TREVENSON PARK, POOL, CAMBORNE, CORNWALL

(SW 66703 41629)

Results of an archaeological watching brief

Cornwall Council planning reference PA14/11730

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On behalf of: Redrow Homes Ltd

Document No: ACD1249/2/0

Date: March 2017



Cornwall County Council Historic Environment Record

Civil Parish: Camborne	National Grid Reference SW 66703 41629		Number:	
Subject: Trevenson Park, Pool, Cornwall: Results of a phase 1 archaeological watching brief				Photo attached? Y
Planning Application no: PA14/11730		Recipient museum: N/A		
OASIS ID: 280289		Museum Accession no: N/A		
Contractor's reference number/code:		Dates fieldwork undertaken:		
ACD1249		Between 11/02/2016 and 23/02/2017		

Description of works.

Introduction

The watching brief was undertaken during construction of a residential development on the site of the former Camborne School of Mines, later Cornwall College campus. The investigations were commissioned by Redrow Homes and were undertaken in accordance with an approved written scheme of investigation. Other than an Historic Environment Record entry for the Camborne School of Mines (MCO54392) there were no records of any archaeology on the site.

Results (Fig. 1; Plates 1-4)

During initial observations following demolition of the later 20th-century buildings it was clear that much of the site had been heavily disturbed by the construction of the Camborne School of Mines, including both the footprints of the buildings and surrounding landscaping and car parking. There had been extensively terracing, and subsequent raising of the ground levels using waste material and stone deposits brought in from elsewhere. A large, deep area of modern infilled ground was also recorded in the house plots south of the northern access road. Lesser disturbance was recorded at the eastern side of the site associated with 20th-century landscaping of the former grounds of Pool School.

Intensive monitoring was therefore restricted to areas away from those disturbed in the later 20th-century, and included monitoring of ground reduction (removal of turf, topsoil and modern surfaces), and deeper excavations such as service trenches and bulk reduction for house plots and the attenuation pond.

In the undisturbed areas natural weathered and then solid bedrock, which comprised Devonian hornfelsed slate and siltstone of the Mylor Slate formation, was exposed at depths of between 0.40m and 0.50m below existing levels. This was sealed by between 0.14m and 0.24m thick mid brownish-yellow silty-loam subsoil, which was overlain by a 0.26m thick layer of dark brown silty-loam topsoil.

No archaeological features or deposits were exposed and no finds recovered.

Comments

A large proportion of the site had been heavily disturbed by the late 20th-century construction of the Camborne School of Mines and the associated landscaping. Elsewhere, the soil profile was consistent with a typical agricultural sequence reflecting the land use of the area prior to development in the 20th century. No archaeological features or deposits have been exposed, and it is considered that the archaeologic potential of the remainder of the area is very low.

A plan as well as any other relevant drawings must be attached showing the location and extent of site, areas investigated and features exposed.

Recorder:	Date sent to HER:
Abby Brown, AC archaeology	23 March 2017





Plate 1: View of the landscaping for the former college with topsoil stripping in the foreground, looking west



Plate 2: Disturbance adjacent to the northern access road, looking northwest



Plate 3: General view of topsoil stripping along the northeast part of the site, looking south



Plate 4: Excavation of the sewer trench along the northeast part of the site, looking northeast



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