

## 1.0 SITE VISIT

<b>LOCATION:</b>	HAY COMMON
<b>PARISH:</b>	LAUNCESTON
<b>COUNTY:</b>	CORNWALL
<b>NGR:</b>	SX 3391 8349
<b>SWARCH REF.</b>	LHCA20
<b>PLANNING REF.</b>	PA11/00339 (CONDITION 12)

### 1.1 BACKGROUND

South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) was commissioned by a Private Client to undertake a site visit on land at Hay Common, south of Hay Parc, Launceston under the conditions of the Written Scheme of Investigation (Valentin 2015) to establish the level of potential survival of archaeological remains following the commencement of ground works associated with a secondary phase of residential development (hereafter ‘the site’). A geophysical survey had been previously carried out across the wider development area (Sabin & Donaldson 2010) identifying a series of curving linear anomalies indicating former (possibly medieval) field boundary divisions associated with historic agriculture; as well as several further anomalies which may or may not be natural in origin. No records for other archaeological work across the site have been established although it is presumed that the phase 1 development area was subject to the required watching brief. This Phase 1 works may have included monitoring of works in some of the Phase 2 area as it had been stripped, at least in part, presumably during compound construction and of material storage.



FIGURE 1: SITE PLAN. THE AREA SHOWN IN BLUE IS THE PART OF THE SITE RELEVANT TO THIS REPORT.



FIGURE 2: EXTRACT OF THE GEOPHYSICS RESULTS (FROM SABIN & DONALDSON 2010).

## 1.2 SITE VISIT

The site was visited by P. Webb of South West Archaeology Ltd. on the 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020, and it was established that the northern phase of development (by a different developer) was complete; and that construction of the western phase (by a third developer) was also well underway. Groundworks in preparation for the development of the southern part of the site had commenced with the development area stripped; access routes stoned; and the foundations for some building plots excavated. Some very small areas of untouched ground were present, particularly against the northern phase boundary, but these probably total 1-2% of the site. Large soil storage mounds were also present across the site.

Where topsoil was visible, this was relatively shallow, c.0.20m thick, and appeared to overlie a similarly thin subsoil and the natural shillet/slatestone bedrock. No trace of archaeological features was identified in the visible open sections of foundation trenching. Given the suggested shallow depth of soil layers across the site, degree of stripping, and subsequent machine tracking it is thought that archaeological remains (should they have been present in the first instance) are unlikely to have survived.

## 2.0 BIBLIOGRAPHY & REFERENCES

### *Unpublished Sources:*

**Sabin, D., & Donaldson, K.** 2010: *Land to the South of Launceston, Cornwall: Magnetometer Survey Report*. Archaeological Surveys Ltd. Ref. no.: 312.

**Valentin, J.** 2015: *Land at Hay Common, South of Hay Parc, Launceston, Cornwall: Written Scheme of Investigation for Archaeological Watching Brief*. AC Archaeology WSI No.: ACD1054/1/0.



### 3.0 SUPPORTING PHOTOGRAPHS

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1. VIEWS ACROSS AREAS OF ALREADY EXCAVATED HOUSE PLOTS TOWARDS THE NORTH-WEST CORNER OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST.



2. VIEW ACROSS AREAS OF ALREADY EXCAVATED HOUSE PLOTS AT THE WESTERN END OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH.



3. DETAIL OF EXCAVATED FOUNDATION TRENCHES DEMONSTRATING THIN LAYERS OF TOPSOIL AND SUBSOIL OVERLYING NATURAL BEDROCK; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH.



4. VIEW OF THE UN-STRIPPED AREA ALONG THE NORTHERN BOUNDARY OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-EAST.





5. VIEW ALONG THE STRIPPED AND STONED ROAD TO THE SOUTH OF THE NORTHERN ROW OF HOUSING; VIEWED FROM THE EAST.



6. DETAIL OF THE MADE GROUND TO THE SOUTH OF THE ROAD STRIP; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST.



7. DETAIL OF ONE OF THE SPOIL STORAGE AREAS TO THE SOUTH OF THE ROAD STRIP; VIEWED FROM THE NORTH-EAST.



8. VIEW OF THE EASTERN END OF THE SITE WITH SPOIL STORAGE, FROM SOUTH OF THE SITE; VIEWED FROM THE WEST-SOUTH-WEST.



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