Langarth, Kenwyn, Cornwall

Understanding the place

A review of the historical development of key aspects of the area proposed for Langarth Garden Village.

Material to support master planning and to draw from when considering detail of design

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Introduction

Cornwall Council is involved in developing a Master Plan for the proposed Langarth development site, north of the A390, west of Truro: housing, stadium, primary school, distributor road, green infrastructure and public realm, but also home, community, part of the Cornish landscape and a place.

The Council requires an assessment of the development of the place as it currently is, its historic landscape and semi-natural environment, to inform the work of master-planners who will be engaged by its partners, Arcadis and Inner Circle, as they commission the development of a detailed masterplan for a city-edge settlement of 8000 people, a population similar to that of several long-established Cornish towns, like Launceston, Liskeard or St Ives.

Cornwall Council has taken the decision to lead on this development in part to retain control over the design and delivery of a place that would achieve various aims, including accommodating a road that relieves pressure on the A390 and meeting the Vision that the Council has for the proposed development to be widely regarded as a new beautiful place created from an existing beautiful place.

The development provides the Council with an opportunity to demonstrate how such schemes can be designed to contribute to numerous other Cornwall Council led or supported initiatives, including the following.

- The Cornwall Environmental Growth Strategy and the need to secure biodiversity net gain, which will contribute to Cornwall addressing the recently declared Climate Change Emergency, and the aim to make Cornwall carbon-neutral by 2030.
- Achieving the required housing densities while maximising economic and environmental values by following good design principles.
- Exemplifying creation a new settlement that is distinctively Cornish, and distinctively of its more local place within Cornwall, by applying principles established in the Cornish local cultural distinctiveness project,
- Ensuring that the development does not diminish further the air quality of the Truro area, but instead contributes to its improvement (by reducing commuting, for example).

This study organises evidence and interpretation within the framework of Place.

Place

The National Planning Policy Framework requires effort to be expended in achieving ‘well-designed places’ and highlights the need to base work undertaken towards that aim on a good understanding of the place or places that may be affected by change.

‘The creation of high quality buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve. Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, creates better places in which to live and work and helps make development acceptable to communities.’ (NPPF, para 124)

‘Design policies should be developed with local communities so they reflect local aspirations, and are grounded in an understanding and evaluation of each area’s defining characteristics.’ (NPPF, para 125)

‘Planning policies and decisions should ensure that developments:

> a) will function well and add to the overall quality of the area, not just for the short term but over the lifetime of the development;
>
> b) are visually attractive as a result of good architecture, layout and appropriate and effective landscaping;
>
> c) are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation or change (such as increased densities);
>
> d) establish or maintain a strong sense of place, using the arrangement of streets, spaces, building types and materials to create attractive, welcoming and distinctive places to live, work and visit;
>
> e) optimise the potential of the site to accommodate and sustain an appropriate amount and mix of development (including green and other public space) and support local facilities and transport networks; and
>
> f) create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity for existing and future users and where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine the quality of life or community cohesion and resilience.’ (NPPF, para 127)

Place is a concept that is familiar to everyone, and contributes greatly to wellbeing, sense of identity, and commitment to society, but it is also a concept that is loose and pliable, for reasons that revolve around its dependency on individual human perception. It has been defined in numerous useful ways; some examples are given here. Places are:

‘Any part of the historic environment, of any scale, that has a distinctive identity perceived by people’ [1]

‘Named locales with specific socio-historical connotations’ [2]

Places are ‘fusions of human and natural order and the significant centres of our immediate experiences of the world’; they can be contrasted with the concept of **Placelessness**, ‘the casual eradication of distinctive places and the making of standardised landscapes that results from an insensitivity to the significance of place…, the undermining of the importance of place for both individuals and cultures, and the casual replacement of the diverse and significant places of the world with anonymous spaces and exchangeable environments’ [3]

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[1] English Heritage, 2008, *Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance*, 72

[2] Atha, M, 2018, Ephemeral landscapes, in *The Routledge Companion to Landscape Studies* (second edition) 114

[3] Relph, EC, 1976 *Place and Placelessness*, London, 141-3

At Langarth / Threemilestone, a largely urban place would replace a largely rural one. The challenge of developing an urban character that pays due respect to the inherited qualities of farmland, woodland and wetland is great, but this report sets out some of the ways it may be achieved. It will examine several themes that contribute to the place as it currently is, but these more particular considerations can be subsumed within the following more general challenges.

- Design with awareness that this settlement is both of Truro and not of Truro, that it is almost suburban, but not suburban as it will be detached from Truro, almost a new town, but actually not a new town, as it will be dependent in many ways on the existing closely adjacent urban centre.
- And design with awareness that it is currently rural and will border quite deeply rural landscape (farmland and woodland) along the whole of its long northern side.
- The design of all aspects of the new place should be done with awareness of the complexity of such a location. So this report will attempt to provide guidance on how a new place might most successfully draw from its various inherited qualities.

In doing this, suggestions will also be made that will help ensure that the following are also addressed.

- **Environmental Growth**

  A strategic approach developed by Cornwall Council and the Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Local Nature Partnership that has as its vision that **'**In 2065, Cornwall's environment will be naturally diverse, beautiful and healthy, supporting a thriving society, prosperous economy and abundance of wildlife.'

- **Biodiversity Net Gain**,

  An approach to development that leaves biodiversity in a better state than before that has been mandated for all new development by the Chancellor's 2019 Spring Statement.

- **Cornish and more local cultural distinctiveness**

  Using the approach developed in work commissioned by the Ertach (Heritage) Kernow Board as part of the Devolution Deal struck between Government and Cornwall Council.

  Identifying types of heritage asset, historic landscape types and qualities in the historic environment that are Peculiar, or Particular to Cornwall, or a part of it, and those that are Typical or Representative of Cornwall or a part of it.

  For the proposed Langarth development, the strand of Distinctiveness that relates to the Typical or Representative of Cornwall is likely to be the most important when designing a new place that retains elements of the inherited place and which creates new features that can draw upon Cornish and more local patterns and forms to ensure that 'Placelessness' is avoided.

In developing the Distinctiveness approach, five areas of 'Typical' or 'Representative' Distinctiveness have been identified, each of which is relevant at Langarth.

  - The distinctive use of **Language**, both Cornish and the Cornish way with the English language. Here most vividly seen and heard in place and field names.
  - The distinctive ways that Cornish people have made a living, their **economy**. Here this is largely agricultural, and especially the distinctive mixed farming undertaken by families, working cooperatively with their neighbours, and the use of smallholdings of 7 or 15 acres by families who had diversified household economies, working part-time on the land while also having a second career in mining, commerce, industry, etc. Two small lead mines also operated in the area, and the highway brought roadside commerce and activity (smithy, school, wrestling, etc).
  - The distinctively Cornish ways of working with and adapting the **natural topography**, working with it in imaginative ways, rather than forcing themselves upon it. The ways that the farms and smallholdings at Langarth have followed the folds in the ground, used streams as boundaries, etc
  - The distinctively Cornish ways of working with and adapting the **natural environment**, and especially its flora. This has usually been dependent on close observation and understanding of the needs of the flora, the qualities of the land in relation to those and the opportunistic ways that Cornish people have used or exploited that flora, and its fauna. At Langarth this is focussed on woodland (including maintaining it in an attenuated way on hedges), wetlands in the valleys, rough grassland and scrub on the open ridges (greatly reduced by enclosure in the last few hundred years).
  - The aspects of Cornish society and culture that reflect their particular **spirit**, whether through the ways they have adapted informal, pagan or established religions or through the ways they have responded to aspects of their place, their history and each other through art, music, poetry, story-telling, sport, etc. At Langarth this may be seen in placing the great medieval cross at a point where it transmitted a message of Cornish Christianity to all those who encountered it (now in Eastbourne), and it may also be there in the name Sticklers Corner, if that is a reference to the Cornish sport of wrestling, which attracted great interest and huge crowds to bouts.
- **Resilience and sustainability** applied to place and environment.
- Addressing issues with **air quality** in the Truro area.
- **Reducing risks and maximising and taking opportunities**

The report is organised around a number of themes that have contributed to the creation of the place and to the ways that the place is experienced. For each a summary of current understanding is presented, then the values that people may

ascribe to the theme are outlined, and then initial thoughts are presented on how the theme may be used to contribute to the creation of the new place that will be the Langarth development.

The modelling of values will be comprehensive and inclusive and will derive from the four forms of heritage value set out in Conservation Principles, themselves derived from ICOMOS's Burra Charter: Communal, Aesthetic, Historical and Evidential.

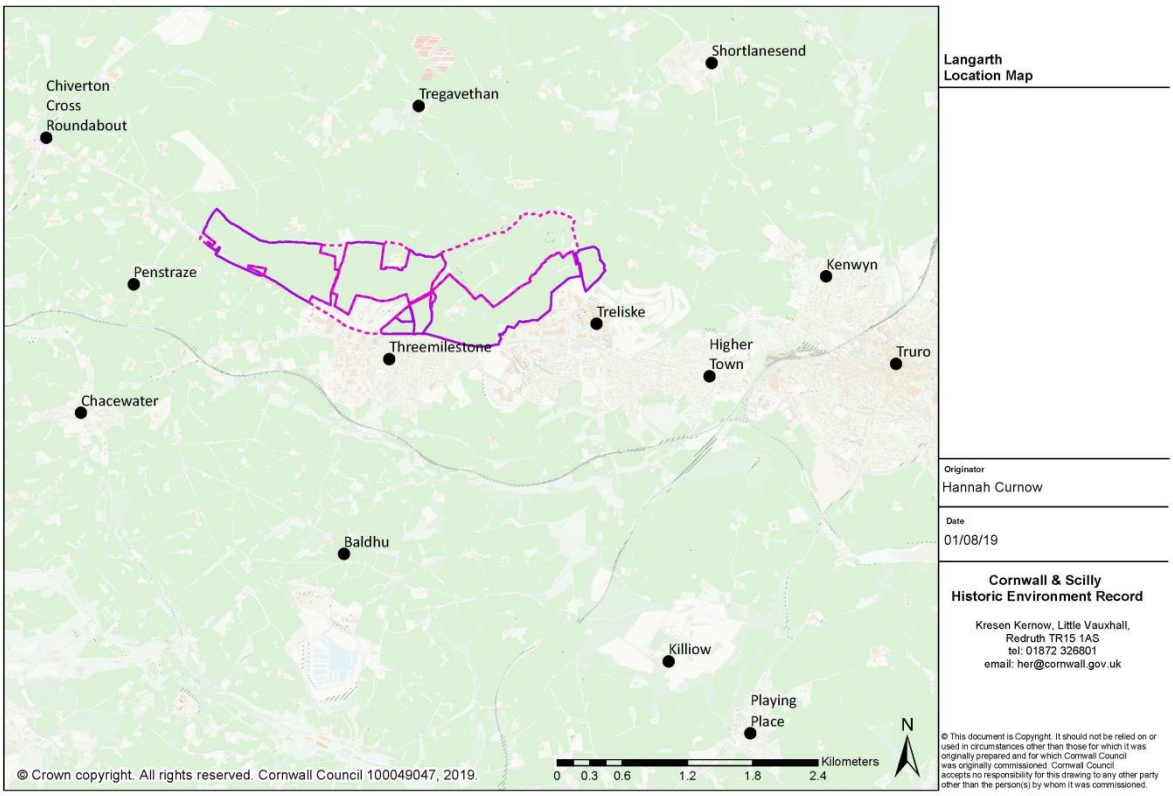
The themes are:

- **Location**; the physical and human geography
- **Natural topography**; landforms
- **Landscape**
- **Routeways**; highways, byways, lanes and tracks, the means by which people move around the area
- **Settlements and field patterns**
    - Medieval farming hamlets
    - Post-medieval smallholdings, pre-1748
    - Later settlements
    - Transitory settlements
- **Known archaeological features**
- **Names**
    - Settlements
    - Field-names
- **Historic land ownership** patterns
- **Historic land use** patterns
- **Natural environment**
- **The gathering of the parts into Character Areas**

2 The place – location

The heart of the study area is three miles west of Truro city centre, hence the name Threemilestone, referring to an 18th century milestone shown on the OS 2-inch drawing of 1809. The Area, which in plan has the shape of a tortoise raising its head to consider Treliske, reaches as close as 1.75 miles (2.8km) from Truro Cathedral at this eastern head, near Penventinnie, but as far as four miles (6.5km) at its western tail; a '4 miles' stone stands near here, a short distance east of West Langarth Farm. It is as narrow as 250m at the tail and neck, and up to 800m wide at its middle.

Much of the southern boundary is the busy A390 road, but at the eastern end it wraps itself around the existing modern developments of Treliske hospital and the adjacent industrial and commercial estates and near the middle it works its way around the Langarth Park and Ride complex. Much of the northern side follows the southernmost tributary of the Kenwyn River, but there are small gaps where Langarth and West Langarth farmsteads are, and at the eastern end the farmstead and fields of Governs Farm are also excluded.



The area is therefore in an interestingly diverse form of location; not quite attached at its eastern end to the small city of Truro and so almost, but not quite, suburban. While detached and with rural landscape along its northern length, it is also attached to the modern developments of Threemilestone, Treliske and Gloweth and so contributes to the creation of a second proto-urban settlement that has some amenities (schools, college, county hospital, out-of-town commerce and industry). Its relationship with Truro would therefore be supportive (providing residences for city-based employees, increasing the market for its products and services, reducing commutes and carbon emissions, providing sporting opportunities, etc) and also

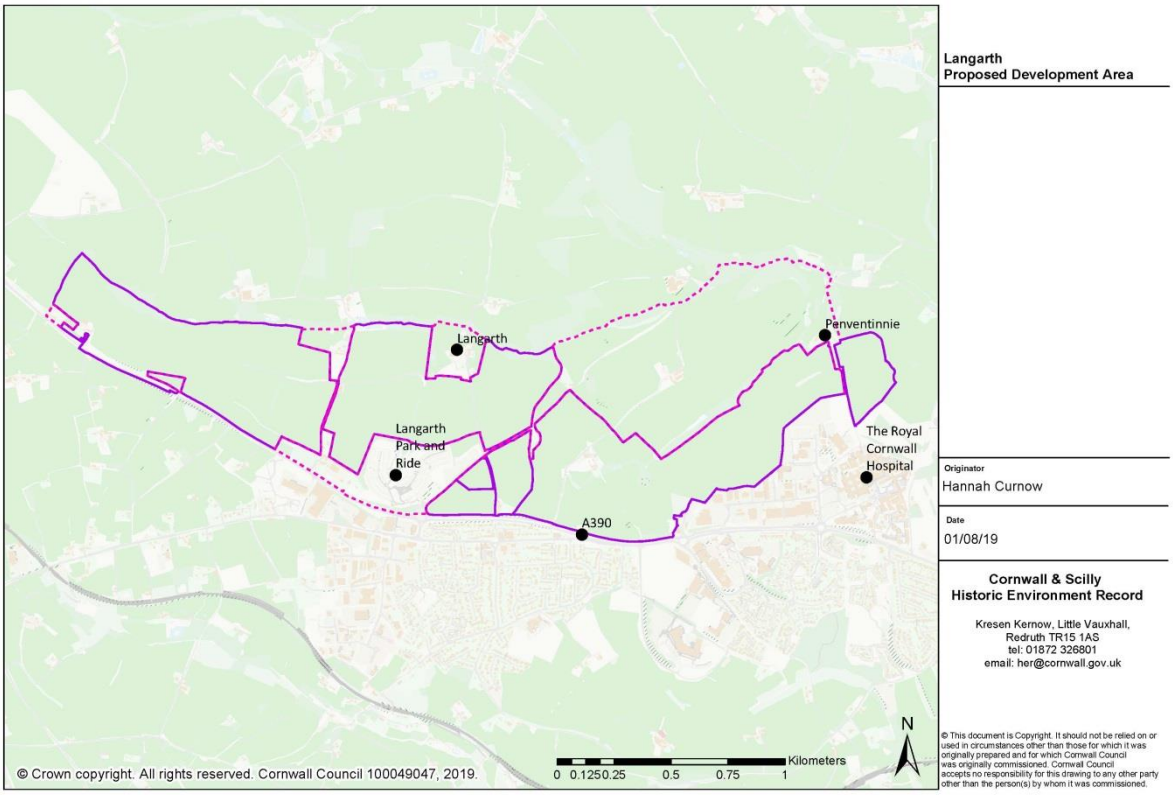
competitive (alternative commercial activity) and diluting (growing the Truro conurbation and affecting its character as an unusual small city).

How consideration of **Location** can influence the future place at Langarth

The design of the new development is expected to contain variety in density and intensity that might be expected to respond to the nature and character of the places it adjoins – the very quiet rural landscape to the north, the busy A390 road to the south and the already urban to the east and south.

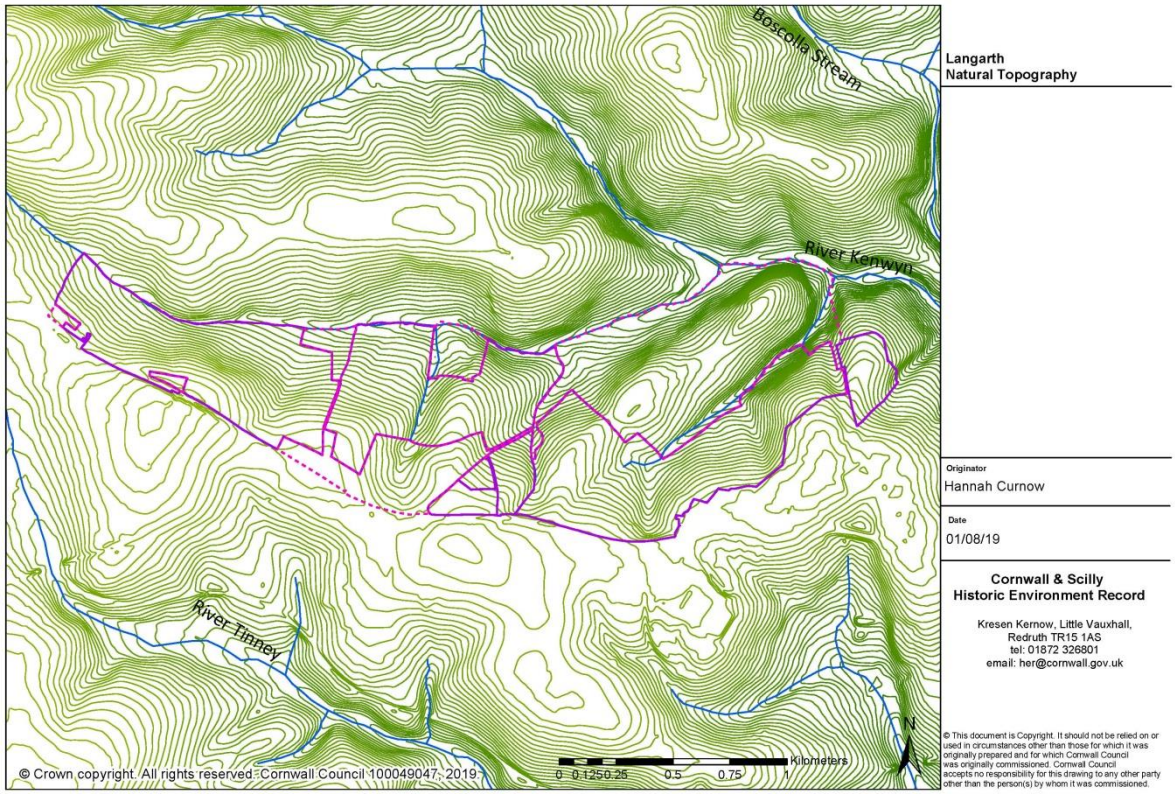
It will reflect the inherited landscape it contains, including existing settlements, valued habitat (including trees), etc, all expanded upon in the following sub-sections, and the features it is expected will be created within the development, including the proposed distributor road that will thread through most of its length and local activity centres (stadium, shops, school, etc).

In terms of **Local Distinctiveness**, the development should note that existing settlements in Cornwall of the scale envisaged at Langarth contain considerable variety usually expressed in clearly defined sub-areas that relate to each other in cohesive ways, ensuring that each contributes to a coherent whole, rather than spreading or sprawling incoherently. Where appropriate, the following subsections bear this distinctively Cornish characteristic of urban settlement in mind.



3 The place – natural topography

Landform in the study area was established when rivers cut down through a gently undulating plateau at a period when sea levels were much lower than today, before the seaward ends of those deepened valleys were flooded by the rising sea-level to become the rias of the Fal and Truro Rivers. Periglacial conditions during the Ice Ages smoothened or rounded the several ridges that are a consequent feature of the landscape here. The study area is largely the northern side of the long ridge between the valleys of the southern tributary of the Kenwyn River to the north and the Calenick River to the south. Tributaries of the Kenwyn created short coombes either side of Langarth and a longer one runs north-east from near Willow Green to create a deep valley separating Penventinnie from Governs, a relatively modern farm on the back of a narrow ridge that peaks just short of its NE end where a later prehistoric 'round' (a circular enclosed hamlet with mature trees on its bank) on the high eastern slopes forms a prominent local land-mark.



The underlying geology in the study area is Devonian sedimentary rocks, sandstones and slates, laid down when the area that is now Cornwall lay beneath a tropical sea and was a little to the south of the equator. Quartz and mineralisation intruded into these rocks –lead was mined in the high Victorian period and silver may have also been worked at an earlier period. There are narrow strips of alluvium in the valley bottoms.

This geology supports slowly permeable seasonally waterlogged fine loamy soils on the ridge along which the A390 road runs (the Sportsmans Series of soils) and better drained fine loamy and silty soils (of the Denbigh Series) on the slopes to the north,

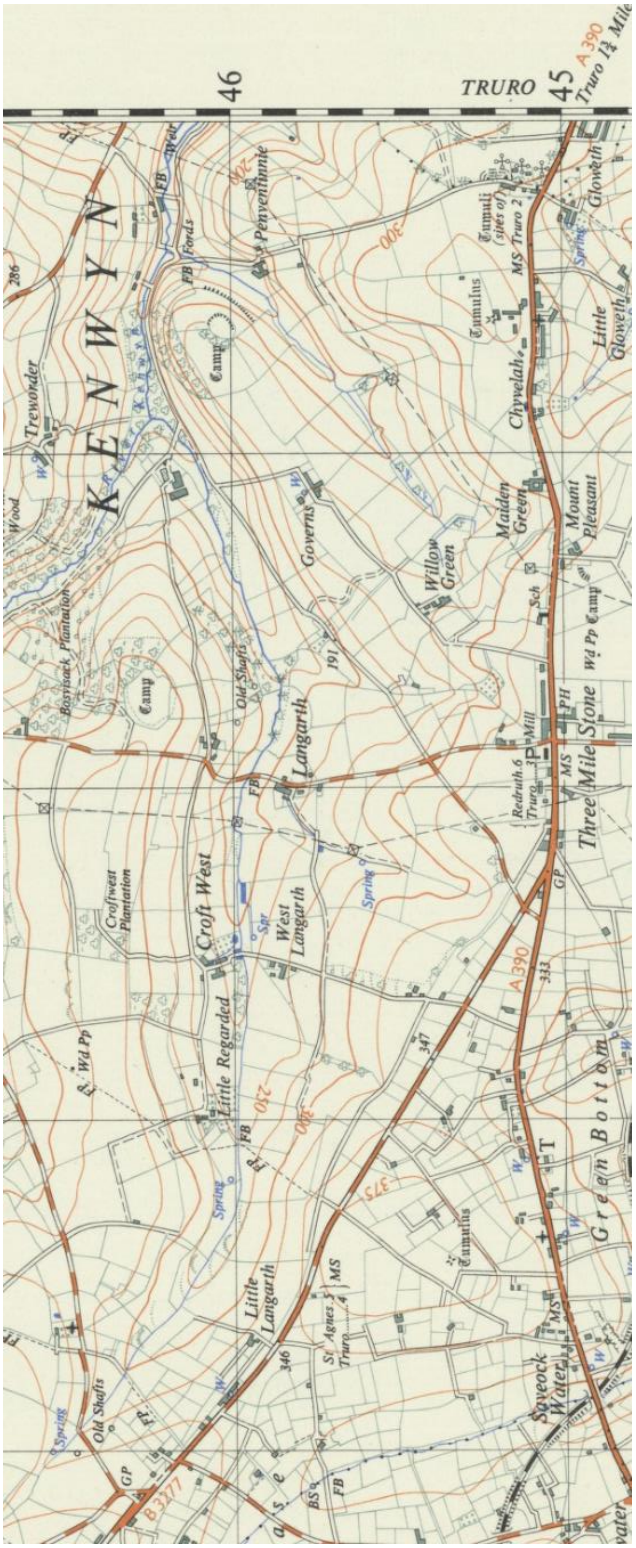
from Langarth to Penventinnie, soils that are well-suited to dairying, cereals and vegetables (potatoes and broccoli).

Values in the natural topography of the Langarth area

Apart from the steep slopes around the NE end of the Governs ridge, the topography of the Langarth area is modest, and fairly typical of inland west Cornwall away from the granite. While it is not outstanding, it is full of interest and the landforms contribute significantly to the division of the Langarth area into numerous clearly defined parts, each with its own aspect and character.

How consideration of Natural Topography can influence the future place at Langarth

- As noted, the topography breaks the area into natural parts, which should be respected and responded to: coombes, ridges and slopes and the lines of rivers, streams and existing routeways (see below). These have been taken into account by past decision makers (like those who carved farmland and woodland from the land and those who established the lines of the routeways) and should also contribute significantly to the creation of discrete areas in the proposed development.
- Respecting the topography would include responding to contours rather than over-riding them; either following or climbing perpendicular to them as in traditional Cornish responses when terraces and stippy-stappy housing styles were employed (terraces as in Pauls Row, Truro, Trefusis, Clinton and Albany Roads, Redruth and all other towns in Cornwall, and stepped housing as in Harrison Terrace Truro and Stippy Stappy in St Agnes).
- Such responses to the sloping topography would be one of the most basic ways that the new development would contribute positively to drawing from and reinforcing **Cornish and more local Distinctiveness**.



The place two generations ago, in 1960, showing main settlements. Scattering of medieval hamlets and denser pattern of later smallholdings, plus the beginnings of highway-side development. Contours show the ridge, valley and side-coombes. The main road west from Truro runs towards Chacewater, not St Agnes. Treliske hospital is on the drawing board not on the ground at this time.

3 The place – landscape

Landscape, according to the definition in the European Landscape Convention, to which the UK is a signatory, is ‘an area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors’ (Council of Europe 2000). To guide planning and management, landscape is often subject to rigorous assessment, using the technique Landscape Character Assessment, following practices that in England and Cornwall are overseen by Natural England and the Natural Environment service in Cornwall Council.

In terms of existing landscape character assessment, there are three layers or granularities of characterisation: national, Cornwall-wide and local.

National Character Area

The whole of Langarth falls within National Character Area 152, Cornish Killas, a large area that includes all of lowland Cornwall from the Tamar to West Penwith and the Lizard, the granite outcrops of Bodmin Moor, Hensbarrow and Carnmenellis excepted. It contains ‘gently rolling scenery’ with largely medieval field patterns and a ‘rich variety of historical assets’ that contribute to the ‘unique historical and cultural identity’ of Cornwall. ‘The plateau is cut by a complex pattern of deep valleys leading to richly varied coastlines.’ (NCA 152 Profile). Key characteristics most relevant to the study area include the following.

- ‘An undulating shillet (shale) plateau, with open vistas and a characteristic network of stone-faced earthen banks (Cornish hedgebanks), many enclosing fields in use since medieval times. From higher ground there are long views across a rather uniform landscape of mixed farming, with small villages and market towns.’
- ‘Renewable energy structures, such as wind and solar farms, which are a recent addition to the landscape.’
- ‘Broadleaved wooded valleys, dominated by internationally important western oak woodland habitat, which dissect the plateau and lead to the south coast.’
- ‘Field patterns vary widely, from long narrow strips made from earlier open fields around hamlets, to the intricate, regular patterns around mining communities, and the rectilinear pattern of 19th-century and earlier enclosure of the once-extensive areas of rough ground. The field pattern is defined by the Cornish hedgebanks, which change in character reflecting the landscape: they vary from almost bare granite faces to being completely covered in shrubs, herbs and, in some cases, mature trees, which sometimes join over the top of lanes to form tunnels of greenery.’
- ‘There are scattered farmsteads and hamlets, with the buildings generally of local stone and granite, often whitewashed and with slate roofs. Recent farmsteads are larger and more prominent, and tend to be on the more marginal, recently enclosed lands. Post-Victorian buildings characterise the recent expansion of many settlements such as Liskeard and Camborne, and these tend to be constructed using modern materials to the exclusion of vernacular styles. Planned villages are few, but market towns, with foursquare

granite and slate churches surrounded by clusters of buildings, are common.' (NCA 152 Profile)

Cornwall Landscape Character Assessment

The National Character Area is rather too broad-brush to reflect the subtlety of the Langarth area, but the 2008 Cornwall Landscape Character Assessment divides it into two parts, the higher land to the south and west being within the Cornwall Landscape Character Area 11 ('Redruth, Camborne and Gwennap') and the northern and eastern parts, containing the River Kenwyn and its tributaries, within LCA 13 ('Fal ria, Truro and Falmouth').

Selected extracts from the LCA descriptions follow.

LCA 11 Redruth, Camborne and Gwennap

'A small-scale rolling landscape with underlying slates and siltstones…. Small irregular fields of anciently enclosed land predominate in more sheltered valleys and hillsides with the often rather larger, straightsided fields of recently enclosed land on more exposed, marginal ground, containing both improved and rough pasture. Woodland occurs in semi-natural form in the valley floors and as mixed plantations on the upper valley sides.'

'Much of the farmed land is improved grassland/pasture interspersed with arable and rough grazing, found throughout the area.'

'Settlements such as Threemilestone, Blackwater, Mount Hawke, Playing Place and Carnon Downs are now modern dormitory suburbs of Truro.'

This LCA coincides with the still finer-grained mapping of Landscape Description Unit 416, which notes the presence of hard rock plateaux, shallow soils, small farms and settled pastures. Its description also drew from the 1994 Cornwall Historic Landscape Characterisation, and the following proportions of HLC Types are found in the whole LDU (which also extends further west from the Langarth area).

Post-medieval Farmland	63%
Medieval Farmland	18%
Military	6%
20th century settlement	4%
Rough Ground	3%
Industrial – Disused	1%
Plantation/Scrub	1%

LCA 13 Fal ria, Truro and Falmouth

'A river landscape of low rounded hills divided by an intricate system of small twisting valleys that drain into the vast ria system at the heart of the area. On the ridges between the valleys there is a variable land use of forestry and mixed farmland of

both arable and pastoral, with extensive arable land use creating an impression of a rich and productive landscape. The wooded valleys feel enclosed, especially in the upper river reaches.'

'Farmland is a mix of pasture and arable with some areas of upland rough ground with a small field pattern of anciently enclosed land with more regular larger fields indicating areas of more recent enclosure. Fields are bounded by Cornish Hedges with extensive tree cover on these boundaries, adding to the wooded feel.'

'Most of the undeveloped ridges between the river valleys are predominantly Anciently Enclosed Land of small fields with sinuous boundaries with early medieval farming settlements scattered through them, many with names prefixed by *tre*. There are a few areas of more recent enclosure of former heath and rough ground with a larger scale pattern reinforced by rectilinear fields with straight boundaries. The prominent tree-lined boundaries add to the sense of a wooded area. Some Cornish hedges have visible stone facing.'

'Mainly shallow hard rock soils over hard rock of the middle and undifferentiated Devonian periods with slates, greywackes and siltstones giving rise to well-drained fine loamy soils.'

This LCA coincides with the still finer-grained mapping of Landscape Description Unit 402, which notes the presence of hard rock slopes and ridges, shallow soils, small farms and settled wooded pastures. Its description also drew from the 1994 Cornwall Historic Landscape Characterisation, and the following proportions of HLC Types are found in the whole LDU (which also extends further west from the Langarth area).

Medieval Farmland	53%
Post-medieval Farmland	31%
Plantation/Scrub	5%
20th century settlement	3%
Rough Ground	1%

The contrast with the ridge and land to the west is most marked in their proportions of medieval and post-medieval farmland.

How consideration of landscape can influence the future place at Langarth

Key attributes of the landscape of Langarth as assessed are 'small-scale rolling landscape' with 'open vistas', a 'network of stone-faced earthen banks', 'broadleaved wooded valleys', 'scattered farmsteads and hamlets' in ancient farmland, and 'straight-sided fields of recently enclosed land on more exposed, marginal ground', divided 'by an intricate system of small twisting valleys', 'a mixture of pasture and arable' land use.

Aspects to bear in mind when planning a future place at Langarth.

- Mixtures of land uses and consequent character
- Intricate networks on lower slopes
- Trees on lower slopes
- Open vistas from higher ground
- Straighter lines on higher ground

All of these can be drawn upon in master planning and more detailed design of the proposed new place.

- They reinforce the desirability of creating a coherent pattern of discrete sub-areas.
- Suggest that patterns on the lower slopes should be intricate with sinuous lines while those on the higher ground should be more open and use straighter lines, often perfectly straight ones.
- Trees should not be exclusively on the lower slopes, but the overall pattern should leave more trees, copses and woods lower down and fewer higher up.
- Following these broad principles would help the development fit in with Cornwall-wide and more local patterns and so help it contribute to **Local Distinctiveness**.

5 The place – routeways to, through and within

The earliest surviving clear maps of routeways in the study area are from the early modern period (18th and 19th century). They show a hierarchy of routeways that include highways running between coasts and towns, by-ways between villages, lanes to farms, and tracks to fields. In addition there were footpaths that allowed workers, especially miners, to walk to work.

Highways

Routeways change, sometimes substantially, to meet economic and other needs. Today the A390 from Truro to Chiverton Cross is so dominantly busy and noisy that it is easy to forget that until as late as 1975 the principal main road here ran from Truro to Redruth via Chacewater, with Threemilestone being where the then relatively minor B3277 from St Agnes joined it. That B3277 south of the A30 only became the A390 to relieve Chacewater and Scorrier of the west-bound Truro traffic when the Redruth and Camborne by-pass on the A30 was built in 1975. The new A390 was also run a short distance north of the old road to serve as a by-pass for Threemilestone. A stretch of the old main road now survives within Threemilestone village as Chyvelah Road.

While routeways can change dramatically they also persist in the landscape, usually because they depend on making for particular destinations (like towns, harbours) and on crossing obstacles (notably rivers) by long-established fording or bridging points. So it can be noted that the Highertown road from Truro to Redruth via Chacewater and Scorrier was in place by 1699 when mapped by Joel Gascoyne, as was the road from Bissoe to Marazanvose that included the stretch running from what is now Threemilestone to Langarth (then called Langueth). Threemilestone was not named then, presumably because milestones were not set up until at least as late as the Truro Turnpike Trust was established in January 1754.

The Highertown road was secondary to an earlier road from Truro and Kenwyn to Redruth which rose more steadily through New Mills and Treworder Mill (and was thus easier for wagons, and for fast riders, the messengers of the medieval period).

In 1748, Thomas Martyn made Cornwall's first detailed and reliable map of roads and settlements. He showed the road from Three Burrows to what is now Threemilestone as open-sided, not hedged in, and towards the eastern edge of a large area of open ground, later to be called Polstraires Down (1840 Tithe Map). As noted, this road joined the Truro-Chacewater road at what is now Threemilestone. Both these roads can be regarded as early, the one being the most direct link between two medieval towns, Truro and Redruth, albeit requiring a steep pull out of Truro to reach the ridgeway, the other another ridgeway road crossing an area of rough ground from the north coast at St Agnes and attached to the Truro road, which took travellers to the sea at tidal Truro. The way that roads (and early parish boundaries that follow them) used groups of Bronze Age barrows as landmarks along these ridges may indicate an especially early date for the ridgeways, perhaps prehistoric. Later prehistoric people also established settlements on or close to some of these long-distance routeways in the vicinity of Higher Besore and Gloweth.

Shortly before the ridgeway road from Three Burrows reached what is now Threemilestone there was a turning off to the left, or east, in 1748; this was the hedged road to Treworder Mill, the older Truro-Redruth road which would have originally continued across Saveock Downs to the south-west on its way to Chacewater. It passed through two hamlets (not named in 1748) to the north of three farmsteads, again not named in 1748, but one of which was named Venton Green by 1772 and the other two Maiden Green and Willow Green by 1841. This road to Treworder Mill crossed the road to Langarth at what appears to have been an ancient crossroads.

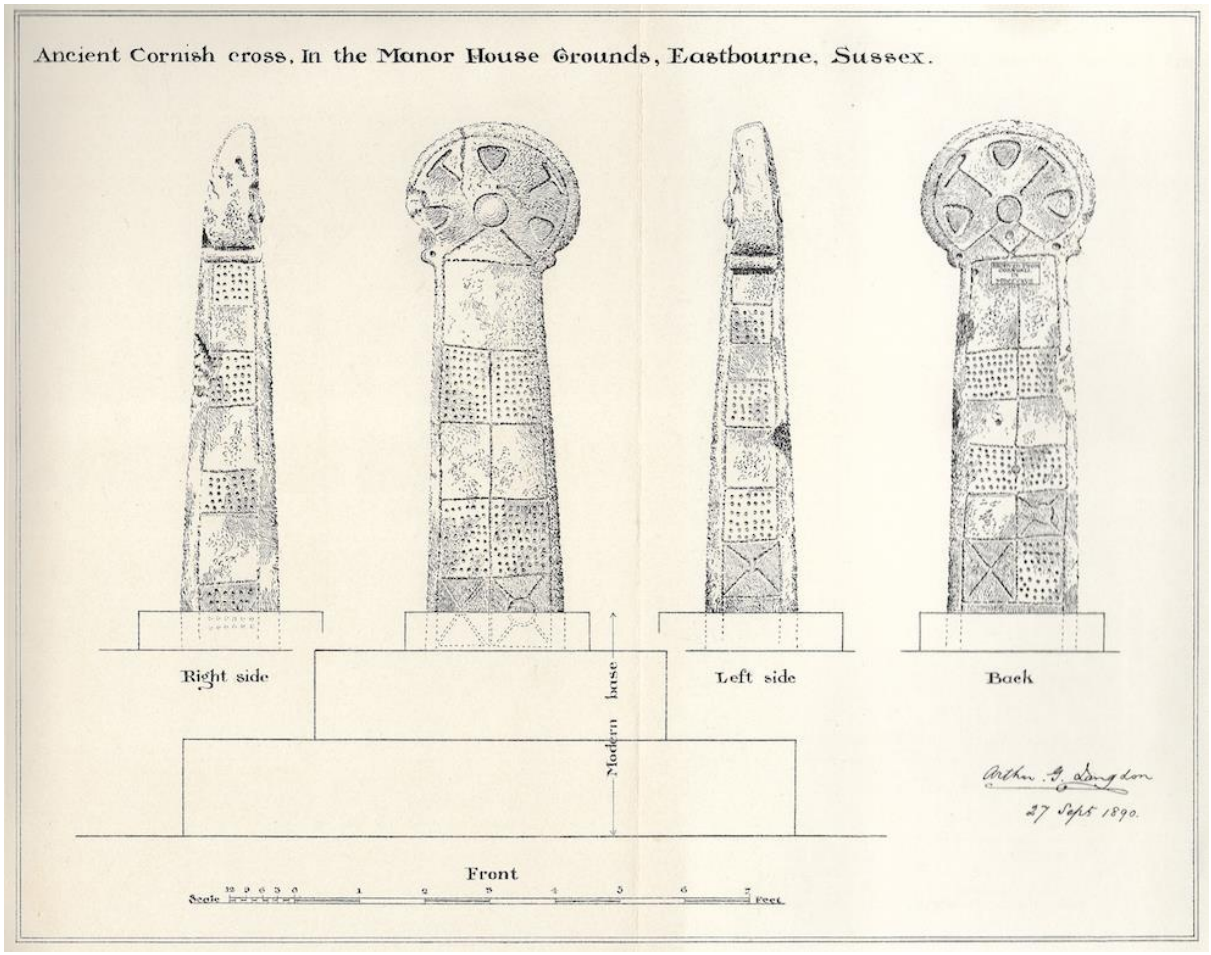
The field immediately to the SW of this crossroads was called Cross Close in 1841 (TA 3299) and it has been suggested that here, where the two ancient ways crossed, is the most likely original position of a large ornamented Cornish cross (see Langdon 1896, 303; Preston-Jones and Okasaha 2013). This beautiful stone cross, made of a grey elvan, was taken by the Cornish historian Davies Giddy (alias Davies Gilbert) to his home in Eastbourne, Sussex, in 1817. He noted, 'I had observed a cross near Truro, on the road to Redruth, degraded to the situation of a gatepost, and for many years I thought of rescuing it and removing it…'. He was later asked by the Rev Canon Hockin why he had done such a thing and replied 'that "it was in order to show the poor, ignorant folk there [Eastbourne] that there was something bigger in the world than a flint!", "and thus", adds the Canon, " are we robbed!"' (Langdon 1896, 303).

In 1922 the cross was moved from the manor-house where Gilbert Davies lived to the churchyard of St Mary the Virgin in Eastbourne, where it still stands (Langdon 2005, 12), now partly obscured by a large notice board.

The cross is 8 feet 2 inches (2.31m) high and has a slightly oval head with an unusual design on each face, a form of St Andrew cross: circular central boss on the front face, with three sub-triangular shapes echoing the perforation of holed crosses. The two higher spaces between these contain 'T' symbols, possibly Tau crosses. On the rear (where the boss is replaced by an incised circle), the lowest space between triangles contains a pair of lines forming a right angle. The shaft has several rectangular panels (defined by incised lines) on each face and on each side. Some have been left plain, but several are filed with lines of small holes, as on shortbread, and five have diagonal crosses, two with incised circles at their centres, all presumably symbolic patterns. The use of incised and dotted decoration suggest an early post-Conquest date, later 11th century (Preston-Jones and Okasha 2013, 158).

The cross is similar to the Penzance Market Cross (at Penlee House, Pz) and St Piran's Cross on Penhale Sands at Perranazabuloe, both iconic monuments filled with great meaning for Cornish people, hence, presumably, Davies Gilbert's desire to rescue this third one from use as a gatepost in 1817. While the other two crosses are Scheduled Monuments, the Eastbourne Cross does not have statutory protection.

The field system of Langarth was laid out in stages, successive curving perimeters rising up the slope from the hamlet (see below). When first erected the cross stood tall at a road crossing in open country and would have been a significant local land mark, as St Piran's Cross still is.



The Langarth cross, as drawn by AG Langdon (1896, 304a).

Penzance market Cross (left; copyright Cornwall Council) and St Piran's Cross, Perranzabuloe (copyright Gary Rogers).

The crossroads at which the 'Eastbourne Cross' probably originally stood. The field called Cross Close is at the far side of the crossroads and the cross may well have stood on the verge that now has a low road sign on it.

To the east of where Threemilestone now is, the main Truro road in 1748 passed through fields and so was hedged in, except where it opened at a small common (or green) at Gloweth from which a hedged lane ran through fields to Penventinue.

The several Truro turnpike roads established in 1754 included that which ran west from Truro 'to Redruth and thence to Camborne Church town' (Journal House of Commons), but there was no mention then of the spur to St Agnes via Three Burrows. However this had certainly been created by 21st March 1828 when an Act was passed for making, repairing, and improving certain Roads leading to and from Truro in the County of Cornwall, including: 'the Turnpike Road leading from the present Third Mile Stone on the last-mentioned Road to a Place called the *Three Burrows,* in the said Parish of *Kenwyn,* and from the *Three Burrows* aforesaid to *Saint Agnes Almshouse*.' The milestones which include the Three Miles Stone and another at four miles on the road to St Agnes are shown on a map of 1809 (OS 2-inch drawing) which suggests that this stretch had become a turnpike before then.

By-ways, lanes, tracks and pathways

The 1809 OS 2-inch drawing (of the Redruth district) shows side lanes leading N from the main St Agnes road to the Four Burrows Hunt Kennels and to the farm later known as West Langarth (and across the Kenwyn River's tributary to Croft West). A contour-following lane linking West Langarth to the Langarth lane is also shown. A complex of short lanes was shown in the area around the settlements now called Willow Green and Maiden Green, which were not then named, though a third was,

as Ventongreen. These lanes linked to the Treworder Mill road which curved around the base of the long Governs ridge to ‘Pennytinny’ (now Penventinnie). Another lane then ran back from Pennytinny to join the ridgeway just west of ‘Chywhela’ (now Chyvelah).

Lane leading west into fields of West Langarth. Width designed to accommodate movement of flocks and herds; metalled surface for waggons and wains brining in grain and hay crops.

The 1840 Kenwyn Tithe Map shows pretty much the same arrangements, though in greater detail, including indicating where lanes where widened in places to help farmers manage the movement of their livestock. Later 19th and 20th century Ordnance Survey maps show a few additions, like the lane to the new farm at Governs and a footpath from Saveock Water to Little Regarded that crossed the western fields of West Langarth, and a few subtractions, like the dismantling of the relatively late back lane from Chyvelah to Penventinnie.

The lanes to farms are now a mix of adopted and thus tarmacked roads (to Langarth and Penventinnie) and others that are roughly metalled tracks (to West Langarth, Governs and Willow Green). Tracks to fields are often muddy passages, though some have traces of metalling.

How Routeways can influence the future place at Langarth

The highways between coasts and towns, by-ways between villages, lanes to farms, and tracks to fields and the footpaths used by miners have long been a primary means of creating the experience that people have enjoyed of the Langarth landscape. The shapes of the land, the tree cover and more open places, the

buildings and long views, are mainly seen when moving along roads in vehicles or on foot, bicycle and horseback along them and along the tracks and paths. These views have been appreciated for a long time: the ridgeway appears to have prehistoric origins, the byways are largely medieval and the tracks between smallholdings are largely post-medieval.

If we wish for continuity of some of the experience, and much of the affection for and valuing of Langarth the place as it develops we should attempt to retain as much as possible of the existing routeway pattern. This would also contribute to retaining **Local Distinctiveness**.

In terms of creating new routeways, these may draw from the character of the existing ones and again contribute to the creation of **locally distinctive** places. Hedged, gently sinuous ones on the lower slopes, with many trees on the built Cornish hedges. Straighter on the higher slopes, with more sporadic trees on the built Cornish hedges.

There are few templates in the existing rural landscape to guide the forms of urban streets, but these may be determined by an approach to building with the local topography that would have terraces running along contours and stepping of structures climbing across them (see above); the result would tend towards straight-ish cross contour streets and curving contour-following ones. Doing this would again contribute to creating a **locally distinctive** place.

Regarding the Eastbourne Cross, it seems most likely that this originally stood to the SW of the crossroads to the S of Langarth farm, very close to the line of the proposed Distributor Road. It may be suggested that the substantial works proposed for the Langarth area, a moment of great change, form a context for discussions with the church in Eastbourne about returning the cross to Cornwall, and specifically to a place close to where it was first erected, re-establishing it as a landmark, and contributing directly relevant heritage and a **symbol of Cornishness** and quality to this part of Cornwall. The cross is of a form that can be regarded as Particular to Cornmwall and so forms one of the few instances at Langarth of the **Particular or Peculiar form of Cornish Distinctiveness**.

6 The place – in its settlements and field patterns

Some of the settlements from which fields are and were worked are excluded from the proposed development (Langarth, Penventinnie, Governs and West Langarth), but as they immediately affected the historic landscape and the several places within it, they are touched on as relevant background to this summary of the heritage of settlement and farming at Langarth.

There are five main periods of settlement (excluding any prehistoric occupation, for which see archaeological remains, below).

1. Medieval farming hamlets:
    - Langarth
    - Penventinnie
2. Post-medieval smallholdings, pre-1748:
    - Venton Green, Willow Green and Maiden Green, plus two more that were shown as hamlets on the New Mills road in 1748, the western of which was also known as Venton Green by 1772 (ICS place-names index). All may have originally been associated with mining in this area (and the two hamlet sites are outside the proposed development area).
3. Late eighteenth and early nineteenth century settlements:
    - West Langarth, a substantial farm cut out of the main Langarth field system sometime between the making of the 1748 and 1809 maps
    - Kennels of the Four Burrows Hunt, which were imposed on one of the fields in the western extension of Langarth
    - A smallholding immediately west of Threemilestone, possibly known as Stickler's Corner, created between 1809 and 1840.
4. Later nineteenth century smallholdings, mainly alongside the ridgeway road, including:
    - East Langarth Farm, near the southern end of the Langarth road
    - Governs is outside the study area but was established by 1878 (OS Survey)
    - Two at the extreme western end now known as The Ramblers and West Longarth Farm (the latter previously known as Little Langarth, 1907 OS),
    - One near the southern end of the West Langarth lane (now known as Rosedene Farm)
    - Two buildings still standing, now embedded within the housing estate south of the modern A390 road, still called Higher Langarth Farm
5. Twentieth century settlements
    - West Langarth Bungalow, a short distance north of Rosedene Farm
    - Silverdene, a bungalow just to the east of the Park and Ride.

Medieval farming hamlets

Langarth is a shrunken medieval hamlet. It was once a tenement of Idless manor, which was held in 1086 from Robert Count of Mortain by Algar (Cornwall Domesday Book; Thorn and Thorn 1979, 5,15,6). The extent of its land within the perimeter

curving boundary and those later medieval fields attached to its south-east and west is around 260 acres, much too great an area to have been worked as a single farm in the medieval period; it was instead a farming hamlet. The 'reversed-J' line taken by some of the field boundaries, especially in the western extension, also indicates that these were derived from open strip fields, worked in common by the several households in such a hamlet. The open field system would have been organised into around ten or a dozen 'cropping units' containing the strip fields; several of these cropping units can still be picked out in the modern field pattern.

Field boundary at Langarth with the typical 'reversed-J' line that indicates it was ploughed within strips as part of an open field system worked communally by the several farmsteads in Langarth hamlet.

Langarth hamlet on the lower crest of the valley of the tributary of the Kenwyn River, with its medieval fields with Cornish hedges spreading into the gentle coombes on either side.

The cropping units facilitated the convertible husbandry regime that prevailed in medieval Cornish farming, probably from around the 8th century AD and continued right down to the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Although it lasted for over a thousand years, the cessation of convertible husbandry a century or more ago means that relatively few people are now aware of the ways it operated.

Gentle topography enclosed in the medieval field system of Langarth. Mature trees on sinuous hedges. Several fields have been combined to create this large one.

In convertible husbandry almost all fields would have been ‘arable’, literally cultivable. The exceptions would have been the orchards, and the meadows and moors, both of which were permanent pasture used for nursing young and sick animals and for making the best hay. In the arable fields a long and slow rotation was operated in which each year one of the cropping units would be prepared for cultivation through the process called ‘beat-burning’ in which the matted turf that had developed during the period of 7, 8 or 9 years of being under grass was stripped off with iron-edged tools: beat-axes, breast-spades and breast-ploughs and finally, in the modern period, with velling ploughs. The turves were dried and then burnt, the ashes mixed with other field dressing (dung, sea sand, etc) and spread over the land prior to ploughing. Just 2 or 3 years of cropping (barley, wheat, oats, pillas and rye in Cornwall) were succeeded by the sowing of grass seed and the resumption of the long grassland part of the cycle (Herring 2006).

The effect of this regime was to have roughly three-quarters of the ‘arable’ land under grass at any one time, with around two-thirds of the remaining quarter being under crops and the final third being subjected to the beat-burning process described above. In terms of biodiversity, the long period of grassland allowed a mix of herbs and flowers to develop and contribute to the soil’s seed bank. Further biodiversity was concentrated in the stock-proof Cornish hedges (earth banks with built stone faces) that surrounded the cropping units (Herring 2006).

The earliest known reference to Langarth is from 1327, but it is possible that the settlement has earlier origins. The origin of strip fields in Cornwall appears to be pre-Norman (ibid).

The present-day settlement at Langarth still has something of the character of a hamlet and includes most of the components of a typical Cornish shrunken hamlet: a large Victorian farmhouse, a lesser house, probably originally farm labourer's accommodation, a modern bungalow, and several farm buildings converted to domestic and small business use. There are also modern covered yards set further back from the road on its western side and a small camping and caravanning site to the south-west.

View from N towards the large fields of West Langarth, originally part of a westward extension of the main Langarth field systems. Each would have contained several strips running down the slope in the medieval period.

Quartzy local stones used in the face of a Cornish hedge in the field system at Langarth.

Meadows beside the tributary of the Kenwyn River to the west of West Langarth, part of the original Langarth field system.

Penventinnie

Another shrunken hamlet, much of whose land falls outside the study area, some of it overlain by Treliske hospital and the adjacent retail park. Another portion of the land was reworked into the later 19th century farm of Governs and at the far south-west a group of post-medieval smallholdings (Venton Green, Willow Green and Maiden Green) were cut out of either Penventinnie's farmland or more likely from an area of rough ground between it and Langarth. Those were in place by 1748 (Martyn's Map).

Penventinnie retains something of the feel of a hamlet, containing two or three homes, though some of these appear to be conversions of nineteenth century barns and other farm buildings. The irregular arrangements of gardens and yards either side of the kinking Penventinnie Lane is similar to those found in medieval hamlets in Cornwall.

Sometime before 1840 (Tithe Map) the lands of Penventinnie were fragmented, broken into numerous small groups of fields, many of these worked from other farms beyond Penventinnie. This process is discussed below, under post-medieval smallholdings. A consequence of these changes and superimpositions is that the medieval fields at Penventinnie are less clearly defined than those at Langarth, but

traces of cropping units do survive, some defined by the lines taken by lanes and tracks that passed between them.

Post-medieval smallholdings, pre-1748

The cluster of smallholdings in a roughly triangular area between Langarth and Penventinnie is similar to many others on the margins of the main post-medieval mining area of Cornwall, centred on Redruth and Camborne. (There is an extensive complex of such smallholdings in the area of Penstraze to the SW of the study area.) Holdings are either around 6 or 7 acres with 5 or 6 roughly rectangular fields, each of around an acre in extent, as in the northern Venton Green and Maiden Green, or are around twice that size, 14 or 15 acres and with 10 to 12 fields, as at Willow Green and the southern Venton Green. Where needed, short hedged lanes ran to more distant fields.

Farmsteads in such smallholdings in this part of Cornwall typically included simple dwellings, called cottages in 1840 (Tithe Apportionment) at both Venton Greens and at Willow Green, 1 or 2 farm buildings, the tiny two-storeyed barns having a small granary over cow housing, plus a small stable or second cow-house and a pighouse. A few smallholdings included an open-sided implement shed. There were 2 or 3 small enclosures in the farmstead: a mowhay – for ricks of hay, crops, furze (domestic fuel) and ferns (for animal bedding) – is mentioned at both Venton Greens and Maiden Green, a garden at both Venton Greens and Willow Green, an orchard (apple trees for cider) at Maiden Green, Willow Green and the two Venton Greens.

The fields of the four smallholdings were mainly recorded as ‘arable’ in 1840, and would still have been subjected to a form of convertible husbandry, as described above (medieval hamlets), hence the need to have several fields rather than just one or two larger ones. Each smallholding also had one or more crofts, enclosed areas of rough grazing, permanent pasture and sources of furze for fuel and ferns for bedding. And each also had at least one meadow, permanent good pasture, on which dung from the cow houses and stable would have been spread, and from which hay was saved each year. Here the calves, lambs and foals and poorly animals would also have been turned out to enjoy the smallholding’s best grass.

So these really were miniature farms, with all the elements that the full-scale farms had. The occupants would, however, have struggled to make a living from their land and it should be expected that most were part-time farmers who found employment in mines, in other industries, and in Truro.

Maiden Green has made way for a couple of modern fast-food outlets and their car parking. Willow Green was still occupied until very recently with small commercial or workshop units in modern buildings. A Victorian stone barn has been roofless for some time, and the dwelling is set back from the lane. The northern Venton Green has shrunk to a single dwelling and outbuilding (and has been renamed Willow Green Cottage) and is no longer farmed, and the southern Venton Green was deserted before the end of the nineteenth century and is now overgrown; it is possible that ruins may survive in the dense vegetation here.

View across the area of post-medieval smallholdings on the higher slopes, west of Willow Green. Fields are small, straight-sided and form a dense regular pattern. They are old enough (2-300 years) to have mature trees, mainly oak and willows, along their tops.

Late eighteenth and early nineteenth century settlements

At some date before 1809 (OS two-inch drawing) a small settlement containing the kennels of the Four Burrows Hunt was inserted into one of the fields in the western extension of Langarth, at the head of a funnelled lane that presumably regularly saw the pack of hounds head off onto the rough ground of the ridge at the start of their hunts for foxes and hares. The Hunt was established in 1780 with 15 pairs of hounds by Mr Turner MP of Truro and hunted over a large part of western Cornwall, from Bodmin to the Lizard.

A cluster of five buildings was shown on the 1840 Tithe Map, along with yards, and they were recorded as part of the holding owned jointly by Earl Falmouth and Samuel Molesworth and occupied by Charles Gould of West Langarth. The buildings and yards had been entirely removed by the time the 1st edition OS 1:2500 map was surveyed in 1877. The Hunt had passed to the Williams family in 1854 and it may be that the kennels were moved away shortly after; they are currently near Vogue in St Day.

A short distance to the east of the kennels is West Langarth, a farm that was established in the western fields of the old Langarth tenement some time between 1748 and 1809, although it was not named on the 1809 map nor on the 1840 Tithe Map. It was first named West Langarth on a map in 1879 (OS 1:2500).

It lies just within the western edge of the original Langarth field system, at the foot of a fairly broad and roughly metalled lane that climbs through the fields to the ridge and Polstraires Downs but does not link to the St Agnes and Truro road, suggesting that its principal function was to take livestock from West Langarth (and from Croft West and Little Regarded farms to the north of the river) to the rough grazings on the downs.

The 1879 OS map shows this farmstead having been reduced to a single complex of buildings, those shown on the east side of the road in 1840 had been demolished. In 1879 there was a courtyard farmstead with buildings on three sides which included a large two-storeyed barn in the eastern half of the central part and along the eastern side of the yard. There was an attached circular horse engine shed uphill to its south projecting into a small triangular enclosure, presumably the mowhay where ricks of corn were stacked to be brought into the first floor of the barn to be threshed using the horse-engine's power. The farmhouse was to its north, with a tiny front garden to its east and a small orchard to its north-east and a well reached by a narrow path was in the field to the east.

All these buildings (apart from the horse engine shed) still stand, the house having been extended to its rear and the barn and buildings around the courtyard having been converted from agricultural use.

A third settlement was created when a slip of land between the ridgeway road from St Agnes and the perimeter hedge of the Langarth field system was enclosed as a row of five small fields forming a smallholding occupied in 1841 by John Woolcock, who worked in the smithy a short distance to the east at the mouth of the road to Langarth. This smallholding appears to have been called Sticklers Corner. Its dwelling had become a Public House by 1879 and was still standing as recently as the 1960s but was presumably demolished when the A30 and A390 were reorganised in 1975.

Later nineteenth century smallholdings

At the extreme western end of the study area are two mid-19th century settlements now known as The Ramblers and West Longarth Farm (so spelt on the modern OS map, the latter previously known as Little Langarth; 1907 OS). Both comprised simple south-facing stone-built cottages, that at The Ramblers with end chimney stacks and brick detailing. Each had around an acre of land with small rectangular enclosures and yards; this appears to have been reorganised in more recent times. The cottage at The Ramblers still stands, but that at West Longarth appears, from aerial photos, to have either been substantially altered or replaced by a bungalow.

A tiny smallholding (now known as Rosedene Farm) of around half an acre was established between 1840 and 1879 near the southern end of the West Langarth lane. It appears to have comprised a small cottage reached by a narrow path running up the centre of a long garden. A small outhouse stood to its west. By 1907 a few more sheds had been added. There is still a dwelling here, now a bungalow, possibly incorporating elements of the original house; the site has been surrounded by modern yards and warehouses.

A pair of buildings, cottage to the west, barn to the east, were established between Sticklers Corner and the Smithy sometime between 1840 and 1879. Square enclosures to their north were an orchard and a mowhay. The settlement was divorced from its land (presumably fields to the north) when the A390 was re-routed to the north of the old road line. However, the buildings still stand, surrounded by modern housing in Threemilestone and appear to be still called Higher Langarth Farm.

A short distance to the north-east of Higher Langarth Farm is East Langarth Farm, near the southern end of the Langarth road. This too was established between 1840 and 1879 and was first named on the 1907 OS map. It is possible that it took over some of the land previously worked from Venton Green farm, which as noted above was deserted in the mid 19th century. The substantial stone-built farmhouse with hipped slate roof, brick end stacks and granite lintels, quoins and dressings, and unusual decorative pebble-dash finish, still stands, as does the principal barn to its north. Several other more modern outbuildings, used in a car-related business have been added to the east.

Governs is outside the study area but it was another new farm established between 1840 and 1879. It was a fairly grand set up with house and garden separated by a broad lane from the farm buildings which were arranged along the north and west sides of a rectangular yard to their south. A pond was established in the centre of the yard. A covered yard has replaced that but the farm buildings survive, reroofed in corrugated iron, and the house is also still occupied.

Twentieth century settlements and developments

Aside from the Langarth Park and Ride complex and the fast-food outlets on the site of Maiden Green, there are very few twentieth-century structures in the study area: West Langarth Bungalow, a short distance north of Rosedene Farm, and another called Silverdene just east of the Park and Ride on the old Redruth road.

Transitory settlements

Maps and documents tend to solidify the past, emphasising the solid and permanent, often missing the transitory and fleeting settlements that may nevertheless have contributed to a place's character.

In the Langarth study area there are a couple of notable instances of transitory settlements. In the build-up to D-Day in June 1944 American troops camped in large numbers of circular white tents strung along the side of the road that is now the A390, and within some of the fields immediately to the north. There was a semi-permanent base further east at Treliske, which by 1957 (when the first investigations prior to building the hospital were taking place) had become derelict, 'due to the masses of litter left behind on the departure of the occupants of Army and Displaced Persons' camps. The concrete platforms of fifty Nissen huts with all the accompanying paraphernalia of connecting paths, drains and service roads occupied much of the ground… Nature, trying to efface these scars, has piled great bramble brakes, eight to ten feet high, over many of the living-sites and waste places' (Dudley 1960, 14).

Remnants of similar kinds may be associated with some of the tented camps within the study area. It may be expected that few can now remember the gathering of American troops on the western edge of Truro, but many more local people must have heard stories of them, and of the movement to the embarkation points along the River Fal on those fateful days in June 1944, when Fascism was turned back by boats emanating from Cornish creeks.

Another transitory settlement was in place in 1881 when the Census Returns for Kenwyn parish recorded the occupants of four caravans at Langarth, apparently (from their position in the itinerary of the Census clerks) towards the western end of the study area, perhaps on the rough ground beside the ridgeway. These were presumably travellers, gypsies as they may then have been known, as the head of each household was recorded as a Licensed Hawker. Each caravan had a young couple (all 8 aged between 28 and 36) and each of these had a young family, a total of 17 children aged under 14. And presumably four strong horses to haul the caravans, and maybe dogs as well to guard them.

How Settlements and field patterns can influence the future place at Langarth

All types of historic settlement are substantially different from that essentially urban settlement that would be created in the proposed Langarth development, but some threads may still be drawn from them.

- Where feasible, retain and repurpose existing structures, to include within a largely new development elements of earlier fabric.
- If small clusters of dwellings are intended to form elements of any of the residential complexes, then there are two layouts in the inherited settlements described above that may influence new forms and thus help those retain some **local distinctiveness**.
    - The organic patterns of the medieval hamlets where several households, each with its own yard, garden and mowhay (stackyard), were arranged around a communal townplace. The development might include some hamlet-like clusters of dwellings, outbuildings, gardens and enclosures arranged around small communal spaces (the townplaces). These would be most appropriate on the lower slopes, in the sheltered zones where medieval settlements would have been.
    - The courtyard arrangements of farm buildings at West Langarth and Governs may influence the designs of groups of dwellings or of ancillary buildings like garages or the like. These would be most appropriate on the slightly more marginal higher slopes in the zones where later farmsteads were developed.
- Most of the study area was once worked communally, as strip-based open fields, and on the rough ground and in the woods and moors as commons.
    - A cue may be taken from this to design the new Langarth with communalism and cooperation as key aspects of it: shared spaces, shared pleasures and shared responsibilities.

- The inherited fields have been enclosed by Cornish hedges, stone-faced earth banks with vegetation along both tops and sides. Considerable character and beauty are drawn from the built structure and the plants and trees that grow on it. They also follow historically significant lines that, along with roads and trees, are among the principal features of the present landscape that can be carried forward to the new one. Retaining as many of the existing hedges as possible will help achieve several aims.
    - Achieving biodiversity net gain and environmental growth
    - **Securing distinctiveness**
- By retaining as many hedges as possible the fields will contribute to maintaining a visually and culturally interesting variety across the site by distinguishing the more sinuous, mature and more organic patterns of the larger and older fields on the lower slopes, which also have more hedge trees, from the smaller more rectilinear patterns of the younger fields on the higher ground. This too will contribute considerably to maintaining **local distinctiveness**.
- Again, cues may be taken from these patterns to have tighter smaller-scale and more rectilinear complexes in the areas of former post-medieval smallholdings, generally on the higher more exposed parts of the area, and more open, more curvilinear or sinuous complexes in the more sheltered areas of former medieval fields. Designing such patterns would be another significant means of the Langrath development contributing to **Cornish local distinctiveness**.

Pair of mature oaks, the left hand one with a bird's nest, near Willow Green.

7 The Place – known archaeological features

A number of archaeological sites have been recorded in the Langarth area, in a largely *ad hoc* fashion as researchers encountered them, although some cropmarks of below-ground remains were more systematically identified during the National Mapping Programme, the former name for the Aerial Investigation and Mapping project supported by Historic England.

There have also been several investigations of blocks of land in advance of developments along the north side of the A390 road: West Langarth; Park and Ride site; Willow Green; Maiden Green; Governs; and Treliske Medipark. Most involved geophysical survey, which identified remains of earlier enclosures and fields and some complexes that appear likely to have been associated with early settlement.

It is anticipated that detailed archaeological assessments, including geophysical survey, will be undertaken across the remainder of the Langarth area as part of the proposed development. This is because the archaeological work undertaken so far, coupled with the extent of anciently enclosed land and former rough ground (both types of historic landscape that have high archaeological potential), makes it likely that extensive significant remains exist and will require careful decision-making to either avoid or to take into account when designing change.

For ease of discussion presentation of the already known remains is organised by broad period.

Prehistoric

Numerous Bronze Age barrows are known on the ridge immediately south of the study area and include a linear group in the area now covered by Treliske Hospital, but only two have so far been recorded within the study area and neither of these appears to survive above ground level (though important remains may survive underground). One was on the N side of the main road and one near the summit of the Governs ridge.

Later prehistoric remains are largely cropmarks recorded from aerial photos or features detected on geophysical surveys. They indicate that much of the higher ground contains fragmentary below-ground remains of settlement enclosures and field systems. Geophysical survey appears to have recorded two rectangular enclosures a short way south of Penventinnie farmstead.

Archaeological work ahead of the construction of Truro College and other developments around Threemilestone have found important later prehistoric settlements, both enclosed groups of houses (as ‘rounds’, as exemplified by the well-preserved round on the ridge at Governs) and open or unenclosed hamlets of loosely clustered round houses. These have associated fields and enclosures. It should be anticipated that there is a high likelihood that similar remains will be encountered within the Langarth area where the topography and soils are slightly less marginal and so may be expected to have been settled in late prehistoric and Roman times.

Governs Round, with trees on the circular bank of a late prehistoric farming hamlet enclosed by bank and ditch.

Medieval

The Historic Environment Record has so far recorded the medieval archaeological remains in the Langarth area in only a fairly partial way. It omits the extents and detail of medieval derived field systems (apart from when fragments of these have been encountered in geophysical surveys and as cropmarks plotted as part of the National Mapping Programme) and omits the roads and trackways that linked settlements, mills, towns etc and which provide a framework for recreating medieval life in the area. Fields, roads and lanes have been introduced and briefly discussed elsewhere in this report, but their physical forms have not been recorded and interpreted.

The study area's principal medieval settlement, Langarth itself, is not yet recorded. This is a shrunken substantial medieval hamlet, first recorded in 1327, but likely to be considerably earlier in origin, on the basis of it having a strip-derived field system and being the destination of one of the two lanes that had an 11th century cross set up at their crossing.

The HER does include the other medieval hamlet in the study area, Penventinnie, first recorded in 1284 and the probable site of the great cross that now stands in a churchyard at Eastbourne in Sussex.

Post-medieval and modern

Again, the HER is partial in its coverage of the post-medieval and modern periods in the study area. The several settlements and their field systems, and the trackways

leading to and through them are not included (but are introduced in this report, above) although fragments of former boundaries have been recorded where they were identified through geophysical survey and as cropmarks through the National Mapping Programme.

The two eighteenth century milestones on the turnpike road are included, those that mark the three and four-mile distances from Truro.

Two lead mines, Penhaldarva and South Penhaldarva, on the N and S sides of the Governs ridge are also recorded. The former worked between 1855 and 1861 and there are remains of a shaft and dumps; the latter appears to have been just a trial operating between 1857and 1860. Note that a field name, Silver Close, recorded at Langarth (in 1840) may suggest that there had been earlier silver mining in the area (silver ores often being found in conjunction with lead).

The early nineteenth century smithy that stood at Stickler's Corner is recorded as is the discovery of a very early nineteenth century livery button during archaeological investigations at the Oak Tree Inn at Threemilestone.

The Chyvelah Board School designed by the famous Cornish architect Sylvanus Trevail at the end of the nineteenth century in 1898 is recorded, though this was demolished in around 1970 to make way for the A390 road.

The military camps established along the turnpike in advance of D-Day embarkations in June 1944 have been plotted from wartime aerial photographs and are included in the HER, as is the surviving WW2 building later used as a Young Farmers Club centre.

Returning to the evidence of field-names (for which see more below), there are a handful that hint at the existence of other archaeological remains, in particular Well Field to the east of West Langarth. The remainder refer to sites already known of – the 'fort' (the round) at Governs, the smithy at Stickler's Corner, the cross at the crossroads and quarries to the west of Maiden Green.

How archaeological remains can influence the future place at Langarth

There are established procedures for appraising, assessing and dealing with archaeological remains through the planning process, from EIA and pre-app to protection and mitigation.

There are no Listed Buildings or Scheduled Monuments in the study area, though the Governs round is a Scheduled Monument and its dramatic form as a ring of mature trees on a substantial earthwork has a substantial impact on the local landscape around Penventinnie. Care needs to be taken that development does not detrimentally affect its setting, which is protected through the National Planning Policy Framework, which defines setting as, 'The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of the asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.'

Historic England provide guidance on managing change within the setting of a heritage asset. https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/gpa3-setting-of-heritage-assets/

Governs Round with its ring of mature trees towards the end of the ridge (middle distance) that forms the N side of the Penventinnie valley. The site's setting should be borne carefully in mind when designing development in its vicinity.

8 The place – in its names

Most of the study area falls within the lands of two medieval settlements with Cornish names, now known as Langarth and Penventinnie, and the former open ground along the ridge way from St Agnes was called Polstraires Downs, the first word Cornish.

There are very few other Cornish names, not even in the names of fields, which are overwhelmingly in the English language, largely because most of the parcels they name were created within the last two or three hundred years, when the people working the land were using English rather than Cornish. Only Langarth (as 'Lanagarth') and Penventinue are named on the 1748 map of Cornwall by Thomas Martyn, though two hamlets and three farmhouses are shown in the area of Threemilestone, Willow Green, and Maiden Green. The 1809 Ordnance Survey 2-inch drawings name the Four Burrows Hunt Kennel, Lanagarth, Ventongreen (a smallholding a short distance east of East Langarth) and Penny tinny (= Penventinnie).

The expert on Cornish names Dr Oliver Padel, formerly of the Institute of Cornish Studies, has kindly offered his thoughts on the names of Langarth, Penventinnie and Governs, summarised here.

In addition, Akademi Kernewek, the Place Name and Signage Panel of CC has prepared a report on the names in the Langarth area, shared with the author by Sam Rogerson and Mark Trevethan. The following text draws on both of these authorities and in its discussion of the many more English place and field names includes discussion of meanings in relation to Cornish land use and agriculture.

Place-names

Langarth. The earliest record of this place is in the name of Stephen *Leñegatus* 1327 Subsidy (taxed in Kenwyn parish), next in 1365 when *Sevyek* (= Saveock), *Levengath* (so printed) and *Bargudul* (now lost) were among several properties mentioned in a fine (Cornwall Feet of Fines, no. 631). Oliver Padel considers that the name probably means 'the pool of the cat', Middle Cornish *lyn* + *an* + *gath*, mutated (following the definite article) from *cath* (fem.). Padel notes that *lyn* is often very difficult to distinguish from *leyn*, 'strip of land', even when early forms of the names are available (Padel 1985, 146 and 149), and it should be noted that the Place Name and Signage Panel have suggested that Langarth includes *leyn*.

> If the first element was *lyn* or pool, this was probably either natural or created as a watering place for livestock, rather than a millpool or reservoir. Two fish ponds were created in the valley bottom west of Langarth in the post-medieval period (referred to in the Tithe Apportionment of 1841 and shown on the 1907 OS map) and although these cannot be the pool referred to in the name, they indicate the valley's potential to support pools. An earlier pool may have been created to provide water for livestock.
>
> If the name is from *leyn*, then this would describe the long straightish southern flank of the valley containing the tributary of the Kenwyn River.

Wild cats have been largely extinct in southern Britain since the 16th century. They are largely nocturnal and live in broadleaf woodland and shrubland feeding on birds and small mammals. The steeper valley sides at Langarth may be expected to have been reasonable habitats for wild cats.

Penventinnie appears as *Ponfuntenyou*, *Pentfuntenyou* in the 1302 Assize Roll and its name means 'headsprings', the plural of Middle Cornish *pen-fenten* 'headspring'.

Governs settlement did not exist before the mid 19th century; the earliest reference found is in the 1871 Census as Growvearns; Governs Wood was so named in 1908 OS 6" but had been called Culverus Wood in 1888 OS 6" and a *Culverus* was recorded in the 1873 PO Directory (with Richard Rosewarne as farmer), possibly the same place as Governs. Two fields in 1839–40 (Tithe Map) called Lower and Middle Colvernes give the earliest known form of the name. Depending upon whether the name was either or both of *Colvernes* 1839–40 or *Culverus* 1873, Governs may be an altered form of *Culverus* 'dovecote', or of some other word or name represented by *Colvernes*.

Further analysis of the names in the study area derives largely from application of terms and definitions in the published works of Padel (especially 1985) and Peter Pool (especially 1990).

Four post-1800 farmsteads have adopted the Langarth name. **East Langarth**, **West Langarth**, **West Langarth Farm** and **Little Langarth** were all created within the lands of the medieval Langarth.

Remnant of the small area of common land into which lanes from fields and smallholding farmsteads fed that gave Willow Green its name, a green being an English word for such features, quite rare in Cornwall but quite distinctiveness of the post-medieval pattern at Langarth.

Kennel was the simple name given to the kennels of the Four Burrows Hunt. Three of the post-medieval smallholdings established to the south-east of Langarth and north of Threemilestone can be named from 19th and 20th century maps (and by way of the 1841 Census Returns for Kenwyn parish): **Venton Green**, **Willow Green** and **Maiden Green**. Venton Green was recorded as early as 1772. Venton contains the Cornish word *fenten*, 'spring' or 'well' and Maiden may come from the Cornish *men*, 'stone', in the same way that the Nine Maidens and Merry Maidens prehistoric monuments were later named from their standing stones. It is possible, therefore that there was once a prehistoric standing stone either at or near Maiden Green.

The 'Green' suffix to these names is quite unusual in Cornwall. It is an English word that normally refers to small areas of open grassland that were effectively common, their use shared by several households, as areas of rough grazing, places where children played, wet clothes were set out to dry, etc. They were then broadly equivalent in use to the 'townplaces' that were the open spaces at the hearts of the medieval hamlets.

Sticklers Corner was a place recorded as early as the 1841 Census Returns and appears to have been on the main road south of Venton Green. The name lingers in houses within the settlement of Threemilestone. Sticklers are the three people who judge each bout in Cornish 'wrastling'/wrestling, a contact sport that drew large crowds and often took place in roadside places like Threemilestone, on commons and at cross-roads or junctions, as here. The name may suggest then that there was a communal gathering place used for sport and perhaps other activities as well in the vicinity in the period when Cornish wrestling was commonplace in Cornwall, from at least as early as the 14th century. It is recorded that a Cornish contingent in the Battle of Agincourt marched under a banner portraying two Cornish Wrestlers, indicating that wrestling has itself been a **distinctive** aspect of Cornish culture.

Field-names

The names of fields discussed here have been drawn from the Kenwyn parish Tithe Map and its accompanying apportionment, of 1840. Most are in the English language, but they include a few that may have Cornish origins, mostly within the older, medieval-derived fields at **Langarth**.

- Cradle Field (TA 3243). It is possible that the first two letters are a contraction of *ker*, 'round or fort', a prehistoric or Romano-British enclosed settlement. There are several such rounds known a short distance south, near Threemilestone, and this fieldname may suggest that care should be taken to ensure that another does not exist hereabouts.
- Parken Quarra (TA 3277) is immediately east of the hamlet. Probably from Cornish *guartha*,' 'upper, summit', the ground rising steeply from the valley and cresting here, just where the hamlet of Langarth was established.
- Park Coose (TA 3281) south-east of the hamlet, probably from Cornish *cos*, 'wood', and indicative of a now lost area of woodland.
- Parken Bounds (TA 3283) on the uphill side of the side lane. May derive from Cornish **bounds*, 'tin mine', though the only mining known in the area was further east and dealt with silver and lead, not tin, and was operational some time after the date of the Tithe Map.

A few field-names with possibly Cornish elements are found within the former fields of Penventinnie

- Park Browse (TA 1264), possibly from Cornish *bras* 'great', though this field is not exceptionally large.
- Carbes Meadow (TA 1273), probably from Cornish **carbons*, 'paved road or causeway', the field being on one side of a short lane.

There are several fields with intriguing names, some of which may have Cornish roots.

- Edder Field (TA 3172), at the extreme west end of the area
- Sham Park (TA 3245), in the western part of the Langarth field system
- Slave Park (TA 3229, also in the western part of Langarth.
- Parken Blower (TA 3262) and Parken Blobber (TA 3282), either side of the opening of a side lane immediately SW of Langarth hamlet. Uncertain derivation. Conceivably from Blowing as in tin smelting?
- Doffal Croft (TA 3279) is in the far eastern corner of Langarth's fields. Uncertain derivation.
- Barron Field (TA 883), near Treliske. Presumably from barren and thus a mocking name.

When considering field-names most attention is given to the qualifier, but the words used for an enclosure or named area itself are also of interest. They indicate the range of field types, emphasising the diversity of the area. In the study area there are the following.

- **Field**, English and usually a device to allow a description of particular scale (great, long, acrte etc), location (valley, Gloweth etc), shape (square etc), ownership (Peters), archaeological or built feature (fort, cradle, barn, house, etc) land use (orchard).
    - Examples include: Well Field; Cradle Field, Peters Field, Valley Field, Sheet Field, Hilly Field, Square Field, Fort Field, Great Field, Gloweth Field, Barron Field, Pennytinney Field, Strawberry Field, Acre Field, Quarry Field, Orchard Field, Barn Field, Pond Field, House Field.
- **Close**, English, fairly common in SW Britain and often as an abbreviation of enclosure, land newly hedged around, as when taken in from former open ground in a common field or from rough ground or woodland. Most of those in the study area were taken in from rough ground, mainly in the last two hundred years. Qualifiers include land use (Beef, Mowhay, Quarry), ownership (Hicks, Blacklers), location (Sun, Lane, Cross), and age (New).
    - Examples include Higher Beef Close, Hicks Close, Blacklers Close, Cross Close, New Close, Sun Close, Quarry Close, Mowhay Close, Silver Close, Lane Close
- **Park**, as either prefix (eg Park Browse) or suffix (eg Stoney Park). Apparently an early field-name form in the study area, being largely confined to the main Langarth field system. Some semi-Cornish, with the Cornish definite article

an, as Parken- (eg Parken Quarra). Originally an English word, but also used in medieval Cornish, and later, when it has continued to be used as a form of dialect. A fairly direct synonym for English 'Field', and so should not be confused with words derived from deer parks. Those who can trace the development of field names through the centuries often find fields that were formerly named Park have been changed to Field over time. Modern spelling as 'parc' is regarded as a pseudo-Cornish usage (Padel 1985). Qualifiers include
    - Examples include The Park, Slave Park, Road Park, Sham Park, Stoney Park, Well Park, Parken Blower, Park Coose, Parken Blobber, Parken Bounds
- **Plot**, rare in the study area; just one example. English and usually used in the post-medieval period. The example is qualified by the crop grown, potatoes.
    - Example is Potatoe Plot
- **Piece**, rare in the study area; just one example. Simply means a piece of land. The example is of a piece of arable land taken in from rough ground.
    - Example is Piece enclosed from Downs
- **Enclosure**, rare in the study area; just one example. Simply means a piece of land that has been taken in and hedged around. The example is of a piece of arable land taken in from rough ground.
    - Example is New Enclosure,
- **Acre** or Acres, from the English land measure, but that derives from a more general understanding of an area of land capable of being ploughed in a day, and so the name is normally applied to arable land. Both examples in the study area do derive from land measure.
    - Examples are Nine Acres, Acre Field,
- **Quillet**, a Cornish dialect term for a sliver or slip of land, usually cultivated. Sometimes the name is used for the strips within open fields, but the example in the study area is a sliver of land alongside the lane to New Mill. In this case the slip was taken in from the side of an unusually broad lane.
- **Croft**, a Cornish dialect term drawn from the English. Has a particular use in western Cornwall as a hedged in area of rough or unimproved land used as summer grazing or as a source of furze and turf for domestic fuel. A few are medieval, but most are post-medieval. There are large numbers in the study area, due to the marginality of the exposed ridge. Qualifiers include shape (Crooked Croft, Elbow Croft), location (Higher Croft, Gloweth Croft, Road Croft), land use and land cover (Wood Croft, Furze Croft, Potatoe Croft, Clover Croft), archaeological and built features (Fort Croft), scale (Great Croft, Little Croft) and ownership (Painters Croft).
    - Examples include Croft, Crooked Croft, Higher Croft, Turning Croft, Wood Croft, Fort Croft, Furze Croft, Gloweth Croft, Breach Croft, Oaten Croft, Road Croft, Elbow Croft, Potatoe Croft, Clover Croft, Great Croft, Doffal Croft, Painters Croft, Little Croft
- **Green**, an English term for a small grassy common, fairly unusual in Cornwall, but there is a cluster of Greens in the study area. The three examples all have small irregular-shaped greens shown on the 1840 Tithe Map, relics of once

larger commons, but presumably still used as such: areas where livestock from several households could be turned out in common.
    - Examples include Maiden Green and the two place-names Willow Green and Venton Green. All are in an area of post-medieval enclosures.
- **Meadow**, an English word with two distinct uses in Cornwall, though both relate to them being areas of grassland. Some are fairly distant from the farmstead and were primarily used for making hay; others are smaller and very close to the farmstead and were used as good grazing for nursing young and sick livestock. Qualifiers include animals turned out (Pigs), unusual plants found within them (Golden Cap), location (Shop Meadow, Carbes Meadow), ownership (May's Meadow), shape (long Meadow) and size (Little Meadow).
    - Examples include Pigs Meadow, Golden Cap Meadow, Shop Meadow, May's Meadow, Long Meadow, Carbes Meadow, Little Meadow,
- **Moor**, an English word for low-lying wet land that was used for rough grazing and for making hay. Most examples are in the valley bottoms. Qualifiers include location (Higher and Lower).
    - Examples include Moor, Lower Moor, Higher Moor
- **Marsh**, an English name for wetland, often waterlogged. Used for summer grazing and as places where withies (willow stems) and rushes could be harvested and wildfowl trapped or shot. The only example is as Pond and Marsh, the pond being a Fish Pond, as recorded on Ordnance Survey mapping of 1879.
- **Waste**, an English word derived from *vasta*, open or unenclosed land. Not necessarily useless, but a source of rough grazing, fuel in the form of furze, bedding in the form of bracken, etc. Often common, shared between several farmsteads. The only example is the catch-all 'Downs, Wastes and Roads', the commons alongside the old ridgeway.
- **Plantation**, an English word for a planted woodland. In the study area this is used for shelter belts, two of which have the kind of tree specified, Fir.
    - Examples include Plantation, Fir Plantation.
- **Hill**, an English word, whose usage in Cornwall can include a discrete hill, but more often is used for steep ground, for example on the side of a ridge, as in the study area where there are three examples of Hilly Field and one of Furzey Hill
- **Down**, an English word, with a Cornish usage that usually means rounded hill supporting open common grazing and domestic fuel ground. The two examples in the study area refer to elements of the ridge, the 'New' Downs being a new settlement taken form the down.
    - Examples include 'Part of New Downs', 'Downs, Wastes and Roads'
- **Common**, an English word for an area in which two or more people have rights and responsibilities, usually attached to the estates or manors in which their home farms lie. These may relate to grazing, turbary (obtaining domestic fuel), taking of stone to repair home structures, etc.
    - Examples include The Common, at Governs.

- **Brake**, an English word for an area dominated by bracken. Quite rare usage in Cornwall, where bracken is usually known as ferns and the land where it grows is downland, croft, etc. Here the field catches both as the land use recorded in the Tithe Schedule is ‘croft’.
- **Mowhay**, a dialect term, a compound of two old English words, *mow* ‘rick’ and *hay* for ‘enclosure’, so usually translated as a stack yard, where corn, hay, furze, turf and ferns were ricked close to the farmstead. Usually a small rectilinear enclosure with stone lined stands for the ricks. Its presence indicates that the settlement was indeed an active farm in 1840.
- **Yard**, an English word for a walled or hedged enclosure, again in the farmstead, where animals and equipment were stored and moved.
- **Orchard**, English for an enclosure with fruit trees, mainly apples for cider making, usually on a domestic scale in Cornwall, and usually hard by the farmstead (Herring 2011). In the study area they include a couple in the intake farms around Willow Green.

Field-name **qualifiers** can also be grouped to draw patterns from the area.

Size, mostly relative size, such as Great or Little, occasionally via numbers of acres.

Shape, includes Square, Long, Crooked and Elbow, though most fields are four-sided, apart from those that form part of the curving perimeter of the Langarth medieval field system.

Situation, again usually relative to each other or to the farmstead, but occasionally in relation to proximity of neighbouring farms, such as Gloweth Field and Gloweth Croft, or to other features such as Shop Meadow, adjacent to the Smith’s Shop at Threemilestone.

Named people, presumably those who formerly either held or worked the land in the field. Mix of Cristian and surnames.

- Examples include Hicks Close, Blacklers Close, Johnny’s Meadow, Peters Field, May’s meadow, Painters Croft

Crops, which may be expected to be either relatively unusual or those routinely planted in the field. Among the latter would be Potatoe Plot and Oaten Croft. Oats were usually planted only in more marginal fields and Oaten Croft was located high on the ridge.

Livestock, again either unusual or routine. In the study area there are six fields that refer to Beef and one to pigs.

Wild vegetation. Golden Cap Meadow may be a reference to a variety of mushroom or could be a Cornish name for a yellow flower. Furze Croft and Furzey Hill refer to the European gorse, usually a wild plant but sometimes cultivated to ensure a good supply of firewood. Strawberry Field, in a late intake high on the ridge is unlikely to have been named from horticulture and is more likely to refer to wild strawberries. Clover Croft, however, another intake field may refer to clover deliberately sown as part of a grass mix.

Wild animals. It may be that the only wild animal referred to in place-names is the cat that gave its name to Langarth itself, presumed here to be a reference to the wild cat not a tame cat.

Land use. Those fields that have names with crops or livestock suggest former uses; Meadows indicate hay or good grazing land.

Quality. Stoney Park probably stood out for being especially stony, Barron Field, may have been especially poor yielding if the word is from barren.

Communications. There are field-name references to roads, lanes and tracks (including the Cornish *carbons*).

Archaeological features and buildings in field names. These include the following:

- Well Field (TA 3224) in the western part of Langarth.
- Kennel (TA 3231), also in western Langarth
- Cross Close (TA 3299) at the four-way cross-roads where the New Mills road crosses the Langarth road. There was a large, early and heavily ornamented cross here, later reused as a gatepost, but presumably originally appreciated by travellers headed down the New Mill road towards Kenwyn church (see routeways, above).
- Smith's Shop (TA 3311) is a freestanding building at the mouth of the Langarth road on the ridgeway, convenient for shoeing horses and mending iron tyres for travellers on the ridgeway road.
- Fort Croft (TA 864) and Fort Field (TA 964), both on Governs, refer to Ancient Fort (TA 858), an Iron Age or Roman-British round on the higher slopes or the side ridge beside Pennyventinnie.
- Quarry Close (TA 1249) presumably had a small stone quarry within it. A larger one is shown as a mouthful taken out of the NE side of Quarry Field (TA 1254). These may have been sources of building-stone for structures, but it is more likely that they were used to obtain hedging stone, given the numbers of hedges required for the large number of intakes in their vicinity (just north of the ridgeway near where Threemilestone stands).
- Silver Close (TA 3253) is immediately west of the Langarth road and New Mill road crossing, quite close to where the Penhaldarva Lead and Silver mine was to open in the mid-Victorian period. This field name is therefore intriguing in that it suggests that there may have been earlier silver working in the vicinity.

How existing and historic names can influence the future place at Langarth

Given the importance of the Cornish language for Cornish identity and for reinforcing the sense of **distinctiveness**, all of the Cornish names should be retained and reused as appropriate in new namings. It is understood that at the recommendation of the Place Name and Signage Panel that the Langarth name, as **Len an Gath** (rather than Threemilestone) would be used for the whole development.

The Place Name and Signage Panel have also suggested adopting **Halgarros** for the western section of the development area as they suggest that this was the name of the area used in the Tithe Map. Inspection of the Apportionment suggests that this is a misattribution, Halgarras covering field numbers 1543 to 1568, which were in an area which is labelled ‘Halgarras’ on the map itself, about half a mile NW of Shortlanesend, at least two miles away from the Langarth area. This area has the mix of wet moors and rough ground that the name suggests (hal = moorland, gar + ros = rough promontory) and it is still called Halgarras today. It is therefore recommended that the name Halgarros is **not** used in the Langarth development.

Similarly, the Panel suggested adopting the name Pennkoos for the Willow Green area, but again this is a misattribution as Pencoose covered the fields 2012 to 2024 and these are shown on the Kenwyn map around quarter of a mile NW of Kenwyn churchtown in an area which is labelled ‘Pencoose’ on the Tithe Map and is still called Pencoose today, and is as would be expected at the head of a once-wooded valley (pen = head, cos = wood). It is therefore recommended that the name Pennkoos is **not** used in the Langarth development.

The Panel also suggested using the form **Penfentynyow** for the Penventinnie area and **Helyk** (Cornish for willow) for the Willow Green area. Another option here is to use the name **Venton Green** as this is an authentic historical place-name that contains the Cornish *fenten*.

The great majority of field names are in the English language, albeit often in local dialect or indicating particularly local usage, and it would be appropriate to make careful use of some English names in new namings, especially when the English forms are historically meaningful in that language, such as those of the three post-medieval settlements Willow Green, Maiden Green and Venton Green that use the English term **Green** for a small area of common in an unusual and interesting way. While it may be possible to translate each element as a word, for example there are Cornish words for willow and green, it seems most appropriate to retain the English names for these settlements, allowing appropriate English names to illustrate the more recent history of the development of the place at Langarth.

If new Cornish namings are to be developed as a means of extending and celebrating our language, and this is strongly recommended as a means of reinforcing **Cornish distinctiveness**, then it may be employed in new namings for features that are also new, such as a stadium (for which Sticklers, from the nearby Sticklers Corner, probably derived from the term used in Cornish wrestling, may be a word to consider).

9 The place – historic land ownership patterns

Arrangements of historic land holding patterns are now best seen through the 1840 Tithe Map and its accompanying apportionment schedule, which set out for each parcel of land its owner, any person who leased it, and any person who occupied it. There were 15 different combinations of these in 1840 in the study area, but these can be resolved into a smaller number of landholding zones, as follows. The presentation works broadly west to east across the study area and is organised under the four Land-owners, three of whom were politicians (two MPs and a Lord), the fourth a merchant.

The Earl of Falmouth 2/3 and Samuel Molesworth 1/3

Four holdings were owned by this pair of land owners. All were leased by another pairing: Gordon William Francis Gregor and Frederick Michell, so the variations were in those who actually occupied and worked the land, all effectively sub-tenants.

- The largest of the holdings (nearly 118 acres) was the western part of the ancient field system of Langarth, including **West Langarth** farmstead, the Kennels of the Four Burrows Hunt and a westward extension of the Langarth fields. It was occupied and worked in 1840 by Charles Gould. The 1841 Census Returns show that he was 75 and lived on the farm with his 70 year old wife Ann, a daughter Elizabeth, two agricultural labourers and a female servant.
- A second holding (nearly 19 acres) had been cut out of the southern part of the original Langarth field system, the portion to the SW of the crossroads. It was held by William Cardell, who the 1841 Census Returns record lived at **Sticklers Corner**, which may have been the name of this smallholding. The name is still used for houses immediately to its south in Threemilestone. Cardell was a 65 year old thatcher who shared his home with a 'Mail Carrier', three agricultural labourers and a female servant.
- The third holding was a single building, the **Smith's Shop**, which was occupied in 1840 by John Woolcock. The 1841 Census Returns has him, as a 55-year old 'smith' living at **Sticklers Corner**, with his wife Mary, son John, also a smith and daughters Mary, a dressmaker and Cariline, a milliner together with a female servant, two lodgers and a Richard Jory.
- Finally, the two landlords held the '**Downs, Wastes and Roads**' (nearly 18 acres on the ridgeway) as common land; William Francis Gregor as lessee.

The Earl of Falmouth in 1840 was Edward Boscawen, an Old Etonian and Tory politician sitting in the House of Lords, who lived at Tregothnan House on the other side of Truro and inherited a very large hereditary estate in Cornwall (twice as extensive as the Duchy of Cornwall), which included this holding, split with Samuel Molesworth, presumably one of the family whose base was at Pencarrow, near Wadebridge.

Thomas Treloar

The heart of the study area is Langarth, the medieval hamlet that shrank to a single farm and whose land had by 1840 been divided into several parts, including West

Langarth and Sticklers Corner. But the core part (126 acres) was in the hands of an owner occupier, Thomas Treloar, possibly a descendant of one of the families who would have lived in a hamlet here in medieval times and shared the fields out in a typically Cornish way. The 1841 Census Return do not help us identify this Treloar as there is no entry for Langarth itself and the only Thomas Treloar in Kenwyn was a 56 year old merchant living in Lemon Street in Truro, with wife, two children and two female servants. It is possible that they had quit the farm for town in 1840, which was therefore uninhabited when the census was recorded.

Sir Thomas Dyke Acland

A 5-acre smallholding taken in from the common along the ridge top immediately south of Langarth was leased from Sir Thomas Dyke Acland by John Woolcock, who was also the occupant. It seems likely that he was also the smith who lived at Sticklers Corner.

Acland was another Tory politician, whose family was based on the Holnicoate estate on Exmoor. In 1840 he was the MP for North Devon.

Edmund Turner 2/3 and William Slade Gully 1/3

The remainder of the land in the study area, its eastern part, was owned by this pairing. It was originally the land of Penventinnie and the commons to its south-west.

Edmund Turner was the Liberal Party MP for Truro and lived in the town. William Slade Gully was owner of the small country house at Trevennen in Gorran parish; his father had been Sherriff of Cornwall in the late 18th century.

Their land was broken into numerous small groups of fields, many of which did not have a farmstead on them. The nine that impinge directly on the study area are arranged below in the order in which they appear in the Tithe Apportionment.

For all of them Mary Stevens was lessee and the occupiers held the land from her as sub-tenants. Stevens leased numerous other holdings to the south and east of these. It has not yet been possible to find out where she lived. It will be seen that all but two of the nine were occupied by members of the Robins family, who were also based at Penventinnie farm itself.

It is possible that Penventinnie farm had long been in the hands of the Robins and that the fragmentation of it was designed to create holdings for children in a form of partible inheritance. Six sons can be identified, four still alive (Joseph, Thomas, Elisha and William) and two through their widows, Ann and Sarah, the last of whom lived at Venton Green with three agricultural labourers as sons.

To support this interpretation it can be noted that four of the holdings were 7 acres and two more were roughly twice that size (13 and 15 acres), suggesting that there had been a moment when much of the land in the space between the old medieval Penventinnie and Langarth fields was subjected to measured allotment as smallholdings. It should also be noted that this was the area where a silver and lead mine operated in the mid nineteenth century (i.e. after the creation of these smallholdings), but that there is field-name suggestion that there was earlier silver mining in the vicinity. The smallholdings, too small to have been viable farms in

themselves, may originally have been worked by members of the Robins family who were also employed in mining or related business.

- Joseph Robins held the land immediately south of **Penventinnie** farm in two blocks, of 16 and 37 acres (ie 53 acres in all). The 1841 Census Returns record him as a 40-year old farmer who lived in the farmhouse with his wife Mary, 20-year old son Josiah, an agricultural labourer and six younger children.
- Thomas Robins occupied a 7 acre holding immediately west of the large fields that were later worked as Governs Farm. There were no buildings on the land, but a Thomas Robins, a 50-year old farmer, was living at **Venton Green**, with his wife Ann and two sons according to the 1841 Census Returns; see below.
- A 24-acre holding to the south of Penventinnie, now partly overlain by the Treliske industrial estate, was occupied in 1840 by Solomon Thomas. There were no buildings, but a 60-year old farmer called Solomon Thomas lived at Canaan, a quarter of a mile north of Penventinnie in 1841, with his wife Jane and son.
- A 15-acre holding at **Venton Green** was occupied by Thomas Robins, probably the same one who worked the 7-acre holding west of Governs, above.
- A 7-acre holding comprising three fields south of the land that became Governs, occupied by William Robins, but with no farm buildings. A 60-year old copper miner called William Robins lived at Venton Green in 1841, with his Sarah and five children, the two eldest of whom were also copper miners.
- A 38-acre holding in two parts to the south of Penventinnie and east of Willow Green was occupied in 1840 by John Woolcock, presumably the same person who was the smith at Sticklers Corner.
- A 7-acre holding at **Maiden Green** immediately west of the mouth of the old lane to Penventinnie was occupied by Elisha Robins, the 40-year-old Blacksmith of that name recorded in 1841 at Maiden Green with his wife Elizabeth and their 7 children (6 girls) and an elderly labourer Farnando Pasco. It may be presumed therefore that one of the buildings here was another smithy.
- A 13-acre holding at **Willow Green** was occupied by Ann Robins, a 45-year old farmer recorded there in 1841 living with 20-year old John Robins, perhaps her son from another member of the Robins family.
- A 7-acre holding north of **Venton Green** was occupied by William Robins. The buildings on his land were therefore also called Venton Green as the 1841 Census Returns have the elderly copper miner mentioned above living here.

How historic landholding patterns can influence the future place at Langarth

The land at Langarth now has a much simpler pattern of ownership as holdings have been amalgamated in the 180 years since 1840.

However, field patterns and lanes created to serve the needs of the more diverse historic holdings still affect the character of the place and may be expected to determine the broad patterns of the new development here.

10 The place – historic land use patterns

There were later **prehistoric and Roman** period rural hamlets, enclosed (in the 'rounds' that have a bank and external ditch protecting groups of houses) and unenclosed (groups of round houses) on the ridges in and around the study area. One is extant at Governs (a round) and others were excavated at Mount Pleasant (round) and Higher Besore to the east of Threemilestone (Schwieso 1976; Gossip 2004).

Their occupants probably worked the land in ways that would have been not highly dissimilar to those of the medieval period: mixed farming in enclosed fields close to the settlements, beyond which would have been rough ground used for grazing and as sources of fuel (furze and turf) on the downs, woods on the steeper slopes and moors with willows and alders in the valley bottoms, with perhaps some clearings used for moory meadows, sources of the hay that would have kept the cattle and sheep going through the winter (Herring 1998).

The picture is clearer in the **medieval** period as settlements and field boundaries survive to help us build a picture of land use patterns. We can see that the areas of farmland were gradually extended from cores at Langarth and Penventinnie along valley sides (working into areas that had been mixes of woods and rough ground), onto tops (into rough ground), and into wetlands (marshes and wet woodlands) in the bottoms. A succession of 'ring fences' would have contained each successive extension: these are best seen climbing the ridge to the south of Langarth and along the valley to its west.

The method of **arable farming**, convertible husbandry, that operated throughout Cornwall (and Devon) from the later first millennium AD through to the early 20th century, for over a thousand years, has been outlined above (settlements and fields; and see Rippon et al 2006; Herring 2006). As noted there, this regime would have allowed complex mixes of grasses and herbs to develop in fields and the occasional cultivation allowed short-term improvements. Crops until the potatoes, brassicas and market gardening of the late 19th and 20th centuries would have been predominantly grain; wheat or barley early in the cropping part of the rotation, the wheat generally on the better land, and oats and occasionally rye and pillas (the naked oat) later in the cycle and mainly on the less good parts.

Farmers would have known well the qualities of all their fields, what they could produce, when to sow, when to graze, etc, whether they were working communally in the period when the land was under strips in open fields (which in Cornwall generally ended between the 13th and 18th centuries) or later when land was enclosed in fields and held and worked by individual farmers, the situation that we have become accustomed to in Cornwall in the last few centuries. So, farmland was not as homogenised as it has become since the rapid twentieth century increase in powered mechanisation and the introduction of chemicals to supplement natural soil make-up, and to serve as pesticides, herbicides, fungicides and fertilizers.

Several place-names within and near the area, especially those from the Cornish word *cos*, indicate the presence of **woodlands**. These were probably mainly

confined to the steeper slopes of the valleys by the medieval period, on land that was difficult either to cultivate or to turn into pasture. In Cornwall, valley-side woods have been predominantly of oaks since at least the medieval period. Such woods would have been carefully managed, producing timber (used for structures and, vessels) from maiden trees, wood from their branches (for lesser uses, from tools to fuels), and from coppiced and pollarded trees, bark for the tannin used in leather making, and charcoal made from the controlled burning of lesser branches. Cornish charcoal was mainly used in industry and especially in this part of Cornwall for the blowing (smelting) of tin, from at least as early as the medieval period, and possibly also from prehistoric times (Herring 1998).

The valley-bottom and stream-side **moors** and **marshes** were important sources of withies, the whippy wands from osiers and willows worked into baskets and wattling. The white willow was used for bats and balls and artificial legs and arms, while the sallow or goat willow, with its vivid yellow catkins was used in Easter ceremonies and brought a traveller good fortune when used as a stick.

Intermixed with the willows would have been the fast-growing and young-dying alders. 'An alder swamp along a Cornish stream… remains perennially and primevally enchanting – the trees alive and dead, moss-bearded and lichen-bearded, the soil and water like coal slack and blacksmith's water, in between the tussocks of sedge.' (Grigson 1958, 246). Alder does not rot as quickly as some woods and so has been used for pipes and piles. Its catkins, twigs and bark produce a black dye, and its slow-burning wood is good for charcoal. The wood does not conduct heat so was considered good for clogs (slowing the cooling of the feet). Despite all these benefits the alder was widely regarded as an unlucky tree, possibly because its sap runs red when cut.

Marshes were also the haunt of birds, and especially those that were regarded as good for the pot, the game birds of Cornwall of which the most notable was the woodcock, still shot, but once also trapped and netted. Ducks would also be taken, drawn down by the opening up of pools, such as those created in the valley bottom between Langarth and West Langarth.

In the summer months larger animals were also found in marshy areas, including the farmers' livestock, who enjoyed the lush growth, the cool shade and the access to water. In the early summer hay was often made in such places.

Most hay, however, was saved in the permanent pastures of the farms' **meadows**, large ones located at the far edges of field systems, beyond the main arable fields, or small ones very close to the farmsteads, improved by spreading stable and cow-house dung, and used for hay and as nurseries for young and sick livestock.

On the **downs** is land that is now entirely enclosed, but which in prehistory contained extensive tracts of open, unenclosed rough ground, especially to the south of the study area, and in the medieval period a common that was gradually taken in as farmland, by the farmers in hamlets like Langarth and Penventinnie, and others in Kenwyn, Kea and Gwennap parishes (Dudley 2011, 38-45).

Rough ground in Cornwall is and has been rarely uniform, not wall-to-wall heathland, but instead a mosaic whose most dominant vegetation is rough acid grassland with patches of heather, ling, erts (bilberry), furze (gorse), thorn (haw and black) and ferns (bracken). The dispositions were due in part to natural conditions: depth of soil, wetness of ground, exposure to winds, but those who had rights on commons and had their own rough ground in crofts required a good mix of all types of vegetation to ensure they had sufficient summer grazing (traditionally from May Day to Hallowe-en), fuel (turf and furze), and bedding (ferns), so they took care to encourage their rough ground to yield what was needed.

There is a small window looking onto this land use in the early part of the medieval period in the form of the 1086 Domesday Book entries for the four estates or manors that surround the study area. Langarth is believed to have been an element of the estate of Idless (to the NE), and there were other estates centred on Goodern (to the S), Bosvisack (N) and Trehaverne (E). Each had an area of plough land, or arable, the field systems and each also had a substantial block of pasture (which we read as being rough pasture) probably located on the ridges north and west of Truro and three had areas of woodland, probably on the steeper slopes. The livestock that the lords of the manors held were mixtures of cattle, sheep and goats, the latter suggestive again of more marginal pastures.

- Idless was the largest estate and had 15 households (4 villagers, 7 smallholders and 4 slaves), arable land sufficient to be ploughed by 6 plough teams, 40 acres of woodland (probably on the steeper valley sides) and a large block of pasture (2 leagues long by 1 league wide), probably on one of the ridges NW of Truro. The lord of the manor had livestock: 23 sheep and 7 goats.
- Goodern was another large estate that had 8 households (2 villagers, 4 smallholders and 2 slaves), arable sufficient for 3 ploughs, 60 acres of woodland and pasture 5 leagues long and 1 league wide, possibly on the long ridge from Highertown to Penstraze from which the Langarth and Penventinnie field systems were cut out. The lord of the manor had livestock: 5 cattle, 20 sheep and 10 goats.
- Bosvisack, a small estate on the slopes immediately north of Langarth, had 3 households (2 smallholders and 1 slave), arable sufficient for 2 ploughs, 12 acres of woodland and pasture ½ league long and ½ league wide, possibly on the ridge to its north. The lord of the manor had livestock: 1 cow and 15 sheep.
- Trehaverne, a tiny estate, had 2 households (1 smallholder and 1 slave), arable sufficient for 1 plough and 40 acres of pasture.

How historic land use can influence the future place at Langarth

Historic land use has fundamentally affected Cornwall's semi-natural vegetation, the rough ground, wetlands and woodlands, so that there is now no entirely natural land in Cornwall, including at Langarth. But the Langarth development will have ambitious goals that will include environmental growth (see below) and that will largely involve

recreating the wilder land uses (like woodland, rough grassland, heathland, scrub and wetland) and their greater biodiversity.

When land use is suspended a form of spontaneous rewilding occurs, and has been occurring around the edges of Langarth, in field corners, in patches of neglected woodland, along stream and river sides. While this is always framed by the changes to things like soil structure, drainage, chemistry and fertility caused by previous land uses, it does vividly indicate that nature and its processes will always develop ways of re-establishing itself.

The design of public open spaces in the new development can draw on historic land uses, notably woodland, rough and scrubby land and the rich habitats of wetlands; see next section.

Doing so would draw on many of the ways that Cornish peoples' traditional use of the natural environment contributes to **local distinctiveness**.

11 The place – natural environment

It may be expected that as part of the planning for the Langarth development ecological assessments will have either been or will be undertaken. This section therefore contains a brief overview of what the natural environment once contained, what it retains, and what it might contain again. These can be spatially defined as four broad ecozones.

- Downland; rough ground
- Wooded steep slopes
- Farmed gentler slopes; possibly once fairly open wood pastures
- Wet valley bottoms

Downland, rough ground

The long southern edge of the Langarth study area was undulating, fairly exposed downland until the earlier 19th century. The later prehistoric, extent of rough ground on the higher northern and eastern slopes is uncertain, but the gentler more sheltered slopes seem to have been settled by humans living in farming settlements with enclosed fields from at least as early as the Iron Age (1st millennium BC). From that period and right through to the 19th century this land would have been used a common, with large numbers of cattle, sheep, goats and other livestock turned out during the summer months. These would have ensured that ground cover continued through the last three thousand years as semi-natural ancient grasslands, probably with shifting patches of scrub (native furze, heathers and lings, brackens, bilberries, etc) that may have been managed partly by harvesting (for fuel, bedding etc) and partly be Spring burning.

Almost all of the downland was enclosed by the turn of the 20th century and now its vegetation survives only through the plant species retaining a foothold on the edges of fields, in lanes and on hedges.

Wooded steep slopes

A small area of closed-canopy broadleaf woodland survives on the steepest slopes of the Governs ridge, beyond the study area but an indicator of the nature of what any woodland and its component flora and fauna would have been like on the steeper land in the Langarth area, especially the continuations of the slightly less steep slopes east and south-west from that patch of wood, and in the deep valley between the Governs ridge and Treliske. In these two areas there are numerous large trees, some in linear patches along hedges. These have not been inspected closely, but appear to be largely oaks and sycamore, with some ash, hazels and willows; they are not remnants of woodlands, but large hedge-top trees that retain for the area some of the character of bocage, the treed landscapes of close-knit field boundaries with trees.

Farmed gentler slopes; possibly once fairly open wood pasture

The great majority of the Langarth study area is enclosed farmland where biodiversity is largely confined to margins, especially hedges and small patches of semi-natural vegetation. The land within most of these fields has been used for intensively farmed arable and improved grassland over much of the last century, so

its biodiversity is quite poor. This is in contrast to the species rich grasslands that would have dominated Cornish farmland for the hundreds of years when the long slow rotation known as convertible or ley husbandry prevailed. In terms of biodiversity, the long period of grassland allowed a mix of herbs and flowers to develop and contribute to the soil's seed bank.

Some of the smaller fields along valley bottoms and in the area of the early modern smallholdings around Willow, Venton and Maiden Green have been less intensively farmed and may contain greater biodiversity, though not as rich as when farmed in traditional ways.

Two roe deer climb over a Cornish hedge containing a mature hawthorn tree in the fields of Langarth. Mature oaks on further hedges catch the sun in the distance.

The fields are, of course, human interventions and in prehistoric times these slopes are likely to have been more wooded, although the existence of herds of grazing animals, some domesticated and others wild (deer especially) may be expected to have kept the land fairly open, resulting in an ecology like wood pasture, a mix of rough grassland, scrub and mature trees, mainly oaks in a place like Cornwall.

Echoes of former woodland in this zone are found in field names and especially Park Coose near Langarth hamlet, which contains the Cornish *cos*, 'wood'.

It is in such places that wild cats may have lived in Cornwall, and the name Langarth contains as its second element the Cornish for cat. These largely nocturnal animals have been extinct in Cornwall since the 16th century.

Field boundaries in the study area are mainly Cornish hedges, i.e. stone-faced earth banks. Stone facings use immediately local stones, much of it a quartzy rock, relatively small-sized and angular. This provides numerous interstices between stones in which hedge-face vegetation can develop: a mix of grasses, brambles, flowering plants and shrubs. Those in the medieval derived fields of Langarth and Penventinnie have more varied and mature communities than the hedges in the more recently enclosed land around Willow Green or along the higher margins. However, some of the older oak trees growing on hedges (but less than 200 years old) are on hedges in this area.

Wet valley bottoms

The narrow zones along the tributary of the Kenwyn River and the valleys in the short coombes that subdivide the study area are now largely wooded, with willow and alder dominant. These trees will have always had some value (withies for basketry, alder for pipes, piles and clogs etc), so some patches of them would have been encouraged. But it is likely that until these margins of farms were abandoned by farmers who concentrated their effort on arable and highly improved grassland, and thus the fields on the gentle slopes that would respond well to modern technologies and chemicals, these areas would have been more open and supported moors that were cut for hay (and rushes and reeds) and used as summer grazing. They would have had especially rich ecologies: amphibia, birds and mammals as well as lush grasses and rushes and orchids and other marsh flowers that might yet be restored given more active management.

How the natural environment can influence the future place at Langarth

The Environmental Growth Strategy (EGS) for Cornwall, launched by Cornwall Council and the Cornwall and Scilly Local Nature Partnership in 2015, is a multi-stranded plan to ensure that Cornwall's natural environment turns round from continued shrinkage and impoverishment and begins to re-grow, with people gaining substantial benefits as it does so. The EGS is a Cornwall-wide plan, and for effective application requires translation to the specific needs of particular places and particular situations, such as those surrounding the creation of an urban development.

The retention of existing mature trees, Cornish hedges and any patches of semi-natural habitat should be supplemented by extensions of rough ground, scrubland, woodland and wetland as part of an Environmental Growth Strategy for the Langarth development itself, designing the development so that there is space for this to occur, accepting that the current land use, fairly intensive farming, will entirely cease. An intention might then be to achieve Biodiversity Net Gain within the development

itself (not by offsetting: acquiring land elsewhere for biodiversity enrichment), but by designing in sufficient semi-natural habitat.

The public benefits of doing this will be considerable: for Langarth's existing wildlife (fauna as well as flora), for the quality of the air and water, for the diversity and beauty of the landscape of the new settlement, and for the health and well-being of the inhabitants and users of the development.

All will contribute to the creation of an unusually green, diverse and attractive urban place that will also retain much more of **Cornwall's local distinctiveness** (as set out in previous sections).

Mature oaks on Cornish hedge in the medieval fields at Langarth. These lower slopes would have been well wooded in pre-medieval times.

12 Historic Landscape Characterisation

A deepening of the 1994 Cornwall Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) has been undertaken as part of this project; see GIS derived map available separately. This simply involved developing a finer-grained typology to sit within or beneath the county-wide HLC Types. For explanatory texts for each of those see the online mapping of the Cornwall HLC.

For Langarth there is also further information on most of these types in the relevant chapters of this report.

Go to Cornwall Council Interactive Map and find Historic Landscape Characterisation Assessment. Right click on a polygon of the Type that you have an interest in and a link is provided to detailed descriptive and explanatory text.

For Commerce and Water, for which there are no 1994 Cornwall HLC texts, please visit the Historic Characterisation thesaurus prepared by Historic England. Search online for Historic Characterisation Thesaurus – FISH.

The more detailed HLC Types defined for Langarth are as follows.

1994 HLC Type	**2019 Langarth finer-grained HLC types**
Communications	Medieval highway
	Modern highway
	Post-medieval by-way
	Post-medieval lane to fields
	Park and Ride complex
Commerce	Distribution Yard
	Food outlet
Farmland	Medieval fields
	Medieval fields divided in post-medieval
	Modern fields enclosed from ancient woodland
	19th century fields
Military	Prehistoric round
Industrial	Silver-lead mine
	Quarry
Recreation	Caravan site
Settlement	Medieval hamlet
	18th century farmstead
	19th century farmstead
	19th century dwelling
	20th century dwelling
	20th century farm buildings
Rough ground	Waste land
	Biodiversity planting
Woodland	Ancient woodland
	Secondary woodland, valley bottom
	Secondary woodland, other
	Conifer shelter belt
	Broadleaf shelter and screen

	Orchard
Water	Valley-bottom ponds
	SUDS ponds