

POLVELLAN MANOR WEST LOOE CORNWALL

Results of a Historical Assessment



The Old Dairy
Hacche Lane Business Park
Pathfields Business Park
South Molton
Devon
EX36 3LH

Tel: 01769 573555
Email: mail@swarch.net

Report No.: 130821
Date: 21/08/2013
Authors: D. Laing-Trengove
S. Walls

**Polvellan Manor
West Looe
Cornwall**

Results of a Historical Assessment

For

Keith Rolfe
of
Rolfe Planning Partnership

on behalf of

Paul Williams

By



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Project Director: Colin Humphreys
Project Officer: Colin Humphreys
Building Assessment: Colin Humphreys; Deb Laing-Trengove
Desk-Based Assessment: Terry Green; Dr. Samuel Walls
Report: Deb Laing-Trengove; Dr. Samuel Walls
Report Editing: Colin Humphreys; Dr. Samuel Walls
Research: Terry Green
Graphics: Colin Humphreys; Dr. Samuel Walls

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Summary

This report presents the results of a historical assessment of the house and gardens carried out by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at Polvellan Manor, West Looe, Cornwall.

No evidence for an 18th century building was recognised but four relative phases for the building were identified, dating from the early 19th century to the late 20th century.

The survey of the grounds found little trace of any extant garden layout around the house and only a few features within the wooded areas to the east and west.

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1.0 Introduction

Location: Polvellan Manor
Parish: West Looe
County: Cornwall
NGR: SX 2500 5377

1.1 Project Background

South West Archaeology Ltd (SWARCH) was asked by Keith Rolfe of Rolfe Planning Partnership to conduct an historical assessment of the house and gardens at Polvellan Manor, West Looe, Cornwall, prior to the potential development of the site. The purpose of the following report is to place Polvellan House or Manor into its historic and topographic context, to assess its significance as a building and as a local historical feature and to point to further avenues of research. The assessment was undertaken in accordance with recommendations from the Cornwall Council Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer Phil Coplestone.

1.2 Location and Topography

Looe, from the Cornish *Logh*, meaning *deep water inlet*, is a small coastal town, fishing port and civil parish in the former Caradon district of south-east Cornwall divided in two – East and West - by the River Looe. The town is situated around a small harbour and along the steep-sided valley of the River Looe, approximately 20 miles (32 km) west of the city of Plymouth and seven miles (11 km) south of Liskeard. The underlying geology is of the Bovisand Formation - Slate, Siltstone and Sandstone (BGS 2013) and the soils are the typical brown earth of the Denbigh 1 Association (Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983).

Vacant now for some years, Polvellan House (recently misnamed ‘Manor’) stands somewhat apart from the historic centre of the town, being situated to the north on a north-facing hillside below West Looe Down. Standing in an elevated position in c1.5 hectares of wooded grounds, the house has views towards the confluence of the East and West Looe Rivers. The southern elevation faces rising ground, the northern affords wide views and the east looks down toward the town. Below the house is a very extensive parking area which represents the filled in basin of a large tidal mill pool from which the house takes its Cornish name, Polvellan, which translates as *mill pool*. A reduced remnant of the pool remains between the car park and the river.

Polvellan House is within the Looe Conservation Area. It is not at present a listed building. Nearby to the south is the so-called Giant’s Hedge, a possibly 6th century earthwork running for some 15 kilometres between the Looe and Fowey estuaries.

1.3 Methodology

The building survey and garden assessment were undertaken by Colin Humphreys and Deb Laing-Trengove on 26th March 2013 and was carried out with reference to IfA and English Heritage guidelines. Photographic and written records were produced. Little mention is made of the ecology or flora of the gardens as this has been dealt with by another assessment (Pell Frischmann: Polvellan Manor Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey R73015V002/A).

The desk-based work was conducted by Terry Green and Dr. Samuel Walls using readily available records and documents from the Cornwall record Office and online sources. A general assessment of further records was also undertaken.

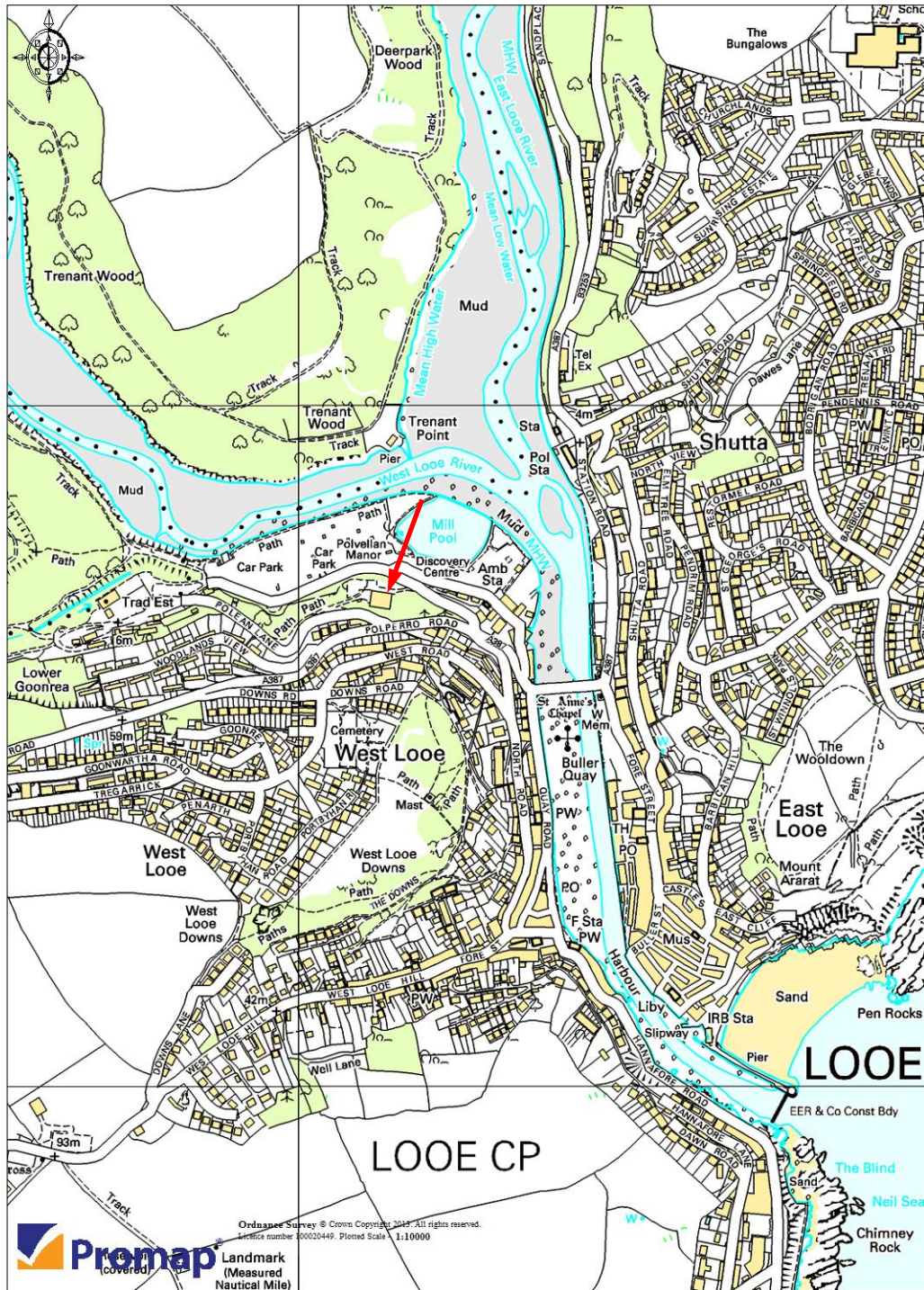


Figure 1: Location Map. Polvellan Manor is located to the west of the mill pool.

2.0 Desk-Based Assessment

2.1 Origins

The following brief historical summary is based on the text of the Looe Conservation Area Appraisal, published 2009.

Originating as planned towns and boroughs in the 12th century, medieval East and West Looe enjoyed a period of prosperity based on the export of local produce and the import of luxury goods. In the later medieval period the trade declined, but the towns' fortunes were reversed in the 16th century with the development of the Newfoundland Trade. Local fishermen sailed to Newfoundland and carried their catch to Spain, from where they brought back luxury goods. From this trade East Looe benefited more than West Looe, nevertheless a sign of relatively vigorous activity may be the construction in 1614 of a large tidal pool and tide mill on the shore below West Looe Down.

In the 18th century the benefits of the Newfoundland Trade passed to Plymouth and Fowey, and activity at Looe became concentrated on fishing and the import of lime and fertilisers. Meanwhile the scenic qualities of the two towns began to make the area attractive to gentry and to naval officers based at Plymouth, some of whom built themselves residences here. In addition, towards the end of the 18th century a developing fashion for sea-bathing and the inability in the early 19th century to tour the Continent because of war with France led wealthier families to build themselves retreats in picturesque places by the sea.

Despite these developments the late 18th and early 19th centuries brought economic decline and West Looe particularly was seen as a poor place. However, from about 1830 onwards fortunes were again revived. The opening of the Looe and Liskeard Canal in 1828 facilitated the importation of fertilisers and the export of agricultural produce; additionally and importantly the development in the 1840s of the East Cornwall industries, copper mining at Caradon and granite quarries at Cheesewring together with the opening of the Liskeard and Caradon railway led to the development of purpose built quays for the export of these industrial products. Particularly instrumental in taking advantage of the trade were members of the Buller family, testimony to which are the numerous features of West Looe bearing the Buller name, and in particular Buller Quay built for the handling of ores and granite. The 1860s and 70s saw passenger railway services extended to Looe, extensive industrial development with the vigorous trade in ore, granite and coal as well as a revival of pilchard fishing. At the same time residential and hotel development gathered pace.

Decline set in again however with the closure of the Caradon mines in the 1880s and the increasing import of granite from abroad. During the 20th century the economy of Looe was sustained through fishing and boat building. Looe is now the second largest fishing port in Cornwall after Newlyn. The main industry however, is tourism, a symbol of which is the filling in of the great tidal mill pool to make a car park for the benefit of summer visitors.

2.2 Polvellan House

The history of Polvellan House sits within the history of West Looe. Among the gentry attracted to West Looe in the later 18th century was John Lemon who was elected MP for the borough in 1784. Although he was the local MP for only 3 years, becoming MP for Saltash in 1787, he chose to build himself a house on the hillside above the mill pool. In his 'Topographical and Historical Sketches of the Boroughs of East and West Looe' Thomas Bond wrote in 1823: *On*

West Looe Down the late John Lemon Esq....about the year 1787 erected a small but extremely neat house in the cottage style and inclosed some ground round it by virtue of a grant from the Corporation. He gave it the name of Polvellan and laid it out with great taste... . Bond's wording is not as explicit as one would like, but we might hazard a guess that his 'cottage style' refers to the late 18th century 'cottage orné' and the tastefully laid out grounds may have been designed in the 'picturesque' mode.

Lemon died in 1814 having been MP for Truro from 1796 up until his death, and having been appointed Lord Commissioner of the Admiralty in 1804. After his death the house was acquired by the Buller family to whom Lemon was related by marriage. Pigot's Directory of Cornwall records that in 1830 Charles Buller, also MP for West Looe, was resident at Polvellan. West Looe was one of the so-called 'rotten boroughs' (i.e. sending a member to parliament on the basis of a very small or even non-existent population) which as a result of the Reform Bill of 1832 were disenfranchised. Thus Charles Buller lost his parliamentary seat, but went on to represent Liskeard until his early death in 1848. Charles Buller was a highly regarded member of the political class in his day; there is a bust of him in Westminster Abbey.

The tithe apportionment of 1840 records John Buller as owner and occupier of Polvellan House. It seems probable that this was the Buller responsible for developing the quay which bears the Buller name. By 1851 however, the census records Rev. Edward Seymour, Perpetual Curate of Looe as resident at Polvellan. In 1861 the head of the household was absent and only two servants were in the house, in 1871 the occupant was Rev. Ayrton Chaplin, Vicar of East and West Looe. In 1881 ecclesiastical occupants had given way to Sir Alfred Sherlock Gooch and a houseful of servants. Sir Alfred was a baronet, member of the Gooch family whose seat was Benacre, Suffolk; it looks as if Polvellan may have been the Gooch holiday home. The subsequent occupant up to 1906 (Kelly's Directory) was John White.

Developments through the early to mid-20th century are more difficult to trace through available sources. Any deeds held by solicitors may help. It appears that during the Second World War the house served as a maternity hospital (messages on website *Looe Message Board: Knowhere Guide*). It has also been a hotel, a nursing home and attempts have been made to develop it as apartments.

2.3 The Cartographic Record

2.3.1 The West Looe Tithe Map of c.1840

The earliest detailed map available is the West Looe tithe map of c.1840 (Figure 2). On this map the house is represented sketchily as a simple rectangular building with a protruding wing on the south side of the west end. Attached to the west end are two further elements which cannot be identified. The mill pond is shown to the north of the grounds, and the access to the estate appears to enter along the northeastern edge of the property at this date.

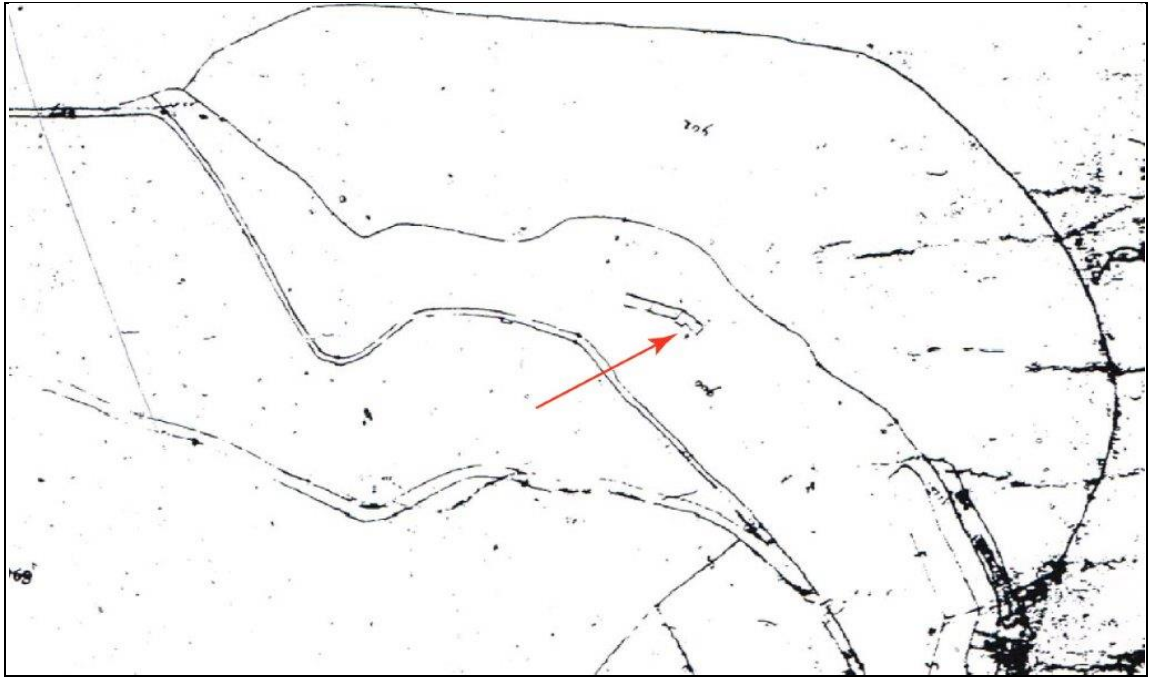


Figure 2: Extract from the West Looe tithe map of c.1840. Indicated is what was apparently the house at this date. To the north (top) is the mill pool.

2.3.2 The Ordnance Survey First Edition 1:2500 map of 1882

The Ordnance Survey First Edition 1:2500 map of 1882 (Figure 3) presents a different and rather more detailed picture. The footprint of the building shown here represents a substantial main wing with possible bow-fronted features on the north and east and no wing on the south, although there is a small protrusion which probably represents a porch.

The grounds are shown in some detail with mainly broadleaf trees, paths that follow the north and south boundaries of the property to the west of the house, and a probable carriage-drive approaching from the east accessing the east front or presentation facade of the house, and which then sweeps around the north elevation of the house up to the south-west. The white square against the southern boundary to the south-west of the house may represent a coach house, positioned adjacent to an alternative rear entrance into the property. There is also a small building positioned immediately to the south-west of the main house, and what may be a retaining wall against the hill slope to the south that curves around and up to the north at the eastern end of the house.

The First Edition Map indicates that the construction of a new road (Polperro Road) to access the new bridge (built in 1853) across the East Looe River resulted in the grounds to Polvellan being considerably reduced in size, with the southern portion having a Sunday school constructed by 1882 although seemingly retaining a largely broadleaf appearance at this date. The access to Polvellan appears to have also been altered due to these changes in the town's infrastructure, no longer did the driveway hug the edge of the mill pool (except at its northern end), instead meeting the new road further to the west. It can also be tentatively suggested that the building shown on the First Edition map to the east of the new access may have been a former lodge/gatehouse associated with the old access road, although aside from its position there is no other supporting evidence.

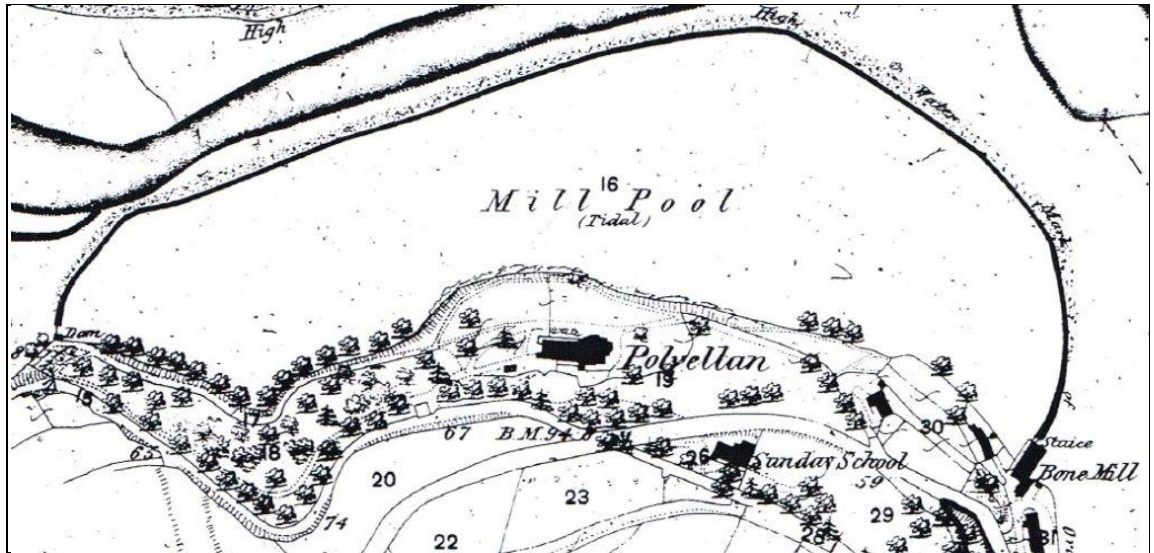


Figure 3: Extract from the Ordnance Survey First Edition map at 1:2500, 1882.

2.3.3 The Ordnance Survey Second Edition map of 1907

The Ordnance Survey Second Edition map of 1907 (Figure 4) records change in the intervening years. By then Polvellan had a substantial new wing to the south and a new garden arrangement, including the substantial walls and semicircular viewing tower to the south of the house, and an apparent change in the layout of paths to the north and west. The former coach house appears to have been reduced in size and a small extension added to the west. Later 20th century mapping, 1938 1:10000 and 1969 1:2500 (Figure 5) indicates no further change before the Second World War, but at some stage before 1969 the south wing had been extended westwards.

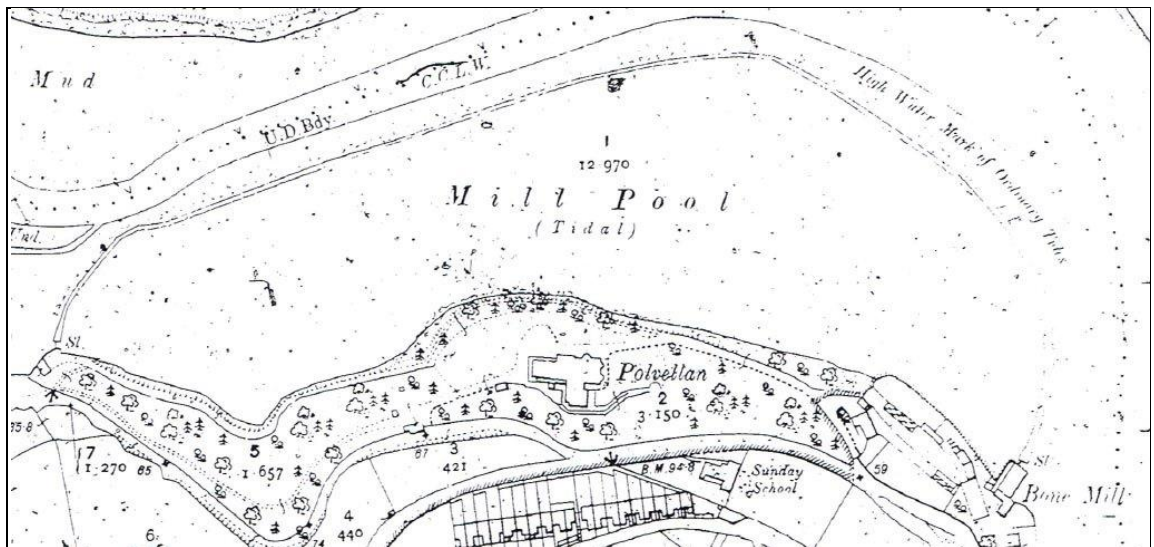


Figure 4: Extract from the Ordnance Survey Second Edition map at 1:2500, 1907.

2.4 The Grounds

In 1823 Thomas Bond described the grounds as tastefully laid out. The earliest cartographic evidence of the garden design is provided by the First edition OS map of 1882; and therefore over a hundred years after the grounds were first created. If the original design was in the late 18th century picturesque mode, then very little remains recognisably of that era. The available maps show that there was substantial change to the grounds between the period covered by the First and the Second Edition OS maps. According to a recently commissioned tree survey (Pell Frischman 2013) there are few if any extant specimens that might date from the 18th century, though there are some beech, oak and sweet chestnut that began life in the mid- to late 19th century and are therefore the surviving remnants of later garden design rather than the original layout associated with the earliest house on the site.

Nevertheless, other reports (Cornwall Industrial Settlements Initiative) point out that the relict woodland and ornamental grounds of Polvellan House are an important visual element in the setting of West Looe. In the Looe Conservation Area Management Plan the grounds of Polvellan House are named as *'important ornamental grounds'* (2009: 32). The Looe Conservation Appraisal describes Polvellan as *'landscaped grounds of outstanding importance'*, which should be *'protected, enhanced and perhaps be made more accessible'* (2009: 16).

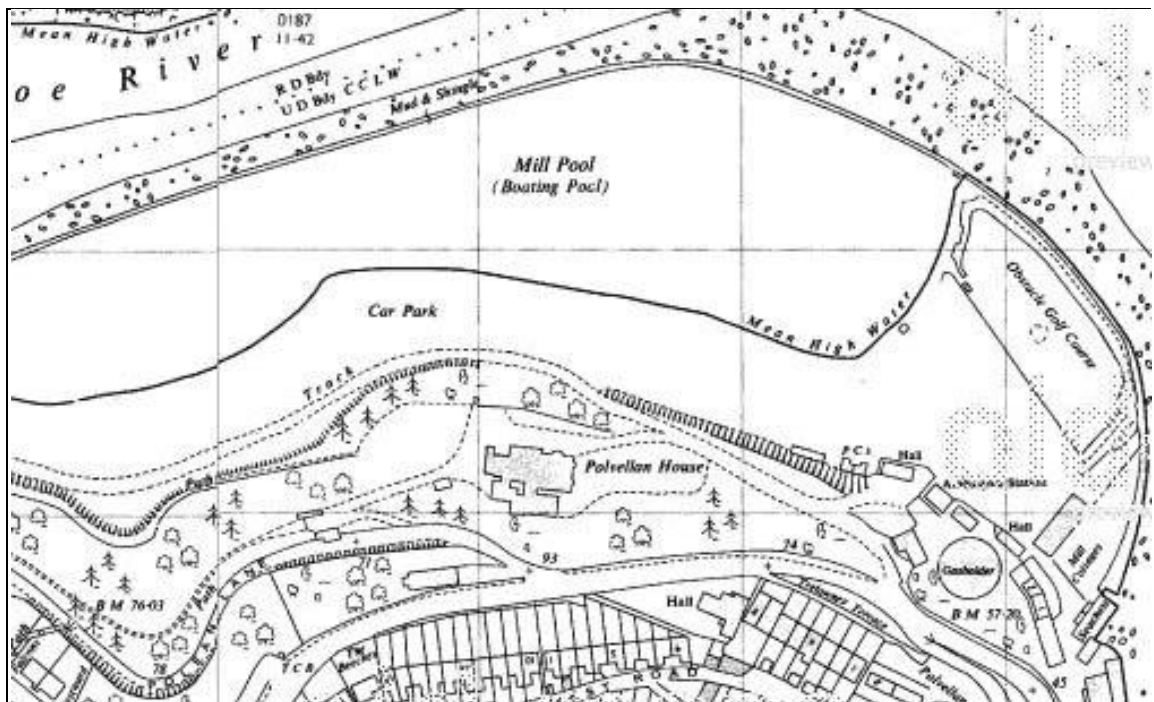


Figure 5: Extract from the 1969 edition of the Ordnance Survey map at 1:2500.

2.5 Archaeological Background

A search of the HER entries for Looe (see Appendix 2), quickly emphasises the abundance of largely medieval, post-medieval and modern archaeological sites/structures within the town and its surrounding. There are also a small scattering of prehistoric findspots and possible barrows. There are no recorded HER entries within the grounds of Polvellan House itself (which is also not a listed building) but nearby to the east of the grounds is the site of *Poll Mill* (or Polvellan Mill). According to the HER entry *Poll Mill* (HER no: 6544) is a tidal mill with an associated mill pond (located to the north of the house), which is first mentioned in 1614, but may have had

considerably earlier origins. It is of note that the 1945 aerial photographs show an undated arcing ditched feature bisecting the post-medieval Mill Pool (now car park) to the north of the house (HER no: 57342), which could perhaps be associated with a leat for an earlier mill, although it may simply represent a natural water channel.

3.0 The Building Assessment

3.1 Brief Exterior Description

The building (Figure 6) sits on a level platform of ground, cut into the north facing slope overlooking the estuary, with levelled areas of former garden to the east and west of the house. The presentation facade of the house is to the east, looking toward the town of Looe. To the east and west the ground slopes steeply away to the north and the modern car park, formerly a larger mill pond. These areas are wooded.



Figure 6: The north elevation of Polvellan Manor, viewed from the north-west.

The building comprises a relatively large irregular plan rubble slate stone and brick house, with modern cement render over, with a multi faceted slate roof with terracotta cockscomb ridge tiles to the main ridge, lead to the gables and hipped elements, with ball and leaf finials, and four brick rendered chimney stacks with Victorian buff coloured octagonal chimney pots. All ground floor openings were covered for security at the time of the survey but comprise full length versions of the first floor window openings; Gothic arched windows with late 19th – 20th century coloured glass in a floral motif forming the top light of each. Each ground floor opening has a brick step with slate tread.

The eastern elevation (Figure 7) has a double bow front, each bow with three full length arched windows at ground floor level and three smaller three light windows above. The roofs of the bow elements sit slightly uncomfortably with the hipped gables, suggesting they may be later. To the south is a single storey flat roofed crenellated former entrance porch, with a modern exterior stair. The south elevation is connected to a later ballroom structure to the west of this, positioned on a raised rubble stone platform giving access to a pathway up to the south-east and with a walkway around the south and west sides of the ballroom accessing the rear of the house and service elements to the west. The north elevation has a single bow at the east end (Figure 6),

with the current house entrance door to the west of this and with a slightly projecting (probable late 19th century) addition to the west.



Figure 7: The east elevation of Polvellan Manor with the double bow presentation front and the later ballroom extension to the south, viewed from the east.

This elevation then steps back to a probable former service block set back and to the west (mostly inaccessible at the time of the survey), with a double door opening and three window openings (all with modern plastic windows) and a modern velux roof light. The only visible exterior feature of any merit being a small wooden bell tower on the ridge of the roof of this element, with turned timber supports, decorative slate roof and lead finial but with no bell remaining (Figure 8).



Figure 8: Wooden bell tower.

3.2 The Interior Assessment and Phasing

Elements of the house were not accessible at the time of the survey, including the cellars and the modern flats to the south and west and much of the interior detailing of the house had been stripped out prior to the assessment. Where still extant, the remaining detailing and architectural features have been used in conjunction with the map evidence to devise a provisional relative phasing sequence for the house. It is unfortunate that the earliest cartographic source that is available to this study is a rather poorly drawn tithe map, giving little detail about the size and layout of the building and giving no information about the layout of the grounds at this time. However the First and Second Edition Ordnance Survey maps do provide some insight into the development of the house in the 19th and 20th centuries.

No architectural detailing appears to remain from the earliest recorded building on the site; the ‘cottage style’ house of John Lemon MP, and there are no contemporary cartographic sources. Therefore, even if some of the existing fabric of the building dates from the late 18th century this would be difficult to firmly establish.

See Figures 9 & 10 for Room numbers and phasing plan. The numbered rooms are those accessed for the assessment.

3.2.1 Phase 1 – Early 19th Century

The elements of Polvellan house that can be consigned to this phase are the eastern wing of the building, including Rooms 1-5 (R1-5), the south projecting former porch, R9, and the former western service wing (R7).

On the ground floor at this time there was a wall at the south end of the existing entrance hall and the main entrance to the building was via porch structure on the south elevation in the position of the current ballroom lobby (R9), giving access from the entrance to the domestic rooms to the east, including a dining room (R5) and reception rooms, with the stair probably set within the current entrance lobby on the northern elevation (R1) and a service range to the west (R7) with kitchen, washroom, dairy etc.

Most, if not all of the decorative architectural features pertaining to this phase of the development of the building have been removed or replaced by later detailing or recent works. However, some of the less elaborate detailing may date to this period such as the concave moulded coving, which is less decorative and ornate than much of the later 19th century mouldings. This type of moulding was found in R3 and a number of the bedrooms over this eastern range (R16 & R17). The first floor landing (R10) also dates to this first recognisable phase (Figure 11); it is easily accessible from the stair, which would have risen in R14, and it has the concave moulded coving as well as a decorative arched opening into a small corridor leading to the former principle bedrooms with the bow windows on the east front (R16 & R17) – now a single room but formerly two.

3.2.2 Phase 2 – Late 19th Century

The building appears to have undergone extensive works in the later 19th century, with the addition of at least two significant elements and with most of the rooms accessed appearing to have undergone the insertion of significant decorative detailing in the late 19th century style (see Figure 12). Most of the detailing still extant within the building appears to date from this period.

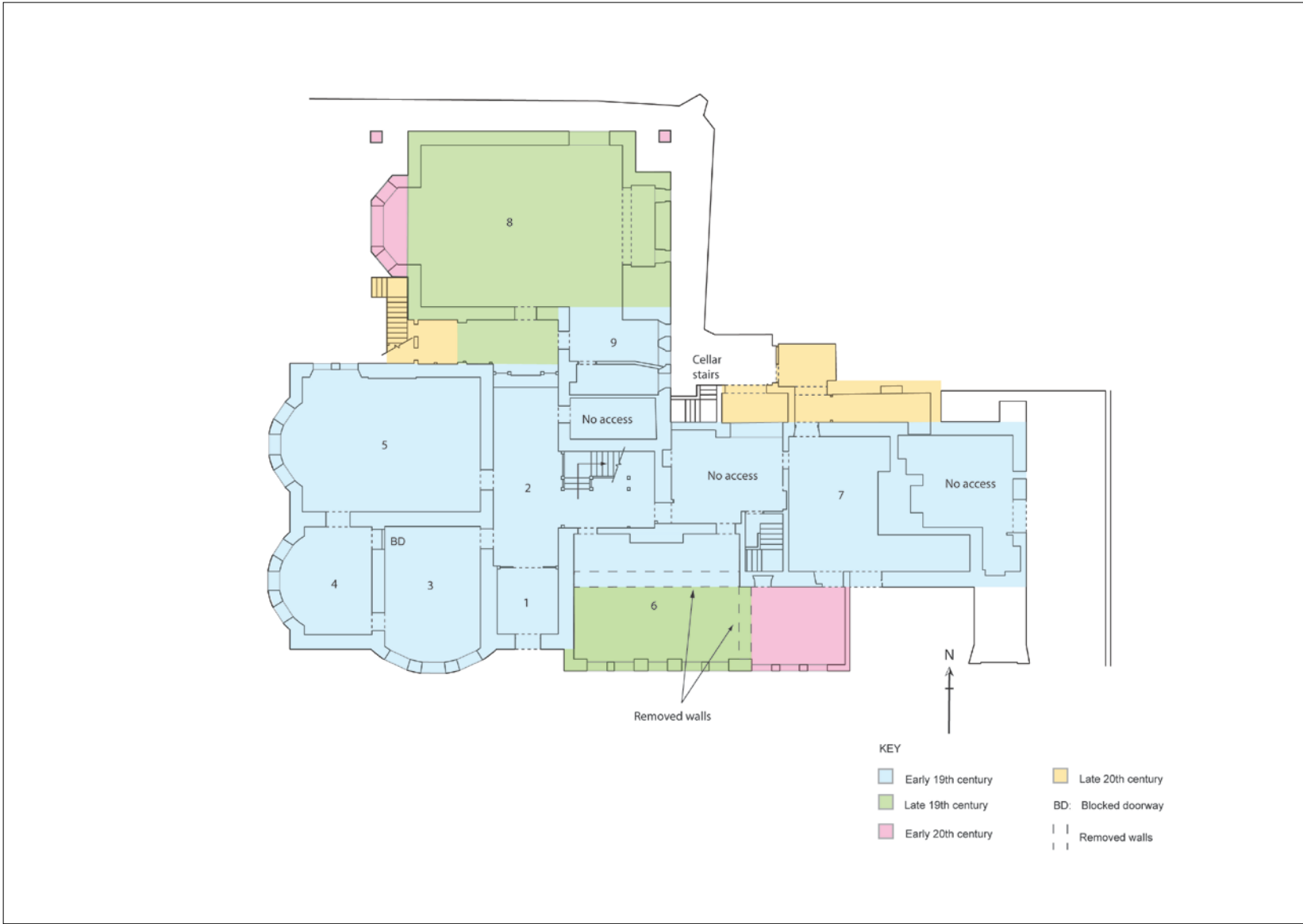


Figure 9: Ground floor phased plan of Polvellan Manor.

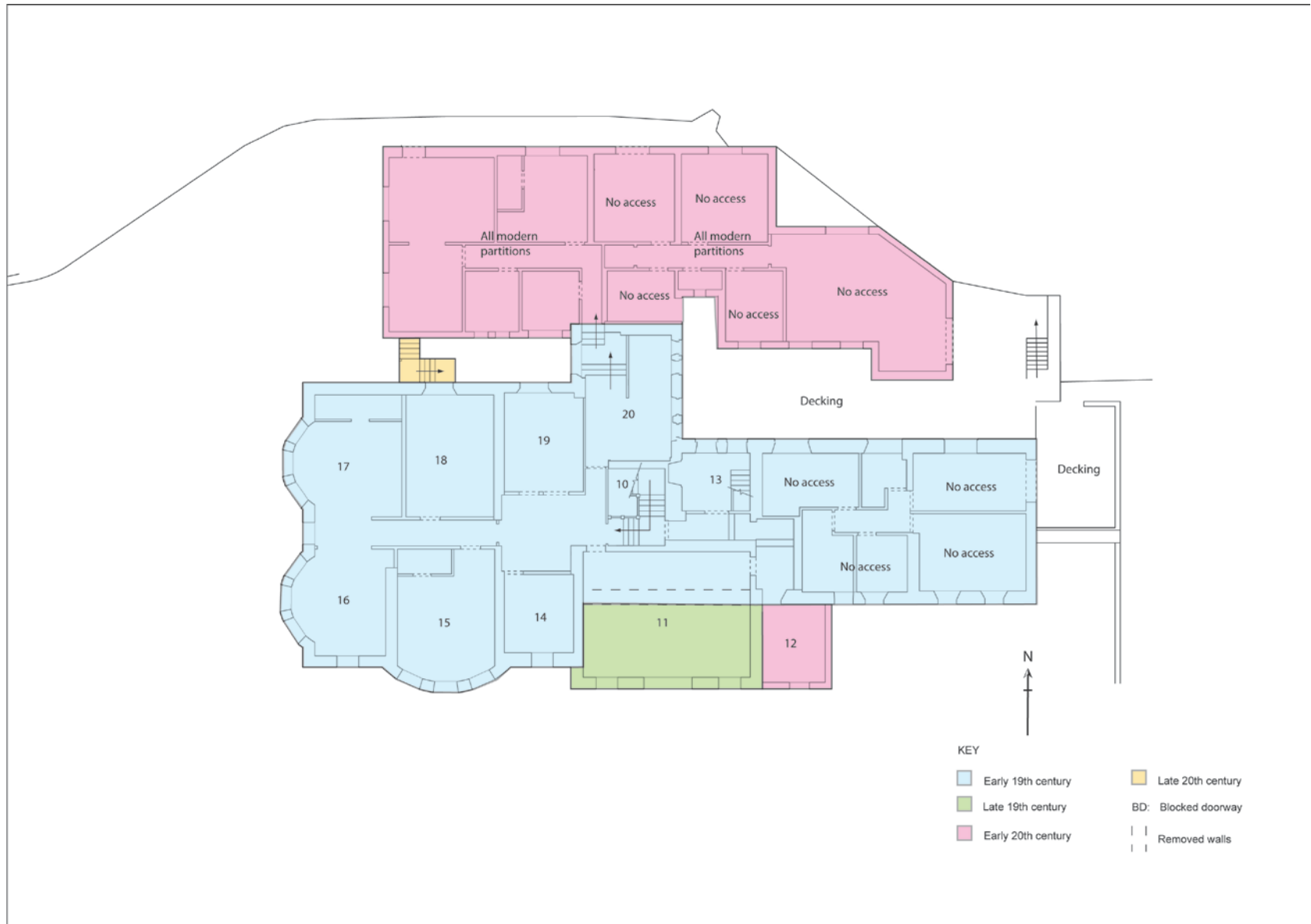


Figure 10: First floor phased plan of Polvellan Manor.



Figure 11: Early 19th century detailing.



Figure 12: Late 19th century timberwork.

There appear to have been two major additions to the building at this time; a single storey ballroom to the south (R8), and a new two storey extension to the north-west (R6). The ballroom was a single storey structure with a large arched recess to the west (possibly a fire place?), a large window with a fluted dark stained frame to the east and probably with a visible roof structure springing from the corbels projecting from the walls at picture rail height. It seems that at the same time the entrance into the building was altered or enlarged, with a crenellated porch with an arched opening and raised roof light added at the southern end of R2 giving a separate access into the ballroom. Decorative floor tiles were laid throughout R2, with moulded coving to the ceiling and dark stained timber door cases installed.

The new heated dining room with a master bedroom above was added on the north elevation, incorporating some of the east end of the service wing. An extremely ornately decorated entrance lobby was created within the former stair well (R1) which may have incorporated a door opening into the new dining room to the west. This change signifies a change in the presentation of the building and implies that the north elevation was given more importance. The map evidence suggests that the service wing to the west may have been enclosed by a wall at this point thereby enhancing the visual appearance of the north face of the house. The work to create the new dining room involved the removal of a wall associated with the former service wing, formerly within the southern portion of R6, and probably included the creation of the cellars or alteration or enlargement of an earlier cellar space. The service rooms to the west were probably also rearranged at this time.

A new imposing staircase was installed into the centre of the building and a heavy dark stained timber framing was positioned in the eastern entrance to the stair lobby from the entrance hall, and another at the south end of the current entrance hall where the former exterior wall had been removed (Figure 12 – confusingly the removed timber arch is resting on its side in front of the stair). At first floor level the stairwell was decorated with elaborate plaster friezes (Figure 13) and at the head of the stair the wall between the new stairwell and the existing landing was

removed and new mouldings added to the soffit, the earlier former stairwell was converted – possibly to a nursery, and a large master bedroom was added to the west.

The developments within the building were accompanied by the addition of the tiered walkways and retaining walls and viewing tower to the east of the building and probably further structural or design elements within the grounds.



Figure 13: Plaster decoration within the stairwell.

3.2.3 Phase 3 – Early 20th Century

Developments in the early 20th century included an extension to the west of the Phase 2 dining room and bedroom above (R6 & R11). At first floor level this formed two rooms - a heated dressing room or bathroom to the north and to the south of the room a possible lobby to the service wing to the west. On the ground floor, the function of the new element is not clear and it may be that the primary purpose of the extension was the creation of a bathroom for the master bedroom.

It is probably at this time that the arched windows were put in throughout the building, including this new extension. They appear to all be contemporaneous and the decorative coloured top lights appear to date to no earlier than this period. All window openings are square headed to the interior and only arched on the exterior face of the building, suggesting that square headed windows may have been installed before the arched lights were inserted. It is possible that the style employed copied a similar earlier example from somewhere in the building but there appears to be no earlier examples surviving.

To the south, the ballroom was extended upward and slightly to east and west with these elements resting on pillars at the corners of the building. To facilitate this a new ceiling was installed in the ballroom below, removing the existing roof trusses and inserting what appear to be RSJs, which were then covered with lath and plaster and painted. The large window on the east elevation was pushed outward forming a full height bay window. The first floor rooms of this element of the building are all modern.

3.2.4 Late 20th Century

There were numerous alterations made to the building during the late 20th century relating to the various conversions of the building to a hotel/residential care home etc. This included the insertion of a number of bathrooms & toilets and further partitioning of rooms. Most of this has now been removed with the most visible remaining interior elements being the partition at the top of the stair on the first floor and the timber and glass screen at the south end of the entrance lobby. Externally, the metal stair against the east elevation of the southern entrance porch dates to this period.

4.0 Assessment of the Grounds

The grounds predominantly slope down to the estuary to the north, with levelled areas immediately to the north, east and west of the house and a retaining wall and steeply sloping ground up to the south. To the south of the house, a track, Polean Lane, follows the boundary from the western end to a point to the south of the house, with the eastern part of the grounds bounded to the south by Polperro Road (see Figures 23), with modern houses and gardens beyond. The house and grounds are accessed from the sloping drive just to the north-east of the building. No garden features or ornaments were recorded to the immediate north of the building besides some modern planting and rubble; as such the area to the north is not discussed further.

4.1 Area to the West of the House

Immediately to the west of the building is a large oval shaped levelled area, with large dumps of spoil and rubble to the northern edge and a rock cut bank to the south. Along the eastern part of the rock cut southern edge is a 0.5-2m high stone retaining wall, and it is likely that this represents the earlier dimensions of the platform (c.12m wide), with a subsequent expansion (the rock cut portion) occurring probably in the early 20th century. To the south of this platform a wide (c.8m) track runs up slope to the west toward a random rubble stone garage and a tradesman's entrance to the grounds. There is a further footpath located to the north of the platform which is now largely obscured by the rubble and spoil which has been dumped along the platforms northern edge. The levelled area has no significant features except for the partial stone revetment to the eastern end of the southern edge (Figure 14).



Figure 14: Stone retaining wall along the eastern edge of the southern edge of the oval platform to the west of the house, viewed from the north.

Below the western end of the platform, the track which runs along the northern edge of the platform splits with one path extending to run along the northern edge of the gardens and a further path running up slope to the south. There is a small length of rubble stone revetment wall to the north-eastern extent of this upward path. Both paths have been partially blocked or disrupted to the west by dumps of spoil and shillet from up slope (Figure 15). Immediately to the north of this junction in paths is a small quarry, which may be associated with the construction of the mill pond to the north.



Figure 15: The paths leading west below the levelled area to the west of the house, partially blocked by dumps of shillet, viewed from the east (2m Scale).

The lower (northern) path continues around the northern edge of the gardens to the western extent of the property. At the point where the boundary cuts inward (south) and curves around forming a small semicircular inlet, now used as a bus-turning area (see Figures 2-5), there is a possible rock cut grotto (see Figure 16). The feature may be a product of a more mundane activity such as quarrying, but the location would formerly have given pleasant views out across the estuary and the mill pool, as well as a sheltered position from which to watch the wildlife and activity on the water.



Figure 16: The possible rock-cut grotto or quarry, viewed from the north (2m scale).

The lower (northern) track continues to the current north-western extent of the property to a modern concrete block built building (Figure 17), here a narrow probably modern pathway runs upslope to the south-west and to the southern path that borders the southern boundary to the site. It is likely that the lower (northern) path may have formerly led to a boathouse, although there is no physical trace of this, or cartographic evidence to support the suggestion.

The upper (southern) pathway follows the southern edge of the grounds, positioned at a distance of approximately 5-8m to the north of the property boundary (Figure 18). There are a number of mature late 19th century beech trees lining the route where the path sweeps around to the south-west.

The only features noted during the survey of this area of the grounds were the pathways and occasional sections of overgrown rubble stone revetting along the course of the paths. No platforms or other features were noted cut into or built out from the steep slope of the wooded grounds. Both the upper (south) and the lower (north) paths are marked on the cartographic sources from 1882 (Figure 3).



Figure 17: The end of the lower northern pathway to the west of the house, now blocked by a modern concrete block building, viewed from the east.



Figure 18: The upper southern pathway to the west of the house, curving around to the south-east, viewed from the north-west.

The upper pathway joins with the wide trackway running south-west from the house, meeting at a levelled area associated with and just to the north of a former garage and rear access (Figure 18). The garage is a semi coursed rubble stone built structure is built into the bank to the south, with a slated roof (with sheet covering to the south) and large timber double doors to the north. The structure is currently in poor condition. To the west is an associated rubble stone built structure, also built into the southern bank, with an odd curvilinear south-east corner and a later brick flue built into the south-east end of the south wall (Figure 19).



Figure 19: The former garage against the southern boundary, viewed from the north (2m scale).

Examination of the map evidence suggests that the building and the small associated structure were present by 1907 (see Figure 4), previous to this, a square building is marked in this position (Figure 3), probably representing a larger former coach house.

To the north-west of the garage the map evidence shows a further building (see Figures 4 & 5) but this is no longer standing and the area is completely obscured by dumped debris and rubble.



Figure 20: The associated structure to the west of the former garage, viewed from the north-east (2m scale).

To the east of the garage is a blocked former entrance, with rubble stone and brick gate piers, and with a granite gate post with pintles remaining inside the former opening, against the western face of the eastern pier. The former opening is blocked with rubble stone facing (Figure 21) and the road beyond has presumably been built up since the closing of the opening, as the level of the lane to the south is now at the level of the roof of the garage. An opening is marked on the Second Edition OS map of 1907 (Figure 4), and was associated with the earlier layout of this area (see Figure 3) where it seems to have formed another entrance – possibly for tradesmen etc. The dramatic increase in level of the public road may suggest that it was formerly a sunken hollow-way, possibly of some antiquity.



Figure 21: Blocked former opening to the east of the garage, viewed from the northeast.

To the east of the former opening, a modern access track rises to the south-east and joins the public road to the south. This access track is marked on the later 20th century maps and replaced the earlier access through the lower (blocked) opening to the west. Running alongside and below this, a pathway leads off to the east toward the rear (south) of the house, but this has been partially truncated where the slope below it has been dug away (see Figure 22). The bank to the south between it and the track above is stone faced and to the north is the lower track or former drive up to the garage – the spoil from where the path has been partially dug away is dumped to the north of the lower drive. It was not possible to follow the central pathway for any distance as vegetation growth and modern buildings to the south-east of the main house have obstructed it.



Figure 22: The modern access track to the east of the former garage (van positioned in entrance), with a partially truncated pathway beneath, and the wider path further below, viewed from the west (2m scale).

The cartographic sources (Figures 3-5) suggest that to the east of the garage and between the two pathways (shown in Figure 22) was a small sub-rectangular building. There was no physical trace of this structure, although it appears that there may have been some further modern truncation of the bank between the two paths, which may have removed some/all trace.

4.2 Area to the East of the House

Immediately to the east of the building is a levelled area of former garden, with further sloping woodland to the south, east and north and with an imposing three tier sequence of rubble stone retaining walls and paths to the south (see Figure 23).



Figure 23: The levelled garden area to the east of the house, viewed from the west.

The levelled area contains remnants of concrete paths, chippings and cemented areas and to the east, the base and foundations of a possible (modern) former summer/green house set in modern cement. No historic garden features or planting were observed.

To the south-west of this levelled area, a semi coursed rubble stone wall with cement slab capping rises up to the east to form a semicircular viewing platform. A ramped path to the south of the wall rises from a ground level rubble stone platform associated with the ballroom, to the west giving access to the viewing tower, formerly planted with a central tree (now just the stump remaining), and a further path, set between the central retaining wall and a higher structure joins it just to the west of the platform. This path possibly formerly linked with the truncated path to the west of the house (see Figure 22). To the west, at the south-west corner of the ballroom structure, at the level of the path and below at ground level, dripping lead water pipes project from the wall forming a possible former water feature or possibly marking the route of a former water supply? At ground level a brick arch has been constructed over the corner as if to make a feature of it.

To the east of the viewing platform tower the path continues eastward into the woodland, but has no obvious structural component, is overgrown and appears to peter out toward the eastern extremity of the property. No further garden features were observed during the survey.



Figure 24: The tiered retaining walls and viewing platform tower to the east of the house, viewed from the north-west.



Figure 25: Topographical plan of the house and grounds at Polvellan Manor (Based on: Pell Frishmann).

5.1 The Desk-Based Assessment

5.1.1 Documentary Sources

The most easily accessible sources were accessed and utilised for this assessment of Polvellan Manor. If more in depth study of the sources were required there are a relatively large number of potentially relevant papers dating from the late 18th to late 19th centuries, including plans, correspondence and leases, housed at the Cornwall Records Office that could further enlighten the development of the building and grounds. The Courtney Library could also be contacted for historic photographs of the property.

The following is given as an initial assessment of the history of Polvellan Manor.

5.1.2 Polvellan House - Summary of Findings

In 1787 a ‘small ... neat house in the cottage style’ in well appointed grounds was built below West Looe Down by John Lemon MP. He called it Polvellan. John Lemon died in 1814 and seems to have passed the house to his relative John Buller. In 1830 Charles Buller MP was in residence; in 1840 it was John Buller. At this date cartographic evidence (such as it is) gives little clue as to if it was still the ‘small ... neat house’ of 1787.

The 1840s and 50s were a significant period for the Buller family who took advantage of industrial developments of the time and were instrumental in creating new quay facilities in Looe. It was probable that in this period of prominence that the original Polvellan was enlarged and embellished and the gardens altered. From the census record it appears that the house was made available to the church by 1851 to accommodate clergymen and their households, a Sunday school was also built on part of the estates land at around this time. Between the 1880s and 1907 the house was expanded with the addition of a rear wing and was probably at this time still a private residence. Later in the 20th century, specifically during the Second World War it lost its original function and became temporarily a maternity hospital, later a hotel.

5.1.3 Significance of the Building

The house has a certain significance for West Looe having been a home of (members of) the locally important Buller family and being one of the very few prominent buildings of the 18th or early 19th century in the town. As such it almost alone represents the taste among the gentry of that period for residences in picturesque settings near the sea. The Looe Conservation Area Management Plan (2009: 32) describes Polvellan House as ‘*the prime residence of the town*’.

5.1.4 The Grounds

The earliest cartographic evidence of the garden design is provided by the First edition OS map of 1882, over a hundred years therefore after the grounds were first created, with very little remaining that is recognisably of the earlier era. Other reports (e.g. Cornwall Industrial Settlements Initiative) state that the relict woodland and ornamental grounds of Polvellan House are an *important visual element* in the setting of West Looe. In the Looe Conservation Area Management Plan (2009) the grounds of Polvellan House are named as an ‘open area of local significance’. The map evidence and survey appears to show that there is probably nothing of the

original 18th century garden remaining, and that those features that do survive, such as the viewing tower and associated walls and paths, date from at least a hundred years later.

5.2 The Building Assessment

The initial assessment of Polvellan Manor suggests that nothing survives from the earliest recorded building on the site; the cottage style house of John Lemon MP. Most of the historic features and architectural details that are still extant date from the later 19th century, including the remaining tiled floors, some plaster moulded coving and decorative plaster work within the entrance lobby and stairwell. Most surprisingly, it seems that the gothic arched windows that have given the building its historic appearance and character appear to date to the 20th century.

5.3 Assessment of the Grounds

5.3.1 The significance

The survey of the grounds uncovered little evidence of any design or structural feature apart from those to the south and south-east of the house itself; the walls and viewing tower and the paths to the west of the house. The other only potential features are the possible grotto and the stone facing or revetment on some of the banks, with the former opening in the southern boundary, adjacent to the former garage structure that represents a historic entranceway into the property. There was also no trace of any original planting with the majority of trees probably 20th century in date with a small scattering of 19th century specimens.

No historical details are visible or upstanding within the levelled areas to the north, east or west of the building, these areas have had any remnants of former garden layout removed or flattened. Any visible remains are modern and relate to mid or late 20th century use of the grounds. There was no extant earthwork evidence for earlier archaeology within the grounds.

5.3.2 Impact of the proposed development on the grounds

The proposed developments will have little direct impact upon the few remaining elements of extant garden features. The developments to the east of the house is positioned at a reasonable distance from the 19th century viewing platform and walkways. The relatively level area in which this is positioned is judging by the cartographic evidence a post-1887 extension to the gardens, and has therefore been partially terraced at this time. There is therefore limited potential for the groundworks in this area to reveal any evidence of garden features or archaeological deposits. The viewing tower does have some structural cracks, and re-instating the tower as a structurally sound viewing platform with accessible walkways would help retain and preserve these features.

To the west of the house the development will be positioned largely on top of the oval platform, which appears to be a largely modern creation. This will therefore have limited impact on any archaeological deposits. However a small section of retaining wall and part of the former drive to the coach-house (garage) will be lost as part of this development. The pathway above the drive will be re-instated allowing for access past the rear of Polvellan House to the viewing platform, as in the property's 19th century prime.

The footpaths further west and north will not be impacted by the proposed works although some clearance work could be done to reinstate these, especially the lower northern path. The garage will also not be part of the development works, but some repairs, clearance and re-roofing would stabilise this structure which could then be used as a useful store on the site.

6.0 Bibliography and References

Published Sources:

Bond, T. 1823: *Topographical and Historical Sketches of the Boroughs of East and West Looe*, London

British Geological Survey 2013: Geology of Britain Viewer. www.bgs.ac.uk/

English Heritage 2006: *Understanding Historic Buildings, a Guide to Good Recording Practice*.

Gover, J.E.B., Mawer, A. & Stenton, F.M. 1931: *The Place-Names of Devon* (2 vols.). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Hoskins, W.G. 1978 (for 1954): *Devon*. Newton Abbot: David & Charles Ltd.

Institute of Field Archaeologists 1994 (Revised 2001 & 2008): *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-based Assessment*.

Institute of Field Archaeologists. 1996 (Revised 2001 & 2008): *Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Investigation and Recording of Standing Buildings or Structures*.

Institute of Field Archaeologists. 2001 (Revised 2008): *Standard and Guidance for the collection, documentation, conservation and research of archaeological materials*

Lysons, D & Lysons S. 1822: *Magna Britannia*, vol.6. London.

Padel O.J. 1988: *Cornish Place-Names*. Alison Hodge.

Soil Survey of England and Wales 1983: *Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales (a brief explanation of the constituent soil associations)*.

Thorn, C. and Thorn, F. (eds.) 1985: *Domesday Book: Devon*. Chichester.

Trade Directories

Pigot's Directory of Cornwall 1830

Kelly's Directory of Cornwall 1893 and 1906

Other Sources:

Census Records 1851-1901 (Cornwall Online Census Project)

West Looe Tithe Map and Apportionment 1840 (Cornwall Record Office)

Looe Conservation Area Appraisal, 2009

Looe Conservation Area Management Plan, 2009

Cornwall Industrial Settlements Report, 2002.

Appendix 1

Recommendations for the work - CCHEPAO Phil Coplestone

We identified a number of different archaeological issues which should be addressed as early as possible:

BUILDING ARCHAEOLOGY: Polvellan House – built in 1787, extended in the 19th and 20th centuries – is historically significant (albeit not recognised by Listing) as “the prime residence of the town” (Looe CA Management Plan, p32-33). Some recent alterations have already been undertaken, but an initial archaeological assessment of the existing fabric (e.g. layout of living space, approx. structural phasing, identification of key historic features, etc.) would be helpful to assess its overall significance. This would include the main house, extensions and outbuildings which date from 1841-78. Should further archaeological building recording be required (such as a photographic survey as a Condition of planning consent), this may prove to be the only opportunity to make a public record of these historic structures prior to redevelopment. More pragmatically, a better understanding of the buildings, the significance of their component parts, and the relative phasing of their construction and alteration, may helpfully inform the proposals and which parts should be retained.

GARDEN ARCHAEOLOGY (including current tree planning): The ornamental gardens and pleasure grounds – also dating from 1787, and added to in the 19th century – are landscaped grounds of outstanding importance which may still retain a considerable amount of archaeological information, for instance in a) surviving buried and upstanding structures (driveways, trackways, paths, remains of walls, grottoes, fountain bases, tree and planting bowls and trenches), b) surviving planting (designed landscape, tree species, etc.), and c) buried environmental data (pollen, seeds, etc.). An initial archaeological assessment and possible subsequent recording could add greatly to our understanding of the historical importance of this designed landscape. The initial archaeological assessment may require a rapid topographical survey to understand the various surface components and their importance. And for the same reasons as articulated in the paragraph above, the results may inform the development proposals.

BURIED ARCHAEOLOGY: There is potential for buried archaeology pre-dating to the construction of the house and gardens, ‘fossilised’ within the garden area. This site overlooks the estuaries of the East and West Looe rivers, with consequent easily access to valuable resources and transport links throughout history. The ‘Giant’s Hedge’ Medieval boundary passes just to the south (upslope) of this site. The initial archaeological assessment should assess this site for potential pre-garden settlement features.

In summary: An understanding of Polvellan House and its gardens should form the basis of a “properly detailed conservation management plan” for this property (Looe CA Management Plan, p32); the proposal for development at Polvellan is also “an opportunity to explore several aspects of historical and archaeological interest” (Looe CA Management Plan, p33).

The above advice incorporates information from David Moore, CC Conservation Officer.

Recommendations

We therefore recommend that the applicant commission an archaeological assessment of the buildings and landscape of the whole development area before submitting a planning application. This to include a survey of the house, outbuildings and gardens to inform the planning officer of the potential for further recording and the impact of the proposals on the building fabric and buried garden archaeology or earlier features. This is in accordance with the requirements of National Planning Policy Framework, section 128.

Appendix 2

Relevant HER entries

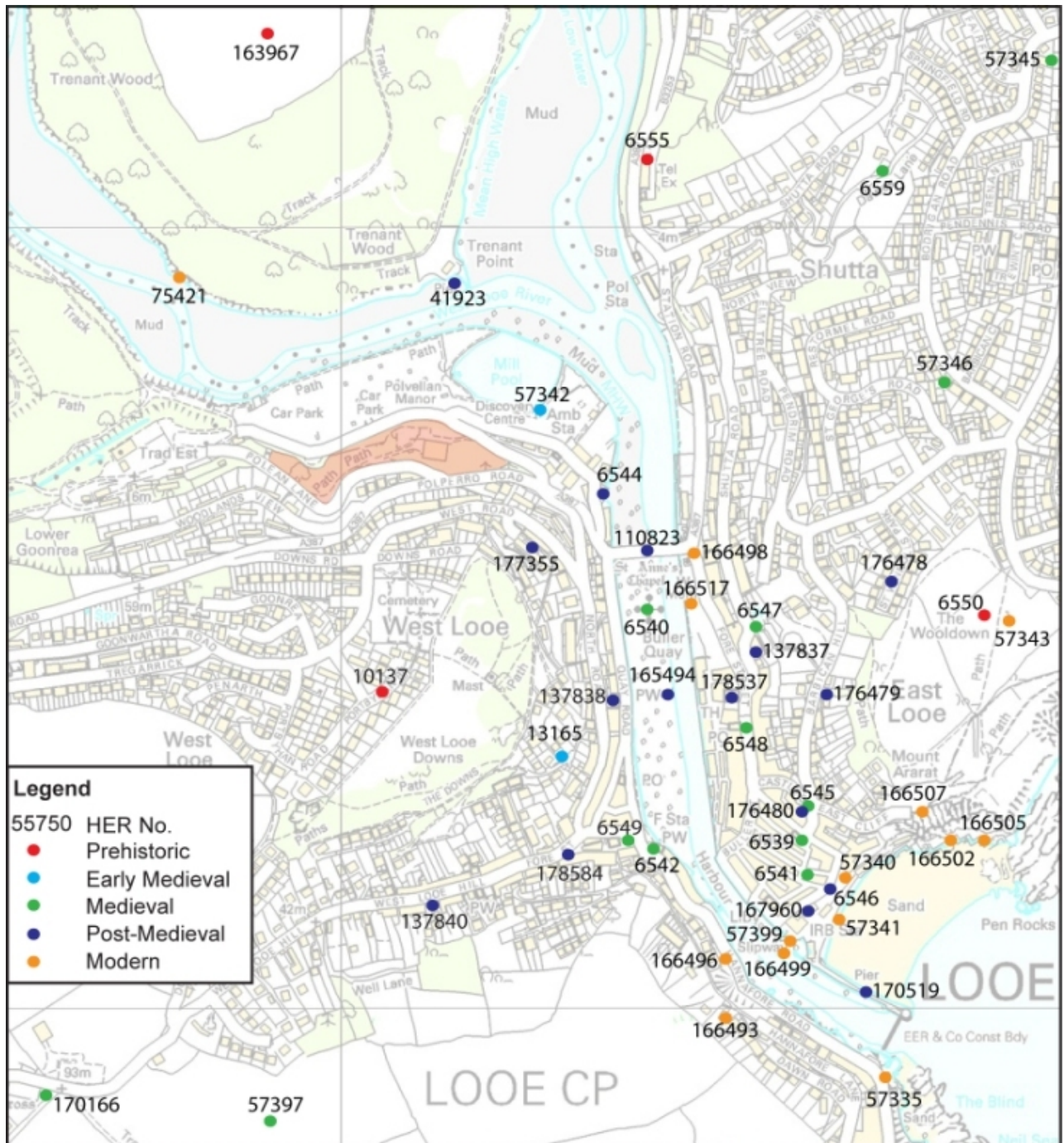


Figure 26: Relevant HER entries. The approximate area of the site is highlighted.

HER Number: 6539
Name: LOOE - Medieval guildhall
Summary: Guildhall, Higher Market Street, East Looe (now Museum). Probably C16, slightly remodelled C17. 2 storeys. Rubble walls. Rectangular 1st-floor hall plan. Restored 1972. Listed & Scheduled.
Grid Reference: SX 2559 5321
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Scheduled Monument CO274: Old Guidhall, East Looe
 Conservation Area: LOOE

Listed Building (II*) 376409: THE OLD GUILDHALL (NOW MUSEUM)
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: GUILDHALL (, 16th Century - 1501 AD to 1600 AD)
Full description: Guildhall, Higher Market Street, East Looe (now Museum). Probably C16, slightly remodelled C17. Restored 1972. MATERIALS: rubble walls with chamfered oak lintels, some of which are original; part grouted and part slurried rag slate roof with 7 original crested clay ridge tiles; truncated rear lateral stack. PLAN: rectangular 1st-floor hall plan. EXTERIOR: 2 storeys with street level built up at the front; 2-window range. Late C17 or 1705 3-light oak mullioned windows to 1st floor (front and rear); rubble string just above 1st floor sill level; many original or C17 oak lintels. Ground-floor windows have C20 copy outer frames; leaded lights to 1st floor; fixed lights with glazing bars to ground floor. Above ground-floor lintels are the truncated remains of original corbels which probably originally projected to carry pentice roof with string course as weathering. Original oak doorway with shouldered head central to fenestration; C20 panelled copy door, similar original doorway to 1st-floor left with original 9-panel door. Flight of external stone steps with pentice roof up to open gabled porch with town pillory used as collar. Left-hand return has 2 small barred windows. INTERIOR: original oak roof structure with high morticed collars, trenched purlins and slightly curved truss feet carried on wallplates; canopied plaster ceiling to left-hand end with simple cove to follow shape of trusses; corbelled fireplace hood with late C19 or C20 granite corbels. Ground floor has original chamfered joists and inner ends visible of probable pentice corbels. At 1st-floor right is the 1705 magistrates bench with bolection-moulded panelling and a plaster coat of arms above.

Sources / Further Reading

- [1] SCO4422 - Cornwall Event Report: Sheppard, PA. 1980. The Historic Towns of Cornwall. 44.
 [2] SCO6811 - Unedited Source: UNKNOWN. 19--. OW 819.

Associated Finds: none recorded**Associated Events:** none recorded**Related records:** none recorded**HER Number:** 6540**Name:** LOOE - Medieval chapel, Medieval bridge**Summary:** The original bridge at Looe was commenced in 1411 and completed in 1436.**Grid Reference:** SX 2539 5351**Parish:** Looe, Caradon, Cornwall**Protected Status:** Conservation Area: LOOE**Other Statuses/Codes:** none recorded**Monument Types:** BRIDGE and CHAPEL (Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD)

Full description: The original bridge at Looe was commenced in 1411 and completed in 1436. The bridge was built to link the boroughs of East and West Looe and to help travellers along the coast route from Plymouth to Fowey (b1). St Anne's chapel was situated in the middle of the bridge. The first reference to the chapel is when Sir John Gynys, chaplain, obtained a license from the bishop to celebrate mass in the chapel. The license dates from the 18th November 1436. It has been suggested that the chapel was demolished at the time of the Reformation. There are no later references to it and in 1853 when the bridge was pulled down, the only trace of it was said to be a well in one of the recesses (b1). Dr Borlase drew a sketch of the bridge in about 1750, in which 15 arches are shown, with two square openings at either end for rafts. Borlase states that the bridge's width was 6 feet 2 inches. Leland gives the number of arches as 12 or 16. J Fossington RA in 1810 reproduced the upper side of the bridge in an engraving, showing 12 arches and 2 openings. Bond, in his sketches of Looe of 1883, says it was 384 feet long and varied in breadth from 10 feet 3 inches to 6 feet 8 inches. He notes 18 arches and 2 raft openings, and he also mentions tablets at each end, recording the repairs by the county in 1689. The bridge was demolished during the construction of the canal and railway in the C19, and was one of the oldest of the four great estuary bridges of Devon and Cornwall. Leland says "it is a thousand pities that the builders of Looe bridge did not make it 9 feet wide as Wadebridge. If they had done this it would have been spared".

Sources / Further Reading

- [1] SCO3515 - Bibliographic reference: Henderson, C & Coates, H. 1928. Old Cornish Bridges and Streams. 67-70.
 [2] SCO2885 - Bibliographic reference: Borlase, W. 1758. The Natural History of Cornwall. 40.
 [3] SCO3512 - Bibliographic reference: Henderson, C. 1925. The Cornish Church Guide. 125.
 [4] SCO4045 - Cartographic materials: Ordnance Survey. 1970s. 1:10,000 OS Map.
 [5] SCO2874 - Bibliographic reference: Bond, T. 1823. Topographical and Historical Sketches of East and West Looe.
 [6] SCO3862 - Bibliographic reference: Leland, J. 1535. The Itinerary of John Leland. VOL 2, 78-85; VOL 3, 1-29.
 [7] SCO4046 - Cartographic materials: Ordnance Survey. 1810-13. 1st Edition OS 1 Inch:1 Mile Map.

Associated Finds: none recorded**Associated Events:** none recorded

Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 6541
Name: LOOE - Medieval chapel
Summary: The chapel of St Mary was dedicated in 1259 and served East Looe.
Grid Reference: SX 2559 5317
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: CHAPEL (Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD)
Full description: The chapel of St Mary was dedicated in 1259 and served East Looe. The chapel was demolished in 1805 because of its state of decay (b2). The C13 tower is all that remains of the original chapel, but it is thought the C19 church is built on the medieval foundations (b6, b7).

Sources / Further Reading

- [1] SCO4050 - Cartographic materials: Ordnance Survey. 1900s. 2nd Edition 1:2500 Map.
- [2] SCO3512 - Bibliographic reference: Henderson, C. 1925. The Cornish Church Guide. 125.
- [3] SCO4126 - Bibliographic reference: Pevsner, N. 1951. The Buildings of England: Cornwall.
- [4] SCO4139 - Bibliographic reference: Polsue, J (Editor). 1867-72. Lake's Parochial History of Cornwall. VOL 3, 166-167.
- [5] SCO5173 - Bibliographic reference: DOE. 19--. Listed Building Description (original DOE). Listing "Greenbacks". SEPT 1973, 5.
- [6] SCO2921 - Bibliographic reference: Brown, HM. 1973. What to Look for in Cornish Churches. 111.
- [7] SCO4422 - Cornwall Event Report: Sheppard, PA. 1980. The Historic Towns of Cornwall. 43.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: 6541.10 Parent of: LOOE - Post Medieval church (Building)

HER Number: 6541.10
Name: LOOE - Post Medieval church
Summary: The chapel of St Mary's was rebuilt by Street as a church in the 1850s.
Grid Reference: SX 2560 5317
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Listed Building (II) 376402: CHURCH OF ST MARY, Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: CHURCH (19th Century - 1801 AD to 1900 AD)
Full description: The chapel of St Mary's was rebuilt by GE Street as a church in the 1850s. The church is of ashlar masonry under a slate roof. Inside it has a nave, aisle and an apsidal chancel, with four large impressive bays to the nave arcade. The interior of the church is spacious, tall and well decorated (b3).

Sources / Further Reading

- [1] SCO4050 - Cartographic materials: Ordnance Survey. 1900s. 2nd Edition 1:2500 Map.
- [2] SCO3512 - Bibliographic reference: Henderson, C. 1925. The Cornish Church Guide. 125.
- [3] SCO4126 - Bibliographic reference: Pevsner, N. 1951. The Buildings of England: Cornwall.
- [4] SCO4139 - Bibliographic reference: Polsue, J (Editor). 1867-72. Lake's Parochial History of Cornwall. VOL 3, 166-167.
- [5] SCO5173 - Bibliographic reference: DOE. 19--. Listed Building Description (original DOE). Listing "Greenbacks". SEPT 1973, 5.
- [6] SCO4422 - Cornwall Event Report: Sheppard, PA. 1980. The Historic Towns of Cornwall. 43.
- [7] SCO8594 - Unedited Source: SHEPPARD, PA. 1980. UNKNOWN.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: 6541 Part of: LOOE - Medieval chapel (Monument)

HER Number: 6542
Name: WEST LOOE - Medieval church
Summary: The chapel of St Nicholas at West Looe.
Grid Reference: SX 2540 5319
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Listed Building (II*) 376467: CHURCH OF ST NICHOLAS and Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: CHURCH (Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD)
Full description: The chapel of St Nicholas, West Looe, was built and endowed before 1330. The chapel lost its ecclesiastical status, perhaps at the Reformation (b1), when it was converted into a guildhall, and was later re-used as a school. A C14 piscina and C15 south wall with windows are all that survive of the medieval chapel. The remainder is C19. It is a very small building, consisting of chancel, nave, north aisle and west tower. The arcade is of timber from a

wrecked ship. In 1852 the chapel was reinstated by Nathaniel Hearle Major of West Looe, at the suggestion of the vicar of the new joint parish of Looe. E Sedding carried out some work on the building in 1915 (b5).

Sources / Further Reading

- [1] SCO4126 - Bibliographic reference: Pevsner, N. 1951. The Buildings of England: Cornwall. 106.
- [2] SCO2921 - Bibliographic reference: Brown, HM. 1973. What to Look for in Cornish Churches. 111.
- [3] SCO4422 - Cornwall Event Report: Sheppard, PA. 1980. The Historic Towns of Cornwall. 43.
- [4] SCO8217 - Unedited Source: UNKNOWN. 1973. UNKNOWN TITLE. J OLD CORNWALL SOC. VOL 8, NO 1.
- [5] SCO3512 - Bibliographic reference: Henderson, C. 1925. The Cornish Church Guide. 126.
- [6] SCO5173 - Bibliographic reference: DOE. 19--. Listed Building Description (original DOE). Listing "Greenbacks". SEP 1973, 14.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 6544
Name: LOOE - Post Medieval tide mill
Summary: A tidal mill pool at Looe is recorded in 1614 as being granted to Thomas Arundell.
Grid Reference: SX 2533 5365
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: TIDE MILL (17th Century - 1601 AD to 1700 AD)
Full description: A tidal mill pool at Looe is recorded in 1614 as being granted to Thomas Arundell (b1). The burgesses of West Looe granted "all the parcel of ground, oze or water, now surrounded by the said mill pool wall". The mill pool was 13 acres in extent and enclosed by a 2.0m to 2.5m high clay-coved, stone-faced wall. A mill leat fed the pool and was cut from the fresh water mills at Polean Creek. West Looe mill, originally Polvellan or Poll Mill, was completed in 1621. The mill was thatched and had four wheels. In 1883 the mill was bought for bone grinding, the mill wheel being removed. In 1926 the building was converted to an electricity generating station (b2, b3). Part of the pool survives, and the remainder has been filled in to form a car park.

Sources / Further Reading

- SCO21388 - Aerial Photograph: JAT. JAT FILM 6 12A/13. SX 2540 5350.
- SCO21412 - Aerial Photograph: Cambridge University Centre for Aerial Photography. CUC BWW 86. SX 2540 5340.
- [1] SCO4422 - Cornwall Event Report: Sheppard, PA. 1980. The Historic Towns of Cornwall. 44.
- [2] SCO7259 - Unedited Source: ANDREW, CKC. 1936. UNKNOWN TITLE. DCNQ. 50.
- [3] SCO3951 - Article in serial: Minchinton, W & Perkins, J. 1971. Tidemills of Devon & Cornwall. DCNQ Vols 31 and 32. 16-18.
- [4] SCO4049 - Cartographic materials: Ordnance Survey. 1880s. 1st Edition 6 Inch Map.
- [5] SCO4924 - Bibliographic reference: Tithe Award. 1840. Talland.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 6545
Name: LOOE - Medieval castle
Summary: Bond notes the early existence of "Castle Street" and "Tower Hill".
Grid Reference: SX 2559 5326
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: CASTLE? (, Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD)
Full description: Bond notes the early existence of "Castle Street" and "Tower Hill". On the basis of these names, he suggests that the raised area where these two streets meet may have been fortified in the medieval period (b2).

Sources / Further Reading

- [1] SCO4422 - Cornwall Event Report: Sheppard, PA. 1980. The Historic Towns of Cornwall. 44.
- [2] SCO2874 - Bibliographic reference: Bond, T. 1823. Topographical and Historical Sketches of East and West Looe.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 6546
Name: LOOE - Post Medieval fortification

Summary: Carew mentions Tudor defences in East Looe.
Grid Reference: SX 2563 5315
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: FORTIFICATION (, Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1900 AD)
Full description: Carew mentions Tudor defences in East Looe - the town "towards the sea is fenced with a garrated wall, against any sudden attempt of the enemy". This probably formed the Church End wall which was destroyed by a gale in 1744 (b1). The inhabitants of East Looe also contributed money prior to 1607 to maintain a gunner. A large gun called "the Thundering Mug" was kept on a platform at Church End (b1). In 1747 a gun battery was supplied, together with 10 similar guns mounted on a long embrasured wall at Church End. In 1778 all the old guns were replaced by new ones, and during the Napoleonic wars the position was manned by a local corps of artillery volunteers (b1).

Sources / Further Reading

- [1] SCO4422 - Cornwall Event Report: Sheppard, PA. 1980. The Historic Towns of Cornwall. 44.
- [2] SCO3044 - Bibliographic reference: Carew, R. 1969. The Survey of Cornwall 1602. 201.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 6547
Name: LOOE - Medieval well, Post Medieval well
Summary: St. Mary's Well or Lady Well, on the outskirts of East Looe.
Grid Reference: SX 2552 5348
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: WELL (Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD) (Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1900 AD)
Full description: St. Mary's Well or Lady Well, on the outskirts of East Looe, was boarded up, but still intact in 1980 and fed by a stream (b1). The well has since been restored by the Old Cornwall Society and is in excellent condition. It is of local stone, backed by the rock face (b3).

Sources / Further Reading

- [1] SCO4422 - Cornwall Event Report: Sheppard, PA. 1980. The Historic Towns of Cornwall. 44.
- [2] SCO3814 - Bibliographic reference: Lane-Davies, A. 1970. Holy Wells of Cornwall. 19, 46.
- [3] SCO3936 - Bibliographic reference: Meyrick, J. 1982. A Pilgrims Guide to the Holy Wells of Cornwall. NO 109, 88.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 6548
Name: EAST LOOE - Medieval settlement
Summary: The borough of East Looe developed out of the market and fair that obtained grants between 1154 and 1189.
Grid Reference: SX 2551 5336
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: SETTLEMENT (First mentioned, Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD)
Full description: The borough of East Looe developed out of the market and fair that obtained grants between 1154 and 1189. The first mention of a borough is in 1201. From 1306 East Looe was taxed as a borough. The earliest known charter dates from 1320. Documentary evidence notes 60 burgesses in 1331. By 1377 the population of the borough had grown to 138 (b1). The town is described by Bond in 1823; it had narrow streets, most of the old houses had cellars 3-4ft below street level and were stone built with slate roofs. The fronts of the houses were made of heavy oak, richly covered or ornamented with plaster. East Looe was larger than its close neighbour West Looe (6549). From 1570-1832 the boroughs of East and West Looe regularly sent four MPs to Westminster (b3).

Sources / Further Reading

- SCO21390 - Aerial Photograph: JAT. JAT FILM 6 13A/14. SX 2550 5310.
- SCO21411 - Aerial Photograph: Cambridge University Centre for Aerial Photography. CUC AX 58. SX 2560 5280.
- SCO21412 - Aerial Photograph: Cambridge University Centre for Aerial Photography. CUC BWW 86. SX 2540 5340.
- [1] SCO4422 - Cornwall Event Report: Sheppard, PA. 1980. The Historic Towns of Cornwall. 43.
- [2] SCO2827 - Bibliographic reference: Beresford, M. 1948. New Towns of the Middle Ages. 405-406.

[3] SCO3512 - Bibliographic reference: Henderson, C. 1925. The Cornish Church Guide. 149.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: 6548:01 Parent of: SHUTTA - Medieval settlement (Monument)

HER Number: 6549
Name: WEST LOOE - Medieval settlement
Summary: The borough of West Looe is first recorded in 1201.
Grid Reference: SX 2536 5321
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: SETTLEMENT (, Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD)
Full description: The borough of West Looe is first recorded in 1201. It was also known as Porbuan or Portbyghan. A charter dated to 1243 confirmed the free borough status. It had a Wednesday market and a Michaelmas fair. The old town consisted of a single street extending west from the quay up to a small coombe. Here, burgage plots are obvious and there are many old buildings listed (b1). The borough was incorporated in 1584 but the principal settlement has always been at East Looe.

Sources / Further Reading

--- SCO21411 - Aerial Photograph: Cambridge University Centre for Aerial Photography. CUC AX 58. SX 2560 5280.

[1] SCO4422 - Cornwall Event Report: Sheppard, PA. 1980. The Historic Towns of Cornwall. 44.

[2] SCO2827 - Bibliographic reference: Beresford, M. 1948. New Towns of the Middle Ages. 406.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 6550
Name: LOOE - Bronze Age barrow
Summary: Mr G Berridge has noted a barrow at this point.
Grid Reference: SX 2582 5350
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: BARROW? (, Bronze Age - 2500 BC to 801 BC)
Full description: Mr G Berridge has noted a barrow at this point. He does not give a record of its size or state of preservation.

(b1) - Berridge, G, 19--, Pers Comm to CCRA, ,

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 6555
Name: SHUTTA - Bronze Age barrow
Summary: A barrow at this location is noted by Geoff Berridge.
Grid Reference: SX 2539 5409
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: BARROW? (Bronze Age - 2500 BC to 801 BC)
Full description: Geoff Berridge notes a barrow at this location, for which there are no further details.

(b1) - Berridge, G, 19--, Pers Comm to CCRA, ,

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 6559
Name: LOOE - Medieval holy well, Post Medieval holy well
Summary: St. Martin's well, formerly a stream flowing out of a rock, is now enclosed in a 'shed' and the source is covered with a wooden lid.

Grid Reference: SX 2569 5407
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: HOLY WELL (Medieval – 1066-1539 AD) (Post Medieval – 1540-1900 AD)

Full description: St. Martin's well was formerly a stream of excellent quality water flowing out of a rock (b1). The spring is now enclosed in a 'shed' and the source is covered with a wooden lid. The water is pumped away and used in the local domestic water supply (b2, b3).

Sources / Further Reading

- [1] SCO4202 - Bibliographic reference: Quiller-Couch, M & L. 1894. Ancient and Holy Wells of Cornwall. 144.
- [2] SCO3814 - Bibliographic reference: Lane-Davies, A. 1970. Holy Wells of Cornwall. 19.
- [3] SCO7323 - Unedited Source: BINNALL, PBG. 1940. UNKNOWN TITLE. DCNQ. VOL 21.
- [4] SCO3936 - Bibliographic reference: Meyrick, J. 1982. A Pilgrims Guide to the Holy Wells of Cornwall. NO 108, 87-89.
- [5] SCO4049 - Cartographic materials: Ordnance Survey. 1880s. 1st Edition 6 Inch Map.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 10137
Name: WEST LOOE DOWN - Neolithic findspot
Summary: A Neolithic axe was found on West Looe Down in the parish of Talland
Grid Reference: SX 2505 5340
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: None recorded
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: FINDSPOT (, Neolithic - 4000 BC to 2501 BC)
Full description: A Neolithic axe was found on West Looe Down in the parish of Talland (b1, b2). There is no further information about the axe.

Sources / Further Reading

- [1] SCO3362 - Bibliographic reference: Gilbert, D (Ed). 1838. The Parochial History of Cornwall. VOL 4, 32.
- [2] SCO3489 - Bibliographic reference: Hencken, HO. 1932. The Archaeology of Cornwall and Scilly. 308.

Associated Finds: FCO620 - AXEHEAD (Neolithic - 4000 BC to 2501 BC)
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 13165
Name: DARLOE - Early Medieval settlement, Medieval settlement
Summary: The settlement of Darlo is first recorded in 1382, as Bodardelhill
Grid Reference: SX 2529 5331
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: SETTLEMENT (Saxon - 410 AD to 1065 AD) (Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD)
Full description: The settlement of Darlo is first recorded in 1382, as Bodardelhille (b1). The name is of Cornish origin, containing the element Bod - 'dwelling' (indicating early medieval origin) (b2) and possibly English 'Hill'. The site is now lost. Darloe Cottage was last recorded in 1824; the name Darloe Lane is still current

Sources / Further Reading

- [1] SCO3621 - Bibliographic reference: Institute Of Cornish Studies. 1987. Place-Names Index.
- [2] SCO4064 - Bibliographic reference: Padel, OJ. 1985. Cornish Place-Name Elements.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 41923
Name: TRENANT POINT - Post Medieval quay
Summary: not yet available
Grid Reference: SX 2516 5392
Parish: Duloe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: None recorded
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: QUAY (Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1900 AD)
Full description: Trenant point pier at the confluence of the east and west looe rivers is marked on the OS map of 1881 (b1). It is still extant (b2).

Sources / Further Reading

- [1] SCO4048 - Cartographic materials: Ordnance Survey. 1880s. 1st Edition 1:2500 Map.
- [2] SCO4045 - Cartographic materials: Ordnance Survey. 1970s. 1:10,000 OS Map.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 57335
Name: HANNAFORE - Modern pillbox
Summary: Site of Looe-Hannafore North Pillbox, now demolished.
Grid Reference: SX 2569 5291
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: PILLBOX (World War Two - 1939 AD to 1945 AD)
Full description: Site of Looe-Hannafore North Pillbox, now demolished. The site was recorded during the Defence of Britain Project, AH395. The foundations of the destroyed pillbox are visible on aerial photographs (p1) and were plotted during the Cornwall NMP.

Sources / Further Reading

[p1] SCO9576 - Cornwall Photo Record: RAF. 1945. 106G/UK938 3151-2. ABP.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 57340
Name: LOOE - Modern gun emplacement
Summary: Site of a WWII gun emplacement at the eastern end of Looe beach promenade.
Grid Reference: SX 2564 5316
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: GUN EMPLACEMENT (World War Two - 1939 AD to 1945 AD)
Full description: The site of a WWII gun emplacement was recorded at the eastern end of Looe beach promenade as part of the Defence of Britain Project (AH 406). The circular concrete base of this emplacement is visible on aerial photographs taken in October 1945. It was plotted during the Cornwall NMP.

Sources / Further Reading

[p1] SCO9576 - Cornwall Photo Record: RAF. 1945. 106G/UK938 3151-2. ABP.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 57341
Name: LOOE - Modern beach defence
Summary: World War II beach defences.
Grid Reference: SX 2563 5311
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: None recorded
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: BEACH DEFENCE (World War Two - 1939 AD to 1945 AD)
Full description: At the commencement of World War II, barbed wire entanglements were erected on Looe Beach. The barbed wire was linked between pit-prop sized wooden poles driven into the beach and secured in concrete. It is understood that the entanglements were swept away by a severe storm and not re-erected. These entanglements were recorded during the Defence of Britain Project (AH411). A linear series of features is visible on aerial photographs (p1) taken in October 1945, crossing the width of the beach at around the high tide line. These are of uncertain origin, but may be the remains of the concreted in posts. They were plotted during the Cornwall NMP.

Sources / Further Reading

[p1] SCO9576 - Cornwall Photo Record: RAF. 1945. 106G/UK938 3151-2. ABP.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 57342
Name: LOOE - Early Medieval ditch
Summary: Possible ditched feature lying within the Mill Pond at West Looe, visible as earthworks on aerial photographs.
Grid Reference: SX 2524 5376
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: DITCH (Early Medieval to Modern - 410 AD to 2050 AD)

Full description: A ditched feature is visible as earthworks on aerial photographs taken in 1945 (p1) lying within the Mill Pool at West Looe. The feature roughly describes an arc. It is potentially man made although a natural water channel cannot be ruled out. Much of the site is now buried under the car park. The feature was plotted during the Cornwall NMP.

Sources / Further Reading

[p1] SCO12799 - Cornwall Photo Record: RAF. 1948. 106G/UK938 3345-6. ABP.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 57343

Name: LOOE - Modern observation post
Summary: Looe Wooldown Royal Navy Observation Post.

Grid Reference: SX 2585 5349
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE

Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: OBSERVATION POST (World War Two - 1939 AD to 1945 AD)

Full description: Looe Wooldown Royal Navy Observation Post, was recorded during the Defence of Britain Project (AH409). The foundations of the observation post are visible on aerial photographs (p1) and were plotted during the Cornwall NMP.

Sources / Further Reading

[p1] SCO9576 - Cornwall Photo Record: RAF. 1945. 106G/UK938 3151-2. ABP.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 57345

Name: LOOE - Medieval field boundary, Post Medieval field boundary
Summary: Field boundaries of medieval or later date, visible as low earthworks on aerial photographs.

Grid Reference: SX 2591 5421
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: None recorded

Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: FIELD BOUNDARY (Medieval – 1066-1539 AD) (Post Medieval – 1540-1900 AD)

Full description: Field boundaries of medieval or later date are visible as low earthworks on RAF aerial photographs (p1) at New Barbican Farm. The site is now destroyed by modern housing. The features were plotted during the Cornwall NMP.

Sources / Further Reading

[p1] SCO9598 - Cornwall Photo Record: RAF. 1945. 106G/UK938 3346-7. ABP.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 57346

Name: LOOE - Medieval field system, Post Medieval field system
Summary: Medieval or post medieval field boundaries, visible as low earthworks on aerial photographs.

Grid Reference: SX 2578 5380
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: None recorded

Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: FIELD SYSTEM (, Medieval – 1066-1539 AD) (Post Medieval – 1540-1900 AD)

Full description: A system of medieval or post medieval field boundaries is visible as low earthworks on aerial photographs (p1) taken in 1945. The site is now under modern housing. The field boundaries were plotted during the Cornwall NMP.

Sources / Further Reading

[p1] SCO9598 - Cornwall Photo Record: RAF. 1945. 106G/UK938 3346-7. ABP.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 57397

Name: LOOE - Medieval field boundary, Post Medieval field boundary
Summary: Field boundary of medieval or later date, visible as cropmarks on aerial photographs.

Grid Reference: SX 2491 5285
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: None recorded

Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: FIELD BOUNDARY (Medieval – 1066-1539 AD) (Post Medieval - 1540-1900 AD)
Full description: The extant field system to the west of Looe is considered to be anciently enclosed land of medieval or earlier origin according to the Cornwall Landscape Assessment carried out by the CAU in 1994. A single field bank which fits into this extant system is visible as a cropmark on aerial photographs (p1) and was plotted during the Cornwall NMP. It is considered likely to be of medieval origin although a later post medieval date cannot be ruled out.

Sources / Further Reading

[p1] SCO14593 - Cornwall Photo Record: OSP. 1966. OS 66/155 062-3. ABP.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 57339
Name: LOOE - Modern gun emplacement
Summary: Site of a WWII gun emplacement at the landward end of Banjo Pier, Looe.
Grid Reference: SX 2559 5306
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: GUN EMPLACEMENT (World War Two - 1939 AD to 1945 AD)
Full description: The site of a WWII gun emplacement was recorded at the landward end of Banjo Pier, Looe as part of the Defence of Britain Project (AH 405). The site of this emplacement is visible on aerial photographs taken in 1945 (p1). It was plotted during the Cornwall NMP.

Sources / Further Reading

[p1] SCO9576 - Cornwall Photo Record: RAF. 1945. 106G/UK938 3151-2. ABP.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 57421
Name: TRENANT WOOD - Modern quay
Summary: Potential site of a quay on the northern bank of the West Looe River, visible on aerial photos.
Grid Reference: SX 2477 5395
Parish: Duloe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: None recorded
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: QUAY (20th Century - 1901 AD to 2000 AD)
Full description: The potential site of a quay is visible on aerial photographs (p1) on the northern bank of the West Looe River in the vicinity of Trentant Wood. It was plotted during the Cornwall NMP.

Sources / Further Reading

[p1] SCO9559 - Cornwall Photo Record: RAF. 1945. 106G/UK/938 3345-6. ABP.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 110823
Name: LOOE - Post Medieval bridge
Summary: The present Looe bridge was built 100m upstream from the medieval bridge, in 1853.
Grid Reference: SX 2539 5358
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
 Listed Building (II) 376357: BRIDGE OVER EAST LOOE RIVER AND LAMP STANDARDS
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: BRIDGE (Mid C19 to Unknown - 1853 AD)
Full description: The present Looe bridge was built 100m upstream from the original medieval bridge, in 1853. It has nine arches (b1). In 1993 EH listed the structure and lamp standards. The EH listing included the bridge for historical and group value with the following details: "Slatestone rubble with granite dressings. Straight bridge with 7 bays of segmental arches over river, a similar dry arch at the East Looe end and a narrow roud-arched curved pedestrian passage at the West Looe end. Cutwaters both up and down stream for tidal river. Segmental parapet copings with parapet as quadrant-on-plan return to terminal pier to East Looe corner, otherwise straight ends with similar piers. Subsidiary features: 6 cast-iron lamp standards with turned bases, fluted shafts and cross bars, 3 surmounting each parapet."

Sources / Further Reading

[1] SCO3515 - Bibliographic reference: Henderson, C & Coates, H. 1928. Old Cornish Bridges and Streams. 67-

70.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 137837
Name: LOOE - Post Medieval nonconformist chapel
Summary: Large Methodist chapel with attached schoolroom.
Grid Reference: SX 2553 5346
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: NONCONFORMIST CHAPEL (19th Century - 1801 AD to 1900 AD)
Full description: Large Methodist chapel with attached schoolroom, now converted to residential use. Probably early or mid C19 in origin, remodelled late C19 (1). Stucco; slurried slate roofs with crested ridge tiles and Italianate detail.

Sources / Further Reading

[1] SCO438 - Cornwall Event Report: Cahill Partnership & Cornwall Archaeological Unit. 2002. Looe (Caradon/Liskeard Area), Cornwall Industrial Settlements Initiative.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 137838
Name: LOOE - Post Medieval nonconformist chapel, Post Medieval nonconformist chapel
Summary: A Congregational chapel rebuilt in c1880 replaced a Congregational chapel built in c1707.
Grid Reference: SX 2535 5339
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: NONCONFORMIST CHAPEL (Early C18 to Unknown) (Late C19 to Unknown - 1880 AD)
Full description: Congregational chapel re-built c1880. Replacing a previous Congregational chapel built c1707. Polychrome stonework with freestone dressings and dry slate gabled roof. The Gothic style, three-bay buttressed and gabled front has two-light traceried windows to first floor and paired lancets below. Gabled porch at far left has traceried stone fanlight. The Congregationalists combined with East Looe's Wesleyan Methodist congregation to form a new United Methodist Church, 'Riverside Church' sometime shortly after 1965.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 137840
Name: LOOE - Post Medieval nonconformist chapel
Summary: A Salem chapel in West Looe.
Grid Reference: SX 2512 5313
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: NONCONFORMIST CHAPEL (Mid C19 to Unknown - 1846 AD)
Full description: Salem chapel. A Bible Christian chapel built in 1846. Simple with front gable and plaque. Crudely converted to domestic use.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 163697
Name: TRENANT BARTON - Neolithic artefact scatter
Summary: A Neolithic flint scatter, including leaf shaped arrowheads
Grid Reference: SX 2490 5423
Parish: Duloe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: None recorded
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: ARTEFACT SCATTER (Neolithic - 4000 BC to 2501 BC)
Full description: In April 1995 Mr Nick Wright undertook a detailed fieldwalking survey of a field overlooking the confluence of the East and West Looe Rivers at Trenant Barton. The survey was carried out along 2 metre spaced grid lines. All of the finds appear to have been made from pebble flint and the occurrence of leaf-shaped arrowheads suggest a Neolithic date for the

collection. Artefacts include: 12 scrapers, 2 cores, 2 fabricators, 9 retouched flakes, 2 leaf-shaped arrowheads, 65 fragments of debitage and a possible stone tool.

Associated Finds

FCO905 - CORE (Neolithic - 4000 BC to 2501 BC)
 FCO5482 - DEBITAGE (Neolithic - 4000 BC to 2501 BC)
 FCO906 - FABRICATOR (Neolithic - 4000 BC to 2501 BC)
 FCO5481 - FLAKE (Neolithic - 4000 BC to 2501 BC)
 FCO5480 - LEAF ARROWHEAD (Neolithic - 4000 BC to 2501 BC)
 FCO5479 - SCRAPER (TOOL) (Neolithic - 4000 BC to 2501 BC)
 FCO907 - UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT (Neolithic - 4000 BC to 2501 BC)

Associated Events:

none recorded

Related records:

none recorded

HER Number:

165494

Name:

LOOE - Post Medieval harbour

Summary:

An ancient port at the confluence of the East and West Looe Rivers, Looe was a seaport for the Caradon Mining District.

Grid Reference:

SX 2541 5340

Parish:

Looe, Caradon, Cornwall

Protected Status:

Conservation Area: LOOE, and Listed Building (II) 376438: PORTIBIGHAM

Other Statuses/Codes:

none recorded

Monument Types:

HARBOUR (Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1900 AD)

Full description:

Medieval Looe enjoyed close trading links with Bordeaux, but this later declined and much of its trade until the C19 was small and included iron, tin, lead, fish, fish-oil, wine, soap, cloth and canvas, corn and tobacco. There was also much activity transporting sea sand and lime inland for the agricultural industry. But a rapid expansion of the port followed the opening of six mile long Liskeard and Looe Union Canal in 1828 that served the various mines and quarries north of Liskeard. The Liskeard and Caradon Railway was opened from Moorswater at Liskeard northwards to South Caradon in November 1844. This railway connected at Moorswater with the terminus of the Liskeard and Looe Union Canal; goods were loaded here to be conveyed by barges to Looe (b3). The subsequent discoveries of copper ore, the re-opening of lead mines and new granite quarries brought a flurry of activity to Looe, necessitating an extension of the wharves in the 1860s. The canal proved inadequate for the volume of traffic so the canal company built a railway - the Liskeard and Looe Railway, which opened in December 1860. Much of the canal was infilled (b2, 3). The decline of the Caradon mines from the late C19 signalled the decline of Looe as a mineral exporting port. A photograph dating from the 1890s does not indicate any copper or coal on the wharves (b1). The harbour is depicted on the 1880 OS map and the 1907 OS map. Bullers Quay, now a car park, was once a busy mineral quay. The car park and health centre upstream from the bridge occupy the site of a former goods yard for the Liskeard and Looe Railway. The lock gates of the old canal, long since derelict, can still be detected at Terras, near the head of the tidal estuary of the East Looe River. Extant limekilns are visible along the line of the canal and a canal basin at Sandplace was still navigable long after the remaining stretch of the canal was closed (b4). A fine collection of photographs are contained within Messenger 2001 (b1). The present pier and quays are Listed grade II.

Sources / Further Reading

- [1] SCO3934 - Bibliographic reference: Messenger, MJ. 2001. Caradon and Looe: the Canal, Railways and Mines. 38, 39, 63.
- [2] SCO3934 - Bibliographic reference: Messenger, MJ. 2001. Caradon and Looe: the Canal, Railways and Mines. 18-21.
- [3] SCO3313 - Bibliographic reference: Fairclough, A. 1972. Cornwall's Railways: a Pictorial Survey. 24-26.
- [4] SCO3806 - Bibliographic reference: Kittridge, A. 1989. Cornwall's Maritime Heritage. 30.

Associated Finds:

none recorded

Associated Events:

none recorded

Related records:

none recorded

HER Number:

166493

Name:

LOOE - Modern road block

Summary:

An anti-tank invasion road block consisting of concrete "dragons teeth" and old railway lines.

Grid Reference:

SX 2550 5300

Parish:

Looe, Caradon, Cornwall

Protected Status:

Conservation Area: LOOE

Other Statuses/Codes:

none recorded

Monument Types:

ROADBLOCK (World War Two - 1939 AD to 1945 AD)

Full description:

An anti-tank invasion road block consisting of concrete "dragons teeth" and old railway lines (h1).
 Site history: 1: 1999. A HARVEY

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 166496
Name: LOOE - Modern gun emplacement
Summary: There was a 3 pounder gun sited on top of a small turreted folly to protect the harbour entrance and boom during WW2.
Grid Reference: SX 2549 5307
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: GUN EMPLACEMENT (World War Two - 1939 AD to 1945 AD)
Full description: There was a 3 pounder gun sited on top of a small turreted folly to protect the harbour entrance and boom during WW2. Although the gun has been removed the turreted folly still remains (h1).
 Site history: 1: 1999. A HARVEY
Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 166498
Name: LOOE - Modern road block
Summary: An anti-tank road block was constructed from dragons teeth and old railway lines.
Grid Reference: SX 2545 5358
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: ROADBLOCK (World War Two - 1939 AD to 1945 AD)
Full description: A WW2 anti-tank road block was constructed from dragons teeth and old railway lines similar to that of 166493.
 Site history: 1: 1999. A HARVEY
Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 166499
Name: LOOE - Modern defence
Summary: A harbour boom consisted of a continuous cable fixed to a ring on the harbour entrance wall and operated by the Royal Marines from a capstan on the landward end of Banjo Pier.
Grid Reference: SX 2558 5304
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: DEFENCE (World War Two - 1939 AD to 1945 AD)
Full description: This was a harbour boom which consisted of continuous running cable fixed to a ring on the harbour entrance wall and operated by Royal Marines from a capstan on the landward end of Banjo Pier. Forty gallon oil drums were attached to the cable for flotation.
 Site history: 1: 1999. A HARVEY
Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 166502
Name: LOOE - Modern gun emplacement
Summary: A 3 pounder gun emplacement was situated at the far eastern end of the promenade.
Grid Reference: SX 2579 5322
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: GUN EMPLACEMENT (World War Two - 1939 AD to 1945 AD)
Full description: A 3 pounder gun emplacement was situated at the far eastern end of the promenade. It is also close to two pillboxes (See 166505 and 166507).
 Site history: 1: 1999. A HARVEY
Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded

Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 166505
Name: LOOE - Modern pillbox
Summary: One of two pillboxes guarding Looe Beach.
Grid Reference: SX 2583 5320
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: None recorded
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: PILLBOX (World War Two - 1939 AD to 1945 AD)
Full description: This is one of two pillboxes built in the Pen Rocks area (see 166507).
 Site history: 1: 1999. A HARVEY
Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 166517
Name: LOOE - Modern boat yard
Summary: This WW2 boat yard at Looe was involved in building numerous small vessels such as minesweepers, fishing vessels and motor launches.
Grid Reference: SX 2545 5351
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: BOAT YARD (World War Two - 1939 AD to 1945 AD)
Full description: This WW2 boat yard at Looe was involved in building numerous small vessels such as minesweepers, fishing vessels and motor launches. Larger vessels, built at Par Docks, came here for a final fitting out (h1).
 Site history: 1: 1999. A HARVEY
Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 167960
Name: LOOE - Post Medieval lifeboat station
Summary: A lifeboat house which opened in 1866 for the Looe lifeboat.
Grid Reference: SX 2560 5313
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Listed Building (II) 376369: WATCH TOWER STUDIO AND FORMER LIFEBOAT SHED
 Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: LIFEBOAT STATION (Mid C19 to Unknown - 1866 AD)
Full description: A lifeboat house which opened in 1866 for the Looe lifeboat, and was used until closure of the station in 1930.

Sources / Further Reading

[1] SCO3856 - Bibliographic reference: Leach, N. 2000. Cornwall's Lifeboat Heritage. 28.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 170166
Name: PORTLOOE - Medieval cross
Summary: A mutilated wheel headed cross standing at Portlooe Cross.
Grid Reference: SX 2462 5289
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Listed Building (II) 376359: STONE CROSS AT NORTH EAST ENTRANCE TO VILLAGE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: CROSS (Medieval - 1066 AD to 1539 AD)
Full description: A mutilated wheel headed cross standing at Portlooe Cross. The cross was discovered at East Waylands Farm after the demolition of mowhay buildings where it had been used as a support. A new tenon was cut on the bottom of the shaft to fit a new base stone of Cheesewring granite and it was set up in its present position by Looe Old Cornwall Society where it was thought a cross once stood. The monument has at some point been cut square with the shaft on both sides. It displays an incised latin cross on both sides, the lower limb of which extends the whole length of the shaft. The cross measures 0.965m in height, width of head 0.28m, width of shaft 0.19m and thickness 0.178m (b1).

Sources / Further Reading

[1] SCO3815 - Bibliographic reference: Langdon, A. 1996. Stone Crosses in East Cornwall. 56, NO 92.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 170519
Name: LOOE - Post Medieval pier
Summary: A C19 pier, probably 1853; the pier end is 1899.
Grid Reference: SX 2567 5301
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: PIER (19th Century - 1801 AD to 1900 AD)
Full description: A C19 pier, probably 1853; the pier end is 1899. The pier is shallow-battered with vertical rubble masonry except for the round (banjo) end of granite ashlar. The pier and quays at East Looe, together with those in West Looe, enclose what was once an important commercial harbour.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 176478
Name: LOOE - Post Medieval cemetery
Summary: A Burial ground is recorded as 'disused' on the 1st and 2nd Edition OS map c1880 and c1907 respectively. The ground has been built over by post-war housing.
Grid Reference: SX 2571 5355
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: None recorded
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: CEMETERY (Post Medieval - 1540 AD to 1900 AD)
Full description: A Burial ground is recorded as 'disused' on the 1st and 2nd Editions of the 1:2500 1880 and 1907 OS Maps. According to the current Mastermap it has been built over by post-war housing.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 176479
Name: LOOE - C17 cemetery
Summary: A walled Quaker or Friends burial ground on Barbican Hill is disused, but still extant.
Grid Reference: SX 2561 5340
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: CEMETERY (Late C17 to Unknown - 1690 AD)
Full description: A walled Quaker or Friends burial ground, disused, but still extant. Recorded on the 1st and 2nd Editions of the 1:2500 1880 and 1907 OS Maps (1,2).

Sources / Further Reading

[1] SCO4048 - Cartographic materials: Ordnance Survey. 1880s. 1st Edition 1:2500 Map.
 [2] SCO4050 - Cartographic materials: Ordnance Survey. 1900s. 2nd Edition 1:2500 Map.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 176480
Name: LOOE - Post Medieval nonconformist chapel
Summary: A nonconformist chapel constructed in c1841, now used as a 'Masonic Hall'.
Grid Reference: SX 2559 5325
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: NONCONFORMIST CHAPEL (Mid C19 to Unknown - 1841 AD)
Full description: A nonconformist chapel, constructed c1841, at this location in East Looe is recorded on the 1st and 2nd Editions of the 1:2500 1880 and 1907 OS Maps. Still extant but now a 'Masonic Hall' (b1)

Sources / Further Reading

--- SCO438 - Cornwall Event Report: Cahill Partnership & Cornwall Archaeological Unit. 2002. Looe

(Caradon/Liskeard Area), Cornwall Industrial Settlements Initiative. p 67.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 177355
Name: WEST LOOE - Post Medieval school
Summary: School, built 1878
Grid Reference: SX 2524 5358
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: SCHOOL (Late C19 to Unknown - 1878 AD)
Full description: School, built 1878 (b1). Recorded on the 1st and 2nd Editions of the 1:2500 1880 and 1907 OS map.
Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 178537
Name: LOOE - Post Medieval lock up, Post Medieval guildhall, Post Medieval clock tower
Summary: Guildhall , Fore Street (West Side) including with police cells. Built 1877. Gothic Revival style. 2 storeys.
Grid Reference: SX 2550 5339
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Listed Building (II) 376385: THE GUILDHALL and Conservation Area: LOOE
Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: GUILDHALL, CLOCK TOWER and LOCKUP (Late C19 to Unknown - 1877 AD)
Full description: Guildhall , Fore Street (West Side) including with police cells. Built 1877. MATERIALS: coursed slatestone rubble with freestone dressings, chamfered to openings; steep dry slate roofs with projecting eaves; clock tower with freestone machicolated cornice and very steep pyramidal roof with central weather vane and hipped dormer with finial to each face; rubble lateral stacks. PLAN: large irregular plan with principal deep hall range right of the clock tower and range set back left of clock tower. EXTERIOR: : lower range with hipped roof left of tall unbuttressed straight tower and coped gable end of hall range on the right. Left-hand range has pair of round-arched lights over 2 single lights. Tower has pair of transomed arched lights over pointed-arched doorway; above this a pair of small square-headed lights and central single light above; at the top a clockface (1880) (also to other sides). Hall range has central ground-floor buttress; flanking pointed-arched windows; trio of round-arched lights to 1st floor and glazed central gable ventilator. Right-hand return is 5 bays with lancets on sill string to 1st floor, some with leaded glazing; pointed arched openings to ground floor; window to central bays with recessed aprons; pointed arched doorway on the left with original pair of 5-panel doors and flat-headed doorway on the right. Ground floor windows are 4-light, transomed and with 3-panes per light plus glazed tympana with similar sized panes. Left-hand return is 3-window range with single-light flat-headed windows to 1st floor; corbelled stack to 1st-floor left over 2 squat segmental-arched cell windows with fixed lights with glazing bars and horizontal iron security bars. Doorway, right of centre with original pair of 5-panel doors and wide opening, now glazed at far right, both with segmental arches. Rear has projecting gable end of hall similar to front end on left, hipped wing on right with 2 pointed lights with coloured leaded glazing; small single-light left of these and quadrant corner to link with 2 similar flat-headed lights with leaded coloured glass. Ground floor extended C20. INTERIOR: chamfered cross beams and axial beams to ground floor; 1st floor not inspected. Built to replace the earlier guildhall in Higher Market Street (qv), following the abolition of the West Looe Corporation. (Kelly's Directories: Cornwall: 1906-: 192).

Sources / Further Reading

[1] SCO25105 - Website: English Heritage. 2011-. National Heritage List for England. http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results_Single.aspx?uid=1280863&resourceID=5.

Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded

HER Number: 178584
Name: WEST LOOE - Post Medieval butter market
Summary: Butter Market, Church Street, West Looe.
Grid Reference: SX 2530 5320
Parish: Looe, Caradon, Cornwall
Protected Status: Conservation Area: LOOE

Other Statuses/Codes: none recorded
Monument Types: BUTTER MARKET (19th Century - 1801 AD to 1900 AD)
Full description: Butter Market, Church Street, West Looe. Recorded on the 1st and 2nd Editions of the 1:2500 1880 and 1907 OS map. Six sided with bell turret (b1).
Sources / Further Reading
[1] SCO4126 - Bibliographic reference: Pevsner, N. 1951. The Buildings of England: Cornwall. p 104.
Associated Finds: none recorded
Associated Events: none recorded
Related records: none recorded



The Old Dairy
Hacche Lane Business Park
Pathfields Business Park
South Molton
Devon
EX36 3LH

Tel: 01769 573555
Email: mail@swarch.net