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Results of an Archaeological Watching Brief at Le-Câtel Farm, Rozel, Trinity, Jersey

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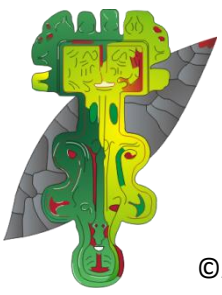
Absolute Archaeology

On behalf of Ms Mary Craig



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Summary

This report sets out the results of the archaeological watching brief on land to the rear (north) of Le Câtel Farm, Rozel, Trinity, Jersey. The work had been commissioned by Ms S Marsh, sarah marsh: architect (the Agent) on behalf of Ms Mary Craig (the Client).

The watching brief was requested in order to mitigate the impact on the potential archaeological resource posed by groundwork associated with the creation of an equestrian sand school in field 651 (States of Jersey Planning Ref P/2011/0548). The programme of work was informed by the Brief for an *Archaeological Watching-Brief Le Câtel Farm, Rozel, Trinity, Jersey* issued by the States of Jersey (Planning and Building Services) and Oxford Archaeology (Heritage Management Services).

The results of the watching brief and subsequent excavation have demonstrated previously unrecognised prehistoric and medieval activity associated with the landscape around Le Câtel Rozel earthwork/promontory fort. It has shown that there is potential for significant earth disturbance to have occurred in the Final Neolithic and that this reduction of land may have resulted in the (at least partial) creation of the neighbouring rampart of the promontory fort. This was followed immediately by the installation or reinstatement of a bank and ditch boundary, mistaken as a post-medieval field boundary, which may have acted as an animal enclosure.

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1. INTRODUCTION

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'No works authorised by this consent shall take place until arrangements have been made with the Historic Environment Officer for an archaeological watching brief during the course of the works in connection with the creation of the new sand school.'

The watching brief was carried out by Absolute Archaeology on from the 6th -11th February 2012.

1.1. The Project Site

Le Câtel Farm is situated in Trinity to the NE of the Island, overlooking Rozel Bay and directly to the west of the major earthwork of Câtel promontory fort. The portion of the earthwork in this area (orientated roughly north-south) is the only remnant of the monument clear above ground today. The bank probably encompassed the entire headland, and the route was potentially traced by the later parish boundary.

The site is located on Les Routes des Côtes du Nord, at the point where the road splits to become La Rue du Câtel (which heads in an easterly direction to Rozel Fort) and Le Mont de Rozel, which descends into Rozel Bay.

The Project Site is set within a predominantly rural area, defined by a combination of arable land and pasture. The site comprises the main farm house, a subsidiary house, a series of agricultural outbuildings and a yard/hard standing area. Field 651, to the rear of the

premises, has previously been heavily cultivated. The land abuts the west facing elevation of the earthwork and is the site of the sand school (Driscoll 2012).

1.2. Geology and Hydrology

The underlying geology of the Project Site is Rozel Conglomerate. There is good natural drainage, particularly to the west of the site. Natural springs rise in the Rozel promontory fort area, notably on the eastern descent to the bay.

1.3. The Earthworks of the Promontory Fort

The promontory fort is prehistoric in origin, most likely of Iron Age date, but possibly dating to the Late Bronze Age and certainly with a Neolithic predecessor. It is one of a number of promontory forts along the east and north coast of Jersey and is a significant heritage asset, relating to activity in the first millennium BC.

The history of the promontory fort and its potential dates are described in section 7 (Baseline Survey), but it is important at this point to describe the earthwork features that form the promontory as they are today. The Project Site is situated to the west of a Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age date promontory fort, which comprised a series of ramparts, which now only partially survive. Directly to the east of the Project Site and forming its eastern boundary (including the eastern boundary of field 651) is a single rampart, existing to 8m in height and with a width of up to 15m at its base. The bank is visible above ground for c.200m and is orientated in a SSE-NNW direction, descending with the natural topography towards the sea at the north. In prehistory this rampart may have enclosed the headland, taking account of the natural topography overlooking Rozel Bay, and incorporating La Nez at its most easterly extent, giving an interior area of potentially c.26ha. Most of this earthwork is no longer visible, but aerial photograph analysis indicates the potential for earthwork survival to the east, on the break of slope between La Rue de Câtel and Le Mont de Rozel, as recently as 1943.

The section of rampart adjacent to Field 651 is well preserved and remains one of the largest prehistoric features in the Channel Islands. Roughly 17m directly north of the northeast corner of Field 651 is a cut through the earthwork of c.3m width, which is utilised by walkers as a right of way. The date of this cut is uncertain, although it likely post-dates 1795 AD as the Duke of Richmond map does not record it (see sections 4.2 and 4.3). This cut feature was the focus of a “cleaning up” operation during the excavations in 1988, from which dateable but unstratified material was obtained (see section 7.1).

Roughly 20m north of the northern boundary of Field 651 and just beyond the footpath, two other earthworks exist. Both starting at the same point, one orientated SSE- NNW and curving to the NNE to join with the northerly extent of the main rampart. The other earthwork is aligned in an ESE-WNW direction and runs for approximately 115m, descending towards the sea at the north. It is unclear how these features relate to the main rampart or whether they are indeed contemporary.

2. ARCHAEOLOGICAL/HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

(Taken from Driscoll 2011: *Le Câtel Farm, Rozel, Trinity, Jersey Archaeological Desk Based Assessment)*

2.1.1. Overview

The Project Site is situated to the west of a Late Bronze Age or Early Iron Age promontory fort, which overlies an earlier Neolithic drystone wall. The fort was comprised of a series of ramparts, which now only partially survive. It is one of a number of promontory forts along the east and north coast of Jersey and is a significant heritage asset, relating to activity in the first millennium BC. Promontory forts of (probable) contemporary date are known beneath the castle at Gorey, at Fremont and at Câtel de Lecq, with another possible example at Plemont. In a wider context they form part of a network of similar prehistoric fortifications in Guernsey, possibly Alderney and certainly Normandy and Brittany, all of which range in date from the latter stages of the 2nd millennium BC to the end of the 1st millennium BC.

Directly to the east of the Project Site and forming its eastern boundary (including the eastern boundary of field 651) is a single rampart, existing to 8m in height and with a width of up to 15m at its base. The bank is visible above ground for c.200m and is orientated in a SSE-NNW direction, descending with the natural topography towards the sea, at the north. In prehistory this rampart may have enclosed the headland, taking account of the natural topography overlooking Rozel Bay, and incorporating La Nez at its most easterly extent, giving an interior area of potentially c.26ha. Most of this earthwork is no longer visible, but aerial photograph analysis indicates the potential for earthwork survival to the east, on the break of slope between La Rue de Câtel and Le Mont de Rozel, as recently as 1943.

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Câtel Rozel has been investigated examined at various points in history, but only one modern intrusive programme of work has taken place, that of Cunliffe (1992). Cotton (1958) comments on the fortification, along with others along the north coast, whilst Margaret Mathews (1986) undertook a field walking programme on the headland. This was followed by a limited trial excavation by Barry Cunliffe between 1988 and 1990 (Cunliffe 1992). These excavations were focussed mainly on areas within the promontory, which revealed occupation evidence dating to the Middle-Late Iron Age. These excavations did, however, focus on an area next to the rampart (trench 2) and an examination of the rampart cut (trench 1), north of Field 651.

Following this, John Stratford (2000) undertook an earthwork survey, which was followed by a geophysical survey by Paul Driscoll (2004). The results of this latter survey comprising a gradiometer survey of the interior and a resistance meter survey of parts of the exterior of the promontory fort, did not reveal significant archaeological evidence. Within the interior, areas of burning could be identified, but no evidence for an external ditch was identified. However, environmental conditions at the time of survey (extreme heat) limited the effectiveness of the resistivity survey.

2.1.2. Palaeoenvironment

No significant palaeoenvironmental analysis has taken place on the Project Site or within the Study area. The nearest palaeoenvironmental accounts come from Egypt woods near Petit Port, at Trinity School in Trinity and at Beuvelande in St Martin, all of which are a considerable distance from the Project Site and are therefore of little consequence to understanding the environment at Câtel Rozel.

2.1.3. Palaeolithic-Mesolithic (250000 – 5000 BC)

Although evidence for Palaeolithic activity along the north coast of Jersey is restricted to La Cotte de Chevre, Mesolithic activity has been suggested within the headland of Rozel itself. Mark Patton identified a series of flint assemblages from the headland as being of Mesolithic origin (Patton 1995), which is perhaps not surprising as the headland would have provided access to sheltered bays, marine resources and a natural springs. The flint here included characteristically Mesolithic single-platform type cores, although it is not clear from where on the headland the finds came from (Bukach 2005: 380).

2.1.4. Neolithic-Early Bronze Age (5000 – 1300BC)

Evidence for Neolithic activity is attested at various locations across the Câtel Rozel headland. A series field walking programmes (Matthews 1986) resulted in the discovery of flint scrapers, blades and cores, most likely of Neolithic date. A scraper of Grand Pressigny flint almost certainly of Neolithic date was found in the 1960s.

More recently the excavations by Barry Cunliffe from 1988-1990 revealed that the earthwork was constructed in two phases, with the early phase represented by a much smaller bank, with a matrix of turves containing freshly quarried rhyolite and some granite boulders. The early bank existed to a height of 0.7m and was c.3m wide and although the turves, rhyolite slabs and granite boulders may indicate a possible collapsed wall, it is more likely that they represent poorly constructed layers (Cunliffe 1992: 25). Coarse pottery sherds and struck flint waste flakes were recovered from the degraded bank material around the base of the early linear. The material was regarded as non diagnostic and a date range was not confirmed, although comparisons with material recovered from Le Pinnacle resulted in the assemblage being given a possible Neolithic to Early Bronze Age date. However, this simply offers a terminus anti quem for the construction of the early bank which, the construction date for which is still unknown.

2.1.5. Late Bronze Age (1300 – 800BC)

The date of the construction of the main rampart at Câtel Rozel is also a matter of debate. The excavations of 1988-1990 did reveal Late Bronze Age pottery in the makeup of the rampart. The diagnostic pottery included sherds belonging to a coarse barrel-shaped vessel, which would fit within the Late Bronze Age sequence for the Channel Islands. However, the sample area was extremely small, with excavations limited to the re excavation of the cut already identified through the earthwork and a small trial trench excavated against the inside of the earthwork. As no ditch was identified as a result of the investigation, it was concluded that Cotton's (1958) earlier hypothesis, that the earthwork had been created through scraping up the earth from the interior of the plateau, had been confirmed. However, the only element of the excavation targeting the outside of the earthwork was the western extension

to Trench 2 and it is suggested here that the results must be regarded as inconclusive (due to the limited scale of the work) and that the potential for an outer ditch must still be regarded as a possibility.

2.1.6. Iron Age (800 – 56/100BC)

From the available evidence the main concentration of activity at Câtel Rozel appears to have occurred during the Iron Age. It is also possible that during the Middle to Late Iron Age, the rampart was elaborated to become the large earthwork visible today.

Middle-Late Iron Age occupation activity was recovered through the excavations of 1988-1900. This was mainly concentrated on the northeast facing slope and included post-holes and hearths (the latter apparently cut into the conglomerate) associated with Middle-Late Iron Age pottery (Cunliffe 1992).

Between 1802 and 1883 four coin hoards were recovered from the interior of the earthwork, close to Rozel Bay (Finlaison & Hibbs 1984: 6.3) and comprised Late Iron Age Armorican and Roman type coins. Although it has been suggested that these hoards were deposited by refugees fleeing the Breton peninsula during the Roman conquest of Gaul, little evidence supports this as the Armorican tradition of burying coins predates the Roman period (Patton 1987: 143). In addition, a small bronze dagger of La Tène type was found, dating to the latter stages of the Iron Age (Hawkes 1939: 109).

2.1.7. Gallo-Roman (100/56 BC – 400 AD)

Evidence for Gallo-Roman activity at Câtel Rozel is limited to the Armorican coin hoard that contained Roman coins. These coins all date to within the 1st century BC (the most recent is a coin of Marcus Antonius to c.32 BC).

No structural evidence was located either through the excavations or subsequent geophysical surveys that could be attributed to the Gallo-Roman period.

2.1.8. Medieval (400 AD – 1600 AD)

There is no archaeological evidence directly related to the Project Site for the medieval period. Strip lynchets are recorded on the northeast facing slope of the headland, near the spring, but activity directly on or adjacent to the Project Site, for the period, is lacking.

2.1.9. Post-Medieval (1600 -1900 AD)

Some point prior to 1795 the current farmhouse (or a precursor) was constructed and the subsequent development of the Project Site is documented. Archaeologically there is little

evidence for significant activity in Field 651 or upon the rampart. Rozel Fort was constructed to the northeast of the site. This defensive structure does not appear to have impacted on the Project Site.

It is likely, that at some point after 1795 the cut through the rampart (just north of Field 651) was created.

2.1.10. Modern (1900-1950 AD)

There is nothing of note related to the Project Site for the modern period, other than a continuation of agricultural practices including the cultivation of Field 651 and the creation of the cottage and additional farm buildings.

3. APPROACH OF ARCHAEOLOGICAL WATCHING BRIEF

The broad aim of the archaeological Watching Brief was to identify and record features of archaeological interest discovered during groundwork associated with the development of a new sand school, in order to mitigate the impact of the works on the archaeological resource and enable discharge of the planning condition.

All work was undertaken in accordance with the IFA *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (revised 2008).

As defined in the *Brief for an Archaeological Watching-Brief, Le Câtel farm, Rozel, Trinity, Jersey*, the primary aims were;

- To allow the preservation by record of archaeological deposits within the resources available.
- To provide an opportunity for the watching archaeologist to warn the appropriate parties, before the destruction of the material in question, that an archaeological find has been made for which the resources allocated to the watching brief itself are not sufficient to support treatment to a satisfactory and proper standard.

4. LEGISLATIVE AND PLANNING FRAMEWORK

The Project Site is within an area of archaeological potential, and it situated directly adjacent to the known archaeological site of Câtel Rozel Promontory Fort, an Iron Age (probable) defensive structure, overlooking Rozel Bay. The development is looking to create a new

sand school, which would involve significant ground disturbance, in parts up to a depth of 1.15m.

This assessment is contained within the legislative and planning framework related to the Planning and Building (Jersey) Law 2002, the Island Plan 2002 (Policy G12) and the Supplementary Planning Guidance Planning Policy Note 1: Archaeology and Planning (January 2008).

The Island Plan 2002 states:

Paragraph 4.35: "Archaeological remains constitute one of the principal sources of information about the people who have lived in Jersey during the last 250,000 years. A rich variety of archaeological sites survive in the Island ranging from the Palaeolithic cave site at La Cotte de St Brelade, through Neolithic ritual sites, Iron Age promontory forts and medieval field patterns, to water mills and post-medieval town streets. These sites contain irreplaceable information about our past, are essential to a knowledge of the history of humanity, contribute to a sense of place and have education, leisure and tourism value."

Paragraph 4.36: "The Island's archaeological heritage is increasingly at risk, particularly from development within the town of St Helier and changes in the countryside. However, the proposed development of a site can also provide opportunities for archaeological investigation."

Paragraph 4.37: "The States of Jersey affirmed its commitment to the safeguarding of its archaeological heritage when it became a signatory to the 'European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (revised), Valetta, 1992' in September 2000. Some important sites are protected in Jersey Island Plan 2002 General Policies 4 – 13 law through designation as Sites of Special Interest, but many archaeological sites and areas are not designated and there is a need for them to be evaluated and protected, as appropriate, through planning policy."

Paragraph 4.38: "Consideration of the importance of possible archaeological remains should be made before schemes for the development of archaeologically sensitive sites are approved and archaeological evaluations of potential development sites should therefore be sought as early as possible. Supplementary planning guidance on Archaeology and Planning will provide information about areas of known or potential archaeological interest and guidance about the requirements of archaeological evaluation."

Paragraph 4.39: "There is a presumption in favour of the preservation of important archaeological remains and there may be instances where archaeological remains will be of such significance to justify their preservation in situ. In most cases, however, mitigation measures (either through the design of development, through prior excavation and recording or an archaeological watching brief during development) will provide adequate protection."

5. METHODOLOGY

The specific aims of the archaeological watching brief were to:

- Seek to assess the potential for archaeological activity associated with the project site;
- Record and identify archaeological features and deposits to a level appropriate to their extent and significance;
- Undertake sufficient post-excavation assessment to interpret archaeological features and phasing identified during site works and to place these within their local and regional context;
- Create a site archive for deposition in a suitable repository.

6. RESULTS

6.1. Main Excavation Areas A-E

The watching brief comprised the monitoring of the mechanical reduction of an area measuring 20m (w) x 49.5m (l) to a depth of 400mm-600mm, in order to establish an equestrian sand school on land to the rear (north) of Le Câtel Farm. This was carried out by a 360^0 digger with a 2m wide grading bucket. The initial reduction of topsoil/turfline (1) revealed a soft silty clay matrix (11) comprising c. 40% rounded pebbles. The context was interpreted as representing the truncated subsoil, with pebbles demonstrative of the raised beach geological formation, characteristic of this area of the island. Residual finds collected from the topsoil and the horizon between this layer and truncated subsoil (11) were recorded under context (1) and divided into areas A-E in order to aid spatial patterning. The results revealed a general scatter of worked flints, flakes and cores representing Mesolithic-Bronze Age Activity across the Project Site, whilst the greater concentration of Neolithic-Bronze Age ceramics were recovered from Area B, which was located to the SE of the Project Site, in the vicinity of linear ditch F[2].

6.2. Linear Ditch Feature [2]

Stratigraphically the topsoil/turfline layer (1) was seen to seal a raised area of redeposited natural (5) which is interpreted as bank material bordering linear ditch Feature [2]. The deposit was preserved against the SW balk section and situated against the SE edge of the ditch. Test slots were excavated along the revealed length of the ditch feature, which cartographic and photographic sources revealed correspond to the location of a banked field boundary which was still extant on the Project Site in the late 20th century.

Sondage 1, measuring 1m (w) was excavated against the SW facing balk section and recorded as cut [3]. The excavation revealed fills (4), (10) and (12). Upper silty loam deposit (4), although a similar matrix to (10), contained residual ceramics dating from the post medieval period to the Gallo-Roman period and is interpreted as having been disturbed by post medieval agricultural activity. This material sealed fill (10) which contained ceramic sherds dating from the 13th -16th century AD. This deposit was seen to seal soft sandy silt (12), which was the primary fill of F[2], as seen in Sondage 1.

Sondage 2, measuring 1m (w) was excavated to the SW of Sondage 1 and recorded as cut [7]. The excavation revealed silty loam deposit (6) which was similar to (10) and is interpreted as the same phase of activity, with material evidence giving a *Terminus post quem* of 1250 AD. The material was seen to seal sandy silt fill (15), which is similar to material (12) and is interpreted as the same phase of activity. Heights above sea level for the two deposits were recorded within 80mm of each other. Fill (15) contained Mesolithic-Bronze Age flint flakes along with 3 sherds of Bronze Age pottery. No later finds were identified from the fill, which is interpreted as contemporary with the early phase of the ditch. F[2] was recorded at a greater depth in the area of Sondage 2, with an apparent cut [17] truncating soft silty fill (18), recorded at the base of the ditch. Further investigation was not possible at the time of the investigation as excavations were not planned to a depth that would have disturbed the feature at this level.

Sondage 3, measuring 1m (w) was excavated to the SW of Sondage 2 and was recorded as cut [9]. The excavation revealed upper fill (8) which was shown to have been heavily disturbed. The ditch cut lost clarity in this area, and it is suggested that root activity may have disturbed the stratigraphy. Sondage 3 was abandoned due to the above.

Cuts [3] and [7] represent the main cut of linear ditch F[2], which could be seen to have been excavated into truncated subsoil (11). Initial interpretation in view of the stratigraphy

suggested that the ditch was cut into an area which had been recently reduced to reveal the subsoil. This is supported by an investigation of the stratigraphy sealed by bank material (5) which, when excavated was seen to seal a scatter of Neolithic ceramics and 2 Neolithic/Bronze Age flint artefacts resting directly on context (11). This material scatter has been given context number (13) to represent activity on the site which may be contemporary with the landscaping programme which saw the reduction of the historic topsoil and subsoil and the development of the ditch and bank boundary.

7. FINDS

7.1. Flint Analysis - Paul Martin

Feature [2]

Altogether 27 worked flints weighing in total 100g were found within the fills of the linear feature F[2]. Two worked flints were recovered from layer (13) directly below the adjacent and related earthwork bank (5). All of the worked flint is classified as residual. Of the 26 flints found only two can be categorised as quality flint, the majority being low grade longshore drift or raised beached flint with primary and secondary flaking and confirming from the analysis the low percentage of tertiary flakes. Chronologically the collection of flint is difficult to ascertain due to the small size of the nodules, and consequently the reduction techniques involved, though several of the worked flints can be classed as blade like in nature and probably dating to the Mesolithic/Early Neolithic periods. Due to the acidic conditions of their deposition the majority of the worked flint was classed as unpatinated with only two flints being patinated. Six of the worked flints were calcined (burnt). Calcined flint can be the result of accidental burning in a hearth or burnt deliberately as temper for pottery. Of the 26 flints found only four can be classified as tools (2 small scrapers and two flakes with retouch).

Areas A, B, C, D & E

An area measuring 20m (w) x 49.5m (l) x 600mm-400mm (d) was reduced down through topsoil (1) and on to a truncated subsoil horizon (11) comprising raised beach material consisting of mixed sandy clay and pebbles. The main excavation was divided into quadrants A-D and a total of 114 worked flints were identified within these areas, with a further 13 recovered from the reduction of an access route from the main road to the Project Site (Area E). A walkover survey of the surrounding ploughed land in field 651 identified 26 additional surface finds.

7.2. Ceramics

7.2.1. Prehistoric Ceramics- Paul Driscoll

The prehistoric ceramics from Câtel Rozel form a small and fairly homogenous assemblage, most of which are probably derived from local sources on Jersey. A total of 106 sherds weighing 344g were found as part of the watching brief and subsequent excavation. 63 sherds, weighing 246 g were recovered from designated areas ‘A’ ‘B’ ‘C’ ‘D’ ‘E’ and topsoil (context 1) and 43 sherds, weighing 98g came from the excavated slots from within the linear feature F2.

Fabric

Five fabric types have been identified, although it must be conceded that these are fairly homogenous with only slight deviations. In the main they are coarse fabrics with little sign sorting of inclusions or external burnishing.

Fabric Group	Context	Sherd count	Sherd weight (g)	Sherd type
1	1 (Surface Finds)	2	8	Body
1	1 (Area A)	4	11	Body
1	1 (Area B)	2	9	Rim
1	1 (Area B)	1	16	Base
1	1 (Area B)	40	142	Body
2	1 (Area B)	3	14	Body
1	1 (Area C)	2	11	Rim and Body
1	1 (Area D)	1	9	Base
1	1 (Area D)	7	13	Body
1	1 (Area E)	1	13	Body
1	5	1	7	Body
3	5	1	9	Body
1	6	6	13	Body
1	6	1	5	Body
2	6	2	1	Body
2	6	1	0.5	Rim
3	6	1	1	Body
3	6	4	6	Body
4	6	1	3	Body
4	6	4	6	Body
3	8	4	6	Body
1	10	4	3	Body
2	10	1	6	Body
3	10	1	1	Rim
1	13	4	11	Body
5	13	1	0.5	Body
4	13	1	4	Body
1	15	1	1	Body
5	15	2	13	Body
1	16	2	1	Body

Fabric 1 (MIQU)

The most prominent fabric group was a coarse, handmade, sandy-granular, soft and irregularly fired ware with fine mica and quartz inclusions, prominent on both the exterior and interior, with little sign of burnishing or other processing works. It had been irregularly fired with section colour ranging from orangey-red exteriors to brown interior surfaces. The inclusions of mica and quartz were moderate to rare, poorly sorted and sub-rounded to rounded suggesting natural inclusions derived from the parent clay source, most likely local granite.

Fabric 2 (MIVE)

Fabric 2 was a smooth-sandy but irregularly fired ware, with an oxidised external surface and matrix (orangey-red), unoxidised core (black) and irregularly fired interior surface and matrix (reddish brown). The inclusions comprised moderate quantity mica, which had been moderately sorted and was rounded again suggesting natural derivation from parent material. Inclusions also included organic material (fibres) as temper, distinguishing it from Fabric 1.

Again it is likely to be derived from a local source (probably granite, although this is not certain) and matches the fabrics of Early Bronze Age vessels, in particular the biconical urns from Ville-es-Nouaux and La Hougue des Millais (Driscoll 2012).

Fabric 3 (MI)

Sandy-smooth oxidised mica ware, demonstrating fairly consistent firing with dark brownish-red colour throughout matrix (exterior, core and interior). Ware was soft with sandy-smooth texture and like all the other fabrics, hand-made. Mica inclusions were moderate, moderately sorted and rounded.

Fabric 4 (MIQUFD)

Coarse mica (moderate frequency, moderately sorted and sub-rounded), quartz (rare frequency, moderately sorted and sub-rounded) and feldspar (sparse frequency, poorly sorted and sub-rounded) ware, with sandy-smooth texture, brownish-orange exterior, interior and core colouration indicating regular firing and oxidisation.

Fabric 5 (MIRO)

Only three sherds belonged to this fabric group, but one of them is diagnostic. Fabric is a fine (thin) oxidised orangey-brown exterior, oxidised cream/buff interior on one sherd and brown interior on remaining two, with black unoxidised cores. Primary inclusions are those of common, moderately sorted and sub-rounded mica, with moderate, moderately sorted and sub-angular rock fragments, implying temper.

Form

There were only four rim sherds and two base sherds from the 106 sherd assemblage and these were too fragmented and abraded to provide an accurate depiction of form.

Surface Treatments and Decorations

Some of the sherds, particularly from Fabrics 2 and 3, show evidence for burnishing, but the remaining assemblage, particularly belonging to Fabrics 1 and 4 were coarse and untreated.

Of particular note, however, is a single decorated body sherd from Context 15 and belonging to Fabric 5. This sherd has evenly distributed, cord impressed horizontal decoration around the body and is reminiscent of Beaker pottery from the Channel Islands and NW France. It is not possible to determine from such a fragmentary sherd, whether it belongs to a Bell Beaker or a Jersey Bowl, but fits most clearly within the Late Neolithic ceramic sequence for the Channel Islands.

Manufacture, function, use and disposal

The complete ceramic assemblage for the prehistoric period is hand-made and most likely relates to domestic use (based on the nature of the site, rather than the nature of the assemblage). The majority of the assemblage is likely to be derived from local Jersey clay sources, perhaps those of granite origin, which is almost certainly the case of Fabric 4.

Discussion

The ceramic assemblage recovered during the recent excavations, adds considerably to a history of the site and also adds to the previous excavations that took place at the promontory fort. The excavations that took place in the late 1980s revealed an early bank beneath the main defensive rampart, which was interpreted as being Late Neolithic (Final Neolithic/Chalcolithic) based on stratigraphy and analogy, but without confirmed dating evidence (Cunliffe 1992: 49). Although such dating evidence is still absent directly, the pottery assemblage from the recent watching brief and excavation belongs to the Late Neolithic and Early Bronze Age, showing that activity around the site was occurring during these periods. Furthermore, the recently identified ceramic assemblage adds to an already existing corpus of pottery found during the 1980s excavations, which were predominantly Late Bronze Age and Iron Age, showing long term (although admittedly this cannot be shown as continuous) activity.

Regionally, the assemblage belongs to the Final Neolithic/Chalcolithic-Early Bronze Age of the Channel Islands, with the bulk of the material belonging to the Late Neolithic. Early

Bronze Age material is present, with fabrics similar to biconical urns found elsewhere within the archipelago (such as Hougue de Millais and La Pulente) occurring. It is difficult to be precise about the dates of these urns, but it is likely that they are later additions to the Channel Islands, possibly as late as c.1700 BC.

The remaining assemblage can be categorised as Final Neolithic/Chalcolithic. The pottery varies between coarse and sandy-smooth, with some evidence for burnishing and the ceramics fit well within already establish Late Neolithic/Final Neolithic assemblages on Jersey. They are not dissimilar to the ceramic wares found at La Tête des Quennevais (Patton and Finlaison 2001) and other Final Neolithic/Chalcolithic sites (Driscoll 2012), whilst the single decorated sherd is likely to be a fragment of Bell Beaker.

7.2.2. Gallo Roman-Medieval Ceramics- Duncan Brown

Twenty-two sherds of pottery, with a total weight of 85 grams, were recovered from four contexts in the upper fills of Feature 2. The sherds were sorted by ware type and recorded by weight, sherd count and vessel count. All the finds were body sherds, so no rim measurements were recorded.

Most of the pottery is related to Normandy Gritty ware, a type identified by Barton following his excavations in Guernsey and Jersey and further defined from finds in Southampton (Brown 2002, 22). Four sherds of Normandy Gritty ware have been identified in this assemblage but more common is the later variant, Developed Normandy Gritty ware (eight sherds), which is a common find in the Channel Islands (Barton 2003, 227). This dates from the mid-13th century and was a more refined and harder fired version of Normandy Gritty ware. There is also one sherd of proto-Normandy stoneware, a later development of the Normandy Gritty ware tradition (Brown 2002, 29). The assemblage also contains a few sherds of related unglazed sandy wares that probably also originated in Normandy. There are also several sherds of Roman-period sandy wares that are more abraded than the later types and may be residual; however, given the low quantity of pottery overall and the small sherd size of all the pieces it is difficult to use any of these finds as conclusive dating evidence.

Context 4 produced two plain body sherds of Developed Normandy Gritty ware, three fragments of North French sandy ware and one fragment of Roman-period oxidised ware. Developed Normandy Gritty ware is the latest type present, suggesting a date after 1250.

Context 6 contained Normandy Gritty ware, Developed Normandy Gritty ware, North French sandy ware and a ten-gram sherd of Roman-period oxidised ware.

Context 8 included a fragment of Normandy Gritty ware with thumbed applied strip decoration that characterises the large pitchers that are a typical form (Platt and Coleman-Smith 1975, Nos. 875, 878). An abraded sherd of a white sandy ware may be a medieval Normandy type but it could actually be of Roman date, while there are two further sherds that can more certainly be identified as Roman-period.

Context 10 is perhaps the latest context in the sequence as it contains a sherd of proto-Normandy stoneware as well as three sherds of Developed Normandy Gritty ware.

8. PROJECT ARCHIVE

Ms Mary Craig has resolved to retain the entire archive, for which she has agreed to make all necessary provision for the long-term preservation of the archive in a satisfactory environment, and to ensure that it is accessible for future research, in the accordance with the *Brief for an Archaeological Watching-Brief, Le Câtel farm, Rozel, Trinity, Jersey* (Driscoll 2012, 14-15). The above shall be responsible for the future preservation and maintenance of any material element of that archive.

That site archive in question shall be transferred to the legal owner only after all necessary processing, research, analysis and investigative/stabilising conservation and correct packing necessary to prepare the archive for preservation and storage in a usable, accessible form, and to produce a full report for publication has been completed.

The archaeological contractor will ensure that a proper record of material kept by the landowner shall be included in the written archive, and the location and ownership of the material shall be stated in the written archive and public record. The explicit (written) permission of the owner shall be obtained for the latter in order that data protection legislation is not contravened.

9. DISCUSSION

The results of the watching brief have determined two important points that relate to the significance of the site and have potentially broader ramifications across the island, both of which are associated with the discovery of the linear Feature [2], which comprised a bank

and ditch, forming what was assumed (prior to excavation) to be a post-medieval field boundary.

Firstly, the observations carried out by Absolute Archaeology during the course of the watching brief showed that a large area of soil (topsoil, subsoil and natural raised beach deposits) were removed, probably through a process of scraping away the then existing land surface and leaving a truncated area bare of any topsoil or subsoil. The absence of topsoil from beneath the linear bank (5) of Feature [2] implies that the bank was built almost immediately after ground disturbance and that the two actions are contemporary (i.e. part of single operation).

The description of the soils from Câtel Rozel by Cunliffe during the 1988-90 excavations and within the Le Câtel earthwork (Cunliffe 1992, 25-6) suggest that the main bank was made up of turves and topsoil and then capped with gravelly soil derived from the top of the local bedrock (eroded Rozel conglomerate). This concurs with findings from the sand school investigation where topsoil and presumably subsoil have been removed for the construction of the Le Câtel earthwork leaving a large truncated area of land to the west. The most obvious place for this soil to go would be where the rampart is currently located.

It cannot be said at this stage whether this accounts for the entire rampart, or only part of it and a clean section cut through the rampart would necessary to examine this further. The implication is however, that at least part of the rampart was created in the Final Neolithic period. The dating of this activity is suggested by the Final Neolithic pottery, which was sealed beneath the bank of Feature [2].

The reduction of the ground surface, however, had another consequence in that it meant the land was no longer in use as pasture or arable land. However, it is clear that the bank and ditch was re-established following the removal of the fertile upper stratigraphy. The nature of the bank and ditch suggests evidence of stock enclosures; however with limited potential to graze it could be argued that Feature [2] represents a holding pen of some nature, perhaps in relation to the import or export of livestock across the waters.

Secondly, the island wide ramifications of the recent watching brief and subsequent excavation is to demonstrate that field boundaries, previously considered to be post-medieval, may in fact be prehistoric in origin and the broader implication is that Jersey may possess a relic prehistoric landscape that has never been previously identified.

10. CONCLUSION

The results of the watching brief and subsequent excavation have demonstrated previously unrecognised prehistoric and medieval activity associated with the landscape around Le Câtel Rozel earthwork/promontory fort. It has shown that there is potential for significant earth disturbance to have occurred in the Final Neolithic and that this reduction of land may have resulted in the at least partial creation of the neighbouring rampart of the promontory fort. This was followed immediately by the installation or reinstatement of a bank and ditch boundary, mistaken as a post-medieval field boundary, which may have acted as an animal enclosure.

11. REFERENCES

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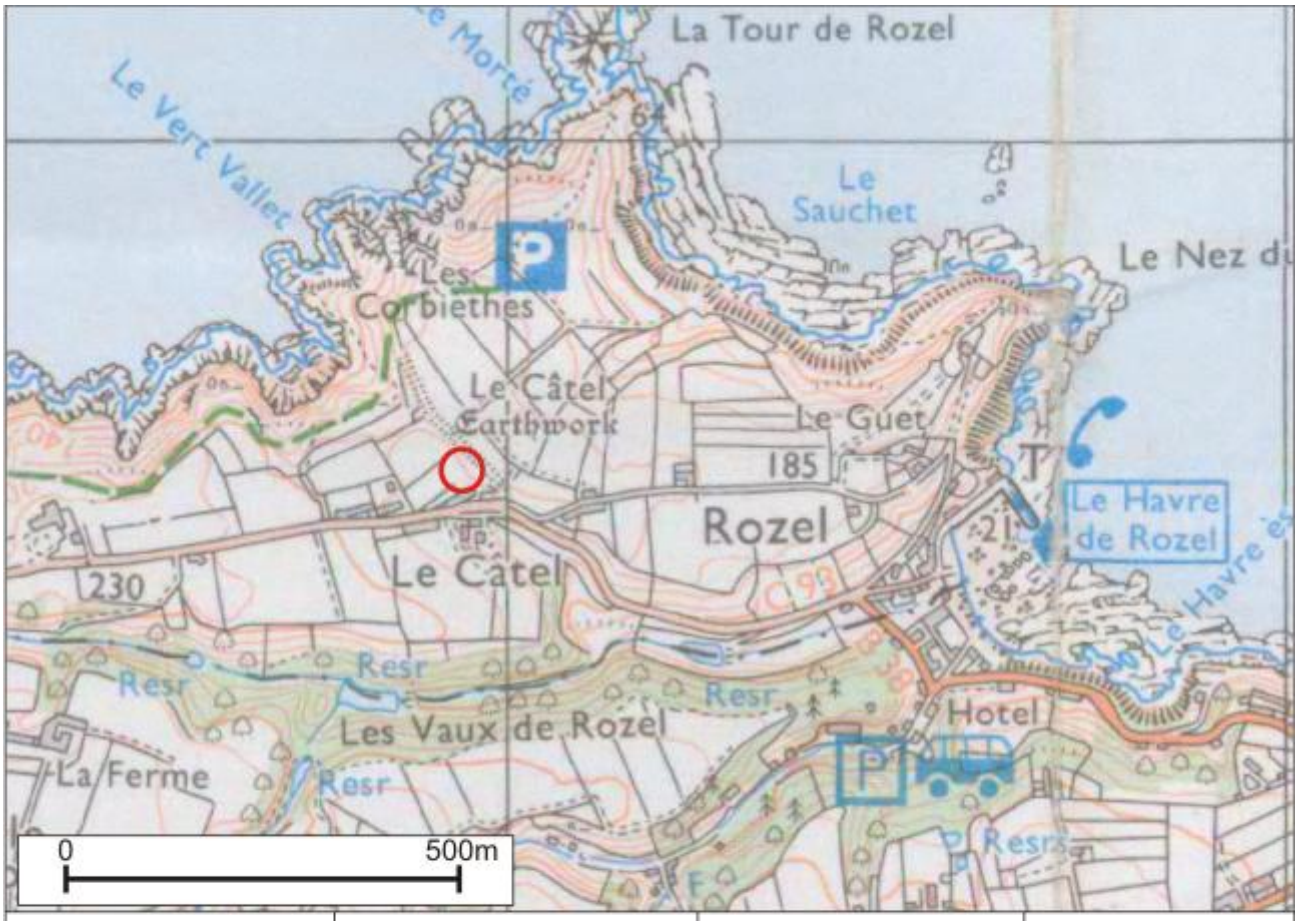
12. FIGURES

Figure 1: Location Plan



1988 Ordnance Survey Map 1:25000	UTM 68829 54353	= Location of Site	N
Project Site Le Câtel Farm, La Route des Cotes du Nord, Trinity, JE3 5BJ			

Figure 2: Trench location in relation to previous excavations by Cunliffe (basemap © Cunliffe 1992)

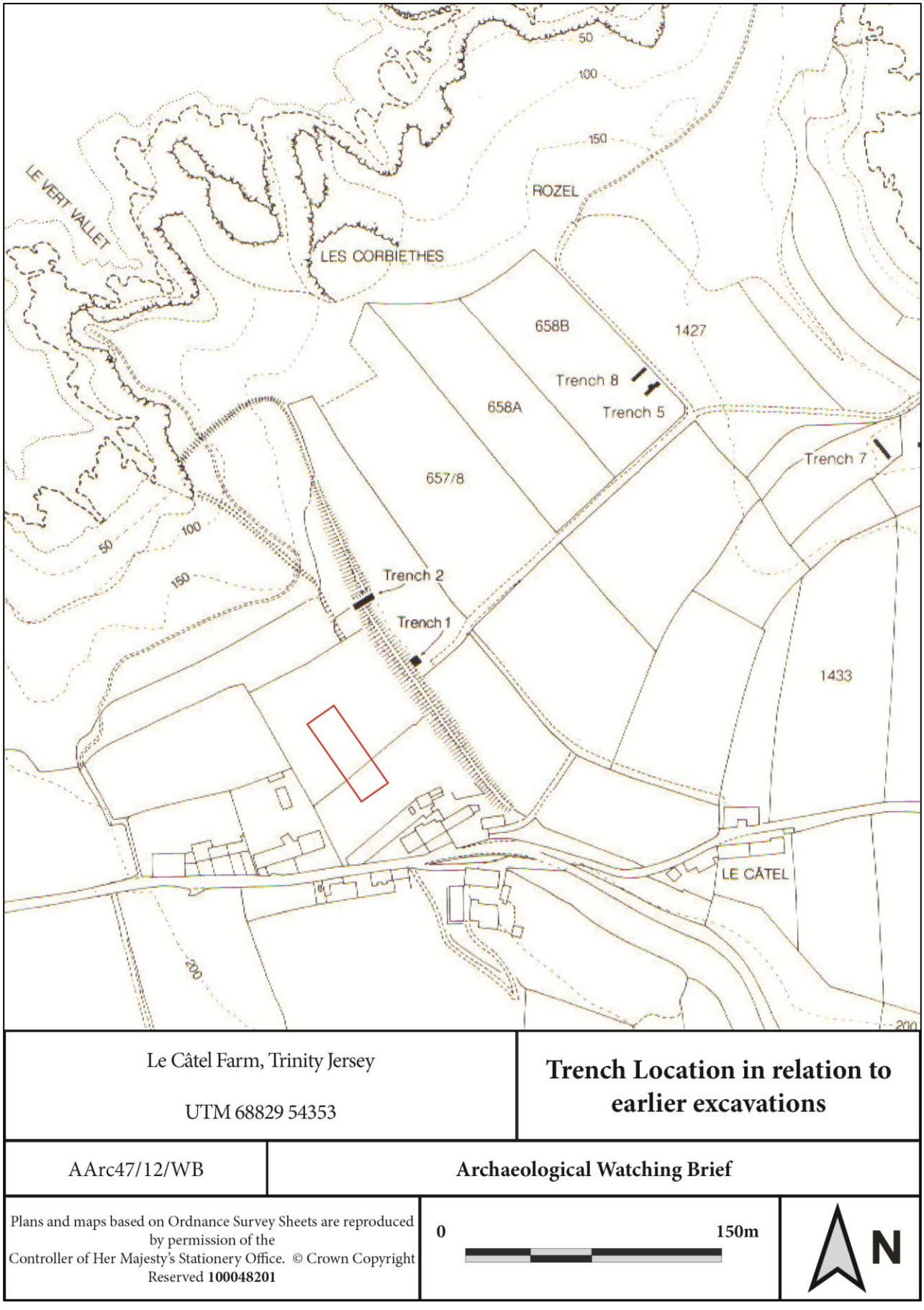
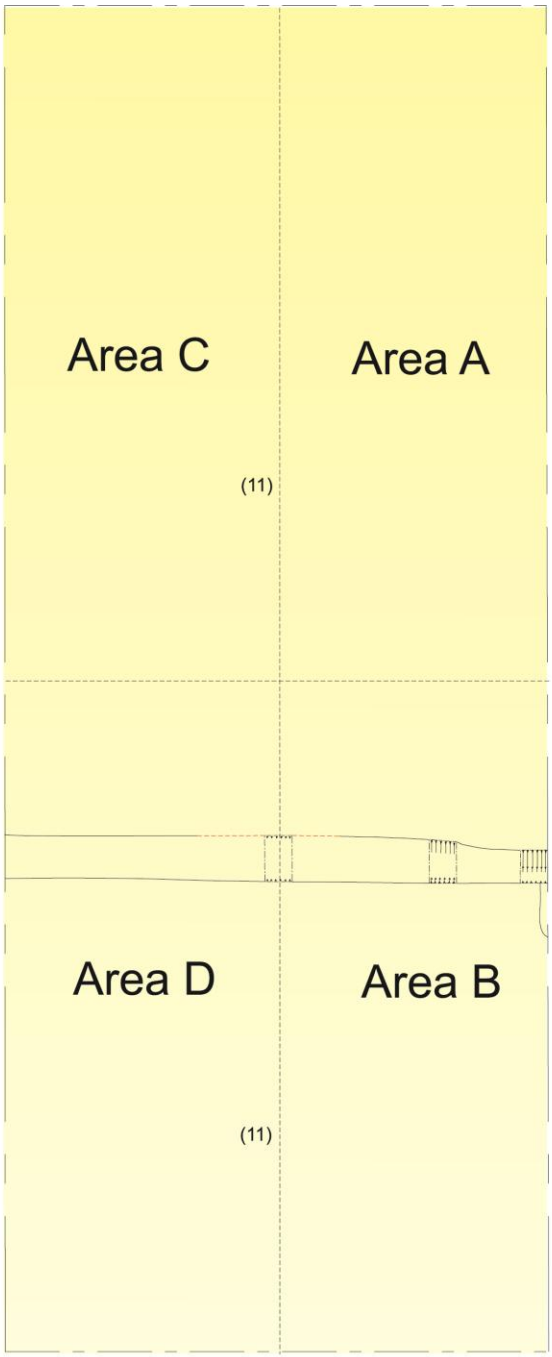
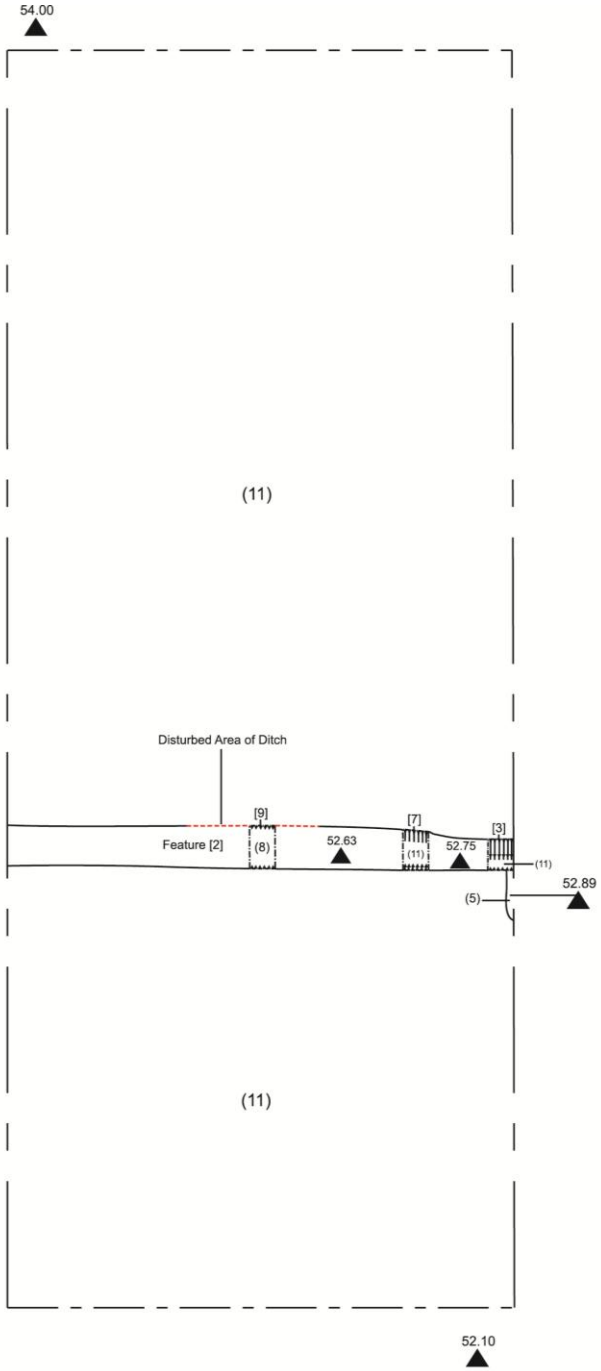


Figure 3: Area locations



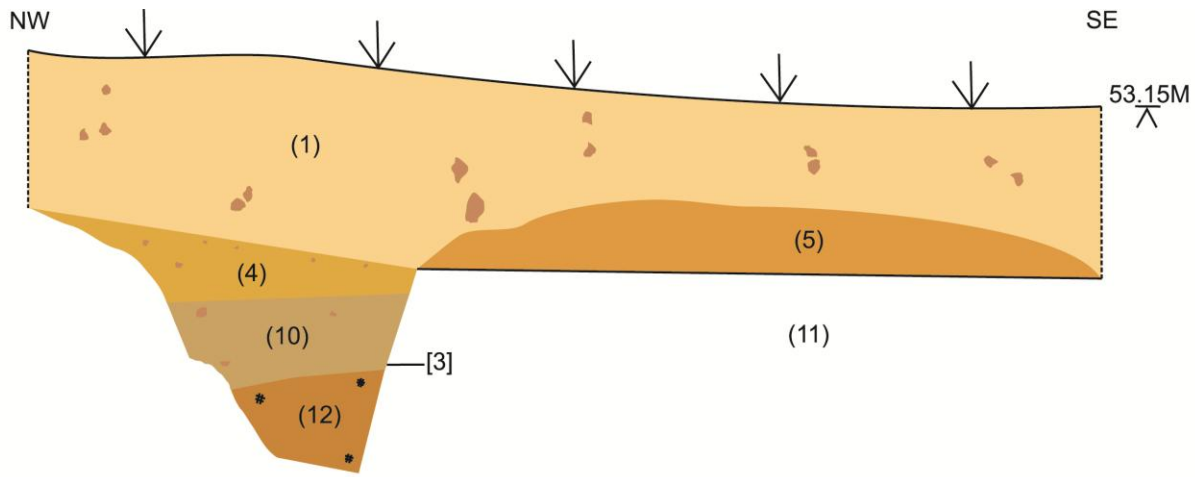
Le Câtel Farm, Trinity Jersey **UTM 68829 54353**	Area Locations
AArc47/12/WB	**Archaeological Watching Brief**
Plans and maps based on Ordnance Survey Sheets are reproduced by permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright Reserved **100048201**	**0** **10m** **N**

Figure 4: Plan of Trench



Le Câtel Farm, Trinity Jersey **UTM 68829 54353**	Trench Plan (drawn at 1:20)
AArc47/12/WB	**Archaeological Watching Brief**
Plans and maps based on Ordnance Survey Sheets are reproduced by permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office. © Crown Copyright Reserved **100048201**	**0** **20m** **N**

Figure 5: Section 1 Sondage 1



Le Câtel Farm, Trinity Jersey **UTM 68829 54353**	Section 1 (drawn at 1:10)
AArc47/12/WB	**Archaeological Watching Brief**
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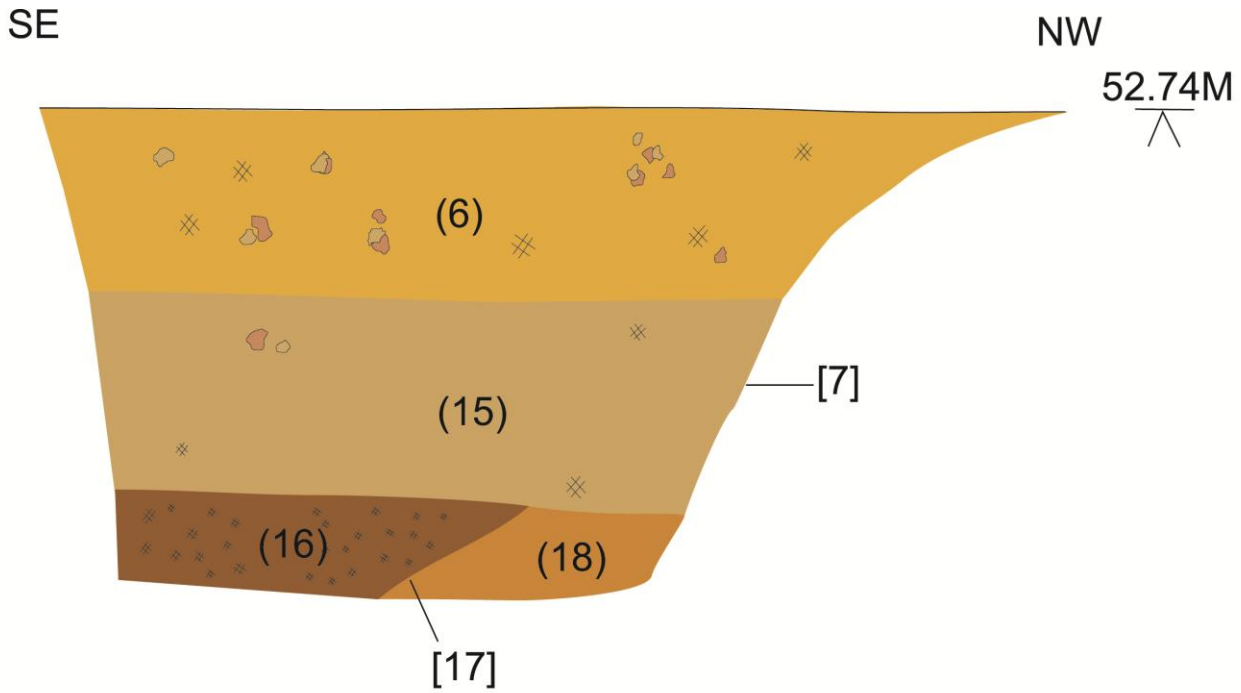
Figure 6: Section 2 Sondage 2



Le Câtel Farm, Trinity Jersey **UTM 68829 54353**	Section 2 (drawn at 1:10)
AArc47/12/WB	**Archaeological Watching Brief**
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13. PHOTOGRAPHS

Photograph 1: SE Facing View Reducing the Project Site

Photograph 2: SE Facing View Reducing the Project Site

Photograph 3: NE Facing View of F[2] With Excavated Slots 1-3. Le Câtel Earthwork in the Background

Photograph 4: SW Facing Balk Section with Slot 1 and Bank Material (5) to the SE (Scales 1 x 300mm, 3 x 1m & 1 x 2m)

Photograph 5: SW Facing Section Slot 1 (Scales 2 x 1m)

Photograph 6: NE Facing Section Slot 2 (Scales 1 x 500mm & 1 x 1m)

Photograph 7: SW Facing View of F[2][During Excavation (Scales 1 x 1m & 1 x 2m)

14. APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Table of Contexts

Watching Brief						
Description: Reduction of Sand School Footprint				**Orientation**	NW-SE	
				Depth	600mm-400mm (NW-SE)	
				Width	20m	
				Length	49.5m	
Contexts 1-18						
Context Number	**Type**	**Depth/ Height**	**Width**	**Length**	**Colour (Munsell Ref)**	**Date**
1	Topsoil/Turf line	600mm-400mm	>20m	>49.5m	Dark Greyish Brown	Feb 2012
2	Linear Cut Feature Comprising [3], [7] & [9]	600mm-750mm	1.2m-1.6m	>20m	-	Feb 2012
3	Cut-Sondage 1 Within F[2]	600mm	1.2m	-	-	Feb 2012
4	Fill-Within [3] Upper disturbed material-Same as (10)	350mm	1.2m	>1m	Mid Greyish Brown	Feb 2012
5	Deposit	Truncated 300mm	-	2.2m	Mid Yellowish Brown	Feb 2012
6	Fill-Within [7]	400mm	1.6m	>1m	Mid Greyish Brown	Feb 2012
7	Cut-Sondage 2 Within F[2]	750mm	1.6m	-	-	Feb 2012
8	Fill-Disturbed	-	-	-	-	Feb 2012
9	Cut-Disturbed	-	-	-	-	Feb 2012
10	Fill-Within [3]	350mm	1.2m-700mm	>1m	Mid Greyish Brown	Feb 2012
11	Natural	-	-	-	Mid Yellowish Brown	Feb 2012
12	Fill- Within [3]	250mm	700mm-400mm	>1m	Mid Yellowish Brown	Feb 2012
13	Sealed Finds	-	-	-	-	Feb 2012

14	Cut/Event Historic Reduction of Site	-	-	-	-	Feb 2012
15	Fill-Within [7]	250mm	700mm-400mm	>1m	Mid Yellowish Brown	Feb 2012
16	Fill-Within [17]	120mm	640mm	-	Dark Greyish Brown	Feb 2012
17	Cut	120mm	640mm	-	-	Feb 2012
18	Fill-Within [7]	120mm	<420mm	-	Mid Yellowish Brown	Feb 2012

Appendix 2: Finds Tables

FLINT: MESOLITHIC, NEOLITHIC AND BRONZE AGE WORKED FLINT					
AREA AND CONTEXT	**TYPE**	**Weight (g)**	**NUMBER OF FLINTS**	**PERIOD**	**DATE FOUND**
AREA 'A' (1)	FLAKES CORES BURNT FLINT RETOUCHED/REWORKED	396	39	MESO NEO BA	FEB 2012
AREA 'B' (1)	FLAKES CORES BURNT FLINT RETOUCHED/REWORKED	96	24	MESO NEO BA	FEB 2012
AREA 'C' (1)	FLAKES CORES BURNT FLINT RETOUCHED/REWORKED	141	23	MESO NEO BA	FEB 2012
AREA 'D' (1)	FLAKES CORES BURNT FLINT RETOUCHED SCRAPERS	173	28	MESO NEO BA	FEB 2012
AREA 'E' (1)	FLAKES CORES BURNT FLINT RETOUCHED/REWORKED SCRAPERS	76	13	MESO NEO BA	FEB 2012
FIELD SURFACE FINDS (1)	FLAKES CORES BURNT FLINT RETOUCHED/REWORKED SCRAPERS	143	26	MESO NEO BA	FEB 2012
(4)	FLAKE	2	1	MESO NEO BA	FEB 2012
(5)	BURNT FLINT		1	NEO BA	FEB 2012
(6)	FLAKES CORES BURNT FLINT RETOUCHED/REWORKED SCRAPERS	57	13	MESO NEO BA	FEB 2012
(8)	FLAKES		3	NEO BA	FEB 2012
(10)	WASTE FLAKES	4	4	MESO NEO BA	FEB 2012
(13)	FLAKE SCRAPER	5	2	NEO BA	FEB 2012

(15)	FLAKES CORES	31	6	MESO NEO BA	FEB 2012

CERAMICS: ROMAN-MEDIEVAL - CERAMICS						
AREA AND CONTEXT	**TYPE**	**Weight (g)**	**SHERD COUNT**	**EARLY DATE**	**LATEST DATE**	**DATE FOUND**
4	Developed Normandy Gritty ware	4	2	1250	1400	FEB 2012
4	North French white coarseware	4	3	1200	1400	FEB 2012
4	Roman	4	1			FEB 2012
6	Developed Normandy Gritty ware	8	3	1250	1400	FEB 2012
6	Normandy Gritty ware	4	3	1100	1300	FEB 2012
6	North French oxidised sandy ware	5	1	1200	1350	FEB 2012
6	Roman	10	1			FEB 2012
8	Normandy Gritty ware	24	1	1100	1300	FEB 2012
8	North French sandy whiteware	7	1	1100	1400	FEB 2012
8	Roman	3	2			FEB 2012
10	Proto-Normandy stoneware	4	1	1400	1500	FEB 2012
10	Developed Normandy Gritty ware	8	3	1250	1400	FEB 2012

Appendix 3: General chronological table (guide only)

Period	Date	Information
Prehistoric	250000 – 100/56 BC	Generalised period from the earliest human activity in the island to the official conquest of Gaul by the Romans.
Palaeolithic	250000 - 10000 BC	Defined by a number of key sites showing Neanderthal and Early Human activity, for example La Cote de St Brelade. Mobile groups, ephemeral habitation evidence, stone tool technology.
Mesolithic	10000 – 5000 BC	Period of major transformation in the European environment and landscape after the end of the last Ice Age and the beginning of the Holocene. Mobile hunter-gatherer communities, sophisticated tool technology and some semi-permanent settlement with evidence for the exploitation of the coastal zones of the islands. Example at Lihou Priory on Guernsey.
Neolithic	5000 – 2400 BC	The Channel Islands saw an earlier transition to the Neolithic than in Britain. Emergence of monumental architecture, first (potentially) with menhirs later by chambered tombs and subsequently gallery graves. Development of complex society, more sedentary lifestyles and more clearly defined symbolic behaviour.
Final Neolithic/Chalcolithic/ Beaker phase	2400 – 1800 BC	Earliest introduction of copper to western Europe. Expansion of the pan-European Beaker phenomenon, including prestigious material culture and individual burials. Bell Beakers found throughout the archipelago including local emulations called Jersey Bowls. Cist-in-Circle monuments.
Bronze Age	1800 – 800 BC	The Introduction of Bronze as a material, used by the elite at first and later available to the populace more widely. Barrows/tumuli for the dead in the early stages replaced by a lack of monuments and the preponderance toward hoard deposition. Large quantities of bronze metalwork found throughout the islands and in Jersey in particular.
Iron Age	800 – 100/56 BC	Little change to domestic life in the islands. Return of monumental architecture in the form of promontory forts (at Câtel Rozel, Fremont etc) in the earlier periods, followed by warrior and horse burials in the Middle to Later stages (Guernsey only).
Gallo-Roman	100/56 BC – 400 AD	Used to describe a fusion of indigenous late Iron Age traditions in France and the Channel Islands with Roman culture. Represented by the identification of Gallo-Roman ceramics and roofing material recently excavated at Grouville Parish Church, confirming the first evidence of Gallo-Roman occupation in Jersey.
Early Medieval	400 – 973 AD	Represents the time from the end of the Roman period c.400 AD to the annexation of the Channel Islands as a region of Normandy under William Longsword in 973.
Medieval	973 – 1600 AD	Norman and post-Norman phases of Channel Island life. The islands remained loyal to the English crown despite the loss of territories in NW France under King John. Period of fortification building throughout the archipelago and in Jersey at Mont Orgueil and later at Elizabeth Castle. 1600 AD is an arbitrary date, but enables the separation of periods with more intensive industries.
Post-Medieval	1600 – 1900 AD	Period of rapid change in Jersey including the growing urbanisation of St Helier, the involvement of the island in the English Civil War and the Napoleonic Wars. Industrial activity did not impact the island as it did Britain and the rest of Europe.
Modern	1900 – 1950 AD	Radical alterations to the landscape during WWI and particularly WWII. Extensive defensive fortifications across the Channel Islands and forming part of Hitler's Atlantic wall.