



<b>Site Name:</b> Treliske House, Kenwyn, Cornwall	<b>Planning Ref:</b> PA16/08577
<b>Grid ref (10-fig):</b> SW 80240 45336	<b>OS Map No:</b> OSGB36
<b>Parish:</b> Kenwyn	<b>OASIS ref:</b> Southwes1_269847
<b>Site Type:</b> Institutional building (school)	
<b>Period:</b> Undated / Modern	<b>Form:</b> Archaeological monitoring
<p><b>Description:</b> Archaeological monitoring was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of David Malen or Ward Williams Associates (the Agent) on behalf of Rachel Bayliss, Bursar of Truro Preparatory School (the Client) during groundworks associated with the replacement of temporary classrooms at Treliske House, Truro Preparatory School, Highertown, Truro, Cornwall. The work was carried out over several visits by S. Walls, E. Wapshott and P. Webb between 21<sup>st</sup> March and 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2017. All works were undertaken in accordance with a WSI (Boyd 2016) drawn up in consultation with Charles Johns, Senior Development Officer, Historic Environment, Cornwall Council. The programme of archaeological monitoring follows on from a desk-based assessment and heritage impact assessment walkover survey carried out by SWARCH in 2016 (Morris 2016).</p> <p>The site is located in the grounds of Treliske House, west of Truro town centre within the Highertown area, on a hilltop overlooking the River Kenwyn at a height of c.80m AOD. The soils of this area are the well drained, fine loamy and silty soils of the Denbigh 1 Association (SSEW 1983); these overlie the mudstone and sandstone of the Porthtowan Formation (BGS 2017). Treliske is first documented in 1302, and remained an isolated farmstead into the 19<sup>th</sup> century when the land was acquired by miner come gentleman William Teague of Ludgvan, who constructed the house in the 1870s. On his death in 1886, the house was sold to George Smith. Following his death the house remained unoccupied before the Truro Preparatory School bought the site in 1933 as a feeder school for Truro School. The Cornwall and Scilly Heritage and Environment Record (HER) records a large number of archaeological interventions in the vicinity of the site, primarily related to the 20<sup>th</sup> century expansion of Truro and the construction of the nearby hospital. Most notably the barrow cemetery that was destroyed when the hospital was built.</p> <p>The groundworks comprised the stripping of an irregular linear access track (Area 01); and two rectangular areas to cover drainage trenching (Areas 02 and 03) by mechanical excavator to the depth of weathered natural, up to 0.50m deep. These were located to the north-west of the main school building (Figure 1); Area 01 measuring up to c.35m north-west to south-east × up to c.15m north-east to south-west; Area 02 measuring 6.8m east-west × 5.7m north-south; Area 03 4.3m north-south × 3.2m east-west. Six further geotechnical test pits (Areas 04-09) located to the north of the main building, measuring c.0.50m × 0.50m were hand up to 0.80m deep.</p> <p>The stratigraphy to the north-west of the site comprised topsoil, mid grey-brown soft friable silt-clay-loam up to c.0.50m thick; overlying made-ground, mid-light pink-brown soft clay c.0.24m thick and modern stone chip surface up to c.0.15m thick. These overlay the natural, compact-hard pink-yellow clay-silt with occasional quartz and stone fragments. To the north, the stratigraphy predominantly comprised made-ground over natural, though in the north-east corner (Area 07) the made-ground contained more mixed deposits with brown clay-silts indicative of former ground surfaces/garden soils being mixed in.</p> <p>Only a single feature was identified {102}, a 20<sup>th</sup> century linear path orientated approximately north-west × south-east and measuring c.2.5m long and 0.60m wide. It was constructed from concrete and brick kerbs, the central pathway being loose tarmac chippings.</p> <p><b> Finds:</b> A small assemblage of finds was recovered from the site, from topsoil (100) and pathway {102}. It included: 1 sherd (8g) of post-medieval gravel free pottery, 3 sherds (69g) of industrial ware, 18 sherds of post-medieval white-refined-earthenware, and 16 sherds (949g) of flowerpot from topsoil (100); 2 sherds (37g) of post-medieval white-refined earthenware from path {102}. 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century pottery was also recovered from modern surface (301). All finds were subsequently discarded.</p> <p><b> Conclusion:</b> The only identified feature was modern in date, reflecting the changing layout of the school grounds; the stratigraphic deposits indicating that the grounds were significantly built up prior to the construction of the temporary classrooms, though there may have been earlier episodes of build-up, similarly a result of landscaping developments of the grounds.</p> <p><b> Bibliography:</b>  <b> Boyd, N.</b> 2016: <i>Treliske Preparatory School, Treliske Lane, Truro, Cornwall: Written Scheme of Investigation</i>. SWARCH Report No. TPS16WSlv1.  <b> British Geological Survey</b> 2016: <i>Geology of Britain Viewer</i>. <a href="http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html">http://maps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyviewer_google/googleviewer.html</a></p>	

[accessed 11.08.2017].

**Morris, B.** 2016: *Treliske House, Kenwyn, Cornwall: Results of a Desk-Based Assessment & Heritage Impact Assessment*. SWARCH Report No. 160816.

**Soil Survey of England and Wales** 1983: *Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales*.

**Land Use (Area):** Institutional (school)

**Land Use (Site):** Institutional (school)

**Date of Site Visit:** 21/03/17-03/08/17

**Recorder's name, address and phone number:** P. Webb, South West Archaeology Ltd., Hacche Lane Business Park, Pathfields Business Park, South Molton, Devon, EX36 3LH



Figure 1: Area 1, post-excavation showing made-ground (to the left) over natural (right); viewed from the east (1m & 2m scales).

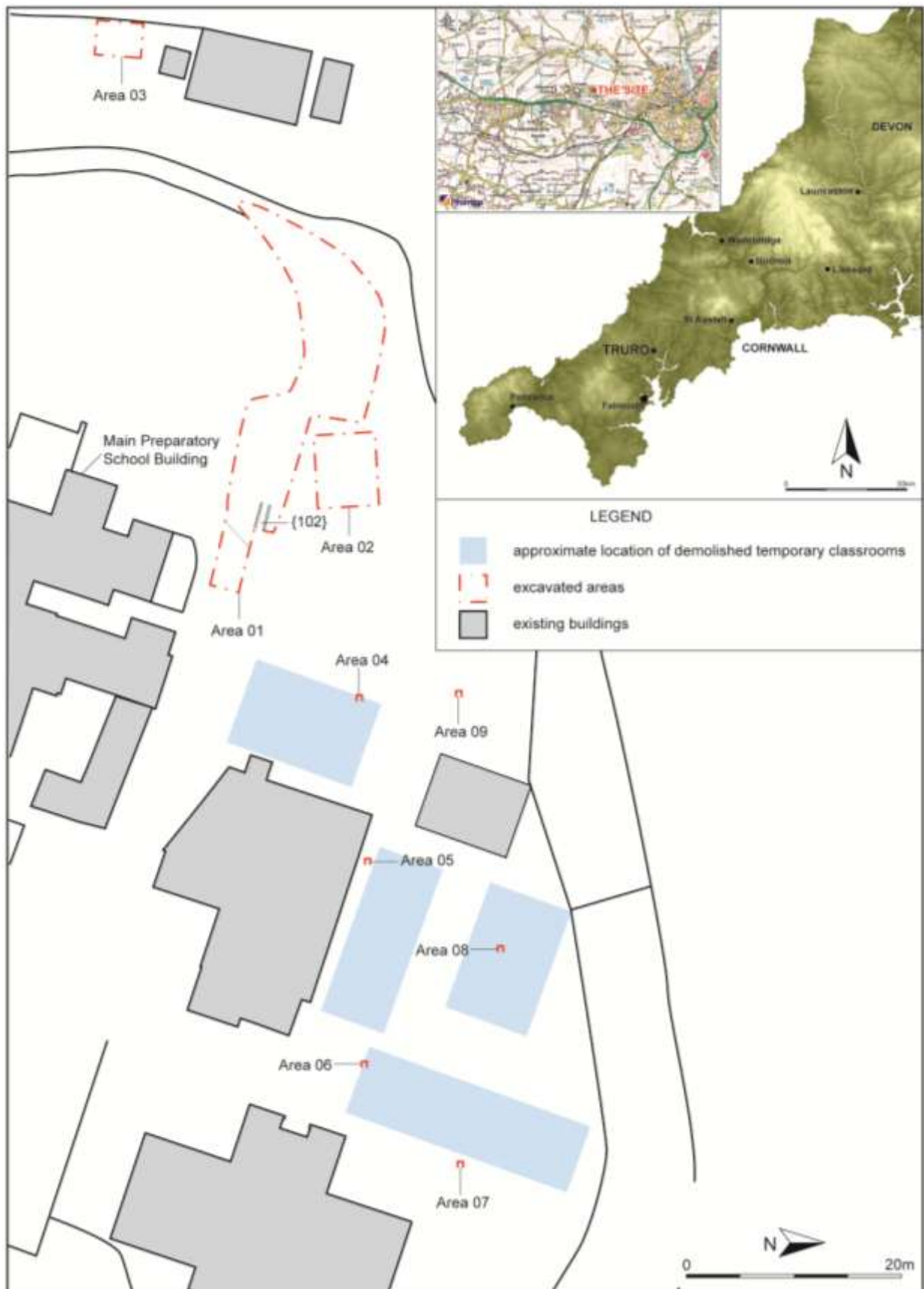


Figure 2: Site location and plan.



Figure 1: Remains of path {102}; viewed from the south-east (0.30m & 1m scales).