

# LAND adjacent to WOODLAND MEADOW TRETHOWEL CORNWALL

Results of a Cartographic Desk-Based Assessment  
& Walkover Survey



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# **Land adjacent to Woodland Meadow Trethowel, Cornwall**

## **Results of a Desk-Based Cartographic Assessment & Walkover Survey**

*For*

Miss Grigg & Mr Hicks (the Client)

*By*



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## *Summary*

*South West Archaeology Ltd. was asked to undertake a desk-based cartographic research and walkover survey on land adjacent to Woodland Meadow, Trethowel, Cornwall.*

*The site is located on 19<sup>th</sup> century industrially developed land north of St Austell. It was part of the Higher Blowing House clay works and was developed in the 20<sup>th</sup> century with settling tanks and drags. The site is of local interest but not of regional or national importance given its condition or comparable equivalents in the region. It will not impact on the enclosed setting of nearby Listed or unlisted heritage assets. No buried archaeological remains are expected to have survived the industrial development of the site.*

*If the site were fully cleared of vegetation a comprehensive photographic record may be of interest but otherwise no further archaeological works are recommended for this site. The retention of the northern boundary wall would preserve the oldest standing structure on the site and add to the screening of the property.*

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## 1.0 Introduction

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**Location:** Land adjacent to Woodland Meadow  
**Parish:** Treverbyn  
**County:** Cornwall

### 1.1 Background

South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) was commissioned by Miss Vanessa Grigg (the Client) to undertake desk-based research and a walkover survey on land adjacent to Woodland Meadow, Trethowel, Cornwall (see Figure 1) prior to an application for the construction of a residential unit. All work was conducted in accordance with a Brief for Archaeological Assessment (Appendix 1) issued by Dan Ratcliffe of Cornwall Council Historic Environment Service (CCHES).

### 1.2 Topographical and Geological Background

The site lies off the B3274 (Bodmin Road) c.700m north of the edge of St Austell in Trethowel, a small relict industrial mining hamlet. It is in the base of the narrow steep sided valley to the St Austell River immediately north of the Waterwheel Restaurant. The majority of the site occupies a derelict industrialized plot on the west bank of the river with a bridge providing access to the site from the B3274 on the east side of the river at a height of c.80m AOD.

The soils of this area are the well drained humose gritty loamy soils on steep rocky slopes with occasional ironpan of the Moor Gate Association (SSEW 1983). These overlie the St Austell Intrusion Formation, granite bedrock laid down in the Permian and Carboniferous Periods (BGS 2014).

### 1.3 Historical Background

Trethowel is currently within the modern parish of Treverbyn formed from part of the parish of St Austell in 1847. St Austell was in the deanery of Powder, and in the eastern division of the hundred of Powder. The manor of Treverbyn was a Domesday manor (*Treverbín*), which in the 15<sup>th</sup> was divided among co-heiresses into moieties; Treverbyn-Courtenay and Treverbyn-Trevanion. A Henry Lambe had brought a portion of the manor from the Trevanion family during the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century that incorporates the site.

Trethowel may be derived from 'Tre-' or 'tref-', a pre-Norman prefix meaning estate/farmstead and possibly '-howel' from the Old English *wella* for spring) or a personal name. Treverbyn is a derivative from Cornish for farmstead linked with an Old Welsh personal name, *Erbin*.

### 1.4 Archaeological Background

The site lies within an area characterised on the Cornwall Historic Landscape Characterisation as disused industrial land. Before the post medieval and modern mining activity and china clay workings the scatter of small farmsteads suggests an agricultural character to the surrounding area of the proposed site, with a possible medieval origin suggested by documentary evidence of medieval settlement at Gomm (MCO14553), Lansalson (MCO15307) and Goonamarth (MCO14572). A full list of heritage assets as listed on the Historic Environment Record (HER) within 1km of the site

can be seen in Appendix 2. This list includes a number of comparable post-medieval and modern clay works assests (MCO25463,MCO25466, MCO25489; MCO26774). The site occupies the north part of a property that what had the Higher Blowing House (*Waterwheel Restaurant*) at its southern end. The Higher Blowing House was built in 1784 as a blast furnace for tin smelting. It was converted in the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries to a clay works and the pan kiln and related structures had been demolished and infilled by 1971. The HER entry description for the Higher Blowing House (MCO25398) can be seen in Apendix 3. The site contained the 20<sup>th</sup> century settling tanks and drags of the clay works.

## 1.5 Methodology

The desk-based assessment was carried out by J. Bampton and was undertaken with reference to the IfA guidelines on the preparation of archaeological assessments (IfA 2008). The necessary research was conducted at the Cornwall Record Office and online using Cornwall Council and English Heritage websites. The walkover survey was carried out on 30<sup>th</sup> July 2014 by Joe Bampton.



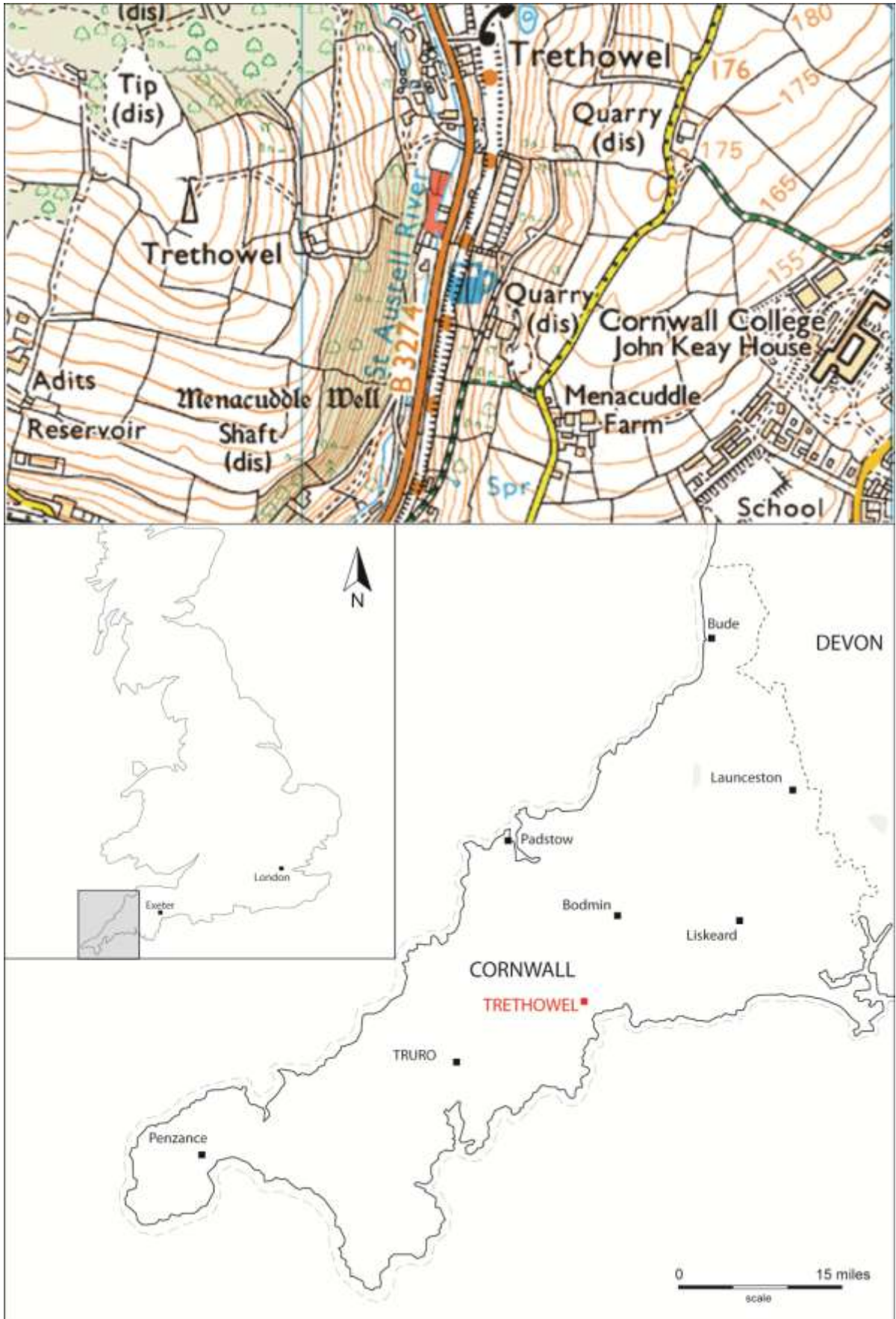


Figure 1: Site location (the proposed site is shaded in red).



## 2.0 Results of the Desk-Based Cartographic Assessment

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### 2.1 Summary of Desk-Based Cartographic Assessment

The site at Trethowel, north of St Austell along the Bodmin Road (B3274) and occupies the gardens of a dwelling that in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century was converted into a small clay works. The site was developed in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century with settling tanks and drags. By 1971 the site is much as it appears today with the extant settling tanks, Waterwheel Restaurant and a chimney stack and adjoining wall and a retaining wall still standing.

### 2.2 Historical Background

Trethowel, c.20km north-east of Truro and c.14.5km south-west of Bodmin is currently within the modern parish of Treverbyn formed from part of the parish of St Austell in 1847. St Austell was in the deanery of Powder, and in the eastern division of the hundred of Powder. In the early 16<sup>th</sup> century John Leland described St Austell as a poor village. It later developed due to its proximity to Polgooth and then various mines and being on a significant thoroughfare between Plymouth and Land's End from c.1760 with the development of a series of turnpike roads.

The later manor of St. Austell or Austell-Prior, belonged to the prior and convent of Tywardreath. Tywardreath (*Tiwardrai*), was a Domesday manor held in 1086 by the Count of Mortain and had previously been held by Cola. It was annexed during the Dissolution, in 1540, to the duchy of Cornwall. During the interregnum in the seventeenth century, it was sold to Edmund Bourne, but at the Restoration was restored to the duchy. In 1799 it was purchased by Charles Rashleigh, Esq.

The manor of Treverbyn was a Domesday manor (*Treverbin*) held by Richard from the Count of Mortain and had previously been held by Alwine. In the 13<sup>th</sup> century it belonged to a family who had adopted the name of the manor; Walter Treverbyn was sheriff in 1223. It had a significant chapel that was overshadowed by the construction of St Austell Church, built in the later 12<sup>th</sup> century. The male line of the Treverbyn family died out in the 15<sup>th</sup> century and the estate was divided among co-heiresses into moieties; Treverbyn-Courtenay and Treverbyn-Trevanion. The Courtenay share was annexed to the Duchy of Cornwall in 1540; while the Trevanion share was still held by the Trevanion family in 1822. Transcribed court proceedings from 1852 detail a dispute between John Trevanion and Henry Lambe. Henry Lambe had brought a portion of the manor from the Trevanion family during the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century that incorporates the site.

The site is on the border of a number of estates including Trethowel, part of Treverbyn; Trenance, part of Trenanse-Austell; and Bojea and Menacuddle, both part of Penrice. William I held Towan (*Bewintone*), which was the centre of the manor of Tewington and the seat of the Sawle family. Tewington was one of the 17 Antiqua maneria (ancient manors) of the Duchy of Cornwall. These manors were the original 17 manors that belonged to the Earl of Cornwall and in 1337 passed to the Duchy of Cornwall, which was created by Edward III to give financial support to his son, The Black prince. Tewington included St Austell. Tewington included and was divided into a number of manors, which at some point between 1086 and the 19<sup>th</sup> century were owned by the Sawle family such as Penrice and Trenanse-Austell.

Trenance (*Trenant*) was held in 1086 by Hamelin from the Count of Mortain and was previously held by Beorhtmeor. And likely accounts for the 14<sup>th</sup> century manor of Trenans-Austell that belonged to

the Devonshire family of Hiwis, a Devonshire family. It was subsequently in the family of Chywarton for several generations. In 1634, it was the joint property of Ezekiel Arundell, and Thomas Trewren, Esquires, who sold off moieties over the next century. These sales included to Oliver Sawle, Esq. (ancestor of Mr. Joseph Sawle Graves mentioned in the Tithe Apportionment) by 1640; and in 1724 to Henry Hawkins, Esq., of St. Austell, grandfather of the Rev. Henry Hawkins Tremayne, the present proprietor. The manor of Penrice belonged to the family of Sawle, and is now vested in trustees for Mr. Joseph Sawle Graves, a minor. Towan was the ancient seat of the Sawles, who had been settled in Cornwall since the Norman conquest and has since been occupied as a farm-house. Lavrean, another seat of the Sawles, and also belonging in 1822 to Mr Graves, is now also a farmhouse. Penrice, which has a deer-park, was the seat of Mr. Graves in 1822.

The place-name evidence for Trethowel is unclear. 'Tre-' or 'tref-' is a pre-Norman prefix meaning estate/farmstead and possibly '-howel' from the Old English *wella* for spring as it is located on the River of St Austell is a possibility. 'Treth' may also mean Ferry or Toll in Breton or Welsh. Or perhaps 'tre' with a bastardization of a personal name, which may be of St Austell (*St Tossell* 1654). Treverbyn is a derivative from Cornish for farmstead linked with an Old Welsh personal name, *Erbín*.

The site lies within an area characterised on the Cornwall Historic Landscape Characterisation as disused industrial land, while the area immediately surrounding the proposed site is characterised as post medieval or modern enclosed land.

Before the post medieval and modern mining activity and china clay workings the scatter of small farmsteads suggests an agricultural character to the surrounding area of the proposed site, with a possible medieval origin suggested by documentary evidence of medieval settlement at Gomm (MCO14553), Lansalson (MCO15307) and Goonamarth (MCO14572).

## 2.3 Cartographic Analysis

### 2.3.1 1842 Tithe map and Apportionment

The earliest detailed cartographic source for the site is the 1842 St Austell tithe map (Figure 2, Table 1). The site is shown by ligatures as part of the *Higher Blowing House* on the west side of the river and as part of Menacuddle wood on the east side of the river. The east boundary of the site runs along the river bank. The north and west boundaries of the most northern plot border the pastures of the Trethowel Mill Tenement. This same west boundary appears to have a leat running alongside it until it meets the curved western boundary of the lower field occupied by the site. It was likely part of the stream or drags involved in the process of collecting and moving the clay sediment. It and the boundary likely follow the contour of the slope. Field no.3045 was owned by Henry Lambe and a lessee and was bought from John Trevanion, as attested in court records from 1854. Trethowell Estate was therefore a later division of Treverbyn Manor. Field no.3044 was part of the Menacuddle Estate and a later division of the Penrice Estate, which was owned by the Sawle family, who had been influential in the area from the time of the Norman conquest. No buildings associated with the *Higher Blowing House* clay works and mill appear to occupy the site specifically. *Plantation and Waste* north of the site (field no.3057) may already be subject at this time to quarrying, accounting for the waste. A possible earlier road (no.3046) than the main road east of the river can be seen as an intermittent track and route between the industrial sites on the west side of the river.

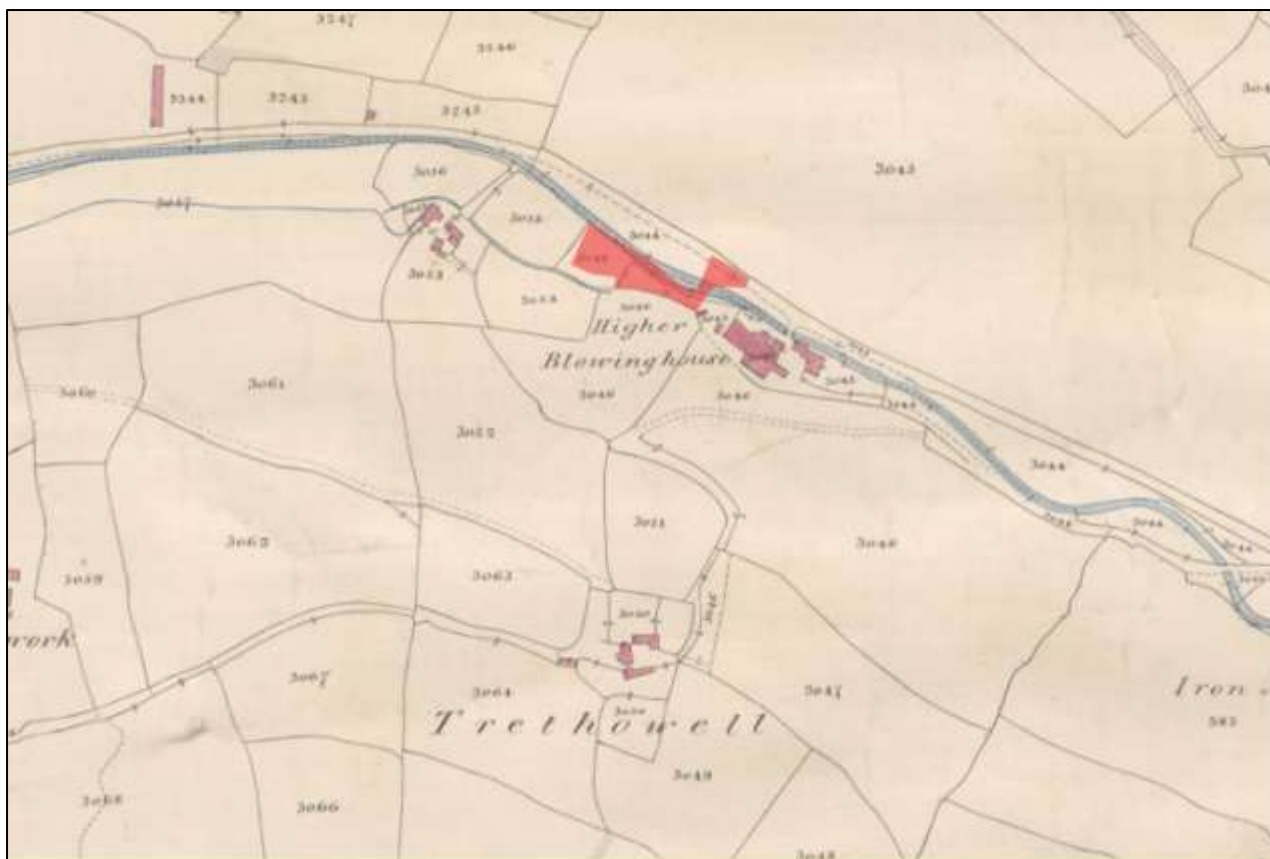


Figure 2: St Austell tithe map c.1842 ( the site is shaded in red) (CRO).

Land Owner	Occupier	Field No.	Field Name	Land Use
Menacuddle Estate				
Sir Joseph Sawle Graves Sawle & his lessee John Martin	Sir Joseph Sawle Graves Sawle & his lessee John Martin	3043	Menacuddle Wood	Wood
		3044	Part of Menacuddle Wood	Wood
Trethowel Estate				
Henry Lambe Esq. & his lessee William Daubuz	John Martin	3045	Higher Blowing House, dwelling house and garden	-
	Henry Lambe Esq. & his lessee William Richards	3046	Wood	Wood
		3047	Lower Broom Close	Arable
		3048	Outer Broom Close	Arable
		3049	Higher Broom Close	Arable
		3050	Town Place gardens and plot	-
		3051	Mowhay Meadow	Arable
	Henry Lambe Esq.	3052	Mill Close	Arable
		3057	Plantation and Waste	-
	Henry Lambe Esq. & his lessee William Richards	3058	Clay Work	Arable and Waste
		3059	Higher Slip	Arable
		3060	Lower Slip	Arable
		3061	Plantation Field	Arable
		3062	Borrow Close	Arable
		3063	Shute Meadow	Arable
3066		Little Down Park	Arable	
3067		The Hill	Arable	
Henry Lambe Esq.	3068	Clay Work and Plantation	-	
Trethowel Mill Tenement				
Henry Lambe Esq. & his lessee William Daubuz	Robert Teague	3053	Mill Meadow Garden	-
		3054	Plot	Pasture
		3055	Plot	Pasture

		3056	Plot	Pasture
Trenance				
John Hearle Tremayne Esq. & lessees John Bennetts, Joseph Geach	George Andrew	583	The Hill Brake	Oak
Bojea Estate				
Sir Joseph Sawle Graves Sawle Esq. & lessee Walter Robins	Walter Robins	3244	Moors	Rough Pasture
Sir Joseph Sawle Graves Sawle Esq	John Martin	3245	Two Moors	Pasture
	Samuel Yelland	3246	Tree Field	Arable
		3247	Lower Saffron Park	Arable

Table 1: Tithe apportionment, 1839, for St Austell tithe map (fields occupying the site are shaded in red) (CRO).

### 2.3.2 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey Maps

The first and second edition Ordnance Survey maps, 1811 and 1847 respectively (Figures 3 and 4), show general continuity with each other. The *Mill Meadow Garden* is now clearly encroached and bounded upon by the china clay works and quarry to the north. Two small sheds appear to have been erected in the south end of the site on the west side of the river in the north tip of the blowing house. The west boundary of the northern field has shifted in to the site defining a kink in the west boundary. Between the dates of these maps a building has been constructed east of the site between the site and the road. This building is described as 'works' 1847's mapping. The boundaries in the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition are contiguous with today's.

### 2.3.3 Modern developments

Settling tanks (still on the site today) and a narrow course of drags (channels through which clay slurry was dragged at various stages of the clay-works process to both transport it and decanter impurities) and a structure in what is now a car park can be seen on Ordnance Survey mapping from the 1847's to 1860's. By 1871 the building has been removed and the drags no longer shown. The structure, a probable pan kiln, has been replaced with the car park to the Wheelhouse Restaurant and the building east of the site is now a private dwelling.



Figure 3: Ordnance Survey 1<sup>st</sup> Edition map, 1881, 1:2,500 (the site is shaded in red) (CRO).



Figure 4: Ordnance Survey 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition map, 1907, 1:2,500 (the site is shaded in red) (CRO).



### 3.0 The Walkover Survey

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The site was visited on 30<sup>th</sup> of July 2014. The weather was sunny and fair.

#### 3.1 General Site Description

The site lies off the B3274 (Bodmin Road) c.700m north of the edge of St Austell in Trethowel, a small relict industrial mining hamlet. Quarrying of china clay still takes place north of the site at the china clay works and at Greensplatt further to the north. It is in the base of the narrow steep sided valley to the St Austell River immediately north of the Waterwheel Restaurant (Figure 5) at a height of c.80m AOD. The majority of the site occupies a derelict industrialized plot on the west bank of the river with a derelict bridge providing access to the site from the B3274 on the east side of the river (Figure 20). The landscape up slope from the site is surrounded by a post-medieval enclosed field system.



Figure 5: The Waterwheel Restaurant; viewed from the north (no scale).



Figure 6: Remains of the Higher Blowing House; viewed from the north-east (no scale).

Figure 7: Remains of the Higher Blowing House chimney stack; viewed from the east (no scale).

In general the site was flat and level with only 20<sup>th</sup> century archaeological features related to the earlier 19<sup>th</sup> clay works and blowing house that once occupied the car park of the Waterwheel Restaurant. It was overgrown with vegetation (Figure 8).



Figure 8: Shot across southern half of site; viewed from the north (no scale).

### 3.2 3.2 The Walkover

The site includes an access area (Figure 9) between the main road and the river joined to the west bank by a derelict bridge with iron girders. Having stabbed the access area with a road iron its turf seemed extremely shallow and gravelly and was over grown with scrub. The roots of a tree on the west side of the access area will probably have disturbed a substantial portion of the area. As a previous access route it may have already been stripped and laid with a track.





Figure 9: shot across proposed site access area; viewed from the south-east (no scale).

The north half of the site was occupied by a pair of rectangular concrete settling tanks (Figures 10, 11, 12, 14) with walls c.0.75m wide and c.1.30m high. The western of the two tanks (Figures 13, 16) was sub-rectangular and it respected the curve of the western boundary. Its west wall was a higher stone retaining wall and its north wall was the high stone wall that denotes the north site boundary. At its southern end was a sluice (Figure 15), which would have fed into the 'landing' process (the final drying process). Both tanks still contained thick deposits of white clay sediment that had settled in clumps and through which channels appear to have weathered. The dividing wall between the two tanks has lost consolidation in parts at its north end due to bioturbation as trees and shrubs have grown throughout the tanks.



Figure 10: North boundary wall and north settling tanks wall; viewed from the east (no scale).

Figure 11: Eastern wall of eastern settling tank; viewed from the south (no scale).





Figure 12: Shot of settling tanks; viewed from the south (no scale).



Figure 13: Shot of western settling tank; viewed from the south-east (no scale).



Figure 14: Shot of eastern settling tank; viewed from the south-west (no scale).



Figure 15: Shot of sluice; viewed from the west (2m scale).



Figure 16: North-west corner of settling tanks, showing retaining wall; viewed from the south-east (2m scale).



The narrower southern half of the site was overlaid with a concrete surface with some areas of exposed rock overgrown with scrub along its western edge. A very disparate series of concrete drags (Figure 17) between 0.75 and 1.25m wide survived but had been mostly cleared. The iron girders of the bridge at the southern end of the site (Figure 19) were set into concrete on both sides and joined the western side of the site at its southern end. The probable 19<sup>th</sup> century retaining wall (Figure 18) continued along the western boundary. A supporting catalogue of photographs can be seen in Appendix 4.



Figure 17: Southern end of site, drags visible on the left (indicated) and River Austell on the right; viewed from the south (no scale).



Figure 18: Western retaining wall in south half of site; viewed from the east (no scale).

Figure 19: Iron girders of former access bridge in south-east of the site; viewed from the west (no scale).

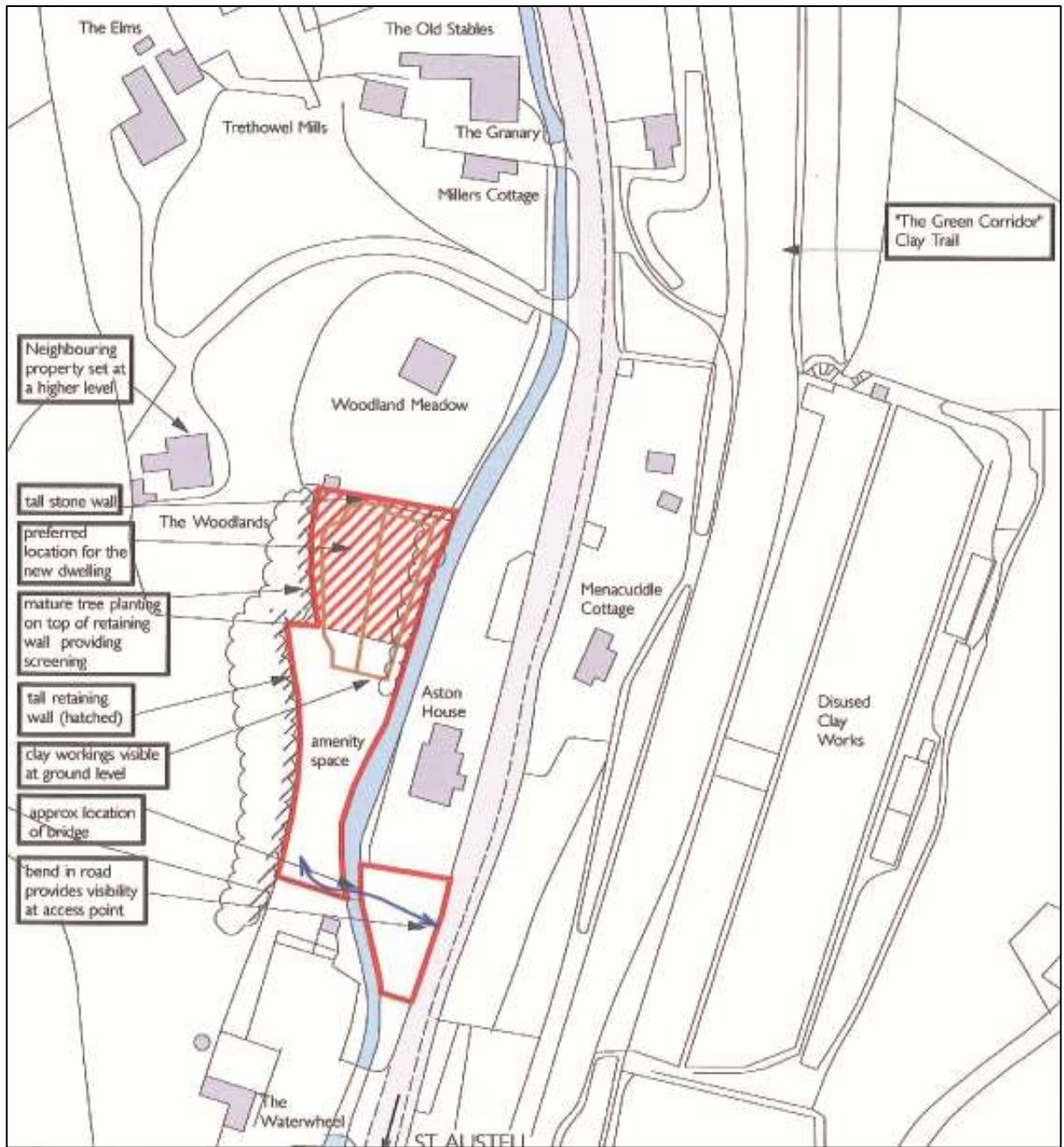


Figure 20: Proposed site plan; settling tanks drawn in brown (source: ALA Architects).



## 4.0 Summary of Archaeological Potential

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The site is not in good condition or very large. The walls of the 20<sup>th</sup> century settling tanks, most of which are concrete are all that survive on site in a fair condition and the drags are in poor condition with only a few of the curved concrete curb sections surviving. The 19<sup>th</sup> century retaining wall could perhaps be consolidated and the 19<sup>th</sup> century northern boundary wall is in good condition and if possible should be retained. The rear wall of the linnay and chimney stack of what is most likely the pan kiln, survives off site, south of the site to the rear of the Wheelhouse restaurant car park while the rest of the structure and preceding clay pans or filter presses that may have abutted the southern boundary of the site have been fully removed or in-filled for the Wheelhouse Restaurant car park and garden space.

It is unlikely that the site is related to the Grade II\* Listed Carlyon Farm Dry (HER No. 1391523; the largest pan kiln ever built (in 1921) on the opposite side of the valley to the east as the final drying process is typically down slope from the settling tanks. The product is transported as clay slurry along drags to where it would dry. Although infrastructure along the valley may be shared by various clay works, the function and location of these two sites means that they were not related processing sites. The Carlyon site in the 19<sup>th</sup> century was part of a different estate (*Menacuddle*) and so was not originally developed in conjuncture with the site. Carlyon Farm Dry dried clay from the Higher and Lower Ninestones pits at the top of the valley that were worked by John Lovering & Co. Also the site appears to have had its own pan kiln at which to dry the clay sediment south of the site in what is now the Wheelhouse restaurant car park. The chimney stack of this structure is still standing.

Other than the standing remains of the 20<sup>th</sup> century settling tanks and related services and drags no other archaeological remains are likely to be encountered by groundworks on the site. Prior to the industrial landscaping of the site it would have been a difficult area to exploit and after its development for tin smelting and then china clay working any previous remains would have been destroyed as the slope was terraced, tanks sunken into the ground and buildings with possible under floor heating (pan dryers) built.

## 5.0 Impact Assessment

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The impact of the development on the wider heritage landscape and setting of nearby designated heritage assets would be extremely negligible or neutral.

Other examples of the china clay processing exist among working clay works in the area such as at Greensplat and examples in the immediate area of former clay works (Trethowel MCO25463 and MCO25466; Bojea MCO25489; Ruddle no.4 MCO26774; others can be found in the Heritage assets list in Appendix 2). The clay works at Wheal Martyn and Gomm, north of the site, have been conserved and developed as visitor attractions and provide well surviving and complete examples (see SWARCH Report No.130529) of all the aspects missing and poorly represented on the proposal site. Examples of former clay works have also been recorded and discussed in the wider area, such as in Bodmin (Herring *et al.* 2008). The examples appear comparable to the remains on site. The site is of minimal local interest, but has no regionally or national important given its condition, especially given better surviving equivalents in the near vicinity. A report promoting the historic heritage of the area (CAU Report No.1997R019) acknowledges the site and suggests a general protection of the

valley and development for public access. The site itself, in disrepair, re-vegetated and on private land would add little to any scheme put in place. The points of interest for this site are those within the grounds of- and including the Waterwheel Restaurant.

The proposed property may be able to enjoy views of a single tall surviving building of the Listed Carlyon Farm clay dries (MCO25446), however at ground level from the Carlyon Farm clay dries and from within the wooded terrace in which it can be appreciated there is no visibility to the site. Two other Listed properties in the immediate area (Menacuddle chapel, MCO7021, to the south, and a milestone, MCO49142, to the north; see appendix 2) share no inter-visibility with the site at ground level due to the meandering and steep topography and surrounding woodland. Raised or aerial views would also be subject to some seasonal blocking from tree canopies. The former Higher Blowing House (MCO25398) to the south would be the only non-Listed heritage asset that may have its setting effected by the proposed development. However, the surviving aspects of interest of this asset (chimney stack, wall and The Waterwheel Restaurant) will be directly unaffected and any direct views between the site and asset are restricted through a narrow and overgrown access route north of The Waterwheel car park. The Waterwheel and assets within its car park will retain their enclosed setting. The site will be relatively obscured or invisible from the roadside to the east and north due to blocking by trees and the sites northern boundary wall. It will be further obscured by the existing property (Ashton House), which appears to have been redeveloped in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, reducing any impact on the experience of the valley itself.

## 6.0 Conclusions

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The site is located on 19<sup>th</sup> century industrially developed land on the B3274, north of St Austell. It was part of the Higher Blowing House clay works and was developed in the 20<sup>th</sup> century with settling tanks and drags, although may have had previously non denoted features of the clay works. The site is of local interest but not of regional or national importance given its condition or comparable equivalents in the region, such as at Wheal Martyn or Gomm. Furthermore, it is unlikely to directly relate in terms of a working clay works to Carlyon Farm Dry, east of the site due to its topographical location. It will not impact on the enclosed setting of nearby Listed or unlisted heritage assets. No buried archaeological remains are expected to have survived the industrial development of the site.

As the site is not directly associated with any nearby Listed assets (e.g. Carlyon Farm Dry); nor is the site of particular historical significance when compared to its associated assets (Waterwheel Restaurant); it is not worthy of being Listed or retained itself.

If the site were fully cleared of vegetation a comprehensive photographic record may be of interest but otherwise no further archaeological works are recommended for this site. The retention of the northern boundary wall would preserve the oldest standing structure on the site and add to the screening of the property, which is already substantially screened by large trees along the site and river boundaries.

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St Austell Tithe Map c.1842

St Austell Tithe Apportionment c.1839

1<sup>st</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey, 1881, 1@2,500

2<sup>nd</sup> Edition Ordnance Survey, 1907, 1@2,500

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*Historic Landscape Character*

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*Subject: [CORNISH] 2 April 1852, West Briton Qtr Sessions, part 4 of 4, and Local Intelligence*

*Date: Tue, 28 Sep 2010 23:40:24 -0500*

<http://archiver.rootsweb.ancestry.com/th/read/CORNISH/2010-09/1285735224>



## Appendix 1

### BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSESSMENT

**Date:** 23/05/2014  
**Site:** Land adj Woodland Meadow, Trethowel Cornwall  
**Address:**  
**Application Number:** PA14/00450/PREAPP  
**HBSMR Ref:**  
**Applicant:**  
**Agent:**  
**Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer:** Dan Ratcliffe  
**Planning Case Officer:** Helen Blacklock

This brief is only valid for six months. After this period the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer (HEPAO) should be contacted. The contractor is strongly advised to visit the site as there may be implications for accurately costing the project.

#### Contractors Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)

No ground works are to be undertaken until the HEPAO and the Local Planning Authority (LPA) have approved the archaeological contractor's WSI.

#### **1 Introduction**

- 1.1 This brief has been written by the HEPAO and sets out the minimum requirements for an archaeological assessment of the above site.  
An archaeological assessment will be required to provide information on the significance and potential of archaeological remains on the site and to identify the likely impact of the proposals on that significance. This work has been recommended by the LPA in order to support the development of an application for development of a residential unit on the site.

#### **2 Site Location and Description**

- 2.1 The site is located to the north of the Waterwheel Restaurant in Trethowel, a small linear industrial hamlet to the north of St Austell. The site is currently occupied by walling which is believed to relate to a previous industrial facility.

#### **3 Planning Background**

- 3.1 The site is currently at pre-planning stage and the work is required to fulfil the requirements of P128 of the NPPF setting out information requirements for applications affecting the significance of historic assets. The assessment should establish the presence and potential presence of historic assets on site, their potential significance and the likely impacts of the developing proposals, identifying potential mitigation where appropriate,

#### **4 Archaeological Background**

- 4.1 From examination of historic mapping the walling on site dates to the early decades of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. These features are probably tanks for the storage of clay slurry solution – historic maps showing a small pan kiln to the south. This small clay works was established in the 19<sup>th</sup> century following the conversion of the operations of the Higher Blowing House (now *The Waterwheel*) to the south which was originally a blast furnace for tin smelting - see [http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results\\_Single.aspx?uid=MCO25398&resourceID=1020](http://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/Gateway/Results_Single.aspx?uid=MCO25398&resourceID=1020).

There may indeed be a relationship to the large GII\* listed Carlyon Farm Dry to the east and this should be explored if so. The clay processing remains of the complex are now very fragmentary – much clearance having been undertaken of the other parts of the works. More coherent remains survive elsewhere, many of which are not listed.

#### **5 Requirement for Work**

Ground works may disturb extant and buried archaeological remains. In order to understand the site and its potential for recording archaeological remains an assessment is required. This would involve a desk based assessment including a map regression plus a walk over survey to assess any extant remains of the site. This would provide evidence for any recommendations for archaeological recording.

The site specific aims are to:

- Draw together the historical and archaeological information about the site. Records consulted should include but not necessarily be restricted to those held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record, The Cornwall Record Office, the Cornwall Local Studies Library and the China Clay History Society.

- Review and analyse historic map evidence for the site.
- Whether historic/architectural features should be retained.
- Inform whether archaeological recording of any extant remains is required.
- Inform whether an archaeological evaluation or further archaeological recording of any potential buried remains is required.
- Inform whether palaeo-environmental sampling would be required.
- Produce 'statements of significance' for all designated historic assets, that are identified as potentially impacted on by the current proposals. Where currently undesignated assets are identified their likely significance should be indicated i.e. 'national', 'regional' or 'local'.
- Identify the construction, use and 'end of life' impacts of the current proposals on the setting of Listed Buildings (using the EH Guidance 'The Setting of Heritage Assets') and the direct impact on undesignated historic assets as described in the NPPF.

## **6 General Guidance**

- 6.1 The archaeological contractor is expected to follow the code of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA).
- 6.2 All of the latest Health and Safety guidelines shall be followed on site.
- 6.3 Terminology will be consistent with the English Heritage Thesaurus.

## **7 Results**

- 7.1 The full report including any specialist assessments shall be submitted within a length of time (but not exceeding six months) to be agreed between the applicant and the archaeological contractor, Cornwall Council Historic Environment Service and the Cornwall Record Office or Royal Cornwall Museum. A further digital copy shall be supplied on CD-ROM preferably in 'Adobe Acrobat' PDF format.
- 7.2 The archaeological contractor will undertake the English Heritage/ads online access to the index of archaeological investigations (OASIS).
- 7.3 This report will be held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record (HER) and made available for public consultation.
- 7.4 The report must contain:
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.
  - The aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation.
  - A discussion of the archaeological findings in terms of both the site specific aims and the desk based research.
  - A location map, a drawing showing those areas examined as part of the archaeological recording, and copies of historic maps and plans consulted and any archaeological plans and sections. All plans shall be tied to the national grid.
  - All specialist reports and assessments.
  - A summary of the archive contents and date of deposition.
  - A copy of the brief and the approved WSI will be included as an appendix.

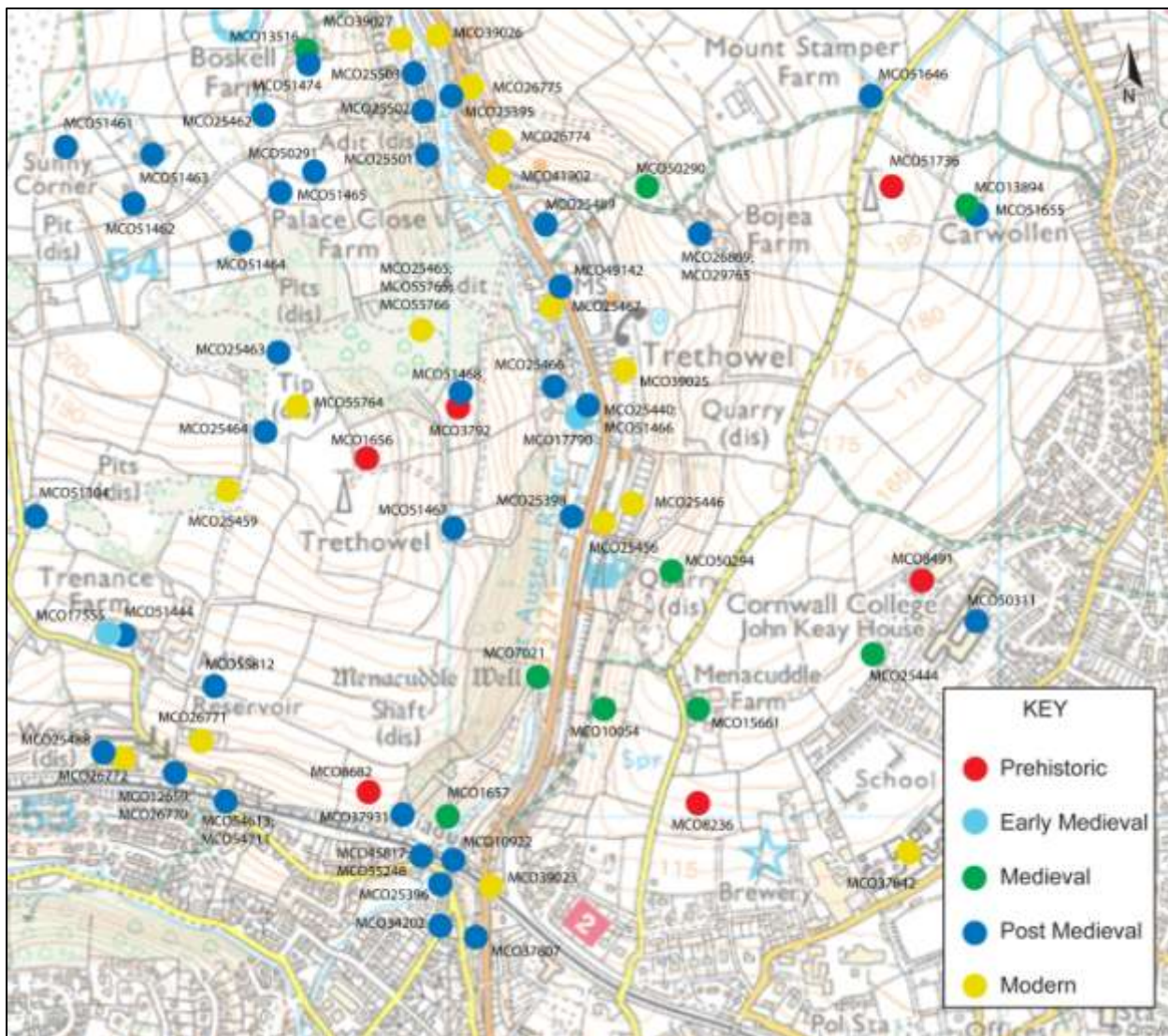
## **8 Archive Deposition**

- 8.1 An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with: *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) English Heritage 2006* upon completion of the project.
- 8.2 Where there is only a documentary archive this will be deposited with the Cornwall Record Office as well as the Courtenay Library of the Royal Institution of Cornwall.
- 8.3 A copy of the report will be supplied to the National Monuments Record (NMR) Swindon.
- 8.4 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to the HEPAO.

## **9 Monitoring**

- 9.1 The HEPAO will monitor the work and should be kept regularly informed of progress.
- 9.2 Notification of the start of work shall be given preferably in writing to the HEPAO at least one week in advance of its commencement.
- 9.3 Any variations to the WSI shall be agreed with the HEPAO, preferably in writing, prior to them being carried out.

Appendix 2  
Gazetteer of sites recorded in the HER



Relevant HER entries within 1km of the site.

Reference	Name	Form	Period
MCO25446	CARLYON FARM - china clay dries	Extant Structure (Grade II Listed DCO14513)	Modern
MCO25456	TRENANCE VALLEY BRANCH - railway	Extant Structure	Modern
MCO39025	BOJEA SIDINGS - railway siding	Demolished Structure	Modern
MCO25467	TRETHOWEL - china clay dries	Demolished Structure	Modern
MCO25465; MCO55765; MCO55766	TRETHOWEL - engine, Modern chimney, Modern boiler house; spoil heap; spoil heap	Extant Structure	Modern
MCO25459	TRENANCE - china clay works	Extant Structure	Modern
MCO41902	BOJEA - railway bridge	Extant Structure	Modern
MCO26774	RUDDLE No 4 - china clay dries	Extant Structure	Modern
MCO26775	BOJEA - mica drag, Modern transmission rods, Modern water	Extant Structure	Modern

	wheel, Modern settling pit		
MCO39026	LOWER RUDDLE YARD - wharf, Modern railway siding	Extant Structure	Modern
MCO39027	BOSKELL SIDINGS - railway siding	Extant Structure	Modern
MCO26772	TRENANCE - china clay dries	Extant Structure	Modern
MCO26771	TRENANCE - china clay dries	Extant Structure	Modern
MCO39023	TRENANCE JUNCTION - railway	Demolished Structure	Modern
MCO37842	ST AUSTELL - school	Extant Structure	Modern
MCO55764	TRETHOWEL - spoil heap	Extant Structure	Modern
MCO51304	LITTLE TRENANCE - settlement	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO51444	TRENANCE - farmstead	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO55812	TRENANCE RESERVOIR	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO25488	CARRANCARROW - china clay works	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO12659; MCO26770	TRENANCE - mine; railway bridge, railway siding	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO54613; MCO54711	TRENANCE ROAD - railway bridge, railway bridge	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO37931	ST AUSTELL - quarry	Demolished Structure	Post Medieval
MCO45817; MCO55248	ST AUSTELL - railway viaduct	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO10922	ST AUSTELL - toll house	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO25396	ST AUSTELL - corn mill	Documentary Evidence	Post Medieval
MCO34202	ST AUSTELL - house	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO37807	ST AUSTELL - saw pit	Demolished Structure	Post Medieval
MCO51467	TRETHOWEL - farmstead	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO25398	HIGHER BLOWING HOUSE - blowing house	Demolished Structure	Post Medieval
MCO50311	ST AUSTELL - shaft	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO51655	CARWOLLEN - farmstead	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO51646	MOUNT STAMPER FARM - settlement	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO26869; MCO29765	BOJEA - wheel pit; farmstead	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO25440; MCO51466	TRETHOWEL MILL - corn mill; water wheel	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO25466	TRETHOWEL - 19th Century settling pit	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO49142	TRETHOWEL - milestone	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO25489	BOJEA - clay workings	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO51468	COLCHESTER HOUSE - house	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO25464	TRETHOWEL - engine house	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO25463	TRETHOWEL - china clay works	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO25395	BOJEA MILL - corn mill	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO25503	BOSKELL - china clay dries	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO25502	BOSKELL - workshop	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO25501	BOSKELL - china clay dries	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO51474	BOSKELL - farmstead	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO25462	BOSKELL - clay workings	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO50291	PALACE CLOSE FARM - shaft	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO51465	PALACE CLOSE FARM - farmstead	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO51464	SUNNY CORNER - farmstead	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO51463	SUNNY CORNER - cottage pair	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO51462	SUNNY CORNER - house	Extant Structure	Post Medieval
MCO51461	SUNNY CORNER - farmstead	Extant Structure	Post Medieval

MCO1657	TRETHOWEL – tin ore findspot	Findspot	Medieval
MCO7021	MENACUDDLE - chapel, holy well	Extant Structure	Medieval
MCO10054	MENACUDDLE - chapel	Documentary Evidence	Medieval
MCO50294	TRETHOWEL - ridge and furrow	Extant Structure	Medieval
MCO15661	MENACUDDLE - settlement	Documentary Evidence	Medieval
MCO25444	ST AUSTELL - field system	Documentary Evidence	Medieval
MCO13894	CARWOLLEN - settlement	Documentary Evidence	Medieval
MCO50290	TRETHOWEL - cultivation marks	Extant Structure	Medieval
MCO13516	BOSKELL - settlement	Documentary Evidence	Medieval
MCO17555	TRENANCE - settlement	Documentary Evidence	Early Medieval
MCO17790	TRETHOWEL - settlement	Documentary Evidence	Early Medieval
MCO8682	TRENANCE - Iron Age round, Romano British round?	Documentary Evidence	Prehistoric
MCO8236	MENACUDDLE - Iron Age round, Romano British round?	Documentary Evidence	Prehistoric
MCO8491	ST AUSTELL - Iron Age round, Romano British round?	Documentary Evidence	Prehistoric
MCO1656	TRETHOWEL - Bronze Age barbed & tanged arrow head	Findspot	Prehistoric
MCO51736	CARWOLLEN - Iron Age round, Romano British round?	Documentary Evidence	Prehistoric
MCO3792	TRETHOWEL - Bronze Age barrow	Extant Structure	Prehistoric

Table listing the entire heritage assets plotted on map above

(Source: Access to Monuments at <http://mapping.cornwall.gov.uk/website/ccmap/>).

## Appendix 3

### HER entry for Higher Blowing House (MCO25398)

**HER Number:** 20306

**Name:** HIGHER BLOWING HOUSE - Post Medieval blowing house

**Full description**

Higher Blowing House at Trethowel was built in 1784 and is recorded on the 1st Edition 1" OS map c1813. It is in use in 1815 and on the Tithe Map of 1839 it is active, the owner is J. Martin. In approx 1860 it was closed only to be working again in 1862. It is recorded on the 2nd Edition 1:2500 OS map, the C20 history of the site is unknown, although in 1972 it was recorded as 'not extant', however some survival does occur. The chimney, some of the western wall including two arches, one approximately 2m by 1m the other is more difficult to record owing to the infill, it seems to be wider than the other door. The height of the surviving wall is difficult to determine due to the extensive vegetation. The remnants of clay driers, possible two cottages are suggested. The base of the L which is on the line of the river is two storeys but the bottom room is partly subterranean and certainly looks as if at one point in time would have been the 'working' part of the building. The lower facade is quite grand, dressed granite block face and must have been the original front to the house (Pers Comm. Maurice Dart and Francesca Arundel).



Appendix 4  
Additional Photographs from Walkover Survey



Overgrown proposed access area; viewed from the south (2m scale).



Bank of the overgrown proposed access area; viewed from the south-east (no scale).





Tree at edge of overgrown proposed access area; viewed from the north-west (no scale).



North end of overgrown proposed access area; viewed from the west (no scale).





Iron girder and concrete block setting of derelict bridge; viewed from the east (no scale).



Site from private access of Waterwheel Restaurant car park; viewed from the south (no scale).





Site shot, concrete drag visible in centre with debris to the left; viewed from the south (no scale).



Remains of pan kiln wall in Waterwheel Restaurant car park; viewed from the north-east (no scale).





Derelict bridge; viewed from the west (2m scale).



Concrete drag visible in centre (indicated) with debris on either side; viewed from the south (no scale).





Concrete drag visible in centre (indicated) with debris on either side; viewed from the south (no scale).



Site shot from middle of site; viewed from the south (no scale).





View into brick and concrete sunken gully outside sluice gate; viewed from the east (no scale).



View along southern edge of settling tanks; viewed from the east (2m scale).



South wall of eastern settling tank; viewed from the west (no scale).



South wall of western settling tank; viewed from the east (no scale).





Dividing wall of settling tanks; viewed from the south (2m scale).



Top of sluice in western settling tank; viewed from the west (no scale).





Brick buttress in western settling tank against dividing wall; viewed from the north-west (2m scale).



Retaining wall/western wall of western settling tank; viewed from the east (2m scale).





Interior of western settling tank, the banks are clay deposits; viewed from the north (2m scale).



Clay sediment deposits in western settling tank; viewed from above (no scale).





North-east corner of western settling tank, showing pipe work; viewed from the south-west (2m scale).



East end of northern boundary wall; viewed from the south (2m scale).



North end of western settling tank; viewed from the east (no scale).



Settling tanks dividing wall; viewed from the north (no scale).





Salt glazed and Fe pipe work in north-east corner of western settling tank; viewed from the north (no scale).



North wall of eastern settling tank; viewed from the west (no scale).





Access or 'tenon-esq' point in dividing wall; viewed from the east (2m scale).



Interior of eastern settling tank, channels seem to cut the clay deposits; viewed from the south (2m scale).





Eastern wall of eastern settling tank; viewed from the south (no scale).



Northern wall of eastern settling tank; viewed from the east (no scale).





Interior of eastern settling tank, channels seem to cut the clay deposits; viewed from the north (2m scale).



Channel at north end of eastern settling tanks; viewed from the west (2m scale).





Chimney stack of demolished/infilled Higher lowing House pan kiln; viewed from the north-east (no scale).



The waterwheel of the Waterwheel Restaurant; viewed from the north-east (no scale).





St Austell River next to Waterwheel Restaurant; viewed from the north (no scale).



The Part of Carlyon Farm Listed clay Dryers on opposite slope of valley to site; viewed from the north-west (no scale).



The Part of Carlyon Farm Listed clay Dryers on opposite slope of valley to site; viewed from the north-west (no scale).



View towards proposed site from the road showing coverage of foliage from adjacent properties; viewed from the north-east (no scale).



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