

Ms Sophie Perhar  
Cooke & Brand PR  
Room 510  
Linen Hall  
162-168 Regent Street  
London  
W1B 5TF  
BY COURIER

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# Luxury hotel could bring 480 new jobs

UP to 480 new jobs could come to St Austell, now that work has started on the construction of a £30 million luxury hotel at Tregorrick.

Described as a 'destination hotel resort', the project will see the development of the Grade II listed 19th century White House on the Pentewan Road into a 66-bedroomed hotel complete with a restaurant, spa complex, and leisure facilities.

In addition 60 luxury lodges will also be built in the 43 acres of historic woodland and parkland of the former stately home, which once belonged to the Coode family.

The property was later run as a guest house but this closed in 1960. Since then the house has been unoccupied, largely because no economic use could be found that would allow the sympathetic restoration and management of the estate.

The plans for the new

**By PHILIPPA SPACKMAN**

e-mail: [pspackman@c-dm.co.uk](mailto:pspackman@c-dm.co.uk)  
01872 247410  
07824 476621

hotel, which will be known as The Cornwall and will be run by Bristol-based developers and owners CMR Leisure, have been agreed with Restormel planners over the past four years, following wide public consultation.

Despite the current economic downturn and an estimated £10 million rise in construction costs, work has now started, bringing the hope of up to 280 construction jobs and an additional 200 hotel jobs when the complex opens.

The project is part of the wider St Austell regeneration plan, and when plans were originally submitted to Restormel Borough Council it was estimated the new

hotel could inject more than £7 million a year into the local economy.

Designed by award-winning architects AWW and constructed by the Mc-Alpine company, completion of the whole complex is due in December 2009. The first lodge is expected to be finished by the end of November this year, when the show home will be available for viewing.

The 60 two and three-bedroomed lodges will be sold on a freehold 'stay and let' basis, offering purchasers and their family and friends the chance to enjoy six serviced holiday weeks in the properties each year.

CML Leisure's spokesman Richard Whitehouse said: "The Cornwall Hotel Spa and Estate is a very exciting concept and we are extremely proud of what we are creating.

"We have ensured that our development plans will re-

spect and sensitively complement the outstanding flora, fauna and setting of the estate and the integrity of its buildings.

"Conservation is at the very heart of our proposals. The estate's historic setting and natural beauty is our greatest asset. It has been the inspiration for the architecture and interiors and is a very important part of what The Cornwall will be able to offer its guests and home owners.

"This sensitive approach will ensure that The Cornwall will be a modern, luxurious 21st century hotel, while retaining the beauty, charm and integrity of its historic and unspoilt rural setting."

**Good for Cornwall?**  
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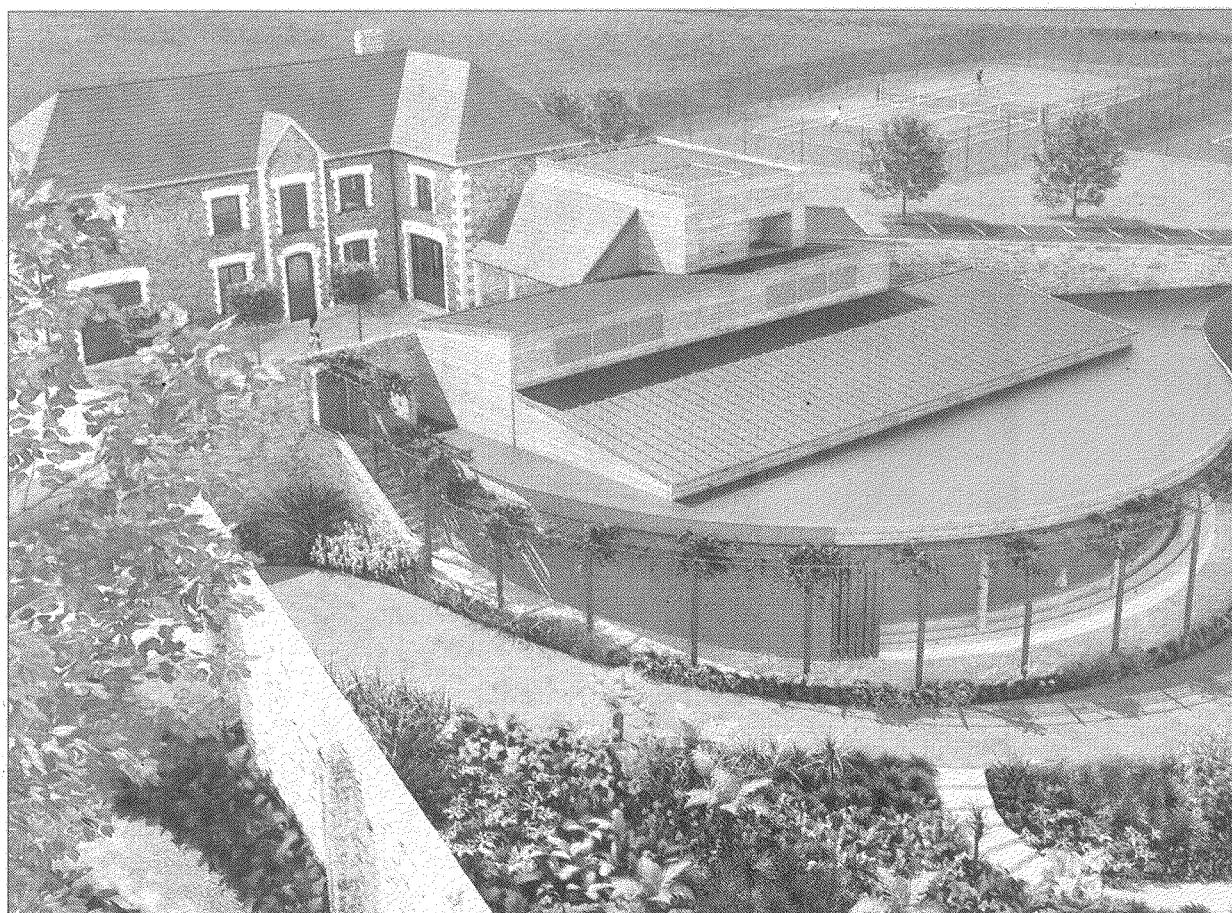
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■ An artist's impression of the hotel and spa complex at The Cornwall - a new luxury hotel being built near ST Austell.