

LAND AT TREWENNACK

HELSTON

CORNWALL

Results of a Heritage Assessment



South West Archaeology Ltd. report no. 230913



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LAND AT TREWENNACK, HELSTON, CORNWALL RESULTS OF A HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

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Work undertaken by SWARCH for a Private Client (the Client)

SUMMARY

This report presents the results of a heritage assessment carried out by South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) on land at Trewennack, Helston, Cornwall, as part of proposals for residential development of the site.

The site lies within an area classified on the Historic Landscape Characterisation as Post-Medieval Enclosed Land: Land enclosed in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, usually from land that was previously Upland Rough Ground and often Medieval commons. Generally in relatively high, exposed or poorly-drained parts of the county.

The Cornwall HER to some extent confirms that the majority of assets in and around Trewennack village are Post-Medieval confirming the HLC, including a series of stiles (MCO68904, MCO68905, MCO68907, MCO68906), a 19th century post box (MCO67058), a 19th century mounting block (MCO67057) and the location of a 19th century smithy (MCO9410). However, to west of the village, around Trelill Farm, Medieval assets predominate. These include the holy well (MCO7117, SM 1142042) and the site of a cross that is now at Bonallack (MCO6017). These would possibly once have stood in close proximity to the chapel of St. Wendrona (MCO10293), this church now lost and its exact position unconfirmed.

The Site has been subject to heavy modern use, with polytunnels still in place over the northern part of the Site. Overall the archaeological potential appears low, but unproven.

As the site is located on the edge of a small settlement, within a relatively wooded landscape a 0.5km search radius around the site has been considered in detail. There is a single Scheduled Monument within 0.5km of the site (the holy well), this is also a Grade II Listed building. There are a further 10 Grade II Listed buildings within the search radius, but there are no Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens or Battlefield sites.*

*The site is located in close proximity to the Holy Well at Trelill, but there is no intervisibility between the development site and this important historic asset. Furthermore, the setting of the well is so limited (to its own enclosure) that even its wider setting would not be impacted by the proposed development, with this in mind the effect of the proposed development on the historic landscape is considered to be **negligible adverse**.*



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

LOCATION:	LAND AT TREWENNACK
PARISH:	HELSTON
COUNTY:	CORNWALL
NGR:	SW 67711 28602
PLANNING NO.:	PRE-APPLICATION
SWARCH REF.	HT23
OASIS REF:	SOUTHWES1-518830

1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

South West Archaeology Ltd. (SWARCH) was commissioned by a Private Client (the Client) to undertake a historic impact assessment for land at Trewennack, Helston, Cornwall, ahead of a planning application for the residential development of the site. This work was undertaken in line with best practice and ClfA guidance (2020) in order to assess the potential impact of the development.

1.2 TOPOGRAPHICAL AND GEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The site consists of a patch of land with dilapidated poly tunnels at the northern end, at the south-western end of the settlement of Trewennack. The wider landscape is largely agricultural. The site slopes from north-east to south-west, at an elevation of between c.70 and 76m AOD. The soils of this area are the well-drained fine loamy soils over slate or slate rubble of the Denbigh 2 Association (SSEW 1983), overlying an unnamed igneous intrusion at the northern end of the site and the hornfelsed slate and hornfelsed siltstone of the Mylor Slate Formation at the southern end (BGS 2023).

1.3 HISTORICAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The site lies within the village of Trewennack and parish of Helston, although it historically lay within the parish of Wendron in the deanery and west division of the hundred of Kirrier (Lysons 1814). Lysons notes that Helston is a chapelry of Wendron. The site lies within an area classified on the Historic Landscape Characterisation as *Post-Medieval Enclosed Land: Land enclosed in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, usually from land that was previously Upland Rough Ground and often Medieval commons. Generally in relatively high, exposed or poorly-drained parts of the county.* It does not appear that any intrusive archaeological work has been carried out in the village of Trewennack. Building surveys have been carried out for Trelill Farm to the west of the site and for the holy well to the south-west of the site. The holy well is a Scheduled Monument Management programme (Preston-Jones 2014). The works included clearing the scrub, consolidating and restoring the structure and the roof, including a turf layer on the roof for weatherproofing, and the installation of a fence, parking area and waymarking signs.

1.4 METHODOLOGY

The desk-based assessment follows the guidance as outlined in: Standard and Guidance for Archaeological Desk-Based Assessment (ClfA 2020) and Understanding Place: historic area assessments in a planning and development context (Historic England 2017).

The historic visual impact assessment follows the guidance outlined in: Conservation Principles: policies and guidance for the sustainable management of the historic environment (English Heritage 2008), The Setting of Heritage Assets (Historic England 2017), Managing Change in the Historic Environment: Setting (Historic Scotland 2016), and with reference to Guidelines for

Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment 3rd edition (Landscape Institute 2013). The impact assessment also follows the guidance outlined in the Principles of Cultural Heritage Impact Assessment in the UK produced by CIfA, IHBC and IEMA in July 2021. The site and local heritage assets were visited by Dr. S.H. Walls MCIfA on the 17th of August 2023.

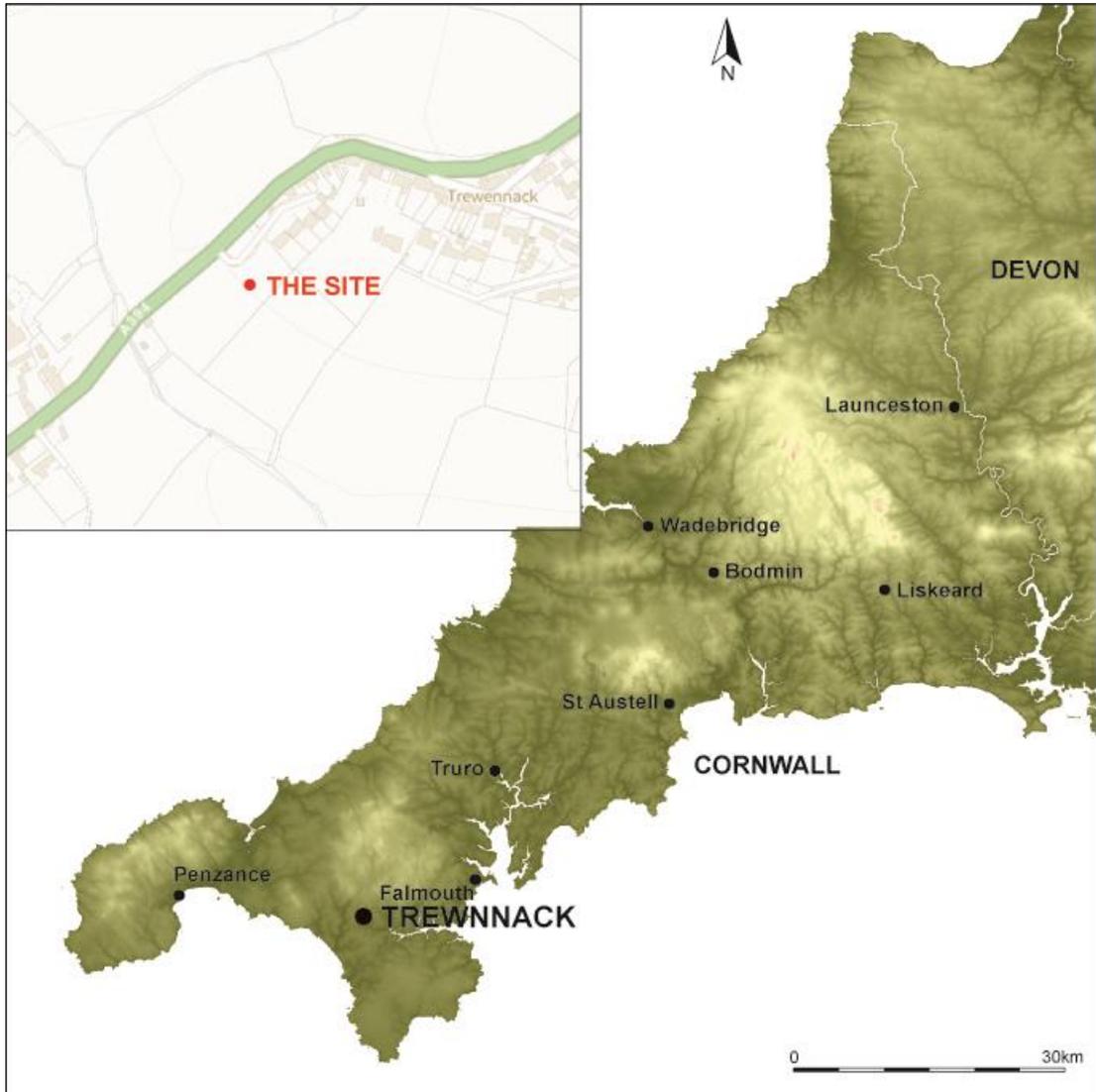


FIGURE 1: SITE LOCATION.

2.0 HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

2.1 DOCUMENTARY HISTORY

The site lies within the modern parish of Helston but historically lay within the parish of Wendron, in the deanery and west division of the hundred of Kirrier (Lysons 1814). Helston was once a chapelry of Wendron, although Lysons treat it as a separate parish. Helston became a parish in its own right (Lake 1867-1873). The parish and church are named after a saint, although it would appear that almost nothing is now known about her (Lake 1867-1873).

The site lies within an area classified on the Historic Landscape Characterisation as *Post-Medieval Enclosed Land: Land enclosed in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, usually from land that was previously Upland Rough Ground and often Medieval commons. Generally in relatively high, exposed or poorly-drained parts of the county.*

It does not appear that any intrusive archaeological work has been carried out in the village of Trewennack. Building surveys have been carried out for Trelill Farm to the west of the site and for the holy well to the south-west of the site. The holy well is a Scheduled Monument and has been subject to a programme of works included clearing the scrub, consolidating and restoring the structure and the roof, including a turf layer on the roof for weatherproofing, and the installation of a fence, parking area and waymarking signs (Preston-Jones 2014).

The Cornwall HER indicates that the majority of assets in and around Trewennack village are Post-Medieval, including a series of stiles (MCO68904, MCO68905, MCO68907, MCO68906), a 19th century post box (MCO67058), a 19th century mounting block (MCO67057) and the location of a 19th century smithy (MCO9410). To west of the village, around Trelill Farm, Medieval assets predominate. These include the holy well (MCO7117, SM 1142042) and the site of a cross that is now at Bonallack (MCO6017). These would possibly once have stood in close proximity to the well, the chapel of St. Wendrona (MCO10293), the structure now lost. There are a cluster of Grade II Listed buildings in Trelill, but none in Trewennack, although the hamlet is of strong vernacular character. The place name Tremeheere, to the north of Trewennack, suggests the site of a menhir or standing stone (MCO7531), but otherwise there is very limited evidence of prehistoric or roman settlement or activity near the Site.

2.2 CARTOGRAPHIC DEVELOPMENT

Martyn's Map of 1748 (Figure 3) indicates Trewennack, as well as Tremeheer and Trelill, although no specific buildings are represented and there is no detail of the land pattern.

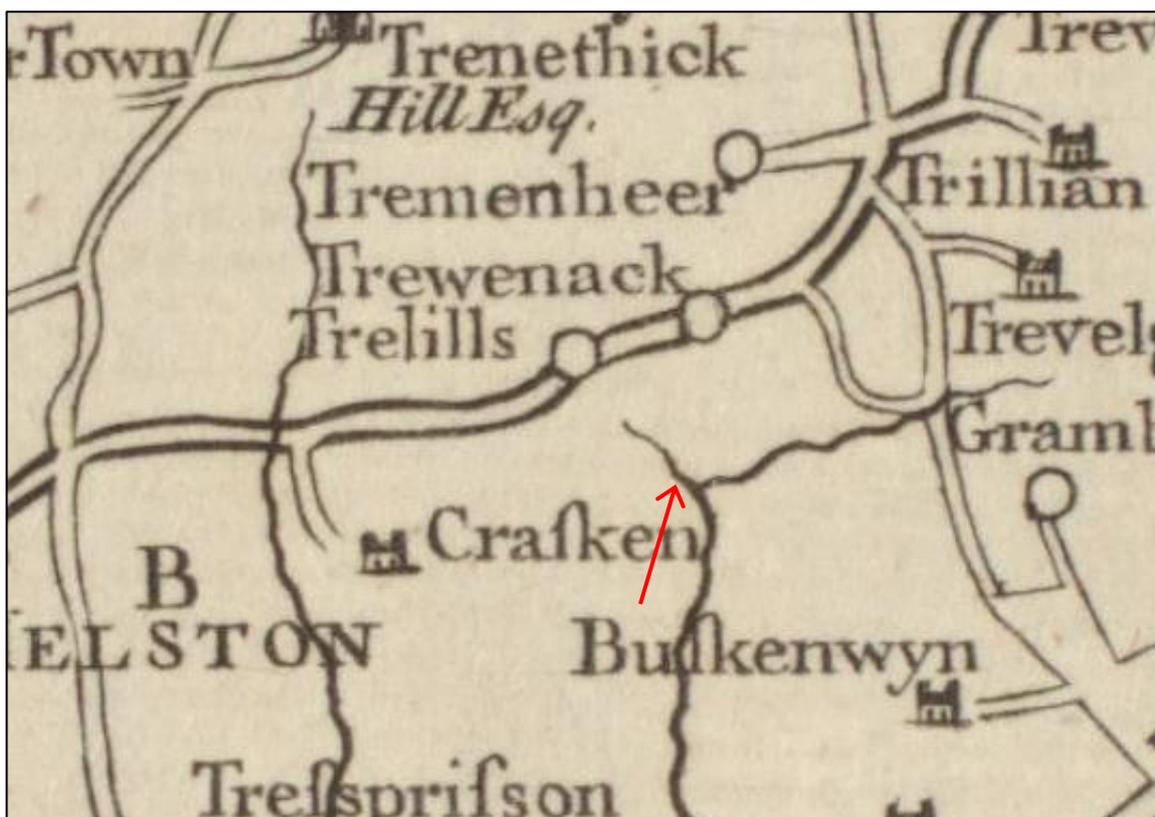


FIGURE 2: EXTRACT OF THE 1748 MARTYN MAP OF CORNWALL. THE APPROXIMATE SITE LOCATION IS INDICATED (HARVARD UNIVERSITY MAP COLLECTION).

The Ordnance Survey Surveyor's Draft of 1805 shows the very small settlement at Trewenack, a similar sized cluster at Trelill. There is an attempt at representing field enclosures, although it is not clear how accurate this is.



FIGURE 3: EXTRACT FROM THE 1805 OS SURVEYOR'S DRAFT MAP FOR HELSTON (BL). THE APPROXIMATE SITE IS INDICATED.

The Wendron tithe map of c.1840 shows the area in greater detail. The site forms part of a larger

field, plot 5620. There is a house (Tregilly Cottage) to the south-west of the plot, but this is associated with Plot 5619, which is described as house and garden and is in different tenancy. The plot which the Site is in forms part of a group owned and occupied as a smallholding by Thomas Goldsworthy. The name of the farm is not recorded. The fields all have prosaic, descriptive names. Plot 5620 is called Lower Field and was in use as an arable field at the time of the Tithe. The field-pattern around the site is clearly post-medieval in nature, but likely has origins in medieval strip fields.

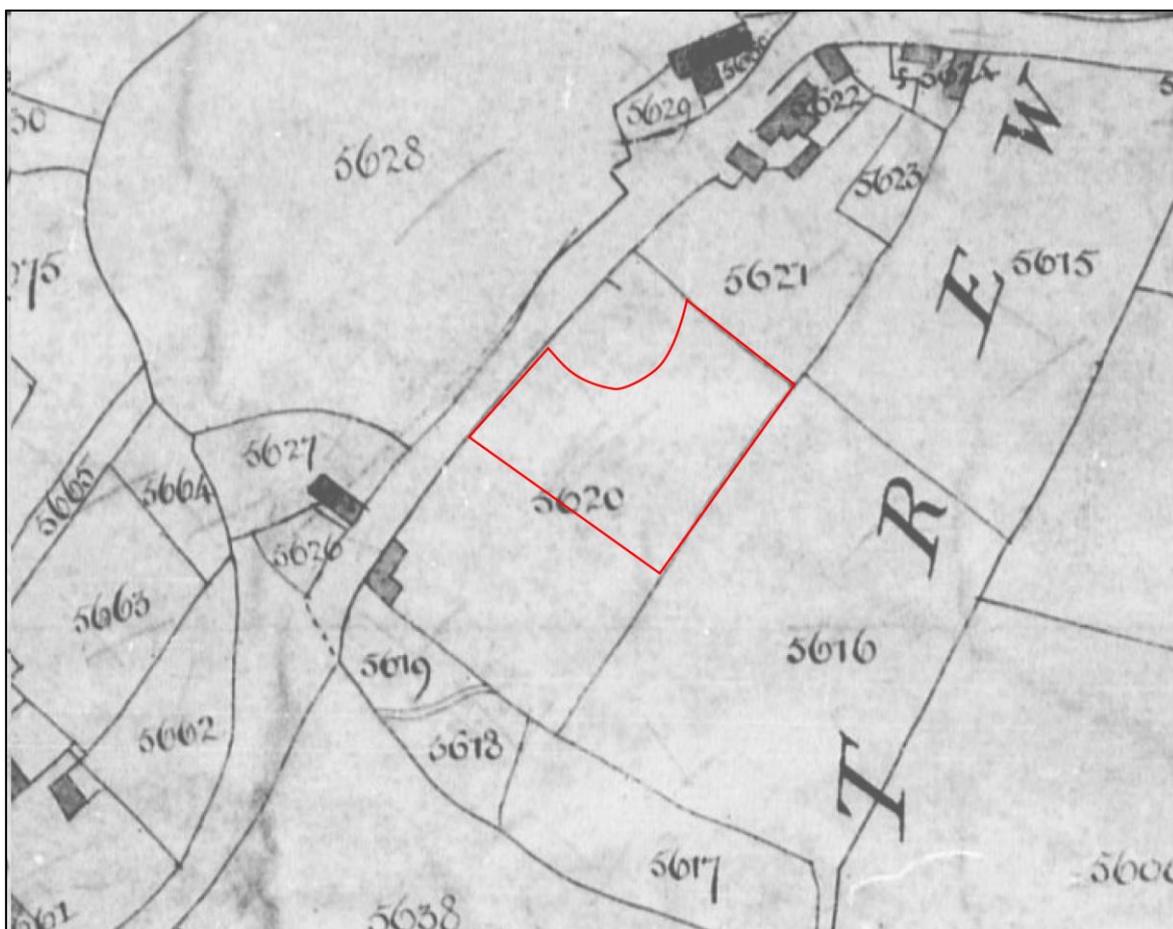


FIGURE 4: EXTRACT OF THE WENDRON TITHE MAP, c.1840. THE APPROXIMATE SITE LOCATION IS INDICATED (GENEALOGIST).

Plot No.	Landowner	Occupier	Plot Name	Cultivation
5615	Thomas Goldsworthy	Thomas Goldsworthy	Higher Field	Arable
5616			Further Field	Arable
5617			Lower Orchard	Pasture
5618			Orchard	-
5620			Lower Field	Arable
5621			Meadow	Pasture
5622			House and Homestead	-
5619	Thomas Goldsworthy	Benjamin Tippet	House and Garden	-

The 1878 1st edition OS map (surveyed 1876, Figure 5) shows that a row of buildings (presumably cottages) with small associated outbuildings have been constructed at the northern end of the field since the production of the Tithe Map. The house at the south-western end (Tregilly Cottage) is still extant, although it has seemingly been reduced in size. The boundaries appear to be lined with trees at this time. The village at Trewennack has clearly expanded between the 1840s and 1870s, a linear development along the road, with an inn called the Star Inn annotated at the

The second edition OS map of 1908 shows no change to the plot or the buildings at either side of the site, although Tregilly Cottage is clearly more strongly shown as tied with footpaths etc. to the plot to the south-west rather than the Site. In the wider landscape a pond indicated at the back of the village on the First Edition Map appears to have been infilled by 1908, and many of the gaps between the houses along the road through the village have also been infilled with more buildings.

2.3 AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Aerial photography for the site from 2001 shows the row of houses at the northern end of the site has been lost, with only a small, possible agricultural store visible. The site is divided into separate areas, largely apparently agricultural but with polytunnels at the northern end. There are no obvious earthworks, cropmarks, or indications of archaeological features. The 2021 aerial photography appears to indicate that the site has fallen into disuse. The land is scrubby, divisions have disappeared and the larger polytunnel removed. The small building in the northern corner has also apparently been removed.

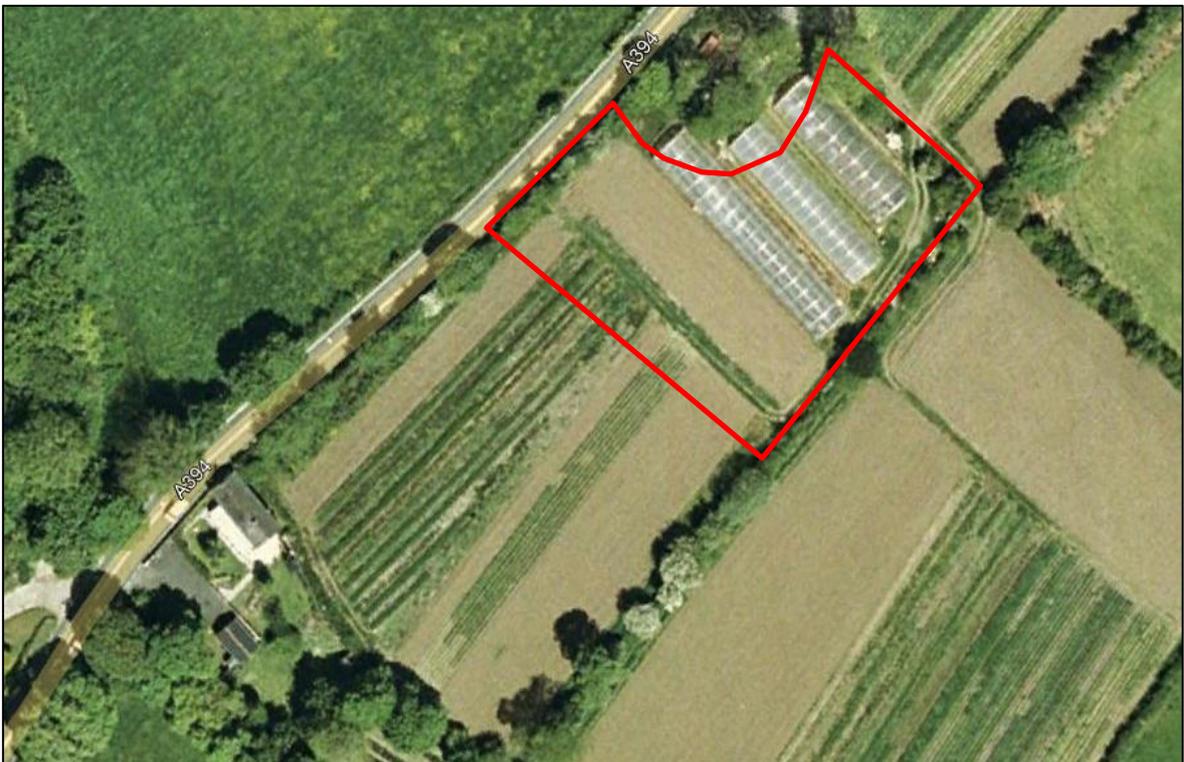


FIGURE 7: AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY FOR THE SITE IN 2001 (©INFOTERRA LTD. & BLUESKY). THE SITE IS INDICATED.



FIGURE 8: AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY FOR THE SITE IN 2021 (© CNES/AIRBUS). THE SITE IS INDICATED.

2.4 LIDAR

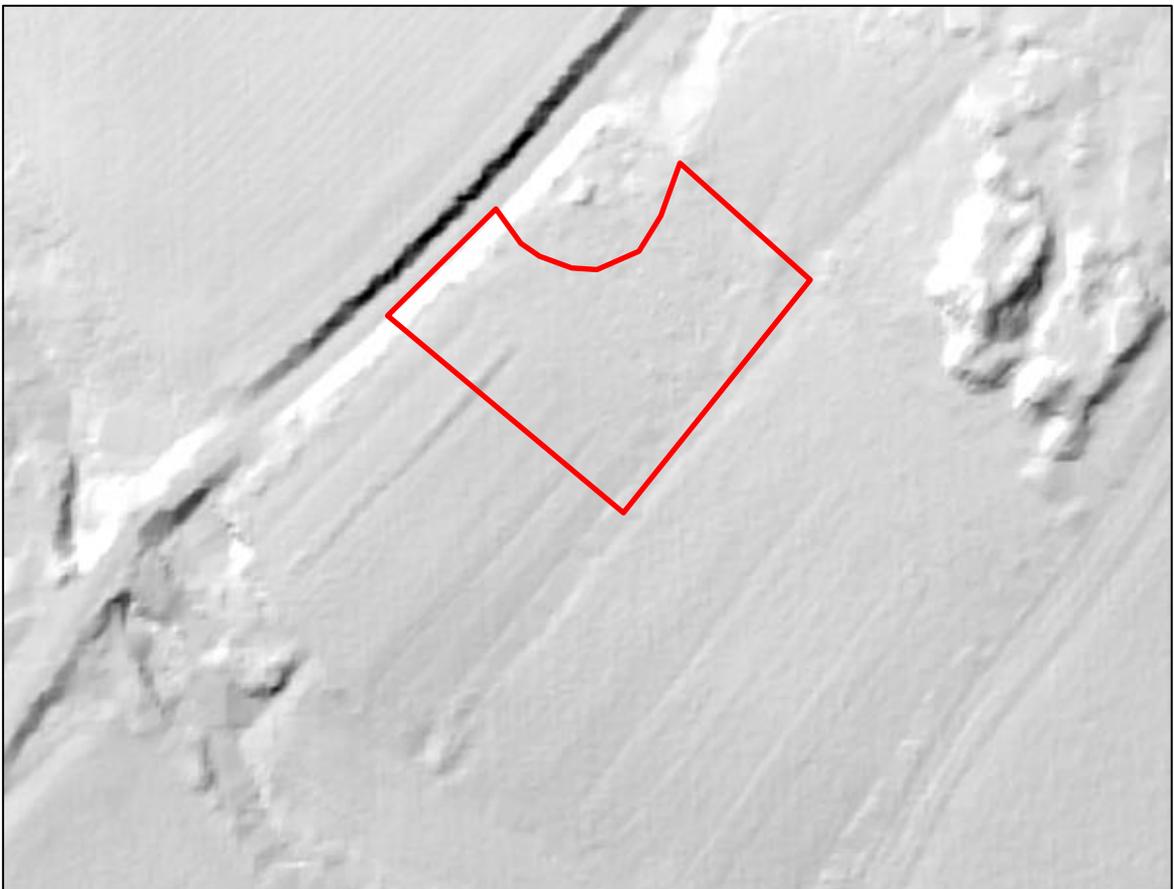


FIGURE 9: LIDAR FOR THE SITE; LIDARFINDER.COM. THE SITE IS INDICATED.

The LiDAR for the site shows the disturbance of the ground at the northern end that likely relates to the polytunnels, as well as the construction in the northern corner and the adjacent field to the north. The site shows linear features consistent with its arable use or possible historic divisions, but there are no indications of archaeological features.

2.5 ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

The site and its immediate surroundings do not appear to have been the subject of archaeological investigation, although the area does fall within the bounds of more extensive area assessments (e.g. Cornish Bridges, Milestones and Crosses in North Cornwall). The area falls within an area classified as *Post-Medieval enclosed land*, as defined by the Cornwall and Scilly Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC). However, with the Medieval settlement to the west and possible former presence of a lost Medieval church, that would strongly imply elements the landscape will likely have been farmed/in-use at this time.

As the site is an agricultural plot which lies between two small settlements with little landscape presence and little evidence of archaeology, a 500m search radius around the site has been considered in detail. There is one Scheduled Monument within 500m of the site (holy well, which is also Grade II* Listed). There are no Grade I buildings within the survey area and only 10 Grade II Listed buildings. There are no Conservation Areas within the search radius. There are no Registered Parks and Gardens or Battlefield sites within 500m of the site.

2.5.1 PREHISTORIC 4000BC - AD43

The place name evidence at Tremenheere, which may suggest the location of a menhir or standing stone is the only evidence of Prehistoric activity within the search radius.

2.5.2 ROMANO-BRITISH AD43 – AD409

There does not appear to be any evidence within the search area dating to this period.

2.5.3 MEDIEVAL AD410 – AD1540

A great number of the heritage assets recorded by the Cornwall and Scilly HER in the locality date to the Medieval period. These include settlements, the locations of since moved crosses, the location of the now lost church, the holy well and a farmhouse.

2.5.4 POST-MEDIEVAL AD1540 -1899

A number of Post Medieval assets are recorded within the study area. These include stiles, buildings, a saw mill, mounting block, non-conformist chapel and a post box.

2.5.5 MODERN 1900-PRESENT AND UNKNOWN

There are no Modern assets recorded on the Cornwall and Scillies HER for this area.

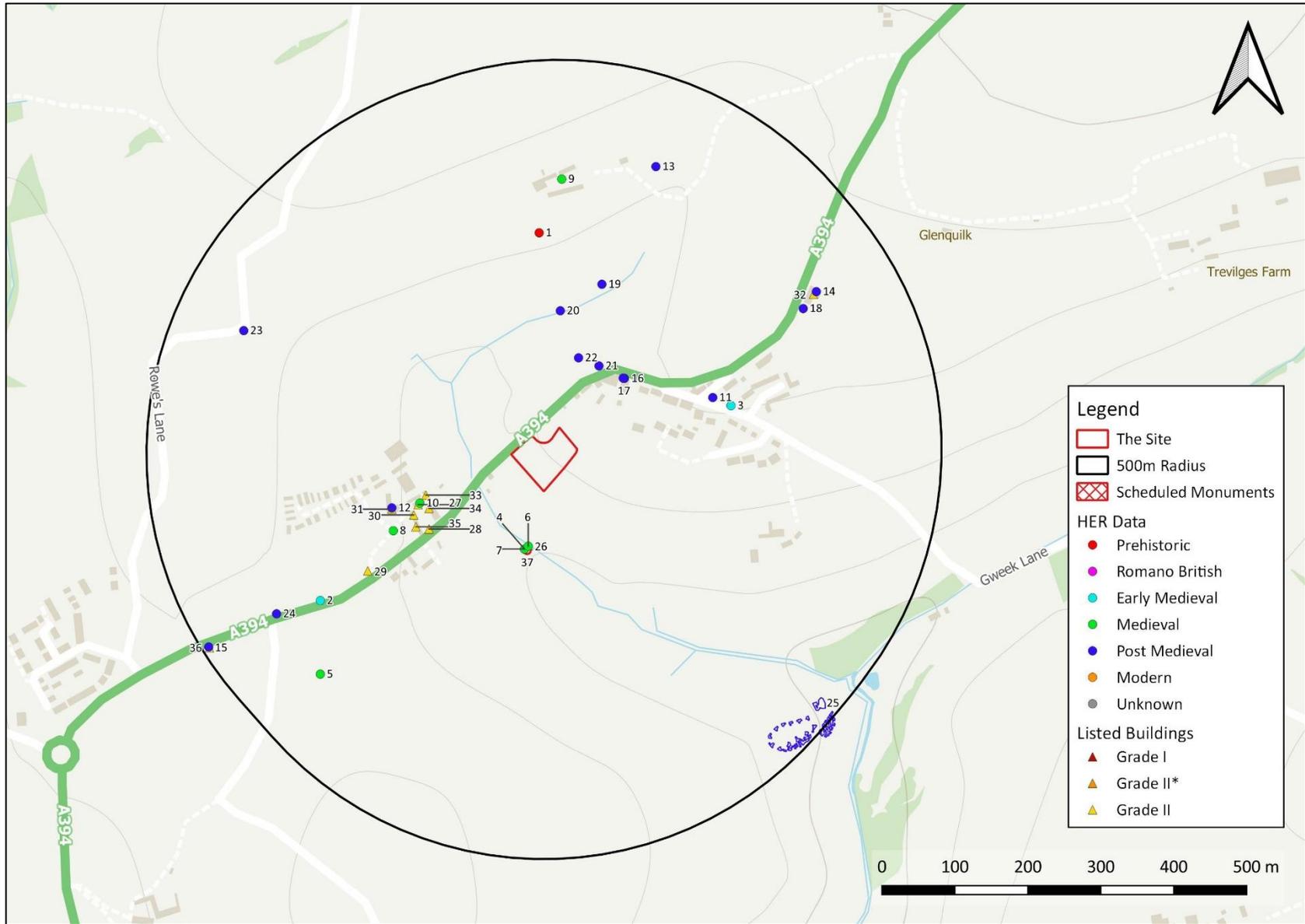


FIGURE 10: HERITAGE ASSETS WITHIN 500M OF THE PROPOSAL AREA RECORDED IN THE CORNWALL HER. CONTAINS ORDNANCE SURVEY DATA © CROWN COPYRIGHT AND DATABASE RIGHT 2023.

TABLE 1: TABLE OF NEARBY HERITAGE ASSETS (SOURCE: CORNWALL HER).

No	MonUID	Name	Summary
1	MCO7531	TREMENHEERE - Bronze Age standing stone	The name Tremenheere suggests the site of a menhir or standing stone.
2	MCO1594	TRELILL - Historic findspot	A circular granite cheese press stands in the garden of Trelill Farm. It is incised with a cross and grooved around the edge, with a lip.
3	MCO11623	TREWENNACK - Early Medieval settlement, Medieval settlement	The settlement of Trewennack is first recorded in 1297.
4	MCO6017	TRELILL - Medieval cross	The former site of an ornamented cross now at Bonallack.
5	MCO6018	TRELILL - Medieval cross	The field-name 'Cross Close' suggests the site of a cross but there are no remains.
6	MCO7117	TRELILL - Medieval holy well	Trelill holy well stands in the corner of a field to the SE of Trelill farm.
7	MCO10293	TRELILL - Medieval chapel	The possible site of a chapel dedicated to St Wendrona at Trelill holy well.
8	MCO11453	TRELILL - Medieval settlement	The settlement of Trelill is first recorded in 1303 when it is spelt "Trelulle".
9	MCO11479	TREMENHEERE - Medieval settlement	The settlement of Tremenheere is first recorded in 1331 when it is spelt "Temaenhyr".
10	MCO64907	WENDRON - C16 cross passage farmhouse	Extant C16 cross passage farmhouse
11	MCO9410	TREWENNACK - Post Medieval blacksmiths workshop	Trewennack smithy is recorded on the Tithe Map of 1841 and on the 1st Edition OS map of 1877. The building is not recorded on the modern Mastermap of 2006.
12	MCO11454	TRELILL - Post Medieval farmhouse	An C18 farmhouse built on the site of an earlier manor house.
13	MCO27351	TREMENHEERE - Post Medieval saw mill	The Tithe Map of 1840 records the fieldname 'Saw Pit Field' at Tremenheere which suggests the site of a saw mill.
14	MCO32562	TREWENNACK - Post Medieval nonconformist chapel	United Free Methodist chapel 1860's plus attached Sunday school of 1903.
15	MCO54255	TRELILL - Post Medieval milestone	An 1833 milestone survive on the south side of the A394, SW of Trelill - HELSTON 1, PENZANCE 14 and FALMOUTH 11, TRURO 15%.
16	MCO67057	TREWENNACK - C19 mounting block	Extant C19 mounting block built against the wall of a former stable of the Old Star Inn
17	MCO67058	TREWENNACK - C19/Early C20 post box	Extant VR post box installed during the reign of Queen Victoria
18	MCO68903	WENDRON - Post-medieval coffin stile	A post-medieval coffin stile in the parish of Wendron
19	MCO68904	WENDRON - Post-medieval coffin stile	A post-medieval coffin stile in the parish of Wendron
20	MCO68905	WENDRON - Post-medieval coffin stile	A post-medieval coffin stile in the parish of Wendron
21	MCO68906	WENDRON - Post-medieval coffin stile	A post-medieval coffin stile in the parish of Wendron
22	MCO68907	WENDRON - Post-medieval coffin stile	A post-medieval coffin stile in the parish of Wendron
23	MCO68908	WENDRON - Post-medieval coffin stile	A post-medieval coffin stile in the parish of Wendron
24	MCO68909	WENDRON - Post-medieval coffin stile	A post-medieval coffin stile in the parish of Wendron
25	MCO50001	TREWENNACK - Post Medieval spoil heap, Post Medieval quarry	The remains of a quarrying complex is visible on aerial photographs.
26	1142042	HOLY WELL OF SAINT WENDRONAS AT SW 676285	II*
27	1142016	BAKEHOUSE, CARTSHED AND FORMER COTTAGE IMMEDIATELY NORTH WEST OF TRELILL FARMHOUSE	II
28	1142017	CARTSHED AT APPROXIMATELY 10 METRES SOUTH WEST OF TRELILL FARMHOUSE	II
29	1142018	GATE PIERS AND FLANKING WALL AT APPROXIMATELY 100 METRES SOUTH WEST OF TRELILL MANOR FARMHOUSE	II
30	1162436	BARN AT APPROXIMATELY 30 METRES WEST NORTH WEST OF TRELILL FARMHOUSE	II
31	1162442	TRELILL MANOR FARMHOUSE	II
32	1162594	TREWENNACK METHODIST CHURCH INCLUDING SCHOOLROOM AND ASSOCIATED COURTYARD WALLS, GATE PIERS AND GATES	II
33	1309632	PIGGERY IMMEDIATELY NORTH OF TRELILL FARMHOUSE	II
34	1328456	TRELILL FARMHOUSE	II
35	1328457	BARN AT APPROXIMATELY 35 METRES WEST OF TRELILL FARMHOUSE	II

36	1396483	MILESTONE APPROXIMATELY 309M EAST OF GWEALDUES HOTEL	II
37	1006743	Holy well at Trelill, 190m ENE of Trelill House	SAM

TABLE 2: DETAILS OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS (CSHER).

No	EvUID	Name	EventTypes
1	ECO821	SM Management: Trelill Well, Cornwall	Building Survey
2	ECO3671	Cornwall Scheduled Monument Management 2011-12	Management Works
3	ECO4139	Trelill holy well	Management Works
4	ECO4730	Reducing Risk to Scheduled Monuments in Cornwall	Management Works
5	ECO5202	Trelill Farm, Wendron, Cornwall	Building Record

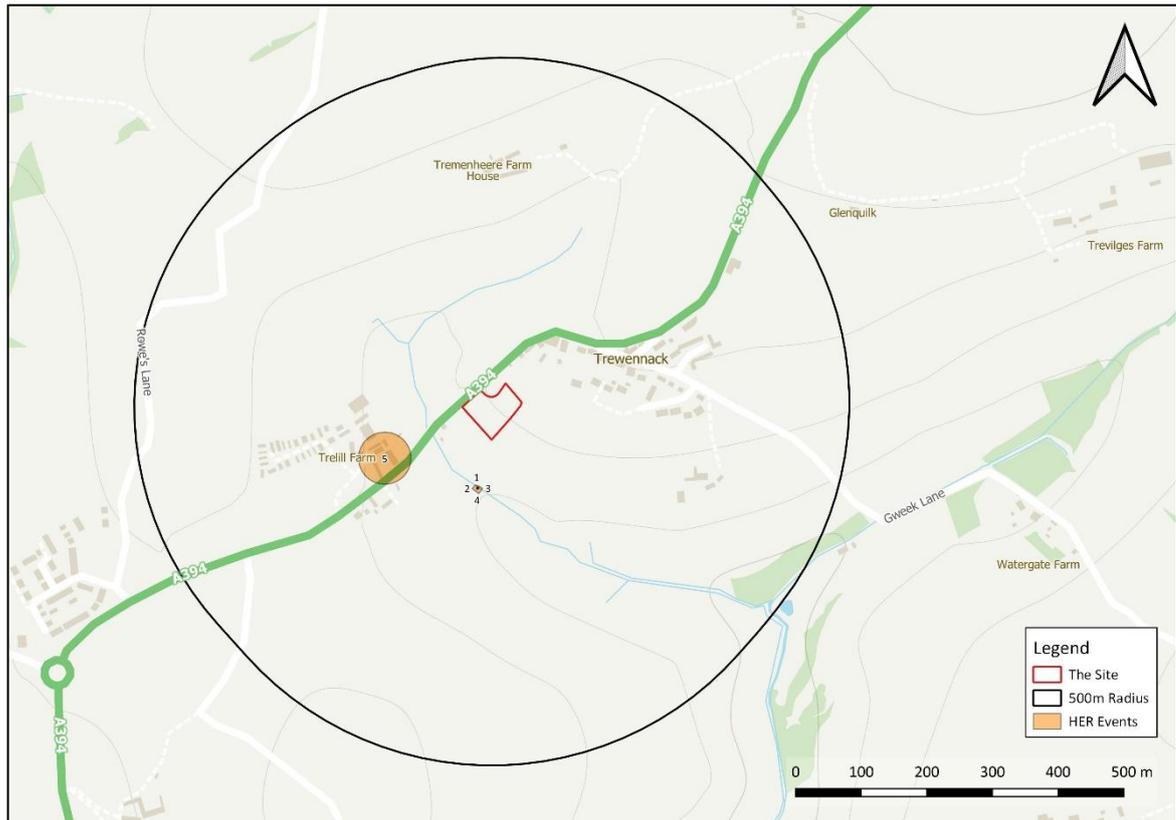


FIGURE 11: ARCHAEOLOGICAL INTERVENTIONS WITHIN 500M OF THE PROPOSAL AREA RECORDED IN THE CORNWALL AND SCILLY HER (CSHER). CONTAINS ORDNANCE SURVEY DATA © CROWN COPYRIGHT AND DATABASE RIGHT 2023.

2.6 SITE WALKOVER

The site was visited by Dr. S. Walls on 17th August 2023. The weather was overcast with occasional showers. Site is currently to pasture, but evidence was market garden/ allotment until recently, with two part-derelict poly-tunnels to the north of the site. There were clear furrows running north-east to south-west (parallel with boundaries) some peonies, surviving in 1 row, with runners beans and others currents bushes netted/fenced to the immediate south of the polytunnels. Evidence of bonfires in this location too.

North boundary is open to the new access road and modern stone wall of one of the new buildings. The west boundary is open to the road, 1.2m lower than the field. Becomes a tree lined boundary just at site limits, with beech, buddleia, eucalyptus and sycamore.

South boundary of site, is open to rest of the field. Hedge of brambles and sycamore separating this field from adjoining (18th of 19th century?) Tregilly Cottage. Tregilly Cottage appears unoccupied, and the garden is overgrown and the condition of the building deteriorating. Tregilly

Cottage is a low 18th or 19th century cottage, only the roof was visible from the site, but should shrubs and boundaries be cut, probably whole of first floor would have clear views of the site. Modern windows and concrete render to the cottage make it difficult to date, and it is clearly in deteriorating condition.

There is an opening in East end of South boundary into next field, more mature sycamore trees and rowan on this part of the boundary, also evident that there is a barbed wire fence, and that the trees are growing on faint trace of an earth bank.

The east boundary is a 0.6-1m high earth bank with stone facing. Mixed deciduous trees, sycamore, Hawthorn and Ash, mature examples mostly beyond site limits. A few more mature examples to north end near the Polytunnels, including beech and Holly.

Mole Hills to the west and a small rotavated area south of the polythene, produced small assemblage of White refined earthenware and other industrial glazed wares, bottle glass, 2 clay pipe stem, 1x English tin glazed sherd, and 1x coarseware rim (a 17th -19th century finds assemblage. These finds were discarded on site, but demonstrate the post-medieval agricultural use of the site.

No view to the well, very well screened by trees from three boundaries. Topography is such that unlikely that the existing development would be visible even if all the trees were removed.



FIGURE 12: THE SITE WITH MODERN DEVELOPMENT AND ACCESS, VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST.

2.7 ARCHAEOLOGICAL SUMMARY

The site has been used for agricultural and market-gardening purposes since at least 1840, and whilst historic buildings are/were located just beyond the site limits to the north-east and south-

west it seems unlikely based on current evidence that post-medieval settlement activity extended into the limits of the Site.

The significant medieval settlement of Trelill is focused to the south and away from the site and likewise there is no evidence therefore of medieval occupation on the site, although it was likely farmed at this time. There is also limited evidence of prehistoric activity within the vicinity of the Site.

Modern land-use has likely disturbed the site fairly heavily, but even without this, the overall archaeological potential of the Site is considered low, unproven. It is not considered that further archaeological mitigation measures will be required in this instance.

2.8 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

The proposed development would see the construction of 9 dwellings. The land to the north-east has already been developed in recent years. Intervisibility between the proposed development and the Scheduled Monument is and will remain nil, although the mature planting around the proposal site and the holy well should be maintained to reduce and soften and visibility of the new houses. The proposed development would not compete with the holy well in views nor affect the experience of the visitor. The holy well was the only asset considered in detail; all other assets are screened by other historic or modern buildings or other features and therefore will experience no real impact.



FIGURE 13: THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT; SUPPLIED BY THE CLIENT.

2.8.1 HOLY WELLS

Holy wells are often very found in very secluded locations, or in association with churches or chapels. These are also usually very intimate monuments or structures, with little frame of reference with regard to the wider landscape. As such, unless located in immediate proximity to a proposed development, the impact of these developments is likely to be minimal.

What is important and why

Designated holy wells usually possess a wellhouse or related structural elements (evidential), and this may possess aesthetic/design value. They are usually associated with a particular saint and/or some curative property (historical/associational). Most have lost all communal value, though some spiritual value may be regained where they are adopted by modern pagans.

Asset Name: Holy Well at Trelill 190m ENE of Trelill farmhouse	
Parish: Wendron	
Designation: Grade II* & SAM	Value: High
Distance to the site: 0.02km	Condition: Good
<p><i>Description: Listing: Reasons for Designation</i></p> <p><i>Holy wells are water sources with specifically Christian associations. The custom of venerating springs and wells as sacred sites is also known to have characterised pre-Christian religions in Britain and, although Christian wells have been identified from as early as the 6th century AD, it is clear that some holy wells originated as earlier sacred sites. The cult of holy wells continued throughout the medieval period. Its condemnation at the time of the Reformation (c.1540) ended new foundations but local reverence and folklore customs at existing holy wells often continued, in some cases to the present day. The holy wells sometimes functioned as sites for baptism but they were also revered for less tangible reasons, some of which may have had origins in pre-Christian customs, such as folklore beliefs in the healing powers of the water and its capacity to affect a desired outcome for future events. Associated rituals often evolved, usually requiring the donation of an object or coin to retain the 'sympathy' of the well for the person seeking its benefits. At their simplest, holy wells may be unelaborated natural springs with associated religious traditions. Structural additions may include lined well shafts or conduit heads on springs, often with a tank to gather the water at the surface. The roofing of walled enclosures to protect the water source and define the sacred area created well houses which may be simple, unadorned small structures closely encompassing the water source, or larger buildings, decorated in the prevailing architectural style and facilitating access with features such as steps to the water source and open areas with stone benching where visitors might shelter. At their most elaborate, chapels, and sometimes churches, may have been built over the well or adjacent well house. The number of holy wells is not known but estimates suggest at least 600 nationally. Of these, over 200 are recorded from Cornwall, providing one of the highest densities of surviving examples. They provide important information on the nature of religious beliefs and practices and on the relationship between religion and the landscape during the medieval period. The Holy well at Trelill, 190m ENE of Trelill House survives well and contains some of the more elaborate features such as benches and niches to be found in well-head structures. It is also steeped in local folklore. In addition to its clear architectural and historic interest, the well will contain archaeological and environmental evidence relating to its construction, social and religious significance despite turbulent periods of religious iconoclasm and its overall landscape context.</i></p> <p><i>Details</i></p> <p><i>The monument includes a holy well situated in the small valley of a tributary to the Helford River. The holy well survives as a small square building measuring up to 2m high with an east-facing chamfered pointed arched doorway and a corbelled granite stone roof. The walls are drystone rubble built with granite dressings. Within the interior are two stone benches on either side of the entrance and to the rear is a further arch with a recess behind which measures up to 0.8m long, 0.5m wide and 0.3m deep containing the well. Above this internal arch is a rectangular niche with two further smaller square niches on either side. The well building dates to the 15th century. Dedicated to St. Wendrona, the well was first recorded in 1423 as 'Fenton Wendron'. In 1427 the vicar of Wendron had a licence to say mass 'in the chapel of St. Wendrona at Tresulle'; the spelling of the place name is believed to be a clerical error for 'Trelulle' the original spelling of Trelill, the current name. Henderson states that the people wished to build a church at Trelill, but according to folklore 'the crows came by night and removed every stone with the exception of the porch which now forms the covering of the well'. Another tradition said it was unlucky to visit the well</i></p>	

<i>without leaving a pin. A decorated stone cross now at Constantine formerly stood near to the well but was removed at some time prior to 1896. The holy well is Listed Grade II* (66314).</i>
<i>Supplemental Comments:</i> The well house was subject to a programme of restoration and repair in 2013 which restored the structure and created provision for parking and signage for visitors.
<i>Conservation Value:</i> The building has aesthetic value as a vernacular building with a religious purpose. It has historical/illustrative and historical/associative value as the remains of a holy well house, possibly in association with the now lost parish church and a since move cross. It has high evidential value and its archaeological value is unexplored. It has communal value for its local population and visitors to the site.
<i>Authenticity and Integrity:</i> The holy well appears to be in good condition; it remains an authentic place of pilgrimage.
<i>Topographical Location & Landscape Context:</i> The well lies within a field to the south of Trelill and west of Trewennack, enclosed by mature trees and hedges.
<i>Setting:</i> The holy well is sat outside of the settlement in a field that is bounded by mature hedges and trees. It's setting is very limited, to its own enclosure really (see Figure 14).
<i>Principal Views:</i> Very restricted – there are no views to or from the well.
<i>Landscape Presence:</i> Very Limited. The well cannot be seen from outside of its immediate area.
<i>Sensitivity of Asset:</i> A greater part of its significance arises from its historical, evidential, and communal value. Its aesthetic value is the most readily obvious but that is only one component part of its significance.
<i>Contribution of Setting to Significance of Asset:</i> Important. At one stage, one of the most important structures in the village, as part of the religious centre. However, its setting is now much more constrained by the mature specimen trees and hedges of the field, the associated religious structures (chapel) has been lost, and it lacks any landscape presence.
<i>Scale of Change:</i> The proposed development would be located in close proximity to the well and there would be near complete screening at ground level from intervening hedgerows and trees. In all (albeit limited) views to the holy well the development would not appear, and the development would not affect the ability to appreciate the significance of the building itself. The development would introduce a significant non-agricultural visual element to the area.
<i>Significance of Effect:</i> Negligible change + High value asset = Slight effect
<i>Professional Judgement:</i> Negligible Adverse



FIGURE 14: HOLY WELL AT TRELILL, VIEWED FROM THE NORTH.

3.0 CONCLUSION

The site lies within an area classified on the Historic Landscape Characterisation as *Post-Medieval Enclosed Land: Land enclosed in the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries, usually from land that was previously Upland Rough Ground and often Medieval commons. Generally in relatively high, exposed or poorly-drained parts of the county.*

The Cornwall HER to some extent confirms that the majority of assets in and around Trewennack village are Post-Medieval confirming the HLC, including a series of stiles (MCO68904, MCO68905, MCO68907, MCO68906), a 19th century post box (MCO67058), a 19th century mounting block (MCO67057) and the location of a 19th century smithy (MCO9410). However, to west of the village, around Trelill Farm, Medieval assets predominate. These include the holy well (MCO7117, SM 1142042) and the site of a cross that is now at Bonallack (MCO6017). These would possibly once have stood in close proximity to the chapel of St. Wendrona (MCO10293), this church now lost and its exact position unconfirmed.

The Site has been subject to heavy modern use, with polytunnels still in place over the northern part of the Site. Overall the archaeological potential appears low, but unproven.

As the site is located on the edge of a small settlement, within a relatively wooded landscape a 0.5km search radius around the site has been considered in detail. There is a single Scheduled Monument within 0.5km of the site (the holy well), this is also a Grade II* Listed building. There are a further 10 Grade II Listed buildings within the search radius, but there are no Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens or Battlefield sites.

The site is located in close proximity to the Holy Well at Trelill, but there is no intervisibility between the development site and this important historic asset. Furthermore the setting of the well is so limited (to its own enclosure) that even its wider setting would not be impacted by the proposed development, with this in mind the effect of the proposed development on the historic landscape is considered to be **negligible adverse**.

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APPENDIX 1: SUPPORTING PHOTOGRAPHS



1. SURVIVING POLYTUNNELS ON THE SITE, VIEWED FROM THE EAST.



2. INSIDE THE SURVIVING POLYTUNNEL, VIEWED FROM THE EAST.



3. INSIDE THE SURVIVING POLYTUNNEL, VIEWED FROM THE EAST.



4. VIEW ACROSS THE REST OF THE FIELD, VIEWED FROM THE EAST.



5. ROTAVATED AREA, PILE OF RUBBISH AND REMNANT CROP, VIEWED FROM THE NORTH.



6. VIEW TOWARDS THE ROAD ACROSS THE SITE, FROM THE SOUTH-WEST.



7. MODERN DEVELOPMENT TO THE NORTH OF THE SITE, VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH.



8. TREGILLY COTTAGE, VIEWED FROM THE NORTH.



9. NORTH BOUNDARY TO THE WELL, VIEWED FROM THE NORTH.



10. VIEW OF THE WELL OVER ITS NORTHERN ENCLOSURE BOUNDARY, VIEWED FROM THE NORTH.



11. VIEW OF THE SITE FROM THE GATE TO THE FIELD, FROM THE SOUTH.



12. VIEW OF THE SITE AND MATURE EAST BOUNDARY, FROM THE SOUTH-WEST.



13. VIEW OF MODERN DEVELOPMENT AND HISTORIC SETTLEMENT AT TREWENNACK, VIEWED FROM THE SOUTH-WEST.



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