



Lunnon Farm Cottage, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly: Archaeological Watching Brief

Katharine Sawyer

Report No: 2017/1

Report No	Report Name	Report Author
2017/1	Lunnon Farm Cottage, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly: Archaeological Watching Brief	Katharine Sawyer

Event Type			
Watching Brief			

Client Organisation	Client Contact
Mr and Mrs P Rogers	

Monuments (MonUID)					

Fieldwork dates (From)	(To)	(Created By)	(Create Date)
21/2/2017	17/3/2017	Katharine Sawyer	3/7/2017, 17/7/2017 11/8/2017

Location (postal address; or general location and parish)
Lunnon Farm, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly

(Town – for urban sites)	(Postcode)
	TR21 0NZ

(Easting) X co-ord	(Northing) Y co-ord		
SV 92534	11038		

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List of Figures

<u>Fig no</u>	<u>Description</u>
Front cover	Lunnon Farm Cottage
Fig 1	Location map
Fig 2	Area monitored
Fig 3	Extract from 2 nd edition 1:2,500 OS map (1906)
Fig 4	Northern trench
Fig 5	Eastern trench
Fig 6	Drystone wall footings
Fig 7	Deposit of limpet shells
Fig 8	Site following stripping

1 Project background

In September 2016 Mr and Mrs Rogers were granted planning permission, in respect of application number P/16/083, for the demolition of a lean-to bathroom and kitchen, the removal of a redundant outbuilding and the construction of a new extension to Lunnon Farm Cottage.

Katharine Sawyer was commissioned by Mr and Mrs Rogers to undertake an archaeological watching brief during ground works in order to satisfy planning condition C6.

2 Aims and objectives

The site specific aims were to:

- establish the presence/absence of archaeological remains
- determine the extent, condition, nature, character, date and significance of any archaeological remains encountered
- establish the nature of the activity on the site
- identify any artefacts relating to the occupation or use of the site
- provide further information on the archaeology of the site from any archaeological remains encountered.

3 Working methods

The watching brief was carried out according to a Written Scheme of Investigation prepared by Katharine Sawyer (Appendix 1).

4 Results

Ground works at the site of the development were observed by Katharine Sawyer on 21 February 2017 when trenches of 0.6m in width were dug, by machine, for the extension to the north and east of the existing cottage (figs 1 and 2). On the northern side c0.5m of dark brown topsoil (context 1) was revealed. Below this was an orange-brown clayey ram (context 2) (figure 4). On the eastern side there was only c0.2m depth of topsoil covering a hard, gritty ram with many medium and large stones (context 3) (fig 5).

Several pieces of glazed pottery were found in the topsoil in the northern trench; these were not retained. Towards the eastern end of the northern trench about 1.0m length of the footings of a drystone wall (context 4), of which only the lowest two courses survived, was uncovered (fig 6). It was visible in the northern side of the trench where it measured 0.4m in width and 0.5m in height. It did not extend as far as the southern side of the trench and was not encountered further south when the area was stripped.

A small deposit of limpet shells (context 5) (fig 7) was found about 0.6m to the west of the wall. Both the base of the wall footings and the limpets were at a depth of 0.5m (i.e. resting on the top of the ram) and two sherds of glazed white pottery and two of glazed blue-and-white pottery were found nearby. The locations of the wall footings and the limpet shells are shown in fig 2.

The wall is not shown on the 1st edition Ordnance Survey maps (1889) but a small outbuilding and a wall do appear in this area on the 2nd edition 1:2,500 map (1906) (fig 3). Matthew Rogers, the clients' son, informed me that he understood that the wall, the footings of which had been uncovered, had been built (or substantially rebuilt) using granite and pieces of concrete block, by his grandfather in the 1950s. The wall ran north-east to south-west and divided the cottage from a

small garden to the east. If this was a rebuilding of a pre-existing wall, the location and orientation of it suggest that it was the eastern wall of the outbuilding or an extension of that wall. No wall or outbuilding is shown in this area on the 1963 OS map.

The deposit of limpet shells measured 0.5m east-west and was 0.05m high. The state of preservation of the shells suggested a post-mediaeval or modern date and there were many stacks of about ten shells, pointing to a single act of deposition. The four pottery sherds were found, individually, at the same level as the limpet shells both to the west of the limpets and between the limpets and the wall.

The site was visited again on 17 March 2017 when the whole area of the extension had been stripped to a hard ram (fig 8). No other features were observed.

5 Project archive

The documentary and photographic archive is deposited at the Isles of Scilly Museum, Church Street, St Mary's TR21 0JT.

Historic England/ADS OASIS online reference: [katharin1-289034](#).

Figures

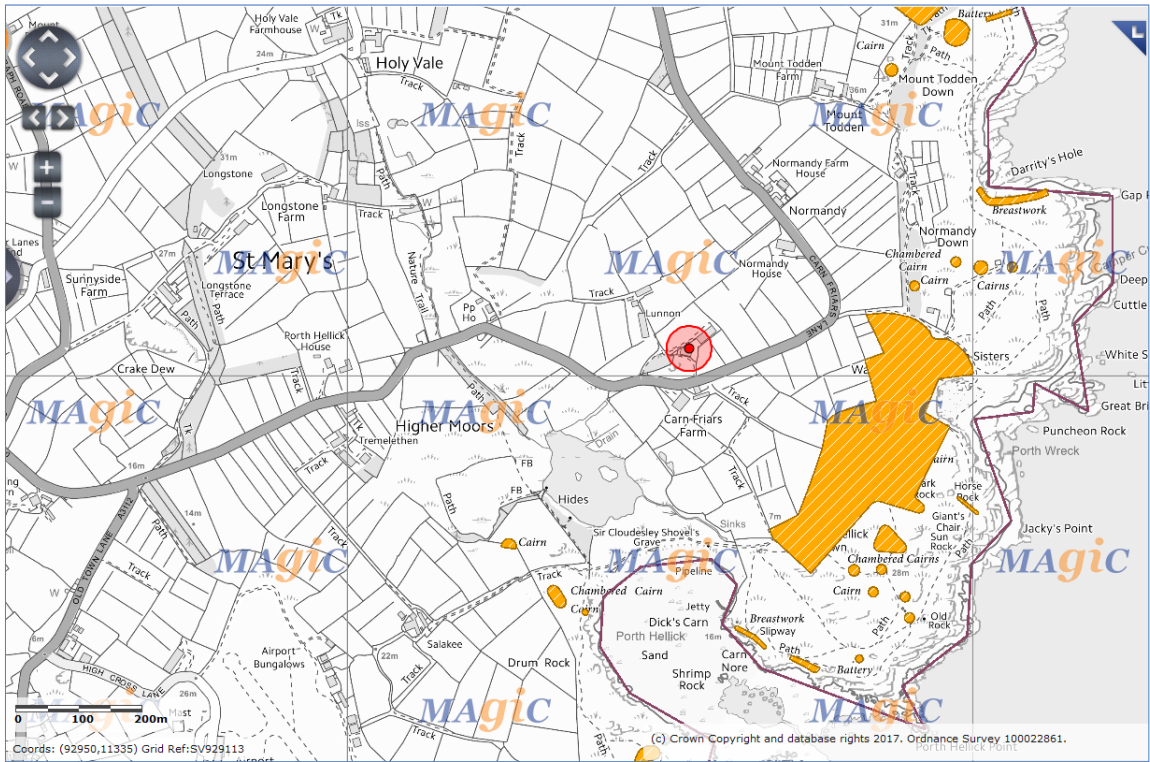


Figure 1 Location map (site circled in red, Scheduled Monuments hatched in orange)



Fig 2 Area monitored (hatched in red) showing locations of wall footings (W) and limpet deposit (L) Scale: approximately 1:400

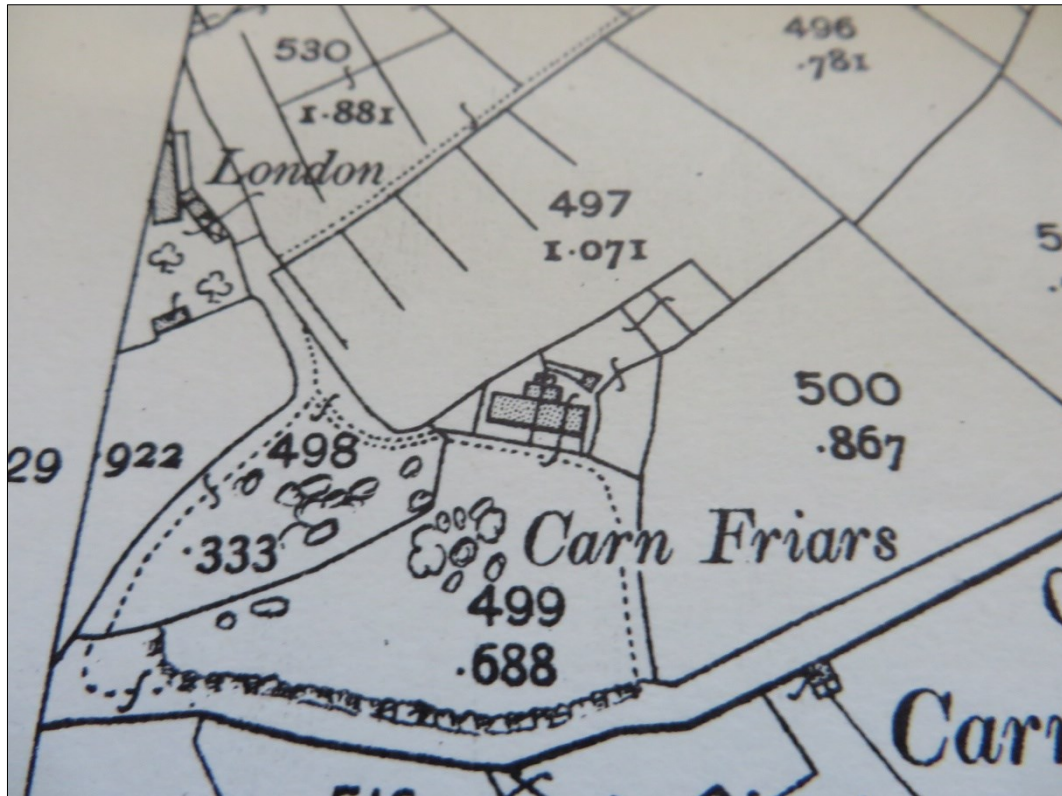


Figure 3 Extract from 2nd edition 1:2,500 OS map (1906) showing small outbuilding and walled enclosure to north of Lunnon Farm Cottage



Fig 4 Northern trench, looking east



Fig 5 Eastern trench, looking north



Fig 6 Drystone wall footings in northern section of northern trench (with edge of limpet deposit visible on far left of picture)



Fig 7 Deposit of limpet shells in northern section of northern trench



Fig 8 Site following stripping

Appendix 1 Written Scheme of Investigation

**Lunnon Farm Cottage,
St Mary's, Isles of Scilly TR21 0NZ
Written Scheme of Investigation for a Programme
of Archaeological Recording during Groundworks**

Clients: Mr and Mrs P Rogers
Tel: 01720 422422
E-mail: info@lunnonfarm.co.uk

1 Site location and description

The site is in the east of St Mary's, at NGR SV 92534 11038. It lies approximately 15m above sea level to the north of Carn Friars Lane. The area is characterised as undulating agricultural interior (Land Use Consultants 2002). The site is surrounded by anciently enclosed land (Land Use Consultants 1996).

The proposed development consists of the demolition of a lean-to bathroom and kitchen at a farm cottage, the removal of a redundant outbuilding and the construction of a new two-storey timber-clad extension to the cottage.

2 Project background

Following a planning application submitted on 8 August 2016 (application number P/16/083), Mr and Mrs Rogers were granted planning permission for the development.

Permission for development was granted subject to an archaeological recording pre-commencement condition, C6, that:

'Prior to the commencement of the development here permitted, the applicant has secured the implementation of an archaeological watching brief in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall proceed in accordance with the archaeological monitoring for any groundworks.'

The reason for this condition is that:

'This is a pre-commencement condition that requires details of archaeological monitoring that were not submitted as part of the application but are required in the interests of protecting/recording features of archaeological importance. In accordance with Policy 1 of the Isles of Scilly Local Plan 2005 and Paragraph 128 of the National Planning Policy Framework 2012.'

3 Archaeological and historical background

The Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record records that there are two sites within approximately 100m of the development:

- Three Iron Age/Romano-British Porthcressa-type cist graves (MCO45369, SV 9253 1114)

- Bronze Age/Iron Age settlement identified through geophysical survey (MCO56776, SV 9255 1116).

There is no record of previous archaeological work at the site of the development.

4 Project aims

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
- establish the nature of the activity on the site
- identify any artefacts relating to the occupation or use of the site
- provide further information on the archaeology of the site from any archaeological remains encountered.

5 Methodology

The recording will involve the following phases of work:

1. Desk-based study
2. Archaeological fieldwork
3. Analysis and archiving
4. Report production
5. Archive deposition

5.1 Desk-based study

Prior to the commencement of on-site works, the project archaeologist will familiarise themselves with the site by examining the information held in the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record, on the 1st and 2nd edition Ordnance Survey maps of the area, at the Isles of Scilly Museum and in any relevant publications.

5.2 Archaeological fieldwork

An archaeologist will be present during all groundworks associated with the development, unless circumstances dictate a different approach. If work is carried out by machine, where possible a toothless ditching bucket will be used for the removal of any overburden until the first archaeological horizon is exposed. This will then be hand cleaned and recorded as appropriate.

Any surviving remains which will be disturbed or destroyed by the development will be archaeologically excavated and recorded.

Any significant features or layers identified in plan or section will be recorded using the following methodology:

(a) each feature or layer will be assigned a context number from a continuous block of context numbers and recorded on a standard pro forma context sheet, where possible noting the location, extent, nature, character and stratigraphic relationships of any archaeological evidence revealed;

(b) location will be plotted onto a 1:100 plan (drawn in 4H pencil on gridded drafting film);

(c) if appropriate the feature/layer will be planned at 1:20 scale or recorded in section at 1:10 scale (unless circumstances indicate that other scales would be more appropriate);

(d) scaled archive photographs will be taken (35mm black and white prints and negatives); digital colour photographs will be used for report illustration. In the case of detailed photographs a north arrow will be included, where appropriate. A photographic register detailing the feature number, location, direction of shot and other relevant information will be drawn up.

(e) any artefacts from the site (excluding post-1800 unstratified ceramics) will be collected in sealable plastic bags which will be labelled immediately with the site code (LF16) and context number if appropriate. They will be removed from the site for processing and conservation where necessary, in preparation for analysis and archiving.

(f) if human remains are discovered they will initially be left in situ and reported to Development Management Archaeological Advice Officer, Cornwall Council (DMAAO) and the appropriate authorities (including the Coroner). If they are to be removed this will be done in accordance with the relevant Government regulations, with due reverence and in accordance with current best practice and legal requirements. The site will be screened from public view during excavation and, once excavated, the human remains will not be exposed to public view. If human remains are not to be removed their physical security will be ensured by back-filling as soon as possible after recording.

The Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' *Standards and guidance for an archaeological watching brief* will be followed in the execution of the project.

The Historic England Science Advisor for the South-West (Hayley McParland 0117 975 0689, Hayley.McParland@historicengland.org.uk) will be consulted for advice, if necessary.

Finds work, sampling, etc will be guided by the ClfA *Guidelines for Finds Work* and the Historic England Centre for Archaeology Guidelines on *Archaeometallurgy, Environmental Archaeology* and *Geoarchaeology*.

If significant archaeological deposits are exposed all works will cease and a meeting will be convened with Mr and Mrs Rogers and the DMAAO to discuss the most appropriate way forward.

5.3 Analysis and archiving

During this phase the results of the fieldwork will be collated for archiving. This will involve the following tasks:

- washing or other cleaning of finds, where appropriate
- marking of pottery, and other finds where appropriate, with the site code and context number
- indexing of site drawings and photographs;
- identification of finds, with the assistance of specialists from Cornwall Archaeological Unit and/or elsewhere, if appropriate (details of specialist consultants are included in Appendix 2).

5.4 Report production

A report presenting the results of the archaeological recording will be produced within a time period, not exceeding six months, to be agreed between Mr and Mrs Rogers, the DMAAO, the Isles of Scilly Museum and Katharine Sawyer.

Two copies of the report (one hardcopy and one digital in PDF format on CD-ROM) will be submitted to the DMAAO for addition to the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Environment Record. Copies will also be provided to the Planning Department of the Council of the Isles of Scilly, Mr and Mrs Rogers and the Isles of Scilly Museum.

A record of the investigation will also be set up on the Historic England/ADS online index (OASIS).

The report will have the following contents:

- a concise non-technical summary of the project results
- the aims and methods adopted in the course of the investigation
- a discussion of 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 will be tied to the Ordnance Survey national grid
- all specialist reports and assessments
- a summary of the archive contents and date of deposition
- a context register with brief descriptions will be included as an appendix
- a copy of the project brief and the approved written scheme of investigation will be included as an appendix.

The DMAAO will advise, within four weeks of receipt of the report, whether full publication in an appropriate journal is required. (A contingency for this will be included in the estimate for the work.)

5.5 Archive deposition

A site archive will be prepared, in accordance with the *Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE)* (Historic England 2015), upon completion of the project.

The Isles of Scilly Museum have agreed to accept the archive, which will include a copy of the written report. This will be deposited within two months of the completion of the full report. Confirmation of the deposition of the archive and a summary of its contents will be supplied to the DMAAO.

A copy of the report will be supplied to the Historic England Archive in Swindon.

6 Monitoring

Groundworks will not commence until written approval for this WSI has been received from the DMAAO. Notification of the proposed start of work will be given to the Local Planning Authority and the DMAAO, in writing, if possible at least one week in advance.

Work is anticipated to start in December 2016 and the DMAAO will be kept regularly informed of progress.

Any variations to this WSI will be agreed with the DMAAO, normally in writing, prior to them being carried out.

7 Copyright

Copyright of all material gathered as a result of the project will be reserved to Katharine Sawyer. Existing copyrights of external sources will be acknowledged where required. Use of the material will be granted to the client.

8 Project staff

Katharine Sawyer MA (Cantab), MSc, PhD is the archaeological contractor for the project. She is an archaeologist who lives on St Mary's. A c.v. of her relevant qualifications and experience is at Appendix 1 of this document.

If any archaeological finds or features come to light for which she does not have the necessary resources or expertise, she will contact Charlie Johns, Archaeology Projects Officer at Cornwall Archaeological Unit, Cornwall Council, with special responsibility for Scilly, for advice and assistance.

The relevant qualifications and experience of Charlie Johns and Carl Thorpe (the other CAU member of staff who may be involved) and the external specialists, who have agreed to provide contingency support for the work outlined in the WSI, are included at Appendix 2.

9 Health and safety statement

Katharine Sawyer holds the NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Safety and Health. Prior to on-site work commencing a Risk Assessment will be carried out and liaison with the contractors will be undertaken to ensure a safe system of work in relation to the archaeological recording.

10 References

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Katharine Sawyer
 1 November 2016

Appendix 1: Curriculum Vitae for Katharine Sawyer

Employment History

May 2000 to date	<u>Freelance Archaeologist/Guide</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Archaeological watching briefs at a number of sites in Scilly and Cornwall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> carried out both independently and in association with Cornwall Archaeological Unit, Cornwall Council Historic environment aspects of environmental impact assessments, Isles of Scilly Site recording in Scilly Leading of guided walks, boat trips and short break holidays, teaching of adult education classes Research and writing of a series of guided walk leaflets for the AONB Unit of the Council of the Isles of Scilly As a Trustee of the Isles of Scilly Museum, identification of artefacts, interpretation and arrangement of displays.
October 1978 to May 2000	A variety of management and consultancy roles in both private and public sector organisations (including English Heritage), mainly in personnel and training.
July 1977 to October 1978	Various temporary jobs in shops and offices Work on archaeological excavations at Shaugh Moor, Devon (volunteer), Hambledon Hill, Dorset (volunteer) and Long Ashton, Avon (site supervisor).

Relevant Educational and Professional Qualifications

1977	BA (Hons) in Archaeology and Anthropology, Class 2i King's College, University of Cambridge
1981	MA, University of Cambridge
2001	NEBOSH National General Certificate in Occupational Safety and Health - Credit
2013	PhD in Archaeology University of Exeter Thesis title: "Isles of the Dead? The Setting and Function of the Neolithic and Bronze Age Chambered Cairns and Cists of the Isles of Scilly".

Appendix 2: Qualifications and experience of other possible project staff

Cornwall Archaeological Unit, Cornwall Council Staff

Charlie Johns (BA, MIFA). As an Archaeology Projects Officer with CAU (1991- present) Charlie has special responsibility for projects in the Isles of Scilly where he has worked on numerous projects: notably directing the excavation of the Bryher Iron Age sword and mirror burial in 1999 (Johns 2002-3); updating the popular archaeological field guide 'Scilly's Archaeological Heritage' (Ratcliffe and Johns 2003); managing the Tresco Playing Field watching brief for the Tresco Estate (Taylor and Johns 2009-10); compiling the Isles of Scilly Rapid Coastal Zone Assessment Survey for English Heritage (Johns *et al* 2004) and managing archaeological recording during construction of the off-island quays for the Duchy of Cornwall (Johns and Sawyer 2008), the St Agnes Affordable Housing site for the Cornwall Rural Housing Association (Taylor and Johns 2010) and St Martin's Community Centre (Johns and Sawyer 2012).

Recent projects include the management of Lyonesse Project, a four-year study of the evolution of the coastal and marine environment of Scilly and the preparation of a Research Framework for the Historic Environment of Scilly (both for Historic England). Since 2005 he has co-directed the 'Islands in a Common Sea' research project in Scilly with Dr Jacqui Mulville of Cardiff University (Johns and Mulville 2011; Johns *et al* 2006), and is currently representative for Scilly on the CBA SW Committee.

Carl Thorpe BSc will undertake initial finds processing, identification and cataloguing and has carried out similar work for Scillonian projects over the last two decades including the Isles of Scilly Electrification Project (Ratcliffe 1991), the Bryher cist burial, Tresco Playing Field and the off-island quays refurbishment. He is currently reassessing the pottery assemblage from the 1971 excavations at East Porth, Samson with a view to final publication in Cornish Archaeology (forthcoming).

Specialists

John Allan MPhil – Medieval/post-medieval pottery specialist: John is the leading authority on medieval and post-medieval pottery in south- west England and author of many publications. He will carry out the pottery assessment and analysis in the event of medieval or post-medieval pottery being recovered

Henrietta Quinnell BA, MIFA, FSA – Prehistoric, Roman, post-Roman pottery: Henrietta is a freelance pottery specialist and the leading authority on prehistoric pottery in the south-west. She will carry out the pottery assessment and analysis in the event of prehistoric pottery being recovered.

Dana Challinor MA, MSc – Freelance Charcoal Specialist: Dana's main area of expertise is charcoal analysis and wood species identification, but she also has experience with charred plant remains. For her Masters degree she specialised in Archaeobotany and received a distinction for her dissertation on charcoal in Bronze Age cremation burials. She has produced numerous assessment and evaluation reports, as well as reports for publication in journal and monograph formats and was formerly Head of the Environmental Department at Oxford Archaeology. She will undertake assessment and analysis of any suitable charcoal samples, including identification of samples suitable for radiocarbon dating.

Ralph Fyfe, PhD - Palynologist: Ralph is lecturer in environmental change in the School of Geography at the University of Plymouth. He has carried out numerous archaeological evaluations for a variety of organisations, including English Heritage, County Councils, National Parks and Archaeological Consultancies and will undertake assessment and analysis of pollen samples if required.

Claire Ingreth PhD– Animal bone specialist: Claire is an experienced freelance animal bone specialist who will carry out assessment and analysis of animal bone if required.

Julie Jones BA – Archaeobotanist: An experienced freelance archaeobotanical specialist based in Bristol, Julie has carried out palaeoenvironmental assessments and analyses for numerous HES projects.

Laura Ratcliffe, BSc – Conservationist: The Royal Cornwall Museum, Truro: Laura graduated In Archeological Conservation from Cardiff University in 2001. Since then she has gained a wide variety of experience both on excavations and in a lab working on a wide variety of archaeological and historical material. She was formerly based at the Royal Cornwall Museum where she is the museum's Collections Manager. Laura will carry out the assessment and conservation of pottery and metalwork on a freelance basis if required.

Radiocarbon Dating Laboratory, Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC): Samples for radiocarbon dating will be sent to SUERC.