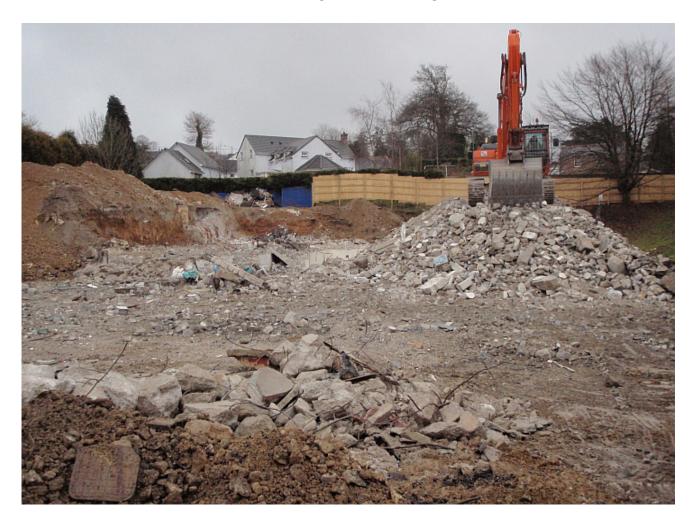
The Former Police Station, Priory Road, Bodmin, Cornwall

An Archaeological Watching Brief





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Former Police Station, Priory Road, Bodmin, Cornwall

An Archaeological Watching Brief

For

Lidl UK

Ву



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COAS Project Reference: COAS/WBF/10/PBC

National Grid Reference: centred on SX 07510 67013

Cornwall Council Planning Reference: 2008/02393

Royal Cornwall Museum Accession Number: TRUR1:2010.5

Projects Director: Richard McConnell Fieldwork Manager: Stuart Milby Fieldwork team: Peter Fairclough

Post-Excavation Co-ordinator: Fay Pegg **Report:** Fay Pegg and Peter Fairclough

Research: Cheryl Allum Graphics: Tara Fairclough

June 2010

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Front cover image: General working shot of the Site, viewed from the north east. © Context One Archaeological Services 2010

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Non-Technical Summary

Context One Archaeological Services Ltd carried out an Archaeological Watching Brief on land at the former Police Station, Priory Road, Bodmin, Cornwall (centred on NGR SX 07510 67013) over three days between the 18th of February and the 14th of June 2010. The investigation was commissioned and funded by Lidl UK.

The watching brief forms the second phase of an archaeological programme of works and was requested by the Local Planning Authority on the advice of Mr Phil Copleston (Planning Advice Office, Cornwall County Historic Environment Service (HES)). A Desk Based Assessment of the site was carried out by COAS in October 2008 (COAS 2008) and concluded that:

"...the site is located in close proximity to an early medieval monastery, early medieval settlement Norman monastic church (now part of the parish of St Petroc) and Augustinian Priory suggesting the potential for archaeological remains associated with monastic and domestic activity."

Archaeological monitoring clearly demonstrated that the Site was heavily stripped and terraced during construction of the former Police Station. The resulting ground reduction would have removed all trace of any possible archaeological remains.



1. Introduction

- 1.1 Context One Archaeological Services Ltd (COAS) carried out an Archaeological Watching Brief during groundworks relating to the erection of a Lidl food store with associated access and parking (Planning Application No: 2008/02393) at the site of the former Police Station, Priory Road, Bodmin, Cornwall (centred on NGR SX 07510 67013) (hereafter referred to as the Site) over three days, 18th 19th of February and the 14th of June 2010. The investigation was commissioned and funded by Lidl UK.
- 1.2 The watching brief forms the second phase of an archaeological programme of works and was requested by the Local Planning Authority on the advice of Mr Phil Copleston (Planning Advice Office, Cornwall County Historic Environment Service (HES)). A Desk Based Assessment of the site was carried out by COAS in October 2008 (COAS 2008) and concluded that:

"...the site is located in close proximity to an early medieval monastery, early medieval settlement, Norman monastic church (now part of the parish of St Petroc) and Augustinian Priory suggesting the potential for archaeological remains associated with monastic and domestic activity."

- 1.3 At the request of Mr Coplestone, COAS issued a Written Scheme of Investigation for An Archaeological Watching Brief: The Former Police Station, Priory Road, Bodmin, Cornwall (COAS January 2010), which provided a strategy for the archaeological works. This was submitted to and approved by Mr Coplestone prior to the commencement of the Watching Brief.
- 1.4 The request for the archaeological work follows advice given by Central Government as set out in Planning Policy Guidance Note 1 (PPG1), General Policy and Principles, 1997 and Planning Policy Guidance: Note 16 (PPG16), issued by the DoE in 1990. The recommendation also conforms to the Restormel Local Plan (2004) and to Policies 2, 10 and 15 of the Cornwall Structure Plan (2004).
- 1.5 This report summarises the topographical, geological, archaeological setting of the site, and presents the results of the Watching Brief.

2. Definition and Objectives of a Watching Brief

2.1 An Archaeological Watching Brief is defined by the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA) (formerly the Institute for Field Archaeologists) as:

"...a formal programme of observation and investigation conducted during any operation carried out for non-archaeological reasons. This will be within a specified area or site on land, inter-tidal zone or underwater, where there is a possibility that archaeological deposits may be disturbed or destroyed. The programme will result in the preparation of a report and ordered archive." (IfA 1994, rev 2008)

2.2 The purpose of a Watching Brief is also defined by the IfA as:

"To allow, within the resources available, the preservation by record of archaeological deposits, the presence and nature of which could not be established (or established with sufficient accuracy) in advance of development or other potentially disruptive works.

To provide an opportunity, if needed, for the watching archaeologist to signal to all interested parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the Watching Brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard." (IfA1994, rev 2008)

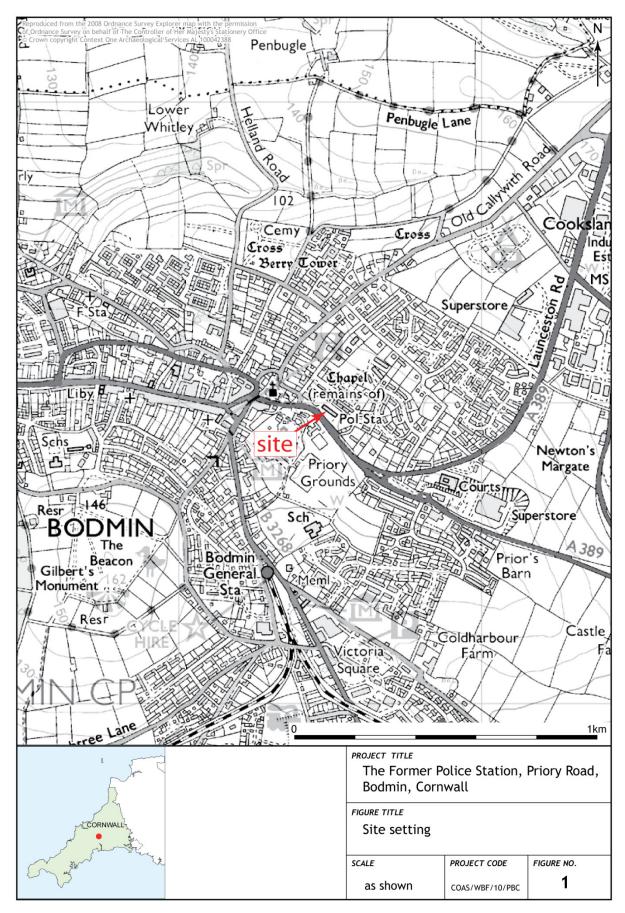


- 2.3 The results of a watching brief are used to:
 - produce a record of the location, nature and date of any archaeological remains encountered on the site;
 - · add to the knowledge about the previous history of activity on the current site and its surroundings; and
 - provide information to influence planning decisions in the area.

3. Site Location, Topography and Geology

3.1 Bodmin is situated on the south western edge of Bodmin Moor, the county town of Cornwall for a century and a half, and mentioned in the Domesday Book. The Site (centred on NGR SX 07510 67013) is situated in the eastern part of Bodmin in central Cornwall, c. 100m above Ordnance Datum (aOD) (Figure 1). The site occupies an area of land that slopes sharply from the southwest to the north east and is approximately 20m away from the site of St Petrocs Augustinian Priory. The site was previously occupied by the Police station which was terraced into the hillside. According to the British Geological Survey (2010), the underlying geology consists of Saltash Formation - Slate and Siltstone. The soils in this area are characterised by freely draining slightly acid loamy soils (Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC), 2010).







4. Archaeological Background

4.1 The archaeological background for the Site and environs has been drawn from the Cornwall Historic Environment Record (HER) as part of the Desk Based Assessment of the Site that was carried out by COAS in 2008. A summary of this information is displayed below in **Table 1**.

SMR No.	Description	NGR	Distance/Direction from Site
Anglo-Saxor	n (AD450-1066)	1	
4355	Settlement site. In the later stages of excavation of the inside and outside of the NW corner of Bodmin priory church, evidence for earlier medieval occupation was found.	SX 07402 66978	100m SWW
Medieval (A	D1066 - AD1547)		
4356	Bodmin Priory. The site of the Augustinian Priory of St Mary and St Petrock.	SX 07427 66963	20m SW
4348	Substantial remains of the chantry chapel of St Thomas standing in Bodmin parish churchyard.	SX 07363 67024	200m W
4353	Bodmin Parish Church of St Petroc's. Listed building.	SX 07314 67032	220m W
4356.02	Bodmin Priory. During alterations to the grounds of Priory House in 1885, between the house and the pond, substantial building remains of a chapel were found.	SX 07373 66910	300m SW
4356.03	Bodmin Priory. The gatehouse of Bodmin priory is mentioned in various pieces of post-medieval documentation which relate to its secular re-use. The documents indicate that the gatehouse lay to the west of the main priory complex, and faced the town.	SX 07265 66953	230m SWW
4356.05	Bodmin Priory. The fishpond.	SX 07356 66866	300m SW
4356.06	Bodmin Priory. The priory cemetery lay to the north and west of the priory church. Excavations in the north-west corner of the priory church in 1985 located a total of 25 burials. The majority (18) were outside the west end of the church. Men, women and children were represented.	SX 07380 66980	200m W
4356.07	Architectural fragments. In front of Priory House, and in the grounds, are at least 76 pieces of carved stonework from the priory.	SX 07374 66959	200m SWW
4353.1	Shrine. Documentary evidence for an ivory casket which held the relics of St Petroc.	SX 07313 67024	400m W
4356.11	Architectural fragments. In the garden of Bodmin Vicarage are a number of carved stones from Bodmin priory.	SX 07380 67020	110m W
4352	Document. Details the 12th century Life of St Petroc.	-	-
Post-medie	val AD1547-AD1800		
4351	Priory House is an C18 mansion on the old priory site. Listed building.	SX 07389 66955	180m SW
4359	Bell foundry. Excavations at Bodmin priory in 1985, in the NW corner of the priory church, revealed the fire basket, flue and reverberatory kiln of a postmedieval bell foundry.	SX 07400 66970	120m SW
172517	House. Of Ashlar masonry construction under slate roof, designed by Silvanus Trevail.	SX 07361 67087	250m NW
177468	House. C18 detached Town House, 'Windsor House', now converted to flats. L shaped plan with small porch to rear left hand angle. In 1841 John Wallis Coom held a school here known as the 'Windsor House Academy'. Listed.	SX 07372 67114	220m NW

Table 1: Summary of archaeological events within the environs of the Site.



5. Methodology

Construction Methodology

- 5.1 The first phase of demolition consisted of the removal of the police station buildings using two machines fitted with hydraulic breaking equipment. The demolition rubble was removed from site.
- 5.2 The second phase of demolition consisted of ground reduction across the north-west of the site using two 31 tonne machines each fitted with a 1.8m bucket. Ground reduction continued to the level of formation (see Plate 1).
- 5.3 Finally a piling rig was used to insert steel concrete piles into the ground. These formed the foundation for all load bearing walls.

Archaeological Methodology

- The programme of archaeological work was carried out in accordance with the Standards and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching Brief published by the Institute of Field Archaeologists (IfA) in 1995 (revised October 2010). COAS adhered to the Code of Conduct issued by the IfA in 1985 (revised 2000), and Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology (1990, revised September 2000), at all times during the course of the investigation. Current Health and Safety legislation and guidelines were followed on site.
- 5.5 A qualified archaeologist was present on site to monitor all major groundworks relating to the development for the purpose of identifying and recording any archaeological features/deposits present.
- 5.6 Mr Phil Copleston (Planning Advice Office, Cornwall County Historic Environment Service (HES)) was kept fully informed of the fieldwork schedule.
- 5.7 A GPS survey was undertaken of the site using Topcon GRS-1 satellite measuring system. Readings were taken to accurately record the location and altitude relative to the National Grid and Ordnance Datum. A Site location plan was produced showing areas excavated and profiles taken.
- 5.8 The natural sequence of deposits was recorded using standard COAS *pro-forma* recording sheets. Soil colours were recorded using a Munsell soil colour chart. A photographic record of the work was prepared and includes monochrome prints, duplicated by colour reversal (slide) film, with supplementary digital images. The photographic record included shots of the representative sections, and working shots to illustrate the nature of the archaeological operation mounted. For archival purposes, the resulting images will be printed by a photographic laboratory as 18cm x 13cm prints.

6. Results

6.1 The first phase of the site was in February when cold and wet conditions prevailed and the final visit was carried out in dry conditions in June.

Soil Sequence and Geology

- 6.2 Topsoil had already been removed from the site during the construction of the police station. The underlying geology consisted of 100% degraded yellowish brown (10YR 5/8) sandstone fragments, <0.20m in diameter, forming a loose gravel-like deposit.
- 6.3 No visible archaeological remains or significant deposits were exposed in any of the areas where the ground was reduced.



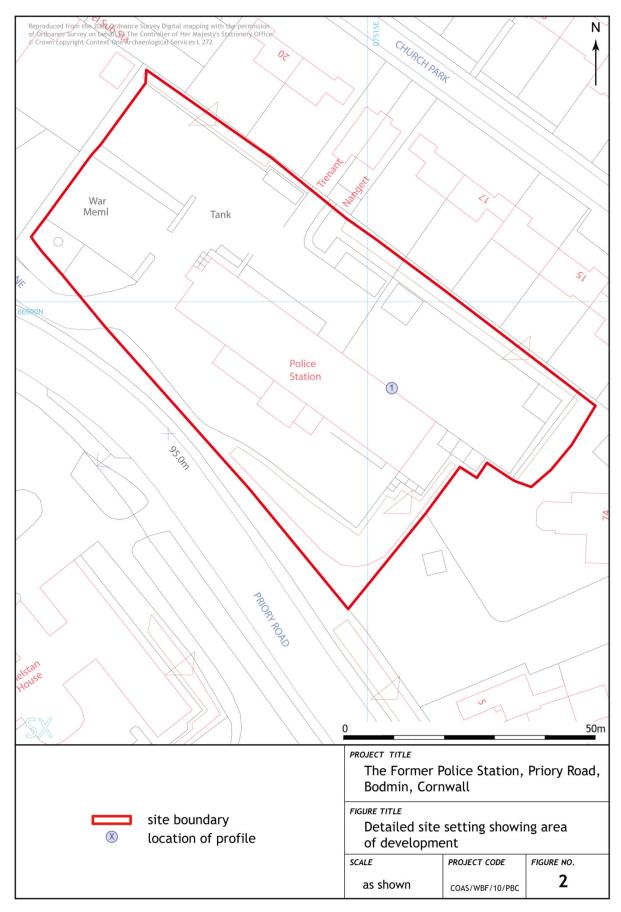






Plate 1: General shot showing ground reduction

7. The Finds

7.1 No finds were recovered during the course of archaeological monitoring.

8. Discussion and Conclusions

- 8.1 No archaeological features/deposits were observed during the course of the watching brief, despite the proximity of the Site to an early medieval monastery, settlement and Augustinian Priory.
- 8.2 Archaeological monitoring clearly demonstrated that the Site was heavily stripped and terraced during construction of the former Police Station. The resulting ground reduction would have removed all trace of any possible archaeological remains.



9. Archive

- 9.1 The site archive is currently held at the offices of Context One Archaeological Services Ltd and consists of 12 monochrome prints and negatives, 40 digital images in .jpg format, the written paper record, COAS pro-forma profile log sheets and various registers. The archive will be prepared to comply with guidelines set out in *Environmental Standards for the Permanent Storage of Excavated Material from Archaeological Sites* (UKIC 1984, Conservation Guidelines 3)/ Guidelines for the Preparation of Excavation Archives for Long-term Storage (UKIC 1990)/ Standards in the Museums Care of Archaeological Collections (Museum and Galleries Commission 1992)/ Management of Archaeological Projects 2 (English Heritage 1991). Arrangements will be made to deposit the archive with the Cornwall Record Office within 12 months following the submission of this report.
- 9.2 Copies of the Watching Brief report will be deposited with:

Mr D Hazelhurst LIDL UK Ground Floor Suite Falcon House Eagle Road Plympton Plymouth PL7 5JY Historic Environment Service Cornwall County Council Kennall Building Old County Hall Station Road Truro Cornwall TR1 3AY

10. COAS Acknowledgements

10.1 Context One Archaeological Services Ltd would like to thank Mr Danny Hazlehurst (Acquisitions Manager, Lidl UK) and Mr Phil Dyer (Construction Manager, Lidl UK), for their kind assistance throughout the course of the investigation, and Mr Phil Coplestone (Planning Advice Officer, Cornwall County Historic Environment Service), for curatorial advice.

11. Bibliography

British Geological Survey, 2010 www.bgs.ac.uk An Archaeological Watching Brief - Former Police Context One Archaeological Services Ltd. 2009 Station, Priory Road, Bodmin, Cornwall. Unpublished. Context One Archaeological Services Ltd. Written Scheme of Investigation for an Archaeological 2010 Watching Brief: The Former Police Station, Priory Road, Bodmin, Cornwall. Cornwall Council Historic Environment Brief for archaeological recording Former Police Station, Priory Road, Bodmin, Cornwall, PL31 2AA Service, 2010 Department of the Environment, 1990 Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology and Planning, London: Her Majesty's Stationery Office Department of the Environment, 1997 Planning Policy Guidance Note 1: General Policy and

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Institute of Field Archaeologists (IfA), Code of Conduct, Reading: IfA 1985 (rev. 2000)



Institute of Field Archaeologists (IfA),

1990 (rev. 2000)

Code of Approved Practice for the Regulation of Contractual Arrangements in Field Archaeology,

Standard and Guidance for an Archaeological Watching

Reading: If A

Institute of Field Archaeologists (IfA),

1994 (rev. 2008)

Brief.

Multi Agency Geographic Information for the Countryside (MAGIC), 2010

http://www.magic.gov.uk



Appendix 1. BRIEF FOR ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING

Date: 29 January 2010

Address: Former Police Station, Priory Road, Bodmin, Cornwall, PL31 2AA

Applicant: Oliver McGuiness, Lidl UK, Creavan House, Huxley Close, Plympton, Plymouth, Devon, PL7 4JN

Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer: Phil Copleston, Historic Environment Service, Cornwall Council, Room 82, Luxstowe House, Liskeard, Cornwall, PL14 3DZ Tel. 01579 341406, Email: pcopleston@cornwall.gov.uk

Local Planning Authority Officer: P Phillips, Cornwall Council, 3-5 Barn Lane, Bodmin, Cornwall, PL31 1LZ

This brief is only valid for six months. After this period the Historic Environment Planning Advice Officer (HEPAO) should be contacted. Any written scheme of investigation (WSI) resulting from this brief shall only be considered for the same period. The contractor is strongly advised to visit the site before completing their WSI as there may be implications for accurately costing the project.

Contractors Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI)

No ground works are to be undertaken until the HEPAO and the Local Planning Authority (LPA) have approved the archaeological contractor's WSI.

1 Introduction

This brief has been written by the HEPAO and sets out the minimum requirements for archaeological recording at the former Police Station, Priory Road, Bodmin, to discharge condition 18 of planning application 2008/02393 placed on the development.

2 Site Location and Description

The site is located on rising ground to the north of Priory Road, Bodmin, adjacent to the main A389 trunk road east of the town centre, at Ordnance Survey grid ref. SX 07510 67013.

3 Planning Background

This application is for the demolition of existing buildings and erection of a discount foodstore with associated car parking and loading areas. Planning application 2008/02393 was approved subject to 23 conditions. Condition 18 states:

No development shall take place within the area to be developed until the applicant has secured and implemented a programme of archaeological recording in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which shall have been submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. Reason: To ensure that provision is made to record finds of archaeological interest in accordance with the requirements of PPG16 Archaeology and Planning.

4 Archaeological Background

The development area has not previously been recorded on the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record (HER) but lies just outside the Bodmin Conservation Area, to the east of Listed Grade I Church of St Petroc, Listed Grade II* and Scheduled Chapel of St Thomas, and on the other side of the road of the former



Priory site in Bodmin. Previous archaeological assessment of this site have been undertaken by Context One Archaeological Services Ltd.

5 Requirement for Work

Ground works associated with the development may disturb buried archaeological remains. It is therefore important that a suitably qualified archaeologist(s) is/are present during these works in order to identify and record any features of interest.

The site specific aims are to:

- Establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains
- Determine the extent, condition, nature, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered
- To establish the nature of the activity on the site
- To identify any artefacts relating to the occupation or use of the site
- To provide further information on the archaeology of the former Police Station site and of Bodmin from any archaeological remains encountered

6 General Methodology

- 6.1 All stages of the investigation shall be supported by a written scheme of investigation (WSI).
- 6.2 The archaeological contractor is expected to follow the code of the Institute for Archaeologists (IfA).
- 6.3 Details including the name, qualifications and experience of the site director and all other personnel (including specialist staff) shall be included within the WSI.
- 6.4 All of the latest Health and Safety guidelines shall be followed on site.
- 6.5 The IfA's Standards and Guidance should be used for additional guidance in the production of the WSI, the content of the report and the general execution of the project.
- 6.6 Terminology will be consistent with the English Heritage Thesaurus.

7 Archaeological Recording Methodology

- 7.1 Prior to the commencement of onsite works the archaeological contractor should familiarise themselves with the site by examining the information held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment record (HER), the Cornwall Records Office at Truro and the Cornwall Centre at Redruth, where appropriate.
- 7.2 An archaeologist shall be present during all ground works associated with the development, unless circumstances dictate a different approach. A toothless ditching bucket can be used for the removal of any overburden until the first archaeological horizon is exposed. This will then be hand cleaned as appropriate.
- 7.3 Any surviving remains which will be disturbed or destroyed by the development shall be archaeologically excavated and recorded.



- 7.4 Details of how all archaeological contexts and artefacts will be excavated, surveyed, recovered and recorded shall be provided. The site will be tied into the national grid.
- 7.5 Details of the site planning policy shall be given in the WSI. The normal preferred policy for the scale of archaeological site plans is 1:20 and sections 1:10, unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate.
- 7.6 The photographic record shall consist of prints in both black and white and colour together with the negatives. Digital photography may be used for report illustration. For both general and specific photographs, a photographic scale shall be included. In the case of detailed photographs it may be appropriate to include a north arrow. The photographic record shall be accompanied by a photographic register detailing as a minimum, feature number, location and direction of shot.
- 7.7 If significant archaeological deposits are exposed, all works must cease and a meeting convened with the client and the HEPAO to discuss the most appropriate way forwards.

8 Finds

- 8.1 All finds, where appropriate, will be retained from each archaeological context excavated.
- 8.2 All finds, where appropriate, shall be washed.
- 8.3 All pottery, and other finds, where appropriate, shall be marked with the site code and context number.
- 8.4 The WSI shall include an agreed list of specialist consultants, who may be required to conserve and/or report on finds, and advise or report on other aspects of the work including environmental sampling.
- The requirements for conservation and storage shall be agreed with the Royal Cornwall Museum prior to the start of work, and confirmed in writing to the HEPAO.
- 8.6 Finds work should be to accepted professional standards and adhere to the Institute for Archaeologists Guidelines for Finds Work.
- 8.7 Environmental sampling should be guided by Environmental Archaeology (English Heritage Centre for Archaeological Guidelines. 2001/02).
- 8.8 Further English Heritage guidance that may be helpful includes Geoarchaeology (2004) and Archaeometallurgy (2001).
- The English Heritage Advisor for Archaeological Science will be able to provide archaeological science advice if required (Vanessa Straker 0117 975 0689).

9 Human Remains

9.1 Any human remains which are encountered must initially be left in situ and reported to the HEPAO and the appropriate authorities (the Coroner), where appropriate. If removal is necessary this must comply with the relevant Government regulations. If burials are encountered their legal status must be ascertained and recording and/or removal must comply with the legal guidelines.



- 9.2 If human remains are not to be removed their physical security must be ensured, preferably by back filling as soon as possible after recording.
- 9.3 If human remains are to be removed this must be done with due reverence and in accordance to current best practice and legal requirements. The site must be adequately screened from public view. Once excavated, human remains must not be exposed to public view.

10 Results

- 10.1 The full report including all specialist assessments of artefact assemblages shall be submitted within a length of time (but not exceeding six months) to be agreed between the applicant and the archaeological contractor, Cornwall Council Historic Environment Service and the Royal Cornwall Museum. A further digital copy shall be supplied on CD-ROM preferably in 'Adobe Acrobat' PDF format.
- 10.2 The archaeological contractor will undertake the English Heritage/ads online access to the index of archaeological investigations (OASIS).
- 10.3 This report will be held by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record (HER) and made available for public consultation.
- 10.4 The report must contain:
- A concise non-technical summary of the project results.
- The aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation.
- A discussion of the archaeological findings in terms of both the site specific aims and the desk based research.
- A location map, a drawing showing those areas examined as part of the archaeological recording, and copies of any archaeological plans and sections. All plans shall be tied to the national grid.
- All specialist reports and assessments.
- A summary of the archive contents and date of deposition.
- A context register with brief descriptions shall be included as an appendix.
- A copy of the brief and the approved WSI will be included as an appendix.
- 10.5 A contingency shall be made within the costs for full publication in an appropriate journal. The HEPAO will notify the contractor of such a need within four weeks of receipt of the report.

11 Archive Deposition

- 11.1 An ordered and integrated site archive will be prepared in accordance with: Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) English Heritage 2006 upon completion of the project. The requirements for archive storage shall be agreed with the appropriate museum.
- 11.2 If the finds are to remain with the landowner a full copy of the documentary archive shall be housed with the Cornwall Record Office and with the Courtney Library of the Royal Institution of Cornwall.
- 11.3 The archive including a copy of the written report shall be deposited with the Royal Cornwall Museum within two months of the completion of the full report and confirmed in writing with the HEPAO.



- 11.4 Where there is only a documentary archive this will be deposited with the Cornwall Record Office as well as the Courtney Library of the Royal Institution of Cornwall.
- 11.5 A copy of the report will be supplied to the National Monuments Record (NMR) in Swindon.
- 11.6 A summary of the contents of the archive shall be supplied to the HEPAO.
- 11.7 Only on completion of 11.1 to 11.5 (inclusive) will there be a recommendation for the discharge of any archaeological recording condition.

12 Monitoring

- 12.1 The HEPAO will monitor the work and should be kept regularly informed of progress.
- 12.2 Notification of the start of work shall be given preferably in writing to the HEPAO at least one week in advance of its commencement.
- 12.3 Any variations to the WSI shall be agreed with the HEPAO, preferably in writing, prior to them being carried out.