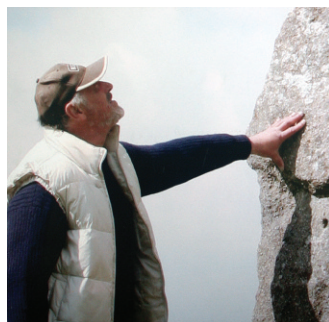


NEW REVISED EDITION

CORNOVIA

Ancient Sites of Cornwall
and Scilly 4000BC – 1000AD

Craig Weatherhill



ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Craig Weatherhill is an author, historian, novelist, artist and an authority on the Cornish language. He worked for many years as a planning officer for West Penwith and has undertaken a number of surveys for the Cornwall Archaeological Unit, among other bodies. He lives near St Just and plays an active part in many activities supporting the Celtic revival of Cornwall and its people.

This new, revised and updated edition of *Cornovia* is eagerly awaited by those many people who have an interest in Cornwall's ancient past. Combining as it does the work first published in two volumes (*Cornovia* and its sister work *Belerion*), this new book is one of the most complete guides to individual historic sites to be found in Cornwall and Scilly, and is ideally suited to those wishing to visit the sites themselves. This new edition explores almost 250 sites, with an explanation of each, along with detailed maps, plans and colour photographs specially prepared for this edition.

The original books quickly became standard works of their kind, being reprinted and remaining in print for almost two decades. The author has brought *Cornovia* into the 21st century and it will undoubtedly also become a bestseller.

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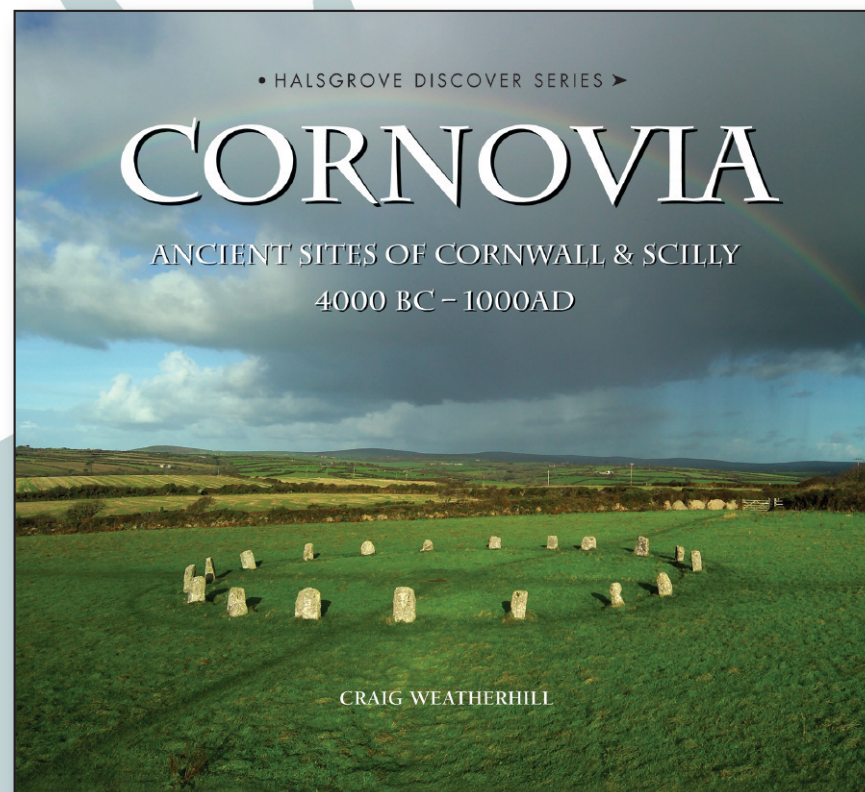
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CORNOWIA

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Bant's Carn. © Katharine Sawyer



Reconstruction of an Iron Age round house at Bodrifty, West Cornwall. © J.A. Beare



Castle an Dinas. © Historic Environment Service, Cornwall County Council



Old Man of Gugh, Isles of Scilly.
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Ballowall Barrow. © Mike Anders

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Castle an Dinas. © Historic Environment Service, Cornwall County Council

The Devil's Coy.

11. Castle Dore, hill fort, Goleen

SS 103580. Road to R1209, 2½ miles N of Fowey on E side of the road.

An Iron Age fort with two ramparts. The inner one is as much as 6.0m high externally and is circular, with a ditch. For much of its circuit, this is closely followed by an outer bank which reaches a height of 1.8m, with an inner ditch roughly 1.2m deep but now only partially

MID CORNWALL

Castle Dore. © Historic Environment Service, Cornwall County Council

The Wiston Stone. © J.A. Beare

preserved and 1.8m in depth. On the E side, this outer bank and ditch bulge away from the inner one to form a roughly triangular avenue, through which passes the entrance. The overall dimensions of the fort are 130m by 150m. Excavations in 1926-7 revealed that the fort was built c.200 BC and the defences had been strengthened c.50 BC. The excavations had been pre-war excavations and were incomplete.

In the 6th century AD, the fort was occupied and the defences again remodelled. This might have been the work of King Cynric (Dorset's Cornovici), a recorded Dumnonian king who ruled south Brittany. It appears to have been the King Mark of later Arthurian tales, whose son Dinadan (Dinan) is commemorated on the 6th century pillar near Fowey (see below), which also gives Cornovicius' name. A series of large post holes in the inner enclosure of the fort marked out the site of a timber-hall building, a hall 2.7m by 12m, with a small annex at one end. The site of another, smaller, hall was also found. The interpretation of these buildings was questioned in 1983 but not convincingly. To complete its history, Castle Dore was used again during the Civil War.

The Wiston Stone, numbered stone SS 102240 stands by the roadside just SE of the Four Turnings on the A3092, 1 mile SW of Fowey and 1½ miles S of Castle Dore. Also known as The Longstone, this massive pillar stone stands 2.7m tall and is set upon a massive granite plinth. It is from several several times, from its original site at the Four Turnings to Newroom, 300 or 200m to the NW in the 18th century, back to the Four Turnings at the end of the 19th century, there is no present site in 1971. Contrary to some reports, it did not stand close to Castle Dore.

High on the back of the stone is a Latin (I-shaped) cross, carved in relief. The base of the stone, facing the road, has a twelve-sided column, missing vertically, which has been interpreted as DRYSTANNI HEC LACIT CYNOWIDE HELPA (Dristann has here, of Cornovicius the son). This has been dated to the mid-6th century AD. This has been equated with the famous legend

Left: Example of a double-page spread