

THE PAST IN THE PRESENT

A WALK THROUGH 6000 YEARS OF HISTORY

on Woon Gumpus, Chun Downs and Botallack, Truthwall, Carnyorth and Trewellard Commons, St Just, Cornwall



Historic Environment Service
Cornwall County Council

This trail guides you through some of West Penwith's most impressive inland scenery. Much of this appears 'wild' and 'natural' but in fact, as with all of west Cornwall's heathland areas, the landscape we see today has been created by thousands of years of human activity, traces of which are all around us.

Getting there

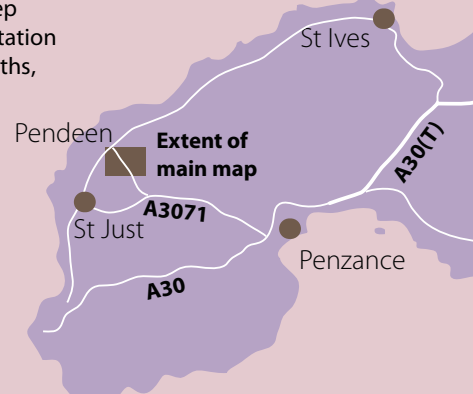
The walk starts from the small car park (at SW 3934 3337) on the east side of the Penzance to Pendeen road (B3318), beside the junction with a minor road to Trewellard. Buses running between Penzance and St Just, via Pendeen, pass this point and stop on request.

The walk is on Ordnance Survey 1:25,000 Explorer Map 102 (Land's End, Penzance and St Ives) and 1:50,000 Landranger Map 203 (Land's End and Isles of Scilly).

The terrain is uneven in places and there are some steep slopes. Heathland vegetation encroaches on some paths,

particularly during the summer months, so stout footwear and long trousers are recommended. Paths are clearly visible but some of the archaeological features described may be hard to find when vegetation is high: the best time to see sites like prehistoric field systems and medieval cultivation strips is often in the early spring.

All the sites described in detail are on open access land: please do not go onto adjoining agricultural land without the permission of the farmer.



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The HEATH (Heathland, Environment, Agriculture, Tourism, Heritage) Project, which ran from 2004 to 2008, was a joint partnership initiative between Holland, Brittany, Normandy, Wales

and Cornwall, funded through the Interreg IIIB North West Europe Programme and the Heritage Lottery Fund. The project recognised heathland as a valuable resource which can be protected through the reintroduction of management practices that once created it. By actively managing heathland its biological, archaeological, cultural landscape and recreational value can be maintained. The lead partner for the project was Natural England.



the HEATH project



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