



<b>Site Name:</b> Land at Godolphin Cross, Forth Vean	<b>Planning Ref:</b> PA18/09940
<b>Grid ref (10-fig):</b> SW 60720 31159	<b>OS Map No:</b> OSGB36
<b>Parish:</b> Breage	<b>OASIS Ref:</b> Southwes1-511516
<b>Site Type:</b> Residential development – for four open market and four affordable dwellings	
<b>Period:</b> Modern, post-medieval findspot	<b>Form:</b> Archaeological Evaluation Trenching
<p><b>Description:</b> Archaeological evaluation trenching was undertaken by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) at the request of a Private Client (the Client) prior to the development of the site for four open market and four affordable dwellings on Land at Godolphin Cross, Forth Vean, Breage, Cornwall. The work was carried out by Dr. S.H. Walls, MCIfA in October 2022 in accordance with a WSI (Boyd 2022) drawn up in consultation with the Historic Environment and Planning Advice Officer (HEPAO) at Cornwall Council.</p> <p>The site lies on the south-west edge of the village of Godolphin Cross, with mostly modern houses to the east and agricultural fields to the south and west. The soils of the site are recorded as the well-drained fine loamy or fine silty soils over rock of the Manod Association (SSEW 1983), these overlie a pocket of hornfelsed slate and hornfelsed siltstone of the Mylor Slate (BGS 2022).</p> <p>The site lies within an area recorded on the Cornwall Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) as Farmland: Medieval: <i>The agricultural heartland, with farming settlements documented before the 17<sup>th</sup> century AD and whose patterns are morphologically distinct from the generally straight-sided fields of later enclosure. Either medieval or prehistoric origins.</i></p> <p>Approximately 100m to the west of the site the Cornwall Historic Environment Record (HER) records the Medieval settlement of Herland, first recorded as 'Hyrleyn' in 1283 (MCO14871). A similar distance to the north-east of the site is the Medieval Godolphin Cross standing in the porch of Godolphin Cross Church, although this is not its original location (MCO5290); the church was built in 1851 (MCO43297). In the village, to the north of the site are a rare modern fingerpost (MCO56198), a Post Medieval nonconformist chapel (MCO32431), the National School (MCO51349) and the site of the now demolished modern stamping mill at Maiden Stamps (MCO27202). Approximately 200m to the north-west of the site lies the Grade II* listed Godolphin Registered Park and Garden, which includes the Iron Age/Romano British Carsluick Round (MCO7788) visible on aerial photos and through documentary evidence.</p> <p>Six evaluation trenches totalling 75m in length were opened by a machine fitted with a 1m wide toothed bucket under archaeological supervision. The stratigraphy that was encountered across the site was relatively consistent, with a dark brown silt loam topsoil typically between 0.1-0.3m thick, and this directly overlay the natural a slightly greyish/yellow clay with occasional small sub-angular stones (&gt;60mm diameter). Soils to the north of the access track were generally shallower, although modern disturbance and finds were found within all the trenches. A single archaeological feature was noted, ditch/gully [602], which was orientated east-west, and ran parallel with the access track. Ditch/gully [602] was 0.3m wide with vertical sides and a slightly concaved to flat base, filled with a grey-brown silt-clay (topsoil) fill (603), this feature was considered to be modern, and most likely a removed service trench.</p> <p><b>Find:</b> A small assemblage of predominantly modern finds were recovered from the site, this included modern glass, plastic and white refined earthenwares (9 sherds). Two sherds of post-medieval coarsewares (3g) and a single oyster shell (2g), suggest a background of post-medieval agricultural manuring. These finds were subsequently discarded.</p> <p><b>Bibliography:</b>  <b>Boyd, N.</b> 2022: <i>Land at Godolphin Cross, Forth Vean, Breage, Cornwall: Written Scheme of Investigation</i>. SWARCH WSI No. GCFV22WSIv1.  <b>(BGS) British Geological Survey</b> 2022: <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>  <b>(SSEW) Soil Survey of England and Wales</b> 1983: <i>Legend for the 1:250,000 Soil Map of England and Wales</i>.</p>	
<b>Land Use (Area):</b> Residential	<b>Land Use (Site):</b> Yard, store and woodland/waste
<b>Date of Site Visit:</b> 13 <sup>th</sup> October 2022	
<b>Recorder's name, address and phone number:</b> Dr. S.H. Walls, MCIfA 01769 57355 South West Archaeology Ltd., Hacche Lane Business Park, Pathfields, South Molton, Devon, EX36 3LH	



FIGURE 1: TRENCH PLAN OVERLAID ON PROPOSALS, BASED ON ARCHITECTS PLANS. INSERT SITE LOCATION (IN YELLOW) IN RELATION TO THE SETTLEMENT OF GODOLPHIN CROSS (© GOOGLE).



FIGURE 2: TRENCH 4, VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH (1M SCALE).



FIGURE 3: TRENCH 6; VIEWED FROM NORTH (1M SCALE).