above the base to form a moulded foot. The shaft is mounted on a square base; the top of this base is octagonal in shape, with moulded corners sloping out to form the square base. This base measures 0.61m east-west by 0.62m north-south and is 0.27m high. The churchyard cross has had its head removed several times during the 19th century. The head was left lying at the base of the cross for many years before disappearing. It was rediscovered in 1924, by the rector, under the floor of the church and replaced on its shaft. It is now fixed to the shaft by a mortice and tenon joint. By 1955 the upper limb was missing, later replaced by a modern one, now also missing. The churchyard cross with its cusps on its side arms giving it a foliated appearance, is of a late Gothic style and probably dates from the late medieval period, making it a late example of a churchyard cross. The historian Langdon in 1896 believed the cross to be part of the development of crosses towards the late medieval lantern style cross. The two gravestones to the west of the cross fall within its protective margin and are excluded from the scheduling, but the ground beneath is included.

1.4 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The Historic Landscape Characterisation for Cornwall (HLC) wrongly characterises the area as *Intertidal and inshore water* (HCO12). This is described as *'The ground between high and low water marks on the seashore and in tidal estuaries. Although now essentially sand, silt, mud or*

rock, this can contain important archaeological remains either at surface or buried'. The area to the north of Lamorran is categorised as *Modern Enclosed Land* (HCO11), with areas of *Plantations and Scrub* to the west (HCO10) and *(Deciduous) Woodland* (HCO6) to the east.

The Cornwall Historic Environment Record (HER) records the early medieval lann in which the church is located (MCO26092) along with the medieval church (MCO6344), the Grade II Listed and Scheduled medieval cross in the churchyard (MCO5419) and the Grade II* medieval detached belfry. To the south is the Grade II Manor House, and, to the north, the Grade II Glebe Farmhouse. To the north-north-east documentary evidence records the place-name 'Gare', which suggests the location of a round (settlement enclosure) although there is no physical evidence (MCO7958). To the north and west are post-medieval assets: a quarry (MCO59375), a fishpond (MCO59374), a supposed boathouse (MCO59376), and a dovecote (MCO10546).

1.5 METHODOLOGY

Archaeological monitoring and recording were undertaken in two phases, with external drainage works in January/February 2022 and the internal works completed in June 2022. The work was undertaken in line with best practice, and in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI), drawn up in consultation with the Senior Historic Environment and Planning Advice Officer at Cornwall Council and the Cornwall Diocesan Advisory Committee (see Appendix 2).

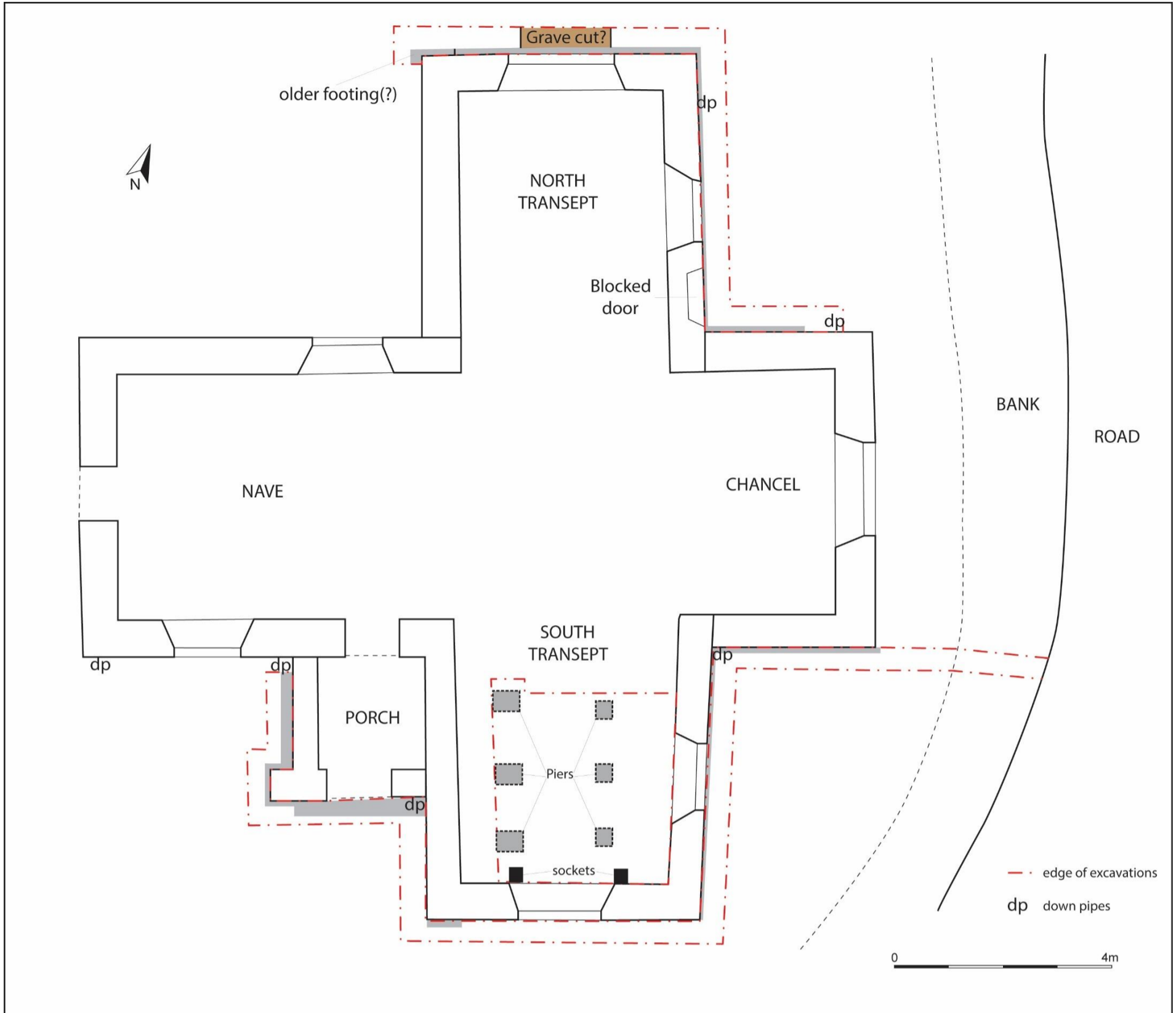


FIGURE 2: PLAN OF THE CHURCH, SHOWING THE MONITORED EXCAVATION WORKS AND FEATURES IDENTIFIED; DRAWING BASED ON SUPPLIED MEASURED PLANS.

2.0 MONITORING AND RECORDING

2.1 DRAINAGE WORKS

A drainage trench was dug around the outside of the church building. It was excavated by a small mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket under archaeological supervision. The work took place on the 31st of January and the 1st of February 2022. The trenches were c.0.45m wide and 0.4-0.6m deep; the site stratigraphy was relatively consistent with a homogenous slightly greyish-brown silt-clay topsoil (100), overlying a yellowish-brown silt-clay subsoil (101), which overlay the natural substrate (102), a yellow clay-silt with common to abundant shillet. In general, the soils were deeper to the south. It was noted during the works that stone rubble, lime mortar, and slate fragments were more frequently encountered around the porch. Ground levels to the north of the church had risen by c.0.2m through the accumulation of leaf litter and building debris; this was stripped away during the works, reducing the level down to that of the original surface.

2.1.1 CHURCH FOOTINGS

As the French drains ran around the walls of the standing church, the external footings of most of the building were exposed; each is summarised below.

The Nave

The footing of the Nave was only seen in part, as the short length of trenching along the southern wall of the Nave confirmed that a relatively modern French drain and rainwater goods had already been installed here. The footings projected c.0.2m from the lowest course of the standing wall, and just below the ground surface; it comprised roughly-coursed blocky and slightly irregular stone in a lime mortar bond; these are likely to be of 19th century date.

The Porch

The footings of the Porch were almost identical to those of the Nave, save that to the south they projected c.0.28m from the line of the walls, and only c.0.1m from the line of the west buttress. To the south side of the Porch, and the entrance, the footings had been disturbed by earlier drainage trenching. The width of the footings here would suggest they had been retained from an earlier, and slightly narrower, structure.

The South Transept

The footing of the west and south walls of the South Transept, unlike the others, were in line with the wall above, although at the southern end of the western elevation there was a single projection c.0.15m wide and 0.62m long, which *may* belong to an earlier structure (see Figure 3). The footings of the east elevation of the South Transept projected by c.0.06m but appeared continuous with the footings to the south. The quoins to this corner of the South Transept did not match those of the other corner, generally including much larger and more regular granite blocks.

Overall, the footings were all very well constructed of very tightly-packed platey sub-angular stone, seemingly with an earth bond. The relationship between the South Transept and Porch was not visible, but the relationship between the South Transept and Chancel was: the current south wall *and* footings of the Chancel abut the east wall of the South Transept. However, a single course of stone to the base of the Chancel footings were *abuted* by the South Transept.

The Chancel

The footings of the Chancel were exposed, and the north and south walls projected c.0.08m from the large dressed granite blocks to the base of the wall. As noted, to the south elevation there was a single course of large thin slatestone slabs that projected an additional 0.08m beyond this

and on a slightly different alignment. It narrowed to the east and terminated shortly before the later footing which overlies it, suggesting that the pre-19th century chancel was slightly shorter than the current one. The north wall produced no evidence for an earlier footing and clearly abutted the footings of the North Transept.



FIGURE 3: FOOTING TO WEST END OF SOUTH TRANSEPT; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (0.4M SCALE).

North Transept

The footings of the North Transept were all of large platey stone, tightly packed and bonded with earth. Those to the east projected c.0.06m from the line of the wall above, those to the north c.0.1m, and those to the west c.0.2m. The build of the footings was largely continuous, although the wider western footings appeared to be abutted and overlaid by the current build and the other footings, suggesting it belonged to an earlier phase (see Figure 4).

2.1.2 OTHER FEATURES

Only one feature [104] was noted during the works. To the centre of the north wall of the North Transept was a straight-sided cut 1.6m wide which extended beyond the trench to the north. It was potentially truncated by the wall to the south. The fill (105) was a yellowish-brown silt-clay. It is possible feature [104] is a grave, and perhaps an earlier one, given it is cut by the transept.

2.1.3 FINDS

A very small assemblage of finds was recovered from the drainage trenches. These included: ×1 clay tobacco pipe stem (3g); ×1 corroded Fe object, probable a nail (12g); ×1 highly micaceous (muscovite) medieval floor tile fragment (10g); ×1 medieval Cornish fine micaceous upright jar (11g). The finds also included a very small assemblage of bone, c.18 fragments, which were left on site for reburial.



FIGURE 4: THE FOOTING AT THE WESTERN END OF NORTH TRANSEPT; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (0.4M SCALE).

2.2 REDUCING THE FLOOR LEVELS WITHIN THE SOUTH TRANSEPT OF THE CHURCH

Ground reduction within the South Transept was undertaken on the 20th of June 2022. This work was undertaken by hand, mostly by A. Langdon, N. Jeans, S. Walls, and the other contractors. The elaborate grave slab memorial to John and Catherine Verman (see coverplate) is located in the South Transept, which may have been owned or used by the lord of the manor as a private chapel. The manor house is located a short distance to the south of the church, and the South Transept is prominent in views of the church from this direction.

2.2.1 RESULTS

Prior to works commencing, the floor in the South Transept consisted of granite pavers (200) around a central suspended timber floor surmounted by pews {201}. These pavers were once sealed below a floor of alternating dark and light Victorian tiles set in a diamond pattern.

The timber floor and pews were taken up prior to the first site visit. The pavers in front of the Verman Memorial were set at a level c.0.12m below the rest and included a partial grave slab (see below). The pavers and cross slab were bonded with an off-white lime mortar, but below this was a thin (0.05m deep) layer of broken slates and redeposited shillet (203), little different to the material (202) removed from beneath the suspended timber floor, save for the absence of paver fragments.

Below the bedding material for the pavers were two small cuts [205] and [207], both 0.26×0.22m across and 0.34m deep with vertical sides and flat bases. These were located next to the south wall of the transept and beneath the Verman Memorial. They were filled with loose rubble (202), but each contained a primary fill of fine loose soft dark grey/black sandy-silt to the base (206) and (208), which produced two fragments of medieval window glass.

Beneath the suspended timber floor was a layer of packed earth and mortar (202) set with the

remains of six mortared stone piers {204} that had formerly supported the timber floor. These were largely built from reused pavers, most of which were broken. This would suggest that the whole of the south transept had formerly been set with these granite pavers.

The piers and layer (202) were removed down to the level of formation. For most of the area formation was at the level of the off-white lime mortar, though in some places this did not survive or was partially removed (it was not a very level deposit). In places, therefore, the works exposed a yellowish-grey shillet (204), which could be the top of natural (or perhaps redeposited natural). No grave cuts were observed at this level.

Both the floor of granite pavers, and the suspended timber floor, had obscured the lower part of the Verman Memorial, but the slab floor seems to have been built to allow the lower part of the inscription to be read. The paver floor must post-date the South Transept, which itself must date to one of the mid-19th century phases of rebuilding. The care taken reset the Verman Memorial (and the reused grave slab) points to a high degree of care and attention. The presence of the Verman Memorial here may indicate the location of the family vault, if one existed.



FIGURE 5: THE REUSED CROSS SLAB IN FRONT OF THE VERMAN MEMORIAL; VIEWED FROM THE EAST (0.5M SCALE).

The reused grave slab is of dark stone, and it is missing its upper and lower sections. It has the relief moulding of a cross, overlain with a (presumably later) Latin inscription (Figure 5). It is 1.13x0.59m across and 0.09m thick. The back was roughly pecked (so originally set into the floor); There were no other inscription or marks noted. Given where it was found, this grave marker has been moved at least twice.

The cross slab and other granite pavers were carefully lifted by hand and retained to be reset as part of the floor to be reinstated within the South Transept.

2.2.2 FINDS

A very small assemblage of finds was recovered during these internal works, and was left on site. These included x2 fragments of clear (medieval) window glass from within the socket holes; and x1 corroded iron object, likely a bracket for holding the Verman memorial in position; x1 bone fragment; x1 brass gas light fitting; and x1 small piece of lead, all from the loose material beneath the suspended timber floor.

2.3 HISTORIC DEVELOPMENT

The site has its origins in the early medieval period, as a lann (an early Christian burial site). A Saxo-Norman Church was probably built within the older sub-circular enclosure. The Church was re-dedicated in the mid-13th century, probably after a rebuild. The cross slab was presumably associated with this earlier church. The elements of 15th century stonework in the extant church indicates it was also rebuilt towards the end of the medieval period, but much of the standing structure dates to the mid-19th century.

2.3.1 MEDIEVAL

The walls of the church have undergone significant phases of rebuilding or replacement, but the footings exposed during these works would suggest that parts of the south and north transepts are of medieval origin, although even these appear to have been rebuilt over the centuries. No window, set of quoins, or exposed footing exactly matches another in style and quality, indicating the complex development of this building.

2.3.2 MID-17TH CENTURY – VERMAN MEMORIAL INSTALLED

The Verman Memorial in a plain oak frame was installed on the south wall of the south transept, below a large window in c.1666. The wall does not seem to have been plastered. A tablet for the Verman's granddaughter Mary (d.1665) was installed at a similar time, likely also originally within the South Transept.

The nature of the floor in the church at this time is unknown, but it could have consisted of the surviving stone pavers and the re-used cross-slab, but these were subsequently re-set to a higher level. The Verman's are probably buried in the South Transept. Subsequent manorial lord did not live or worship at Lamorran. No graves were encountered during the works.

2.3.3 1845 AND 1853 RESTORATIONS

Significant restorations were undertaken in quick succession in 1845 and 1853. It seems likely that during these works the Verman Memorial was lowered to floor level, presumably as the oak frame at the base of the tablet had rotted. A pine plank was added to the top of the tablet to fill in the large gap that existed within the frame following the lowering of the tablet. A floor of granite pavers was (re)installed incorporating the cross slab and included a step down in front of the memorial tablet so that the inscription remained clearly visible. The pavers to the east and west were tiled over, presumably in 1853(?). The decorative beading to the timber frame was also added (again perhaps in 1853) as this abutted the stone pavers installed in front of the memorial, whilst the pavers themselves abutted the tablet and plain oak frame. The North Transept may

have been (partly) rebuilt during these restoration phases. The Nave, Porch and Chancel were all completely rebuilt at this time.

2.3.4 20TH CENTURY CHANGES

Timber flooring was added over the sunken part of the South Transept, and further pews installed. These were presumably added to make the floor of the South Transept level and reduce the risk of tripping etc. The changes did, however, reduce the visibility of the memorial, with the bottom part obscured and tables and other fixtures blocking views of the Verman Tablet.

3.0 CONCLUSION

The work at Lamorran Church consisted of the digging of a French drain around the outside of the building and the creation of a new floor in the South Transept. The trench for the French drain exposed the footings of the walls, and a single cut feature (possibly a grave) was revealed.

The work inside the church demonstrated that, prior to the installation of a central suspended timber floor, the South Transept had been floored with granite pavers set into an off-white lime mortar. These stepped down in front of the elaborate Verman Memorial tablet standing next to the south wall and included a reused medieval cross slab.

These works ensure that environmental conditions within the church, and specifically around the Verman Memorial, will improve, leading to the lifting and restoring of this significant memorial tablet.



FIGURE 6: THE VERMAN MEMORIAL; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH (0.4M SCALE).

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APPENDIX 1: SUPPORTING PHOTOGRAPHS



1. THE FOOTINGS OF THE WEST WALL OF THE PORCH; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (0.4M SCALE).



2. THE FOOTINGS OF THE WEST WALL OF THE PORCH AND BUTTRESS; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (0.4M SCALE).



3. LEFT: THE FOOTINGS OF THE SOUTH WALL OF THE PORCH; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (0.4M SCALE).

4. RIGHT: THE FOOTINGS OF THE SOUTH WALL OF THE SOUTH TRANSEPT; VIEWED FROM THE WEST (0.4M SCALE).



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VERMAN MEMORIAL & FRENCH DRAINS

CHURCH OF ST. MORAN

LAMORRAN

CORNWALL

Written Scheme of Investigation



South West Archaeology Ltd. WSI no. LCSM21WSIv1



www.swarch.net Tel. 01769 573555
01872 223164

Church of St. Moran, Lamorran, Cornwall

Written Scheme of Investigation

By Natalie Boyd
Checked by Dr. Samuel Walls MCIfA
First draft Issued: 13th December 2021

Produced by SWARCH for Tresillian and Lamorran-with-Merther PCC

NON-TECHNICAL SUMMARY

This Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) has been prepared by South West Archaeology Ltd. for Tresillian and Lamorran-with-Merther PCC (the Client). It has been drawn up in consultation with the LPA and details the archaeological mitigation strategy and methodology to be employed for a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording at the Church of St. Moran, Lamorran, Cornwall.

The settlement of Lamorran lies in the historic parish of the same name, in the deanery and west division of the historic hundred of Powder (Lysons, 1814). The origin of the parish name is probably derived from lann Moren, or the site of the church of St. Moren (St. Marenna the Virgin). In 969, Lamorran parish was given by King Edgar to one of his Thegns (Polsue, 1867). Given the surviving sub-circular plan of the current churchyard, it appears likely that the present Church of St Moran was built on the site of this Lann.

From c.1327, the manor of Lamorran belonged to the Halep family, from whom it passed to the Trevenors sometime before 1383 (Polsue 1867; Lysons 1814). The manor passed down through the Trevenors until sometime before 1556, when the coheiresses of Richard Trevenor took it to the families of Roscarrock and Chamond. In 1658, John Verman, Esq. died, having according to Lysons, seized the manor. A John Vermen Esq. (sic.) of Lamorran (Eldest son of the commemorated John) is listed on a deed held at the Devon Heritage Centre (1926B/W/+31/8) as having conveyed the Manor to (his father -in-law) William Walrond of Bradfield, Esq. in 1660. Lysons suggests however that the manor continued through the Verman family until the early 18th century, when it passed to the Spark(e)s. By 1736 Sir John Molesworth, Bart. was the Lord of Lamorran manor having married the Sparke heiress, and in the early 19th century was purchased by the 3rd Viscount (George Evelyn) Falmouth.

St. Moran's Church is a thirteenth century, Grade II Listed Church, whose fabric is mostly mid-19th century (1845) rebuild, with some 15th century fabric remaining.*



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1.0 INTRODUCTION

SITE NAME:	CHURCH OF ST. MORAN
PARISH:	LAMORRAN
COUNTY:	CORNWALL
CENTROID NGR:	SW 87859 41768
OASIS NUMBER:	SOUTHWES1-503443

1.1. PROJECT SCOPE

This document is the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for the Church of St. Moran, Lamorran, Cornwall. It has been produced by South West Archaeology Ltd (SWARCH) for Tresillian and Lamorran-with-Merther PCC (the Client). It sets out the methodology for a programme of archaeological monitoring and recording to be undertaken during the proposed installation of a French drain and exposure, conservation and display of the various memorials in the south transept and for related off-site analyses and reporting. The WSI and the schedule of work it proposes were drawn up in accordance with best practice.

1.2. PLANNING CONTEXT

Works on this site are being undertaken as part of a faculty consent for the installation of new French drains and works to the south transept in connection with the exposure, conservation and display of the various memorials.

1.3. PUBLIC AND ECONOMIC BENEFIT¹

1.3.1 Social benefit can arise through learning and development, and community strength and local identity can be enhanced through contact with the historic environment.

1.3.2 Social benefit also arises from the net contribution to human knowledge (the *research dividend*) made by investigative works.

1.3.3 Economic benefit can arise from the regeneration of historic places, leading to the revitalisation of communities and neighbourhoods. Archaeology can make a meaningful contribution to place-making, which in turn enhances the image of a place and makes it a more desirable place in which to live.

1.3.4 Economic benefit can also arise from beneficial publicity, particularly through outreach, but also via public appreciation of due corporate diligence and care for the historic environment.

2.0 BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2.1. ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The settlement of Lamorran lies in the historic parish of the same name, in the deanery and west division of the historic hundred of Powder (Lysons, 1814). The origin of the parish name is probably derived from *lann Moren*, or the site of the church of St. Moren (St. Maremma the Virgin). In 969, Lamorran parish was given by King Edgar to one of his Thegns (Polsue, 1867). Given the surviving sub-circular plan of the current churchyard, it appears likely that the present Church of St Moran was built on the site of this Lann.

From c.1327, the manor of Lamorran belonged to the Halep family, from whom it passed to the Trevenors sometime before 1383 (Polsue 1867; Lysons 1814). The manor passed down through the Trevenors until sometime before 1556, when the coheiresses of Richard Trevenor took it to the families of Roscarrock and Chamond. In 1658, John Verman, Esq. died, having according to Lysons, seized the manor. A John Vermen Esq. (*sic.*) of Lamorran (Eldest son of the commemorated John) is listed on a deed held at the Devon Heritage Centre (1926B/W/+31/8) as having conveyed the Manor to (his father -in-law) William Walrond of Bradfield, Esq. in 1660. Lysons suggests however that the manor continued through the Verman family until the early 18th century, when it passed to the Spark(e)s. By 1736 Sir John Molesworth, Bart. was the Lord of Lamorran manor having married the Sparke heiress, and in the early 19th century was purchased by the 3rd Viscount (George Evelyn) Falmouth.

St. Moran's Church is a thirteenth century, Grade II* Listed Church, whose fabric is mostly mid-19th century (1845) rebuild, with some 15th century fabric remaining.

The Historic Landscape Characterisation for Cornwall (HLC) rather strangely characterises the area as *Intertidal and inshore water* (HCO12). This is described as *'The ground between high and low water marks on the seashore and in tidal estuaries. Although now essentially sand, silt, mud or rock, this can contain important archaeological remains either at surface or buried'*. The area to the north of Lamorran is

¹ CfA 2015: *Professional Archaeology: a guide for clients.*

categorised as *Modern Enclosed Land* (HCO11), with areas of *Plantations and Scrub* to the west (HCO10) and (*Deciduous*) *Woodland* (HCO6) to the east.

The Cornwall HER records the early medieval lann in which the church is located (MCO26092) along with the medieval church (MCO6344), the Grade II Listed and Scheduled medieval cross in the churchyard (MCO5419) and the Grade II* Listed medieval belfry, which is separate to the church. Slightly further afield are the Grade II Listed Post Medieval Manor Cottage, and the Grade II Listed Glebe Farmhouse. To the south-west, documentary evidence records the place-name 'Gare', which suggests the location of a round, although no physical evidence has been found (MCO7958), and to the north and west are post-medieval assets, including a quarry (MCO59375), a fishpond (MCO59374), a boat house (MCO59376) and a dovecote (MCO10546).

2.2. TOPOGRAPHY AND LOCATION

Lamorran Church lies in the centre of Lamorran, to the west of the road that curves through the settlement, and less than 50m to the north of a tributary of the River Fal. The village and the land to the west is wooded, with large agricultural fields to the north and east, and the River Fal running to the south. The church sits at an altitude of approximately 5m AOD.

3.0 HEALTH & SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

3.1. SWARCH H&S POLICIES

SWARCH is committed to the highest standards of health and safety awareness. Works will be carried out in accordance with the *Health and Safety at Work Act 1974*, the *Management of Health and Safety Regulations 1992*, and other relevant health and safety legislation, regulations and codes of practice. All SWARCH field staff hold current CSCS safety cards and EFAW or FAW qualifications. Specific RAMS and RA have been produced for this site, and will be taken onto site with any SWARCH personnel.

3.2. SPECIFIC HEALTH & SAFETY MEASURES

- 3.2.1 The site archaeologist will undertake any site safety induction course provided by the Client.
- 3.2.2 The Client will provide details of all and any specific known hazards and guidance on how works should be undertaken around those services.
- 3.2.3 These health and safety requirements will be observed at all times by any archaeological staff working on site, particularly when working with powered tools etc.
- 3.2.4 Appropriate PPE will be employed at all times. As a minimum: high-visibility jackets, safety helmets and protective footwear. Additional PPE (gloves, glasses) will be worn as required.

3.3. ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

- 3.3.1 SWARCH is committed to the laws, regulations, and other policy mechanisms concerning environmental issues and sustainability. These issues include air and water pollution, solid waste management, biodiversity, ecosystem management, maintenance of biodiversity, the protection of natural resources, wildlife and endangered species, energy or regulation of toxic substances including pesticides and many types of industrial waste.
- 3.3.2 As a provider of archaeological services, SWARCH, its employees and subcontractors have a responsibility for the protection of archaeological heritage. In line with the CfA *Environmental Protection Policy* para.1, SWARCH recognises that its responsibilities to the built heritage extend to the environment more generally, and that archaeological activities have the potential to affect the environment².
- 3.3.3 SWARCH will adhere to the environmental policies of the Client, and, if applicable, will take steps to minimise environmental damage or pollution arising from archaeological fieldwork.

² CfA 2016: *Policy Statements*.

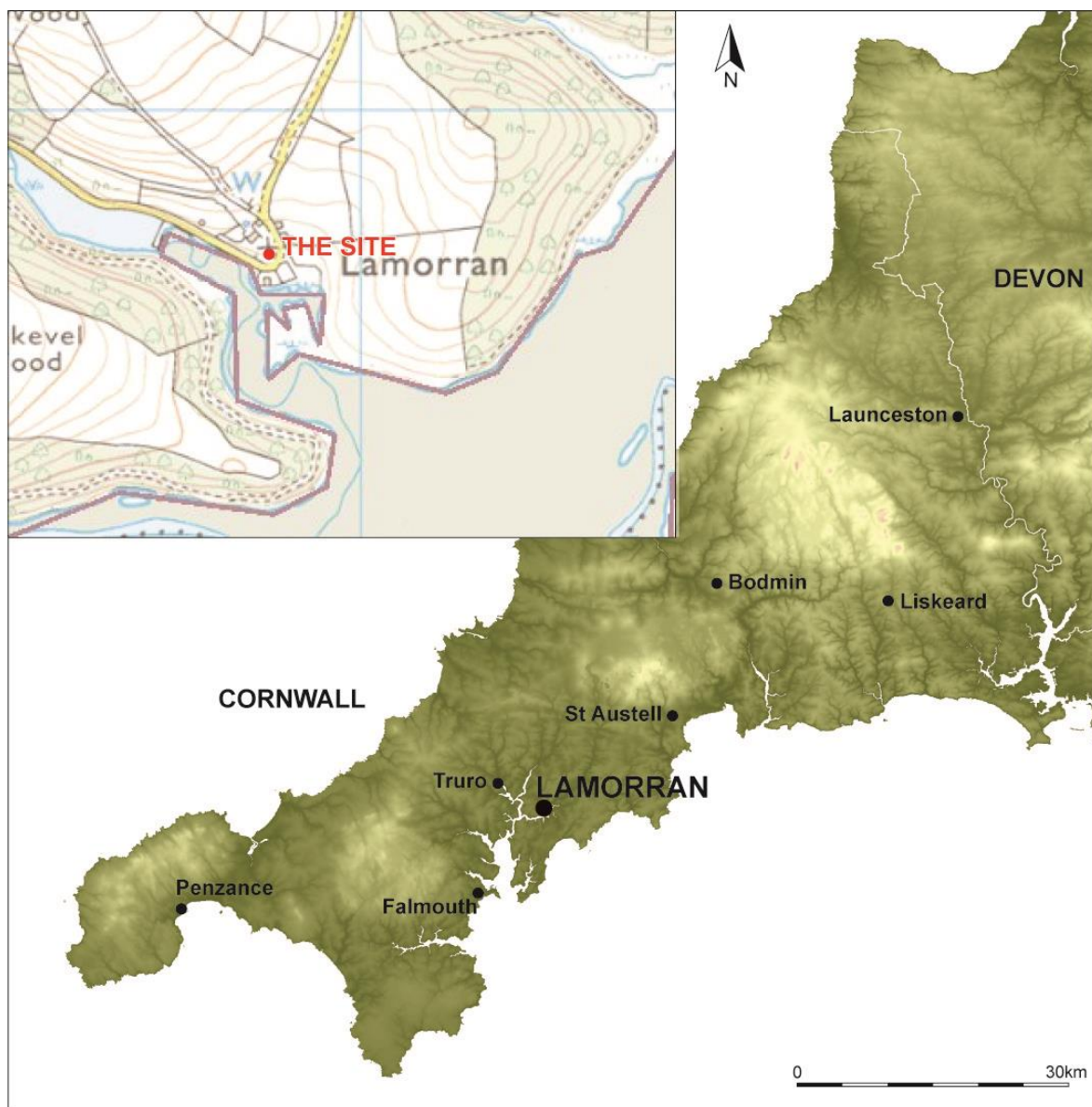


FIGURE 7: LOCATION MAP.

4.0 PROJECT AIMS AND TIMETABLE

4.1. PROGRAMME OF WORKS

- 4.1.1 To undertake archaeological monitoring and recording during groundworks for the installation of the French drain;
- 4.1.2 To undertake archaeological monitoring and recording during works in the south transept;
- 4.1.3 To analyse and report on the results of the project as appropriate.

4.2. TIMETABLE

- 4.2.1 The works are likely to take place in Winter 2021/22.

5.0 RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

5.1. RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- 5.1.1 The monitoring of the works will feed into the following SWARF objectives³:
- 5.1.2 Research Aim 4: Encourage wide involvement in archaeological research and present modern accounts of the past to the public.

³ Grove, J. & Croft, B. (eds.) 2012: *The Archaeology of South West England: South West Archaeological Research Framework; Research Strategy 2012-2017*. Somerset County Council.

6.0 METHODOLOGY

6.1. MONITORING AND RECORDING

All groundworks associated with the installation of the French drain and the works in the south transept will be subject to archaeological monitoring and recording. Groundworks should be undertaken by a 360° tracked or wheeled JCB-type mechanical excavator fitted with a toothless grading bucket (where possible) under the supervision and control of the site archaeologist to the depth of formation, the surface of in situ subsoil/weathered natural or archaeological deposits whichever is highest in the stratigraphic sequence. Should archaeological deposits be exposed, machining will cease in that area to allow the site archaeologist to investigate the exposed deposits.

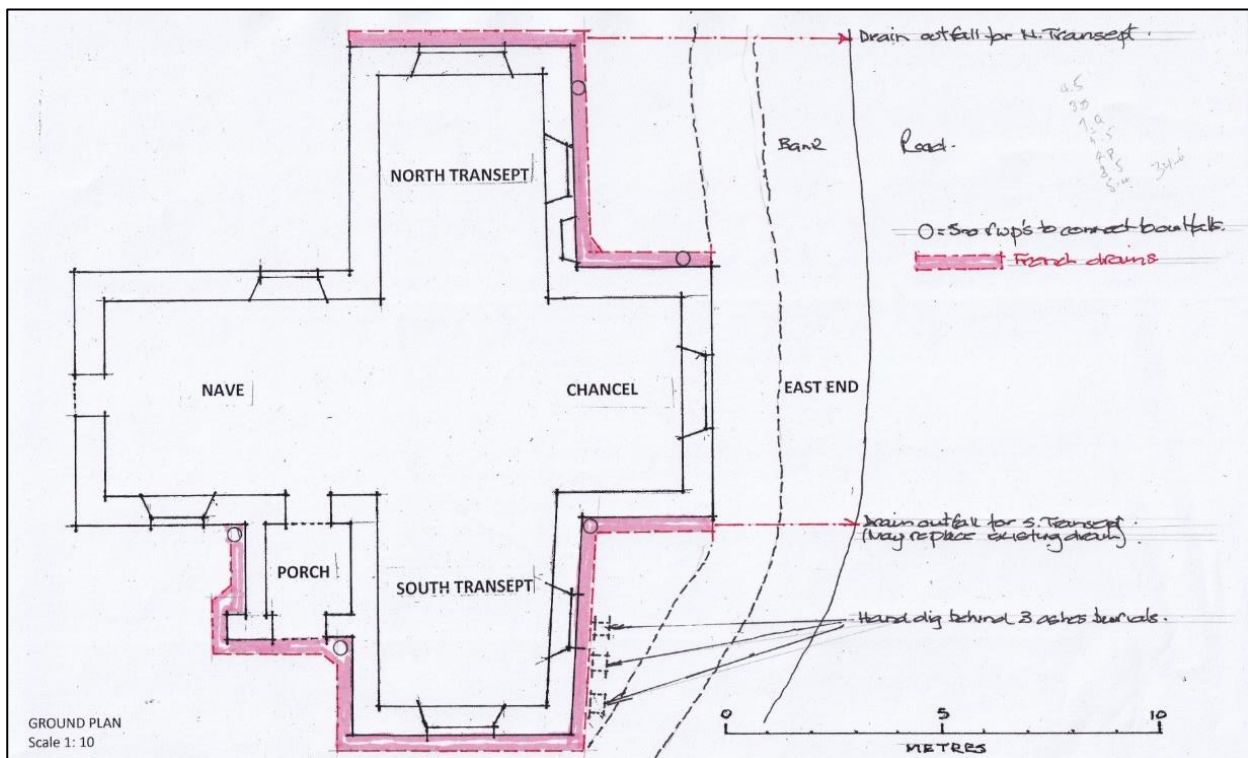


FIGURE 8: PLAN OF THE DRAIN ROUTE; SUPPLIED BY THE CLIENT.

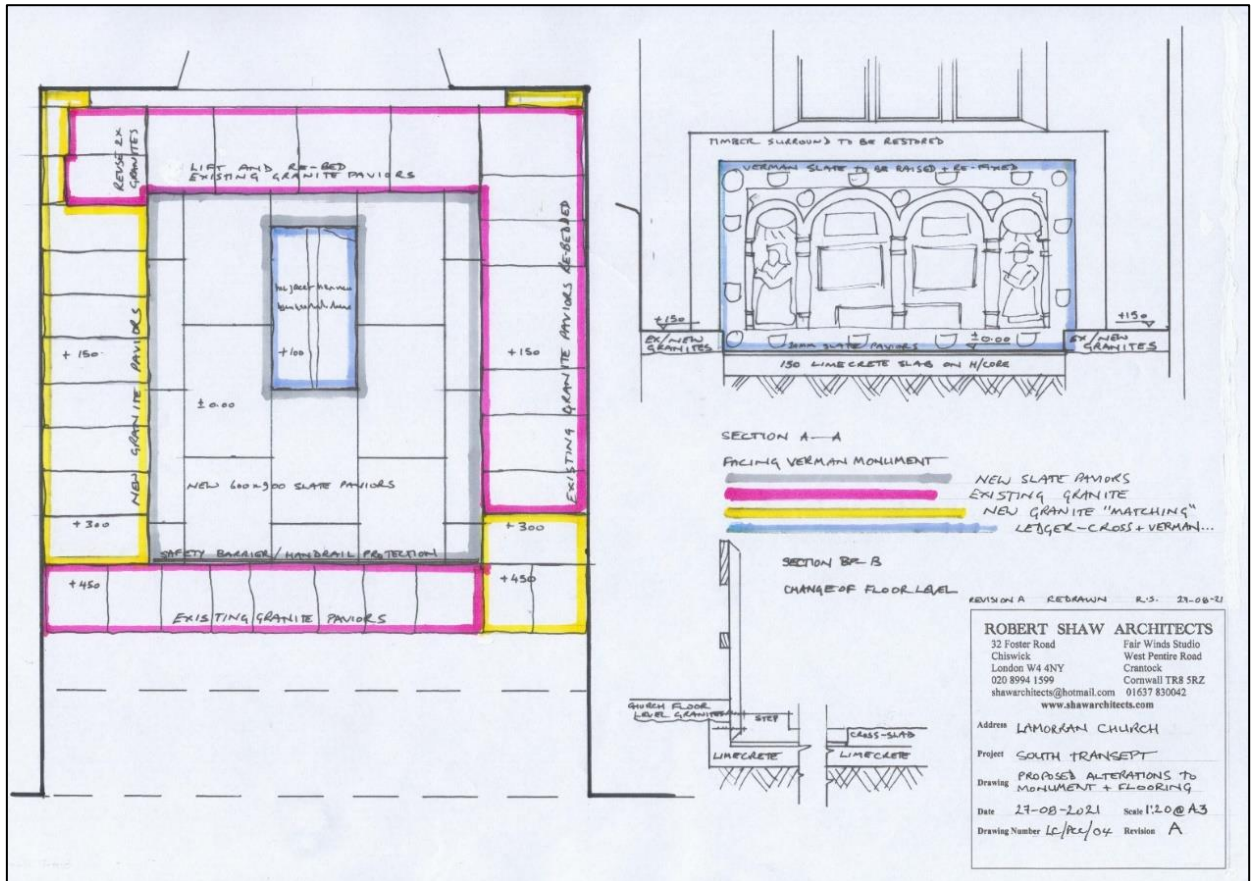


FIGURE 9: SOUTH TRANSEPT FLOOR DETAIL. SUPPLIED BY THE CLIENT.

6.2. METHODOLOGY:

- 6.2.1 The archaeological work will be carried out in accordance with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief 2014 (revised 2020).
- 6.2.2 Spoil will be examined for the recovery of artefacts, including the use of a metal detector.
- 6.2.3 All excavation of exposed archaeological features shall be carried out by hand, stratigraphically, and fully recorded by context to ClFA guidelines. All features shall be recorded in plan and section at scales of 1:10, 1:20 or 1:50. All scale drawings shall be undertaken at a scale appropriate to the complexity of the deposit/feature and to allow accurate depiction and interpretation. An adequate photographic record of the excavation will be prepared.
- 6.2.4 If archaeological features are exposed, then as a minimum:
 - i) small discrete features will be fully excavated;
 - ii) larger discrete features will be half-sectioned (50% excavated);
 - iii) long linear features will be excavated to sample 20% of their length – with investigative excavations distributed along the exposed length of any such feature. Whether any further excavation is required will be confirmed with the LPA. Should the above excavation not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined, full excavation of such features/deposits may be required.
- 6.2.5 Should the above excavation not yield sufficient information to allow the form and function of archaeological features/deposits to be determined, full excavation of such features/deposits may be required. Additional excavation may also be required for the taking of palaeoenvironmental samples and recovery of artefacts.
- 6.2.6 Artefacts will be bagged and labelled on site. Unstratified post-1800 pottery may be discarded on site after a representative sample has been retained. Following post-excavation analysis and recording, further material may be discarded, subject to consultation with the appropriate specialists and the PCC;
- 6.2.7 Should archaeological or palaeoenvironmental remains be exposed, the site archaeologist will investigate, record and sample such deposits.
- 6.2.8 The project will be organised so that specialist consultants who might be required to conserve or report on finds or advise or report on other aspects of the investigation (e.g. palaeoenvironmental

analysis) can be called upon and undertake assessment and analysis of such deposits - if required. On-site sampling and post-excavation assessment and analysis will be undertaken in accordance with Historic England's guidance in [Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation 2011](#).

- 6.2.9 Human remains will be left *in-situ*, covered and protected. Removal will only take place under appropriate Ministry of Justice and environmental health regulations. Such removal will be in compliance with the relevant primary legislation.
- 6.2.10 Any finds identified as treasure or potential treasure, including precious metals, groups of coins or Prehistoric metalwork, will be dealt with according to the Treasure Act 1996 Code of Practice (2nd Revision) (Dept for Culture Media and Sport). Where removal cannot be effected on the same working day as the discovery, suitable security measures will be taken to protect the finds from theft.
- 6.2.11 In the event of particularly significant discoveries, the client will be informed and a site meeting between SWARCH and the client/applicant will be held to determine the appropriate response.

6.3. SAMPLING STRATEGY

- 6.3.1 Where suitable deposits are exposed then samples will be collected in preparation for scientific assessment/analysis/dating. Sampling will be undertaken in line with the relevant guidance⁴. It is envisaged that samples will either consist of bulk soil samples [sampling 100% or 40 litres, in labelled 5 litre plastic sample tubs] or vertical sediment columns [monolith tins].
- 6.3.2 Suitable deposits are taken to include contexts where sampling will recover material for dating or palaeo-economic evidence (e.g. sealed pits, basal deposits), or waterlogged/well-preserved sediments with potential for palaeo-environmental remains.
- 6.3.3 Bulk samples will be stored in sealed containers until off-site processing by SWARCH personnel. The flot will be separated and the residue examined for small artefacts/ecofacts/hammerscale. The residue will be disposed of appropriately, and the flot/remnant forwarded for specialist analysis.
- 6.3.4 Monolith samples will be stored under controlled conditions before delivery to the appropriate specialist.
- 6.3.5 The project will be organised so that specialist consultants, and the regional Historic England science advisor, can be called upon during the works as necessary.

6.4. ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

- 6.4.1 Standardised single recording sheets will be employed.
- 6.4.2 Survey drawings in plan, section and profile at 1:10, 1:20, 1:50 and 1:100 will be prepared, as appropriate to the size and/or significance of archaeological features.
- 6.4.3 A photographic record of the excavation and will be prepared. This will include photographs illustrating the principal features and finds discovered, in detail and in context. The photographic record will also include working shots to illustrate more generally the nature of the archaeological operation mounted. All photographs of archaeological and architectural detail will feature an appropriately sized scale.
- 6.4.4 Survey and location of features (metal finds to sub-metre accuracy).
- 6.4.5 All stratified finds, except when clearly modern, will be retained, bagged and labelled on site. Unstratified post-1800 material may be discarded on site, but a representative sample will be retained.
- 6.4.6 Spoil will be examined for the recovery of artefacts; a metal detector **will be** used to enhance the recovery of metal finds.
- 6.4.7 All retained artefacts will be processed (washed, identified, weighed, counted) and assessed for their stratigraphic and research potential.

7.0 MONITORING

- 7.1.1 SWARCH shall agree monitoring arrangements with the PCC and give two weeks' notice, unless a shorter period is agreed, of commencement of the fieldwork. Details will be agreed of any monitoring points where decisions on options within the programme are to be made
- 7.1.2 If significant or complex archaeological remains are uncovered, SWARCH will liaise with the client to determine the most satisfactory way to proceed.
- 7.1.3 Monitoring will continue until the satisfactory completion of an OASIS report.

⁴ English Heritage 2011: *Environmental Archaeology: a guide to the theory and practice of methods, from sampling and recovery to post-excavation*.

8.0 REPORTING

8.1. REPORTING STRATEGY

8.1.1 Copies of the report(s) detailing the results of these investigations will be submitted to the OASIS (*Online Access to the Index of Archaeological Investigations*) database under reference southwes1-503443 within 3 months of completion of fieldwork, longer as dictated by specialist reporting, etc. The type of report produced will be agreed with the client in light of the results.

8.2. ARCHIVE REPORT

- 8.2.1 The full report will include the following elements:
- 8.2.2 A report number, date and the OASIS record number;
- 8.2.3 A non-technical summary of the results
- 8.2.4 An introduction to the project and the background to the project;
- 8.2.5 A description and illustration of the site location;
- 8.2.6 A methodology of the works undertaken, and an evaluation of that methodology;
- 8.2.7 Plans and reports of all documentary and other research undertaken;
- 8.2.8 A location plan and overall site plan;
- 8.2.9 A plan showing the location of areas subject to archaeological recording;
- 8.2.10 Detailed plans of areas of the site in which archaeological features are recognised along with adequate OD spot height information. These will be at an appropriate scale to allow the nature of the features exposed to be shown and understood. Plans will show the site and features/deposits in relation to north. Archaeologically sterile areas will not be illustrated unless this can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeo-environmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
- 8.2.11 Section drawings of deposits and features, with OD heights, at scales appropriate to the stratigraphic detail to be shown and must show the orientation of the drawing in relation to north/south/east/west. Archaeologically sterile areas will not be illustrated unless they can provide information on the development of the site stratigraphy or show palaeo-environmental deposits that have influenced the site stratigraphy;
- 8.2.12 A description of any remains and deposits identified including an interpretation of their character and significance;
- 8.2.13 Analysis, as appropriate, of significant artefacts, environmental and scientific samples;
- 8.2.14 A summary table and descriptive text showing the features, classes and numbers of artefacts recovered and soil profiles with interpretation;
- 8.2.15 The photographic archive will be presented as an appendix to the main body of the report;
- 8.2.16 An interpretation of the results in the appropriate context;
- 8.2.17 A summary of the contents of the project archive and its location;
- 8.2.18 A bibliography;

8.3. PUBLICATION AND DISSEMINATION

8.3.1 It is not anticipated that the results of this monitoring will merit wider dissemination. Subject to the results of the work a note may be submitted to the journal *Cornish Archaeology* for inclusion in the *recent fieldwork* section.

8.4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

8.4.1 The relatively short-term and intensive character of this fieldwork, together with health and safety considerations (inherent risk and lack of appropriate training) and ClfA policies on the use of volunteers mean that public participation during the recording is not feasible.

9.0 ARCHIVE

- 9.1.1 On completion of the project an ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with the appropriate guidelines⁵.
- 9.1.2 The archive will consist of two elements, the material archive and the digital archive.
- 9.1.3 If ownership of all or any of the finds is to remain with the church, provision and agreement must be made for the time-limited retention of the material and its full analysis and recording, by appropriate specialists.
- 9.1.4 The material archive, comprising the retained artefacts/samples and the hardcopy paper record (if requested) will be cleaned (or otherwise treated), ordered, recorded, packed and boxed in

⁵ Historic England 2015: *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment: The MoRPHE Project Managers' Guide*.

accordance with the deposition standards and selection strategies of the RCM, and in a timely fashion, before being returned to the church. Should SWARCH be unable to attain a selection strategy from the Museum, specialists will be consulted to achieve an appropriate strategy in line with best practice.

- 9.1.5 The paper archive will be retained by the church.
- 9.1.6 The digital archive, including copies of all relevant documentation relating to the project and digital copies of all photographs, will be deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) in compliance with their standards and requirements and according to Historic England guidance⁶ for digital photography.

10.0 PERSONNEL

10.1. SWARCH PERSONNEL

- 10.1.1 The project will be managed by Samuel Walls BA MA PhD MCIfA (Director at SWARCH 2013-present with 12 years of experience in the commercial sector).
- 10.1.2 The archaeological monitoring and recording will be undertaken by SWARCH personnel with appropriate expertise and experience, or supervised by SWARCH personnel with appropriate expertise and experience: Brynmor Morris BA MA PhD ACIfA (Director at SWARCH 2013-present with 12 years commercial experience); Joe Bampton BA MA MCIfA (10 years commercial experience); Peter Webb BA MA² (12 years commercial experience).
- 10.1.3 Where necessary, appropriate specialist advice will be obtained.

10.2. SPECIALISTS

Bone	Hayley Foster MA
Conservation	Laura Ratcliffe BSc
Curatorial	Fiona Pitt
Environmental Sample Processing	SWARCH personnel Geoflo
Lithics	Peter Webb MA
Medieval Pottery	John Allan
Metal & Leatherwork	Quita Mould MA
Plant Macro-Fossils	Wendy Carruthers
Pollen Analysis	Ralph Fyfe PhD
Post Medieval Pottery	Bryn Morris PhD
Prehistoric Pottery	Henrietta Quinnell Imogen Wood PhD
Roman Pottery	Imogen Wood PhD
Wood Identification	Dana Challinor PhD

10.3. TRAINING AND CPD

- 10.3.1 Where appropriate, SWARCH will seek to provide training opportunities to SWARCH personnel during the archaeological fieldwork and post-excavation process. Training would be undertaken in order to enhance recording and recovery, and maximise the research gain.
- 10.3.2 SWARCH training plans (PDP) and CPD logs will be updated during the project, as appropriate to need and demand.
- 10.3.3 It is envisaged that period fixture awareness and recognition are likely to receive further training.

11.0 INSURANCES AND QUALITY CONTROL

- 11.1.1 SWARCH carry Professional Indemnity Insurance cover up to £5 million, Public Liability up to £5 million and Employers Liability up to £10 million.
- 11.1.2 SWARCH is a Registered Organisation (RO) with the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA).
- 11.1.3 SWARCH is committed to the highest standard of professional ethics and technical standards, and adheres to CIfA and Historic England guidelines in the conduct of our work.
- 11.1.4 The work undertaken will be carried out by professional archaeologists overseen by supervisors of ACIfA-level competence. The works and products will be overseen and checked by professional archaeologists with MCIfA-level competence.

12.0 CONFLICT WITH OTHER CONDITIONS AND STATUTORY RESTRAINTS

⁶ Historic England 2015: *Digital Image capture and File Storage: guidelines for best practice.*

12.1.1 Even where works are being undertaken under the direct control and supervision of SWARCH personnel, it remains the responsibility of the Client - in consultation with SWARCH, the applicant or agent - to ensure that the required archaeological works do not conflict with any other conditions that have been imposed upon the consent granted and should also consider any biodiversity issues as covered by the NERC Act 2006. In particular, such conflicts may arise where archaeological investigations/excavations have the potential to have an impact upon protected species and/or natural habitats e.g. SSSIs, National Nature Reserves, Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, Ramsar sites, County Wildlife Sites etc.



The Old Dairy
Hacche Lane Business Park
Pathfields Business Park
South Molton
Devon
EX36 3LH
www.swarch.net

01769 573555
01872 223164
mail@swarch.net