

Cornwall Industrial Settlements Initiative

TROON

(Camborne/Redruth Area)



CORNWALL INDUSTRIAL SETTLEMENTS INITIATIVE

Conservation Area Partnership

Name:	Troon	Study Area:	Camborne/Redruth
Council:	Kerrier District Council	NGR:	SW 66210 37983 (centre)
Location:	South west Cornwall, 1 ½ miles south-east of Camborne, 4 miles west of Redruth	Existing CA?	No
Main period of industrial settlement growth:	1842-78	Main industry:	Mainly tin but with some copper mining

Industrial history and significance

The development of Troon as a settlement was directly allied to the rising fortunes of the nearby mines. From a small agricultural hamlet the village expanded to house the ever-increasing workforce. The chapels, shops and services all developed to meet the needs of the miners and their families, and developed so far that Troon had, and retains, many of the characteristics of a small town rather than a simple village. The form of the village and the type of housing can be compared to and contrasted with other settlements situated on the Great Flat Lode such as Beacon and Tuckingmill.

Beyond this, however, there are unusual elements to Troon's character that place it apart from most similar settlements. Most of the village was an adjunct to the Pendarves estate. While this meant that some elements of the expanding industrial settlement, like the church and school, were located on the Pendarves estate village at Treslothan (now virtually joined up to the expanding ribbon development of Troon), and only later provided at the main village, it also meant a rare degree of architectural control. In particular, Pendarves Street was conceived as, and appears as, a formal approach to the Treslothan estate as much as part of an industrial settlement. There are similarities in this to the nearby and earlier development at Praze an Beeble and its relationship to Clowance house, but the programme at Troon was carried out with unusual formality.

Other comments

The village, despite its proximity to Camborne, has retained its separate identity and every effort should be made to prevent in coalescing into a suburb. There are a large number of high quality cottage rows potentially at risk from inappropriate alterations and extensions.

Recommendations

Historic areas

- Designate a Conservation Area
- Prepare a full Conservation Area appraisal
- Designation of OALS together with management and enhancement proposals
- Article 4 Direction to control alteration and partial demolition of walls in CA
- Article 4 Direction to control PD on single dwelling houses and alteration and partial demolition of small buildings in CA

Historic buildings

- Revise Statutory List.
- Prepare list of locally significant buildings

Policy and management

- A full survey of archaeological potential
- Proposals affecting areas of derelict land to be based on a thorough understanding of the unique historical and archaeological importance of the sites
- Limit or restrict development in the outskirts
- Recognise back-land areas and rear lanes as an important aspect of Troon's character
- Develop interpretation of the village, and other promotional initiatives
- Further study to promote Troon's history.
- Site-specific design guidance for the village
- Full survey of existing trees and ornamental landscapes with appropriate protection measures
- Restoration/enhancement schemes to enhance some of Troon's important focal points

Conservation Area Partnership

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Bridget Gillard, Historic Environment Service
and
The Cahill Partnership

2004

Report No: 2004R101

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Front cover illustration: Troon from the air (HES – F25/P74)

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Abbreviations in main text

AGHV	Area of Great Historic Value
AGSV	Area of Great Scientific Value
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
CA	Conservation Area
CAU	Cornwall Archaeological Unit (Historic Environment Service, CCC)
CCC	Cornwall County Council
CISI	Cornwall Industrial Settlements Initiative
GPDO	General Permitted Development Order
HES	Historic Environment Service, Cornwall County Council
HERS	Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme (English Heritage)
HLF	Heritage Lottery Fund (ing)
LB	Listed Building
OALS	Open Areas of Local Significance to Settlement Character
OS	Ordnance Survey
PD	Permitted Development
SPG	Supplementary Planning Guidance
THI	Townscape Heritage Initiative (Heritage Lottery Fund)
UNESCO	United Nations Education, Social and Cultural Organisation
WHS	World Heritage Site
[1]	Site number on Figure 4a and 4b and in the gazetteer (Appendix)

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Cornwall's industrial settlements are the subject of a Conservation Area Partnership under the heading Cornwall Industrial Settlements Initiative (CISI). This partnership between English Heritage (with the Heritage Lottery Fund), Cornwall County Council, and the District Councils is intended to assess the character and significance of the County's 112 industrial settlements. These include villages, ports and towns associated with Cornwall's 19th century industrial revolution, based on metalliferous mining, slate and granite quarrying, and china clay extraction. The historic importance and distinctive character of such settlements has previously been undervalued, and their existing status does not adequately represent the industrial history of the county. CISI is aimed at redressing this imbalance.

The Cornish Mining World Heritage Site Bid is being prepared for submission to UNESCO by February 2005 (for inscription in June 2006). The bid areas will include the full range of 18th-20th century mining landscape components, including the settlements that were created or rapidly expanded as a result of mining and associated industries. All mining settlements are of significance to the World Heritage Site Bid - those that fall in the final Bid areas will be covered by the WHS Management Plan, while those that fall outside these areas will form part of the context for the World Heritage Site and will need to be sensitively managed in the light of this.

1.2 Project aims

The aim of CISI is to produce a settlement-by-settlement analysis in order to obtain an overview of the history, present character and importance of Cornwall's industrial settlements. This will help determine where, for example, new Conservation Areas should be designated (and existing ones revised), and could provide the basis for Conservation Area Statements (to be drawn up subsequently by or for District Conservation Officers).

1.1 Project methodology

The methodology involved historical research, followed by a site visit(s). For the historical research, a date range of 1750 to 1945 was chosen, as this represented the period of industrial growth and decline in Cornwall. Archaeological and historical sources housed at CCC (see Section 10.1) were consulted, together with Listed Building data supplied by the District Councils. Using this information, Ordnance Survey base maps were hand coloured to show: the different phases of historical development; surviving historic components from each development phase; archaeological sites, key historic buildings, and statutory designations. These maps (which formed the basis for Figures 2-4), together with copies of the primary sources consulted, were bound into a folder for each settlement, for use during site visits.

The focus of the site visits was to assess settlement character and consider ways in which this could be protected and enhanced in the future. This was achieved using a checklist drawn from *Conservation Area Practice: English Heritage's guidance on the management of Conservation Areas* (1995) and *Conservation Area Management - A Practical Guide* (published by the English Towns Forum, 1998). The maps compiled during the historical phase were enhanced during the site visits, particularly with information relating to the survival and significance of historic buildings, and a general photographic record (colour prints) and video was made of each settlement. Meetings on site were arranged with the District Conservation Officers in order to discuss current initiatives and recommendations for future management.

1.2 Date of assessment

Troon was assessed as part of CISI during March 2004

2 Location and setting

2.1 Geographical location

Troon is situated 1½ miles south-east of Camborne on a road leading up into the Carnmenellis uplands; although the main road through the village is not a through-route or major road, it is an important cross-country route leading from central Camborne through to Helston and Falmouth. The village is in the civil parish of Camborne (Treslothan ecclesiastical parish) and the district of Kerrier.

2.2 Landscape setting

Troon is located on the edge of exposed, high ground (the Carnmenellis uplands). The northern edge of this granite massif is marked by steep and high hills and moorland (Carn Marth, Carn Brea, and Camborne Beacon). The western slopes around Troon are less pronounced, and deeply incised with sheltered wooded valleys; the land has been enclosed and farmed since at least late medieval times, although remnant areas of open moorland survive close to the village (Troon Moor for instance). The high moors, most enclosed in the later 19th century, remain not too far distant to the east of Troon, and where left uncultivated, the land locally still reverts to moorland and scrub.

The setting of Troon is thus of an anciently enclosed agricultural landscape, contrasting with much of the mining district on and just off Carnmenellis. Into this landscape, especially to the north of the village, was inserted a thriving mining industry, and the area is studded with the remains of abandoned mine chimneys and engine houses, a potent reminder of Troon's industrial past. To the west of the village the land falls away to a wooded river valley and the remains of the extensive estate landscape of Pendarves House, now largely overgrown.

3 History and physical development

This section should be read in conjunction with the mapped historical development in Figure 2.

3.1 Pre-1809

3.1.1 Economic activity

The exploitation of the area's rich resources of minerals began as early as the Middle Ages. Initially this took the form of tin streaming, and the place name Stennack, which lies just to the south west of the village, means 'place of tin'; tin streaming was recorded as still being practiced at Treslothan Moor in the 18th century.

In addition to streaming, early attempts were made locally at mining; as early as 1580 reference was made to mining activity at Tolcarne to the north-east of Troon. By the beginning of the 17th century copper extraction was taking place. The depth of the copper ore in comparison to tin necessitated the sinking of deep shafts and adits, which required investment in both water-driven and steam-driven machinery, and a far greater number of people to raise and process the material. Between 1792-8 a mine was in production at Tolcarne, and, more pertinently, in the 1790s reference was made to a mine at Polgine, the principal lode of which ran right through the hamlet at Troon.

Despite the beginnings of industrial activity there remained during this period a mixed economy of agriculture and part-time, small-scale tin streaming and tin and copper mining. The locally prominent Dennis family typified this approach, described in 18th records as both miners and farmers.

3.1.2 Extent of settlement

The settlement of Troon is first recorded in 1327. Its name is Cornish and contains the element 'tre' meaning estate or farmstead, usually of early medieval origin, and 'woon' or 'goon', meaning 'downland, unenclosed pasture'. The settlement at nearby Laity was first mentioned in 1530 its name including the word for a 'milk-house or dairy'. It seems likely therefore that the small areas of development visible on the 1809 Ordnance Survey map were farms or agricultural tenements reflecting late medieval colonisation of the upland moors. The antiquarian Edward Llyud visiting Cornwall in 1700 described Troon as a village, but Borlase describing the area in 1750 reported there was no sign of a significant settlement. However by 1768 we know there were 70 people living in Troon and Troon Moor, and 8 at Laity.

Given the proximity of the mine at Polgine, some of the residents of Troon would have been miners; given the antiquity of tin extraction in the area, it is quite possible that the population here had always been at least partly industrial from its medieval origins. From the eighteenth century Troon was dominated by the Pendarves estate which lay to the west of the village and gave employment to many local people.

3.2 1809-1842

3.2.1 Economic activity

As a result of the general copper boom in the Camborne area in the 1820s and 1830s adventurers and speculators were encouraged to explore both existing and new setts in the area around Troon. A new mine opened at Condurrow to the north of Troon in 1815 and at first experienced good sales. However, these were to fall during the late 1820s and by 1830 it had closed. This pattern of modest success followed by diminishing returns and then closure was mirrored at Polgine, which closed in 1827 to reopen again between 1835-9.

Wheal Grenville, on a lode to the north of Polgine, was first worked during this period, opening in the 1820s but showed little initial success.

3.2.2 Extent of settlement

The workers at the early mines lodged with farmers or lived in small cottages previously built for farm labourers - not least because many combined working in both sectors. However, the rising numbers employed during this period resulted in more formal housing arrangements being made, in the form of cottage rows in the area around the original farm settlement in Troon, where they stood cheek-by-jowl with the dumps and shafts of Polgine mine. The pair of cottages at Laity expanded into a row, either to accommodate industrial workers or to house the extra agricultural labourers needed as agriculture boomed to meet the needs of the expanding population.

The influence of the Pendarves estate was such that during this period a new church and school were built, not in the main settlement area, but within the grounds of Pendarves House at Treslothan. By this time, however, the village did have its own Methodist Chapel.

3.3 1842-1878

3.3.1 Economic activity

This was a period more of consolidation and exploration in the local mining industry rather than actual material reward. To begin with copper was still the primary objective and Great Condurrow opened for copper in 1844 with good returns until the collapse of 1863. West Condurrow opened in the 1850s and by 1870 was employing 100 people.

In the 1840s work started again under lease from Baroness Grenville at Wheal Grenville, again originally a copper mine. By 1870 the mine was employing 150 men, but needed a great deal of new investment and machinery. By the mid 1870s, however, exploitation of the recently

discovered Great Flat Lode had begun and the transition made from dwindling copper reserves to more productive tin. In 1876 a new management team was appointed chaired by R G Goold with Captain T Hodge both of whom had the confidence and vigour to pursue the mine's potential.

By 1864 the old mine at Tolcarne was employing 110 workers, but in 1866 merged with Condurrow and two mines to the north, Wheal Harriet and Tryphena, to form Pendarves United. Between 1867-8 this conglomerate was the third largest tin producer in Cornwall and employed 521 men in 1870, but it was badly managed and only the Tryphena section was working by 1872.

3.3.2 Extent of settlement

As increasing numbers of miners and their families arrived from the far west of the County, where the mines were closing, the need for extra housing became acute. The Pendarves estate owned most of the land in the village and built rows of cottages along Pendarves Street, Fore Street and New Road to accommodate the workers (similar to developments built by the same family in Tuckingmill). The family retained the freehold and sold the leasehold to the miners, who would sometimes buy more than one and sub-let to supplement their incomes. The new accommodation was sturdily built with a small stream re-routed past the houses in Pendarves Street with sumps to allow water to be drawn out for domestic use. The growing importance of the village resulted in the building of a second chapel, a Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, in 1863. Following the Education Act in 1870 Troon's first school, the Board School, was built in 1875 and a number of shops and a pub, the Grenville Arms, opened.

3.4 1878-1906

3.4.1 Economic activity

The beginning of the period was a time of prosperity for the mines near Troon as they finally reaped the benefits of working the Great Flat Lode, but the success for many was short-lived due to the 1894 slump in tin prices.

Due to the perspicacity of its management Wheal Grenville was in such excellent condition that between 1893-4 production soared and consequently the mine was able to ride out the plummeting price of tin. By 1897 it was one of only four tin mines left in the area.

Although the Great Flat Lode had been hit at Tolcarne in 1880 the mine was forced to close in 1888 following the bankruptcy of the largest shareholder and disputes with the mineral owners.

South Condurrow continued successfully and was the third richest tin mine in Cornwall in 1882 employing nearly 400 people, but by 1894 it was struggling due to technical problems. Production halted in 1895 with the loss of 100 jobs. The mine was subsequently sold in 1897 to Camborne School of Mines.

In 1906 South Condurrow and Wheal Grenville amalgamated to form Grenville United Mines.

3.4.2 Extent of settlement

The initial boom and then stable fortunes of Wheal Grenville resulted in the further expansion of Troon into a sizeable and virtually self-sufficient community. Further rows of cottages were built along Treslothan Road, New Road and Newton Road, and there was an entirely new development along New Street. Every single street was peppered with shops, which included five grocers, general stores, a cobbler, bakery, barbers, draper, milliner, butcher, watchmaker and ironmonger. There was a post office and a branch of the Liberal Club. Transport was provided by horse-drawn and later motorised buses by a firm which doubled as a coal merchant. A number of craftsmen plied their trade in the village including a blacksmith, builder, carpenter

and wheelwright. Despite its proximity to Camborne almost all the villagers' needs could be met within the village.

Both the chapels continued to operate and in 1886 the Wesleyan Chapel was extended to accommodate a Sunday School. The Mission Church and Sunday School were built at the head of Pendarves Street. A mortuary chapel and cemetery were built at this time outside the village on land between Newton and Beacon, which served all the surrounding communities (it was in fact the Treslothan parish cemetery).

Initially encouraged by the headmaster (for whom a school house was built at this time), a cricket club was formally opened in 1891 and in the same year the Troon Rugby Club came into being.

3.5 1906- 1946

3.5.1 Economic activity

As part of a scheme of major reinvestment in Cornish mining in 1906 the newly formed Grenville United enjoyed a number of profitable years, greatly aided by the high price of tin. However the advent of the First World War and the consequent loss of skilled workers had a deleterious effect on the mines' profits. The difficulty of attracting funds for reinvestment during the post war period and a further crash in the price of tin forced the mine to be abandoned in 1921.

All commercial mining was now at an end in the area, but the shafts at South Condurrow remained open as part of the Camborne School of Mines.

3.5.2 Extent of Settlement

Despite the failing fortunes of the mines the settlement still continued to develop albeit on a much smaller scale during this period. A number of large detached and semi-detached villa style houses went up along Treslothan Road, Laity Road and New Road at this time. It has been suggested that a number of these houses were built by money sent back by miners who had travelled abroad to work following the local mine closures.

The village was now so well established that it continued to support the chapels, church, school and a large number of the shops. The efficient bus service and proximity of Camborne ensured that those who were no longer able to find work in the village did not need to move in order to earn a living.

3.6 Post 1946

Due to a number of sizeable modern developments including Grenville Gardens on one of the former mine sites, Troon is reputedly the largest village in Cornwall. The United Methodist Chapel has been demolished but the Wesleyan Chapel and Mission Church continue to function, as does the school, post office, two shops and the pharmacy. There is still a regular bus service connecting the village to Camborne where the majority of villagers now find employment. Despite its proximity to the urban sprawl of Camborne and Redruth the village has retained its own identity and sense of community – this is reflected in the success of Troon Cricket Club, which has won the National Village Championship three times since 1972.

4 Current character (Figs 3 & 4)

4.1 General

Viewed from the main road arriving from the north from Camborne one's first impression of Troon is of a remnant industrial landscape, poor quality modern developments lacking shelter and landscaping, set with little reference to the landscape or the historic streetscape, and of

ribbon development leading to no discernible centre. The area around Chapel square has suffered from the regrettable demolition of the former United Methodist Chapel and the inevitable attrition of a busy road. This scarcely encourages more leisurely (but actually very rewarding) consideration of the quality of the cottage rows and ecclesiastical buildings, or the surviving streetscape, which is surprisingly good. Behind the poor modern shop fronts, hard-standings and busy road in Fore Street much of the character of the thriving commercial centre of Troon is still discernable, while the grid of residential streets to the west and south is far more unspoilt. Before the ravages of the late twentieth century however these various areas would have appeared far less disparate and the whole village would have had a far more homogenous feel. This said the vast majority of historic buildings in Troon still survive whether commercial, institutional or the long cottage rows. There are few outstanding individual buildings in the village but these well planned, solidly built and detailed streets impart a real sense of quality, and a sense of the special character of Troon as a landlord/estate-sponsored industrial settlement.

4.2 Built environment

4.2.1 Public/ecclesiastical buildings

The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel [1] with its snecked killas rubble walls, granite quoins and voussoirs, basket-arched doorway and round headed windows makes a strong contribution to the townscape of Troon. This is especially important in an area impoverished by modern development that pays scant regard to the historic quality and character of the area. This impact would have been all the more imposing when counterbalanced by the United Methodist Chapel [2] which stood on the other side of the road, built from identical materials and with many of the same design features.

The other ecclesiastical grouping in the village of Mission Church [57], Church House [58] and Church Hall [59] still survives, and is even more impressive. The interconnecting nature of the three structures and the high quality of the architecture - all built from killas with granite dressings, the church in the Decorative Gothic style - are reminiscent of the groupings of high Anglican buildings of the Ecclesiological Society.

There is a similar synthesis between the school [42] and the slightly later headmaster's house [41] on New Road, where the steeply pitched high gables of both buildings stand out amongst the sloping roofs of the surrounding cottage rows.

4.2.2 Commercial buildings

Sadly the legacy from the village's commercial past is far less evident. With the exception of an almost entirely intact original shopfront on Fore Street [22] complete with fascia board, console brackets, stall risers and glazing bars, only a few original shopfronts survive and these only in remnant form with modern features superimposed [25][28] [31][35] [52].

The Spar Shop [31] with its prominent site, steep hipped roof and decorative window treatments on first floor level makes a strong impact on the main axis point of the village. This is marred however by the modern shopfront at street level in cheap materials with no detailing.

Further up Fore Street however, the Grenville Arms [24] survives largely unaltered - with the original signboard, front door and sash windows still in place. The building blends in with the surrounding cottages being of similar materials, killas with granite dressings, distinguished only by its slightly larger scale. There are a number of small well-built outbuildings associated with the rows, and also several free-standing buildings which are former workshops [66] and shops, many of which have undergone of variety of uses – the most interesting architecturally is the former TOC H meeting room in Troon Moor [34] with its wonderful timber frontage.

As a sub-group the early farm complexes are still very much in evidence; the earliest farmhouses are no longer extant but their nineteenth [17][38][48] and twentieth century [74] replacements

can still be found; their irregular setting and clusters of associated buildings [18][49][73] breaking up the geometric uniformity of the industrial housing.

4.2.3 Housing

Troon is dominated by one housing type - the workers' cottage. Within the village one can still see how this type developed over time starting with the early 19th century simple low lying, flat-fronted stone structures to be found near the early mine site at Polgine [9][11][20]. From Edwardian photographs we know these cottages were originally thatched, but now have slate roofs. This building type was simply a continuation of the small pairs of agricultural workers' cottages, which were already to be found in the settlement around the farms [16][72]. The majority of cottages in the village, however, date from the second half of the nineteenth century and during this time the building style altered very little, which could have been due to controls placed on the design by the Pendarves estate. There are rows of stone cottages – killas with granite lintels, quoins and architraves – sash windows, slate roofs, brick stacks and low stone front garden walls [21][23][29][32][39][40][43][44][46][51][53][55][67][68][69]. These rows cannot be called terraces, however, as there are occasional additional details, such as bay windows or decorative architraves, to break up the uniformity. They are, however, all solidly built of good quality materials, becoming slightly more decorative in later years with the addition of crested ridge tiles and finials. Some of the later housing was also on a larger scale with a number of semi-detached houses [8][60]. The apotheosis of this building type can be on the outskirts of the village at the head of Treslothan Road, Laity Road and New Road where the simple early stone cottage has evolved into spacious semi-detached houses with bay windows, decorative detailing on the chimney stacks, crested ridge tiles and finials.

Despite the loss of many original windows and a few front walls the bulk of housing from the mining heyday still survives and the two-storey stone constructions still characterise the majority of the settlement.

4.2.4 Paving/street ephemera

The majority of the paving in Troon is tarmac with slim granite kerbs, but there are still a few surviving earlier surface treatments, such as the cobbles in the former coal merchant's yard [25] and the rough stony surfacing of the service roads between Pendarves Street and New Street. The houses along New Road have thick granite slabs outside their front doors and the same material is used to form bridges and sumps along the leat [54] in Pendarves Street. Granite is also used to form gate piers throughout the village, many shaped and incised or with decorative coping stones. The remains of the original United Methodist Chapel wall and gate piers [19] can still be found in Chapel Square, and the original telephone box [30] has been retained.

4.2.5 Materials and local details

The vast majority of historic buildings in Troon are of the same construction:- red/brown killas stone walls, deployed in a variety of forms - coursed, snecked or random, with granite dressings. None of the early thatched roofs still survive but the majority of original slate roofs remain unaltered. A number of windows in both commercial and domestic buildings have applied plaster decorative window surrounds, possibly the speciality of a local builder.

One of the features of the village is the decorative gate piers - these are to be found outside both large public structures and small cottage rows.

4.3 Views, vistas and green space

4.3.1 Views and vistas

Troon is situated on relatively high ground at around 170m and entering the village from its northern end the land rises gently before plateauing along Fore Street and then rising again up New Road. The main long vista from the village is from the modern Grenville Estate out over

the surrounding moorland and valley, which was once part of the Wheal Grenville site. From the northern end of the village the road sweeps uphill towards Beacon through a curious landscape combination of suburban mown verges and street lighting, old mine buildings and open moorland. In the flat centre of the village there are views out over the surrounding farmland bordered by hedges.

Within the village, the curving streetscape around Chapel Square and the enclosing buildings on all sides suggest a sense of enclosure and space not matched by the scale or quality of the 20th century buildings that have replaced historic structures. Once in Fore Street, vistas along the long straight roads are more impressive, more complete in their historic context, although still intruded upon by the 20th century tendency to create a traffic-route out of what should be a living street.

The real, and surprising, quality of streetscape and views in Troon is in Pendarves Street, and in the small formal grid of streets attached (New Street/Laity Road). These, and most especially Pendarves Street, one of the finest of its type in the whole county, create an urbanity and architectural statement quite at variance with the typical low-key, organic character of most Cornish villages. Although formality and regularity are a key - Pendarves Street culminates in the architectural set-piece of the Mission Church complex - much of the charm of this area lies in the way that the streets merge into the curving lanes and hedgerows of an older landscape.

4.3.2 Greenery

Despite its high position and exposed setting there are a surprisingly large number of trees in the village, particularly along New Road. A large proportion of Troon is only one street deep and as a result the surrounding farmland permeates the settlement and is often visible behind gardens or over hedges. The moorland was always at one remove – this is a mature landscape of large trees and hedges. This, coupled with the large areas of public space - the cricket ground and recreation grounds - adds to the sense of openness and greenery within the village. Even in the most densely built up areas the long front and rear gardens, often planted with trees and shrubs, prevent the landscape from appearing harsh or urban – the only exception being to the north-east where the modern housing estates lack landscaping, and are seen more clearly against the backdrop of remnant industrial land (which is of course not without its own acute historical, archaeological and landscape values).

5 Industrial significance

The development of Troon as a settlement was directly allied to the rising fortunes of the nearby mines. From a small agricultural hamlet the village expanded to house the ever-increasing workforce. The chapels, shops and services all developed to meet the needs of the miners and their families, and developed so far that Troon had, and retains, many of the characteristics of a small town rather than a simple village. The form of the village and the type of housing can be compared to and contrasted with other settlement such as Beacon and Tuckingmill situated on the Great Flat Lode.

Beyond this, however, there are unusual elements to Troon's character that place it apart from most similar settlements. Most of the village was an adjunct to the Pendarves estate. While this meant that some elements of the expanding industrial settlement, like the church and school, were located on the Pendarves estate village at Treslothan (now virtually joined up to the expanding ribbon development of Troon), and only later provided at the main village, it also meant a rare degree of architectural control. In particular, Pendarves Street was conceived as, and appears as, a formal approach to the Treslothan estate as much as part of an industrial settlement. There are similarities in this to the nearby and earlier development at Praze an Beeble and its relationship to Clowance house, but the programme at Troon was carried out with unusual formality.

6 Designations

6.1 Scheduled monuments

There are no scheduled monuments in the village.

6.2 Historic Buildings (Fig 4)

There are 4 grade II listed buildings.

There is no local list.

6.3 Historic Area Designations (Fig 4)

There is no conservation area.

6.4 Other designations

(All policy numbers refer to Kerrier local plan drafted 1999)

There is an Open Area of Local Significance (OALS) stretching north from behind Pendarves Street – Policy ENV8

The same area is also designated an Area of Great Historic Value (AGHV) – Policy B.EN3

There is Village Development Boundary tightly drawn around the settlement.

The land south-west of Pellutes Farm is designated an Area of Great Landscape Value (AGLV) – Policy ENV6.

The village lies just south of the currently designated Conservation Area.

7 Current issues and forces for change

7.1 Current Issues

In recent years large-scale development has taken place in the village most notably on the old Polgine Mine site. This new development, mainly housing, has been of a generally lacklustre design quality with no reference to the historic fabric of the village in terms of materials, design, scale or siting. These buildings occupy a prominent position and have compromised the quality of what was a remarkably well-preserved historic industrial village.

Apart from the unfortunate loss of the United Methodist Chapel, the majority of historic buildings in the village still survive. Most still retain their original roofs and wall treatments, but there has been a considerable loss of original windows and doors, particularly on the main route through the village.

The high traffic flows on the main road, as well as being a contributory factor in the loss of historic fenestration, create problems of access, of visual clutter and pedestrian/vehicle conflict – it is one of the few detracting elements in the quality and character of the village.

7.2 Forces for Change

There are several proposed new housing developments in Troon - 60 new dwellings on the field behind Fore Street and Chapel Square, five new houses on New Road itself and 27 more off New Road. It is to be hoped that these new developments make more reference to their historic surroundings, in layout, type, use of materials and landscaping than the developments of previous years. The clear-cut boundaries between the built-up area and the surrounding fields which has already been compromised on the eastern and northern sides of the village remains strong on the western and southern sides, and should be carefully preserved both as part of the

special historic character of Troon, and as part of the exceptionally high amenity value of the landscape context the residents currently enjoy.

At present the village still retains its separate identity from the small villages to the north, which have begun to merge into the outskirts of Camborne. It is to be hoped that no further development takes place on the village's northern boundary in order that Troon can retain its discrete identity.

8 Recommendations

8.1 Historic areas

Recommendation: 1 Conservation Area

Designate a conservation area to include the whole of the settlement excluding the modern housing estates on the eastern side of the village.

Reason: To recognise the areas of special architectural and historic importance in Troon, and to promote policies and schemes for the preservation and enhancement of those areas.

Recommendation: 2 Conservation Area Appraisal

Prepare a full and detailed conservation area appraisal to accompany CA designation.

Reason: To accord with statutory requirements and departmental policy advice, to ensure a full and adequate understanding of the special historic and architectural importance of the CA, the range of historic fabric and archaeological potential, and to establish effective parameters for management and policy proposals.

Recommendation: 3 Open Areas of Local Significance

There is currently an OALS on the western side of the village. In addition consideration should be given to designating the land between Treslothan Road and Laity Road, and the fields behind the eastern side of New Road and separating Troon from Croft Common.

Reason: To manage and protect the setting of the proposed conservation area.

OALS are an extremely important and useful policy both to contain the spread of development around settlements and to act, in effect, as a secondary layer of management and control around a conservation area, preserving the setting of such an area.

Recommendation: 4 Article 4 Directions (Walls)

Article 4 Directions to control the demolition of walls and hedges, especially for the creation of hard standings.

Reason: To protect the character of Troon against inappropriate incremental alterations and demolition.

Recommendation: 5 Article 4 Directions (Buildings)

Article 4 Directions to control the demolition and alterations to individual houses, to prevent demolition of free-standing outbuildings and to prevent the loss of such features as unlisted shop fronts, especially when now in residential use.

Reason: To protect the character of Troon against inappropriate incremental alterations and demolition.

8.2 Historic buildings

A fuller understanding of the stock of historic structures in Troon as elsewhere in Cornwall, is urgently required – local list surveys, thematic surveys, detailed recording as part of Article 4 Directions should all be viewed not only as a first stage to Listing, but as an end in themselves,

as critically important elements in the creation of policies, in prioritising action, in targeting funding strategies, and as a means of successfully managing change and promoting opportunities.

Recommendation: 6 Statutory listed building review

Review the statutory list of buildings of special architectural or historic interest for the Troon area.

Reason: To update the statutory list to reflect changes in understanding of the historic environment, in order to preserve or enhance the special character of the buildings and the area.

The following list puts forward a range of structures that might be considered for listing - there are others not given here which on closer inspection might also be included; the intention here is to give an idea of the scale of any potential listing exercise.

Troon Mission Church, Church House and Church Hall [57][58][59]

40-42 Laity Road [72]

22-32 Chapel Square [20]

Recommendation: 7 Non-statutory historic buildings survey (Local list)

Prepare a list of locally significant structures which contribute substantially to the character of the settlement, based on the combined criteria of both listing and Article 4 Directions, and backed up by a Buildings-at-Risk survey, detailed Article 4 Directions and substantive and enforceable policies in the local plan. This could also back up applications for grant aid.

Reason: To ensure a full and accurate record of the historic fabric of the settlement, to strengthen existing Local Plan commitments to prevent proposals that would harm the historic heritage of the village and guide development and promote change that will preserve and enhance the character of the village.

8.3 Policy and management

Recommendation: 8 Archaeology

Undertake a full survey of archaeological potential in Troon, backed up by an additional policy requiring proper recording of archaeologically sensitive sites before development.

Reason: To comply with and strengthen existing Local Plan commitments to prevent proposals that would harm the archaeological heritage of the village, and thereby preserve the special character of Troon.

Recommendation: 9 Derelict land

Base proposals affecting the areas of derelict land that surround and permeate Troon on a thorough understanding of the unique historical and archaeological importance of the sites themselves, and also of their value to the setting of Troon. Conserve surviving historic fabric and landscape.

Reason: To ensure that the sites retain both their historical relevance to Troon and Cornwall, and their own archaeological and historical integrity.

Recommendation: 10 Limit or restrict development

Further development on the outskirts should be avoided or limited in extent and, where necessary, fully integrated into the historic topography and settlement form.

Reason: To retain both the discrete identity of Troon and comply with existing Local Plan commitments.

Recommendation: 11 Back-land and trackways

Recognise the importance to historic character of back-land areas, tracks and lanes as an important aspect of Troon's character; preserve and enhance their informal qualities and important surviving buildings.

Reason: To preserve and enhance the special character of Troon, especially in areas unlikely to attract private investment and attention.

Recommendation: 12 Interpretation and Promotion

The village is an important component in the area's industrial history, specifically as regards the Great Flat Lode. In order to understand the relevance of Troon it should be viewed in conjunction with the Camborne, Beacon and the other nearby industrial sites. This could be done in the form of an area trail linking the mines and their settlements, available from the local shops or post offices.

Reason: To present Troon's heritage to a wider audience and to attract new visitors and associated regeneration initiatives, and to set the village within its historic industrial context.

Recommendation: 13 Further study

Undertake a more in depth study of the Pendarves estate and its influence in Troon.

Reason: To compare Troon with other settlements owned or partially owned by the Pendarves estate and thus increase our understanding of how much the settlement was influenced by the mining industry and how much by the Pendarves family.

Recommendation: 14 Design Guidance

Produce design guidance specific to the village, based on a detailed audit of materials, designs, details and character, both of standing buildings and of street paving materials.

Reason: To preserve and enhance the special character of Troon, and promote change that will preserve and enhance the character of the settlements.

Recommendation: 15 Trees and ornamental landscapes

Undertake a full survey of existing trees and ornamental landscapes and take protection measures where appropriate.

Reason: To ensure that the contribution made by existing trees to the townscape on both private and public land is recognised and protected where necessary

Recommendation: 16 Restoration/enhancement schemes

Concentrate restoration/enhancement schemes on some of Troon's important focal points, particularly Chapel Square, Fore Street and the junction with Troon moor and Pendarves Street.

Reason: To recognise and enhance the importance of focal points in the development of Troon's townscape.

9 References

9.1 Primary sources

1809 OS map

1842 Tithe Map

1878 OS 25 inch map

1906 OS 25 inch map

1946 RAF air photograph

Cornwall Sites and Monuments Record (computerised database of archaeological sites maintained by CCC HES)

9.2 Publications

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Morrison, T, A, 1983. *Cornwall's Central Mines – The Southern District 1810-95.*

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www.cornish-mining.org.uk – The Camborne-Redruth Mining District

Appendix: Gazetteer of archaeological sites and historic buildings

Codes: PRN: Primary Record Number in Cornwall Sites & Monuments Record. NGR: National Grid Reference. LB: Listed Building. SM: Scheduled Monument. Cons = consecutively.

Ref.	Street no.	Name	Road	Site type	Period	Status	SM or LB No	PRN
1		Troon Methodist Church	Newton Road	Chapel – Wesleyan Methodist	1863	LB II	SW 63 NE 8/71	
2		Site of United Methodist Chapel	Chapel Square	Chapel (site of former United Methodist Chapel)	1809-42			
3		Wheal Grenville pump engine house	Newton Road	Pump house (now disused)	1878-1906	LB II	SW 63 NE 8/68	
4		Wheal Grenville winding engine house		Winding engine house	1878-1906	LB II	SW 63 NE 8/69	
5		Lettered stone	Newton Road	Lettered stone (probably marking mineral rights boundary)	1878-1906	LB II	SW 63 NE 8/70	
6		Polgine Mine site	Grenville Gardens	Polgine Mine (site of former mine, now a housing estate)	1790s			40282
7		Site of former smithy	Troon Moor	Smithy (site of former smithy now demolished)	1878-1906			40279
8	78-108 (even)		Newton Road	House	1878-1906			
9	2-4 (even)		Polgine Lane	House	1809-42			
10	110 and 118		Newton Road	House	1842-78			
11	112-116 (even)		Newton Road	House	1809-42			
12	120		Newton Road	House	1842-78			
13		Chapel wall	Newton Road	Wall	1842-78			
14	2-4 (even)		Troon Farm	House	1842-78			
15	6		Troon Farm	House	1906-46			
16	8-10 (even)		Troon Farm	House	Pre-1809			
17		Troon Farm	Chapel Square	House	1842-78			
18		Barn at Troon Farm	Chapel Square	Barn	1809-42			
19		Wall	Chapel Square	Wall	1809-42			
20	22-32		Chapel Square	House (cottage row)	1809-42			

Ref.	Street no.	Name	Road	Site type	Period	Status	SM or LB No	PRN
21	2-8 (even)		Fore Street	House (cottage row)	1842-78			
22	10		Fore Street	House (sometime shop)	1842-78			
23	12-38 (even)		Fore Street	House (cottage row)	1842-78			
24	3	The Grenville Arms	Fore Street	Public House	1842-78			
25	5		Fore Street	Shop and Coal Merchant (sometime political offices and post office, now domestic dwelling)	1842-78			
26	7		Fore Street	House	1842-78			
28	9		Fore Street	House (sometime shop)	1842-78			
29	11-35 (odd)		Fore Street	House (cottage row)	1842-78			
30		Telephone Box	Troon Moor	Telephone box (K6)	1906-46			
31	1-3 (odd)	Spar General Store	New Road	Commercial premises	1842-78			
32	7-21 (odd)		New Road	House	1842-78			
33	23-25 (odd)		New Road	House	1842-78			
34	4-6 (even)		Troon Moor	House	1842-78			
35		Outbuildings	Troon Moor	Outbuildings (sometime shop)	1878-1906			
36	37		Troon Moor	House	1842-78			
37	33-35 (odd)		Troon Moor	House	1842-78			
38		Troon Moor Farm, Stables End	Troon Moor	House	1842-78			
39	4-12 (even), 16, 5-9 (odd)		Croft Common	House (cottage row)	1842-78			
40	14,18,11- 17(odd),3		Croft Common	House (cottage row)	1878-1906			
41	31		New Road	Headmaster's house (now a private domestic dwelling)	1878-1906			
42		Troon Junior and Infant School	New Road	School	1842-78			
43	33-37 (odd)		New Road	House (cottage row)	1842-78			

Ref.	Street no.	Name	Road	Site type	Period	Status	SM or LB No	PRN
44	39-57 (odd)		New Road	House (cottage row)	1878-1906			
45	63-65		New Road	House	1842-78			
46	75-89 (odd)		New Road	House	1878-1906			
47	91-99 (odd)		New Road	House	1906-46			
48		Pellutes Farm House	New Road	Farm house	1842-78			
49		Pellutes Farm Barns	New Road	Barns (now converted to domestic dwellings)	1842-78			
50	26		New Road	House	1906-46			
51	6-24 (even)		New Road	House (cottage row)	1842-78			
52	4		New Road	Commercial premises	1906-46			
53	2-56 (even)		Pendarves Street	House (cottage row)	1842-78			
54		Leat	Pendarves Street	Leat	1842-78			
55	1-55 (odd)		Pendarves Street	House (cottage row)	1842-78			
56	2		Treslothan Road	House	1906-46			
57		Mission Church	Treslothan Road	Church	1878-1906			
58		Church House	Treslothan Road	House	1878-1906			
59		Church Hall	Treslothan Road	Hall	1878-1906			
60	1-27 (odd)		Treslothan Road	House	1878-1906			
61	29-39 (odd)		Treslothan Road	House	1906-46			
62		Recreation Ground	Treslothan Road	Recreation Ground	1906-46			
63		Cricket Ground	Treslothan Road	Cricket Ground	1906-46			
64	4		Laity Road	House	1842-78			
65	6-8 (even)		Laity Road	House	1906-46			
66		Club	Laity Road	Commercial premises	1878-1906			
67	10-20 (even)		Laity Road	House (cottage row)	1878-1906			
68	2-30(even),1-37(odd)		New Street	House (cottage row)	1878-1906			
69	3-11(odd)		Laity Road	House	1878-1906			
70	13-23 (odd)		Laity Road	House	1906-46			

Ref.	Street no.	Name	Road	Site type	Period	Status	SM or LB No	PRN
71	38,44-46(even)		Laity Road	House	1809-42			
72	40-42(even)		Laity Road	House	Pre-1809			
73		Outbuilding	Laity Road	Outbuilding	1842-78			
74		Laity Farm	Laity Road	Farm house	1906-46			
75		Wheal Gine/Grenville	Troon	Mine shafts/dumps etc (site of)	PM			40282
76		Trewoon	Troon	settlement	MD			35157
77		West Buller, middle lode	Troon	Mine shafts/dumps etc (site of)	C19			
78		West Buller south	Troon	Mine shafts/dumps etc (site of)	C19			
79		Buildings (Cottages or mine buildings?) –site of	New Road	Buildings (site of)	Pre 1809			
80		Row (site of)	Chapel Square		1809-42			
81		Row (site of)	Chapel Square		Pre 1809			
82		West Buller, north lode	Troon	Mine shafts/dumps etc (site of)	C19			