

Cornwall & Scilly Historic Environment Record

Historic Environment Record, Historic Environment Service, Environment & Heritage, Cornwall Council



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Site Name: Land at Treroosal Road	
Grid ref (10-fig): SX 06181 80628	OS Map No:
Parish: St Teath	
Site Type:	
Period:	Form:

Description:

Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of Will Kitto of KMD Developments (the Client) in advance of a proposed development of twelve dwellings on land at Treroosal Road, St Teath, Cornwall (Figure 1). This work was undertaken by J. Bampton on the 7/05/15 in accordance with a WSI drawn up in consultation with Phil Copleston, Cornwall Council's Senior Development Officer, Historic Environment (SDOHE). The schedule of work consisted of monitoring the excavation of the proposed access road and seven trenches, each 1.50m wide and totalling 56m in length, across the proposed house locations (Figure 2). Soakaways (c.1×3m across) had also been excavated towards the rear of each proposed dwelling, none of which revealed any archaeological features or remains.

St Teath is in the hundred of Trigg and the deanery of Trigg-Minor, 13km north of Bodmin, 4km south-west of Camelford, 4.5km east of Port Isaac Bay and on the B3267, just off the A39. The site is a rectangular field on the western edge of the village of St Teath, 220m west of the church, in an area categorised on the Historic Landscape Characterisation as Medieval Farmland. The settlement was first recorded in c.1190 by its Cornish name *Egglostetha* meaning the Church of St Teth and thereafter in various forms of *Sancta Tetha*. The HER records an early medieval extraction pit (MCO38315) approximately 50m south of the proposed site and the national mapping project noted a large cut feature surrounding an extraction pit (57152). Less than 150m north of the proposed development site is MCO12670, a cropmark of a potential Iron Age or Romano-British 'round'. Within the settlement, east and south-east of the site, are a number of Listed buildings of medieval and post-medieval origin, including the Grade I Listed church. The Treroosal post-medieval mine lies within 500m to the north-east of the proposed development.

The stratigraphy across the site was consistent. Topsoil (100), a mid grey-brown, friable sandy-silt with occasional small sub-angular stones, 0.29-0.34m deep. It overlaid Subsoil (101); a mid buff-brown, soft-friable clayey-silt with moderate grit and small angular to sub-angular stones with very occasional charcoal flecks, 0.21-0.26m deep. Subsoil (101) overlaid Natural (102); a light brownish-yellow, firm-friable sandy-clay with moderate medium-large angular stones.

A single linear feature, Ditch [103], occurred across the site. Ditch [103] (64×0.80×0.17m), aligned north-east by south-west, had gentle, slightly concave sides, which were heavily root disturbed and pocked, a gentle concave base and contained a single fill, (104). Fill (104) was a mid orange-brown, friable sandy-silt with occasional charcoal flecks and small-medium sub-angular stones. It contained no finds and was overlaid by Subsoil (101). Ditch [103] survived ephemerally in Trench 1 and again in Trenches 6 and 7 and in the access road. The entire section in the access road was investigated for finds recovery, but none were found. No other archaeological features or remains were present.

Each instance of this ditch roughly aligned with the next, although it appeared to have had slight kinks. In this way it respected the curving south-east boundary of the site to which it runs parallel. This south-east boundary respects the medieval field scape that was altered in the 18th and 19th centuries. Ditch [103] is not represented on the 1843 Tithe map and is probably a contemporary of the south-east boundary but was removed during the post-medieval agricultural revolution.

All finds were recovered from the topsoil and subsoil layers and subsequently discarded. The topsoil finds included: a single fragment (102g) of slate; a single fragment (4g) of coal; ×2 fragments (4g) of clay pipe stem; ×12 sherds (71g) of white refined earthenware, two with blue transfer print decoration, including a tea cup fragment; ×3 sherds (47g) of 19th century stoneware, including one large jug handle; ×2 sherds (33g) of 19th century post-medieval industrial ware; and ×2 golf balls (92g). The subsoil finds included: a single rectangular fe nail (12g); and a single struck pebble flint flake with cortex (6g).

No significant archaeological features or remains were present.

Land Use (Area): Farmland on edge of village	Land Use (Site): Meadow
Date of Site Visit: 7/05/2015	

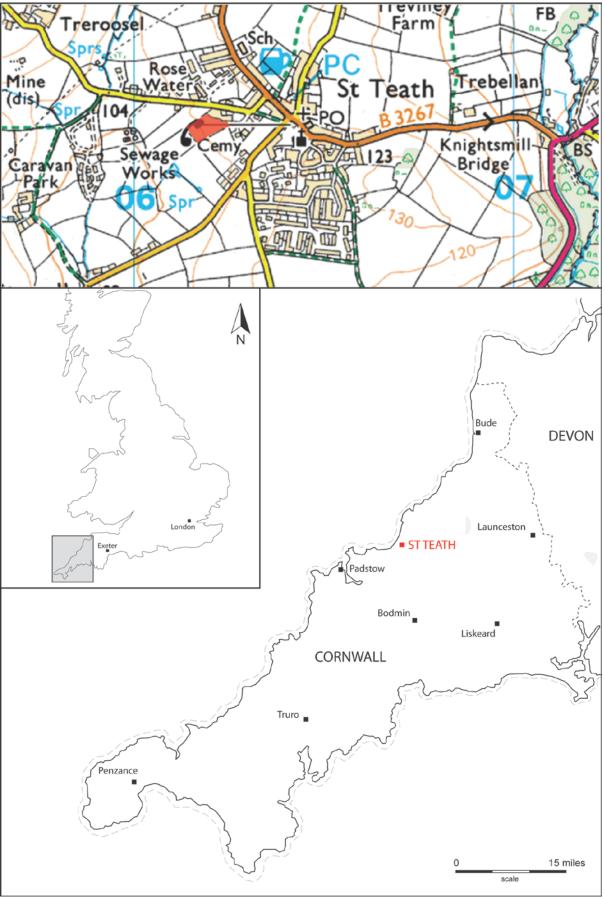


Figure 1: Site location (the site is indicated in red).

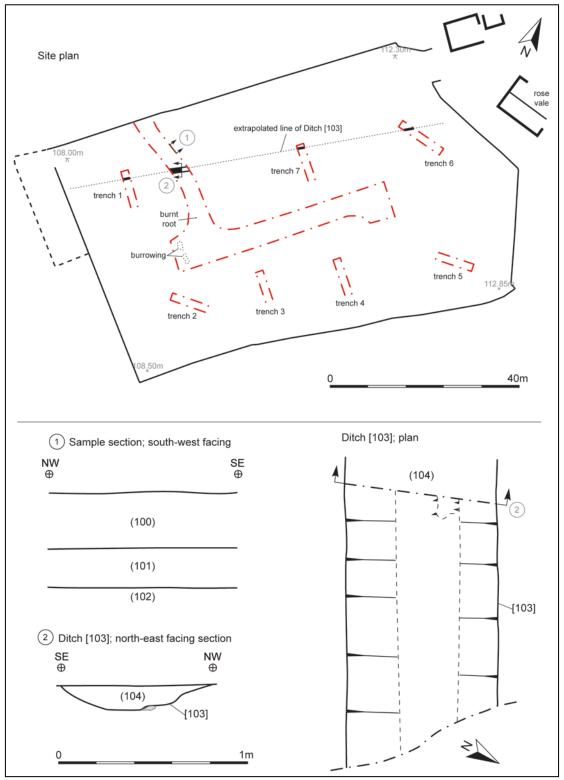


Figure 2: Site drawings; above, site plan; below, sample section and section drawing and plan of excavated segment of Ditch [103].



Figure 3: Ditch [103], north-east facing section, viewed from the north-east (1m scale).



Figure 4: Ditch [103] and section in access road, viewed from the south-west (1m scale).



Figure 5: South-east half of site showing access road and Trenches 3, 4 and 5, viewed from the south-west (no scale).



Figure 6: Trench 7, showing continuation of Ditch [103], viewed from the north-west (1 & 2m scale).