

Cornwall & Scilly Historic Environment Record Site Recording form



Site Name: Brick House	
Grid ref (10-fig): SW 82797 56282	OS Map No: SW827562
Parish: St Newlyn East	
Site Type: Groundworks in advance of the construction a house, replacing a historic house destroyed by fire and demolished	
Period: Medieval – Modern	Form: Monitoring and Recording event
<p>Description: Archaeological monitoring and recording was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of Austin Roberts of James Lockyer Associates Ltd. (the Agent) at Brick House, St Newlyn East, Cornwall (Planning Application No.PA15/09352). Brick House was gutted by fire on 11th April 2015, and the building survey subsequently carried out concluded the structure had possible 18th century origins (SWARCH report 160506). The remains of the house were subsequently demolished, and archaeological monitoring was undertaken by J. Bampton on the 24th of November 2016 in accordance with a WSI drawn up in line with best practice.</p> <p>Recent archaeological excavation by SWARCH off Halt Road, south-east of Brick House, revealed part of a Middle Bronze Age enclosure, medieval and post-medieval field boundaries, the foundations of a single-cell post-medieval building (farmhouse) and evidence for 19th century mine working, including a possible shaft and a well. (SWARCH reports 140523 and 150115).</p> <p>An area approximately 12.75m×11.50m, encompassing the footprint of the demolished building was excavated to the depth of <i>in situ</i> weathered natural, which corresponded to the site formation level. The foundations of the former buildings consisted of a single course of stone or hand-made brick laid onto natural within a slight terrace. On a methodological note, it is of interest that a substantial cottage could disappear without leaving more of a trace. Only a single archaeological feature was identified.</p> <p>Ditch [104] followed the line of an extant bank/retaining wall that divides the building terrace from the garden to the west. Ditch [104] was 0.55m wide and only 0.06m deep with moderate to gently-sloping sides and a flattish stony base that had been disturbed by roots. It contained a single fill (105). Fill (105) was a firm mid yellowish-brown silt-clay with moderate gritty stone inclusions; it contained ×2 sherds (11g) of abraded medieval (13th-14th century) Cornish coarseware pottery. It had been truncated by the terracing associated with the 18th century house and, between the demolished house and a shed, was overlaid by layer (103), a deposit of redeposited subsoil and topsoil. Layer (103) was c.0.20m thick and associated with post-medieval landscaping. Layer (103) was overlaid by topsoil (100), a friable dark brownish-grey sandy-silt loam c.0.18m thick. There was also a subsoil (101), a friable mid greyish-brown sandy-silt loam c.0.22m thick with moderate small stones. The surviving garden wall cut subsoil (101) and its bank material contained 19th century pottery and CBM. The natural (102) was a compact light brownish-yellow rocky shillet with clay. See Figures 1 to 4.</p> <p>A sample of finds were recovered from the site, including from topsoil (100): clear bottle glass, 19th-20th century white refined earthenware (WRE) with blue transfer print decoration (BTP) and 19th century stoneware; subsoil (101): 18th-19th century red wares, 19th century industrial wares including WRE with BTP and 19th century black stoneware (black basaltware); layer (103): 18th-19th century red wares, 19th-20th century WRE with BTP and other 19th century industrial wares. The remains of the demolished building contained 19th-20th century WRE, hand-made brick with a sandy lime mortar and early 20th century brick; its foundations included stone and hand-made brick.</p>	
Land Use (Area): Settlement	Land Use (Site): Domestic Property
Date of Site Visit: 24/11/16	
Recorder's name, address and phone number: J. Bampton, South West Archaeology Ltd., Hacche Lane Business Park, Pathfields Business Park, South Molton, Devon, EX36 3LH	

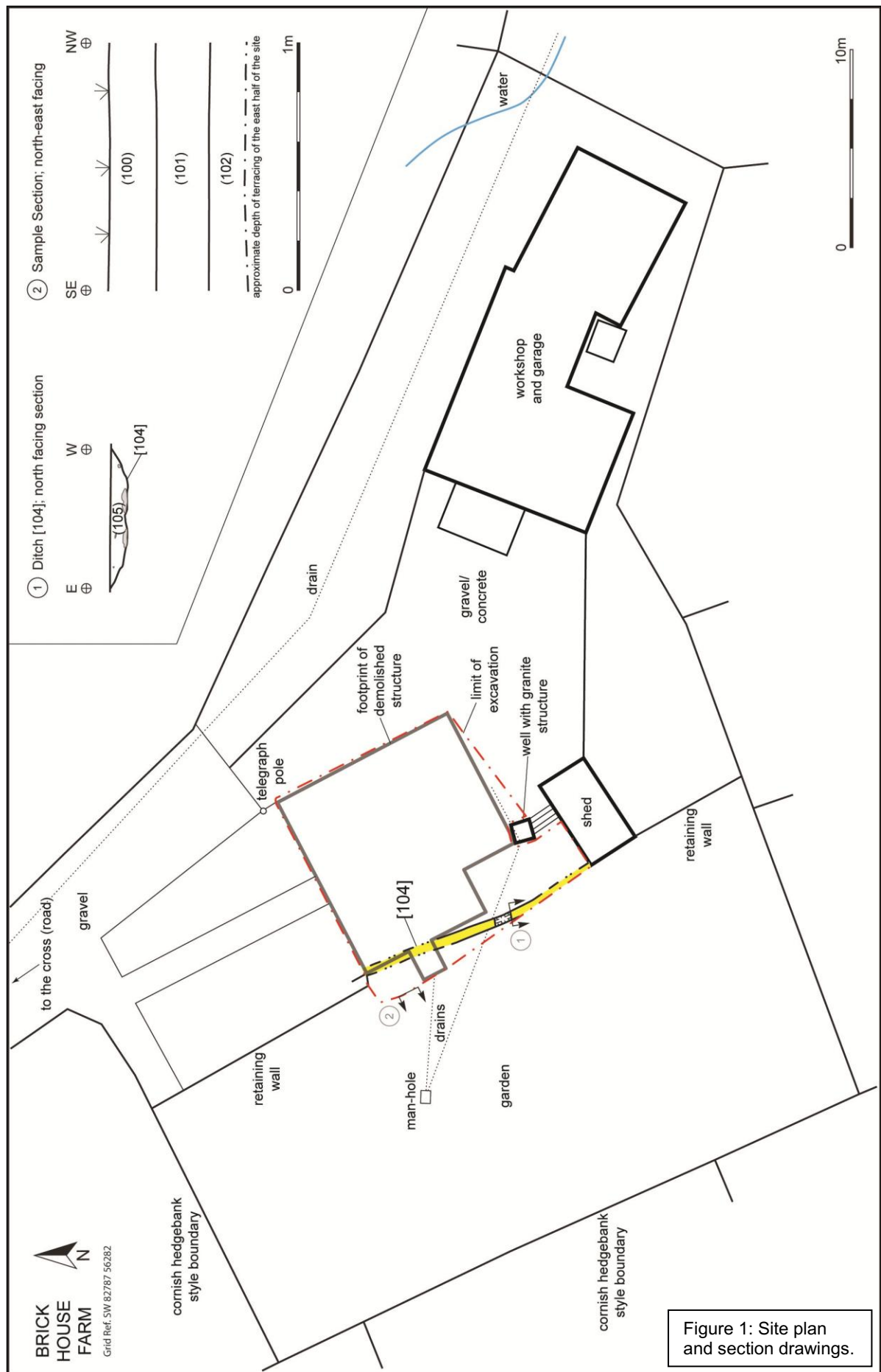


Figure 1: Site plan and section drawings.



Figure 2: Sample Section; viewed from the north-east (scale 1m).



Figure 3: Ditch [104]; viewed from the north (scale 1m).



Figure 4: Site shot, post-excavation; viewed from the north-west (scale 1m)